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December 10, 2014

President Xi Jinping
 c/o His Excellency Cui Tiankai
 Embassy of the People's Republic of China to the United States
 3503 International Place
 Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear President Xi,

We are writing with an urgent request for the assistance of your government in determining the status of nine Korean young persons returned from Laos through China to North Korea last May. As you know, these nine young people had requested, and had been accepted for, resettlement in the Republic of Korea. Recent reports from North Korea, however, suggest that some or all of the nine have been since executed or perished in political prison camps. These reports demand immediate investigation. Your government, in collaboration with the government of Laos, denied these children safe passage to South Korea and instead repatriated them to North Korea. Therefore, your government bears a responsibility to call on the DPRK to allow the UNHCR access to these children to confirm their well-being.

You have an obligation to determine they were treated properly on their return to the DPRK. On September 24, 1982, the People's Republic of China acceded to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol. By signing this agreement, your nation showed its concern for refugees and displayed great leadership. We request that you abide by this agreement and stop forcibly repatriating North Koreans to North Korea where they face persecution, torture and the threat of execution. We call upon you to instead work with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the international community to resettle these refugees in South Korea and the many other nations who are willing to accept them.

We further request that, in light of the findings by the United Nation's Commission of Inquiry regarding the DPRK's treatment of repatriated citizens and its gross violations of human rights, you vote in favor of the referral of the crimes of the DPRK to the International Criminal Court and do not veto this action when it comes before the Security Council.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Scholte Sin U Nam Rabbi Abraham Cooper Pastor Heemoon Lee
 Chairman Vice Chairman Vice Chairman Vice Chairman

Ann Buwalda Louise Van Horne Sue Yoon Logan Teresa Ost
 Treasurer Legislative Chair Administrator Secretary