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**STATEMENT  
BY  
THE DELEGATION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF  
KOREA ON THE REVIEW OF MANDATES AT THE 3<sup>RD</sup> SESSION OF  
THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL  
(05 December, 2006)**

Mr. President,

My delegation appreciates the efforts made by the Working Group to fulfill its mandates since its inception.

As shown by informal consultations and first session, the special procedures system in general and country-specific mandates in particular represents a major area of concern of the Working Group that deserves special attention.

The discussion on this remains complicated as ever.

Reform of the special procedures including country-specific mandates in keeping with a new environment has been widely shared by the majority. However, country-specific mandates are being treated as immune to any changes by some who went so far as to attempt to maintain it as *fait accompli*.

Instead of forceful arguments, objectivity and impartiality should serve as a standard by which to determine the effectiveness or unfairness of the country-specific mandates.

If there's no inaccuracy in the system, as some argue, why has the General Assembly in its resolution 60/251 decided to undertake its review and what is the purpose of the Working Group established thereof ?

In the view of my delegation, the country-specific mandates was one of the factors that contributed to the demise of the Commission and has no future.

First, the system represents an erroneous mechanism right from the beginning, having no relevance to human rights.

Most of the country-specific resolutions that produced special rapporteurs, without exception, were enforced on the basis of political motives.

They are being used as a means to eliminate the governments with dissenting political views or social systems along with political pressure and economic sanctions.

The process of presenting these resolutions is full of unjust manipulations such as treating them as top secret to the last moment aimed at surprise submission and obtaining votes under duress in the lobby.

What would be the use of resorting to such despicable back-door conspiracy and bribery if one is pursuing genuine human rights free from any bad intention to hurt others ?

Second, the system is only harmful in reality.

Enforced resolution against the will of the concerned party is a confrontation that is incompatible with dialogue and cooperation.

It would rather block an on-going excellent process of dialogue and cooperation causing resistance of the party concerned. Reality shows that country-specific resolutions are not conducive but destructive to the promotion and protection of human rights.

The Working Group has just started its work. In the light of the gravity of the country-specific mandates and in view of the main purpose of the Group, the former should be the focus of the discussion.

Maintaining country-specific mandates is tantamount to reinstating the politicization, double standards and selectivity. This would obstruct the Council in its efforts to eliminate such devil practices of the Commission.

These politically-motivated attempts should not be tolerated in any way.

Thank you.