



## **KOREAN CHURCH COALITION** *for North Korea Freedom*

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **KCC Statement on Additional U.S. Sanctions Against North Korea**

**Irvine, CA. – The Korean Church Coalition (KCC) *for North Korea Freedom* today released the following statement following the announcement of new additional sanctions against North Korea by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Secretary of Defense Robert Gates. Last week, the KCC held meetings and rallies on behalf of NK refugees:**

“The KCC appreciates and understands why Secretary of State Clinton and Defense Secretary Gates commemorated the Anniversary of the end of the Korean War by announcing additional tougher sanctions against North Korean regime together with a show of force through military drills. And KCC appreciates the new additional sanctions focusing on counterfeiting, money laundering and other dealings that the North Korean government used to generate hard currency to pay off cronies and cling to power. But their attempt, still falls short of what should have been done, but also what could have been done

“What could have been done is to bring immediate hope and relief to the people of North Korea by leveraging the enormous resources men and material of the joint military exercises to bring life-saving humanitarian assistance with an unequivocally clear and transparent monitoring system, especially to the most vulnerable sectors of the population, women, children and the elderly.

“What could have been done is to use the occasion and leveraging the resources of the Anniversary commemoration to deliver a clear and universal message freedom and liberty directly to the people of North Korea. With the eyes of the world on two of the most visible members of the Obama Administration touring the heavily fortified DMZ area, the moment could have usurped the optics of any other diplomatic venue.

What could have been done is to mention preserving the basic human rights of our North Korean brothers, sisters and orphans who are residing in China,

“The KCC will continue to pray for the people of North Korea, for the leaders who seek to bring about peace, and those who have continued to work for peace on the Korean peninsula for the past 60 years.”