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Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Letter dated 23 February 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement issued by a spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on 19 February 2015 (see annex I) and the press statement released by the Permanent Mission of the DPRK to the United Nations on 15 February 2015 (see annex II) with regard to the "Conference on North Korean Human Rights", held in Washington, D.C., the United States of America, on 17 February 2015 under the absurd pretext of the first anniversary of the "report of the UN commission of inquiry" on human rights in the DPRK.

It would be appreciated if you could kindly circulate my letter and the annexes* thereto as a document of the twenty-eighth session of the Human Rights Council under agenda item 4.

(Signed) So Se Pyong

Ambassador, Permanent Representative

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

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Annex I

[English only]

Spokesman for Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Denounces U.S. "Human Rights" Racket

A spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) made public the following statement on 19 February 2015 denouncing the U.S. for making desperate efforts to fan up the atmosphere of pressure upon the DPRK while taking issue with it over the non-existent "human rights" issue:

In Washington on 17 February 2015, the United States (U.S.) held a "conference on human rights" against the DPRK under the absurd pretext of the first anniversary of the "report of the UN Commission of Inquiry" (COI) on the human rights situation in the DPRK.

It was reported that the U.S. staged a farce malignantly slandering the DPRK, repeating the tattered false data, with the "envoy for the human rights issue in north Korea" in the U.S. Department of State, former and incumbent persons of the department and U.S. Congress, the former chairman of the COI and its "special rapporteur" and "defectors from the north" attending.

It has already been brought to light that the "report of COI" and the "human rights resolution" of the UN General Assembly which were cooked up by the U.S. last year were forcibly adopted on the basis of the false testimonies of "defectors from the north".

The inhuman tortures by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) of the U.S. and other human rights abuses in the U.S. were disclosed, sparking off big astonishment and resentment of the international community.

The U.S., driven into the tight corner at home and abroad, is kicking up the persistent "human rights" racket against the DPRK in order to escape its poor plight and shift the international accusations and attack onto others.

Great irony is that the U.S. held the nonsensical "conference on human rights" while dreaming of "internal disorganization" though it admitted itself that it has no chance to win military standoff with the DPRK.

As we did at the time when the U.S. held a "meeting of high-ranking officials on human rights in north Korea" before the UN General Assembly last year, we strongly demanded this time the U.S. stop at once such foolish farce and officially informed it of our just stand to take part in the "conference" as the party concerned.

However, the U.S. finally refused to accept our demand only to reveal itself that the "conference" is nothing but a back-street one.

If the U.S. and its allied forces are truly interested in human rights, they should mind their own business by halting plot-breeding racket such as "conference" and their human rights abuses such as tortures in the U.S. and suppression on charges of the violation of the "Security Law" in south Korea, condemned by the world.

The ceaseless despicable anti-DPRK "human rights" racket by the U.S. and its stooges is hardening the will of the service personnel and people of the DPRK to annihilate the enemies.

We are fully ready for any confrontation with the U.S. and will shatter the reckless "human rights" racket by the hostile forces through our toughest reaction.

The moves of the hostile forces to dare provoke the socialist system of the DPRK which was chosen and has been consolidated by the Korean people will not be able to escape disgraceful doom.

Annex II

[English only]

Press statement of the Permanent Mission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations

The Permanent Mission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations releases the following press statement with regard to the "Conference on North Korean Human Rights" to be hosted by the United States in Washington D.C.

The United States and south Korea are going to convene so-called "Conference on North Korean Human Rights: the Road Ahead" on 17 February in Washington by bringing together Michael Donald Kirby, former chairman of COI and Marzuki Darusman, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DPRK.

The Permanent Mission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations condemns the convening of such human rights gathering as a political human rights plot against the DPRK and makes clear its position as follows;

The "Conference on North Korean Human Rights: the Road Ahead " constitutes a product of the hostile policy of the United States against the DPRK, and it is nothing but a rubbish event for the United States to get rid of the predicament driven at home and abroad, due to the recent confession by the defector of the fabrication of his testimony and to the disclosure of CIA's torture crimes.

We made due request to the U.S. on our participation in the gathering, since we are the party directly concerned. But the U.S. ignored our request for participation because they are afraid of disclosure of their plot for fabrication.

The US is advised to clean up its own human rights ravages.

If the U.S. is sincerely interested in human rights, they should, above all, call into question the CIA's torture crimes and the gross human rights violations committed by "national security law" in south Korea, far from clinging to the attempted fabrication of falsehood and plot through such as the kind of above "conference".

The United States does not have qualification at all to talk about human rights situation of other countries, since it is the worst human rights violator in the world.

We, the people of the DPRK are proud of our political and social system chosen by ourselves and we will strongly respond to any attempts to overthrow our system under the pretext of human rights.