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**KGV/109/2023**

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and, with reference to the latter's Note UA KOR 3/2023 dated 28 April 2023, has the honour to submit, as enclosed, the response of the Government of the Republic of Korea to the Joint Urgent Appeal from Special Procedures.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the assurances of its highest consideration.

21 June 2023

Enclosed: as stated



Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

**Response of the Government of the Republic of Korea**  
**to the Joint Urgent Appeal**  
**from the Special Procedures of the UN Human Rights Council**

(June 21, 2023)

The Government of the Republic of Korea provides the following information in response to the Joint Urgent Appeal from the Special Procedures (Ref: UA KOR 3/2023).

In December 2021, the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Korea published the *Guideline on Business and Human Rights* (hereinafter referred to as “the Guideline”) to guide companies in implementing human rights due diligence and remedy procedures in accordance with international human rights standards, including *the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights*. Around 2,400 copies of the Guideline were distributed to companies listed in the Korea Composite Stock Price Index (KOSPI) and the Korean Securities Dealers Automated Quotations (KOSDAQ). In December 2022, the Guideline was published in English and uploaded on the Ministry of Justice website\* to raise awareness of Korean companies overseas.

\* [www.moj.go.kr/moj\\_eng/index](http://www.moj.go.kr/moj_eng/index), “Resources” page

The Guideline explains that it is necessary to conduct human rights due diligence based on the respective characteristics of each industry. Relevant human rights issues and areas in which human rights due diligence is recommended are set out for each industry. Regarding the construction industry, the conservation of indigenous communities and traditional livelihoods and avoidance of forced displacement and resettlement of indigenous people are identified as major human rights issues, among others. The Guideline further encourages efforts to prevent and minimize any adverse human rights impact on local communities, especially the rights to life and adequate housing, when conducting business activities.

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