**Committee Name: United Nations Human Rights Committee**

**Committee Topic: Torture**

**Country Name: Democratic People’s Republic of Korea**

A. Torture, under the United Nations Convention Against Torture is defined as any act of purposely causing pain or suffering by both physical and mental means to a person in order to gain information, confrontation, or to punish a suspect of a crime or to discriminate against a kind. Some of the psychological torture include sleep deprivation, solitary confinement, fear and humiliation; sever sexual and cultural humiliations, usage of phobias to create fear of death, exposures to cold temperatures, light deprivation, and further more. Some of the physical tortures include beating, burning, cutting, starving, hanging by the thumbs or feet, blinding, removal of body parts, electric shocks, waterboarding, breaking bones, and many others. According to statistics taken by Amnesty International, more than 150 nations are reported as being in use of some type of torture. The main objectives of torturing is to achieve necessary information during an interrogation, to gain information that may save thousands of lives, and to show an example of punishment for wrongdoings to people in order to make sure the crime is never repeated again.  
B. The United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment was signed 10 December 1984, as an international agreement to prevent torture around the globe. Article two of the convention states that under any circumstances, torture must be prohibited. UN Committee Against Torture (CAT) is currently working towards the termination of torture. Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT) also works to prevent torture by implying to monitor the sites of deprivation of liberty, to distribute a set of laws against torture both nationally and internationally, and to reassure that there are trustful combats against torture. The Istanbul Protocol became official in 1999, and sets a standard guideline of torture and maltreatment. The Istanbul Protocol aids doctors and lawyers to investigate suspicious evidence of torture and report their discoveries to authorities. The hopeful outcome of the implementation of this protocol was taking a step forward in preventing of torture.  
C. Democratic People’s Republic of Korea believes that torture should not be completely abandoned, but should be allowed within certain limits. Torture may seem to be a harsh, inhumane treatment, but at times may to an effective tool. It may become a useful method during interrogation, yielding information out of suspects of crimes such as terrorism. Also, when there are threats of terror, torturing of one suspect may end up saving thousands of people, known as the ticking bomb theory. Torture must also be used to make sure the crime of the same type does not occur again; to let other upcoming threats know what will happen if they try to harm the nation. When it comes to placing regulations on restricting torture, the sovereignty of a nation must be respected, allowing the nation itself to settle its own regulations and rules regarding the matter. Border control should become stricter; to make sure no person violates one nation’s law and cross the border illegally. Which, when discovered, may be followed by severe punishment in some nations under their laws. An international law may be enforced to prohibit the usage of high-level torture such as execution; however Democratic People’s Republic of Korea believes that the international society should remain non-involved deeply within the laws of individual nations, in order to not interfere with the sovereignty of any countries, such as North Korea itself.

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