

12 February 2010

The Lord Wallace of Saltaire  
House of Lords  
London  
SW1A 0PW



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

London SW1A 2AH

*From The Minister of State*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'The Lord Wallace'.

During the Question on the alleged human rights violations in North Korea on Tuesday 02 February, we had the following exchange (Lords Hansard 2 Feb 2010: Column 115):

**Lord Wallace of Saltaire:** *My Lords, may I press the Minister further on money-laundering and sanctions on the ruling family? This is officially a communist regime, but it appears to be very corrupt in terms of the ruling family pushing its money out of the country and getting themselves out of the country. Can we be assured that the tightest possible sanctions on the Kim family are being used and that we are co-operating with as many other countries and their banking systems as possible in this regard?*

**Baroness Kinnock of Holyhead:** *I can indeed reassure the noble Lord that UN sanctions and those adopted by the European Union in line with the UN cover individuals, including the royal family, and entities with dubious connections that need attention. There is also of course the issue of money-laundering, to which the noble Lord refers. Luxembourg was implicated in this, but we have been assured that its anti-money-laundering framework is today of the highest international standards from both the legal and implementation points of view. We have sought those reassurances and believe that to be the case.*

I referred mistakenly to the 'royal family' when I meant to say 'ruling family', for which I apologise. I would also like to clarify that although the members of the North Korean ruling family are not explicitly mentioned under UN sanctions their business interests are targeted. However, under EU sanctions, the brother in law of Kim Jong Il, Jang Song Thaek is explicitly mentioned.

I am placing a copy of this letter in the Library of the House.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Baroness Kinnock'.

BARONESS KINNOCK

Minister of State