



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
24 May 2011

Original: English

---

## Human Rights Council

Seventeenth session

Agenda item 3

**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,  
political, economic, social and cultural rights,  
including the right to development**

### **Information presented by the National Human Rights Commission of the Republic of Korea\***

The Secretariat of the Human Rights Council hereby transmits the communication submitted by the National Human Rights Commission of the Republic of Korea,\*\* reproduced below in accordance with rule 7(b) of the rules of procedures described in the annex to Council resolution 5/1, according to which participation of national human rights institutions is to be based on arrangements and practices agreed upon by the Commission on Human Rights, including resolution 2005/74 of 20 April 2005.

---

\* National human rights institution with “A”-status accreditation from the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.

\*\* Reproduced in the annex as received, in the language of submission only.

## Annex

### The 17th Session of the Human Rights Council (Item 3)

Mr/Madam President,

I am speaking on behalf of the National Human Rights Commission of Korea to pay the respect to the Special Rapporteur for his esteemed effort and commitment to strengthening the freedom of opinion and expression that is fundamental to democracy.

The National Human Rights Commission of Korea has been making various efforts to enhance the freedom of expression at the domestic level. The Commission welcomes the fact that such effort is duly reflected on the report. At the same time, the Commission extends its gratitude to the Special Rapporteur for taking references to the specific recommendations and opinions that the Commission has made to protect the freedom of expression.

As elaborated in the Special Rapporteur's report, the Commission dismissed a few cases involving the issue of freedom of expression, regrettably due to the majority of dissenting views among commissioners. However, the Commission would like to assure everyone that it continues to take actions to protect the freedom of expression, such as recommending for the improvement of the regulation of online contents, as mentioned in the report.

Finally, the National Human Rights Commission of Korea welcomes the Special Rapporteur's recommendations to encourage the Government to ensure the autonomy and independence of the Commission and to fully implement the decisions made by the Commission. As an independent national body, the Commission renews its strong commitment to advance the freedom of expression in the South Korean society and will focus on improving national legislations, policies and practices to abide by the international human rights norms and standards.

Thank you.

  

---