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The Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006) presents his compliments to the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations and has the honour to refer to its note verbale dated 14 September 2018 and 24 October 2018, providing the Committee with additional information, as requested in the Chair's note verbale of 23 August 2018, with regard to the re-submission of Ireland's request, in accordance with paragraph 25 of resolution 2397 (2017), for an exemption from the prohibitions on transfers to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) of the equipment listed in paragraph 7 of resolution 2397 (2017), to allow for the procurement and import of items within the scope of four projects undertaken by Concern Worldwide into the DPRK which are intended for humanitarian assistance and relief activities in the areas of food and nutrition security and access to water, sanitation, and hygiene for the benefit of the civilian population in the DPRK, as previously submitted to the Committee in the note verbale dated 2 August 2018.

The Chair has the further honour to inform Ireland that, following due consideration, the Committee has decided to approve the requested exemption in the abovementioned note verbale, in accordance with paragraph 25 of Security Council resolution 2397 (2017), to transfer the items outlined in Ireland's notes verbales within the next six months, which is enclosed in this note verbale as an attachment. The items are requested to be shipped once together or in a consolidated manner, with a view to increasing efficiency of shipping and custom clearance.

The Committee reiterates that the sanctions measures imposed by the Security Council through its resolutions with respect to the DPRK are not intended to bear a negative impact on the people of the DPRK, and the note verbale it issued to all Member States, as well as its press release SC/13113 of 8 December 2017, offer clarifications as regards humanitarian aid to the DPRK. The note verbale further recalls that each Member State must fully implement relevant Security Council measures, while keeping in mind the need to clarify to public and private sector entities in their jurisdiction that, while properly implementing United Nations sanctions, humanitarian activities should not be unduly restricted.

The Committee further supports and approves Ireland engaging in necessary business and financial transactions only for the purchase of goods and services exempted by the Committee and found in the attachment without prejudice to the relevant commercial decisions.

Permanent Mission of Ireland
to the United Nations
New York

At the same time, the Committee requests relevant organizations delivering humanitarian assistance to the DPRK to adhere to the exemption time limit approved by the Committee and fully respect and abide by relevant national laws, regulations, and licensing requirements governing financial and commercial transactions, and shipping and custom clearance conducted in the jurisdictions of affected Member States.

The Chair has the further honour to inform Ireland that this note verbale will be published on the 1718 Committee website for the public, including relevant national authorities involved in reviewing the exempted transfers to the DPRK, for a period of six months.

The Committee would like to thank Ireland for its diligence.

The Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006) avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations the assurances of his highest consideration.

(Signed)

25 February 2019