

SIDMUN XVII

United Nations Security Council

Executive Director: Stanley Soman

Directors: Christina Kelly, Ketsia Saint-Armand, Louie Cona

Lee Marcus Invitational



Lee Marcus Invitational



Position Paper Guidelines

You must have a work cited page in your position paper. Please use this link ([Click here](#)) if you need help with a work cited page.

Position papers should be **1-2 pages** in length (not including work-cited page), single spaced, Times in New Roman pt 12 font with normal 1 inch margins. Please have all papers uploaded by March 26, 2010. If you have any problems uploading your papers, please email them as attachments directly to your chairs by emailing securitycouncil@drop.io

Use the following heading for the paper:

Delegates:

Country:

School:

Committee:

Topic:



The Question of United Nations Policy on North Korea

Balancing Nuclear Ambitions with Humanitarian Needs
Security Council

2010

Lee Marcus (liberal)



SCHSD

History of the Problem

Tensions between the International Community and North Korea began running high in early October of 2002 when James Kelly, the former Assistant Secretary of State for the United States (U.S.), informed North Korea that the United States was well aware that they had begun to enrich uranium. After staging theatric denials of that assertion, the North Koreans finally confirmed that the report was true and also declared that the Agreed Framework was nullified¹.

In the 1960's—during the prime years of the communist nation's regime—the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) began an extensive campaign to establish a large-scale atomic energy program in Yongbyon², with aid and intelligence from the Soviet Union. Throughout the 1960's and 1970's, the DPRK developed nuclear reactors modeled after those of the Soviet Union, with an agreement between the two nations to assist each other in the development of the complex, which was used for energy with approval from the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Association). It wasn't until the 1980's—when the communist North's developed ambitions for atomic weapons—that problems developed between the DPRK and the international community. In 1985, the U.S obtained intelligence that the North Koreans had been developing nuclear weapons in a secret location near the small town of Yongbyon. Later that year, due to international pressure, the North Koreans signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty. However, the North Koreans refused to place IAEA safeguards into their nuclear facilities, which the treaty requires. This cat and mouse game continued for years up until the present with North Korea denying claims, refusing agreements, and then bargaining their nuclear program to benefit their nation in another way. This is where the clash of the humanitarian interests of the DPRK's citizenry and that of the international community at large developed.

The Security Council has had trouble negotiating with the secretive regime for years and any tough sanctions against this nation have been vetoed by various blocs especially Russia and China. The sanctions that are passed do not do anything to curb the nuclear problem in the DPRK. The North Koreans have suffered from terrible humanitarian problems for years that are caused largely by horrible agricultural conditions and outdated farming techniques. With the increasing sanctions and isolation of the regime, the people of North Korea are starving while their nation focused on gaining international attention from testing nuclear missiles. The Security Council must balance tough economic and militaristic sanctions, but at the same time give them humanitarian aid. There are also those who support the North's claim for “nuclear energy” for the poor nation, not nuclear missiles. If this plan was to occur, the International Community must distinguish what is energy that is only used for such and energy that is used for weapons. That will be a tough plan considering the bloc positions from the United States and United Kingdom. The Security Council must come to a resolution that balances both tough sanctions yet

¹ Signed between the U.S and North Korea on Oct. 21 1994 in Geneva, the Agreed Framework stipulated that North Korea would freeze its nuclear ambitions. The Framework helped establish peaceful, albeit transiently, relations between the two nations.

² North Korea has several nuclear facilities that, collectively, have the potential to produce nuclear fuel for weapons. Most are located at Yongbyon, 60 miles north of Pyongyang, which has an estimated staff of some 2,000. The major installations include a 5-megawatt electric (MW(e)) research reactor, a larger a 50-MW(e) reactor that was under construction in Yongbyon, and a plutonium reprocessing facility. Yongbyon is also the site of the Radiochemical Laboratory of the Institute of Radiochemistry, the Nuclear Fuel Rod Fabrication Plant, and a storage facility for fuel rods. (From Federation of American Scientists; *Yongbyon: North Korean Special Weapons Facilities*.

<http://www.fas.org/nuke/guide/dprk/facility/yongbyon.htm>)



giving enough humanitarian aid and at the same time satisfy all sides and blocs. However, in the face of the suffering of the North Korean people as a whole, one must wonder if the time for compromising the wellbeing of the people is past.

Bloc Positions

United States of America

The United States has given over \$1.1 billion in foreign aid to the DPRK since 1995. Sixty percent of that aid has been in the form of food. Over 2.6 metric tons of food have been delivered to North Korea from the United States in order to ease massive food shortages. In 2004, US congress passed the North Korean Human Rights Bill, making an effort to offer humanitarian assistance, increase the amount of information inside North Korea and provide legal assistance to North Koreans who have fled. North Korea has used this bill as verification of hostile policy towards North Korea and validation to suspend its partaking in the Six Party Talks. In March of 2009, North Korea rejected food aid from the United States and America NGOs. Since then the United States has been predisposed to speak out against North Korea's negligent actions towards its people.

East Asia

Many nations in East Asia are concerned about the future of their nation, due to the delinquent actions by North Korea. Nations have tried to ease relations with the rouge nation by engaging in talks, especially with Japan and South Korea participating in the Six Party Talks. Japan and South Korea have together donated over 2 million metric tons of food aid to North Korea. Neighboring nations are concerned about a potential DPRK collapse which would result in massive refugee movement into their states. To prevent this, many surrounding states are providing humanitarian and development aid to North Korea.

The European Union

In 2002, the European Union sent €1.5 million in humanitarian aid to North Korea. Since 1997 the European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO) has provide over €50 million to ease the suffering of vulnerable groups in North Korea as well as other projects that improve sanitation and water systems in urban and rural areas. The EU has agreed with numerous resolutions made by the UN and the EU member states have been conducting inspections of cargo that are coming and going from North Korea. Although the European Union is not part of the Six-Party Talks, they have emphasized their expectations of the DPRK to continue with the talks. The European Union is dedicated to see through the stability and security of North Korea.

Russia and China

Most of the weak punishments and actions that the DPRK gets away with are courtesy of their friends in the Security Council, Russia and the People's Republic of China. With both nations grasping veto power, their influence in the Security Council can dictate many decisions held against the DPRK. These two nations compose a bloc that is nearly impossible to overcome, with negotiations in the Security Council coming to gridlock and the threatening loom of the veto. These two nations are perhaps the DPRK's closest friends besides Iran or Myanmar. But what makes China and Russia even closer friends to DPRK is not only their humanitarian, financial and militaristic aid (without which the communist nation would fall), but it is their veto power which opposes any punishments or restrictions that only the Security Council can uphold against the DPRK. If delegates in this committee can overcome this bloc then



only is success possible. Negotiations with this secretive regime are tricky and require nearly infinite patience. With Russia and China overlooking nuclear tests and missile launches that the world sees as a threat posed by this nation, then we must get Russia and China to see it as well. This deadly pair in the Security Council has been supplying aid to the North and has a record of voting together on issues. The council should also address the influx of aid in which these two nations are supplying DPRK. Currently, the smuggling of goods such as weapons, food aid, and militaristic training are all occurring in order to support this struggling nation. If this stops there is no foundation for the nation for which the nation can depend upon and it will fall when left on its own. Because of their awful agricultural conditions, the DPRK has to depend on Russia and China for food aid with which they don't have on their own. If for some reason Russia and China no longer give them support than the DPRK will be forced to negotiate for food from the International Community and bargain for their nuclear ambitions.

Current Actions Being Taken

Currently, the United Nations Security Council has implemented sanctions against the DPRK. Resolutions [1718](#) (2006), [825](#) (1993), [1540](#) (2004), [1695](#) (2006), and [1874](#) (2009) all outline the actions the international community has taken to quell the DPRK's nuclear ambitions:

- Embargoes on “[sic] any battle tanks, armoured combat vehicles, large calibre artillery systems, combat aircraft, attack helicopters, warships, missiles or missile systems”; luxury goods;
- Asset freezes and travel bans (except for humanitarian purposes)
- Restrictions on new commitments, grants, financial assistance, and concessional loans to the DPRK except for humanitarian purposes

However, these measures have not ameliorated the current humanitarian, economic, and political crises in North Korea. The DPRK's leader, Kim Jong-il, seems unlikely to allow foreign influence in, even if it does mean the continual suffering of the nation's citizens. The food situation has grown steadily worse, and the DPRK has failed to maintain normal diplomatic relations with some of its most important food aid suppliers, most notably the Republic of Korea and the United States of America.

Proposed Solutions

As the current situation in North Korea is one that is rooted in political, social, and economical aspects that affects the global community in several ways, a multi-faceted approach is probably the most appropriate solution to solving the problem.

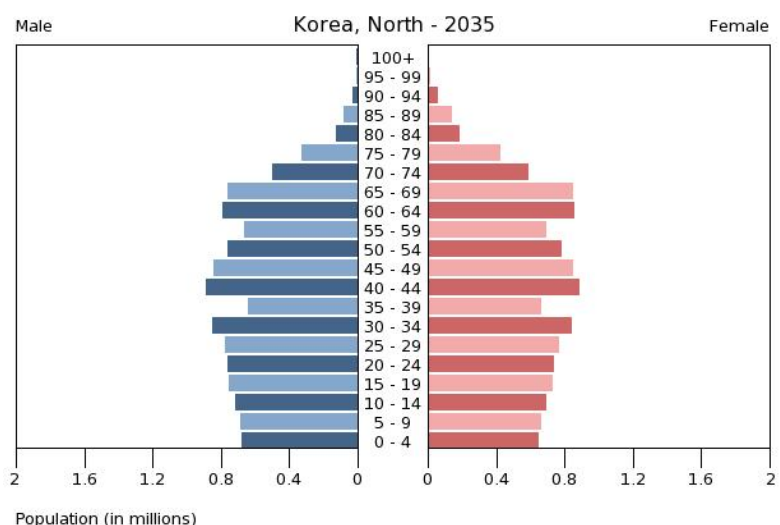
In the past, sanctions on the part of the U.N. and of individual nations have been made against North Korean shipping. A system regulating sanctions, or balancing them with consideration of the needs of the people would possibly work, whether it may be by individual nation or created on a whole through the United Nations.

A balanced solution has to be struck between sanctions and ensuring that the people of the nation do not suffer in extremes.



Harsh natural conditions, coupled with a spate of disasters in the 1990s and a massive flood that occurred in 2007, have rendered the DPRK's agricultural sector impotent. Rationing, which was common in the DPRK before the disasters of the 1990s, grew even more severe, with people being given rations of 250g of rice, or half of the amount of food recommended by the World Food Program (hereafter referred to as the WFP). Most of the food now consumed in the nation comes in the form of food aid. The WFP has estimated that over 8.7 million people currently do not receive the amount of food they require. Groups like the Mennonite Central Committee have attempted to alter the country's agricultural practices, but it appears that the inefficient soil and labor-intensive farming methods will persist in the DPRK. A lack of modern agricultural machinery has also exacerbated the problem, thus making the lack of fertilizers and the genetically modified (GM) crops that helped much of Southeast Asia get a handle on their food crises even direr. Net population growth is projected to be negative by the year 2035, no doubt due to the malnutrition that is crippling the current generation. The DPRK³ has no independent media outlets to

speak of that report internal conditions. While there is a state-run media website, it does nothing to report the true conditions within the country.



Although the political alliance between China and North Korea has been steady since the influx of Chinese renegade fighters flooding into the Korea peninsula since 1950. In recent years, the relationship has turned from one of support to punishment after former North Korean Prime Minister Pyonyang tested nuclear

machinery in 2006, especially after the Chinese supported UN Security Council Resolution 1718, which imposed many sanctions and reinforced some previously issued. Although peace talks have taken place and would seem to be a relatively affable approach, turmoil still occurs in that region. Perhaps the allowance of UN troops and other peace-keeping non-governmental organizations (NGOs) within the region would help to calm the situation along the Chinese-North Korean border.

Finally, in light of the fact that North Korea maintains a rigid and unique societal structure, one that insists upon denying significant influence from a majority of governmental and commercial organizations, it will be a complex task to attempt to interfere in the interest of creating better social conditions. Although the list is narrow, there are certain NGOs approved by the North Korean government, such as UNICEF, which are able to facilitate social difference within the country of course, only within certain boundaries set by the North Korean government.

³ U.S. Census Bureau. "Iran." *International Data Base*. U.S. Census Bureau, 10 Sept. 2009. Web. 28 Nov. 2009. <<http://www.census.gov/ipc/www/idb/country.php>>.



Questions a Position Paper Must Answer

Remember, a thorough analysis of all questions is expected. No half-baked ideas, please!

- 1.) Given your nation's bloc position, how exactly does the sociopolitical crisis in North Korea affect your nation? How have your leaders, both past and present, responded to humanitarian crises both within and outside of your nations?
- 2.) What is your nation's policy on foreign aid? Are there certain measures that your nation would prefer to steer away from?
- 3.) Given the ineffectiveness of the UN sanctions, what does your nation propose be done with them, if anything at all? What new measures is your nation interested in to prevent the growth of the DPRK's military ambitions? How will you implement them without severely impacting the citizens of that nation?
- 4.) What is the extent of your nation's involvement with China, Russia, and Japan? If you are representing one of those three nations, what steps is your nation willing to take to modify its position on the DPRK? If you represent another nation, from where do you expect to draw support for the conclusions drawn in committee?
- 5.) Agricultural investment is a critical component of ensuring the adequate survival of the DPRK's people. How, if at all, will your nation contribute?
- 6.) Does your nation believe NGOs should be primarily relied upon to provide aid for the DPRK? If so, which ones? If your nation would prefer that its military and the UN provide aid, how would it reconcile its intentions with the DPRK's recalcitrance towards such measures?
- 7.) To what extent should the DPRK's deviant military activities be considered when providing aid to the population? Should this preclude any aid efforts, or does it necessitate another strategy? If yes, then what strategy would that be? If no, then what does your nation intend to do about the humanitarian situation there?
- 8.) What is your nation's stance on the usage of peacekeeping forces in the DPRK? How would these troops be used in a fashion that does not undermine the DPRK's sovereignty nor undergird its position?

Questions a Resolution Must Answer

- 1.) What precedents from the previous resolutions dealing with the DPRK are still germane?
- 2.) From where will the money come for the financing of these efforts? Will this topic be referred to ECOFIN?
- 3.) How are the needs of the people to be reconciled with the military ambitions of the DPRK?



- 4.) How will all aid organizations make sure that food and supplies are being given to the intended recipients? What supervision methods should be used?
- 5.) As sanctions have not worked in the past, what does your nation propose be done to sway the DPRK from its current path? Bear in mind that the topic of foremost importance is that of the *humanitarian* situation there.

Notes:

DPRK-controlled Media Sources:

Korean News: News from Korean Central Agency of the DPRK www.kcna.co.jp

The Official Webpage of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea <http://www.korea-dpr.com/>

Naenara: Democratic People's Republic of Korea <http://www.kcckp.net/en/index.php>

Food Situation:

2008 Global Hunger Index: Key Findings and Facts <http://www.ifpri.org/publication/2008-global-hunger-index-key-findings-facts>

8.7 Million North Koreans Need Food Assistance <http://www.wfp.org/content/87-million-north-koreans-need-food-assistance>

North Korea Slashes Food Rations <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/4200861.stm>

MCC Promotes Sustainable Farming in North Korea <http://mcc.org/news/news/article.html?id=488>

“While the Security Council is exercising in respect of any dispute or situation the functions assigned to it in the present Charter, the General Assembly shall not make any recommendation with regard to that dispute or situation **unless the Security Council so requests.**”

Charter of the United Nations, Chapter IV, Article 12, Paragraph 1

“Any Member of the United Nations which is not a member of the Security Council may participate, without vote, in the discussion of any question brought before the Security Council **whenever the latter considers that the interests of that Member are specially affected.**”

Charter of the United Nations, Chapter V, Article 31, Paragraph 1

Population Statistics:

<http://www.census.gov/ipc/www/idb/country.php>

<http://www.kcna.co.jp>

<http://www.korea-dpr.com/>

<http://www.kcckp.net/en/index.php>

<http://www.ifpri.org/publication/2008-global-hunger-index-key-findings-facts>

<http://www.wfp.org/content/87-million-north-koreans-need-food-assistance>

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/4200861.stm>

<http://mcc.org/news/news/article.html?id=488>

<http://www.census.gov/ipc/www/idb/country.php>

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=22228&Cr=DPRK&Cr1>

http://www3.brookings.edu/speeches/2007/1025_northkorea_cohen.aspx

<http://www.nautilus.org/napsnet/sr/2005/0550ACRS>

<http://www.europa-eu-un.org/>



Work-Cited Page

BBC News. "North Korea Slashes Food Rations." *BBC News: Asia-Pacific*. BBC News, 24 Jan. 2005. Web. 12 Sept. 2009. <<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/4200861.stm>>.

Cohen, Roberta. "Human Rights and the North Korea Refugee Crisis." *Brookings--Quality. Independence. Impact*. Brookings Institution, 25 Oct. 2007. Web. 12 Sept. 2009. <http://www3.brookings.edu/speeches/2007/1025_northkorea_cohen.aspx>.

EU @ UN. "EU Presidency Declaration on nuclear test conducted by Democratic People's Republic of Korea." *European Nation @ United Nations: Partnership in Action*. European Union, 25 May 2009. Web. 12 Sept. 2009. <http://www.europa-eu-un.org/articles/en/article_8748_en.htm>.

Federation of American Scientists. "Yongbyon - North Korean Special Weapons Facilities." *Federation of American Scientists: WMD - Weapons of Mass Destruction Around the World*. Federation of American Scientists, 4 Mar. 2000. Web. 12 Sept. 2009. <<http://www.fas.org/nuke/guide/dprk/facility/yongbyon.htm>>.

International Food Policy Research Institute. "2008 Global Hunger Index: Key Findings & Facts." *International Food Policy Research Institute: Sustainable Solutions for Ending Hunger and Poverty*. International Food Policy Research Institute, 2008. Web. 12 Sept. 2009. <<http://www.ifpri.org/publication/2008-global-hunger-index-key-findings-facts>>.

Korean Central News Agency of DPRK (Democratic People's Republic of Korea). *Korea News Service Korean News 조선통신/朝鮮通信*. Korean Central News Agency of DPRK (Democratic People's Republic of Korea), 2009. Web. 12 Sept. 2009. <<http://www.kcna.co.jp>>.

Korean Friendship Association. "The Official Webpage of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)." *The Official Webpage of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea*. Korean Friendship Association, 2009. Web. 12 Sept. 2009. <<http://www.korea-dpr.com/>>.

Manyin, Mark E. "CRS Report for Congress: Foreign Assistance to North Korea." *Nautilus Institute for Security and Sustainability*. Congressional Research Service, 26 May 2005. Web. 12 Sept. 2009. <<http://www.nautilus.org/napsnet/sr/2005/0550ACRS>>.

Naenara. ""Naenara"" *Naenara: Democratic People's Republic of Korea*. Naenara, 2009. Web. 12 Sept. 2009. <<http://www.kcckp.net/en/index.php>>.

Shenk, Tim. "MCC promotes sustainable farming in North Korea." *Mennonite Central Committee: News & Events*. Mennonite Central Committee, 29 July 2009. Web. 12 Sept. 2009. <<http://mcc.org/news/news/article.html?id=488>>.

UN News Service. "Implementation of sanctions against DPR Korea on track, UN says." *UN*



News Centre. UN News Service, 16 Apr. 2007. Web. 12 Sept. 2009.
<<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=22228&Cr=DPRK&Cr1>>.

United Nations. "Resolution 825 (1993)." *United Nations: Security Council Resolutions 1993*. United Nations, 1993. Web. 12 Sept. 2009.
<<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N93/280/49/IMG/N9328049.pdf?OpenElement>>.

United Nations. "Security Council Condemns Democratic People's Republic of Korea Missile Launches, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 1695." *United Nations: Department of Public Information*. United Nations, 15 July 2006. Web. 12 Sept. 2009.
<<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2006/sc8778.doc.htm>>.

United Nations. "Security Council, Acting Unanimously, Condemns in Strongest Terms Democratic People's Republic of Korea Nuclear Test, Toughens Sanctions." *United Nations: Department of Public Information*. United Nations, 12 June 2009. Web. 12 Sept. 2009.
<<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2009/sc9679.doc.htm>>.

United Nations. "Security Council Condemns Nuclear Test by Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 1718 (2006)." *United Nations: Department of Public Information*. United Nations, 14 Oct. 2006. Web. 12 Sept. 2009.
<<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2006/sc8853.doc.htm>>.

United Nations. "Security Council Decides All States Shall Act to Prevent Proliferation of Mass Destruction Weapons." *United Nations*. United Nations, 28 Apr. 2004. Web. 12 Sept. 2009.
<<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2004/sc8076.doc.htm>>.

U.S. Census Bureau. "Iran." *International DataBase (IDB)*. U.S. Census Bureau, 12 Sept. 2009. Web. 12 Sept. 2009. <<http://www.census.gov/ipc/www/idb/country.php>>.

World Food Programme. "8.7 Million North Koreans Need Food Assistance." *World Food Programme: Fighting Hunger Worldwide*. World Food Programme, 10 Dec. 2008. Web. 12 Sept. 2009. <<http://www.wfp.org/content/87-million-north-koreans-need-food-assistance>>.

