

Kane Hall Walker Ames Room
Thursday, January 26th, 2012
2:00-4:00PM
(Refreshments Provided)



Hosted jointly by the Korean Consulate of Seattle and the Center for Korea Studies at the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington



Young Wan Song
Korean Consul General
of Seattle:
"North Korea's Nuclear
Program After Kim Jong-il"
(No audiovisual recording please)

"Despite North Korea's repeatedly avowed goal to become a "strong and prosperous country" in 2012, Kim Jong-un inherits a state strained in abject poverty. It is difficult to predict whether the succession from Kim Jong-il to his son will go smoothly in the long run. However, it is predictable that North Korea will choose, for the sake of its own survival, the time-tested tactic of repression at home and extortion from its neighbors, not to mention its most valuable and dangerous asset: its nuclear program.

The current U.S. policy on North Korea is based on two-track policy of deterring further aggression from the North while leaving a door open for dialogue. But many doubt that North Korea, now more dependent on the military than before for smooth transition and regime survival, will agree to abandon its nuclear programs at all.

In the coming years, international society will be confronted with growing uncertainties involving North Korea. However, there seems to be no other option but to engage with this unruly regime, bilaterally or multilaterally, to dismantle its nuclear programs."

Young W. Song is the Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Seattle. Mr. Song first joined the ROK Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1980. Since then, he assumed various overseas postings in New York, Sofia, Brussels, and Cairo.

Mr. Song served as Deputy Director-General for disarmament affairs at the foreign ministry. He was then appointed as Minister at the ROK Mission to the United Nations in New York, where he served as Director-General for International Organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. During that period, he was mainly responsible for dealing with global issues such as international peace and security, UN reform, human rights issues, disarmament and non-proliferation, and international terrorism. Before coming to Seattle, Mr. Song served as a member of the UN Sanction Panel on North Korea established by the Security Council.

For more information, please call or email 206-543-4873 / uwcks@u.washington.edu

To request disability accommodations, contact the Disability Services Office at least ten days in advance of the event; 543-6450 (voice); 543-6452 (TDD); 685-7264 (fax); dso@u.washington.edu.