(Translated from Chinese)

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of communication No. UA CHN 4/2020 of 21 February 2020 from the United Nations Human Rights Council’s 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:

After verification, the Chinese authorities have found no information on the individuals to whom the Special Rapporteur refers. The Chinese authorities wish to emphasize that nationals of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea who enter China illegally for economic reasons are not refugees, as they enter the country by illegal means, thereby violating Chinese law and undermining the system of border controls. The authorities have consistently acted in accordance with the relevant provisions of international and domestic law and humanitarian principles in dealing appropriately with cases of illegal immigration by such foreign nationals while fully safeguarding the legitimate rights of the persons concerned, especially women and children.