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Christian Solidarity International
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Coalitions for America
Coalition for North Korea Women's Rights*
Commission to Help North Korean Refugees
Council for Human Rights in North Korea
Defense Forum Foundation
ENoK (Emancipate North Koreans)
Exile Committee for North Korean Democracy*
Fighters for a Free North Korea*
Freedom Society of America
Free North Korea Radio*
Free the North Korean Gulag*
Genocide Watch
Helping Hands Korea
Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights
Human Rights Coalition-USA
Human Rights Without Frontiers
Institute on Religion and Democracy
Institute on Religion and Public Policy
Intl Korean War Memorial Foundation
Jubilee Campaign
Korean-American Freedom Fighters Movement
Korean Congress for N. Korean Human Rights
Korean Dream
Korean Freedom Council (KFC)
Korean Freedom Democracy League of America
Korean War Abductees Family Union
Korean War POW Affairs
Leadership Council for Human Rights
Life Funds for North Korean Refugees
National Association for the Rescue of
Japanese Kidnapped by North Korea
National Council for Freedom and Democracy
NKUS (North Korean Refugees in the U.S.A.)*
NY Commission to Help N. Korean Refugees
N. American Religious Liberty Association
OneFreeKorea
Open Doors USA
PSALT NK
PSCORE*
Religious Freedom Coalition
Salvation Army, U.S.A.
Save North Korea
Schindler's Ark
Simon Wiesenthal Center
Southern Baptist Convention, ERLC
Southern Democratic Alliance (Japan)
StandToday.org
The Israeli Jewish Comm. Against the
Gas Chambers in North Korea
ThiNK (There is Hope in North Korea)
The Wilberforce Forum
United for North Korean Freedom
Women4NonViolence in Peace + Conflict
318 Partners

*organizations of North Korean defectors

Contact us at: www.nkfreedom.org
Address: North Korea Freedom Coalition
9689-C Main Street, Fairfax, Virginia 22031

June 3, 2013

President Lt. Gen. Choummali Saignason
c/o Ambassador Seng Soukhathivong
Laos People's Democratic Republic
2222 S Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing in response to the tragic events that occurred last week when representatives of your government allowed nine young people to be taken against their will by representatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea back to North Korea. Because of our direct knowledge of this incident, we can assure you that these nine persons ranging in age from teenagers to young adults were seeking resettlement to the Republic of Korea, and that the Republic of Korea had made it clear to your government that they were willing to accept all nine children for resettlement. It is also universally known and recognized that North Koreans who have fled their country, as these nine had done, face torture, imprisonment, and even execution when they are forced back to North Korea.

We are writing with two specific requests of your government and asking for your immediate reply to these requests by Wednesday, June 5, when representatives of our North Korea Freedom Coalition wish to meet with your Ambassador to the United States, His Excellency Ambassador Seng Soukahathivon:

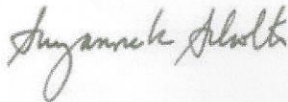
First, because the lives of nine young people rests in your hands because of the decision that was made, we make this simple request: that the Laos People's Democratic Republic perform regular visits to these nine children in North Korea, so that you can guarantee they have been welcomed on their return, treated properly, and their rights have been protected and that you share that information with the Republic of Korea who had requested to care for these nine young people. We ask that you confirm your willingness to do that in writing via fax to 703-538-6149.

President Lt. Gen. Choummali Saignason
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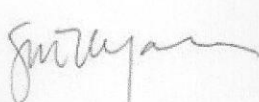
Second, we request that your government never again put the lives of North Korean men, women and children at risk by forcing them back to North Korea and that you instead return to your previous policy to work on their resettlement to the Republic of Korea, where they have automatic citizenship under the Republic of Korea's constitution. We ask that you confirm your willingness to do this in writing.

We look forward to your response and meeting your Ambassador on Wednesday, June 5 at a time of day that he chooses.

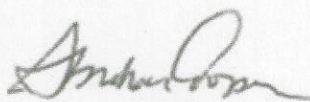
Respectfully requested,



Suzanne Scholte
Chairman



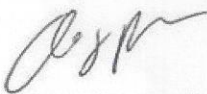
Sin U Nam
Vice Chairman



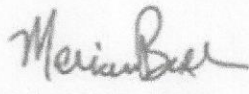
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Ann Buwalda
Treasurer



Mariam Bell
Legislative Chair



Sue Yoon Logan
Administrator



Hyun Song
Secretary

Due to the urgency of this issue, please reply via fax to 703-538-6149.