

Press Release

The Seventh United Nations-Republic of Korea Joint Conference on Disarmament and Non-proliferation Issues to Open in Jeju, ROK

New York, 21 November 2008 (Office for Disarmament Affairs) – The Seventh United Nations Republic of Korea Joint Conference on Disarmament and Non-proliferation Issues will take place in Jeju Island, Republic of Korea, from 24 to 26 November 2008. The Conference, co-organized by the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the Government of the Republic of Korea, will be opened by Ms. Hannelore Hoppe, Director and Deputy to the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs. Approximately 40 representatives of governments, international organizations, academic and research institutions, as well as civil society will participate in the Conference.

This year's Conference, with the overall theme of "Nuclear Renaissance and the NPT: Reinforcing the Three Pillars of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)" will address several critical issues in the fields of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, such as revitalizing the NPT process; nuclear renaissance and multilateral assurance mechanism for nuclear fuel supply; challenges and responses to nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament; and non-proliferation challenges in North-East Asia.

The annual conference, which has been hosted by Republic of Korea since 2002, is an important forum for dialogue and exchange of views on pressing security and disarmament-related issues facing the international community. It also addresses particular disarmament and non-proliferation concerns in the Asia-Pacific region.

The Conference is financed through voluntary contributions made to UNODA, including by the Government of the Republic of Korea.

For further information, please contact Mr. Xiaoyu Wang, Senior Political Affairs Officer, Regional Disarmament Branch, Office for Disarmament Affairs, Tel.: 212-963-9440; Fax:212-963-4989; e-mail: wangxy@un.org