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## **30th Session of the Human Rights Council**

**21 September 2015**

**Panel discussion on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,  
including the issue of international abductions, enforced disappearances and related matters**

### **Intervention by the Delegation of Liechtenstein**

Liechtenstein welcomes the holding of today's panel as an important occasion to further raise awareness on the horrific human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including abductions and enforced disappearances of people from other countries.

The reports we have heard today are, again, appalling and alarming. We strongly condemn the systematic abductions of foreigners that have been carried out by the DPRK for decades and we urge the DPRK to release all foreign abductees that are still alive without further delay.

We also remain gravely concerned by the now one and half year old findings of the Commission of Inquiry. When massive, systematic and widespread human rights violations are being committed, and when some of these violations even amount to crimes against humanity, the international community has to act.

We must therefore not lose the momentum created by the CoI report. Efforts to follow up on the findings and recommendations of the Commission must not halt, but should be taken to the stage of concrete measures. In this regard, we very much welcome the recent establishment of the Office of OHCHR in Seoul and measures like the development of a multi-track strategy of the Special Rapporteur on addressing international abductions and enforced disappearances committed by the DPRK.

One of the key recommendations of the CoI, though, the referral of the situation in the DPRK to the ICC by the Security Council, did not yet materialize. While we are encouraged by the current rapprochement of the two Koreas, we wholeheartedly concur with the assessment of Special Rapporteur Marzuki Darusman that these developments make the work on accountability even more urgent and that accountability measures for crimes against humanity need to be laid down firmly and robustly by the international community.

We therefore continue to call on the Security Council to live up to its mandate and to refer the situation in the DPRK to the ICC. We also re-iterate the call of Special Rapporteur Marzuki Darusman on member states to use universal jurisdiction to help to protect the people of DPRK from further crimes against humanity.

I thank you

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