



**Statement from  
Pugwash President Jayantha Dhanapala and  
Pugwash Secretary General Paolo Cotta-Ramusino**

**13 February 2013**

It is with deep concern and sadness that we note the news that yet another nuclear test has been conducted by the DPRK. Any nuclear detonation anywhere is regrettable.

The Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs has consistently urged the total prohibition of nuclear tests and we call again for the universal signature and ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. All countries that have not yet done so, should urgently take these steps as soon as possible.

We call for the DPRK, Republic of Korea, China and the US to start immediately negotiations to find a peace mechanism on the Korean peninsula to replace the 60 years old armistice system and finally to terminate the Korean War peacefully. We are certain that without changing the political situation in Korea, it is impossible to solve the nuclear problem of the DPRK.

The nuclear test of the DPRK proves once again that the intrinsic discrimination within the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty is a key problem. Unless and until the salience of nuclear weapons is drastically decreased and nuclear disarmament makes real progress, with the goal of outlawing nuclear weapons, it is regrettable but unfortunately not surprising that other countries may decide to develop their own nuclear military devices.

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