

Minister for Foreign Affairs Honorable Julie Bishop,
Federal member for Berowra Mr Julian Leeser and his constituents,
And Ladies and Gentlemen,

In my capacity as a delegate to represent 680 Korean community leaders in Asia Pacific region including Australia, it is my great honor to have an opportunity to welcome the Minister to this forum hosted by Mr Julian Leeser,

The Korean communities fully appreciate that the Minister has been most outspoken and vocal in condemning North Korea over its continued provocations, and emphasizing the importance of the full implementation of the UN sanctions against the hermit kingdom.

More importantly, we note that Ms Bishop has been consistently calling for the political, diplomatic and economic means to pressure North Korea to bring it back to the negotiating table.

In line with the Minister's tireless efforts for the ultimate goal of sustainable peace and security in the region, Mr Julian Leeser moved a motion at Parliament in August to condemn North Korea and call on China to pressure the rogue nation to abandon its nuclear and missile program.

As everyone knows, North Korea has drawn the attention of the entire world, escalating the tension, and dragging the international community on the knife's edge of a crisis.

Indeed, the North Korean Government's provocations are not only a direct threat to the Korean peninsula, but also to Australia and our allies.

Moreover the regime has been most heinously abusing its own people's human rights, which we, Australians, absolutely uphold.

Then, what can the Korean communities in the Asia Pacific region including Australia help to solve the North Korean nuclear crisis? Also what do the Australian people expect our government to do for the permanent peace and security?

I am quite sure our minister will clearly explain about the implications of the current situation. Thank you so much.