

Delegation Republic of Korea

Position Paper for the General Assembly

The topics to be discussed in the United Nations (UN) General Assembly (GA) are: I. Nuclear Disarmament and International Security, II. Ensuring Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable, and Modern Energy for All, III. Combating Human Trafficking. The Republic of Korea acknowledges the importance of all three topics.

I. Nuclear Disarmament and International Security

Nuclear weapons pose a particular threat to the global population. The peak of nuclear warheads with 70,000 units was in the possession of the two powers USA and Soviet Union until the mid-1980s. The Cold War thus represented the greatest field of tension for nuclear war. Today there are still almost 15,000 nuclear weapons in the hands of various states. The number of nuclear warheads has thus decreased, while the spread of nuclear warheads within the international community has increased due to increasing technology. The Middle East and the Korean Peninsula are considered to be the regions with the greatest risk. Internationally, the first step combatting for Nuclear Disarmament was the introduction of the *Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)*, negotiated by the Eighteen Nation Committee on Disarmament in 1968, aiming to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology, promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Furthermore, the UN has established the UN-Office for disarmament affairs (UNODA), building Guidelines for Nuclear Weapon-Free Areas. Also, the UN has adopted the *Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)* to ban all nuclear weapons testing by the Res (50/245) in the General Assembly. To enter into force, all 44 states listed in the Annex 2 must ratify the treaty, missing 8 ratifications. The Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT), is an UN-independent institute for combating the use of nuclear weapons. The international community has thus established various steps to combat the use of nuclear weapons. National security and progress are always linked to the relations on the Korean peninsula. For this reason, the ROK cannot accept increased nuclearization in Korea. The ROK will continue to seek with its allies the complete denuclearization and permanent peace on the Korean peninsula through dialogue. First success was the results of the Panmunjom Declaration stating an open way for peace and reunification through complete denuclearization. Furthermore, the Pyongyang Joint Declaration of September 2018 continued the intensified dialogue and inter-Korean relations. Nuclear weapons pose an immediate threat to the Republic of Korea. Therefore, the government is trying to find a targeted solution for the expansion of Nuclear Weapons Free Areas. To support this, the ROK proposes the "Nuclear High Risk Programme" as an additional measure. As a minor programme under the UNOSDA, the programme is intended to work towards nuclear disarmament in high-risk regions, acting as a mediator between countries. Within this, because of its direct and rapid advocacy of peace, named multilateral diplomatic programme, representatives from competing countries meet on neutral ground within one week. Both the countries concerned and the UN-Members of the UNODA as mediator should have the right to call these meetings. Intermediaries are independent experts appointed by the programme. This would show the urgency as well as the security aspect. This is to be financed by a budget increase of 5 million dollars by UNOSDA. As an multilateral diplomatic programme for rapid deployment, the ROK believes that it will be able to establish a separate protection against a nuclear outbreak in high-risk regions.

II. Ensuring Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable, and Modern Energy for All

For the international community, securing affordable energy for all is a high priority. Especially the advancing industrialization and networking of the world and the resulting increase in energy consumption require the development and dissemination of new methods for sustainable energy production in view of the upcoming climate issues. The absence of reliable and sustainable energy restricts the provision of basic services for human activities. The United Nations have recognised the importance of energy services by adopting in the General Assembly resolution 70/1 (2015) the sustainable development Goal 7 "Grow Affordable and Clean Energy". SDG 7 is composed to several outcome targets. All Parties of the UNFCCC agreed in the Paris agreement of 2015 to strict international cooperation to promote clean energy technology, tackling climate change as well as building infrastructure and technology for modern and sustainable energy services. To ensure international

cooperation in the field of energy efficiency, the UN has developed the UN Energy Programme. The goals are to share information, promote cooperation and form a global network to solve energy problems and use them within the UN structures. After the oil shocks in the 1970s, the ROK established the *Energy Use Rationalization Law* as well as the *Heat Management Association* to manage the use of industrial heat and implementing of energy efficient measurements. The government has three energy efficiency programs, not allowing the product to be sold with an energy saving below a standardized minimum. With the greatest savings, a certificate can be issued by the government. The government also labels products that have a high consumption in stand-by mode. With the second Energy Master Plan, the ROK announced to reduce energy consumption to 15% by 2035. With this policy, the government ensures access to reliable and sustainable energy. To provide access to affordable, sustainable and modern energy, ROK proposes the "*International sustainable energy realisation Framework*". As an international energy management corporation, it will list within the *UN Energy Programme* new methods for cost saving and redistribution, such as the taxation of petroleum and its products as well as the provision of environmentally unfriendly means of transport and working materials to government and non-governmental organisations. Each country can participate voluntarily and contribute its own experience with the topics of financing and funding. This framework should be seen as a voluntary way for examples of how to finance the costs of modern technology and equipment. Globally, improved valuation would enhance the possibility of new methods and the installation of energy saving equipment.

III. Combating Human Trafficking

Every year up to 25 million people fall victim to human trafficking. Women and children in particular are at risk of being deprived of their freedom. 10 million children alone work as slaves or are sexually exploited. Smugglers and human traffickers earn money by selling into slavery or by forcing prostitution. This means that the fight against human trafficking is still one of the most important issues in the United Nations. On the international side, human trafficking has been advertised as an abuse of human rights since the beginning of the United Nations. Thus, Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) declares in Article 4 that „No one shall be held in slavery or servitude". A further milestone is considered *the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)* adopted by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2200A (XXI) of 1966, which in Article 8 once again reinforces the foundations of the Human Rights Convention. Particular attention has been paid to the Protocol against Trafficking in Persons, introduced under Resolution 55/25, by supplementing *the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC)*. In this context, the issues of money laundering, corruption and laundering of proceedings of crime are the most important ones in the fight against human trafficking. The Korean government has ratified the *United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime* and amended the *Criminal Act*. Also, the Korean government has been implementing Korea/ILO partnership program to support capacity-building of developing countries in the field of employment policy, social protection and occupational safety and health. National, the Korean government adopted the Comprehensive Plan for Preventing Sex Trafficking which contains policies on prevention, protection and prosecution. Also, in 2002 was the Comprehensive Plan for Child Protection and Development endorsed, aiming to ensure social services to children. On the foundations of the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Program (CSEC), South Korea has established an inter-ministerial team to address the problem of child sex tourism, fighting especially children prostitution. Both the Anti-Trafficking Policy Index and the Animal Ranking consider South Korea to be in a leading position in the fight against human trafficking. Moreover, the legislation, which was amended in 2013, imposes higher penalties in South Korea not only for sex trafficking, but also for trafficking in labour. Trafficking in human beings, especially the danger of digital influence on children, is an international problem. It is therefore necessary to further promote the exchange of information between affected countries to improve digital protection. The ROK therefore proposes the establishment of a Minor Forum, called „Forum on Digital Protection from Trafficking" under the auspices of the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN. GIFT). The forum is intended to bring together experts from governmental and non-governmental organisations. The experts from different areas of child protection and child psychology will work out the possibilities, tasks and first steps for the digital protection of children. However, the aim of the forum will be to develop principles and ideas for international legislative changes in the area of digital influence on human trafficking. The Minor Forum should take place annually. For this purpose, the UN. GIFT budget must be additionally supported with 1 \$ million annually.