

(Check against delivery)

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MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN
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19th Session of the UPR working group

Questions and recommendations by Finland to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

1st May 2014

Mr. President,

Finland welcomes the possibility to engage in a UPR dialogue with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. This dialogue is an encouraging step, but should urgently be followed by the DPRK's full cooperation with the Commission of the Inquiry of the Human Rights Council, the Special Rapporteur and other UN bodies and mechanisms to address the widespread and grave human rights violations, including crimes against humanity, reported in the country.

The discriminatory allocation of resources, especially food, under the "military first" policy and the *songbun* system has had severe impacts on the population, including chronic malnutrition in children.

How will the DPRK ensure that access to food in the country is free of discrimination and that public distribution of food pays special attention to marginalized groups, including pregnant women and children?

Finland recommends that the DPRK ensures the right to adequate food, including access to food, in a non-discriminatory manner, paying special attention to marginalized groups in its public distribution, in accordance with its international human rights obligations.

Thank you.