

**Statement by the Head of the DPRK Delegation
at the 38th Session of the FAO Conference**

Mr. Chairman,

Mr. Director-General,

Dear Delegates,

Allow me to extend congratulations on behalf of the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to you, Mr. Mohammad Asif Rahimi upon your election as the chairperson of the 38th Session of the FAO Conference. I am sure that this session will prove successful under your leadership.

I also take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the staff of the Secretariat of FAO, including Mr. Jose Graziano da Silva, the Director-General, and the Italian Government for the sincere efforts to ensure the success of this session.

Mr. Chairman,

To eradicate hunger and poverty across the world and to ensure global food security are priority issues in the efforts to achieve the MDGs by 2015.

Over the past two years, FAO played an important role as a leading international organization whose mandate is to increase agricultural production and successfully discharged its responsibility.

As a result of the recent policy of decentralization, FAO's regional and country offices have strengthened the functioning of technical cooperation; technical cooperation with prioritized projects have also been strengthened in line with the Country Programming Framework; these are results of positive measures that FAO took to enhance the effectiveness of its assistance.

FAO decided to refocus on the world free of hunger and malnutrition as the strategic direction and objectives on the basis of comprehensive analysis of the global food and agricultural situation and development trends and encourages active involvement of the member states and social organizations. It is a good example illustrating the determination and efforts of FAO to put an end to the world food crisis at an early date.

We recognize that the programme of work and budget for 2014-15 are well formulated to provide greater assistance to the efforts of the member states aimed at ensuring food security and agricultural development. We, thus, support them.

The new biennium PWB, representing a one percent real increase over PWB 2012-13, allocated most of the resources to the eradication of hunger, strengthening of agricultural productivity, effective use of natural resources, prevention of damages by pests and agricultural technical cooperation, all of which are matters of priority. We believe it is a practical step.

Mr. Chairman,

Despite the international efforts, the global food shortage and hunger continue to haunt the world.

It is the belief of my delegation that the following issues deserve attention in order to ensure food security by increasing global agricultural production in keeping with the MDGs.

First, it is important for each country to formulate correct agricultural policy to suit its specific conditions and increase agricultural production on one's own.

Member states should increase government's spending on agricultural and rural development and take practical steps to enhance scientific capabilities in areas including seed improvement, effective use of land and water resources, proper management of crops, prevention of damages by pests, reduction of post-harvest losses, etc.

Second, it is necessary to create the right political atmosphere and socio-economic conditions that will help the developing countries increase agricultural output and ensure food security.

The member states should established a new international economic order on the basis of the principle of equality and mutual benefits. At the same time, the international community should make efforts to adjust the unfair international trade system of agricultural products that has negative impact on agricultural production in developing countries. It is also important to take measures to prevent the expansion of grain-based bio-fuel production-a root cause of food shortage.

Developed countries should not turn a blind eye to the grim reality of developing countries and faithfully implement their commitment to assist developing countries and increase agricultural assistance, true to relevant UN General Assembly resolutions. Developing countries on the other hand, should expand the scope of south-south cooperation and learn each other from good experience and technical advances.

Third, FAO should play a decisive role in the efforts to eradicate hunger and ensure food security.

FAO should continue to improve its working system so as to achieve the revised strategic objectives and ensure effective provision of technical assistance to developing countries in such areas as agriculture, fishery and forestry on the basis of the new programme and budget.

Mr. Chairman,

The DPRK is engaged in dynamic campaign to build a strong economy under the wise leadership of the respected Marshal **Kim Jon UN**.

It is true that we are faced with manifold challenges and difficulties on our way forward. However, the Government of the DPRK is channeling great efforts to improve people's livelihood by pushing ahead with economic construction.

The Government of the DPRK has identified agriculture as a key sector in the efforts to build a strong economy and concentrates all its resources on the development of agriculture while taking measures to increase agricultural output on the basis of enhanced scientific capabilities and intensified foundations.

In order to ensure food security, the Government of the DPRK currently focuses on seed revolution, double-cropping, potato farming and soybean farming, the benefits of which had already been demonstrated. At the same time, it is strengthening the material and technical assistance to the rural area.

At the same time, we are focusing on the development of animal husbandry. We are now working on the gigantic animal farm project on Sepo Plateau and also the project to expand the area of arable land by realigning the fields and reclaiming tidelands.

The efforts of the DPRK aimed at building a strong economy will contribute to the development of global economy and food security as well as the international efforts to achieve the MDGs and Action Plan adopted in the World Food Summit.

The Government of the DPRK will continue to strengthen cooperation with FAO and its member states on the basis of its foreign policy-the principles of independence, peace, and friendship – and make positive contribution to international efforts for global food security.

Thank you.