

Kim Jong-il  
Chairman, National Defence Commission  
Pyongyang  
Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Your Excellency

I am very concerned with the situation of prisoners in Yodok political prison camp, where an estimated 50,000 people are held.

The combination of hazardous forced labor, lack of food, beatings, inadequate medical care and unhygienic living conditions result in chronic illness and many times in the death of the prisoners.

Therefore I call on Your Excellency to immediately close Yodok camp as well as all political prison camps, releasing without delay and unconditionally all prisoners of conscience held in these places, including relatives held in the basis of "guilty-by-association".

I also call on your Excellency to immediately stop all executions, abusive forced labor, torture and ill-treatment of the detainees.

Yours Sincerely,