

The state will give serious consideration to the recommendations received during the review; DPRK will accept some of the recommendations and take note of others.

The state has adopted and amended a series of legal procedures to protect human rights, including in the areas of freedom of opinion and expression, human trafficking, rights of the children, climate change and environment and gender inequality and violence. The cooperation with international human rights mechanisms is considered to be of great importance to the DPRK state. However, the delegation states false allegation of human rights violations in the country and the DPRK's reputation is threatened. Some recommendations to end these violations are a complete fabrication based on a lack of understanding of the situation in the country.

With regard to questions on signing international human rights treaties not yet signed by the DPRK such as the convention against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol, the DPRK is demonstrating its efforts step by step. The DPRK acceded to various international human rights instruments to which the government of the DPRK is a party, such as the recent signatory of the Convention on the Rights from Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in 2016.

The delegation was concerned about DPRK's reporting obligations, calling for the submission of outstanding reports to treaties to which it is a party. The DPRK is continuously making efforts towards reporting mechanism although with delay in the relevant time period. The reports on the implementations of the instruments are under preparation.

The delegation stated concerns on economic and social rights such as right to food and health. The DPRK is faced with serious military threats and economic sanctions which in turn threatens people's standard of living and income sources. It is the main reason for the obstruction of peaceful development of the country and right to food and health. The country provides freedom to farmers and distribute food equally. The state provides completely free health care to the most vulnerable population including women and children. International humanitarian agencies such as WFP was granted access to the country.

**State under Review: DPRK**

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