



**Permanent Mission of the Democratic People's Republic
of Korea to the United Nations Office and Other
International Organizations in Geneva**

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**Statement by the DPRK during the UPR of Japan
(31 October 2012)**

My delegation takes this opportunity to raise the following issues.

First, the DPRK is seriously concerned at persistent denial of state legal responsibility by Japan for its past crimes, in particular, military sexual slavery, known as "comfort women", that represents crimes against humanity with no statutory limitations. The UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women, in her reports, called on the Japanese government to acknowledge legal responsibility for the Japanese military sexual slavery of 200,000 women and girls, bring perpetrators to justice and compensate to the victims. But unfortunately, the problem still remains unresolved. Unresolved violations of the past are a source of future violations.

Second, the DPRK is concerned at continued distortion of the history in Japan, since this is indicative of the refusal to address past violations and the danger of its recurrence.

Third, the UN Special Rapporteur on racism concluded that there exist discriminations against Koreans in Japan in such areas as employment, housing, health care and education. The Human Rights Committee, the CEDAW and the Committee on the Child Rights also expressed their concerns on the enforced change of Korean names into Japanese, the refusal to recognize Korean schools, the inequalities of Koreans for higher education institutions.

The DPRK **recommends** Japan

1) to accept legal responsibility for and address, once and for all, the Japanese military sexual slavery and other violations committed in the past in other Asian countries including Korea

2) to put an end to the distortion of past history and raise awareness of historical facts by amending educational curricula to reflect historical realities

3) to take measures to eliminate all forms of discriminations against Koreans.

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