

Dear Minister;

I am writing this letter to express my grave concern for Koo Jeong-hwa, her son and other eight North Koreans who had been detained with her in Sinuiju. There is a high chance that they will be convicted without a fair trial and given a life sentence at a political prison camp, where they may be subjected to forced labour, torture, or other ill-treatment.

I urge you to ensure that Koo Jeong-hwa and the other individuals previously detained with her are protected from torture and other ill-treatment, and have regular and unrestricted access to medical treatment on request or as necessary during detention.

I also urge you to Release Koo Jeong-hwa and the other individuals previously detained with her, and drop the charges against them unless there is sufficient credible admissible evidence that they have committed an internationally recognizable criminal offense and are promptly tried in proceedings which meet international fair trial standards, without recourse to the death penalty.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Sincerely yours,