Sender: Postcode: City:

> H.E. the Chinese Ambassador to Germany Mr. Wu Ken Märkisches Ufer 54 10179 Berlin Tel: 030-27588 0 Fax: 030-27588 22

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Call for an immediate end to the persecution of Chinese Falun Gong practitioners Mr. Yuande Ding and his wife, Ruimei Ma

Dear Ambassador Wu Ken.

According to independent investigations by the World Organization to Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong (WOIPFG) and reliable information from Minghui.org, the Provincial Party Secretary of Shandong Province, Mr. Lin Wu, and the former Municipal Party Secretary, Mrs. Zhang Hui, as well as the Director of the Police Station of Rizhao City, Mr. Li Gang, have contributed significantly to the illegal arrest of approximately 70 Falun Gong practitioners in Rizhao City, Shandong Province, in the PRC.

In particular, I am very concerned about the fate and lives of two Chinese Falun Gong practitioners – married couple Mr. Yuande Ding and his wife, Ms. Ruimei Ma.

Since June 13, 2023, Mr. Yuande Ding has been unlawfully imprisoned in Rizhao City Remand Prison. On June 14, two security policemen from Rizhao city threatened his wife, Ruimei Ma, in their house because of the rescue campaign that is being carried out for the couple abroad. The policemen angrily told Ms. Ma that her husband, Mr. Ding, would be sentenced to prison only as a result of the rescue campaign, including the protest letters sent to Ms. Zhang Hui, the former Municipal Party Secretary of Rizhao City. On July 20, the 24th anniversary of the commencement of the persecution of Falun Gong by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), an official arrest warrant was issued for Mr. Ding by the Donggang District Police Station of Rizhao City.

The ongoing persecution of Falun Gong by the CCP has seriously violated the fundamental rights enshrined in the Chinese Constitution, such as freedom of belief and religion, and has no legal basis whatsoever.

The Chinese couple Mr. Yuande Ding and his wife Ruimei Ma are peaceful Falun Gong practitioners who have not violated Chinese laws in any way. I urge you to immediately and unconditionally release Mr. Yuande Ding, end the persecution of the Chinese couple, and grant them travel documents (passports) to join their son in Germany.

Please forward this letter to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

Yours sincerely