

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the urgent appeal dated 29 December 2022 from the United Nations Human Rights Council Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The Government of China wishes to make the following reply:

There are no custody and education facilities in China. After verification, the Chinese authorities have found no information indicating that a woman from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by the name of [REDACTED] was detained by the Shenyang Municipal Public Security Bureau. It should be stressed that nationals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who enter China unlawfully are illegal immigrants who have violated Chinese entry and exit laws and regulations. They are not refugees and should not be treated in accordance with the principle of non-refoulement. China is a country governed by the rule of law; it has always investigated and dealt with illegal immigrants in accordance with the law and protects the rights and interests of the workers concerned in accordance with the law, including by providing the necessary living environment, food, medical care, outdoor activities, interpretation services and so forth, and fully respecting their personal dignity. China will continue to adhere to its principled position that the issue of illegal immigration by nationals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea should be dealt with through a combination of domestic law, international law and humanitarianism.