



Dear Ministry of Unification of Republic of Korea

We are delegation of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL) and Confederation of Lawyers of Asia and Pacific (COLAP) for the fact-finding mission of the waitress case in 2016. We consist of three lawyers from the different countries, Niloufer Bhagwat (India), Micòl Savia (Italy), Jun Sasamoto (Japan).

We already sent you a letter dated on August 14th for demanding a meeting with us regarding this case. Your reply is only to say that the investigation is underway of the National Human Rights Commission and it is hard to accept our request.

We are pleased to receive from you, but are not satisfied with your response. So we send a letter for the second time. The schedule of our fact finding is 1) Preparatory investigation in May 2019, 2) Investigation in Seoul from August 25 to 30, 3) Investigation in Pyongyang from August 31 to September 5, 4) Final report at the end of September, 5) submission to the UN Human Rights Council. Please response again by September 15th to our request as follows:

We have already conducted the fact-finding mission for four days in Seoul, in which we heard voices why the government doesn't cooperate with our investigation for seeking the truth. The waitress case has been covered media many times and taken up in the United Nations Human Rights Council and human rights bodies.

The government of Republic of Korea (Ministry of Unification) announced just after the case occurred in April 2016 that the waitresses are the largest group of the defector. It means that the waitresses entered ROK with their voluntarily will.

After the Government statement was issued, Media and UN special rapporteur pointed out the doubt of their willingness to defect. Moreover, as the president of ROK changed from Park Geun-hye to Moon Jae-in, we would like to know whether there is any possibility to change the opinion of the your organization.

Our fact-finding mission is very interested in this point. Please reply again to our request by September 15th with sending to our mail address ([junsasamoto@gmail.com](mailto:junsasamoto@gmail.com)) and contact person's email address.

We request you to have a meeting again, otherwise reply to our question as follows:



1, Why they announced a large-scale defection of the waitresses five days before the general election? Was it announced with a political purpose to influence the general election?

2, Has the stance of the government that the waitresses entered ROK with their voluntarily will changed on not?

3, If the stance of the government has not changed, what is the ground of it?

If you ignore our request by September 15th, it will allow us to consider that the government has no ground to assert the willingness of the waitresses.

Sincerely Yours,

August 29th, 2019

International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL)

President : Jeanne Mirer

Confederation of Lawyers of Asia and Pacific (COLAP)

Secretary general: Jun Sasamoto