**Universal Periodic Review of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea**

**8 May 2019**

**Intervention by the delegation of Estonia**

Mr. President,

Estonia welcomes the delegation of the Democratic Peoples’ Republic of Korea to its 3rd UPR. We thank the DPRK for report and the additional information given today.

We acknowledge that the DPRK has over time, acceded to several UN Human Rights instruments and has participated in some reviews by Treaty Bodies.

We urge the DPRK to implement fully the commitments taken, among others in the ICCPR, ICESCR, CEDAW and CRC. Protection and promotion of human rights are crucial for ensuring an inclusive society and the right to freedom of expression, assembly and association as well as access to independent media and free Internet are integral parts of good governance and the rule of law.

Estonia encourages the DPRK to ensure gender equality and to combat sexual and gender-based violence. We hope that the DPRK will do its utmost to prohibit child labour, to ensure access to education for all children without discrimination and to eliminate corporal punishment of children in all settings.

Estonia would like **to recommend** the following:

- to continue the efforts to accede to all core international human rights instruments

**-** to cooperate fully with the Commission of Inquiry and to grant unrestricted access to all UN Special Procedures, including the Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in the DPRK;

- to accede and fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC), including by incorporating provisions to cooperate promptly and fully with the ICC.

Estonia wishes the DPRK a successful review!

Thank you!