



Human Rights Council

Resolution 7/15. Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the sixtieth anniversary of which we celebrate this year, the International Covenants on Human Rights and other human rights instruments,

Recalling all previous resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including Commission resolutions 2004/13 and 2005/11 and Assembly resolution 62/167, and urging the implementation of those resolutions,

Bearing in mind paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006,

Recalling Council resolutions 5/1 on institution-building of the United Nations Human Rights Council, and 5/2 on the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate-holders of the Human Rights Council, of 18 June 2007, and stressing that the mandate-holder shall discharge his/her duties in accordance with those resolutions and the annexes thereto,

Bearing in mind the reports on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea submitted by the Special Rapporteur, including reports A/62/264 and A/HRC/7/20 and urging the implementation of the recommendations therein,

Having reviewed the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

Deeply concerned at the continuing reports of systematic, widespread and grave violations of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and at the unresolved questions of international concern relating to the abduction of foreigners, and urging the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to respect fully all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Deploring the grave human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

Deeply regretting the refusal of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to recognize the mandate of the Special Rapporteur or to extend full cooperation to him,

Alarmed by the precarious humanitarian situation in the country,

Reaffirming that it is the responsibility of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to ensure the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of its entire population,

1. *Commends* the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the activities undertaken so far and his continued efforts in the conduct of the mandate despite the limited access to information;

2. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur, in accordance with Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2004/13 and 2005/11, for a period of one year;

3. *Urges* the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur and to respond favourably to his requests to visit the country and to provide him with all necessary information to enable him to fulfil his mandate;

4. *Also urges* the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to ensure safe and unhindered access of humanitarian assistance that is delivered impartially on the basis of need, in accordance with humanitarian principles;

5. *Encourages* the United Nations, including its specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations, mandate-holders, interested institutions and independent experts and non-governmental organizations to develop regular dialogue and cooperation with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of his mandate;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all assistance and adequate staffing necessary to carry out his mandate effectively and to ensure that this mechanism works with the support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

7. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur to submit regular reports on the implementation of his mandate to the Council and the General Assembly.

*40th meeting
27 March 2008*

Adopted by a recorded vote of 22 to 7, with 18 abstentions. The voting was as follows:¹

In favour: Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Ghana, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Madagascar, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay.

Against: China, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Russian Federation.

Abstaining: Angola, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Djibouti, Gabon, Guatemala, India, Mali, Mauritius, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Zambia.

¹ The representative of Bangladesh subsequently stated that his delegation had intended to vote in favour of the draft resolution.