



**Statement of the Pugwash Executive
Committee**

The DPRK Nuclear Test

26 May 2009

The Executive Committee of the Pugwash Council expresses its concern that another nuclear test has been carried out after a lengthy moratorium.

The nuclear test by the DPRK comes at a time when a more positive atmosphere has developed in recent months for making substantial progress on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. There is a strong global trend towards the entry into force of the CTBT which has been reversed.

Looking forward to the 2010 NPT Review Conference, Pugwash believes that dialogue at every level (multilateral and bilateral) will be needed to sustain this momentum. In Northeast Asia, the need is clear for a resumption of the Six-Party Talks leading to a peace treaty between the conflicting parties and the spelling out of adequate security guarantees for all the States in the region.

More broadly, concrete action is needed by the nuclear weapons states toward substantial nuclear disarmament, while the non-nuclear weapons states have a similarly important role to play in strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime. Without a concerted effort by the entire international community, demonstrating that nuclear weapons do not increase the security of any country, we run the risk that nuclear weapons may one day be used, with horrific consequences.

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