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Statement of the Republic of Latvia

19th session of the UPR

Review of Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Mr. President,

Latvia welcomes the delegation of the DPRK to the second cycle of the UPR and thanks them for the national report:

We note with concern the reports of the Secretary General, the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the special procedure mandate holders repeatedly underlining that the DPRK had persistently refused to cooperate with special procedures and the Office of the High Commissioner. We urge DPRK to cooperate with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, in particular, by granting access to the country to the relevant mandate holders.

We would like to make following recommendations to the DPRK:

1. Implement the recommendations of the UN Commission of Inquiry on human rights in the DPRK;
2. Ratify core international human rights conventions, in particular Convention on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment and Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;
3. Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and to fully align its national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute.

I thank you, Mr. President!

Raimonds Jansons.