

KIM IL SUNG

**FOR ACHIEVING GLOBAL
INDEPENDENCE**

**Foreign Languages Publishing House
DPR Korea
Juche 111 (2022)**

WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, UNITE!

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**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS RAISED
BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE
RESEARCH AND PLANNING
DEPARTMENT OF THE MINISTRY
OF INTERNAL SECURITY AND
NATIONAL ORIENTATION OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN**

June 30, 1979

Question: Mr. President, I have had the privilege of visiting your beautiful country on a number of occasions and of meeting and talking with you. Now I am privileged to be here once again in company with the Ambassador of the People's Republic of Benin to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, a special envoy of Comrade Mathieu Kerekou, the President of the People's Republic of Benin and your personal friend.

Mr. President, will you please tell the Benin people about the importance you attach to cooperation with Benin?

Answer: I am delighted that you are visiting our country again in company with the special envoy of President Mathieu Kerekou.

Your visit to our country is an expression of the warm feelings of friendship cherished by the Benin people towards the Korean people and will contribute to

developing the relations of friendship and cooperation that exist between Korea and Benin.

Friendship and cooperation between the Korean and Benin peoples are developing favourably in the context of the common struggle against imperialism and dominationism in defence of national sovereignty. Particularly since His Excellency President Mathieu Kerekou's visit to our country in July 1976, friendship and cooperation between Korea and Benin are developing at a new higher level. Friendship visits and contacts between our two countries have increased and our two Governments and peoples are giving active support to each other and cooperating closely in many areas of building new societies.

The Government and people of the People's Republic of Benin have given unflinching support to our people in their cause of national reunification. The Benin Government is active in the UN and in other areas of the international arena in support of our stand. This gratifies us. I would like therefore to avail myself of this opportunity to express my deep gratitude to the Benin Government and people for the active support and encouragement they have given to our people in their just cause of national reunification.

The DPRK Government and people extend active support and encouragement to the Benin people as they heroically struggle to build a new society, while having to combat acts of aggression, subversion, and sabotage by both imperialists and domestic reactionaries. The Korean people regard it as their internationalist duty to render hearty support and encouragement to the people of Benin in

their struggle to build a new society under the banner of anti-imperialism and independence.

The relations of friendship and cooperation between Korea and Benin reflect the common aspirations and interests of the two peoples in their fight for independence. These relations are based on a spirit of mutual respect and genuine friendship.

Active political support and close economic and technical cooperation between our two countries make it possible to solve various problems that arise in safeguarding our revolutionary gains and national sovereignty and in building prosperous independent states. The promotion of friendship and cooperation between Korea and Benin also makes a significant contribution to the strengthening of international solidarity and cooperation among third world countries.

We set a high value on the good relations of friendship and cooperation that exist between the Korean and Benin peoples. The Government of our Republic will make every effort to develop these relations still further.

Question: In recent years an economic crisis has swept many countries.

In the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, however, new industries have been built and progress has been made in other fields.

How do you build the economy in your country?

Answer: As you justly remarked, many countries are now suffering from the economic crisis. Because of an

acute shortage of fuel and raw materials on a global scale in recent years, those countries which depend on imports are all undergoing great economic difficulties. An economic crisis in one country affects other countries in a chain reaction.

Nevertheless, our country is immune from the effects of worldwide economic upheavals, and it is crisis-free. Our national economy is continuing to develop and production is steadily growing in all branches including industry and agriculture. Our present general economic situation is very good.

Socialist construction in our country has been progressing smoothly, unaffected by global economic fluctuations, because we have built a powerful independent national economy under the correct leadership of our Party.

When we started building a new society, we put forward the line of building an independent national economy. We have striven ever since to carry it out. Of course, our people's struggle to create an independent national economy was by no means easy; we had to overcome many trials and difficulties. But, under the revolutionary slogan of self-reliance, our Party and people struggled dauntlessly and ultimately built an excellent independent national economy which is well-balanced, modern, supplied with indigenous raw materials, and operated by our own cadres using our own techniques.

Today our economy produces everything necessary for socialist construction and the people's welfare. It is continuing to develop rapidly, unaffected by any external

factors. I think you have seen for yourself the might of our independent national economy while looking around our country.

Our people are now carrying out the Second Seven-Year Plan, an ambitious new programme of socialist economic construction. The central task of this plan is to make the national economy Juche-orientated, modernize it, and put it on a scientific footing. This task is also derived from our Party's policy on building an independent national economy and is intended to reinforce that economy.

During the Second Seven-Year Plan we intend to develop the metallurgical industry and all other branches of the national economy by using our own raw materials and techniques so that it will be better suited to the conditions of our country. In other words, we have set ourselves the task of increasing the independence and Juche-character of the national economy. We are also striving to introduce up-to-date technology into all fields of the economy and raise our level of science to the world standard.

The Second Seven-Year Plan is being carried out quite smoothly, much to our satisfaction. If we go on at this rate, I think, we will fulfil the plan far ahead of schedule. Then, our independent national economy will be stronger than ever, and our country will have attained a new eminence.

Question: The Juche idea holds an important place in the world. It is particularly well known in the third world countries.

Some intellectuals affirm that the Juche idea will become the philosophy of the third road for the third world.

What do you think of this affirmation, Comrade President?

Answer: The present era is the era of independence when the oppressed and humiliated people have emerged as masters of the world and are carving out their destinies independently and creatively.

The world's people desire independent lives now. No one wants to be subjugated by another nor does he tolerate his right to independence being trampled upon. Even some capitalist countries, to say nothing of the newly independent and the socialist countries, oppose imperialist and dominationist control and interference in their bid to lead independent lives.

Vast multitudes of people in the world who were long exploited and oppressed by the imperialists in the past are now pressing forward along the road to a new society under the banner of independence. At present, newly independent nations are valiantly struggling to consolidate their political independence, build independent national economies and increase their own defence capabilities in the face of many trials and tribulations. This proves that it is the trend of the times which no force can ever check now that the world's people want independence and are advancing towards independence.

Our Juche idea reflects this trend.

What is essential in the Juche idea is to establish Juche in the revolutionary struggle and the work of construction. Establishing Juche means having the attitude of masters towards the revolution and construction. In other words, it means discarding the idea of dependence on others and displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance. This enables one to maintain at all times the independent

standpoint of tackling one's own problems on one's own responsibility, and to adhere to the creative standpoint of solving all the problems that arise in the revolution and construction in line with the interests of one's people and the actual conditions of one's country.

The independent and creative standpoints are embodied in the principles of independence in politics, self-sufficiency in the economy and self-reliance in national defence.

Political independence is the lifeblood of a country and nation. Only when independence is maintained in politics is it possible to defend the nation's prestige and to accelerate the revolution and construction.

Political independence must be guaranteed by an independent economy. An independent national economy is essential for the consolidation of political independence and national prosperity and for providing the people with an affluent material standard of living.

An independent and sovereign state should always be self-reliant in national defence. Self-reliance in defence is indispensable for safeguarding national independence and revolutionary gains against all forms of imperialist aggression and interference.

Guided by the Juche idea, our people have established Juche in all fields of the revolution and construction. As a result a great victory has been achieved in the struggle for a new society. Our country, once a destitute and backward colony, has been transformed into a powerful socialist state, politically independent, economically self-sufficient and self-reliant in defence. Our people's brilliant victory in

the building of a new society is graphic proof of the correctness and vitality of the Juche idea.

Although the Juche idea is our own proposition based on the requirements of the Korean revolution and our people's experience, it evokes a sympathetic response in people throughout the world because it reflects the trend of our times.

You said that the Juche idea is popular with the people of the third world. I think this is because the idea is in accord with their aspirations and needs.

What kind of idea a people will adhere to and which path they will follow will be decided by their own wishes. The Juche idea says that one is the master of one's own destiny and that one has also the capacity for hewing out one's own destiny. If the people of the third world carve out their path independently with a high consciousness that they are the masters of their own destiny, they will surely have a bright future.

Question: The next summit conference of the non-aligned states will take place in Cuba.

Your country will no doubt take part in it.

What do you expect from this conference?

Answer: As a dignified member of the Non-Aligned Movement, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will send a delegation to its Sixth Summit Conference scheduled to be held in Havana in September this year. Our delegation will do its best to make the conference a success and assist the development of the Non-Aligned Movement.

The Non-Aligned Movement has the broadest base of any international movement. It represents hundreds of millions of people from a large number of countries. It constitutes a powerful anti-imperialist revolutionary force reflecting the main trend of our times. The common anti-imperialist struggle of the non-aligned nations for independence exerts considerable influence on the international situation and the process of revolutionary reformation of the world.

Alarmed at the growing influence of the Non-Aligned Movement, the imperialists and dominationists are now turning their spearhead against this movement. They are trying to dislocate the movement by intensifying subversion, divisive activities and moves to play one country off against another in all parts of the world while competing to win over non-aligned nations to their sphere of influence.

The present situation demands that the non-aligned countries defend their movement from the attack by the imperialists and dominationists and do their utmost to further its development.

All the non-aligned nations must strive to abide by the principles of this movement and to realize its noble ideal. This is the only way to frustrate all the obstructive tactics of the imperialists and dominationists, and so ensure the victorious advance of the movement and build a new, free and prosperous world.

The non-aligned countries must work energetically to strengthen the unity of the Non-Aligned Movement. Unity is the source of this movement's invincible might and the

sure guarantee of victory in the anti-imperialist revolutionary struggle. United, we shall stand; divided, we shall fall.

The non-aligned nations must look out for attempts by the imperialists and dominationists to foment discord and dissent. They must not allow themselves to be manipulated and cheated into quarrelling among themselves. The non-aligned countries must avoid betraying the principles of non-alignment and refrain from acts that undermine their own unity. They should attach prime importance to unity in opposing the common enemy. They should subordinate everything to this. They should adopt the principle of unity as the basis for settling differences and disputes between individual countries.

The non-aligned countries should not only unite politically. They should have close economic cooperation as well. These countries have rich natural resources and a wealth of useful experiences gained in the course of creating a new life in addition to the inexhaustible creative power of the masses. If they further economic and technical cooperation on the principle of filling one another's needs, they can successfully build independent national economies and achieve national prosperity without the assistance of great powers.

The non-aligned states should strive to establish a new international economic order. The old international economic order is a product of the colonialist system. It is an unfair one that is only advantageous to the imperialists. As long as the old economic order remains intact, the countries of the newly-emerging forces cannot emerge

from destitution nor can they build independent national economies successfully. The non-aligned states should unite to destroy the old international economic order that was set up by the imperialists and to establish a new and just order which serves the interests of the peoples of the newly-emerging forces.

The non-aligned countries should make every effort to foil the imperialists' policy of aggression and war and defend world peace and security. They should wage a vigorous struggle to force the withdrawal of all imperialist aggressive troops and military bases from foreign territories and to create peace zones and nuclear-free zones in different parts of the world. They must also strive to dissolve aggressive blocs and military alliances that present a constant menace to world peace and security.

The Sixth Summit Conference will discuss the urgent problems facing the Non-Aligned Movement at present.

We think that given the active participation of the member states, the forthcoming conference will proceed in accord with the ideas and principles of non-alignment and so mark an important occasion in the development of the movement.

Question: At present the whole world is directing a great deal of attention towards Korea and the reunification issue.

Do you think, Comrade President, that the Americans will give a freehand to the south Korean puppet clique to negotiate for the reunification of Korea on the principles you have put forward?

Answer: Our people's struggle to reunify the country is a righteous struggle to realize the common desire of the entire nation and to achieve national sovereignty; it is a just struggle to consolidate world peace and security. That is why this struggle enjoys strong support and encouragement from many friends the world over, and why Korea's reunification has become a matter of great concern to everyone in the world who cares about peace and justice.

In their struggle for national reunification our Party and the Government of our Republic have consistently pursued the policy of reunifying the country independently without foreign interference, on democratic principles and by peaceful means.

Thanks to the sincere efforts of the Government of our Republic to find a peaceful solution to the reunification question through north-south negotiations, the door was opened for contact and dialogue between the two parts of Korea seven years ago. Then, at last, a historic North-South Joint Statement was published and talks started between the two authorities. However, the dialogue that had opened amid the expectation of the whole Korean people and the concern of the world public was broken off without achieving what it should have done. This was due to the perfidious machinations of the south Korean authorities which aimed at perpetuating the division of the nation.

The south Korean authorities also drove the newly arranged north-south negotiations to a stalemate this year. Our side had proposed that both north and south discontinue military activities and mutual slander and abuse. Their response was to carry out in conjunction with

US troops the largest military exercises ever held in south Korea. They intensified their slander and abuse against the northern half of Korea. They did not even manifest any sincerity at the conference table. The south Korean side created artificial obstacles to the negotiations on absurd pretexts. Meanwhile, they intensified fascist repression of the democrats and those of other persuasions in south Korea who are demanding democracy and national reunification.

What this all amounts to is further conclusive evidence that the south Korean authorities have not the least desire to make the dialogue a success and reunify the country. If the north-south dialogue is to resume and bear fruit, both sides must have the willingness to reunify the nation. But it is the wish of the south Korean authorities not to reunify the country but to divide it.

This attitude of theirs reflects that of the US. They are acting according to the US script. In an attempt to carry out their avowed policy of “two Koreas”, the US is instigating the south Korean authorities to sidetrack the north-south dialogue so that it becomes a dialogue not for Korea’s reunification but for its partition.

As long as the US keeps egging the south Korean authorities on to promote division in pursuance of its “two Koreas” policy, I think it is hardly likely that any meaningful negotiations will take place between the north and the south.

The US must abandon the “two Koreas” policy that is at variance with the wishes of the Korean people and with the trend of the times; it must stop instigating the south Korean

authorities to engage in divisive manoeuvres. The US must withdraw all its troops from south Korea, along with its nuclear weapons and all its other military equipment.

If the US keeps its hands off south Korea and jettisons its policy of hindering Korea's reunification, the north and south Koreans will be able to find a peaceful solution to the reunification question through dialogue and negotiations on the principle of great national unity.

**TALK TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE EDITORIAL COUNCIL
OF THE MEXICAN
NEWSPAPER *EL DIA***

June 18, 1981

Originally, I had intended to meet you in Pyongyang, but after my guidance tour to North Hamgyong Province I came to this place, so I have to see you here.

I am very glad to meet you.

This region is where I fought against Japanese imperialism for a long time. For more than 15 years I waged an armed struggle against the Japanese imperialist aggressors in the Changbai area centring on Mt. Paektu. Therefore, even now I feel very refreshed when I visit this region. This area is thickly wooded. Here live the people for whom I have retained my affection ever since I began the fight against the Japanese imperialist invaders.

In those days when I was carrying on the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, the local people helped us a great deal. At that time the Japanese imperialists controlled them rigidly lest they should send food to the Korean People's Revolutionary Army. But they did it covertly.

Although I am closely involved with all our people, I am even closer to the inhabitants of this region.

Probably you are the first Latin American to have visited this place. Even Checa, who paid a number of visits to our country, could not come here.

Not long ago I met a delegation of the Popular Action Party of Peru headed by its Deputy National Secretary General in charge of administration, but they, too, could not climb Mt. Paektu. You are the first of the guests from Latin America who has climbed the mountain.

It is still cold here. The climate here is delightful after the middle of July. It is not until then that the ice melts completely in this region. So does the ice of Lake Chon on Mt. Paektu.

The nature of this mountain is grandeur. The lake there is very deep.

The water of Lake Chon flows out into the Amnok and Tuman rivers in our country and into the Songhua River in China. The Songhua River is famous in China and a very long one. The Amnok is the longest river in our country. The one that flows westwards from Lake Chon on Mt. Paektu is the Amnok and the one that runs eastwards is the Tuman.

Mt. Paektu is immensely high and magnificent. Because of its height, elderly people may have a hard time climbing it but young people very much like to climb it.

In the past when the Japanese imperialists had occupied our country nobody could climb the mountain to see Lake Chon. But now a large number of our people ascend Mt. Paektu.

Well-furnished houses for Children's Union members, for university students, for working people and for others

who visit this mountain have now been built here and very many people come to see the revolutionary battlefields every year. This is a comfortable place because it is not hot even in summer.

There are many revolutionary battlefields in and around Mt. Paektu. This is because we fought the Japanese imperialist invaders for a long time in this region. Therefore, our young people make frequent tours to these battlefields.

They are fond of tours to revolutionary battlefields. This is very laudable. In the course of these tours they get to know clearly how revolutionary fighters battled against the Japanese here in the past, and make a firmer resolution to acquire the revolutionary traditions achieved by the anti-Japanese revolutionary veterans and to carry them forward brilliantly.

I am pleased with your visit to our country and accord you a hearty welcome.

Although I have met you today for the first time, I have been told much about you. I am deeply grateful for the positive support and encouragement you are giving to our people's struggle for socialist construction and national reunification with good feelings towards our country. Today I receive you with a feeling of meeting an old acquaintance.

I am glad that we have a comrade-in-arms like you in Mexico.

At present many Latin-American countries maintain state relations with our country. We have these relations with Cuba, Guyana, Nicaragua, Venezuela, Mexico,

Jamaica and other countries in Latin America. Our country also had diplomatic relations with Chile, but they were broken off after the overthrow of the Allende government. I had maintained a good, intimate relationship with Allende, the former President of Chile. He visited our country. We have trade relations with Peru.

We have many friends in Latin America, but we still do not establish contact with a number of countries there, and a multitude of Latin Americans do not know much about our country.

Our country is not widely known on that continent because of the obstructive moves of the US imperialists and the south Korean puppets. It is also due to the lack of state relations between our country and many Latin-American nations and to the very few visits of people from both sides.

With the recent establishment of diplomatic relations with Mexico we have a greater number of friends in Latin America.

I am sure that the friendly relations between our country and Latin-American states will develop still more in future.

I consider it to be a good thing that many friends from Latin America visit our country. It is preferable that friends visit each other and support and cooperate with each other in preserving world peace, a common desire, and in building a prosperous independent and sovereign state.

You might have been unable to travel around many local areas during your present stay in our country, but you will be able to inspect many places in the future when you come again.

I am very happy to hear that you have good impressions of your visit to our country.

I am grateful to you for your pleasing statement made on us and for your high praise for our undertakings.

We shall prove ourselves worthy of your encouraging words by carrying out our work more successfully in the future.

I think that you have heard about the state of affairs in our country from our officials and that you have learned about it through your personal touring. So I do not need to explain it any further.

Our country established state relations with Mexico recently. We greatly cherish friendly relations with her.

We shall make every possible effort to consolidate and develop the relations of friendship between Korea and Mexico still further.

We consider that the Mexican government is following a sound policy. I think it fine that the present President of your country maintains independence. His independent policy is making it possible for Mexico to develop into a progressive state.

As I said in the report to the Sixth Congress of our Party and on many other occasions, adhering to independence in the countries' policy is the most important matter. It is especially important for non-aligned and developing countries to uphold independence firmly.

A principal criterion to decide whether a country is progressive or not is whether it is maintaining independence or not. If a country does not adhere to independence but is subjugated to another country, it

cannot be regarded as a progressive state, no matter how good a social system it might have.

We intend to build independent socialism; we are not trying to build socialism under subjection to another country. Construction of a subjugated socialism is quite meaningless.

If one is to maintain independence, one should oppose worship of big powers.

Although surrounded by great powers our country has not adopted worship of big powers.

In the past the worship of big powers was very evident in our country. When we were waging the national-liberation struggle, there were worshippers of various big powers, trying to make the revolution in the same way as these countries had done. As a result, they were deeply involved in unnecessary factional feuds.

At that time we, the young communists, opposed this tendency resolutely and held that the revolution must be carried out in our own way. In the process of opposing worship of big powers and working out a new road of our own for the revolution, we put forward the Juche idea.

Even during the period of working hard for the construction of a new society after liberation, the worshippers of big powers attempted to copy the example of another country. However, we opposed this and pressed forward with the revolution and construction in our own way.

Right after the country's liberation we had few technical personnel for economic construction. Those who had been engaged in the armed struggle against the Japanese knew

about politics and military affairs but were not well versed in economic matters. So we were obliged to send students abroad for study. When they returned home after finishing studying they tried to raise crops and construct industry in a foreign way.

I opposed this. I stressed that farming and all economic construction projects must be carried out in accordance with the prevailing conditions in our country.

As was explained in the *Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country*, I set the tasks of the technical revolution in the country areas with the main emphasis on irrigation, electrification, mechanization and the use of chemicals, in order to develop agriculture, and stressed the need to give priority to irrigation. For rural technical organization, other countries effected mechanization first, but we undertook irrigation first to suit the situation in our country. As a result of putting irrigation first, we were able to increase agricultural production considerably, even though we were farming manually and could grow the crops on a sound basis without suffering from natural disasters.

We have created a farming method suited to the specific conditions in our country and thereby grow crops in a completely Korean way. We call our own way of farming the Juche farming method.

In building socialism we adopted the independent policy conforming to our existing conditions. As a result, we have achieved brilliant successes. At present we do not import food; we are completely self-sufficient in food. Our people are enjoying a happy life, free from any worry. Everyone in

our country studies as much as he pleases and receives free medical treatment. There is no taxation and no unemployment in our country.

If a country taps the creative effort of its own people properly and pursues a policy suited to its actual conditions, it can score great success in the building of socialism. If, on the contrary, it takes to worship of big powers or commits subjectivism against the will of its people, it cannot succeed in socialist construction.

Man is the master of everything and decides everything — this is the principle of the Juche idea. When the masses of the people are forcefully roused to action, nothing is beyond their power. If we are to enlist their creative strength and intellect correctly, we must oppose worship of big powers and subjectivism and enforce an independent policy. This is well demonstrated by the experience of many countries in the building of a new society.

Today very many countries throughout the world are demanding independence and following an independent path. For this very reason, we call the present times the age of independence.

A country without independence cannot really be called an independent state. Such a country cannot in any way represent the interests of the nation and defend its independence.

Adherence to independence is the only means not only to defend national independence but also to rouse the people to efforts to construct a rich and strong country.

In addition, only the maintenance of independence prevents the war which the great powers want to ignite. If

each country becomes an independent and sovereign state and refrains from acting under the control of any big power, the big powers will not be in a position to carry on a feud. Therefore, maintaining independence is also extremely important for universal peace. When every country adheres fast to independence, no war will break out and world peace will be preserved for ever.

In upholding independence it is important for developing countries to build an independent national economy. Countries which have failed to do so cannot defend national independence and political sovereignty successfully. A country which is economically subjugated to others cannot but be subject to them politically.

In order to build an independent national economy it is necessary to strengthen economic cooperation between non-aligned and developing countries.

At present there are few advanced countries, but developing countries number more than a hundred. If each of these developing countries contributes one technique, they can exchange more than a hundred techniques. Therefore, if they succeed in economic and cultural exchanges and technical cooperation, they can develop rapidly and catch up with developed states.

Developing countries can learn technology from developed countries. It is not bad to learn science and technology. Of course, they should not accept any conditions attached in learning techniques from advanced countries. Such conditions are aimed at subjugating other countries. For this reason, one must oppose any attempt to impart techniques to other countries with conditions

attached.

The essential principle one must observe in learning foreign experiences and techniques is to uphold independence. One should not attempt to accept these experiences and techniques without reservation, on the grounds that they are good. As for foreign things, one should, above all, chew them before swallowing them if they are palatable, or spitting them out if they are not.

Both our country and Mexico are in the process of developing. So it is necessary to promote technical cooperation between our two countries. I consider it a very good idea that we teach you what we know and vice versa. I think it necessary to develop friendly and cooperative relations between our two countries in economic, technical, cultural, trading and many other spheres since diplomatic relations have already been established between them.

I hope that the relations of friendship and cooperation between Korea and Mexico will be further developed in the future.

Now I shall speak briefly about the international situation.

Some of the large powers are now aggravating the international situation. We cannot but worry about the fact that great powers are increasing international tension. It is extremely important to ease this tension and safeguard world peace and security.

In order to relieve international tension it is imperative to expand and develop the Non-Aligned Movement before anything else. At present two big military blocs stand opposite each other on a worldwide scale, but the

Non-Aligned Movement, as an independent political force outside the blocs, demands the dismemberment of all military blocs. If this movement is expanded and developed so as to allow more countries to become members, the Eastern and Western military blocs which are confronting each other will become quite meaningless.

I think that the Non-Aligned Movement should strive to dismantle all the military blocs, create nuclear-free, peace zones in many areas of the world, abolish foreign military bases in many parts of the globe, withdraw foreign armies in other countries, and peacefully settle the international disputes which could give rise to a new world war. This alone makes it possible to defend the people of the world against another war holocaust and to create the conditions for the people to live well and peacefully in their independent states.

The non-aligned countries must cooperate closely with each other in the economic sphere and work hard to destroy the old international economic order. If they destroy this order and establish a new one and promote economic and technical cooperation, they will be able to build a new society where the people will live in happiness and plenty.

The Mexican government is attending the summit conference of non-aligned states as an observer. This is very good.

We consider that the expansion and development of the Non-Aligned Movement will help ease international tension, preserve world peace and security, and enable each of the developing countries to build a prosperous independent and sovereign state.

A large number of countries in the world are now calling for independence. The voices demanding independence are growing louder, not only in the non-aligned, but also in developed capitalist countries.

Some time ago the left-wing forces in France won the presidential election and took power. This can be regarded as a victory achieved by the people in their efforts for independence.

The Japanese people also demand independence. They are criticizing the present Japanese government which is following the United States blindly, and thus striving to realize independence.

That the peoples of more and more countries are calling for independence is very advantageous to the Non-Aligned Movement and to the developing countries. This shows that the current international situation is developing favourably in the direction of the people's requirement.

If non-aligned and developing countries work together in close unity, they will be fully able to check and frustrate the moves of the great powers to aggravate international tension.

We support the policy which the Mexican government pursues towards non-aligned countries.

I am confident that the friendly and cooperative relations between Korea and Mexico will develop more favourably in future.

I hope you will convey our position to the Mexican people and government.

You told me that you wanted to know my view on the disputes between some socialist countries about which

much ado is being made by the press on the payroll in capitalist countries. Naturally, no disputes can arise between socialist countries. Because they are all the people's countries in which the working masses have taken power, there cannot be any dispute between them. No conflict exists between their peoples. No disputes can arise and must exist between socialist countries in each of which the people are its master.

I consider the differences now existing between some socialist countries to be a temporary phenomenon caused because their leaders have different views on one thing or another. The appearance of differences, though temporary, between socialist countries is regrettable; it can in no way be considered to be good. I think that these differences will disappear in the future.

I hope that upon your return home you will convey my greetings to the President of Mexico.

LET US UPHOLD INDEPENDENCE

Talk to the First Vice-President of the Venezuelan Movement to Socialism

September 7, 1981

I am glad to meet you, a noted Venezuelan politician.

I am very grateful that you are visiting our country and, in particular, for your active participation in the Symposium of the Non-aligned and Other Developing Countries on Increasing Food and Agricultural Production.

Today you have said many fine words which would be an inspiration for our Party and our people. I thank you for this.

I am also grateful for the active support and encouragement given by the Venezuelan Movement to Socialism to our people's cause of national reunification and, in particular, for your great work in favour of the reunification of our country.

You have just talked about the foreign policy of the Venezuelan Movement to Socialism and its revolutionary line, and we fully support them.

I think that our Party and the Venezuelan Movement to Socialism have identical views on the matter of upholding independence. To uphold independence in party and state activities is the most justified policy that conforms with

the requirements of the present times.

Needless to say, we learned the theory and method of revolutionary struggle from revolutionary pioneers like Marx and Lenin. But we cannot dogmatically apply their revolutionary theory and method for ever. As years roll by, the nature of the times and the social circumstances change and the objectives of the revolution, too, change. As the objectives of the revolution change, its nature changes and its theory and method, too, ought to change.

Marx said that revolution would take place successively in developed capitalist countries carrying the world revolution to victory. He thought that when the revolution took place in developed capitalist countries, the national liberation movement in colonies would triumph spontaneously. But history did not turn out as Marx had anticipated. As history shows, revolution did not take place successively in developed capitalist countries but broke out in backward countries first.

That the revolution was victorious in Russia, a backward capitalist country, is to Lenin's credit. The Russian revolution was led by Lenin. The Russian revolution carried out under the leadership of Lenin made a great contribution to the development of the world revolution. The victory of the Russian revolution injected the oppressed nations and the peoples of backward countries of the world with the confidence that if they waged a revolutionary struggle they could win.

But historical facts show that the way adopted by Lenin is not the only way to win a revolution. Not in all countries of the world can a revolution be only conducted in the

manner used by Lenin to wage the revolutionary struggle.

Revolution can neither be exported nor imported. One must settle all problems arising in the revolutionary struggle in accordance with the actual conditions of one's country by drawing on the strength of one's people.

Ours is the age of independence.

After World War II many countries achieved independence. The time is gone when such countries as France, Britain, Spain, Portugal and the Netherlands with their many colonies dominated various continents of the world. Now nearly all countries which were under the colonial yoke in the past have been liberated. Only a few countries in some areas, including Southern Africa, have not yet attained national independence.

The most important problem confronting the peoples who have won national independence today is how to consolidate the political independence of their countries and how to defend their independence.

Independence is the life and soul of the country and people. All countries from their inception have sovereignty. A country without sovereignty cannot be truly called an independent state.

Although countries may differ from each other in the size of territory or population, there should not be higher and lower countries. There must not, on any account, be superiority or inferiority in relationships between nations.

The same applies to the relations between parties, too. As you have said, there cannot be a father party and a son party, a grandfather party and a grandson party, or an eldest brother party and a younger brother party. We think you are

absolutely right when you claim that the principle of independence should be observed between parties. Your viewpoint is in full agreement with our Party's. Our Party always advocates that all countries and parties uphold independence.

In order to consolidate political independence and uphold independence all countries should build an independent national economy. Building an independent national economy means attaining economic independence by building an economy suited to the actual conditions of one's country by relying on the strength of one's own people.

Economic self-sufficiency is the material foundation of political independence and sovereignty. Failing in economic self-sufficiency, political dependence on other countries is inevitable and inequality between nations would not be abolished. Economic self-sufficiency is essential for consolidating political independence and sovereignty and for ensuring the free development of the nation.

If countries which have achieved political independence do not build an independent national economy but economically depend on other countries, they would in fact be subordinated to the latter, and they cannot be considered to be genuinely independent. Even a country which is building socialism, if it is economically dependent on other countries, is as good as having lost political independence, however progressive its social system may be and whatever anti-imperialist slogan it may put up.

The people's objective in the struggle against

imperialism is to achieve independence by winning the political independence of the country. And if a country is economically dependent on other countries again because of its failure to attain economic independence after it has thrown off the colonial yoke of imperialism, its achievement of political independence would become meaningless, for, in the final analysis, this would signify nothing more than changing one form of subordination for another. A country which has lost independence and has no sovereignty can never be called an independent state.

We maintain that not only nations but also people should uphold independence.

There is a song in our country which has been sung since the time when we started the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle. Our young people enjoy singing the song even now. It has passages which say: "Men are called men, for they are born equally free. Without the right of freedom men are as good as dead, so they can lay down their lives but not freedom."

Man wishes to live freely without being restrained by anything. The quality of man to live freely as the master of the world is termed independence.

Along with independence, man has creativeness. This means that he has the creative power to transform nature and society in accordance with his will and wishes.

Independence and creativeness constitute the most essential attributes of man. Because he has independence and creativeness, man becomes the master of everything and the factor that decides everything.

Man's independence and creativeness are closely

interrelated and they are manifested in a unified process. Only when man has independence can he display creativeness, and only when he displays creativeness can he maintain independence. If man has no independence, he cannot display creativeness, and if he cannot display creativeness, he cannot achieve independence.

Although independence and creativeness are essential attributes of man, they are not inborn. In our country efforts are made to foster independence and creativeness in people from the moment they are born. We continue to cultivate independence and creativeness in people from their childhood till they become adults after going through adolescence.

After seeing the realities of our country, people from the countries of the third world and the Asian, African and Latin-American countries ask us from where is such great strength derived. Our strength lies in the fact that all the people work by displaying independence and creativeness with a great awareness that they are the masters of the country. The strength of the masses of the people is inexhaustible. It is therefore very important to believe in their strength and solve all problems by drawing on it.

The Juche idea is a philosophy which puts the main emphasis on man. It places man in the centre of all thinking and shows people the way to shape out their destiny. That we have the Juche idea and that all people are equipped with the Juche outlook on the world constitute the source of indestructible strength.

Because we have the Juche idea, we won the struggle against Japanese imperialism and also the struggle against

American imperialism, and have been able to build such a fine country as we see today on the ruins of the all-destructive war.

Since all our people are equipped firmly with the Juche idea, we believe we are fully capable of achieving national reunification. The reunification of our country is a question of time.

At present the American imperialists have brought atomic bombs and ultra-modern fighter planes to south Korea and are conducting bombing exercises every day to intimidate us. But our people are not afraid of them. Even if the American imperialists unleash a new war in our country, they would not be able to kill all of the Koreans. Our people would inevitably win by fighting the American imperialist aggressors to the last man.

The enthusiasm of the south Korean youth and people for learning the Juche idea is now running higher every day. In the past there was a considerable measure of worship as well as fear of the United States amongst the south Korean people. But as the days go by, the south Korean people have come to realize that the United States is not to be feared and that the American imperialists are crooks. They are gradually shedding the admiration and fear of the United States and their faith in the Juche idea is increasing with each passing day.

Firmly equipped with the Juche world outlook and fighting on along the road indicated by the Juche idea, our people are convinced that they will surely win in the future as they did in the past.

Today the international situation is very complex.

Due to the American imperialists' moves for aggression and war, the situation is becoming extremely tense and the danger of a new world war is growing every day. Today the danger of a world war exists in Korea and Southeast Asia and also in Europe. But if Europe takes the road of independence and Japan does the same in Asia, the world war can be prevented.

When I met a delegation from a European country that visited our country some time ago, I told them that if developed capitalist countries of Europe such as France, West Germany and Britain followed the road of independence and the whole of Europe was turned independent, a new world war could be prevented. Now a Japanese politician is staying in our country. When I meet him, I would like to advise him to see that Japan take the road of independence.

We should wage the struggle against American imperialism in two ways.

One is to destroy it by a revolutionary method. Revolutionary countries should all endeavour to tear American imperialism apart, cutting off its arms here and its legs there. In other words, the revolutionary struggle against American imperialism should be waged vigorously wherever its tentacles of aggression are extended.

The other is to destroy American imperialism politically. This means that all countries uphold independence and desist from following the lead of the American imperialists. Then these imperialists would be isolated internationally and find it impossible to throw their weight about any longer.

The American imperialists have long been resorting to the sly trick of pitting one country against another and taking advantage from their quarrels.

During World War I, too, they used the same artifice to reap a windfall. In that war, they made a bonanza out of the fight between Germany and Russia. In World War II, they suffered no losses. As a result, they became rich.

The American imperialists are employing the same old trick today. In Asia they are trying to make Asians fight Asians, and in Latin America they have placed some large countries under their control in an attempt to dominate smaller nations through them. In Africa and the Middle East, too, they are manoeuvring in the same way.

If countries which are subordinate to the American imperialists stop trailing behind them and all peoples of the world take the road of independence, the American imperialists would be politically isolated and become helpless. Therefore, in order to prevent a new world war and preserve world peace, all countries of the world should energetically struggle to defend and uphold independence.

The American imperialists are most afraid of the fact that the people of the world are following the road of independence. They are afraid of the Korean people not because we have atomic bombs but because our people are firmly equipped with the Juche idea and uphold independence unflinchingly. This time they have exerted pressure on Venezuela to prevent it from sending its government delegation to the Symposium of the Non-aligned and Other Developing Countries on Increasing

Food and Agricultural Production, and this is because they were afraid that the Venezuelan people would go their own independent way.

I think that our two Parties' belief in upholding independence is justified. We are advancing along the right path and we are doing just things. I am glad that the independent policy pursued by the Venezuelan Movement to Socialism tallies with the independence advocated by our Party. Our two Parties should continue to uphold independence.

We will welcome any country taking the road of independence. Because going the way of independence is in agreement with the interests of the people.

The people who advance under the banner of independence will inevitably win. I believe firmly that if the Venezuelan Movement to Socialism awakens the independent spirit amongst the people and rallies them closely and advances under the banner of independence, it would surely emerge victorious.

I would like to ask you, upon returning home, to convey my greetings to the President and the Secretary-General of the Venezuelan Movement to Socialism. And would you please tell them that our Party extends an invitation to them to visit our country? If they visit our country, we would accord them warm welcome. If we meet, we would be able to discuss many problems as good companions in arms and comrades.

I am very delighted to have met and talked with you today. I am greatly inspired by your good remarks about us.

Although far away from each other across the ocean, I hope our two Parties will fight on in concert to defend the independence of the people of the world. I hope that when you return home, you will convey our Party's greetings to the leadership and all members of the Venezuelan Movement to Socialism.

TALK TO THE DELEGATION OF THE ZIMBABWEAN PARLIAMENT

January 19, 1987

I warmly welcome you, the delegation of the Zimbabwean Parliament headed by the Speaker of the House of Assembly, on a visit to our country. You, the head of the delegation, have come to our country for the first time. I am very happy to meet you and make a friend of you.

Korea and Zimbabwe are far from each other geographically, but both maintain independence as non-aligned countries, and have friendly and comradely relations.

We are grateful to the Zimbabwean people for actively supporting and encouraging our people in their struggle for socialist construction and national reunification. Our people, too, are giving positive support to the Zimbabwean people's struggle against racism and for the consolidation of national independence.

Your current visit to our country will make a great contribution to improving the relations between the Supreme People's Assembly of our country and the Parliament of your country, and to further developing the

existing friendly and cooperative relations between the peoples of our two countries.

This is the first visit to our country for you, but the President and Prime Minister of your country have visited Korea several times. Frequent visits of your leaders to our country are favourable for developing the relations between our two countries, I think. The peoples of our two countries will always go hand in hand with each other in the struggle to oppose imperialism and defend independence.

At present, the situation in our country is very tense.

The US imperialists, who have occupied half the territory of our country, have deployed a large number of aggressive troops and many nuclear weapons in south Korea, watching for a chance to invade our Republic. Our people are resolutely fighting to frustrate the enemy's moves towards war and defend peace in Korea, united rock-solid behind our Party.

Our people do not want war; they desire peace. Only when peace prevails in our country can our people build socialism more successfully and lead a happy life.

The Government of our Republic, out of a desire to secure peace on the Korean peninsula and open a way for peaceful reunification, holds that the Armistice Agreement concluded between us and the United States should be replaced with a peace treaty and a nonaggression declaration adopted between the north and south of Korea. However, our unilateral efforts alone cannot ensure a durable peace on the Korean peninsula. For a durable peace in our country, the north and the south must make a joint effort.

At present, the situation in Southern Africa is as tense as in our country. I have been deeply concerned about the circumstances of your country and the situation of Southern Africa for a long time. The Prime Minister of your country will visit our country within a few days and I would like to take this opportunity to exchange opinions on relaxing tensions prevailing in Southern Africa and other international issues.

Today, the peoples of the developing countries are faced with the task of consolidating the political independence they have already gained, building an independent national economy, and defending the peace and security of the world.

Maintaining political independence is the first prerequisite for the developing countries. A country without political independence cannot be called a genuine independent state even though it has a president and a parliament. Such a country is vulnerable to domination again by other countries. The developing countries should resolutely fight, in firm unity, against imperialists, racists and dominationists who trample and infringe upon others' independence.

A self-reliant national economy is the material foundation of an independent state. Only when they build a self-reliant national economy can the developing countries consolidate their political independence, and save their people from starvation and poverty.

Many developing countries in Africa are undergoing difficulties in building independent national economies, owing to the neocolonialist policy of the imperialists. The

imperialists are resorting to crafty tricks to dominate these countries again by using “aid” or “cooperation” as a trap to impose neocolonialism. At the summit of the seven Western industrialized countries held in Japan last year, the leaders of the capitalist countries asserted that developing countries could receive “aid” only through the International Monetary Fund. This clearly revealed the aggressive, plundering nature of the imperialists who are attempting to recolonize developing countries. The mission of the IMF is outwardly international cooperation in monetary affairs, the stabilization of currency and well-balanced development of international trade. But, as a matter of fact, it is used as a tool for economic penetration into member states by the US imperialists and the Western capitalist countries. If developing countries borrow money from the IMF, they will be forced to act as dictated by the US imperialists and the Western capitalist countries, which control this organization at their whim.

I have met many heads of state from Africa. They all say that they are compelled to borrow money from the IMF because they are suffering from economic difficulties. In fact, for a country to borrow money from the IMF is as dangerous as falling into the trap of domination. If a poor man borrows money and food grain from a rich man in order to live, he will become a servant of the latter when he fails to repay the debt. The same is true of a country. If a developing country borrows money from the IMF and does not repay the debt afterwards, it will get deeper into debt owing to the ever-increasing interest, and at last will become subjugated again by the imperialists.

The lessons of history show that the imperialists offer neither political independence to their colonies nor self-reliant economies to developing countries. Developing countries must build independent national economies by their own efforts instead of trying to benefit from the IMF.

There are two ways for developing countries to be self-reliant in the economy; one is to make the maximum use of their internal resources by displaying the spirit of self-reliance and fortitude, and the other is to realize South-South cooperation on the principle of collective self-reliance. In the long run, the one and only way for them to survive independently is by believing in their own strength.

South-South cooperation is a noble way for developing countries to realize self-reliance in the economy by teaming up with each other economically and technically. The development of South-South cooperation will make it possible for them not only to build independent national economies successfully but also to destroy the old, unfair international economic order, and establish a new, fair one.

In recent years I have studied seriously how to make South-South cooperation fruitful.

Nowadays, sufficient conditions and possibilities for realizing South-South cooperation really exist. Because of their common situation and ideals, developing countries are all interested in developing South-South cooperation. They are blessed with rich human resources and abundant natural resources, and have some good experience and technology

which they can exchange with each other. If they make effective use of the present conditions and possibilities, and make joint efforts, South-South cooperation may produce good results.

The Eighth Summit Conference of the Non-Aligned Countries held last year in Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe, decided to hold in our country this year an extraordinary ministerial conference of the non-aligned countries on South-South cooperation. We hope that this conference will proceed successfully and make a great contribution to the development of South-South cooperation.

Developing countries must develop cooperation and exchanges briskly, starting from the practical possibilities and urgent matters. Agriculture is the sector which badly needs South-South cooperation.

It will not be so difficult for African countries to find a solution to the clothing problem. A fairly large amount of clothing of different kinds is needed in our country because of its cold winter, but six to ten metres of cloth per capita would be enough for African countries, where warm or hot weather continues all the year round.

For African countries, food is more urgent than clothing. Many African countries have vast territories and large populations, but they have not been successful in farming because of a shortage of agricultural technicians and experts, and farm machinery. As a result, in these countries many people are going hungry. However, no country is willing to provide them with food for nothing. African countries should not try to receive assistance from others but develop agriculture

with their own efforts to produce enough food.

If they are to attain self-sufficiency in food by developing agriculture, African countries should carry out irrigation projects and improve farming methods. In addition, they should establish joint ventures in farming in different forms and methods, and closely cooperate in agricultural science research and in the production of farm machinery.

We are now running experimental joint-venture farms with Tanzania and Ethiopia, and their prospects are bright. However, our country, which is not large, cannot cooperate in farming with all the African countries.

African countries should unite their own efforts and knowledge to carry out irrigation projects and improve farming methods. By so doing, they can enjoy good harvests and attain self-sufficiency in food.

For the agricultural development of African countries, North-South cooperation is also necessary.

Many of the developed European capitalist countries respect the independence of other countries. If developing countries in Africa cooperate with these countries in farming they will be able to learn farming technology and improve farm machinery considerably. If the former ask the latter for farm machinery without any conditions, the latter may not agree. But, if they propose joint ventures in such a way that African countries provide arable land and developed European countries provide farm machinery, the latter may accept the proposal. Now, the developed countries are deeply interested in obtaining raw materials. Therefore, on such joint-venture farms, it would not be

bad to plant industrial crops in some part of the arable land.

For example, when one African country runs a joint-venture farm of 3 000 hectares with an advanced European capitalist country, it would be advisable to plant food grain on 2 000 hectares of the land for the former and industrial crops on 1 000 hectares for the latter. The management of a joint-venture farm using such a method will accord with the interests of both. If the African country runs the joint-venture farm with the advanced European capitalist country for ten or 15 years, it can pay off the debts for the farm machinery with the money from selling industrial crops produced on the 1 000 hectares. Further, the ownership of the machinery will be transferred to the African country.

In this way the African people will be able to do farming properly with their own strength and technology. Although the African countries run joint-venture farms with the advanced European capitalist countries, they need not worry about losing their cultivated lands. The land will remain for ever in their ownership.

In realizing North-South economic cooperation, developing countries need not fawn upon advanced capitalist countries, I think. It is not that only the former benefits from the latter in North-South economic cooperation. Cooperation between countries is materialized always in their respective interests and on the principle of mutual benefit.

We hold that North-South economic cooperation must be realized on the principle of independence, equality and

mutual benefit. Developed capitalist countries, too, will not oppose this idea.

If each country is trying to develop South-South cooperation and North-South economic cooperation with the attitude of sincerely helping each other, all African countries will be able to attain economic growth. Of the African countries, the number of countries in a very difficult economic situation amounts to 30, except for Zimbabwe and some other countries whose economy is fairly well developed. If the economically advanced ones of the developing countries and the developed European capitalist countries help one or two of these backward countries for about ten years, their economies will develop.

I think it advisable to invite to the extraordinary ministerial conference of the non-aligned countries on South-South cooperation, to be held in our country this year, not only the socialist countries which sincerely help developing countries but also the advanced capitalist countries which maintain their independence and support the non-aligned countries. Austria, Sweden and Finland are such countries. We may also invite Denmark and the Netherlands, member states of NATO, to this conference. They are small countries, but have advanced technology.

I was told that you invited the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of our country to your country. I agree with that. Exchanging many delegations is significant for strengthening and developing the friendly and cooperative relations between

our two countries. Many mutual visits of high-level delegations will bring leaders of the two countries close to each other.

I hope you will visit our country frequently. If you visit our country again you will become an old friend of ours.

I hope that on your return home you will convey my greetings to your President and Prime Minister, and our people's greetings to your people.

LET US DEVELOP SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

Congratulatory Speech at the Extraordinary Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries on South-South Cooperation

June 9, 1987

Esteemed delegates,
Comrades and friends,

Today an Extraordinary Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries on South-South Cooperation, the first of its kind, is being held on a grand scale at a time when the aspirations and desire of the developing countries for international solidarity and cooperation are very strong. This is an important event for the Korean nation and other peoples of the non-aligned countries.

This meeting is being attended by ministers and other high-ranking people from many non-aligned countries of different continents. This shows that the governments and peoples of these countries are strongly in favour of and enthusiastic about South-South cooperation. It is also a clear expression of the excellent friendly relations between the people of Korea and other non-aligned countries.

It gives me great pleasure that this conference is being held in Pyongyang, the capital of our country, in

accordance with the decision of the Eighth Summit Conference of the Non-Aligned Countries. I would like to offer a warm welcome to the delegates from the non-aligned countries, to the delegates from international organizations and to all our foreign friends who are attending this conference.

I would like to express my deep gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe, the home nation of the present chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, and to the governments and friends of all the other countries who have cooperated wholeheartedly in successfully convening this extraordinary ministerial conference.

It is of great importance for the ministers of the non-aligned countries to meet in conference in this way, analyse and appraise the successes and experience gained in South-South cooperation in recent years, and seriously discuss measures and ways for developing South-South cooperation so that it can become broader and stronger. This extraordinary ministerial conference held in Pyongyang will serve as a great opportunity to develop South-South cooperation, establish a new, fair international economic order, and strengthen the friendship and solidarity between the non-aligned countries. This conference will be an inspiration to all the progressive people who are struggling to uphold justice, preserve peace and achieve independence throughout the world.

I am convinced that, through your active participation and combined efforts, this conference will hold useful discussions on the items on the agenda so as to meet the

expectations of the peoples of the non-aligned and developing countries through the results that are achieved.

Comrades and friends,

The development of South-South cooperation is now a matter of the greatest urgency for the non-aligned and developing countries.

Since World War II the peoples of many countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America have freed themselves from colonial fetters, have won political independence, and have embarked on the road of independent development. But there is no small number of developing countries whose peoples have not yet achieved economic independence and are experiencing a series of economic difficulties in building new societies. In many of the non-aligned and developing countries the evil consequences of imperialist colonial rule have not yet been eliminated. Worse still, new economic problems are growing daily because of the imperialists' neocolonialist policies and the present unfair international economic system.

The present international economic system is a product of colonialism. It is a system whereby the Western monopolies enrich themselves. Today the imperialists are pursuing the predatory policy of profiteering at the expense of the developing countries by using their monopolistic position in international economic relations. As a result, the natural resources of the developing countries and the fruits of their peoples' labour are being snatched away cheaply by the developed capitalist countries, the huge foreign debts of the developing countries are growing all the time, and the living conditions of their peoples are going from

bad to worse. The gulf between the poor, developing countries and the rich, developed nations is becoming wider as the days go by, and the trend of “the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer” has now become more aggravated worldwide.

If the developing countries are to extricate themselves from their present difficulties and build independent, new societies, they must break free of economic subjugation and build independent national economies.

Economic independence is the material basis of a nation’s independence and sovereignty. It is only when they achieve economic independence that the developing countries can maintain a completely independent stand, exercise total sovereignty in foreign relations and consolidate the political independence they have won.

South-South cooperation is a noble undertaking for the developing countries to achieve economic independence through mutual economic and technical assistance, and by meeting each other’s needs. It represents a new form of international economic relations based on their common aspirations and interests. South-South cooperation is, in essence, an international movement of the peoples of the politically independent, developing countries to win their economic freedom and sovereignty.

By expanding South-South cooperation, the developing countries will be able to free themselves from economic subjugation and dependence, and build independent national economies. If South-South cooperation is successful it will make the present unfair international economic system ineffective, establish a new, fair

international economic order and, furthermore, have a favourable influence on improving North-South relations.

There are many conditions and opportunities to effect South-South cooperation. Because they share the same lot and the same aspirations, the developing countries have a common interest in realizing South-South cooperation. They have enormous manpower and inexhaustible natural resources as well as a certain amount of valuable experience and skills that can be exchanged amongst them. If the non-aligned and developing countries employ all these conditions and opportunities properly and work together, South-South cooperation will be effected successfully.

Since the start of its historic advance, the Non-Aligned Movement has always paid close attention to strengthening economic cooperation between developing countries. Thanks to the positive initiatives and efforts of many non-aligned and developing countries, the political guidelines on economic cooperation between the developing countries have been set out, and a detailed programme of action and several decisions on economic cooperation have been adopted at the Non-Aligned Summit conferences and other international meetings. Projects for cooperation are now under way in many spheres. Needless to say, these are valuable achievements in the realization of South-South cooperation. But this is only the beginning of South-South cooperation when we consider the enormous potential of the developing countries and their real needs. As all of us admit, South-South cooperation is not being undertaken far

beyond the bilateral or regional scope; it is proceeding within limits.

The non-aligned and developing countries should take measures for a full-scale development of South-South cooperation, and increase economic and technical cooperation and exchanges rapidly.

If there is to be a full-scale development of South-South cooperation, the non-aligned countries must strictly observe the principles of collective self-reliance, complete equality and mutual benefit, on the basis of maintaining independence.

Collective self-reliance is the common ideal and principle for the peoples of the non-aligned countries in their struggle to shape their destinies for themselves in a spirit of unity and cooperation. The masses of the people have to forge their own destiny. To this end, they must unite and cooperate with each other not only within their own countries, but also on an international scale under the banner of self-reliance. It is only when they adhere to the principle of collective self-reliance that the peoples of the non-aligned countries can rid themselves of their dependence on the developed countries and expand South-South cooperation effectively in the spirit of independence and solidarity.

All economic relations between the developing countries must be established according to the principles of complete equality and mutual benefit. It is an important feature of South-South cooperation to help one another and promote exchanges on completely equal terms and in such a way as to benefit everyone concerned. If biased and

unequal terms are permitted in economic relations between developing countries, it may result in one country encroaching on the interests of another, and, further, in creating a new relationship of subjugation and dependence between developing countries. This will contradict the basic ideals and aim of South-South cooperation. The non-aligned countries must develop economic and technical cooperation and exchanges from the point of view of genuinely helping each other and promoting each other's interests, irrespective of the size of the countries concerned and the degree of economic and cultural development, so that South-South cooperation can be a model of the fairest and most equal international economic relationship.

I consider it reasonable to develop South-South cooperation by putting it into effect in those areas where it is urgently needed and feasible, and by extending it one step at a time, while accumulating experience and consolidating the successes.

It is now of great importance to effect South-South cooperation properly in the fields of trade, currency and finance.

South-South cooperation is an economic relationship between countries that are not rich. Therefore, it must be fundamentally different from that sought by the rich countries.

Trade and other economic relations between the developing countries ought to be genuinely cooperative relationships in which none of the parties concerned is pursuing only its own needs and interests.

The non-aligned countries must establish a Global

System of Trade Preferences so that trade between the developing countries can be rapidly expanded in conditions beneficial to them all. Barter can be regarded as the best form of trade between these countries. This and other forms of trade must be expanded according to the interests of them all on the principle of mutual accommodation.

I am of the opinion that when they engage in economic cooperation and joint ventures, it is reasonable that each partner should receive the repayment of his capital and the return on his investment in goods produced by the enterprise or country concerned, as far as possible. When one developing country makes a loan to another, it should be offered at either a low rate of interest or interest free; high rates of interest should be avoided, so as to give substantial assistance to the borrower's economic development.

We deem it necessary to develop South-South cooperation in agriculture so that self-sufficiency in food can be attained.

A large number of developing countries are not yet free from hunger and poverty, and the imperialists are trying to subordinate these countries economically and dominate them politically by using food as a weapon. Therefore, the developing countries must improve agriculture and solve the problem of food. This is important in delivering their peoples from hunger and poverty, and in defending their independence. The non-aligned countries must set the inspiring objective of achieving complete self-sufficiency in food as soon as possible, and achieve it by undertaking joint ventures in agriculture through various ways and

means, and by cooperating with each other closely in the construction of irrigation systems, in the improvement of farming techniques, in research into agricultural science and in the production of farm machinery. This is the most suitable type of cooperation for them.

In many developing countries the people still suffer from disease as a result of imperialist colonial rule. This situation demands the immediate strengthening of cooperation in health work in these countries. In order to eliminate disease and preserve the health of the people, the non-aligned and developing countries should work hard to cooperate and promote exchanges in the advancement of both modern and traditional medicine, and in the expansion of the production of medicines, and organize and operate hospitals and the like widely under joint management.

South-South cooperation in the field of science and technology is very important for the developing countries in making economic and technical progress.

If they cooperate and promote exchanges effectively in the field of science and technology, the developing countries will be able to solve a considerable number of the scientific and technological problems that arise in building a new society, free from dependence on developed countries, which is very costly. They must cooperate in every possible way, exchanging technicians, experts and technical data with each other in the sincere and noble spirit of cooperation. The non-aligned countries should not request high remuneration when they send technicians and experts abroad, and should offer technical data and the like free of charge.

In addition, the non-aligned countries must expand and develop cooperation and exchanges in the exploitation of natural resources, in industry, education and many other spheres.

At the moment, it is very important for the developing countries to find a reasonable solution to the problem of foreign debts.

This problem has a serious effect on the social and economic life in these countries and on the world economy. Unless they are relieved of the heavy burden of foreign debts, they will not succeed in building new societies, particularly independent national economies. There may be different ways of solving the problem. We consider it reasonable that this issue should be settled through bilateral or multilateral negotiations between the debtors and the creditors in such a way that the period of debt repayment is extended free of interest until such time as the developing countries involved can repay the loans through building their own independent national economies.

South-South cooperation is an undertaking of the non-aligned countries themselves to promote their common interests. In order to expand and develop it to the full, all the non-aligned countries should have a common understanding and attitude towards it, increase political support for each other and strive to put the cooperation into effect. These countries should work hard to implement the decisions and programmes of action adopted by various international conferences in connection with South-South cooperation, and constantly explore and develop positive

forms and means of broadening its scope and enhancing its effectiveness.

The prevention of war and the defence of peace is the most important task facing the Non-Aligned Movement at present, and only when world peace and security are secured can South-South cooperation develop smoothly.

All the peoples of the developing countries oppose war and desire peace. Today they need a climate of peace in order to build a new society. It is only when peace is secured that they can accelerate economic construction and build independent national economies.

The Non-Aligned Movement is a powerful anti-imperialist peace force. The non-aligned countries must make even greater efforts to check the arms race, effect complete disarmament, abolish aggressive foreign military bases and establish nuclear-free peace zones throughout the world.

Many progressive governments and peoples throughout the world have made constructive proposals to prevent war and preserve peace, and are endeavouring to put them into effect. The Government of our Republic fully supports these just proposals and initiatives made by many countries to reduce armaments, abolish nuclear weapons and establish nuclear-free peace zones, and expresses its firm support for the powerful anti-war, peace movement of all the peoples in different continents and regions across the world.

The strengthening and development of the Non-Aligned Movement is an important factor in consolidating the bond of friendship between the

non-aligned countries and in making South-South cooperation a success. It is only when this movement is strengthened and developed that we can foil the imperialists' schemes for aggression and intervention, protect the sovereignty of the non-aligned countries and settle all issues that arise in international relations, including the question of developing South-South cooperation and establishing a new international economic order, in the interests of the newly-emergent countries. The non-aligned countries must uphold the noble ideals and principles of the Non-Aligned Movement, and work hard to strengthen its unity and solidarity, so that the movement can fulfil with credit its mission that is of such importance to our times and mankind.

The Government of our Republic considers it a sacred duty to fight for the strengthening and development of this movement, and for the success of South-South cooperation. In its external economic relations, it always pays close attention to increasing economic and technical cooperation with non-aligned countries, and is striving to establish cooperation in the field of agriculture in particular. We have set up institutes of agricultural science and experimental farms in some African countries, have accumulated a certain amount of experience in running them, and are working on plans to expand cooperation with African countries in agriculture.

The economic and technical cooperation which is expanding and developing between our country and other non-aligned countries will not only help Korea in its

socialist economic construction but also other non-aligned countries in their endeavours to build independent national economies.

The Government of our Republic will, in the future, too, make every effort to strengthen and develop its friendly and cooperative relations with the non-aligned countries under the banner of independence, friendship and peace, and will sincerely discharge its duty and responsibility in the noble work of South-South cooperation.

You are the distinguished guests of our people. Our people are happy to have friends such as you from different continents. During your stay in our country you will experience our people's warm feelings of friendship towards the non-aligned countries.

With the hope that you will make unremitting, sincere efforts for success at the Pyongyang Extraordinary Ministerial Conference, I wholeheartedly wish you great success in your future work.

KIM IL SUNG
FOR ACHIEVING GLOBAL
INDEPENDENCE

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