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

## **Summary of Stakeholders' submissions on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea\***

### **Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**

#### **I. Background**

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review. It is a summary of 18 stakeholders' submissions<sup>1</sup> to the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

#### **II. Information provided by stakeholders**

##### **A. Scope of international obligations<sup>2</sup> and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies<sup>3</sup>**

2. The Committee for Human Rights in North Korea (HRNK) recommended that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) accede to the ICPPED and ratify the CAT and its Optional Protocol.<sup>4</sup>

3. JS3 recommended that the DPRK ratify the CAT and the ICERD.<sup>5</sup>

4. The Center for Global Nonkilling (CGN) recommended that the DPRK urgently ratify the ICPPED as well as the OP-CRC-AC.<sup>6</sup>

5. CGN strongly encouraged the Government to ratify the ICCPR-OP 2.<sup>7</sup>

6. JS1 and Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW) recommended that the Government ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.<sup>8</sup>

7. The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) recommended that the DPRK sign and ratify the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as a matter of international urgency. CGN made a similar recommendation.<sup>9</sup>

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\* The present document was not edited before being sent to United Nations translation services.



8. JS1 recommended that the DPRK commence the procedure to become a State member of the International Labour Organization (ILO).<sup>10</sup>
9. Amnesty International (AI) recommended that the Government grant immediate and unrestricted access to all United Nations Special Procedures who request to visit the country, including the Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in the DPRK. CSW and JS1 made similar recommendations.<sup>11</sup>
10. JS3 recommended that the DPRK extend an invitation for country visits to the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, and the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers.<sup>12</sup>
11. Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF International) recommended that the DPRK invite the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion and belief to visit the country and to fully cooperate with the Special Rapporteur's requests.<sup>13</sup>
12. CSW recommended that the DPRK uphold its international obligations through the implementation of recommendations given to it by various human rights treaty bodies.<sup>14</sup>
13. JS3 recommended that the DPRK respond to individual communications submitted to United Nations bodies and procedures regarding abductions and enforced disappearances.<sup>15</sup>
14. The 1969 Korean Air Abductees' Families Association (KAAFA) stated that the DPRK had thus far failed to adequately respond to the requests by the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances to clarify the circumstances of reported abduction cases.<sup>16</sup>
15. JS3 recommended that the DPRK incorporate into the management of its detention and penal system the 1985 UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (the Beijing Rules), the 1988 UN Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment, the 2010 UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules), and the 2015 UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules).<sup>17</sup>
16. NHRK recommended that the DPRK grant access to the International Committee of the Red Cross and United Nations humanitarian agencies to provide humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable groups, including prisoners.<sup>18</sup>
17. The International Child Rights Center (InCRC) recommended that the DPRK translate and disseminate at least the international human rights treaties ratified by it.<sup>19</sup>

## **B. National human rights framework<sup>20</sup>**

18. JS3 recommended that the DPRK amend the Constitution to include the right to life and the prohibition of torture or ill-treatment.<sup>21</sup>
19. AI recommended that the Government consider establishing a National Human Rights Institution in accordance with the Paris Principles.<sup>22</sup>
20. The Handong International Law Centre (HILC) recommended that the Government establish an independent disability rights national institution to effectively monitor the implementation of the CRPD according to the Paris Principles.<sup>23</sup>
21. AI recommended that the Government strengthen coordination at the national level to ensure implementation of the treaties to which the DPRK is a State Party.<sup>24</sup>
22. HILC recommended that the Government develop a National Action Plan to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities.<sup>25</sup>

## C. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

### 1. Cross-cutting issues

#### *Equality and non-discrimination*<sup>26</sup>

23. CSW stated that a key aspect of the Government's control over society was the *songbun* system of social classification, dividing the population into 51 categories of political class. It noted that these were grouped into three broad castes, namely 'core', 'wavering' and 'hostile', and that this was determined by birth, with factors including the political record and background of the family. CSW stated that a person's *songbun* classification affected nearly every aspect of their life, including access to healthcare, education, food rations and employment opportunities, and played a role in how they were criminally punished. It stated that those in the hostile classes included Christians and other religious believers, and those who shared ancestry with those convicted of a political crime.<sup>27</sup>

24. CSW recommended that the DPRK introduce anti-discrimination legislation to further strengthen and protect the rights of its citizens.<sup>28</sup>

25. The Database Center for North Korean Human Rights (NKDB) recommended that the Government incorporate education on human rights and allocate a budget to spread human rights literacy including the right to access justice in the national curriculum.<sup>29</sup>

### 2. Civil and political rights

#### *Right to life, liberty and security of person*<sup>30</sup>

26. NKDB stated that the term "grave acts" was often used ambiguously, allowing for too broad interpretations and application of the death penalty to less serious offenses.<sup>31</sup>

27. JS3 stated that the DPRK had never provided information about the detailed rules or specific institutions that govern the execution of capital punishment, the disposal of bodies of executed persons, and the notification of the cause and manner of death to family members.<sup>32</sup>

28. JS3 stated that testimonies had corroborated the reported practice of extrajudicial, summary and arbitrary executions.<sup>33</sup>

29. AI recommended that DPRK introduce an official moratorium on executions as a first step towards the abolition of the death penalty. It also recommended that DPRK disclose information on the use of the death penalty, including all death sentences, executions, and persons under sentence of death, as well as overall annual statistics and confirmation as to whether public executions have been ended in practice or law.<sup>34</sup>

30. JS3 stated that articles 241 and 242 of the Penal Code did not outlaw torture or ill-treatment in detention.<sup>35</sup>

31. AI stated that up to 120,000 people remained in detention in four known political prison camps and at risk of forced labour, as well as torture and other ill-treatment. It recommended that the DPRK 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.<sup>36</sup>

32. CSW stated that prisoners in political prison camps were subjected to intense labour on minimal food rations, beatings, torture, executions and rape. Children imprisoned with their families were only given minimal education, being drafted into labour at ages as young as six.<sup>37</sup>

33. HRNK stated that the political prison camps and labour camps increasingly housed women who had attempted to flee the country, and that in these camps rates of mortality, malnutrition, forced labour, and exploitation were high.<sup>38</sup>

34. AI stated that many of those living in the political prison camps had not been convicted of any internationally recognized criminal offence, but remained detained

arbitrarily merely for being related to individuals deemed to be a threat to the state or for “guilt-by-association”.<sup>39</sup>

35. CSW stated that political crimes had been known to be as minor as voicing discontent in a private setting, or practicing a religion or having a belief other than the political Juche ideology. It stated that those who were seen to have engaged in major political crimes were regularly ‘disappeared’, i.e. taken away to the political prison camps without trial, often overnight.<sup>40</sup>

36. JS1 recommended that the DPRK acknowledge the existence of political prison camps (*kwanliso*) and immediately shut them down; release all persons incarcerated there and enable them to return to their homes and families safely; and investigate and prosecute all those responsible for human rights abuses committed in these camps.<sup>41</sup>

37. JS1 reported that Human Rights Watch had found that many North Koreans who ended up in detention facilities and ordinary prison camps were detained and punished for activities protected under international human rights law, such as travelling domestically without a permit, engaging in private economic activities involving medicinal herbs or seafood, using smuggled Chinese cell phones to make overseas calls, and displaying freedom of religion or thought.<sup>42</sup>

38. JS1 recommended that DPRK immediately end all human rights violations in ordinary prisons and detention facilities, and ensure adequate food and humane conditions in these facilities.<sup>43</sup>

39. AI recommended that the DPRK immediately and unconditionally release all detainees, including foreign citizens, unless they are charged with an internationally recognizable offence and given a fair trial in line with international standards.<sup>44</sup>

40. JS1 recommended that DPRK allow access by UN human rights special rapporteurs and other international human rights monitors to all ordinary prisons and detention facilities. CSW made a similar recommendation.<sup>45</sup>

41. CSW recommended that the DPRK prioritise the reform of the penal system to comply with its international commitments, including its obligations under the ICCPR and the ICESCR.<sup>46</sup>

42. HRNK recommended that DPRK educate and train officials, including prison guards and political officers, on international human rights standards and instruments, and increase the number of women guards.<sup>47</sup>

43. The North Korea Human Rights Network (NKHRN) recommended that the DPRK investigate the abduction issues.<sup>48</sup>

44. KAAFA stated that most unreturned post-war abductees included fishermen, people abducted while working overseas, vacationing teenagers, Vietnam War prisoners of war, members of the Republic of Korea navy and army, and the passengers of a Korean Airlines aircraft.<sup>49</sup>

*Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law*<sup>50</sup>

45. JS1 recommended that the DPRK acknowledge existing human rights violations, respond positively and substantively to the findings and recommendations of the commission of inquiry on human rights in the DPRK, and recognize the severity of the findings of systematic, widespread and gross human rights violations that constitute crimes against humanity.<sup>51</sup>

46. AI regretted that the Government had failed to enshrine fully the right to fair trial and stated that individuals, including foreign citizens, continued to be detained or imprisoned without being given a fair trial in accordance with international human rights standards.<sup>52</sup>

47. JS1 recommended that DPRK ensure the operation of an independent judiciary, and reform the Criminal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure to fully enshrine the right to due process and a free and fair trial.<sup>53</sup>

48. JS3 recommended that the DPRK regularly translate and publish the laws and regulations, especially those concerning deprivation of life, liberty and property and criminal investigation, trial and punishment, including the substantive norms applied by and the procedural rules governing its special courts, for public dissemination at home and abroad. It also recommended that the DPRK publish and report the court judgments, especially for the trials of capital crimes, to further legal precision, clarity, accessibility and foreseeability.<sup>54</sup>

49. JS2 stated that the DPRK operated various interrogation and detention facilities run by the Ministry of Public Safety (MPS) or the Ministry of State Security (MSS) and that the MSS continued to have overwhelming power and prerogatives to administer arbitrary detention, and determine guilt and type of sentence in pre-trial detentions. JS2 stated that after the trial, prisoners were sent to one of the forced labour detention facilities operated by the police, the short-term forced labour detention (*rodongdallyeondae*) or reform prison (*kyohwaso*), depending on the gravity of the crime. It furthermore stated that if the person was considered to have committed a “grave crime” or “treason against the state” they suffered long interrogation, torture and sub-existential conditions of food and hygiene in MSS detention. JS2 stated that no trial would occur and that the person faced arbitrary detention in political prison camps operated by the MSS.<sup>55</sup>

*Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life*<sup>56</sup>

50. ADF International stated that Christians and their family members were typically in the lowest “hostile” class of the *songbun* system, and that people were punished for praying, singing hymns, worshiping, possessing Bibles or crosses, or coming in contact with missionaries or Christians from foreign countries. It recommended that DPRK cease all restrictions on the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and ensure that the right to manifest one’s religion in private or in public is fully protected and realized.<sup>57</sup>

51. CSW recommended that the DPRK respect the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief as enshrined in international law and introduce legislation at the highest levels of its governance to reflect constitutional commitments to the protection of religious freedom for its citizens.<sup>58</sup>

52. AI stated that the Government continued to exercise severe restrictions over information exchanges between people in the country and the rest of the world. All telecommunications, postal and broadcasting services were state-owned, and there were no independent newspapers, other media or civil society organizations. AI stated that apart from a select few in the ruling elite, the general population had no access to the internet or international mobile phone services.<sup>59</sup>

53. AI recommended that the Government 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 (the World Wide Web) in schools, libraries and other public facilities.<sup>60</sup>

54. NKDB recommended that DPRK ensure that the complaints system is implemented without posing a threat to citizens using the complaints procedure.<sup>61</sup>

55. JS2 stated that women reportedly could not raise issues such as improvement of health services, school infrastructure or child-care services, as such statements would be viewed as political criticism against the Government and result in reprisals.<sup>62</sup>

56. JS1 recommended that DPRK ensure freedom of association and end the practice of forcing all married women to join the Socialist Women’s Union of Korea.<sup>63</sup>

57. AI recommended that the DPRK amend the Criminal Code and other legislation to remove the requirement for permission to travel abroad, and ensure that no one is detained or prosecuted for leaving the country without permission or subjected to torture and other ill-treatment, forced labour, enforced disappearance or the death penalty, on return to the country.<sup>64</sup>

58. HRNK recommended that DPRK acknowledge the right of all North Korean citizens to leave and return to their country without penalty, to freely move around within their own country and be able freely to choose their place of residence and employment.<sup>65</sup>

*Prohibition of all forms of slavery*<sup>66</sup>

59. JS1 stated that the Government systematically required forced, uncompensated labour from much of its population, including workers at state owned enterprises or deployed overseas, women, children, and prisoners. It stated that a significant majority of North Koreans had to perform unpaid labour at some point in their lives or pay bribes not to do so.<sup>67</sup>

60. JS1 stated that the Government compelled numerous North Koreans to join paramilitary forced labour brigades and work extended periods of time without pay. It stated that these brigades (*dolgyeokdae*) were controlled and operated by the ruling party, had military structures, and worked primarily on construction projects for buildings and other basic public infrastructure.<sup>68</sup>

61. JS1 stated that prisoners in political prisons (*kwanliso*), as well as ordinary prison camps (*kyohwaso*) and short-term detention facilities also faced back-breaking forced labour in difficult and dangerous conditions, sometimes in winter weather without proper clothing.<sup>69</sup>

62. JS2 stated that through the Korea Democratic Women's Union, women were organized to provide unpaid labour on construction sites, railroads, and making bricks, and that women were also conscripted to such labour if they were unable to pay their individual financial or material quotas.<sup>70</sup>

63. HRNK recommended that DPRK take immediate action to cease the practice of forced labour, including in detention facilities.<sup>71</sup>

*Right to privacy and family life*<sup>72</sup>

64. AI recommended the DPRK to ensure that everyone in the country could communicate directly and regularly with family members and others, including with parents and children living in other countries, without interference unless justified in line with international human rights law and standards. It recommended that the Government end the surveillance of communications that is unnecessary, untargeted or without any legitimate aim, including between children and their parents.<sup>73</sup>

65. HILC recommended that the Government immediately refrain from engaging in any act, custom or practice including forcible sterilization, discouragement of marriage between persons with disabilities, quarantine, and segregation that creates barriers to the enjoyment of the right to integrity, home, and family.<sup>74</sup>

### **3. Economic, social and cultural rights**

*Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work*<sup>75</sup>

66. JS4 stated that pursuant to domestic laws, every adult must be employed in and belong to a company and that the Government used companies to supervise and politically control employees. It stated that supervision was conducted through weekly criticism meetings and political lectures organized by the Workers Party Committee.<sup>76</sup>

67. JS1 stated that ordinary North Korean workers were not free to choose their own job, and that the Government assigned jobs to both men and unmarried women from cities and rural areas. It stated that not showing up at work without permission or being unemployed was a crime punishable by 3 to 6 months in brutal forced labour training camps (*rodong dallyeondae*).<sup>77</sup>

68. JS4 stated that secondary-school graduates who had not been assigned jobs due to their low social class and disreputable family background, considered volunteering for the *dolgyeokdae* (military-style construction brigade) in order to avoid the punishment for unemployment.<sup>78</sup>

69. JS4 stated that employees could not earn a proper living by solely working in their companies as salaries were designated by authorities at a level much lower than what was required to afford goods at market prices. It stated that employees were not allowed to quit their companies to earn money elsewhere, and that employees had to offer bribes to supervisors within the company in order to earn the time to attend to private business, with bribes often worth over ten times a worker's monthly wages. It stated that around 30 percent of employees used bribes to leave their workplaces in order to conduct private business.<sup>79</sup>

70. AI stated that monthly wages in many state departments or state-owned entities were just enough to purchase one kilogram of rice from the market. It stated that workers were afraid of complaining or demanding higher wages, including through collective bargaining, as it was seen as resistance against the government and could be punished by "reform through labour" programmes.<sup>80</sup>

71. JS1 recommended that the Government permit workers to select where they wish to work and change employment without penalty or punishment, and release all persons incarcerated for not being employed.<sup>81</sup>

72. AI recommended that the Government regulate and monitor the treatment of workers by their employers, and provide appropriate means to examine and redress grievances brought by workers, individually or collectively, without the threat of reprisals.<sup>82</sup>

#### *Right to social security*

73. JS4 stated that accidents happened frequently on construction sites where *dolgyeokdae* (military-style construction brigades) work because safety equipment was not sufficiently provided. It stated that when accidents occurred, there was no compensation for the victims or their families and, instead, the family was issued with an award certificate. It stated that if injured in an accident, the worker was responsible for providing their own treatment.<sup>83</sup>

#### *Right to an adequate standard of living<sup>84</sup>*

74. AI stated that due to the breakdown of the public distribution system, most food and daily necessities needed to be purchased from the markets.<sup>85</sup>

75. Now Action & Unity for Human Rights (NAUH) stated that the standard of living for some North Koreans had improved, but that children living in poor families or those who had run away from care facilities to return to the streets did not enjoy a better standard of living. It stated that the Government failed to provide food or medical supplies to the most vulnerable population, including sick children in the facilities.<sup>86</sup>

76. NKDB stated that Government's nation-wide efforts for the planting of trees in the mountains had violated the right to food of those in rural areas and dependent on agriculture. It noted that citizens in North Hamgyeong Province had been prevented from farming food for their own livelihood in the summer of 2017.<sup>87</sup>

#### *Right to health<sup>88</sup>*

77. JS2 stated that the limited access to health services was a result of decades of Government policies of uneven distribution and investment of resources in Pyongyang to the detriment of other regions, especially the economically active northern border regions. It stated that limited access to the medical system beyond household doctors was also in many ways a result of the fact that patients shouldered the burden of bringing their own food, wood for heating and other provisions for doctors in the case of inpatient procedures. JS2 also stated that only access to primary contact medical personnel was free of charge, while individuals and families bore the costs of medical procedures, medicines and hospital expenses.<sup>89</sup>

78. NKDB stated that as medical doctors were not provided with salaries or other official means to sustain themselves, this forced them to turn to channels that would earn them the highest income, with patients reportedly having been told to buy medicine that is not needed, directly from doctors.<sup>90</sup>

79. HRNK recommended that the DPRK commit greater resources to rebuilding the public health and primary healthcare infrastructure, including the health workforce, throughout the country.<sup>91</sup>

80. JS2 stated that the lack of access to modern contraception and poor reproductive health education created a situation where women underwent repeated abortions to prevent births.<sup>92</sup>

*Right to education*<sup>93</sup>

81. AI stated that many school-aged children were forced to delay entering school for two or three years due to poor health and nutrition or their families' economic difficulties. It stated that schools required parents to contribute materials, such as rabbit skins, old shoes and scrap metal, to enable their children to stay in school. Those who were unable to provide these materials had to pay instead.<sup>94</sup>

82. AI recommended that the DPRK ensure compulsory and genuinely free primary and secondary education for all children and remove barriers to access to education and promote regular attendance at schools.<sup>95</sup>

83. JS1 noted that only children of families with a good political profile (*songbun*) were permitted to attend prestigious universities, and that those belonging to the middle and low *songbun* groups faced limited choices, or no choice whatsoever, in their education or work.<sup>96</sup>

84. JS1 recommended that the DPRK ban discriminatory practices by the Government depending on the perception of a child's or the child family's loyalty to the ruling party and Government to allow access to quality education or prestigious universities.<sup>97</sup>

85. JS1 stated that Human Rights Watch received accounts of teachers focusing their lessons on ruling political ideology and propaganda and overlooking subjects like math or science. Such subjects were only taught thoroughly to students with better *songbun*. It noted that educators forced other students to do unpaid labor like farming or collecting materials, including scrap metal and rocks that could be used in construction.<sup>98</sup>

86. People for Successful Corean Reunification (PSCORE) stated that schools were required to conduct sessions of self and group criticism and that this failed to respect the child's right to mental integrity and human dignity and resulted in a climate of distrust and hatred between classmates.<sup>99</sup>

87. PSCORE recommended that the Government immediately de-politicize the curriculum and act proactively to prevent forms of teaching practices that aim to humiliate the student.<sup>100</sup>

88. JS1 recommended that DPRK require schools to provide an education of sufficient quality in standard academic subjects to all students, without discrimination.<sup>101</sup>

89. AI recommended that DPRK ensure, by incorporation into policies and legislation, that education is provided in a manner that respects the inherent dignity of children, enables them to express their views freely and to develop life skills, such as critical thinking, and to reach their potential and pursue options in life, while also respecting human rights values.<sup>102</sup>

90. HILC recommended that the Government allocate funds to provide teacher training programs and professional development to increase the number of teachers qualified to teach students with different types of disabilities. It also recommended that the Government address the prevailing exclusion of persons with mental disabilities from education.<sup>103</sup>

#### 4. Rights of specific persons or groups

*Women*<sup>104</sup>

91. JS1 recommended that the DPRK reform national legislation to create clear and enforceable provisions within the Criminal Code to criminalize all forms of violence



against women and girls, including sexual assault, sexual coercion, rape, and marital rape, and ensure full enforcement of these provisions of law.<sup>105</sup>

92. InCRC stated that the Family Law defined the marriageable age of women at 17 years old, noting that this violated girls' equal educational opportunities, access to education, and the right to the highest attainable health.<sup>106</sup>

93. JS1 stated that women and girls faced systematic gender-based discrimination at both school and home, and were constantly exposed to and compelled to comply with prevalent stereotyped gender roles.<sup>107</sup>

94. JS2 stated that women had been directed to provide for the family and had been disproportionately active in most of the private market economy. It stated that this resulted in secondary discrimination against women as they were expected to quit their state jobs at a certain age or after marriage, to turn to private trade and financially support their families.<sup>108</sup>

95. PSCORE stated that gender based violence in physical and verbal forms posed an explicit threat for adolescent females on the lower extremity of the socio-economic system. The main perpetrators were members of the military and school staff in positions of power.<sup>109</sup>

96. JS1 recommended that the DPRK acknowledge the problem of discrimination and violence against women and girls in the country and abolish propaganda, educational curriculum, practices, and social policies that promote discriminatory attitudes towards women and girls.<sup>110</sup>

#### *Children*<sup>111</sup>

97. InCRC stated that the DPRK defined childhood only during the period of education. It stated that if children completed the eleven year curriculum, even if under the age of 18, they had the same duties and responsibilities as an adult. It also noted that the counting system was such that when a baby is born, it becomes one year old, and stated that the standard of "up to 16 years" in legislation can be understood as 14 years or 15 years old.<sup>112</sup>

98. AI recommended that the DPRK amend the Act for the Protection of the Rights of the Child to cover all children under the age of 18.<sup>113</sup>

99. InCRC stated that the Constitution and labour law prescribed 16 years of age as a workable age, and noted that could lead to child labor in a hazardous and dangerous environment and child exploitation.<sup>114</sup>

100. JS1 noted that Human Rights Watch had received accounts from North Koreans that the Korean People's Workers' Party and the Ministry of Education exacted labour from children in collaboration with primary and secondary schools, vocational schools, and colleges and universities. It stated that the Korean Children's Union and the Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist Youth League also benefitted from child labour. It noted that school administrators exploited children to meet these Government requests, maintain and manage schools, and even to earn a profit.<sup>115</sup>

101. PSCORE stated that schools incorporated agricultural labour into their curriculum, rendering field work an integral part of every student's education process.<sup>116</sup>

102. AI recommended that the DPRK ensure that children are protected against all forms of exploitation and forced or hazardous labour, including by effectively preventing schools from requiring children to perform inappropriate amounts or types of physical work. PSCORE made a similar recommendation.<sup>117</sup>

103. JS1 recommended that the Government discipline school principals, administrators, and teachers who demand unpaid labour from their students, and publicize those penalties.<sup>118</sup>

104. NAUH stated that according to testimonies and recent reports, the Government was taking action to move children in street situations to care facilities, sometimes against their will. It stated that the Government had been unable to maintain the facilities in liveable conditions nor protect the health of the children living in them.<sup>119</sup>

105. NAUH recommended that DPRK improve care facilities for children to ensure adequate housing conditions, such as safe drinking water, adequate sanitation, protection from cold, damp, heat, rain, wind or other threats to health, including by receiving international humanitarian assistance when necessary. It also recommended that it ensure through monitoring systems that children in care facilities are provided with adequate food, and preventive and curative medicine, including those made available through international aid programmes.<sup>120</sup>

106. The Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children (GIEACPC) stated that corporal punishment was prohibited in the penal system but was still lawful in the home, in alternative and day care settings, and in schools. It recommended that legislation be enacted to explicitly prohibit all corporal punishment in all settings, including the home.<sup>121</sup>

107. PSCORE stated that physical violence remained a constant element of the education system and that further instances of active and passive physical violence were also observable within domiciles, orphanages, and relief shelters.<sup>122</sup>

#### *Persons with disabilities*<sup>123</sup>

108. HILC stated that discriminatory practices persisted against persons with disabilities in forms including but not limited to quarantine, forcible sterilization, and forcible separation. It stated that women with disabilities were denied access to adequate antenatal and postnatal care, and that children born to parents with disabilities were often sent to institutional settings provided by the Government, resulting in forced separation. It stated that persons with disabilities were denied the opportunity to be adoptive parents, guardians, or trustees of children.<sup>124</sup>

109. HILC stated that persons with disabilities had been expelled from Pyongyang and had been isolated in restricted areas or to facilities in other cities.<sup>125</sup>

110. HILC stated that women with disabilities were a socially disadvantaged class with relatively limited access to social participation.<sup>126</sup>

111. HILC recommended that the Government ensure that infants with disabilities are registered at birth.<sup>127</sup>

112. HILC recommended that the Government monitor all relevant facilities, programs, and procedures to ensure that persons with disabilities, including children, retain their fertility on an equal basis with others, and prevent the abandonment and segregation of children with disabilities.<sup>128</sup>

#### *Notes*

<sup>1</sup> The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: [www.ohchr.org](http://www.ohchr.org).

##### *Civil society*

##### *Individual submissions:*

ADF International	Alliance Defending Freedom, (Geneva, Switzerland);
AI	Amnesty International (London, United Kingdom);
CGN	Center for Global Nonkilling (Switzerland);
CSW	Christian Solidarity Worldwide (New Malden, United Kingdom);
GIEACPC	Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children (London, United Kingdom);
HILC	Handong International Law Centre (Pohang City, Republic of Korea);
HRNK	Committee for Human Rights in North Korea (Washington D.C., United States of America);
ICAN	International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (Geneva, Switzerland);
InCRC	International Child Rights Center (Seoul, Republic of Korea);
KAFA	1969 Korean Air Abductees' Families Association (Bucheon-si, Republic of Korea);
NAUH	Now Action & Unity for Human Rights (Seoul, Republic of Korea);

NKDB	Database Center for North Korean Human Rights (Seoul, Republic of Korea);
NKHRN	North Korea Human Rights Network (Fujisawa, Japan);
PSCORE	People for Successful Corean Reunification (Seoul, Republic of Korea).
<i>Joint submissions:</i>	
JS1	<b>Joint submission 1 submitted by:</b> 1969 KAL Abductees' Families Association (Seoul, Republic of Korea); Centro para la Apertura y el Desarrollo de América Latina - CADAL (Buenos Aires, Argentina); Christian Solidarity Worldwide – CSW (New Malden, United Kingdom); Database Center for North Korean Human Rights – NKDB (Seoul, Republic of Korea); Human Rights Watch (Geneva, Switzerland); International Coalition to Stop Crimes against Humanity in North Korea – ICNK (Seoul, Republic of Korea); Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights – JBI (New York, United States of America); Kenya Human Rights Commission (Nairobi, Kenya); New Korea Women's Alliance (Seoul, Republic of Korea); North Korea Strategy Center – NKSC (Seoul, Republic of Korea); NK Watch (Seoul, Republic of Korea); Open North Korea (Seoul, Republic of Korea); Peace and Hope International (Pomona, United States of America); Southern Africa Litigation Centre (Johannesburg, South Africa); Transitional Justice Working Group – TJWG (Seoul, Republic of Korea);
JS2	<b>Joint submission 2 submitted by:</b> Conectas Human Rights (Sao Paulo, Brazil); Citizens' Alliance for North Korean Human Rights – NKHR (Seoul, Republic of Korea);
JS3	<b>Joint submission 3 submitted by:</b> Korean War Abductees' Family Union – KWAFU (Seoul, Republic of Korea); NK Watch (Seoul, Republic of Korea); Transitional Justice Working Group – TJWG (Seoul, Republic of Korea);
JS4	<b>Joint submission 4 submitted by:</b> Open North Korea – ONK (Seoul, Republic of Korea); Unification Strategy Institution – USI (Seoul, Republic of Korea).

<sup>2</sup> The following abbreviations are used in UPR documents:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR;
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR;
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW;
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT;
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child;
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict;
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;
OP-CRC-IC	Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure;
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families;
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to CRPD;
ICPPED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

<sup>3</sup> For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/27/10, paras. 124.1-124.18, 124.20, 124.29, 124.32-

- 124.33, 124.37-124.38, 124.45-124.68, 124.184-124.185, 125.1-125.7, 125.12-125.13, 125.26-125.39, 125.71-125.75.
- <sup>4</sup> HRNK, paras. 9-10.
- <sup>5</sup> JS3, paras. 65-66.
- <sup>6</sup> CGN, p. 6.
- <sup>7</sup> Ibid., p. 5.
- <sup>8</sup> JS1, p. 2; CSW, para. 9.
- <sup>9</sup> ICAN, p. 1. See also CGN, p. 6.
- <sup>10</sup> JS1, p. 6.
- <sup>11</sup> AI, p. 5. See also CSW, para. 21 and JS1, p. 2.
- <sup>12</sup> JS3, para. 61.
- <sup>13</sup> ADF International, para. 18 (d).
- <sup>14</sup> CSW, para. 8.
- <sup>15</sup> JS3, para. 68.
- <sup>16</sup> KAAFA, para. 5.
- <sup>17</sup> JS3, para. 61.
- <sup>18</sup> NHRK, para. 25.
- <sup>19</sup> InCRC, para. 9.
- <sup>20</sup> For the relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/27/10, paras. 124.19, 124.21-124.28, 124.30-124.31, 124.34-124.36, 124.39-124.44, 124.147, 124.172, 124.180-124.183.
- <sup>21</sup> JS3, para. 58.
- <sup>22</sup> AI, p. 5.
- <sup>23</sup> HILC, para. 20.
- <sup>24</sup> AI, p. 5.
- <sup>25</sup> HILC, para. 21.
- <sup>26</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/27/10, paras. 124.139-124.141, 124.171, 125.40-125.43.
- <sup>27</sup> CSW, paras. 27-29. See also HRNK, para. 21.
- <sup>28</sup> CSW, para. 32.
- <sup>29</sup> NKDB, para. 7.
- <sup>30</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/27/10, paras. 124.77-98, 124.101-124.104, 125.44-125.70, 125.76.
- <sup>31</sup> NKDB, para. 1.
- <sup>32</sup> JS3, para. 35.
- <sup>33</sup> JS3, para. 41.
- <sup>34</sup> AI, p.6. See also CGN, p. 5.
- <sup>35</sup> JS3, para. 36.
- <sup>36</sup> AI, pp. 3 and 5.
- <sup>37</sup> CSW, para. 35.
- <sup>38</sup> HRNK, para. 8 (h).
- <sup>39</sup> AI, p. 3.
- <sup>40</sup> CSW, paras. 33-34.
- <sup>41</sup> JS1, p. 3. See also AI, p. 5; CSW, para. 38 and HRNK, para. 13.
- <sup>42</sup> JS1, p. 3.
- <sup>43</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>44</sup> AI, p. 5. See also JS1, p. 3.
- <sup>45</sup> JS1, p.3. See also CSW, para. 40.
- <sup>46</sup> CSW, para. 39.
- <sup>47</sup> HRNK, para. 16.
- <sup>48</sup> NKHRN, p. 1.
- <sup>49</sup> KAAFA, para. 4. See also NKHRN, p. 1.
- <sup>50</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/27/10, paras. 124.99, 124.113-124.120, 125.8-125.11, 125.14-125.25, 125.77-125.79.
- <sup>51</sup> JS1, p. 2. See also CSW, para. 22.
- <sup>52</sup> AI, p. 1.
- <sup>53</sup> JS1, p. 4.
- <sup>54</sup> JS3, paras. 53 and 54.
- <sup>55</sup> JS2, pp. 7 and 8.
- <sup>56</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/27/10, paras. 124.123-124.137, 125.80-125.81.
- <sup>57</sup> ADF International, paras. 6 and 18 (a).
- <sup>58</sup> CSW, paras. 50 and 51.
- <sup>59</sup> AI, pp. 1 and 2. See also PSCORE, para. 6.
- <sup>60</sup> AI, p. 5.

- 61 NKDB, para. 6.  
62 JS2, p. 4.  
63 JS1, p. 5.  
64 AI, pp. 3 and 5. See also NKDB, paras. 26-28.  
65 HRNK, para. 18.  
66 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/27/10, paras. 124.109-124.111.  
67 JS1, p. 6.  
68 Ibid.  
69 Ibid.  
70 JS2, p. 4.  
71 HRNM, para. 15.  
72 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/27/10, para. 124.121.  
73 AI, p. 5.  
74 HILC, para. 22.  
75 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/27/10, para. 124.138.  
76 JS4, paras. 5, 9 and 12.  
77 JS1, p.6. See also NKDB, para. 15.  
78 JS4, para. 15.  
79 Ibid., paras. 5 and 11.  
80 AI, p. 4.  
81 JS1, p. 7.  
82 AI, p. 6.  
83 JS4, para. 19.  
84 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/27/10, paras. 124.140, 124.146, 124.148-124.163, 125.82-125.83.  
85 AI, p. 4.  
86 NAUH, p. 5.  
87 NKDB, para. 10.  
88 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/27/10, paras. 124.164-124.170.  
89 JS2, p. 5.  
90 NKDB, para. 19.  
91 HRNK, para. 23.  
92 JS2, p. 6.  
93 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/27/10, paras. 124.173-124.177.  
94 AI, p. 4.  
95 Ibid., p. 6. See also NAUH, p. 6.  
96 JS1, p. 5.  
97 Ibid., p. 6.  
98 JS1, p.5. See also AI, p. 5.  
99 PSCORE, paras. 4, 5 and 7.  
100 Ibid., paras. 15 and 17.  
101 JS1, p. 6.  
102 AI, p. 6.  
103 HILC, paras. 13, 14, 16, 26 and 27.  
104 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/27/10, paras. 124.69-124.76, 124.100, 124.105-124.108.  
105 JS1, p. 5.  
106 InCRC, para. 4.  
107 Ibid., p. 4.  
108 JS2, p. 3.  
109 PSCORE, para. 14.  
110 JS1, p. 5.  
111 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/27/10, paras. 124.112, 124.122.  
112 InCRC, paras. 3 and 6.  
113 AI, p. 6.  
114 InCRC, para. 4.  
115 JS1, p. 6.  
116 PSCORE, paras. 10 and 11.  
117 AI, p. 6. See also PSCORE, para. 18.  
118 JS1, p. 6.  
119 NAUH, pp. 1, 2 and 4.  
120 Ibid., p. 6.  
121 GIEACPC, p. 2.

<sup>122</sup> PSCORE, paras. 12 and 13.

<sup>123</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/27/10, paras. 124.178-124.179.

<sup>124</sup> HILC, paras. 5 and 6.

<sup>125</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 9.

<sup>126</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 17.

<sup>127</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 29.

<sup>128</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 21.

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