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THE RENOVATION OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT

RESOLUTION OF THE POLITICAL BUREAU
OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF VIETNAM

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THE EDITOR'S NOTE

Vietnam is mainly an agricultural country, therefore the problems of agriculture and rural areas have always occupied a priority place. As early as in 1930, under French rule, the newly-born Indochinese Communist Party in its "Political Theses" put forth the demand "Land to the Tiller" as one of the two biggest objectives of the Vietnamese revolution. The Nghe Tinh Soviet Uprising in 1931, apart from aiming at driving away the French colonialists, was a lively embodiment of that slogan. In 1945, after the country recovered its independence, Ho Chi Minh, President of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, called on the people, not only to oppose foreign invaders, but also to fight against the two enemies — famine and ignorance — essentially to solve the peasant problem. In 1953, although the anti-French resistance was not yet crowned with success, the Vietnam Party of Workers (new name of the Indochinese Communist Party since 1951) in the liberated areas carried out a democratic revolution through the reduction of land rent and agrarian reform. This democratic reform was radically put into effect, and the tillers actually got land in 1956 — two years after the complete liberation of the North.

In 1959, the State of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam launched the movement for building agricultural

cooperatives which was in the main completed by 1960. In 1965, agricultural cooperatives underwent a qualitative change: low-level cooperatives were raised to a higher level with the collectivization of all means of production and the distribution of products was done in accordance with contribution in the form of labour. Social justice was created by the existence of cooperatives, along with a sense of solidarity of the whole people — one of the factors of the victory recorded in the anti-US resistance.

Since 1970, the small cooperatives had been changed into big ones of the scale of whole village. This, on the one hand, resulted in the emergence of material bases and favourable conditions for some mechanization in land work and irrigation and for the application of such scientific and technical achievements as the selection of seeds and manuring. But on the other hand, such a big scale for cooperatives led to difficulties in the management of production represented by the level of heads of cooperatives, of chief accountants, etc. Moreover, the material and technical bases for agricultural production were still — strictly speaking — too low, and this could not give rise to high productivity and big production. For instance, in 1976, food production in the North attained 6.4 million tonnes, but in 1979, it dropped to 6.2 million and in 1980 to 6 million tonnes.

After the country was reunified in 1975, on the basis of experiences in agricultural cooperativization in the North, in South Vietnam a socialist reformation in agriculture was undertaken rashly, at rather a quick tempo. The littoral provinces of Central Vietnam and those in the Central Highlands were the first to complete this cooperativization: in the spring of 1978 — 79, from 70

to 90 per cent of all peasant households were brought into cooperatives and production teams. In Nam Bo, by mid-1979, 31 per cent of all peasant households had joined cooperatives and production teams. On the whole, except for some special localities, the movement for agricultural cooperativization did not obtain expected results. The peasantry in Nam Bo, whose central personage is the middle peasant with his small agricultural economy, was not prepared in its production and psychology for collective production. Rice productivity showed no increase — it rather decreased. Peasants' life met with additional difficulties.

Of course, under those circumstances, targets set by plans could not be attained. In 1980, the totality of food produced in the country was only 14.4 million tonnes compared with 21 million prescribed by plan indexes, which means that on an average the yearly increase was only 0.3 million tonnes while demographic growth was 2.5 per cent per year on an average (or about 1.2 million people). Obviously, the causes for decline in agriculture were not to be found solely in the policy of stepping up agricultural cooperativization, although this represented the main cause.

To deal with the situation, the Party Central Secretariat on January 13, 1981 issued Directive No 100 CT/TW on the implementation, in favour of peasant households, of a regime of contract on products. From now on, apart from those stages in production which are left to the direct management by cooperatives (ploughing, hydraulics, fighting against insects, etc.), the cooperative member is to care for the transplanting of rice-seedlings, manuring and harvesting in the plot of land given on contract to his family. He is entitled to enjoy

the payment for work done in those stages and part of the cooperative's crops after deduction of taxes, contribution to various funds and production expenditures. Besides, those households which overfulfil norms set in the contract are entitled to enjoy the benefit of overfulfilment. It should be admitted that in a number of crops immediately following the implementation of this regime, production actually increased in many localities. But gradually, the positive effect of the regime faded for many reasons: the peasant still had not the initiative of his action in the process of production, he was still a person "hired" by the cooperative. In many places, norms set by the contract were too high, and consequently the peasant enjoyed next to nothing from his investment in labour and materials, etc. As a result, his ardour in production went down and agricultural production once again fell into a state of stagnation.

To radically deal with a number of mistakes in agriculture accumulated over the years which prevented the development of production, such as subjectivism and haste, forced advance to big-scale cooperatives, lack of encouragement to family economy, inadequate attention paid to private economy, etc., the Party Politburo on April 5, 1958 took Resolution No 10 NQ/TW on all-sided renovation of economic management in agriculture. Thanks to this resolution the situation in agriculture has gradually improved. Eagerness in production has slowly come back among peasants. One and a half million tonnes of rice exported in 1959 to some extent made this clear. "Resolution 10" is an important document embodying a deep renovation of economic policies with regard to agriculture and the rural areas in Vietnam. The full text of that document is presented in this booklet.

I

THE PRESENT ORGANIZATION OF PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT IN AGRICULTURE

Nowadays, the regime of land ownership and feudal exploitation in the countryside has been completely eradicated. Almost all our agricultural sector has been reorganized into cooperatives. The cooperative movement, the development of State-run units of agriculture, forestry and fisheries and that of units of research, experimentation and training of techno-scientific workers in agriculture, have had a beneficial effect on the building up of an irrigational network, encouraged the application of science and technology in agriculture, the practice of intensive farming and multiplication of crops, increased the surface of cultivated areas, and contributed to the building up of a new countryside and to the defence and security of our country. Since the 6th Plenum of the Central Committee of the 4th Congress, agricultural policies, in particular that of "attribution of the final products to groups of workers or to the worker himself in cooperatives of agricultural production" have helped to solve many difficulties, stipulated the spirit of collective mastery and the enthusiasm of the working people and promoted the development of agriculture. Progress in reafforestation and coordination between

agriculture and forestry has been noticed. The exploitation and export of maritime products have been increased, and more attention has been paid to pisciculture. In the sector of production and management, there have appeared good examples and new elements.

Over the past few years, however, agriculture has been developing slowly, the rate of production of goods is rather low; many regions have not yet done away with the tradition of self-sufficient economy, isolation and monoculture of rice. In the past two or three years, production, in particular that of foodstuffs, has decreased. Forests have been destroyed, the ecological environment not properly protected. Superstitions, backward customs and social vices such as drinking and gambling have been on the rise.

The main reasons leading to the above-mentioned situation are the errors in leadership and guidance:

— A correct strategy of socio-agricultural development has not been worked out for a rational agro-industrial structure. Efforts have not been sufficiently made for the promotion of agriculture which must hold a pre-eminent position, especially for the development of grain and foodstuff production. There has been little close coordination between agriculture, forestry and fisheries, between agriculture and industry, especially the industry of means of production for agricultural production and processing manufactures. Efforts have not been sufficiently made in scientific research and in the application of modern technology in production. Investments in agriculture have incurred undue waste and their efficiency is rather inadequate. Until now, the technical level of agricultural production is still very low and has not yet been able to endow rice-growing areas with an

appropriate and rational irrigation and drainage system and to supply agriculture, forestry and fisheries production units with sufficient tools and materials.

— In the socialist re-organization and renovation of agriculture, we have not yet been able to do away with a simplistic way of understanding socialism and the first stage of the transitional period, nor to thoroughly grasp the laws of production relations which must be appropriate to the character and the degree of development of the production force. We have not made a serious study of the natural, economic and social characteristics of each region, nor do we fully understand the principle of free will, mutual profit and democratic management. Other errors have been made in the hasty realization of renovation: the compelling of people to join cooperatives and groups of production; the organization of large-scale and high-level cooperatives; the complete collectivization of means of production when conditions were not yet ripe; and the mechanical application of the same forms of organization and management in different regions, in different types of cooperatives and groups of production. For a long time, there has been no policy for encouraging family economy and no regulations as to the correct use of private and individual economy and the good coordination and cooperation between the different sectors of economy. The formation and consolidation of regional enterprises and unions of enterprises and of useful cooperations have been slowly carried out. We have not yet investigated and studied the change in society and social classes in the country so as to work out a correct economic and social policy with a view to consolidating the alliance between workers and peasants, intensifying solidarity among the working

people, eradicating private usury and promoting the socialist renovation of agriculture along appropriate lines and in appropriate stages.

—A comprehensive policy for consolidating and intensifying the relations of socialist production in agriculture, forestry and fisheries, those of ownership, of management and of distribution, has not been worked out yet. In State-run units as well as in collective units, the mechanism of bureaucratic, centralized and State-subsidized management and of egalitarianism in the distribution of profit has been maintained too long. Many State-run units of agriculture, forestry and fisheries have incurred losses for many years. In cooperatives and groups of production, the distribution of land has not been carried out properly; so long as there still reign laxism, erroneous calculation of work points, egalitarianism in the distribution of food and profit, the peasants have to endure unfair taxes and prices and become victims of corruption and profiteering behaviour on the part of some officials and their arbitrary and autocratic policies. Peasants thus lack enthusiasm in their work and this situation has presented obstacles to the development of production.

—Many errors have been made in the elaboration of major agricultural policies. There have been no appropriate policies for encouraging food crop-growing regions and for peasants who cultivate it. The policies concerning the relations between the State, cooperatives, and peasants which have been referred to in the Party's resolutions have not been institutionalized in time and brought into effect in a rigorous manner.

—The organization for supplying materials has been reformed too slowly and many negative aspects have

been noticed. The distribution of State-supplied materials is indirect: supplies pass through too many hands. As a result, many losses are incurred, costs to peasants are high, and the level of production is adversely affected.

—The centralized system of management has become more and more cumbersome, bureaucratic, and less and less efficient. Although the contingent of techno-scientific personnel is numerous, it is concentrated in central organs and has not been appointed and utilized properly. Grassroots personnel is not qualified enough and is not adequately formed and trained.

—The educational task of raising peasants' ideological, cultural and techno-scientific level and of implanting a new way of life in the countryside has not been carried out adequately.

—The organization of the Party in the countryside and in many agricultural economic units is still loose. Many country Party cells have been developed along family lines or factions in each village or hamlet, sometimes admitting even bad elements; the Party cells' activity lacks combative spirit and educational character; the Party cells sometimes do not solve quickly and energetically enough cases involving members who have degenerated or found guilty of corruption, profiteering behaviour, bullying peasants, thus preventing the implementation of Party and State directions and policies.

The above-mentioned shortcomings and defects along with mistakes made in the policies of price, salary, circulation of goods and the high rate of inflation combined to slow down the development of production and managerial renovation in agriculture.

II

RENOVATION OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT

The renovation of agricultural economic management must meet the following requirements:

— Truly liberate the productive force; coordinate the organization of production with socialist renovation; strengthen the material and technical bases and apply technological progress in agriculture; develop the potential of economic sectors in all regions and branches; transform our still self-sufficient agricultural economy into goods-producing sector towards the line of specialization combined with comprehensive business undertaking, appropriate to the natural, economic and social characteristics of each region; transform agriculture step by step into a large-scale socialist producing sector with a view to satisfying basic needs in grain and foodstuffs and supplying more materials to the manufacture of consumer and export goods, contributing to the realization of three great economic programmes, building up and protecting the ecological environment, enlarging the market in the countryside for the development of industry, coordinating closely agriculture with industry and communications and transport in order to have a unified economic structure;

— Solve the relations of interests, chiefly to guarantee a just interest to the producer and primarily, the rice-grower, unceasingly improve the life of the working people in order to contribute to the building up of socialism;

— Enlarge democracy, heighten respect for the legal system; build up a new socialist countryside;

— Renovate the organization of personnel to make it appropriate to the new economic structure and administrative mechanism, purify and heighten the combative spirit of the Party units, Party members and staffs in accordance with the requirements and content of a great political mobilization.

A. RE-ORGANIZATION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

Re-organizing agricultural production towards specialization combined with comprehensive business undertaking consists of coordinating cultivation with animal husbandry, agriculture with forestry and fisheries, and agriculture, forestry, fisheries with communications and transport, as well as with processing industries, handicrafts and other craftsmen's activities in the countryside, the development of production with the distribution of goods within the country and also abroad, simultaneously strengthening the material and technical bases for agriculture and applying technological progress in production and processing industries in order to quickly increase productivity, quality and value of agricultural goods.

First and foremost, we must adequately concentrate our efforts on the principal grain and foodstuff-producing regions (such as the Mekong and Red River Deltas and other rice-growing regions). We must develop subsidiary crop-growing regions with high productivity of goods and high rates of marketable produce, and re-organize the processing of subsidiary crops. The consumption of secondary crops should be encouraged in order

to increase the availability of primary crops for sale. We must quickly increase the area of cultivation of winter crops in the delta, the middle region, the northern mountain region and the former 4th Zone, and that of short-cycle industrial crops in order to create new sources of profit in the export of vegetables, fruit and short-cycle industrial crops in regions where the conditions are favourable, especially in the Mekong and Red River Deltas, and replace the plantation of low-yield food crops by that of other varieties with higher value.

We must build up and develop vegetable belts around Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, other cities and major industrial areas.

In mountain regions, along with intensive cultivation and the increase in rice production and cultivation of crops on arable areas, we must develop forestry, the plantation of short-cycle and long-cycle industrial crops, cattle-rearing, develop communications and transport between different regions and speed up the importation and exportation to buy foodstuffs and to satisfy the needs of production and social life. We must link the realization of our policies with the development of production and the building up of the countryside; we must help the nomads to lead a sedentary life with sedentary farming.

Along sea-coasts and on islands, the allround exploitation of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, salt exploitation and maritime transport and the exploitation and the processing of sea-products must be stepped up.

We must grow short-cycle industrial crops with high concentration of work force but with short-term yield (soya, peanut, sugar-cane, cotton, jute, rush, tobacco, etc.), enlarge the areas for long-cycle industrial crops (coffee,

tea, rubber, cocoa, cinnamon, pepper, etc.), and those of fruit-trees linked with the establishment of agro-industrial units and processing industries.

Step by step, animal husbandry must be developed into a productive sector holding an increasingly important position in the agricultural economy. The rearing of cattle and poultry that calls for only little foodstuff, and the rearing of herds of buffalos and oxen for meat or milk must be developed intensively while that of pigs must be done in accordance with the productivity of food. We must create regions of animal husbandry for exportation and at the same time increase the production of compound foods and build manufactures for processing food for exportation.

In forestry, the principal task is to plant trees for exploitation and to protect and regenerate forests. We must identify different types of forests, watershed forests, protecting the environment and forests for exploitation so as to delimit their boundaries. We must closely coordinate forestry with agriculture and industry, especially the processing industry on the spot; protection and rational exploitation must be paid attention to, the destruction and disorderly exploitation of forests prohibited. The State will take strict measures concerning that problem. We must speed up the plantation of new forests, regenerate some of them and develop the people's movement of planting dispersed trees and quickly planting trees on waste land and barren hilly areas. We must protect and develop forests with precious wood, special products or medicinal plants. Forest areas supplying industrial materials must be developed. The management of forests and forest areas is under the charge of cooperatives, teams of production, and peasants' families for protecting, tending and planting new trees, using all the products of forests, creating conditions for their inhabitants to live and to earn their living out of the bush.

undertaking of all the forest products. Practical economic and social measures are to be taken to do away with nomadic living and farming in 5-7 years' time.

As to maritime products, we should pay attention to fishing, fish-rearing, aquaculture and processing, using all the superficies of water in regions where conditions are favourable for aquaculture, chiefly products for exports. We should exploit marine resources with efficiency and apply technological progress in production. We must organize the network of services and of supplies that enable fishing-boats to stay offshore for a long time in fishing zones. Measures for protecting marine resources must be taken and applied strictly: indiscriminate fishing must be prohibited. In 1988, the Council of Ministers must issue regulations and decrees concerning the protection and exploitation of marine resources, prohibiting the use of explosives and intense lighting in fishing, and about measures determining criteria and norms for fishing tools and the fishing season so as to allow fish to reproduce naturally.

We must develop industry, small industries and handicrafts, transport, services in the countryside in many ways, even down to the grassroots. We must use and increase electric power at all agro-industrial units, small industries and handicraft workshops and processing manufactures of agriculture, forestry and fisheries; create other processing small-and middle-size manufactures equipped with modern machinery able to produce valuable goods for home consumption and for export.

To reorganize production in the countryside, we must create a new division of labour to carry out intensive farming, multiply crops, reclaim waste land, use all superficies of water available for aquaculture, develop small industries and handicrafts, transport and services, proceed to a new

distribution of labour force and population among different regions in accordance with careful planning in order to create new economic zones, especially in sparsely-populated regions such as Tay Nguyen, East of Nam Bo and the mountain regions of the North. We must organize groups of volunteer youth and other efficient forms of work organizations in order to absorb labour force yet unemployed such as young people coming of age, demobilized military-men, redundant personnel coming from State organs.

B. STRENGTHENING AND ENLARGING THE SOCIALIST RELATIONS OF PRODUCTION, CORRECTLY UTILIZING ECONOMIC COMPONENTS

1. Implementing the regime of autonomous production and business undertaking in all State-run economic units of agriculture and transform them into socialist cost-accounting business

While bringing into full play the leading role of all the economic State-run system, we must consolidate the organization and renew the management of all the State-run enterprises, processing establishments, services in agriculture, forestry and fisheries so as to make them autonomous in their production and business, able to make profit and completely abolish the State-subsidized regime.

The Council of Ministers must quickly concretize the content of Resolution 3 of the Central Committee and Decision 217 of the Council of Ministers in the managerial mechanism of State-run units in agriculture, forestry and fisheries so as to make them appropriate to the characteristics of production in each branch with these following supplementary points:

— Consolidating the State-run units of production and processing that have incurred losses for years by clearly determining the orientation of production, applying technological progress in production and management, and streamlining the contingent of staff. At the end of 1989, the units that will not have been able to apply new methods will be disbanded or transformed into more appropriate forms of ownership. Units that have to fulfil special tasks, especially those associating economy and defence in strategic and key areas, and units producing high-yield strains will benefit from the State assistance during a given period. We must readjust the size of forests and farms so as to make them more suitable to the actual techno-material state and managerial level. The surplus area of land or forests must be returned to the local authorities so that they may allot it to cooperatives, households, individuals or private business, which will carry out the exploitation. Even patches of land belonging to State-run units that have not yet been cultivated must be lent to peasants for production. It is forbidden to seize by force peasants' reclaimed land to establish State-run farms. In case some patches of peasants' land are needed for those farms to make a whole enclosure, the farmers cultivating the land must be indemnified accordingly or given a new plot in compensation or conditions to help them to lead a normal life.

— Consolidating and developing State-run services such as irrigation, ploughing, supply of materials, seeds, tools, machinery, repair of machines, services for fighting pests and plant diseases, services for market sale, etc. In the renovation of management, we must link the responsibilities and interests of the service organs to the final products of the manufacturers through contracts. Insurances for plants and animals must be reorganized so as to be governed

by a socialist cost-accounting regime not financed by the State; in mountain regions or regions having to overcome difficulties the cost-accounting regime must be implemented step by step. In case of epidemics the State budget will assume necessary charges to eradicate them.

2. Restructuring the organization of cooperatives and groups of production and renovating their managerial apparatus

Cooperatives and groups of production are peasants' economic units created by their own will under the leadership of the Party, the guidance and help of the State. They act upon the principles of self-management, self-responsibility as to the efficiency of production and profit, having a legal status of their own, equal before the law to other economic units, and having the task of developing the good points of the relations of socialist production.

Based on the natural, economic, technical and social conditions, the degree of managerial capacity of the cadres and the co-op members' occupations, the cooperative determines the forms, the size of organization, the orientation and task of production and business, the mode of management, the means of distribution and of consumption of products, in order to develop the production of goods with a view to increasing the income, raising the co-op members' standards of living, the accumulation of reproduction and the welfare of the community, and fulfilling its duty to the State.

a) Reorganizing the administration of cooperatives

Cooperatives must opt for the production of goods and the socialist cost-accounting business along the line of specialization associated with general business undertaking

linking agriculture with forestry and fisheries, agro-forest-fishery sectors with processing industries and activities of different branches, associating production and processing industry with transport and services, and cooperating with family economy and with other kinds of cooperatives and with techno-scientific organizations of the same region, with a view to developing fully the productivity of land and labour and the efficiency of their techno-material bases and their own capital and credit.

We must consolidate and increase the communal cooperatives with profit-making production and business, transform oversized cooperatives in some provinces of the deltas and midland regions of the North, coastal regions of Central Vietnam and Tay Nguyen, whose production is insufficient and managerial administration inadequate, into cooperatives with appropriate size.

In low mountain regions, the delimitation of agro-forest or silvi-agricultural business cooperatives according to the boundaries of villages and hamlets is frequent. In high mountain areas, only efficient cooperatives must be maintained; cooperatives which only exist in name must be transformed into groups of mutual assistance or into individual exploitations while the network of trade, services, communications and transport, the development of economic exchanges, the heightening of the cultural level of the population and the forming of cadres among people of ethnic minorities must be carried out. Only when conditions are met must units of collective work be organized along appropriate lines.

In the South, in the near future, the essential thing to do is to maintain the groups of production. These groups must have their administration reorganized, their scope of business enlarged, their management renovated, the

techno-material built up, their cadres better trained; they must cooperate with other economico-techno-scientific units, maintain the existing board of united managerial administration; only when conditions are sufficient (techno-material bases being ensured, cadres sufficiently trained, peasants of their own will voluntarily asking to join the cooperatives) will united groups or cooperatives of appropriate size be organized.

Cooperatives and groups of production must carry out publicly their managerial administration, develop fully the rights of the congress of co-op members, so as to make the latter truly take part in the management of production and business of the community. We must also develop the role of the Association of Peasants in education, in the raising of the peasants' socialist consciousness, encourage them to take part in collective production, in management and control of the managerial administration of the cooperatives or the groups of production.

We must consolidate the managerial apparatus of cooperatives and groups of production so as to make them more efficient, unceasingly raising the degree of its managerial work, use highly qualified cadres, apply the principle of democratic management, eradicate embezzlement, profiteering behaviour, arbitrariness, autocracy, bureaucracy and oppressive measures.

We must analyse the reasons that have led to inefficient cooperatives and groups of production, and apply effective consolidating measures; redetermine the scale appropriate to them, the adequate mechanism of production, increase their techno-material bases, renovate their managerial apparatus and appoint highly qualified and efficient cadres, etc.

For the people's fisheries, in the near future, we must find out appropriate forms and steps such as :

— Organizing adequate services and through the relations of selling materials and buying products, persuade fishermen to follow the orientation of State planning and sell their products to those services.

— Organizing forms of cooperation among fishermen in aquaculture, and in the exploitation of marine products and fishing. State-run units are to supply materials, technical advice and arrange for sale of the products.

— Creating and consolidating cooperatives and groups of production along appropriate lines according to their activities, the kinds of boats used, on the basis of willingness, mutual profit and democratic management.

The Ministry of Maritime Products must continue to study and propose various forms of cooperation with a view to popularizing them widely.

b) Realization of the regime of self-administration

In plannification

Cooperatives and groups of production must take the initiative in production and business planning along the line of regionalization, the State policies of encouraging production, the contract system with State-run economic units and others, the requirements of market and their own capacity of production. Cooperatives and groups of production, production and business plans must be worked out after democratic discussion among the co-op members ; the State will manage, guide and help cooperatives and groups of production through the policies of economic levers and laws, but will not issue direct regulations.

Cooperatives and groups of production must strive to raise productivity, reduce expenses and lower the cost of

production, carry out the cost-accounting regime along socialist lines, consider the increase of income of co-op members, the raising of the community budget, and the fulfilling of their duty towards the State and their customers as norms for evaluating the efficiency of their production and business.

On properties, budget and credit

Cooperatives and groups of production have the right to buy and sell properties which they no longer need (except for rice fields, forest land and water surface). As to buffalos, oxen, draught animals, and small machines, according to their concrete situation, they can keep the part necessary to production as collective material for production, and sell the rest to their members according to the planning and contracts signed by the latter with the community. They must encourage their members to invest in the development of cattle-rearing (buffalos and oxen), the purchase of tools and small machines in order to ensure the realization of the contract they have signed with the community, and the development of family economy. The State will sell high-powered agricultural machines to cooperatives and groups of production and small machines to their members. The State-run economic units which have at their disposal properties they no longer need must give them back to the State for it to dispose of them according to plans : cooperatives and groups of production have the priority claim to buy materials sold by State-run units.

Cooperatives and groups of production must increase their existing capital by increasing the accumulation of enlarged reproduction and encouraging their members to invest in the community according to the policy of rational distribution of collective income. Besides this existing

capital, cooperatives and groups of production can avail themselves of money lent by co-op members and inhabitants with mutual agreement as to the rate of interest, credit from banks or from associations and cooperatives. Cooperatives and groups of production are entitled to ask credit from co-op members' parents living abroad sent to them through Vietnamese Commercial Bank for carrying out production and afterwards pay it back by exporting their goods. Cooperatives and groups of production can open bank accounts in Vietnamese Commercial Bank if they have a fairly high income in foreign currency and ask credit in foreign currency to buy materials and equipment and pay back the capital and interest in foreign currency, and when the bank opts for the regime of business transactions, they can eventually buy foreign currency from them.

On materials, price and consumption of products

Except for taxes regarded as obligation, the relations of business between cooperatives, groups of production and State-run units are those based on equality and the law of supply and demand. State-run units and cooperatives and groups of production sign among themselves economic contracts for the supply and purchase of materials and products and are responsible for carrying out the clauses of the contracts.

Besides the materials bought from State-run organs according to planning norms and economic contracts, cooperatives and groups of production can buy materials from other sources for production and processing thanks to the association or cooperation with other economic units; they also can buy and sell things directly in the market. Cooperatives and groups of production are free to dispose of the surplus of products after paying the taxes

to the State and fulfilling the contracts they have signed with State-run units. They can sell it in the market. State-run units wanting to buy these products must follow the rule of mutual agreement between the buyer and the seller.

On import and export

The State encourages cooperatives and groups of production to develop more agro-forest or maritime products than the quantity referred to in contracts signed with economic State organs. Though the State organs of their choice, they can export their products and import materials and equipment necessary for production; they can take part in the organization of production or export business according to the principle of voluntarism, equality, and mutual benefit, and they have the right to use the foreign currency at their disposal to buy materials to increase production according to the law.

Techno-scientific problems

The State encourages cooperatives and groups of production to cooperate with techno-scientific research centres and schools to rapidly apply technological progress in production. The techno-scientific achievements gained by cooperatives, groups of production or co-op members can be guaranteed as to their copyright if they have been duly registered with State organs provided for this effect, and can receive an appropriate reward. High quality products, obtained through the application of scientific achievements are considered in the same way as those produced by State economic units. Technical and managerial agents of cooperatives and groups of production can be sent to complementary training courses which may be required. After the course, they return to the cooperative to which they belong and receive an appropriate pay.

On contracts, assignment of jobs and distribution of profit

— According to concrete conditions, we must unceasingly improve the system of contract of final products to the producer or groups of producers and from the start link the plan of production to that of distribution. In cultivation, contracts are carried out to every household or group of households. Cooperatives and groups of production must devise norms and fix prices to work out the contracts, devise plan of distribution (both in money and products) then sign these contracts with co-op members of each job in the cooperatives and groups of production, and announce them soon to all co-op members.

In cultivation, we must regulate the areas attributed to co-op members through contracts, eventually put an end to the State of piecemeal distribution, and ensure to the signatory areas with an appropriate plot for a period of about 15 years. We must classify adequately various kinds of land, determine with precision norms and prices for each step of job done on each kind of land in order to work out contracts, and stabilize the clauses of contracts for a period of 5 years, and only change them when the concrete techno-material conditions have changed. According to concrete conditions, cooperatives and groups of production must determine which stage of work must be fulfilled by the collectivity and which must be done by the co-op members (we must not set it as a rule that the collectivity's part is 5 stages and the co-op members', 3 stages), and secure each co-op member that has agreed to sign the contract an income of about 40% of the amount of product referred to in the contract and this income must be increased according to the number of stages of work which the co-op member has taken upon himself to fulfil according to the contract.

On the basis of general business undertaking and continuous development of reproduction, cooperatives and groups of production must again assign work to their members according to their own speciality, giving to each the task for which he is qualified. Whenever possible, we must encourage the people who are qualified for a certain job to carry out the latter and return the patch of land allotted to them to cooperatives or groups of production. He who has given back his plot of land to cooperatives and groups of production is indemnified with a sum equivalent to the value of the plants that are being cultivated there and to the effort he has made to increase the fertility of the land and the means of production attached to it.

The principle of distribution must be based on the work done or the shares the co-op member has brought to the cooperative or to the group of production. We must abolish egalitarianism and the system of budget subsidies which are still widespread. We must not include voluntary work in the cooperative plan of income distribution, nor use the cooperative income to give supplementary subsidies to cadres working for the Party, the administration or the collectivity. The cooperative budget must not be used by Party Committee or People's Committee for other purposes than that of the cooperative. Cooperatives and groups of production must keep business accounts do without State subsidies, and distribute the income according to the branch to which the cooperative belongs after readjustment for each job. Cooperatives and groups of production must build step by step a special reserve fund for co-op members in case of natural calamities, crop failures, and a pension for co-op members who are too old to work.

Limit as much as possible managerial expenses for cooperatives and groups of production, for which the State has had instructions as to the percentage allowed out of the total income. Realize the contract system for managerial cadres according to the following principle: the portion allotted to them is bigger if the management is better and the expenses fewer; in case of bad management with high expenses and too much personnel, their income will be lowered and the personnel must be reduced.

For families which have done great services to the revolution, families of war dead, of wounded or sick soldiers unable to work, without support and with economic difficulties: cooperatives and groups of production must appoint them to appropriate jobs, allot them better land nearer to their abode and advise the population to help them in hard agricultural work. Moreover, the communal People's Committee has the responsibility to take care of them. The Ministry of Labour-Invalids and Social Welfare and the Ministry of Finance must propose measures for the Council of Ministers to issue a policy on social fund in 1988 raised from the contribution of the population, of the production or business organs and State subsidies.

Before issuing any decision concerning any form of contract, determination of norms, system of distribution in cooperatives or groups of production, everything must be discussed democratically and publicly by the collectivity of co-op members.

In the renovation of the managerial mechanism and of the function and tasks of the managerial apparatus of cooperatives, groups and brigades of production must be redetermined, and consolidated. The managerial board must carry out proper procedures of production development, the development of business, and increase the cooperatives' income and at the same time fulfil its duty

towards the State and towards customers. It must increase the guidance and control of the professional groups so as to make them realize properly the plan of production and respect the internal regulations of the cooperatives and groups of production and carry out the stages of work under the collectivity's responsibility. It must both adequately carry out the services for the contract signatories and help needy families fulfil their tasks of production. In the cooperatives and groups of production in which production and business are simple and the contract-based system of final products is still in force the managerial board must pay special attention to the services ensuring good conditions to signatories and needy families so that they can carry out the contract signed with the collectivity.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industries must issue guidances based on experimental knowledge for cooperatives and groups of production to put into practice.

This year, 1988, the State will issue regulations for agricultural and fishing cooperatives (with transformations) and guidelines for cooperatives and groups of production to establish their rules and internal regulations appropriate to the above-mentioned policy of renovation. It will soon promulgate the code of laws on cooperatives.

On family economy

We must encourage cadres and workers of State organs and the members of agricultural cooperatives and groups of production to develop a family economy such as planting fruit-trees, industrial crop forests, raising cattle or poultry, carrying out aquaculture, undertaking small

industries, handicrafts, or in service businesses, etc., in order to increase the supply of goods for society and the family income.

State-run units and the collectivity have the duty to create conditions, guide and help households to develop their family economy according to regional and cooperative planning. The families have the right to use or to sell at liberty the products obtained from their work; in case State-run units or the collectivity want to buy the latter, they must strike a bargain with the producer.

3. Individual and private economy in agriculture, forestry and fisheries

The State acknowledges the long-lasting existence and the positive effects of individual and private economy in our advance towards socialism, recognizes its legal status, guarantees its equality in right and duty before law, and protects the right to honest work and that of legitimate income of individual households and private persons and their right to hand down business enterprises to their descendants. It will create favourable conditions for these components to develop agriculture, animal husbandry, forest planting, aquaculture, exploit sea and water products, process agricultural, forest and water products, carry out agriculture services and develop various kinds of trades in the countryside. Violation of all the above-mentioned rights must be legally prosecuted; prejudices against individual and private economies must be eradicated.

The State encourages individuals and private persons to invest money, labour force, technology, etc., to develop production, all forms of cooperation between individual households and private persons, among people having

money, means of production and professional qualifications and able people; it guarantees the correct realization of the principles of free will, mutual profit and democratic management, never using constraints in the domain of cooperativization; it guarantees the principle of mutual profit in the organization of State and privately-run companies for the development of production and technological renovation to increase economic efficiency.

In regions with large areas of uncultivated land, the State can rent or give the right to use fields, forest land or water surface to individual households or private persons for them to carry out the production or exploitation. For forest land and land planted with long-cycle industrial crops, the usufruct can be conceded for one or two periods of exploitation. For water surface and land cultivated with annual industrial or food crops, the period of concession can be 15 — 20 years. During that period, they have the right to hand down the use of land to their descendants, and in case they opt for another occupation they are allowed to transfer their right to other people. Private and household companies are allowed to hire workers to meet the needs of production according to State labour laws.

4. Development of different forms of association and joint companies with various economic components

We must help to develop associations and joint companies with a view to increasing production and activating the circulation of goods under suitable forms such as: investment of capital, of labour force to develop agriculture, forestry and fisheries, sale of products, associations between production and research and techno-scientific

industries, between units of central echelons and those of provinces and districts, associations between State-run units and collective, individual, private and family ones, in which the State-run ones play the leading role, chiefly as to the technical guidance and technological methods, the supplying of materials, the processing or selling of products, in order to improve the quality of the products and economic efficiency, and step by step promote production from small scale to the large one of socialist production. The associations or joint ventures must be based on the principle of free will, equality, mutual profit, and follow the State regulations to this effect.

5. Companies, regional associations of enterprises and general national enterprises

We must check all the existing companies, general companies and associations of companies in order to eliminate those which are not necessary and consolidate those which are really efficient.

According to the concrete situation, the Council of Ministers decides to create general national companies in some important branches of production and business. This creation must be carefully thought over on the basis of developing production and business and it must unite favourable conditions of guarantee and avoid formalism.

General companies will have the following tasks and rights:

— Unified management of the whole branch in all the processes of production and business, from investments, production of raw materials, processing, conservation and transport of these to the place of sale (including

exportation), to the application of techno-scientific progress in production: elaboration of planning, policies, managerial regime, the formation and training of cadres and qualified workers specialized in this branch.

— Management of the budget for materials allotted by the State to purchase products on contract; close cooperation with all the regional levels in the working out of the planning, organization of production and business; stimulating the development of production along the line of management by branch associated with management according to territorial area.

The general companies which are entrusted by the State the task of direct cooperation with foreign countries are entitled to manage foreign investments, to carry out business and are responsible before the State for reimbursing the capital invested.

— Fully guaranteeing the right of autonomy in production, business, and financial independence of each unit-member and developing mutual assistance between different members of the same company.

— Guaranteeing favourable conditions for the production and the sale of products of the unit-members (including family, individual, private person) according to the economic agreements signed; avoiding the rivalry among sellers and buyers, especially with exported goods, thus artificially raising prices and causing damage to exportation.

— Guaranteeing the legitimate rights of the members, whether it is the producer of raw material or the processor, the producer of consumer goods, or the exporter; paying a certain percentage of the income to the central and

regional budgets; contributing to new constructions while maintaining the infrastructure serving the region of crop specialization.

— Organizing the purchase and sale, the processing and exportation of all agricultural products of the branch which belongs to the province; fulfilling export contracts signed with foreign countries; giving back to the responsible organs for domestic sale the products that have not attained the exportation criteria.

The relations between general companies and the ones managed by regional authorities themselves are those of equality and of mutual profit.

C. SOME PROBLEMS OF STATE MANAGEMENT IN AGRICULTURE

1. Transform the administrative apparatus at various levels and of ministries into management functions of the State in economy, completely entrusting the functions of management of production and business to grassroots economic units and to economic organs

At district level

The district level is a most important venue for reorganizing production, and the repartition of the socialist labour force, associating agriculture with the processing industries and agricultural services. The district level is the one for planning; it has an independent budget for itself. The district People's Committee is principally responsible for fulfilling Party directives and policies and State laws. The district level must build up and unceasingly improve the programming and planning of economic and social development in the district along the line of the common programming and planning of the province,

the branch and the organs which have the duty to carry out this programming and planning. The district level will have the task of directing the cooperation and controlling the production and business of the grassroots and economic units established in the district area and ensuring good conditions for them to realize their own plan adequately, creating infrastructures and economicotechno-cultural centres in each sub-area, directly guiding and organizing the building up of a new socialist countryside and unceasingly consolidating and intensifying the defence and security for protecting production and social life.

The socio-economic planning of the district must adequately implement the programming and planning of the common orientation and is built from the grassroots in order to develop the strong point, use all the economic potentials of the district, the central and provincial organs established within the area and all the sources of supply from higher levels in order to harmoniously carry out the production, ensure fair standards of living in the district and fulfil its obligations towards the State.

Economic units and organs of central and provincial branches whose field of activity extends all over the district must be supervised and controlled by the district People's Committee which has the tasks of carrying out the territorial planning of the district and paying part of their income to the district budget according to laws.

At village level

In villages having a cooperative corresponding to its scale, the village administration must carry out the task of State administration in economy of all economic components and that of social management within the village; the cooperative board of management is responsible for

the economic management of the cooperative and the relations between the latter and State-run organs.

In villages with many grassroots units of production, we must raise the cadres' qualifications and consolidate the apparatus of the village People's Committee so that it may perform its functions of State management in economy and social life. As to the State management in economy, the principal task of the village People's Committee is to carry out the district programming and planning within the village, lead and guide the economic units to build their own planning so as to make them appropriate to the common programming and planning, coordinate and supervise the activities of all units of production and business established in the communal area. The village People's Committee is responsible for the construction of the infrastructure, cultural and public works for cultural and information dissemination, launching of a movement for a new way of life, and guaranteeing order, security and carrying out a certain number of activities so as to build up a new socialist countryside.

The village budget is part of the State budget; the village level must correctly follow the State regulations on income and expenses.

2. Amendments in some great policies

a. Intensifying investment in agriculture

Adequate and concerted efforts must be made for the agriculture which must hold the pre-eminent position, first concerning the grain and foodstuff production according to the spirit of the Resolution of the 6th Party Congress and that of the 4th Plenary Session of the Central Committee, investments must be used correctly along the right direction, concentrating on key points and with real efficiency.

We must concentrate investments in money, tools and agricultural materials on the Mekong and Red River Deltas and the main regions of producers of agricultural products and goods. Priority must be given to the construction of water conservation, to techno-scientific research works and applications in agricultural production, particularly in case of quick efficiency.

We must pay special attention to branches of heavy industry directly serving agriculture and processing industries of agricultural, forestry, water and sea products. Mechanics must devise a concrete programme for serving agriculture, develop the production of agricultural tools and machines (we will not import the kind of agricultural and processing machines which can be manufactured at home and mechanical repairs). At the same time, we must enlarge and manage adequately import and export and external economic relations so as to meet in time the requirements of agricultural production in energy, chemical fertilizers, insecticides, ordinary and modernized tools, machines, etc.

A bank of investment for the development of agriculture must be set up immediately to grant loans at appropriate rates of interests to develop agriculture in order to help collective units and individuals to carry out production and prevent them from borrowing private capital at usurious rates of interests.

Besides State investments, collective and State-run economic units need to have many forms for mobilizing capital, materials and talented people in order to develop production and consolidate their own techno-material basis.

We must encourage Vietnamese people living abroad, having money in foreign banks and foreigners to

invest in Vietnam to develop agriculture, forestry and fisheries according to the State law on investments.

b) Supply of materials

The State will guarantee under economic contracts to supply materials and buy products, to supply chemical fertilizers, and fuel for ploughing, grinding, processing, etc., the paying back being made by various means suitable to concrete conditions. In the relations of economic contracts for the supply of materials and purchase of products between State-run economic organs and collective or others, many means of reimbursement can be applied: exchange of materials for products; supply of materials, the settlement made by products after some delay; and immediate payment with money obtained from the sale of materials. For many collective production units and families: those of martyrs, wounded or sick fighters, those having done great services to the Revolution, those lacking in manpower or being in a particularly difficult situation, State-run economic organs must institute special measures such as supplying materials beforehand and granting delays in reimbursement in kind, granting credits at reasonable rates, etc., to help those organs or households to carry out production.

Ministries in charge of production management (agriculture, forest and fisheries, based themselves on the projected plans of production of special branches and of local authorities, will make a proposal on the supply of material quantity, category, quality, time, place, etc.) and the quantity of agricultural produces bought according to the planning of material supply for the Committee of the State Plan to use as a basic document for drafting written documents of guidance about the building up of the planning. The regional and grassroots units must be informed

well in advance of the capacity of the central organs to provide supplies so as to be able to acquire necessary materials in time for seasonal timing of production.

We must quickly reorganize the system of organization and working methods in agricultural supply and transports from central units to each area serving production directly (districts, groups of techno-economic units at district level), see to it that materials are brought directly to the user with the adequate quality and quantity and at a fixed price (including the expenses of the transport of the materials to the user), in time for planning of agriculture, (according to the planning and economic contract); we must eliminate the intermediary steps in the delivery of State supplies at lower cost to the consumer. The district People's Committee is responsible for the guidance and control as to how everything must be done, from the signing and realizing of economic contracts between the supply units and those of material transport, to the purchase of products from grassroots units within the district area.

Besides the quantity of materials which must be determined according to plans, part of materials and means of production must be used for signing the contracts or sold according to market price to units of family economy and other economic sectors.

c) On the policies for encouraging foodgrain production, of taxes, obligatory work, problems of purchase and market

We must have a general policy for encouraging the development of foodstuffs and ensuring a satisfactory profit for the foodcrop grower.

The law on agricultural taxes must be observed strictly. The Council of Ministers must study how to improve tax policies and make a report about it to the National Assembly. Business taxes on industrial crops with high economic

value, especially in regions with high land rent, and taxes on gardens, must be fixed according to the income. Exaggerated additional taxes on peasants must be prohibited; the State must take concrete measures to this effect. Forest land and land for growing long-cycle industrial crops must be exempted from taxes so long as the land yields no profit. The exemption and reduction of agricultural taxes in case of natural calamities or crop failures must be done in time according to the peasants' collective petition, the evaluation and confirmation of the grassroots administration and the decision of the province People's Committee according to the State regulations.

The Council of Ministers has the duty of studying the policy of obligatory work of citizens so as to reduce working obligation for the peasants especially for women.

We must consolidate and intensify the system of socialist trade under many appropriate forms, transform State-run trade activities into socialist cost-accounting business, develop the countryside markets and the activities of trade co-operatives, encourage and create favourable conditions for the circulation of goods, including cattle, between different regions in the country. Regional administrations have not the right to raise taxes of circulation besides the State tax system. Business organizations must immediately pay the producing organs on delivery of goods but not keep the producing unit's capital.

d) Techno-scientific policy in agriculture

We must invest adequately in applied research and techno-scientific research; pay attention to the applications in production of the achievements of the biological revolution, and renovate technology, especially concerning technical progress in strains, species, in the use of natural

sources of energy as combustibles and small generators (such as methane, water energy, solar radiation, wind force). Meteorological forecasts and prevention of diseases of plants and domestic animals must be well-organized.

Transform step by step the bases of applied and experimental scientific research into organs using the regime of cost-accounting socialist business; encourage the organization of associations or science production; quickly and largely popularize technical progress in the management of production units.

The central level will directly administer the functioning of institutes of fundamental research and interdisciplinary research. We will create more sub-institutes of techno-scientific research and training schools in different regions for research and to train cadres more specially qualified to each region with different ecological conditions. The specialized institutes of branches will be administered by associations of enterprises and general companies.

Achieve a concrete division of labour in the production and management of the cultivated plants and domestic animals. For the species that have not been admitted yet by the authorities they cannot be introduced in the production.

The State will soon issue concrete policies and regimes of appropriate treatment towards techno-scientific cadres, encourage scientific inventions and discoveries, encourage highly-qualified cadres to work at grassroots production units, especially in regions with high potential which have not yet developed.

e) About complicated cases concerning the right of using land in the South

The Council of Ministers will base itself on the concrete situations to issue appropriate guidance for each region to teach them how to put into practice.

3. Reorganization of the managerial apparatus and the administration of personnel

Raising the efficiency of the managerial apparatus and the administration of personnel is a decisive factor in renovating the mechanism of management in agriculture.

a) Reorganization of the managerial apparatus

We must put an end to the situation of a cumbersome and dispersed apparatus, with sub-divisions overlapping on each other, and raise the efficiency of the managerial apparatus at all levels, the quality and efficiency of the working methods in the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industries, and those dealing with forestry, hydraulic power and maritime products, so that these ministries can carry out better the functions of State management in economy according to the new mechanism.

At the provincial and district levels, we must check and raise the quality of the managerial apparatus in agriculture so as to make it better qualified, more efficient, with fewer offices and greater ability to fulfil its function and tasks.

b) Reorganization of the administration of personnel

We must urgently reconsider the contingent of leading managerial cadres of all branches and regions and grassroots units so as to appoint them to posts more suitable to their qualifications and have them to follow in time refresher courses to raise their efficiency in

management. The content of these courses must be more practical, appropriate to the new Party policies, make the leading managerial cadres grasp the fundamental problems of management and give them basic understanding and knowledge as to the knowhow and technology of their own branch and social psychology. The people at the grassroots having both moral qualities and good professional qualifications must be chosen to follow those courses and given higher responsibility.

For technical and professional cadres we must increase the formation of technical engineers and of professional cadres in management for the units of production according to the following scheme: the units of production will send their cadres to follow training courses and these cadres will resume their offices at the end of the courses (for the time being, the State will allot part of the expenses for these cadres to follow the training courses, but in the near future, the units of production which have sent their cadres to attend them must assume the whole expenditure for their training).

The formation and fostering of agricultural workers must be developed. At the same time, an appropriate policy of favourable treatment must be devised to create a contingent of qualified producer-cadres in agriculture, with technical and managerial ability for the units of production in the country.

The network of schools must be better equipped so as to serve a rational division of work and a better scheme of hierarchy between the Central, province and district levels in their formation and train agricultural cadres. The content of the courses must be altered in function of the renovation of the managerial mechanism in agricultural economy.

D. SOME PROBLEMS IN THE BUILDING UP OF A NEW SOCIALIST COUNTRYSIDE

Resolving social problems and building up of a new socialist countryside must be closely linked with the development of production and the renovation of management in agriculture and carried out by accomplishing the following tasks:

1. Programming the setting up of a whole social-economic structure for each district and commune so as to create a harmonious coordination between different programmes, such as building infrastructures, agglomerations, houses, groups of techno-economic units, cultural, social and public works (such as schools, hospitals, infirmaries, crèches, cultural houses, information centres, stadiums, etc.) and the construction of groups of works for the defence and security within the area.

The programming must take into account long-term provisions for the future orientation of economic and social development, and at the same time determine that each stage of that development be appropriate to the conditions of each locality.

2. Realizing of the programme of building up a new socialist countryside characterized by solidarity among the inhabitants, welfare, a civilized and progressive way of life.

While carrying out the development of production and a just and reasonable distribution of the profit, we must efficiently solve the problems of family planning and rational repartition of the population, develop the system of mass media and the system of general education, vocational orientation for young country people, put an end

to alphabetism, improve the workers' qualifications; develop the system of communications in the countryside for the sake of economy, social life, defence and security, build up a new cultural life, a new socialist man and develop the tradition of combativeness, industriousness, courage, solidarity, faith and loyalty towards the Party on the way to socialism, with a wholesome, economical and progressive life, get rid of bad habits of superstition, and social vices still rampant in the countryside such as extravagant expenses on the occasion of ceremonies (funerals or marriage, drinking or gambling, etc.).

3. Democratization and carrying out in the open economic and social management so as to make the working people the real masters of the country's economic, political and social life, insuring the right to vote and to stand for election on the one hand and on the other making people respect discipline, law and encouraging them to live and work according to the Constitution and State laws.

Developing the State authority in socio-economic management of the organs elected by the people; encouraging the People's Council and the People's Committee to take part actively and effectively in the organization and mobilization of the people for the development of production, the building up of a new life according to the Party's programmes, common plans, directives, and policies, the control and supervision of the application of laws in the countryside, and to have regular contact with the people, meeting their requirements and authentic wishes satisfactorily and in time.

E. CONSOLIDATING THE PARTY GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATIONS AND THE ROLE OF THE PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATIONS

1. The Party's grassroots organizations in the countryside and in economic units of agriculture are responsible for leading all activities where they are established, strengthening their own structure both in political and ideological understanding so as to become really the leading nucleus and the key force in the construction of the new economy and new society. We must well perform the following tasks:

a. Transforming the Party lines, directives and policies and the State directives and laws into enthusiastic revolutionary activities among the people, and into realities of life in different regions and units by:

— Organizing in the Party a serious study of Party lines, directives and policies and State directives and laws and the tasks of the region and those of the unit, and afterwards, popularize them widely among the masses, encouraging the people to discuss in a democratic way about the work they have to perform, the organization of the emulation movement, the control and supervision by the people, so as to put into practice the motto "The people have the right to know, discuss, perform and control."

— Issuing correct directives to guide economic units, the administration units and the grassroots people's organizations in their application and realization of Party lines and directives, State policies and laws, thus making economic and social units play fully their role, exercise their responsibility and their initiative in the economic and social development and in the building up of a new countryside, each according to its own

function and tasks. The grassroots Party organizations will not intervene in the concrete activities of other organizations, but they must regularly exercise their role of leadership and increase their control over economic and grassroots authorities as to their realization of Party lines and directives, State policies and laws and management laws and rules of the grassroots; they must regularly make proposals to grassroots management units the major directives and measures for the realization of the common directives and policies of the Party and the State, renovating the managerial mechanism, building up and putting into practice the economic and social programme of the units, and developing of the right of mastery of the members, fulfilling the duty towards the State and seeing to the working people's welfare.

b. Performing their role of explaining the ideologies and policies, of building up the Party, developing the exemplariness of cadres and Party members, mobilizing the people to implement the Party policies and abiding by the State laws, launching a movement of emulation to renovate the economy and the economic and social programme of the unit.

Consolidating the Party by purifying it, strengthening and raising the combativeness of the Party grassroots units according to the spirit and content of the Party resolution; realizing correctly the principle of democratization in the Party's activities, raising the qualities of activities in Party grassroots organs, regularly organizing sessions of internal criticism and self-criticism and making the people take part in the criticism of the Party, Party members and cadres; resolutely dismissing from the Party those who have not been able to live up to the requirements of the Party and admitting in the

Party those who fully satisfy the requirements of the Party, having made themselves noticed in the people's ebullient revolutionary movement.

c. Making efforts to build up a contingent of cadres with moral qualities, energy, with cultural, technical, professional and specialized knowledge and administering this contingent adequately; energetically eliminating factionalism, red tape, monopoly and favouritism among the cadres.

Presenting good cadres for organizations at various levels to choose and to stand for election. Directing the election to ensure a democratic election.

Controlling and supervising the leading and management cadres in the realization of Party lines, directives and policies, State laws, the programming of the unit and in the guaranteeing of the right of mastery for working people, cadres, cooperative members and the population at large.

d. Rationally organizing the Party branch and cells in the countryside, guaranteeing for the Party members still at the age of active life the possibility of developing their leading capacity and their exemplary behaviour in the renovation of economic management, the development of production and business and the building up of a new society; as for members who are too old to work, they must be exempted from active work of production and have some activity appropriate to their age, state of health so that they can go on serving as examples, educating and mobilizing their descendants and the younger generation in the construction of a new socialist countryside.

2. Making the Associations of Vietnamese Peasants, the Union of Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth, the Viet-

namese Women's Union play fully their role in the State management, the economic-social management in the countryside, the social and ideological education of the peasants, mobilizing and stimulating the latter to take part in the emulation movement to develop production, renovate management, build up the new man, a new countryside, fulfil their duty toward the collectivity, the State, contribute to building the Party and the administration and struggle energetically to overcome the negative influences.

III

REALIZATION

We must start a large mobilization campaign to implement the Resolution of the Political Bureau concerning agriculture, launch an enthusiastic movement from the central level to the grassroots and to every worker.

1. Immediately organize the study of the Resolution of the Political Bureau among Committee members, administrative levels, management organs, the grassroots and working people, so as to make everybody thoroughly grasp the spirit and the content of the resolution, and transform them into concrete acts, starting from the regulation and realization of the 1988 plan.

2. The Council of Ministers must quickly institutionalize the Resolution of the Political Bureau into State legal documents. In putting them into practice, we must pay attention to the characteristics of mountain regions so that the latter have favourable conditions in every respect.

3. The levels and branches which have positive plans and policies must appoint qualified cadres to the grassroots. They must urgently organize a short-term training course on the renovation of management in agriculture, the realization of the policies and regimes of the State, this course being reserved to the important cadres of the grassroots.

4. Each level and each branch must make reports regularly on the realization of the resolution: the control must be done often; in 6 months' time, a recapitulative report must be made to identify the good results so as to develop them and deviations so as to rectify them in time. The Council of Ministers and all the Ministries related to agriculture must direct the realization of the resolution. The Central Committee for Agriculture of the Party is responsible for the supervision and control of the realization of the resolution and for making reports to the Political Bureau and to the Secretariat of the Party.

