Speech by the Head of DPRK Delegation at the Eighty-first Session of Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

(21st~25th April, 2025, Bangkok, Thailand)

Mr. Chair,

The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea congratulates you on election of the chairman of the eighty-first session of UNESCAP and expect the present session will result in good fruits under your skilled chairmanship.

And we are convinced that this session, guided by the theme "Regional cooperation for resilient and sustainable urban development in Asia and the Pacific" will be a meaningful occasion which encourages the sustainable and consonant socio-economic development of Asia and the Pacific region.

Mr. Chair,

During past ten years since 2030 Agenda reflecting the unanimous hope and desire of the world people longing for peace and development was adopted, the efforts of mankind for implementing the SDGs have beared certain fruits.

However, the ceaseless occurrence of all kinds of pandemic, natural disaster, bloody disputes and armed conflicts are erecting huge obstacles in the way of international society desiring progress, prosperity and sustainable development.

The DPRK delegation, with the tenor of actively contributing to the discussion of present session's themes including accelarating 2030 Agenda and promoting urban development and stabilized progress of population, would like to mention the following issues.

First of all, primary concern should be directed to create peaceful environment that can secure sustainable and healthy development of Asia and the Pacific.

To create peaceful environment for existence and sustainable and healthy development of mankind is one of the main goals of 2030 Agenda.

However, today on the international arena, due to the certain countries' attempts for inter-camp confrontation and group-pairing, pursuing dominance and their own interests, all sorts of armed conflicts and geopolitical confrontations are still going on. These bring severe difficulties on the implementation of 2030 Agenda.

The different types of military blocs forming and troops reinforcing maneuvers by certain states in Asia and the Pacific are becoming the main factors of severely threatening the sovereign states' security and environment for development and destroying peace and stability in the region.

The international society should actively build environment necessary for implementing 2030 Agenda, by thoroughly rejecting all attempts blocking progress and development of mankind and stiring up mistrust and confrontation among countries.

Next, the mutual cooperation among the countries of the region should be strengthened for effectively coping with the several factors including climate change, pandemic and economic instability that badly influencing on the progress of population, and also the spread and share of urban development technologies and cooperation among countries should be increased, based on equality and mutual respects.

It is important for each country in the region to make and fulfill appropriate population progress policy and national action plans for realizing socio-economic equality and economic development, and to concentrate nationwide and social concerns, harmonized efforts and investment on these affairs.

In addition, joint efforts should be made for establishing true partnership based on mutual respects for sovereign states' rights on independence and development, and for advancement and prosperity of the region.

The memberstates have to positively promote the technological cooperation for urban development and to share existing successes and experiences. This is one of the effective methods for encouraging the worldwide urban development and assuring the stabilized progress of population.

Along with intensifying mutual cooperation, the principle of respecting for other's legal and socio-economic systems, cultural diversity and et cetera must be observed, and the political preconditions for cooperation should be totally rejected.

Mr. Chair,

Under the wise leadership of Comrade **Kim Jong Un**, President of the State Affairs of DPRK, the DPRK Government is vigorously opening up the new era of all-round prosperity of the state, under the banner of self-reliance.

The implementation of five-year plan for state economic development is being made good headway drawing to a close, all the national economic sectors are being readjusted and reinforced, and not only the capital city but also local and rural areas are advancing in a multiconcurrent way.

In all places of the country, the grand construction for creating better happiness and culture of people is vigorously engaged, thus during recent years, several streets of peculiar style with the appearance of modern urban division have been built in Pyongyang, the capital city. This reality remarkably shows the growth feature and advantages of self-supporting national economy.

In addition to this, as Samjiyon city and Wonsan city have been turned into world-standard mountainous and coastal tourist cities with the pride of unique architectural beauty, the building of distinct tourist cities proportionate to their regional features is also under brisk development.

These successes being achieved in urban development by the DPRK Government will give happier living conditions to our people and will also actively promote tourism industry.

The DPRK Government, in future too, will fulfill its responsibility and role in implementing 2030 Agenda and promoting urban development and stabilized progress of population, and will positively contribute to the international efforts for achieving resilient and sustainable socio-economic development in Asia and the Pacific region.

Thank you.