



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
13 May 2019

Original: English

UNEDITED VERSION

Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Thirty-third session
Geneva, 6-17 May 2019

Draft report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in the language of submission only.

Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its thirty-third session from 6 to 17 May 2019. The review of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was held at the 8th meeting, on 9 May 2019. The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was headed by the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Tae Song Han. At its 14th meeting, held on 14 May 2019, the Working Group adopted the report on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

2. On 15 January 2019, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea: Eritrea, Fiji and Spain.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/33/PRK/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/33/PRK/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/33/PRK/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Angola, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America was transmitted to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

[To be completed by 24 May 2019]

A. Presentation by the State under review

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

5. During the interactive dialogue, 88 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

6. **The following recommendations will be examined by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the forty-second session of the Human Rights Council.**

- 6.1 Continue to consider the possibility of the DPRK's accession to other international human rights treaties (Belarus);
- 6.2 Consider the ratification of international human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party (Plurinational State of Bolivia); Consider ratifying other core human rights instruments which it has not become a party to (Indonesia);
- 6.3 Consider ratifying the main international human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 6.4 Continue the efforts to accede to all core human rights instruments (Estonia);
- 6.5 Ratify all remaining main human rights instruments, in particular the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its optional protocol (Greece);
- 6.6 Ratify all the core human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party (Honduras);
- 6.7 Consider to accede to the core international human rights treaties that it is not yet a party to (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 6.8 Continue ratification of the remaining core human rights conventions (Iraq);
- 6.9 Ratify core international human rights conventions, in particular Convention on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment and second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, as previously recommended (Latvia);
- 6.10 Ratify the following instruments: i) the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights on the abolition of death penalty; ii) the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol; iii) the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; iv) the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Portugal);
- 6.11 Ratify other international human rights instruments to which it is still not a party, including the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Republic of Korea);
- 6.12 Accede to the core international human rights treaties to which it is not yet a state party and thoroughly implement its obligations under the treaties to which it is a party (State of Palestine);
- 6.13 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Georgia);
- 6.14 Ratify the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Montenegro);
- 6.15 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Togo);

- 6.16 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Burundi);**
- 6.17 **Intensify efforts for the ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Chile);**
- 6.18 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Denmark); (Montenegro); (Senegal);**
- 6.19 **Put in place time-bound plans for accession to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 6.20 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol (Georgia);**
- 6.21 **Accede to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol (Uruguay);**
- 6.22 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and its Optional Protocol (Poland);**
- 6.23 **Consider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Timor-Leste);**
- 6.24 **Ratify the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance as well as the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol (France);**
- 6.25 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and respond to all individual communications submitted to the bodies and procedures of the UN regarding alleged cases, including to the requests of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances with regard to the persons abducted from the Korean Air flight in 1969 (Uruguay);**
- 6.26 **Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and implement it into national law (Croatia);**
- 6.27 **Accede to and fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the ICC, including by incorporating provisions to cooperate promptly and fully with the ICC (Estonia);**
- 6.28 **Ratify Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and fully align national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute, as previously recommended (Latvia);**
- 6.29 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Luxembourg);**
- 6.30 **Become a member of the International Labour Organization and comply with its obligations arising from international human rights law (Portugal);**
- 6.31 **Join the International Labour Organisation and ratify the eight fundamental ILO conventions (Sweden);**
- 6.32 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Togo);**

- 6.33 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Togo);**
- 6.34 **Take steps aimed at eliminating violence against women, including ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Namibia);**
- 6.35 **Ratify the Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II) (Switzerland);**
- 6.36 **Operate the National Committee on Human Rights Treaties with a view to achieving tangible progress in the implementation of the human rights treaties to which the country is a party (Turkmenistan);**
- 6.37 **Ensure human and financial resources and autonomy for the Committee for the Implementation of the International Human Rights Treaties to enable it to effectively promote human rights in the country (Bulgaria);**
- 6.38 **Improve the role of the National Committee for the Implementation of the International Human Rights Treaties to widely disseminate international human rights instruments and efficiently coordinate the national efforts for following up the concluding observations of the Treaty Bodies and recommendations received at the universal periodic review (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- 6.39 **Cooperate with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and allow access to Special Procedures mandate holders and implement the recommendations issued by the United Nations mechanisms (Costa Rica);**
- 6.40 **Engage in a genuine dialogue with the Human Rights Council, the OHCHR and UN mechanisms and allow for unhindered access of independent human rights monitors to the country (Czechia);**
- 6.41 **Facilitate the cooperation and dialogue with the international community, especially with mechanisms and special procedures for the promotion and protection of human rights (Ecuador);**
- 6.42 **Continue its engagement and dialogue with the relevant UN human rights mechanisms (Viet Nam);**
- 6.43 **Strengthen its cooperation with the United Nations organizations and human rights mechanisms (State of Palestine);**
- 6.44 **Fulfil its commitments under ratified human rights instruments including the submission of outstanding reports (Poland);**
- 6.45 **Strengthen the engagement with UN human rights treaty bodies, and improve coordination at the national level to ensure implementation of the recommendations (Maldives);**
- 6.46 **Adopt the necessary measures to implement the recommendations received from the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (Uruguay);**
- 6.47 **Grant access to all Special Procedures that request to visit the country and seek technical assistance of the OHCHR (Afghanistan);**
- 6.48 **Grant unrestricted access to all UN Special Procedures mandate holders who request to visit the DPRK (Australia);**

- 6.49 Act on its commitment to dialogue and cooperation by accepting outstanding requests by special procedures to visit the country and by engaging actively with the OHCHR (Austria);
- 6.50 Extend a permanent invitation to all special procedures mandate holders to visit the country (Honduras);
- 6.51 Cooperate with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council by responding positively to the pending visit requests by the special procedure mandate holders (Latvia);
- 6.52 Consider the extension of a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Latvia);
- 6.53 Improve its cooperation with the international human rights system through the realization of official visits by the special procedures created under the Human Rights Council (Mexico);
- 6.54 Cooperate with the special procedures mandate holders (Senegal);
- 6.55 Extend an invitation to the UN Working Group on the Issue of Discrimination against Women in Law and in Practice to visit the country (Sweden);
- 6.56 Grant access to the UN and other international humanitarian agencies to provide assistance to the most vulnerable groups (Afghanistan);
- 6.57 Allow humanitarian assistance providers operating in North Korea unrestricted and independent movement throughout the country, as well as direct and unimpeded access to all populations in need (United States of America);
- 6.58 Grant immediate, free and unimpeded access to international humanitarian organisations to provide assistance to the most vulnerable groups, including prisoners (Ireland);
- 6.59 Secure unlimited humanitarian access to all provinces of the country (Norway);
- 6.60 Implement reforms recommended by UN special mechanisms (Croatia);
- 6.61 Continue its efforts to complete the implementation of the remaining recommendations from the second cycle (Bhutan);
- 6.62 Consider seeking technical cooperation and capacity-building support from UNICEF and other international bodies in the process of the implementation of the Law on the Protection of the Rights of the Child (Bulgaria);
- 6.63 Continue to maintain cooperation with international organizations in the fields of health, education, nutrition and food security (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 6.64 Maintain cooperation with international organizations working on health, education, nutrition and food security (Kuwait);
- 6.65 Continue to maintain cooperation with the international organizations in the areas of health, education, nutrition and food security (Myanmar);
- 6.66 Continue to maintain cooperation with international organizations in the fields of health, education, nutrition and food security (Pakistan);

- 6.67 Establish meaningful cooperation with the Office of High Commissioner of Human Rights as a first step in the area of technical assistance (Poland);
- 6.68 Seek technical assistance of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, including by granting access to the country (Portugal);
- 6.69 Consider seeking technical assistance from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Timor-Leste);
- 6.70 Actively participate in international dialogue and cooperation on human rights (Kuwait);
- 6.71 Promote international exchange to improve the quality of Technical, Vocational Education and Training (Myanmar);
- 6.72 Incorporate the principles and requirements of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography into the relevant domestic laws with a view to fulfilling their implementation (Turkmenistan);
- 6.73 Continue to take further legislative measures in the promotion and protection of human rights to ensure the full enjoyment by its citizens (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 6.74 Undertake a comprehensive review of the national legislation with a view to further strengthening the legal framework for the promotion and protection of human rights as required by the international human rights treaties to which the DPRK is a party (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 6.75 Continue to bring national legislation in line with international human rights standards (Russian Federation);
- 6.76 Continue the efforts to further perfecting domestic legal framework for the protection and promotion of human rights with a view to ensuring full enjoyment by citizens of their vested rights (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 6.77 Incorporate the principles and requirements of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography into the relevant domestic laws with a view to full implementation (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 6.78 Work on harmonising national legislation with the provisions of international human rights treaties (Zimbabwe);
- 6.79 Step up the efforts of taking legislative and practical measures for the protection and promotion of human rights (Ethiopia);
- 6.80 Continue efforts for the protection and promotion of human rights in line with international human rights norms and standards (Nepal);
- 6.81 Sustain its commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights (Nigeria);
- 6.82 Scale up its efforts in the promotion and protection of the rights of vulnerable groups in the society (Nigeria);

- 6.83 Take further measures to ensure that all citizens enjoy their civil, cultural, economic and social rights (Oman);
- 6.84 Strengthen coordination at the national level to ensure effective implementation of human rights conventions to which the DPRK is a State party (Philippines);
- 6.85 Take measures to ensure effective implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Viet Nam);
- 6.86 Strengthen its efforts to overcome the challenges that negatively impact the promotion and protection of human rights and to provide adequate conditions favorable to the enjoyment of human rights in accordance with international standards (State of Palestine);
- 6.87 Increase efforts to strengthen national capacities for the promotion and protection of human rights (Belarus);
- 6.88 Establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Costa Rica); (Ukraine);
- 6.89 Establish an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Iraq);
- 6.90 Establish a national independent institution for the defense of human rights, in conformity with the Paris Principles (Senegal);
- 6.91 Implement in an effective manner its Strategy for National Economic Development, and its Strategies for the Development of the Health Sector and the Development of Education, for a better standard of living for its population (Cuba);
- 6.92 Continue efforts for the implementation of the five-year strategy for the national economic development (2016-2020) (Democratic Republic of the Congo);
- 6.93 Continue efforts for the implementation of the national strategy for the development of education (2015-2032) (Democratic Republic of the Congo);
- 6.94 Increase the efforts of awareness raising about human rights among officials of the people's power organs and law enforcement organs (Ethiopia);
- 6.95 Establish closer relations with African people and persons of African descent in order to foster better understanding and more complete appreciation of the culture, history and contributions to humanity by persons of African descent, for example, by organizing cultural exchanges in North Korea (Haiti);
- 6.96 Foster human rights awareness raising activities among citizens (Myanmar);
- 6.97 Facilitate awareness-raising activities and training programs on human rights (Philippines);
- 6.98 Publish the full text of human rights treaties that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has ratified, translated to Korean, on the national network service (Kwangmyong) (Sweden);

- 6.99 Consider increasing budget allocations to health, education and social sectors, within the 5-Year Strategy for National Economic Development, to ensure improved access to services in rural areas (Botswana);
- 6.100 Redirect its public spending in order to fulfil the right of all people in the DPRK to a standard of living adequate for their health and well-being, in line with SDGs 1, 2 and 3 (Netherlands);
- 6.101 Take continued innovative measures to reduce the gaps between urban and rural areas in every possible aspects (Turkmenistan);
- 6.102 Maintain the design of actions to guarantee the wellbeing of its population, in particular children, women, older persons and persons with disabilities in its economic and social development plans (Cuba);
- 6.103 Adopt measures in the legislative sphere to combat discrimination based on social class, religion, or political opinion (Honduras);
- 6.104 Take further steps to strengthen anti-discrimination legal framework to ensure wider access to food, health, education and other fundamental rights (Indonesia);
- 6.105 Develop a strategy to protect persons with special needs and ensure that they enjoy their full rights (Oman);
- 6.106 Further strengthen programs to protect the rights of vulnerable groups including women, children, persons with disabilities, and the elderly (Philippines);
- 6.107 Expand the measures designed to uplift the well-being of women, children, persons with disabilities and elderly people (Zimbabwe);
- 6.108 Continue to promote sustainable economic and social development in order to provide a solid basis for its people to better enjoy all human rights (China);
- 6.109 Cooperate with the United Nations and the international community to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, including the implementation of the right to health (Republic of Korea);
- 6.110 Provide information on the steps taken to ensure that the most vulnerable to climate change are included in domestic measures to address the causes and effects of climate change (Fiji);
- 6.111 Ensure that a human rights based approach is incorporated in the implementation of the Law on Disaster Prevention, Relief and Recovery and the Environmental Protection Law (Fiji);
- 6.112 Enable greater inclusion and participation of women, children, persons with disabilities, and indigenous and other marginalized communities in devising holistic strategies towards managing climate change and its impact on livelihoods (Fiji);
- 6.113 Fulfil treaty obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and allow the population to exercise all civil and political rights, including freedom of expression, access to information and ability to travel, within and outside the country (Italy);
- 6.114 Fulfill treaty obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and allow the population to exercise all civil and political

rights, including freedom of expression, access to information and ability to travel (Croatia);

6.115 Reduce the offences punishable by death penalty and provide official figures regarding death sentences and executions, considering introducing a moratorium of death penalty (Italy);

6.116 Introduce a moratorium on executions as a first step towards the abolition of the death penalty (Belgium);

6.117 Disclose information on the use of the death penalty (Belgium);

6.118 Take progressive steps to abolish the death penalty (Ukraine);

6.119 Reduce the number of crimes punishable by the death penalty and put in place a moratorium with a view to abolishing it (France);

6.120 Introduce an official moratorium on executions as a first step towards the abolition of the death penalty (Georgia);

6.121 Take progressive steps to restrict and/or abolish the death penalty (Greece);

6.122 Abolish the death penalty (Iceland);

6.123 Reconsider abolishing the death penalty (Mozambique);

6.124 Take steps aimed at restricting executions, establish a moratorium on death penalty or abolishing it altogether (Namibia);

6.125 Abolish the death penalty in all cases and put an immediate halt to public executions (New Zealand);

6.126 Adopt an immediate moratorium on the application of the death penalty as a step to its full abolition and publish the data on recent executions as well as on a number of people awaiting on death row (Spain);

6.127 Implement a moratorium on the death penalty (Timor-Leste);

6.128 Take immediate and effective action to stop the use of torture and other ill-treatment in detention facilities and ensure fair trial guarantees (Austria);

6.129 Take immediate and effective action to stop torture and ill-treatment, including sexual violence, through proper training, awareness campaigns and enactment of laws, especially for state security and policing organs (Germany);

6.130 Prohibit the use of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, and ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Spain);

6.131 Take concrete measures to improve conditions of detention by implementing the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Mandela Rules) and the UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders (Bangkok Rules) (Thailand);

6.132 Take immediate action to cease the practice of forced labour, including the use of prisoners and children, as defined by Article 1 of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

- 6.133 **Adopt legislation to criminalize trafficking in accordance with international standards and provide support for women survivors of trafficking (Israel);**
- 6.134 **Consider adopting policies to combat trafficking in persons, especially women and children (Philippines);**
- 6.135 **Ensure the freedom of movement of all North Koreans in the country and abroad (France);**
- 6.136 **Respect the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion by taking effective measures to prevent and eliminate all forms of persecution on the grounds of religion or belief and by promoting religious tolerance and dialogue in society (Greece);**
- 6.137 **Allow Christians as well as persons belonging to any other religious community or group to exercise their religion independently and publicly, without fear of punishment, reprisal or surveillance (Ireland);**
- 6.138 **Review the legislation and national policies in order to adapt them to the standards of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in particular with regard to freedom of expression and access to information (Costa Rica);**
- 6.139 **Implement reforms to bring laws and practices in line with international standards of freedom of the press and freedom of expression (Greece);**
- 6.140 **Introduce a law on freedom of information in accordance with international standards (Greece);**
- 6.141 **Ensure freedom of expression and the independence of the media (Luxembourg);**
- 6.142 **Guarantee the right to information and freedom of expression, preserving the freedom to seek, receive and disseminate information and ideas, orally, in writing and in print (Mexico);**
- 6.143 **Create a conducive environment where civil society organisations can function independently without fear of surveillance, arrest or other forms of punishment (Poland);**
- 6.144 **Promote freedom of opinion and expression and the right to privacy (Iraq);**
- 6.145 **Abstain from any form of interference in the direct and regular communication between its citizens and other persons, including parents and children living in other countries (Switzerland);**
- 6.146 **Guarantee the functioning of an independent judiciary, reform the Criminal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code to ensure fully the procedural guarantees and free and just judgements (Costa Rica);**
- 6.147 **Comply with its obligations arising from human rights treaties it ratified (Ukraine);**
- 6.148 **Ensure full realization of civil and political rights, including the possibility for all its citizens to communicate freely, directly, safely and regularly with their family members and others, even if they live in other countries, without any interference other than justified exemptions which are in line with the international human rights law and standards (Finland);**

- 6.149 Continue to cooperate with the Republic of Korea to fundamentally resolve the issue of separated families, including the implementation of the relevant commitments made at the inter-Korean summits (Republic of Korea);
- 6.150 Remove the barriers to access to education and health and provide genuinely free education and health services for its entire population (Afghanistan);
- 6.151 Increase people's access to food, healthcare, education, and adequate housing throughout the country (Cambodia);
- 6.152 Continue to make efforts to develop education and health care, to better protect people's right to education and right to health (China);
- 6.153 Develop a strategy to ensure more equal access to the rights to health, education and adequate standard of living in rural areas (Costa Rica);
- 6.154 Ensure protection of the rights to food, health, water and sanitation, as previously recommended (Ukraine);
- 6.155 Enhance measures to ensure availability and accessibility of essential services for all and the enjoyment of rights by women, children and persons with disabilities (Nepal);
- 6.156 Continue to guarantee access to education, food and health for their people, especially those most in need (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 6.157 Intensify efforts in ensuring rights to food and health for all people in the country, with priorities given to vulnerable or specific groups such as children, women, persons with disabilities and older persons (Thailand);
- 6.158 Continue the implementation of the food administration policy of the State (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 6.159 Continue to strengthen measures which ensure access to food for the entire population (Chile);
- 6.160 Take necessary measures to combat food insecurity and malnutrition which affect millions of persons, including in particular children, women, older persons as well as other vulnerable groups (Ecuador);
- 6.161 Further ensure that access to food in the country is free from discrimination and that public distribution of food covers marginalized and most vulnerable groups (Finland);
- 6.162 Take concrete measure and means to fight against poverty (Cambodia);
- 6.163 Take further measures to reduce inequalities in access to health care, at an affordable cost (Algeria);
- 6.164 Strengthen its positive actions to further reduce the infant mortality and malnutrition rates in the country (Cuba);
- 6.165 Continue development of the health sector and to achieve universal health care (Egypt);
- 6.166 Continue its initiatives to improve public health services, in line with the right to health (Nicaragua);
- 6.167 Continue modernizing the national health system in favor of the population (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

- 6.168 Continue the development of education and enable all citizens to access all stages of education (Egypt);
- 6.169 Continue to reinforce the initiatives to promote the right to education (Nicaragua);
- 6.170 Redouble its efforts to improve the education conditions and environment of the rural schools, in order for its people to enjoy their right to education (Pakistan);
- 6.171 Strive to improve the quality of the education system by allocating more resources to school infrastructure by aligning them across the entire territory of the country (Serbia);
- 6.172 Take immediate measures to ensure gender equality and protect women from gender-based violence (Argentina);
- 6.173 Implement measures to ensure gender equality in practice, and end impunity for violence against women and girls (Australia);
- 6.174 Strengthen measures to address the gaps in the promotion and protection of the rights of women and children (Bhutan);
- 6.175 Develop and adopt a comprehensive plan of action to promote women's rights and their empowerment, and monitor and assess its implementation (Bulgaria);
- 6.176 Continue efforts to stop violence against children and to empower women to access leadership positions in government institutions (Egypt);
- 6.177 Take concrete action to increase the recruitment of female officers and strengthen their roles in the policy making agencies (Pakistan);
- 6.178 Further strengthen measures to promote women's empowerment (Philippines);
- 6.179 Take measures to improve gender equality (Viet Nam);
- 6.180 Strengthen its legislation in order to identify and amend discriminatory provisions against women, in particular those governing the access to education and employment (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 6.181 Review the Law on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Women to ensure that all forms of gender-based violence against women in all spheres are criminalized (Belgium);
- 6.182 Intensify the fight against violence against women (i) by introducing in the penal code a definition of violence against women, including rape and trafficking, (ii) by putting in place training programs for law enforcement, magistrates and civil servants to identify, prevent and punish violence against women and (iii) by prohibiting forced genital searches on repatriated women (France);
- 6.183 Review laws, including the Law on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Women, to include definitions of violence against women, including rape and trafficking of women (Iceland);
- 6.184 Take measures to criminalize marital rape and to prevent and punish domestic violence against women, including awareness campaigns, legal services, support and shelter for survivors (Israel);

- 6.185 Step up the implementation of the law on the promotion and protection of the rights of women, and reform the criminal legislation to clearly define and punish rape and trafficking of women (Mexico);
- 6.186 Establish a system to prevent sexual violence against women in detention (Norway);
- 6.187 Develop a comprehensive strategy to prevent and combat all forms of violence against children, in particular addressing their root causes (Algeria);
- 6.188 To adopt concrete measures to address the root causes of infant and child mortality, including social and economic deprivation and inequality, child malnutrition and child labour (Brazil);
- 6.189 Establish an independent, third-party institution dedicated to combating child abuse (Denmark);
- 6.190 Ensure a ban on corporal punishment in all settings, including at home and educational institutions, and monitor its respect (Israel);
- 6.191 Amend the Act for the Protection of the Rights of the Child to cover all children under the age of 18 (Maldives);
- 6.192 Consider reviewing its national laws on child protection, in order to cover all children under the age of 18 and raise the minimum age of marriage to 18 years (Namibia);
- 6.193 Take appropriate measures to develop inclusive education for children with disabilities and ensure that it is prioritized over their placement in specialized institutions and classes (Bulgaria);
- 6.194 Develop collaboration between the DPRK's National Committee for the Protection of Persons with Disabilities and relevant national institutions of other countries in the region (Indonesia);
- 6.195 Make further effort for the protections of the persons with disabilities (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 6.196 Continue its efforts to provide persons with disabilities equal access and rights to health care and education (Norway);
- 6.197 Further protect the rights of persons with disabilities, including its participation in the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities review (Republic of Korea);
- 6.198 Seek to improve those housing facilities and public transport that are not accessible to persons with disabilities, with the aim of making them as much as possible for independent living and full participation in all aspects of life (Serbia);
- 6.199 Adopt more measures to allow persons with disabilities to participate more widely in society such as eliminating physical barriers in public spaces and increasing awareness-raising campaigns to remove stigma about persons with disabilities (Singapore).

7. The following recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below have been examined by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and have been noted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea:

- 7.1 Continue deepening the cooperation channels with all the human rights mechanisms of the United Nations, treaty bodies and with OHCHR,

particularly by allowing the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Korea access to the country (Argentina);

7.2 Cooperate with human rights mechanisms, including the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DPRK (Botswana);

7.3 Consider allowing access to the UN Special Procedures requesting to visit the country, including the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (Chile);

7.4 Fully cooperate with the UN human rights mechanisms, including the Special Rapporteur on human rights situation in this country, as previously recommended (Ukraine);

7.5 Cooperate fully with the Commission of Inquiry and grant unrestricted access to all UN Special Procedures, including the Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in the DPRK (Estonia);

7.6 Grant access and cooperate with all UN Special Procedures, in particular the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DPRK (Germany);

7.7 Grant access to the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DPRK, as well as other Special Procedures mandate holders (Italy);

7.8 Fully cooperate with the UN Human Rights Council and accept a visit of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DPRK (Canada);

7.9 Guarantee access to its territory to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DPRK and to all other special procedures mandate holders and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (Luxembourg);

7.10 Cooperate with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (Uruguay);

7.11 Allow the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DPRK, and other thematic rapporteurs, unfettered access to the country and its people (New Zealand);

7.12 Give access to the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights in the DPRK (Norway);

7.13 Immediately improve the very grave and serious human rights situation in the DPRK, especially by granting all international human rights bodies and mechanisms full access to the country (Denmark);

7.14 Provide access to the entirety of the country, including to the province of Jagang, to the United Nations agencies and special procedures, embassies and NGOs (France);

7.15 Grant immediate and unrestricted access to all UN human rights mechanisms, including the Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in the DPRK (Poland);

7.16 Fully cooperate with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, including its office in Seoul, and issue a standing invitation to the special procedures (Belgium);

- 7.17 **Prioritise the human rights of its population over military expenditure, including by dedicating resources to ensure freedom from hunger (Australia);**
- 7.18 **Bring an end to discrimination, in particular discrimination based on the *songbun* system, guaranteeing the principle of equality and non-discrimination among its citizens (Argentina);**
- 7.19 **Address the systematic discrimination that underpins human rights violations, including by taking immediate action to abolish the *songbun* class system (Australia);**
- 7.20 **End all forms of discrimination, in particular the *songbun* system discriminating against citizens according to their family background and loyalty to the regime (Czechia);**
- 7.21 **End the social classification system "songbun" and related discriminations (Germany);**
- 7.22 **Reconsider the role of Christianity in the ideology and in the society of North Korea within the "songbun" system, in order to see the positive contributions of Christianity to the economic, social and political developments in the context of socialism (Haiti);**
- 7.23 **End all forms of discrimination, including on the basis of religion, social class, political view and gender (Israel);**
- 7.24 **Prevent cases of enforced disappearances and arbitrary executions and publish data on the application of the death penalty (Czechia);**
- 7.25 **Take immediate and effective action to stop the use of torture and other ill-treatment of detainees in political prison camps and other detention facilities, in line with SDG 16 (Netherlands);**
- 7.26 **Give international humanitarian organizations access to provide assistance to detainees in all penitentiary facilities, including labor training camps, prisons and political prison camps, allow family visits to all detainees, and establish rules regarding the treatment of detainees in accordance with international human rights standards (Germany);**
- 7.27 **End the practice of inadequately paid labor and political mobilizations of the population, which in the case of minors hinder access to education (Germany);**
- 7.28 **Eliminate all forms of forced labour and introduce freedom of movement both within and outside the country (Spain);**
- 7.29 **Put an end to forced labour in political prison camps and, in particular, protect children under 18 against any form of forced labour in conformity with the Sustainable Development Goal 8.7 (Switzerland);**
- 7.30 **Take concrete actions towards the early resolution of the abductions issue, including the immediate return of all abductees (Japan);**
- 7.31 **Address the issues of abductees and prisoners of war (Republic of Korea);**
- 7.32 **Put an end to the practice of deprivation of liberty in political prison camps, promoting their closure and guaranteeing a fair trial as well as full respect for freedom of expression and procedural guarantees (Argentina);**

- 7.33 **Immediately close down all political prison camps and release all prisoners of conscience, including relatives being held on the basis of guilt-by-association (Austria);**
- 7.34 **Implement its obligations under the human rights instruments to which it is party, and cease the use of arbitrary detention, political prison camps, and collective punishment (Canada);**
- 7.35 **Immediately release the remaining crew and passengers, including Hwang Won, abducted in 1969 during the hijacking of Korean Air Lines flight YS-11 (Iceland);**
- 7.36 **Immediately dismantle all political prison camps, release all political prisoners, institute protections against arbitrary detention that guarantee due process and fair trial, and grant international observers, including UN Special Procedures, unimpeded and unrestricted access to the country and to all detention facilities (United States of America);**
- 7.37 **Immediately close political prisoner camps and unconditionally release all political prisoners (Luxembourg);**
- 7.38 **Take immediate steps to close political prison camps (New Zealand);**
- 7.39 **Close down all political prison camps and labour camps and unconditionally release all prisoners of conscience, including relatives that have been held on the basis of “guilt by association” (Slovenia);**
- 7.40 **Close all detention camps in which internees are arbitrarily deprived of liberty and subjected to inhumane conditions (Spain);**
- 7.41 **Immediately close all political prison camps and unconditionally release all prisoners of conscience, including relatives being held on the basis of “guilt-by-association” (Sweden);**
- 7.42 **Revise the criminal code, and any other relevant laws or policies, to decriminalize possession and distribution of religious texts (United States of America);**
- 7.43 **Remove from state legislation all provisions punishing free speech, freedom of association and assembly, or freedom of political participation (Canada);**
- 7.44 **Cease the censorship of foreign and domestic media and permit the establishment of an independent press (Canada);**
- 7.45 **End censorship and fully ensure the freedom of expression both online and offline (Czechia);**
- 7.46 **Allow the establishment of independent newspapers and other media and end all censorship of domestic and foreign media, as well as introduce access to the internet in schools, libraries and other public facilities (Greece);**
- 7.47 **End the practice of forcing all married women to join the Socialist Women’s Union of Korea, and the demand to provide unpaid labor as part of the membership (Israel);**
- 7.48 **Ending all surveillance and censorship of individuals, organisations, media and communications that is contrary to international human rights laws and standards (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

- 7.49 **Build an independent judiciary, unconditionally release all political prisoners and those detained without a due process (Czechia);**
- 7.50 **Ensure the right to a fair trial by amending the provisions of the Criminal Code that are incompatible with respect for individual guarantees and ensuring the publicity of proceedings (France);**
- 7.51 **Bring an end to serious human rights violations, particularly arbitrary detentions, forced labor, torture, and other forms of inhuman, cruel or degrading treatment, as well as enforced disappearances (Argentina);**
- 7.52 **Acknowledge the existence of human rights violations and end all state-sanctioned practices that breach fundamental human rights, including arbitrary detention, torture, forced abortion and other sexual violence (New Zealand);**
- 7.53 **Accept the findings of the Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in the DPRK, and take action to implement all its recommendations, including those on the denial of due process, arbitrary detention, torture and mistreatment of prisoners, the repatriation of abductees, and the death penalty (Australia);**
- 7.54 **Fully implement the recommendations made by the Commission of Inquiry, including releasing all political prisoners and allowing for the establishment of independent media (Iceland);**
- 7.55 **Implement the recommendations in the report of the UN Commission of Inquiry on human rights situation in the DPRK (Slovenia);**
- 7.56 **Effectively address the chronic food insecurity, in particular the early childhood malnutrition, and ensure that government policy on access to food is free of discrimination and political considerations (Austria);**
- 7.57 **Ensure that the government's policies on access to food and distribution are free from discrimination and political considerations (Brazil);**
- 7.58 **Stop using food as a way to control its population and to ensure free distribution of food (Spain);**
- 7.59 **Prohibit and effectively end exploitative practices that require women who support families through private economy to contribute quotas of goods, money and unpaid forced labour for the government and military investments (Iceland);**
- 7.60 **Ensure that children are protected against all forms of exploitation and forced or hazardous labour, especially as part of their school curriculum (Austria);**
- 7.61 **Take further measures to prevent and combat violence on children, child forced labour and exploitation and ensure all children have access to education (Italy);**
- 7.62 **Take measures to prevent the militarization of children and their recruitment (Ukraine);**
- 7.63 **Put an end to practices of segregation and exclusion in providing care services to persons with disabilities (Costa Rica).**

8. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was headed by H.E. Mr. Tae Song Han, Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, and composed of the following members:

- Mr. RI, KYONG HUN, Director of Legislation Department, Presidium of Supreme People's Assembly, Democratic People's Republic of Korea;
 - Ms. KIM, SUN HWA, Officer, Legislation Department, Presidium of Supreme People's Assembly, Democratic People's Republic of Korea;
 - Mr. PAK, KWANG HO, Councillor, Central Court of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;
 - Ms. RI, HYE RYON, Chief Officer, Commission of Education of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;
 - Ms. HAN, CHAE SUN, Bureau Chief, Institute of Public Health Administration, Ministry of Public Health, Democratic People's Republic of Korea;
 - Mr. JANG, IL HUN, Researcher, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Democratic People's Republic of Korea;
 - Mr. RO, KWANG SONG, Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Democratic People's Republic of Korea;
 - Mr. PANG, KWANG HYOK, Deputy Permanent Representative, DPRK Permanent Mission in Geneva;
 - Mr. MUN, JONG CHOL, Counsellor, DPRK Permanent Mission in Geneva.
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