

STATEMENT by Minister Counsellor Herborg F. Alvsaaker

**33rd Session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**the Democratic People`s Republic of Korea**

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*Check against delivery*

President,

Norway thanks the DPRK delegation for presenting its national report, and for its participation in international dialogue, including the UPR-process.

We remain deeply concerned about grave human rights violations in the DPRK.

The situation for vulnerable groups, in particular children, remains of special concern.

**We recommend to establish** a system to prevent sexual violence against women in detention.

**We further recommend that** the DPRK continues its efforts to provide persons with disabilities equal access and rights to health care and education.

[Norway has continuously provided humanitarian assistance to the people of DPRK.] We underline the importance of granting humanitarian access**. We recommend that unlimited** humanitarian access to all provinces of the country is secured.

**Finally, we recommend that access** also be given to the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights in the DPRK.

Thank you.