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Media Release

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Targeted economic sanctions and controlled engagement with North Korea will send a clear message to North Korean government, Obhrai tells Parliament

(Ottawa) Deepak Obhrai, M.P. for Calgary East and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, today made the following statement in the House of Commons:

Our government has taken a firm, principled stand against the North Korean government's continued reckless and unacceptable behaviour, including its aggressive weapons program and the sinking of the South Korean vessel *Cheonan*.

The imposition of tough, targeted economic sanctions and the adoption of a controlled engagement policy limiting our bilateral relations with the North Korean government sends a clear message that its aggressive actions will not be tolerated.

These new sanctions are targeted specifically against the North Korean government and not the people of North Korea itself. We will not block remittances, nor humanitarian aid from reaching the people of North Korea.

We strongly believe that North Korea must take tangible steps in improving its behaviour and comply with its obligations under international law.

Our government continues the principled fight for the values of freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law around the world.

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