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Russia Implements Sanctions Against North Korea

By The Moscow Times

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President Vladimir Putin has signed a decree to implement UN Security Council sanctions against North Korea, the government's legal information website said Monday.

All North Korean ships must now consent to an inspection before being allowed to enter a Russian port. Russian state and commercial organizations are also forbidden from helping North Korea make rockets.

Furthermore, the decree says, Russian authorities should "display increased vigilance" regarding North Korean diplomats.

North Korea has been subjected to several rounds of UN sanctions since it declared itself a nuclear power in 2005.

Russia has been a participant in six-party talks to denuclearize North Korea in exchange

for aid, but such talks have been stalled since late 2008.

Tensions mounted on the Korean Peninsula earlier this year after North Korea performed an underground nuclear blast and tested a rocket that could have borne warheads.

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