

6 January 2016

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Mogens Lykketoft,  
President of the 70<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly,  
on the nuclear test announced by the Democratic People's Republic of  
Korea**

I was dismayed and disappointed by news of an underground nuclear test by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Such activities are in violation of numerous UN Security Council resolutions and have the potential to destabilise the situation on the Korean peninsula.

Nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction threaten the existence of humankind and must be eliminated.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea should abandon its nuclear weapon and missile programmes in a verifiable and irreversible manner, cease all related activities and comply with all its international obligations, including the UN Security Council and IAEA board of governors resolutions as well as other international disarmament and non-proliferation norms. I call on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to pursue its objectives by choosing dialogue over demonstrations of power that present a serious threat to global peace and security.