



NZ-DPRK Society

New Zealand-Democratic People's Republic of Korea Society

<http://sites.google.com/site/nzdprksociety/>

<http://www.timbeal.net.nz/geopolitics/>

18th September 2016.

Mr. Brook Barrington,
Chief Executive and Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Dear Sir,

We understand that the Embassy of the Democratic Republic of Korea (DPRK) in Jakarta has submitted a request to the NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs seeking humanitarian aid to assist people afflicted by the recent Typhoon Lionrock.

The NZ DPRK Society endorses this request and asks that a donation be made to one of the international agencies working on the ground in the afflicted area.

This is a major natural disaster with the Korean Central News Agency of DPRK stating that it is the "biggest cataclysm" since the devastation of World War II.

Over the weekend we have been provided with the following information regarding the extent of damage by Mr. Hwang Sung Chol, Secretary General of our counterpart Society, the Korea NZ Friendship Society:

"Nine different local cities and counties- Hueryong city, Puryong County, Onsong County including Yonsa County and Musan County of North Hamgyong Province- were inflicted great damages. Total loss of lives including the missing counted as 538, and numbers of destruction of buildings are around 16,000 which resulted in more than 68,000 people displaced without any shelter. Around 29,000 hectares agricultural land has been washed out by a flood.

As you may recollect, even though Rason city was damaged by the flood last year, the scale of damage this area is almost ten-fold of Rason city."

This is the equivalent to the population of Rotorua District being rendered homeless. The country is facing a herculean challenge to provide shelter to this number of hapless people within the next six weeks, before the sub-zero temperatures of winter set in.

It is now many years since NZ has made a special humanitarian grant to DPRK apart from routine support for the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).

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<i>Founders</i>	Rev Don Borrie (1940-2016) and Wolfgang Rosenberg (1915-2007)



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As this is a genuine humanitarian need, not a political issue, we urge a generous donation to one or all of the following: The World Food Program, UNICEF or the International Committee of the Red Cross all of whom we understand to be assisting the Government of DPRK relief work in the disaster area but are faced with inadequate financial resources to adequately meet the need.

Sincerely,

Tim Beal
Chairman

Peter Wilson
Secretary

Stuart Vogel
Liaison Officer with Korea Christian Foundation

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