

# **Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in DPRK**

## **28th Session of the Human Rights Council**

### **INTERVENTION BY THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

Thank you, Mr. President,

The Czech Republic aligns itself with the statement delivered by the EU.

We wish to thank the Special Rapporteur for his work and his latest report containing the strategy on addressing international abductions committed by the DPRK which we fully support.

We welcome the latest developments at the Human Rights Council, UN General Assembly and the Security Council on the situation in the DPRK triggered by the findings of the Commission of Inquiry (CoI), and the increasing willingness of the international community to accept its responsibility to protect the people in the DPRK from the persistent, systematic, widespread and gross human rights violations resulted from policies allegedly established at the highest level of the State by, *inter alia*, placing the human rights situation in the DPRK on the Security Council's agenda. We continue to believe that a further referral of the situation to the ICC by the Security Council would be the correct approach that would ensure accountability for all victims and prevent future grave violations and crimes.

It is of utmost importance to maintain the momentum on the ongoing efforts of the international community to effect real changes to the human rights situation in the DPRK, and we therefore very much welcome establishing a field-based structure of the OHCHR in the Republic of Korea which will enhance the engagement of the international community, maintain the visibility and further monitor the situation with focus on accountability.

We regret that the Government of the DPRK, after showing signs of willingness to engage in dialogue on the human rights situation with the international community subsequently decided to suspend such dialogue. We urge the Government of the DPRK to immediately halt all human rights violations, including unconditionally releasing all political prisoners, and to comply with its human rights obligations and the commitments stemming from the ratification of international human rights treaties and commitments made under the UPR mechanism. We further urge the Government of the DPRK to cooperate with the special procedures of the HRC, including on solving the issue of international abductions, enforced disappearances and related matters.

*Mr. Special Rapporteur, do you have advice on how to ensure as concerted and coordinated action as possible across the UN system and across its various instruments building on the momentum created by the revelations of the CoI report? What should be done to multiply the effect of efforts undertaken in order to improve the human rights situation in the DPRK?*

Thank you.