



**Permanent Mission of the Democratic People's Republic
of Korea to the United Nations Office and Other
International Organizations in Geneva**

1, chemin de Plonjon 1207 Geneva Tel. 022 735 43 70 Fax : 022 786 06 62

**STATEMENT
BY
DELEGATION OF DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

Mr. President,

My delegation appreciates the statement of Madame High Commissioner.

More than a year have passed since the inception of the Human Rights Council.

During this period, much progress has been made in the institution-building as a result of which the Council is now nearing its full-fledged operation.

However, we still have a long and complicated way to go until we reach targeted objectives of creating the Council, which the removal of the politicization of the former Commission.

The tendency of politicization still in existence and becoming further prevalent is a source of greater concern of all of us as typically pronounced in the review of country-specific mandate process.

As provided for in the UNGA resolution 60/251, final decision on the mandate has to be made only through the review process and it is strongly discouraged to make an earlier plan of the activities of the mandate holder to be carried out after the review.

Unfortunately, decision on mandates is often influenced by some in the absence of any review and worse still, review serves only as a formality since maintenance of the mandate has already been taken for granted beforehand. This is the reality.

In a word, the practice of the former Commission that countries are selected not on actual human rights situations but rather on political background and lobbies have not yet been terminated.

As clearly stated on many occasions in the Council, DPRK is a major victim.

Last year, at the UNGA a "resolution" was enforced asking the mandate-holder on DPRK to present a report this year in October in disregard of the review planned in June the same year, thus prejudging the outcome of the review. And in last June, the mandate has been extended forcibly without any convincing explanation.

Much to our regret, such an abnormal plan which was aimed only at DPRK has been repeated in the Program of the Second Cycle distributed in the informal meeting on August 24, this year.

This is really unprecedented since this was inconceivable even during the Commission era full of politicization.

No one will sit idle simply overlooking the most discriminatory, unfair and selective treatment of this kind.

In defense of its dignity and sovereignty against such injustice, the DPRK did not participate in the decision making process of the 5th Session of the Council and will never tolerate it in the future too.

Regarding UPR, we believe it should serve as a genuine mechanism for dialogue and cooperation and not for punishment. We have stated this position several times.

In the light of different history, culture, tradition and religion in each country and region, imposition of the value of a group of countries upon others may inevitably lead to conflict and confrontation.

In this respect, we draw the attention of the Council to the Tehran Declaration and Program of Action adopted in the Ministerial Meeting of NAM on Human Rights and Cultural Diversity on 3-4 September, this year.

At the same time, we appreciate the work done by H.E. Ambassador LOULICHKI to facilitate the discussion on the UPR guiding principle.

Mr. President,

Now that the institution-building is coming near to its completion, international community is faced with an alternative choice of whether the Council will function as a fair and equal mechanism for all or serve the high-handedness and arbitrariness of a minority as in the case of the Commission. If the latter is chosen, bigger politicization will occur, eroding and finally threatening its existence.

This is one of the reasons why we constantly and vehemently oppose politicization as a matter of priority.

In conclusion, Mr. President, we will continue to make every effort to turn the Council into a genuine mechanism free from politicization, double standards and selectivity.

Thank you.