

***Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*****16th Supplement****2008-2009**Department of Political Affairs - Security Council Affairs Division
Security Council Practices and Charter Research Branch**Part I: Overview of Security Council activities in the maintenance of international peace and security****36B. Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea****Overview**

During 2008-2009, the Security Council met twice to discuss the non-proliferation issue in the context of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The first meeting took place following the launch on 5 April 2009 by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea using ballistic missile technology, which the Government maintained was an experimental communications satellite. A presidential statement was issued to condemn the launch. The other meeting was held after the nuclear test on 25 May 2009 conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to adopt a resolution strengthening the sanctions measures.¹

Key developments**13 April 2009 - Presidential statement on the launch**

By the presidential statement of 13 April 2009, the Security Council condemned the launch on 5 April 2009 by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which was in

¹ For more information on sanctions, see the section on Article 41 in Part VII.

contravention of resolution 1718 (2006), and agreed to adjust the sanctions measures imposed in that resolution through the designation of entities and goods, while calling for an early resumption of the Six-Party Talks.²

12 June 2009 - Strengthening of sanctions following the second nuclear test

On 12 June 2009, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 1874 (2009) by which, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, it condemned in the strongest terms the nuclear test conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 25 May 2009, demanded that the country not conduct any further nuclear test or any launch using ballistic missile technology. By that resolution, the Council expanded the sanctions measures imposed by paragraph 8 of resolution 1718 (2006) against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and established a panel of experts to assist the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006) to monitor and improve implementation of the relevant measures.³

Speaking after the vote, speakers in general welcomed the unanimous adoption of resolution 1874 (2009) as a unified response to the nuclear test by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which was in violation of relevant Security Council decisions. At the same time, they called for a peaceful and comprehensive solution through dialogue, via the Six-Party Talks, to resolve the denuclearization issue on the Korean peninsula. The representative of the Republic of Korea underscored that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea must refrain from any action that would further aggravate the situation on the Korean peninsula.⁴ Concerning the strengthened sanctions, many Council members noted that the measures were targeted and did not affect the general population's ability to receive humanitarian and economic assistance. The representatives of China and the Russian Federation stressed that States should act in

² S/PRST/2009/7.

³ For more details on the panel of experts, see Part IX, under the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006).

⁴ S/PV.6141, p. 11.

accordance with domestic and international law to implement the newly imposed cargo inspection regime.⁵

Meetings

Number of meetings: 2 (open)

Number of decisions: 2 (1 resolution/1PRST)

Troop-contributing countries meetings: 0

Meeting and Date	Sub- item	Other Documents	Invitations	Speakers	Decisions (Voting: for-against-abstain)
6106 13 April 2009	Letter dated 4 April 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2009/176)				S/PRST/2009/7
6141 12 June 2009	Letter dated 25 May 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2009/271)	S/2009/274 (Letter from Mongolia on the 25 May 2009 nuclear test by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea); and S/2009/301 (draft resolution submitted by France, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom and the United States)	Rule 37: Republic of Korea	All Council members and the Republic of Korea	Resolution 1874 (2009) 15-0-0

⁵ Ibid., p. 3 (China) and p. 8 (Russian Federation).