

Joint Statement From Six-Way Nuclear Talks

These are excerpts from the text of a joint statement issued after the six-nation talks on North Korea's nuclear-weapons program on Sept. 19. The full statement appeared in Yonhap News of Beijing.

For the cause of peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia at large, the six parties held in a spirit of mutual respect and equality serious and practical talks concerning the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula . . . and agreed . . . to the following:

1. The six parties unanimously reaffirmed that the goal of the six-party talks is the verifiable denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea [North Korea] committed to abandoning all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programs and returning at an early date to the treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons (NPT) and to IAEA safeguards.

The United States affirmed that it has no nuclear weapons on the Korean Peninsula and has no intention to attack or invade the DPRK. . . . The DPRK stated that it has the right to peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The other parties expressed their respect and agreed to discuss at an appropriate time the . . . provision of light-water reactors to the DPRK.

2. The six parties undertook, in their relations, to abide by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. . . . The DPRK and the United States undertook to respect each other's sovereignty, exist peacefully together, and take steps to normalize their relations. . . .

3. The six parties undertook to promote economic cooperation in the fields of energy, trade and investment. . . . China, Japan, the Republic of Korea (ROK), Russia and the United States stated their willingness to provide energy assistance to the DPRK. The ROK reaffirmed its proposal . . . concerning the provision of 2 million kilowatts of electric power to the DPRK.

4. Committed to joint efforts for lasting peace and stability in Northeast Asia, the directly related parties will negotiate a permanent peace regime on the Korean peninsula

5. The six parties agreed to take coordinated steps to implement the aforementioned consensus in a phased manner in line with the principle of "commitment for commitment, action for action."

6. The six parties agreed to hold the fifth round of the six party talks in Beijing in early November 2005. . . .