

**ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO THE DEMOCRATIC
PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

GERMANY

- There exist deep concerns that children’s right to life, survival and development continue to be violated. CRC was particularly concerned about stunting, wasting and deaths of children resulting from severe malnutrition (para. 22 of the OHCHR compilation A/HRC/WG.6/6/PRK/2, refers to CRC/C/PRK/CO/4, paras. 23-24). The Federal Republic of Germany would be interested in how the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea has responded in order to address these issues.
- Concerns have been expressed about the freedoms of religion, opinion and expression. The Special Rapporteur noted that, while some religious ceremonies seem to be allowed, there are indications that practising religion gives rise to persecution (para. 37 of the OHCHR compilation A/HRC/WG.6/6/PRK/2, referencing A/63/332, para. 4). CCPR was concerned that the practice regarding the exercise of religious freedom does not meet the requirements of article 18 of the Covenant (para. 37 of the OHCHR compilation A/HRC/WG.6/6/PRK/2, referencing A/56/2001, para. 86 (22)). Germany would like to know how the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea is addressing the above concerns.

JAPAN

- Japan recognizes that health care is by law provided completely free of charge in the DPRK. However, the Committee on the Right of the Child expressed its concern about stunting, wasting and deaths of children resulting from severe malnutrition (A/HRC/WG.6/6/PRK/2, para22). Moreover, the DPRK restricts emergency food assistance by international organizations, bans the private sale of grain and fully reinstates the Public Distribution System (A/HRC/WG.6/6/PRK/2, para49), while pursuing the “military first” policy. It is a duty, regardless of the political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including their citizens’ right to food (Vienna Declaration, para 5). What are the specific measures that the DPRK authorities have taken, and/or will take, to secure food for its citizens and to prevent malnutrition of children?
- The unresolved questions relating to abductions in the form of enforced disappearance (A/HRC/WG.6/6/PRK/2, para21), which violates the human rights of the nationals of other countries, remain a cause for extremely serious concern. What specific measures is the DPRK going to take to address the issue?
- The DPRK has not established a fully authorized investigation committee to undertake a full-scale re-investigation on the abduction of the Japanese nationals carried out by the DPRK, despite the agreement with Japan in August 2008. Japan would like to know a concrete timeframe for the DPRK to start the re-investigation.

- A number of citizens leave the DPRK to seek protection and/or settlement elsewhere (A/HRC/WG.6/6/PRK/2, para36). It is a serious concern that severe sanctions, including torture and even public executions, have been imposed on those citizens of the DPRK expelled or returned from abroad, including refugees and asylum-seekers (A/HRC/WG.6/6/PRK/2, para28). Will the DPRK consider abolishing such practices and exit visa system, in response to the international concerns? What is the DPRK's understanding about the root causes leading to refugee outflows, and how is the DPRK going to tackle this issue?
- It is a serious concern that, according to a number of sources including satellite photographs, a wide variety of detention facilities, including political detention camps and labour camps, exist within the DPRK (A/HRC/WG.6/6/PRK/2, para23). Is there any plan for the DPRK authorities to abolish these facilities in the near future?
