

**KIM JONG UN**

**LET US ACHIEVE  
A COMPREHENSIVE  
DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIALISM**

**Foreign Languages Publishing House**

**DPR Korea**

**Juche 113 (2024)**

WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, UNITE!

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## **Let Us Bring About Innovations in Agricultural Production Under the Unfurled Banner of the Socialist Rural Theses**

Letter to Those Attending the National Conference  
of Sub-Workteam Leaders in the Agricultural Sector

*February 6, Juche 103 (2014)*

To coincide with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of the socialist rural theses, the Workers' Party of Korea has decided to hold this National Conference of Sub-Workteam Leaders in the Agricultural Sector in order to bring about innovations in agricultural production under the unfurled banner of the theses.

Attending this conference are exemplary sub-workteam leaders and officials in the agricultural sector who have overfulfilled their grain, vegetable, meat and fruit production plans by displaying patriotic devotion. By so doing, they have brought earlier the day when our people will enjoy an affluent and happy life to their heart's content.

I sincerely congratulate you; I also extend warm greetings to all working people and officials in the agricultural sector who have reliably defended the socialist agricultural front and to the service personnel and other

people who have rendered wholehearted support to the countryside under the Party's leadership.

By publishing *Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country* 50 years ago, the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung for the first time in history explained how the rural question could be solved. The theses is an immortal classic that provides perfect answers for all the theoretical and practical problems arising in solving the rural question; it is our Party's great programme for socialist rural construction. The great leader, by publishing the rural theses, performed an imperishable, historic exploit in accomplishing the cause of independence for the masses, the cause of socialism.

Since the publication of the rural theses, sea changes have been witnessed in socialist rural construction across our country.

The ideological and cultural revolutions have been promoted successfully in the countryside, with the result that the ideological and spiritual qualities of our agricultural working people have been transformed and great developments have been achieved in rural cultural life. Our agricultural working people have become dependable fighters on the socialist agricultural front who, equipped with the Juche idea and Songun idea and firmly rallied behind the Party and their leader, work with devotion to execute the Party's agricultural policies. Their cultural and technical standards have been raised to unprecedented levels and the rural villages turned into

cultured socialist ones; thus the differences between the urban and rural areas in terms of the cultured living conditions have been reduced considerably. Through the forceful promotion of the technological revolution in the countryside, great strides have been made in irrigation, the introduction of electricity and machinery in farm work, the use of agrochemicals and the realignment of the farmland across the country as befitting a socialist country, and the material and technological foundations of agriculture have been consolidated.

The historic sea changes that have taken place in our country's rural areas are clear proof of the validity and vitality of the socialist rural theses advanced by President Kim Il Sung. Our people, because they have this immortal programme for solving the rural question, have been able to create a brilliant example of socialist rural construction.

The rural theses is a great banner our Party will invariably hold aloft in socialist rural construction.

By carrying out the tasks set out in the socialist rural theses, we should bring about a fresh turn in rural construction in the new century and ultimately solve the rural question.

The countryside should promote the ideological, technological and cultural revolutions more forcefully.

It should direct primary efforts to the ideological revolution, so as to arm all the agricultural working people with Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism and train them into rural revolutionaries of the Songun era who work faithfully for

the interests of their community and society and for their country and fellow people and dedicate their pure conscience and sincere efforts unsparingly to the country's agricultural development. The agricultural working people should be imbued with complete faith in socialism and steadfast anti-imperialist and class consciousness so that they regard our style of socialism as their lifeblood, love it ardently and fight staunchly against the imperialists' moves for ideological and cultural infiltration.

If we are to successfully build the socialist civilized country our people desire and ultimately solve the rural question, we should step up the cultural revolution in the countryside. The countryside, upholding the slogan of making all the people well versed in science and technology, should actively propagate scientific and technological knowledge so that all the agricultural working people can learn the latest farming techniques and operate modern technical equipment skilfully; it should also ensure that greater numbers of agricultural working people are involved in the study-while-you-work system. Conditions should be created so that they can enjoy a cultural and emotional life to their heart's content and rural villages, by being laid out in a more cultured way, should be turned into a civilized and beautiful socialist paradise.

In line with the demands of the era of science and technology, the information era, the rural technological revolution should be promoted, thus making the material and technological foundations of the rural economy firmer

and steadily raising agriculture onto a higher scientific and modern footing. By comprehensively introducing machinery in the rural economy and widely applying agrochemicals, the differences between agricultural labour and industrial labour should be narrowed and the farmers completely freed from back-breaking labour. And by building new irrigation facilities and widely introducing a variety of modern irrigation methods while building on the successes already achieved in rural irrigation, irrigation system should be perfected.

The most important task facing the agricultural sector at present is to do farm work well so as to achieve a radical increase in agricultural production.

The agricultural front is an outpost in the battle for defending socialism and a major thrust of the effort to build our country into a socialist economic giant.

The imperialists, who are loath to see us prospering and living well, are stepping up the pressure and economic sanctions against our country; they are resorting to sinister schemes to force our people to experience food shortages in the hope of undermining the faith in socialism implanted in their minds. We must farm well by all means and ensure that the people have enough to eat; by so doing, we can smash the enemy's anti-DPRK, anti-socialist schemes. Now that our country has attained the status of a politico-ideological power and a military power, our style of socialism will remain unperturbed and we can push forward the revolution and construction boldly and at our



discretion whatever the enemy's moves, so long as we achieve self-sufficiency in food by farming well.

Since the agricultural problem is so important, our Party has defined the agricultural front as a major thrust of our effort to build our country into an economic giant, and this year it has called on the agricultural sector to hold high the torch of innovation in building a thriving socialist country.

In this significant year, when we are marking the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of the socialist rural theses, the agricultural sector must farm well and thus meet without fail the grain production quotas set by the Party and the state. And from 2015, when we will celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea, it must hit even higher grain production targets.

While decisively increasing grain production, the agricultural sector must bring about fresh innovations in vegetable, livestock and fruit production and all other branches of the rural economy.

In order to achieve a radical increase in agricultural production, the sector must do farm work scientifically and technologically in line with the demands of the Party's agricultural policies and the Juche farming method.

The Juche farming method is an invaluable asset which the great Comrade Kim Il Sung created and bequeathed to us. It is a method of farming of our own style that suits the actual conditions in our country, and an advantageous scientific and intensive farming method that enables us to reap high and stable yields, however

unfavourable the natural and climatic conditions.

Having defined the Juche-based and scientific farming method, which the great leader created with so much effort, as the Juche farming method, the great Comrade Kim Jong Il energetically led the effort to implement it. With clear insight into the demands of the developing reality, he advanced the Party's policy of an agricultural revolution in the Songun era aimed at applying the Juche farming method more comprehensively, and thus opened a new avenue for solving the rural question.

The key to increasing agricultural production in our country, where the area of arable land is limited, is to raise the unit-area yield to the maximum by doing farm work scientifically and technologically as required by the Party's agricultural policies and the Juche farming method.

The rural economy sector should strive to do farming scientifically and technologically so as to produce, for the present, more than eight tons of grain per hectare in the plain areas and more than five tons per hectare in the intermediate and mountainous areas.

First of all, seed production should be revolutionized.

The main thing in farming is seeds. The agricultural sector should recognize this and pay primary attention to solving the seed problem. It should develop strains that give high yields, require little fertilizer, are fast-growing and are resistant to drought, storms, pests and various other harmful factors in our country's climatic and soil conditions. While developing superior strains by itself, it

should also investigate the possibility of introducing high-yielding strains from other countries.

Seed selection should be improved. The agricultural sector should conduct seed selection properly on a scientific and technological basis and produce and supply good seeds to meet the needs of each region and cooperative farm. Modern seed processing factories should be built as required by the age of scientific farming, and a system established whereby all seeds are screened, sorted and coated in a comprehensive manner and supplied to cooperative farms.

Innovations should be effected in farming methods.

An important reserve for increasing agricultural production lies in radically improving farming methods in keeping with the latest trends in agricultural development.

Crops and varieties should be distributed on the principle of sowing the right crop in the right soil at the right time, and manuring and cultivation should be done on a scientific and technological basis.

Crops and varieties should be distributed in line with the regional characteristics and natural and climatic conditions. Crops that grow well in certain regions should be cultivated on a large scale there; the emphasis should be on rice and maize farming in areas where they grow well and on potato farming in areas where potatoes flourish. Since the natural and climatic conditions vary with each region and each farm and there are differences even between fields at the same farm, it is necessary to work out scientifically which

crop and variety are viable before distributing the most suitable ones.

Cooperative farms should carry out every farming operation in the right season and in the right way, based on scrupulous preparations for each process. There should be no tendency towards indiscriminately dictating to lower units when something should be done without taking into account the natural and climatic conditions and the specific regional characteristics, on the pretext of ensuring timeliness in farming.

It is important to apply fertilizer to crops in a scientific and technological manner during the manuring and cultivating process. It is necessary to apply effective fertilizing methods to suit the characteristics of the crops and the stage of their growth in order to ensure that larger quantities of grain are produced with less fertilizer. The practice of using only nitrogenous fertilizer should be eliminated, and phosphatic, potassic and silicon fertilizers and different kinds of microelement fertilizers should be applied in a balanced manner. Cooperative farms should rid themselves of the outdated practice of controlling the supply of water, fertilizers and agrochemicals by eye and hand measures, and turn to advanced manuring and cultivation methods based on scientific measurement and analysis.

Advanced farming methods and techniques should be widely introduced.

At present, the agricultural sector is researching and

introducing a variety of farming methods that boost yields drastically with smaller amounts of seeds, labour and materials, and they should be widely popularized. Cooperative farms should actively introduce double and triple cropping based on earlier and later crops, as well as intercropping, whose advantages have been proved in practice, and, while giving priority to grain-to-grain and grain-to-potato farming, conduct grain-to-vegetable and grain-to-cash crop cultivation scientifically and efficiently, thereby raising the rate of land utilization and the level of intensive farming.

Organic farming should be encouraged proactively.

Fundamental to organic farming is the production and use of large quantities of bio-fertilizer. There is a strong tendency among officials in the agricultural sector to think that they cannot do farming without chemical fertilizer, but they are misguided. Farming can be done properly with less chemical fertilizer if the soil contains lots of organic matter. The world's agricultural development is tending towards farming with bio-fertilizer, not chemical fertilizer.

It is necessary to apply large quantities of manure to paddy and non-paddy fields in order to fertilize the soil and increase unit-area yields sustainably. Manure production means increased grain production. The agricultural sector should direct efforts to manure production so as to turn out more than 20-30 tons of it per hectare of paddy and non-paddy fields. Cooperative farms should identify and make use of all sources of manure such as domestic animal excrement, night soil, compost and ditch-bed soil.

*Hukposan* fertilizer, which the great Comrade Kim Il Sung named and means a tonic for the soil, and organic compound fertilizer are highly efficient organic fertilizers. The agricultural sector should direct a major effort to the production of *hukposan* fertilizer and develop the production bases for organic compound fertilizer so as to increase its production.

We need to establish a reliable food production cycle for agriculture and animal husbandry. The establishment of such a production cycle is beneficial as it makes it possible to increase the production of livestock products and grain output by producing quality manure using the excrement of domestic animals. Cooperative farms should consistently adhere to the Party's policy of establishing such a production cycle and thoroughly implement it so as to reenergize animal husbandry and boost grain production.

We need to develop agricultural science and technology.

The agricultural science research sector should concentrate its efforts on solving the scientific and technological problems arising in carrying out the Party's agricultural policies, including the problems of seeds, farming techniques and the development of new farming machinery. Scientists and technicians in the agricultural sector, with the patriotic spirit of bringing about a bumper crop through substantial scientific and technological achievements, should adopt the urgent problems arising in agricultural production as their core themes and conduct their research purposefully and persistently.

It is important to act promptly in applying the achievements made in agricultural science and technology. The agricultural sector should remove the tendency to depend on old experience and make light of science and technology, and positively introduce scientific and technological achievements into agricultural production.

In order to increase agricultural production, it is necessary to protect the land already under cultivation and expand the grain cultivation area.

Land is the main means of agricultural production and a precious asset for the country, to be handed down generation after generation. The rural economy sector should put great efforts into protecting the land so as not to lose any areas currently under cultivation. It should undertake tree planting, river improvements and structural repairs and maintenance efficiently and on a regular basis in order to prevent crop land from being inundated and washed away by flooding in the rainy season, and push ahead in a planned way with building terraces with grass-covered slopes where crop land is on a slope to protect it from natural harm. Along with this, it should make proactive efforts to restore arable land that has been washed away by flooding and retrieve lost areas of land according to the land distribution map. In particular, the practice of misusing and wasting land should be stamped out. Strict discipline and order should be maintained to prevent such illegal practices as violating crop land and misusing it for other purposes,

and administrative and legal control over such practices should be tightened. Steady efforts should be made to reclaim tideland in order to bring new land under the plough, and various other methods employed to increase the area of land under cultivation.

Agroforestry is a good way of increasing grain production by making effective use of forest land. General Kim Jong Il said that all the mountains should be turned into “mountains of gold,” into “mountains of treasure,” where we can obtain materials for producing food and clothes. Cities and counties should identify suitable sites for agroforestry so that it can be undertaken on a large scale and grain production increased, and step up the reforestation of mountains.

The agricultural sector should improve the structure of agricultural production to make it grain-oriented, and thus boost food production to the maximum. As solving the food problem is the most pressing demand facing us, we should reduce the area in which non-cereal crops are grown as much as possible and expand the area of rice and maize cultivation. The Cabinet should conduct an overall survey of the utilization of land under cultivation by units outside the Ministry of Agriculture, assign each of them a grain production quota and see to it that it is met without fail.

The agricultural sector should launch a vigorous drive for doing all farming by its own efforts.

The masters of agricultural production are the officials and working people in the agricultural sector. Farming by



their own efforts is a duty devolving upon them. Although it is not easy in the present conditions for cooperative farms to do farming by their own efforts, it is by no means impossible. The several exemplary cooperative farms associated with the leadership exploits of the President and the General are overfulfilling their grain production plans and increasing the income of their farmers by inspiring their self-awareness and enthusiasm and carefully organizing all farming operations. All other cooperative farms should emulate them and launch a brisk drive to do farming by their own efforts.

The sub-workteam is the grass-roots unit in the countryside, and it occupies an important position in the development of the rural economy and agricultural production.

Only if sub-workteams enhance their role is it possible to develop the socialist rural economy and bring about innovations in agricultural production.

Full play should be given to the advantages of the sub-workteam management system.

The sub-workteam management system created by the President is an excellent form of organized production and a superior method of management, in that it encourages farmers to take part in production and management as befitting masters with the feeling of attachment to the collective economy. Its advantages have clearly been proved through practice.

The agricultural sector should, by operating the system

effectively as required by the developing reality, bring the farmers' sense of responsibility and creative enthusiasm into full play. It should give the farmers clear-cut tasks related to soil management, farming operations and the production plan, review the results promptly and in detail, and thus encourage them all to work responsibly, conscientiously and enthusiastically as befitting masters. Recently a decision has been taken to introduce a field responsibility system within the framework of the sub-workteam management system so as to inspire farmers with enthusiasm for production. By applying the system correctly in conformity with the actual conditions, cooperative farms should ensure that it proves effective in agricultural production.

It is important in operating the sub-workteam management system to abide strictly by the socialist principle of distribution. Egalitarianism in distribution has nothing to do with the socialist principle of distribution and has the harmful effect of diminishing farmers' enthusiasm for production. Sub-workteams should calculate the daily work-points of their members accurately and in good time according to the quantity and quality of the work they have done. And they should, as required by the socialist principle of distribution, share their grain yields to their members mainly in kind according to their work-points after excluding what has to be set aside for the state. For this, it is important to eliminate such practices as dictating on the

sub-workteams large quotas of grain for compulsory purchase in disregard of the actual conditions of the countryside or collecting a larger amounts of grain on this or that pretext from the sub-workteams that have overfulfilled their grain production quotas, thus dampening farmers' zeal for production. The state should define reasonable quantities of grain for compulsory delivery on the basis of an accurate calculation of the country's demand for grain, the interests of farmers and their living needs, thereby ensuring that they make redoubled efforts with confidence.

Sub-workteam leaders should enhance their role and sense of responsibility.

They are the rural hardcore on whom our Party relies in solidifying its socialist rural position, as well as the primary leading members of the rural communities, who organize and execute farming and the management of sub-workteams. How they perform their duties decides whether the Party's agricultural policies are implemented or not and whether the advantages and vitality of the sub-workteam management system are displayed or not.

All sub-workteam leaders should be fully aware of the Party's intention in convening this conference of sub-workteam leaders in the agricultural sector as this year's first conference, and carry out their duties responsibly and with credit.

First, sub-workteam leaders should become active defenders, propagators and implementers of our Party's

agricultural policies and Juche farming method.

They should regard the Party's agricultural policies and Juche farming method as an absolutely correct guideline for action and their unshakeable faith, and staunchly defend them in all circumstances and under any conditions. They should be better-versed in them than anyone else and actively explain and propagate them to farmers. They should ensure that all farm work is done in conformity with their requirements, and regard the production plans assigned to their sub-workteams as a battle order issued by the state, and carry them out without fail.

Second, sub-workteam leaders should become genuine masters of their sub-workteams and skilled commanders who conduct farming and the management of their sub-workteams responsibly and creatively.

By working out a long-term plan for every farming operation in keeping with the actual conditions in their sub-workteams and distributing labour and organizing farm work scrupulously, they should ensure that all types of farm work are carried out in terms of quality and on time. They should be determined to make themselves the foundation of a rich harvest and take the lead in performing difficult and backbreaking farm work, getting up earlier and sleeping less than others. They should always rack their brains for ways to increase production and manage their sub-workteams better. They should do away with any subjective and arbitrary behaviour and enlist the collective wisdom and creative initiative of their sub-workteam

members; in this way they can continuously improve the management of their sub-workteams.

Third, sub-workteam leaders should become truly solid farmers of the new century who are well-versed in all types of farm work and knowledgeable about modern agricultural science and technology.

They should be versatile farmers, who are knowledgeable about modern agricultural science and technology and able to operate various kinds of farm machinery skilfully. They should be sensitive to the new, have a strong enterprising spirit and be bold in introducing advanced farming techniques and methods and good experiences.

Fourth, sub-workteam leaders should become dutiful “caretakers” of the public property at their farms.

In cooperation with the members of their sub-workteams, they should value and take good care of the land, farm machinery, draught cattle and farm implements as they would do their own property and their own flesh. They should ensure that all the members of their sub-workteams take part in production and management with a high degree of awareness of being masters of the collective economy and keep them from treating farm property and agricultural produce carelessly, and wasting them.

Fifth, sub-workteam leaders should become the “elder brothers” or “elder sisters” of the members of their sub-workteams who love and look after them as they would do their own family.

They should be equally kind to all the members of their sub-workteams, ignoring the differences in their dispositions, habits and levels, work with them well and thus make all of them members of the great socialist family. They should care for them with all sincerity, be concerned about their lives before their own and take responsible care of them. They should always treat the members of their sub-workteams politely and live in harmony and optimistically together with them, sharing joy and sorrow with them. In this way they will be called “our sub-workteam leader.”

Our Party puts great trust in and has high expectations of sub-workteam leaders. By performing their duties with a clear understanding of them, sub-workteam leaders should become pacesetters and standard-bearers in the countryside who raise fierce flames of innovation in agricultural production.

State support for the countryside should be stepped up.

To render support for the countryside is one of the basic principles of socialist rural construction specified in the rural theses. Without the state giving its support to the countryside it is impossible to put agriculture on a scientific and modern footing and to achieve steady growth in agricultural production.

The state should scale up its investment in the agricultural sector and ensure a better supply of materials for it. What is important in the state’s support for the countryside is to ensure the timely supply of fertilizer for

agricultural production. Fertilizer means rice. Sufficient electricity and coal should be supplied to the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex and Hungnam Fertilizer Complex, the arsenals for the socialist agricultural front, so as to allow them to normalize fertilizer production at a high level. In addition to nitrogenous fertilizer, they should produce and supply phosphatic, potassic, silicon and various kinds of microelement fertilizers. We also need to provide rural communities with large quantities of modern farm machinery, including tractors, and ensure the adequate supply of electricity, fuel, PVC sheeting, agrochemicals and other requisites for farming, when they are needed.

It is also important to give manpower support to the countryside. Since the mechanization of agriculture is not yet up to standard, people across the country should turn out to help the farmers in their work. Manpower support for the countryside should be organized rationally as appropriate to the actual conditions in each region and at each cooperative farm, and volunteers should be encouraged to work with care from the standpoint that they share responsibility for farming with the farmers. Along with increasing the support for the countryside, we need to stop the workforce and farming equipment at cooperative farms being diverted to other projects that have nothing to do with farming.

It is essential to enhance the role of the Cabinet and the agricultural guidance organs.

Whether or not a radical turn can be effected in agricultural

production by concentrating efforts on farming depends largely on the role played by the Cabinet and the agricultural guidance organs.

True to the Party's intention of focusing on the agricultural front in building a thriving nation, the Cabinet should carefully arrange, organize and command economic activities on the principle of concentrating efforts on agriculture and offer timely solutions for the problems arising in agricultural production. Cabinet officials, on the plea of the difficult economic situation in the country, should not simply issue supply plans to the agricultural sector and remain desk-bound, pressing their subordinates to execute the plans quickly. Instead, they should visit the sites of production, identify bottlenecks and take proactive steps to resolve them.

The agricultural guidance organs should command farming operations with the attitude of taking responsibility for the agricultural front. It is of decisive importance to root out the subjectivism, bureaucratism and formalism that are deep-seated in the guidance of farming operations. The agricultural guidance organs should make technical guidance the main aspect of directing farming operations, popularize advanced farming techniques and methods, and make precise demands on cooperative farms and give substantial help to them so that they do all their farm work in a scientific and technological way.

Party guidance to the agricultural sector should be intensified.



Party organizations should orient their work towards championing and glorifying the immortal achievements made by the President and the General for the country's agricultural development and implementing the agricultural policies put forward by the Party.

They should conduct effective political work aimed at giving free rein to the spiritual strength of the officials and working people in the agricultural sector.

The key to increased agricultural production lies in giving full play to the spiritual strength of the officials and working people in the agricultural sector. Party organizations should see to it that they cherish and apply Kim Jong Il's patriotism in practice and learn from the heroic spirit of the farmers of the older generation who strove to produce food grain amid the flames of war. They should move the theatre of their political work to the fields and, through intensive motivational work, inspire the farmers there with zeal and vigour and make all fields seethe with the struggle for increased grain production.

Model units should be created in the countryside, and all other units should launch an emulation campaign to overtake them. To create a model unit and make it a spark igniting flames among other units is a traditional method of work for our Party. Party organizations should create model units by motivating the relevant units to develop into such on their own, not by giving help to them, and encourage other units to compete with one another to surpass them. Even at a single cooperative farm a model workteam and a

model sub-workteam should be created, and other workteams and sub-workteams should be encouraged to join the campaign to outdo the leading ones.

The position and role of county Party committees are very important in solving the food problem by carrying out the Party's agricultural policies. The most important duty of a county Party committee is to push the county under its charge to farm well. It should actively encourage the officials of the county cooperative farm management committee and other administrative and economic organs to make effective arrangements and provide guidance to create successful innovations in farming with a high sense of responsibility, and correct any deviation before it is too late. It should give effective Party guidance to all its subordinate organizations in the rural areas so as to ensure that they unfailingly fulfil their agricultural production plans by bending their every effort to farm work.

It is important to build up the ranks of sub-workteam leaders. Party organizations should form their ranks with those who are loyal to the Party, ardently patriotic, technologically competent, and able, and help and lead them so that they live up to the Party's and the people's great expectations by increasing grain production.

I am of the firm belief that all the officials and working people in the agricultural sector, full of confidence in victory, will bring about a fresh turn in agricultural production under the unfurled banner of the socialist rural theses.

## **Let Us Make Our Capital City Even More Splendid by Building 50 000 Flats**

Speech at the Groundbreaking Ceremony  
for a Project to Build 10 000 Flats in Pyongyang  
*March 23, Juche 110 (2021)*

All the builders and service personnel who have turned out in this worthy project for improving our capital city,

Today we have the honour to be creating another significant landmark in the history of Pyongyang's development.

The Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Second Plenary Meeting of the Party's Eighth Central Committee held earlier this year took the decision to construct 50 000 flats in our capital city during the five-year plan period by building 10 000 every year, while pushing ahead with housing development across the country.

The most worthwhile and glorious revolutionary undertaking of all the momentous and gigantic fighting tasks decided by the Party Congress is being fully launched today.

Building 50 000 modern flats in Pyongyang, the capital of our great country, is something our Party has long intended, prepared for and aspired to, in order to provide its

citizens with more cultured and stable living conditions.

The Party and the government, having made themselves aware of the number of families that were in need of new houses, conducted in-depth research to determine the measures for solving the problem. They regarded this project as their most important task.

Having willingly acknowledged that this colossal project would be an honourable revolutionary task that it must implement without fail, however challenging the conditions and environment, the Party Central Committee reaffirmed that its architectural development plan and construction policy would be based on the principle of applying the people-first principle more thoroughly.

It redefined the orientation and priority of the work, ensuring that a significant part of the state construction budget was allocated for building houses. Then, with the plans and preparations already made, it introduced the policy of building 50 000 flats at its Eighth Congress.

This large-scale house-building programme introduced by our Party and state is not designed for the pursuit of financial profit; it is an ennobling undertaking to turn the state's assets and the fruits of their creative labour into benefits for the working masses.

If, starting today, we build 50 000 flats by 2025 when we will mark the 80<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary of the Party—10 000 flats every year—we will have built almost 70 000 flats, including the more than 16 000 that are currently under construction. Thus we will have solved, once and for

all, the problem of housing for the citizens of the capital.

Carrying out such an audacious and expansive house-building programme in the capital is very important also in demonstrating the unquenchable fighting spirit of our state and people as they continue their bold advance in the face of manifold difficulties.

As you must all be aware, a great deal of thought went into deciding on this project.

To be honest, that a project on such a massive scale could be launched in today's circumstances, when the challenges and difficulties are harsher than ever before, is almost unimaginable.

The construction of 10 000 flats this year will be carried out in circumstances that are entirely different from when we started building Ryomyong Street five years ago; moreover, the amount of work we must complete in a limited time is many times greater than it was back then.

Yet our Party decided that the project must go ahead unconditionally, since it will have a direct impact on the life of the citizens of the capital, and since it is an important political undertaking in the first year of implementing the decisions of the Party Congress.

We have the proud dignity and courage that we are undertaking such a gigantic and magnificent project in the most trying times; we also have the self-confidence, experience and assets for completing it without fail.

By completing the iconic multi-storey, high-rise apartment buildings in the Songsin and Songhwa area, as

depicted in the artist's impression, by the end of this year, we will, once again, display to the full the power of our state and the creative strength of our people.

In the course of this, a further major advance will be achieved by our Juche-oriented architecture, and greater momentum will be gained in ensuring that construction serves the aim of creating a new life of our own style by our own efforts and with our own hands.

We will introduce the latest architectural techniques and construction methods, such as green architecture and dry-building, in an aggressive and innovative manner. We will also further expand and strengthen the foundations of the industrial bases producing building equipment and materials, and will work to make our construction units and builders stronger and more highly-skilled.

This grand construction project will be of monumental significance in the history of the capital's development.

The project of building 50 000 flats, which we are launching today, is a historic undertaking for creating modern, large-scale residential streets and expanding the urban areas of Pyongyang, the capital city, to the east, west and north.

Building 10 000 flats and distinctive public buildings every year in the Songsin, Songhwa, Sopho, Kumchon and September 9 Street areas will transform our national capital in a more magnificent fashion, and make these streets monuments to the most arduous yet glorious third decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The citizens and their offspring who will live in the new streets we are building will, for many generations to come, remember as heroes the builders of our era who overcame such terrible trials to build these huge, world-class architectural groups.

The large-scale construction project we are launching today is a truly great undertaking for writing a glorious chapter in our history.

Comrades,

Construction combines the intelligence of an era with the strength of the nation concerned, and represents a major stride towards a civilized lifestyle and development.

Today, as we advance to achieve development and prosperity, upholding the principle of our-state-first, this project will constitute a major area of thrust, symbolic of the era in which a fresh upsurge and transformation are being recorded in socialist construction.

Through this project we will make a further improvement to the appearance of our capital city and usher in an era of a fresh dynamic advance, in the course of which socialist construction will be confidently developed, step by step.

In the planning of this massive project, the Party Central Committee paid primary attention to forming the major forces that would play the main, most powerful role.

First and foremost, in the decision-making process, it put its trust in our revolutionary armed forces, which are boundlessly faithful to the Party and the people.

The People's Army, while performing its mission and responsibility of staunchly defending the country and people, has always played a major role in making life better for the people.

It has performed heroic feats in numerous grand construction projects and in the rehabilitation of areas ravaged by natural disasters. Only when it undertakes major projects can victory be guaranteed in our overall construction work.

No one knows our People's Army as well as I do.

I am convinced that the officers and men of the People's Army will, by giving full play to their militant traits in the creative struggle for carrying out the construction work, prove themselves fully worthy of the expectations of the Party and the people.

This grand construction project also involves several major civilian construction units. These include the Capital City Construction Commission, High-Speed Youth Shock Brigade, Revolutionary Site Construction Bureau and External Construction Bureau. They have all performed outstanding exploits in other major construction projects, including that of Ryomyong Street.

Success or failure in this grand construction project is dependent on the leading officials, service personnel and civilian builders who are directly responsible for it.

The policy on construction of our Party and state, and the guidance they give to it, are ultimately translated into reality by the leading officials with their creative



enthusiasm and endeavours, and by our builders, in whose ardent patriotic spirit and skill our Party believes, above all else.

The task facing the design sector is paramount.

Construction is a highly creative undertaking, and buildings are becoming aesthetically appealing, artistic, multi-functional and intelligent. This adds to the importance of the design.

What our Party asks of the design sector is that every single dot and line placed on a blueprint should reflect the ideology, essence and vibrant spirit of our times and embody the noble ideals and standards of a civilization that can proudly take the global lead.

Based on the street formation and design plans that have already been decided and issued, the designers should ensure that all the designs for the buildings are perfected so that they fully embody the Party's concept of architectural aesthetics, and should submit them to the construction sector as soon as possible.

All the construction units responsible for building operations should start work immediately and execute their daily, weekly and monthly plans without fail, in accordance with the schedule of completing the buildings' frameworks within the first half of this year.

Every construction detachment and unit should focus its main energies on improving the quality of construction, and consistently hold fast to the principle of ensuring quality throughout the construction process.

If every official and builder maintains at all times the stance and attitude that their loyalty, patriotism and conscience will be proved by the Party, the state, the people, posterity and history, all the structures will become outstanding creations of our times both in name and in reality.

The construction supervision sector should, by enhancing its role, ensure that the construction policy of the Party and state is executed, the people's demands and interests are met in full, and the safety of what they build is guaranteed.

The materials and equipment needed for the construction of 10 000 flats must be supplied on a priority and timely basis.

The factories and enterprises that have been assigned to the production of cement, steel and various other building materials and equipment should fulfil their production quotas properly and on time by giving full play to the revolutionary enthusiasm and creativity of the working class. By doing so, they can ensure the success of the housing construction in the capital.

The railway and other transport sectors should launch a vigorous campaign for stepping up transport to ensure the prompt delivery of the materials needed at the construction sites in the capital and at the bases where the steel and other building materials are being produced.

We should give precedence to political work and the ideological offensive in all our undertakings. Doing so will

encourage the soldiers of the People's Army and the other builders to give full play to their loyalty, patriotism and creative wisdom. It will also ensure that all the construction sites are seething with high spirits, from a project's beginning to its end.

Ultimately, it will ensure that we not only enlist the masses in the worthwhile construction struggle, but also turn the capital city's massive construction sites into fierce revolutionary battlefields and excellent schools where a new spirit of the times is generated and courageous activists and stalwart socialist working people are trained.

Taking good care of the health and living conditions of the soldiers and other builders engaged in the construction should also be treated as a matter of utmost importance.

In keeping with the requirements of the national emergency epidemic prevention system, throughout the construction sites epidemic prevention stations and facilities should be built and a climate of observing the epidemic prevention regulations voluntarily and thoroughly should be established. Preventing accidents and disasters and ensuring that the builders engage in their work without inconvenience should be the focus of our utmost concern.

Supply services for the soldiers and other builders should not be left solely to the units concerned. Rather, the state supply system should be scrupulously observed to ensure that each builder is given his exact entitlement.

Comrades,

Today we are breaking the ground for this project, and

in several months' time a brand-new street for the people, a splendid architectural group we can all be proud of, will be built here.

Nothing is more worthwhile, honourable, or happier, for us than to dedicate our sweat and passion, without hesitation, to building an ideal street that will be a warm cradle for our people, who are the best and greatest in the world.

For the future of our more beautiful and magnificent capital,

For our parents, brothers and sisters, sons and daughters who will create and enjoy here a new, more cultured life to their heart's content, and

For the brilliant implementation of the decisions of the Eighth Party Congress,

Let us all fight with vigour!

## **Let Us Launch a New Revolution in Construction to Lead the Way in the Development of Our Own Style of Socialist Civilization**

Letter to Those Attending the Second Grand Short  
Course of Officials in the Construction Sector  
*February 8, Juche 111 (2022)*

At a time when, in this significant year, every sector of socialist construction is seething with revolutionary enthusiasm for writing another glorious page in the history of the country by carrying out the decisions of the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Second Grand Short Course of Officials in the Construction Sector has convened.

Currently, in line with the Party's far-reaching plan, we are ushering in a new era of grand construction aimed at once again transforming the whole country beyond recognition. Officials in the construction sector are active on a major front of creation and transformation, and on this occasion they have gathered to review and analyze the successes achieved, the experiences gained, the mistakes made and the lessons learned in the construction sector in recent years and to rearm themselves with our Party's idea on architecture and its policy on construction. This is

quite opportune and meaningful.

I warmly congratulate the officials in the construction sector who are participating in this short course. They have a soaring will to demonstrate the level of development and dignity of our Juche-oriented architecture, which has reached a higher stage in the struggle for opening up an era of a fresh upsurge, an era of comprehensive development, in socialist construction.

I also extend warm and militant greetings to all the other builders and soldiers who are creating legends of construction in the era of the Workers' Party by giving full play to the strength and mettle of our state at the grand construction sites where a civilized and prosperous powerful country is being built, true to the call of the Party.

At the current stage of the struggle for achieving a fresh victory in socialist construction, when we must show the greatest determination in the worst-ever conditions, the position and role of the construction sector are vital. When this sector is advancing dynamically in the vanguard, developing our contemporary civilization ahead of all other sectors, the revolutionary mettle of the people and their zeal for struggle can be steadily heightened, our style of socialism can make vigorous progress, and the dawn of a great, powerful country will come earlier.

This is why our Party attaches such great importance to this short course and hopes that it will constitute a turning point in developing and achieving a fresh leap forward in Juche-oriented architecture.

The previous Grand Short Course of Officials in the Construction Sector, which was a first in our country's history of construction, established an important milestone in ushering in a golden age of construction by fully applying our Party's people-first ideal of architecture.

The short course brought about innovative changes in the way officials in the construction sector think and act, and as a result our architectural design and our execution of building work have developed beyond recognition. We have gained the experience and laid the foundations for designing creative and unique structures as we like, free from the conventional and stereotyped patterns of the past. Moreover, our construction workers have grown in strength and raised the level of their technical skills to a much higher level.

Measures have been adopted that have developed the material and technical foundations of the building-materials industry, the arsenal for grand construction, and progress has been made in producing finishing materials domestically.

In short, at a time when construction is entering a golden age, our Juche-oriented architecture and construction sector are recording remarkable development. They have created numerous monumental structures of which we can be proud before the world.

Architectural projects have been carried out for holding the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il in high esteem for ever and adding eternal

brilliance to the Party's glorious revolutionary history, traditions and achievements. This is the priceless success born of the ardent loyalty and devoted efforts of the officials and workers in the construction sector who have remained faithful to the inherent principles and mission of the Juche-oriented architecture.

Since the first grand short course, we have completed a large-scale project equivalent to building a modern street every year. We have erected wonderful structures that can serve as new standards and models for Juche-oriented architecture in urban, rural and industrial construction and in the construction of cultural facilities. Projects such as the seat and rural villages in the city of Samjiyon, Ryomyong Street, Mirae Scientists Street, Jungphyong Vegetable Greenhouse Farm, the Sci-Tech Complex and Yangdok Hot Spring Resort are permeated with the resourcefulness and talents of our designers and builders. They stand as masterpieces of Juche-oriented architecture revealing the new face of civilization in the era of the Workers' Party.

In the last year alone, we achieved a breakthrough in hitting the target of housing construction envisaged in the five-year plan by building 10 000 flats in the Songsin and Songhwa districts and by successfully promoting the construction of 5 000 flats in the Komdok area. Through the construction of the Pothong riverside terraced houses district in a characteristic way, we created a new form of architecture and accumulated rich experience that can be spread across the country. Other brilliant successes were



recorded at construction sites across the country, such as those of the Pyongyang General Hospital, which will fulfil a promise from the Party to the people, and the Wonsan-Kalma Coastal Tourist Resort, as well as the project for establishing a C1 chemical industry and the Tanchon Power Station, and renovating the regional-industry factories in Kimhwa County.

A success we recall with a special sense of pride is the sprucing up of Samjiyon, a project of great political and strategic significance for our Party, state and people. Through this project we demonstrated the faith of all our people and their will to defend the revolutionary traditions of the Party and glorify for ever the revolutionary achievements of the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il. We also created a model of regional construction and dedicated a gift of loyalty for the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of General Kim Jong Il. Availing myself of this opportunity, I extend heartfelt thanks to all the people, builders and service personnel across the country who, in a demonstration of their unalloyed loyalty to the Party and their leaders, devoted their strength and wisdom to the project and were unsparing in their material and moral assistance.

Our grand socialist construction has proceeded without a moment's interruption, in a manner that is unprecedented in its huge scale and boldness, in a characteristic and modern way, and on a three-dimensional basis, even though our state and people are faced with the

harshest-ever challenges and obstacles and despite the intense struggle for achieving the great cause of building up our national strength and of transforming several other sectors through innovation. This is a powerful demonstration of the firm faith, extraordinary creative spirit and boundless patriotic enthusiasm of our people, who are advancing steadily towards the bright future of socialism without flinching in the face of trials, and of the level of development and potential of our state, which is striving to hit a hugely ambitious goal.

In looking back with due pride on the successes we have achieved recently in catapulting construction and architectural art to a higher level, we are filled with optimism for the future bright development of Juche-oriented architecture. Still, we should conduct a proper review and analysis of our mistakes and deviations. We should learn lessons from them and overcome them, for the sake of the further development of Juche-oriented architecture that conforms to our far-reaching ideals and ambitions.

The construction sector currently reveals shortcomings that require prompt rectification, and there are many aspects of it that must be reinforced. Among the shortcomings evident in the design sector are those of failing to emphasize the uniqueness of every architectural structure and avoid repetition, to guarantee that they reflect the aesthetic tastes and emotions of our people, and to ensure their practicality in accordance with their purpose

and function. We still lag far behind in interior decoration, furniture and landscape design. In the case of construction methods, we remain inclined towards wet processing; there is also a conspicuous difference in ensuring the quality of construction work by construction units and by projects; we are too reliant on imports for finishing materials; and the rate of mechanization in construction work is very low. These are major factors impeding us in making a qualitative leap forward in architecture.

More serious still is the failure of officials in the construction sector to be fully cognizant of our Party's architectural ideals, its construction policy, and the Party Central Committee's intention to prioritize the construction sector in developing our style of socialism. Moreover, they have too limited a vision and insight for us to lead the world in construction.

The construction sector's material and technical foundations are not adequate enough to launch and push ahead with construction work without a hitch, as the Party has planned and intends. This, too, is a pressing issue that must be resolved without fail.

With this grand short course as the momentum, the Party intends to bring about fresh innovations in construction work overall, and thus effect another qualitative leap forward by Juche-oriented architecture so that it achieves the world standard. We have a large group of resourceful and talented designers and experienced construction officials and skilled workers who are capable

of taking charge and leading the way in the era of a new leap forward and the development of construction, as well as the ability to support any construction project, however grand. We should tap all these potentialities and raise the revolution in construction to a new stage. In this way, we can continue to write glorious chapters of Juche-oriented architecture in the history of socialist construction.

Our Party has unfolded a grand blueprint for radically transforming the living environment of all the people across the country within 20 to 30 years and making ours an ideal socialist country, a socialist paradise, which is admired by the world and where the people live in comfort and harmony, enjoying the highest quality and standard of civilization. The construction sector is at the forefront in translating this objective into reality.

Construction is an important part of political work. By making it possible for people to feel the benevolence of our Party's people-first politics and of our system first hand, and by encouraging among them an intuitive understanding of the criteria of creation we are aspiring to and the beautiful future, construction leads them to the civilization of a new era and inspires every one of them to devote themselves to the socialist patriotic cause, filled with pride in being the citizens of a great state and confidence in a better tomorrow. In this sense, the current revolution in construction can be defined as a worthwhile undertaking to create priceless assets for the country and, at the same time, a process of ideological education and

cultural revolution for enlightening people and driving them forward towards a bright future.

Construction is also a prerequisite for comprehensively developing socialism and improving the people's living standards. Moreover, it is a patriotic undertaking of lasting significance for creating a civilized future.

If we are so preoccupied with the prevailing challenges that we fail to focus our efforts on construction, we can neither cement the foundations for the development of the state nor furnish our people with a happy life. Construction is a hallmark of progress and renovation and an investment in the future. Only when we give precedence to construction and push ahead with it audaciously can we create fresh potential for sustained economic growth and expand the foundations for cultural progress, and thereby bring about the substantial changes that will be welcomed by people in every realm of state and social life. Our great people have bravely gone through the period of severe trials and training. By bringing about a revolutionary turn in construction, we should vividly show the world the ideals and ambitions our people cherish in their endeavours to make progress at the stage of a fresh upsurge in, and the renewed development of, the revolution, and demonstrate the dignity of a powerful country more dynamically.

We are creating all our structures on the strength of self-reliance, with an eye to the future and in the face of the current difficulties. They will remain as bases for the

well-being of our people and posterity, as solid assets for national prosperity and as historical monuments which will tell future generations of the level of the ennobling ideological feelings and creative wisdom of the people in the era of the Workers' Party.

All the participants should, by making the most of this grand short course, learn to bear deeply in mind the intention of the Party Central Committee to prioritize construction and lead the overall development of socialist construction by dint of innovative changes in the construction sector. They should master the Party's policy on construction and have a full grasp of the matters to be adhered to in future construction.

They should also clearly recognize the good points in construction to date, should understand what were the bad points, what were their causes and what can be done to rectify them, and should share their successes and experiences with one another. This will help them in advancing confidently towards bold innovation and development.

The basic orientation we must follow in construction at present is to prioritize construction projects for the people's well-being, at the same time as pushing forward with the industrial construction and land development that will consolidate the country's economic foundations.

A society's progress and prosperity are inconceivable apart from the level of its people's cultural life. In providing our people with better housing and an excellent

environment for enjoying cultural activities, we can apply the people-oriented policies of the Party and state and the original features of socialism in a more concrete way and bring about a positive change in the rhythm, habits and mode of the people's life and an improvement in their political consciousness and level of civilization.

The housing problem is a matter of greatest concern for our people and a principal issue in providing them with the tangible benefits of the socialist system. The core of the construction policy advanced by the Eighth Congress of the WPK is to make ours the first country in the world to have solved the housing problem. As the congress decided, 50 000 modern flats should be built in Pyongyang without fail; a mountain gorge city, a cultured mining city, of 25 000 flats with a unique character should be built in the Komdok area; and provinces, cities and counties should vigorously push ahead with their regional housing construction according to annual plans. If all this is done, we will basically solve the shortage of houses across the country during the five-year plan period.

In order to enable our people and the rising generations to study to their heart's content, attain a high level of knowledge and civilization and maintain good health, we should build many modern educational and public health establishments with excellent facilities and conditions so that the Party's plan to build ours into a civilized socialist country will be implemented at an early date. Based on the experiences gained and standards set so far, we should push

ahead strongly with modernizing the educational institutions, medical service facilities and pharmaceutical bases at all levels.

To enable our people to enjoy the reality of socialist civilization to the full, we should build, at the celebrated mountains and scenic spots across the country, cultural and tourist resorts that are in perfect harmony with the beautiful natural scenery. We should also continue to lay out distinctive parks and recreation grounds in all towns and villages, and set up modern, high-standard service facilities.

Our Party has put it forward as an important strategic line of socialist construction to fundamentally eliminate the differences between the capital city and provinces and between towns and rural communities.

With a view to stepping up regional construction, especially rural construction, in real earnest, our Party and the government of the Republic formulated a policy and adopted a law for the state to supply cement to every city and county every year on a regular basis. The Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK put forward the strategic task of building up all the rural villages in the country in such a way that they maintain the flavour of our style of socialism and clearly sustain their regional characteristics.

Sprucing up cities, county towns and rural villages is a worthwhile undertaking which is welcomed by our people and gives impetus to the construction of a civilized society. The state should increase its investment, true to



the Party's policy of regional and rural construction, and every province, city and county should raise the torch of a revolution in construction so that every provincial seat, city, county town and rural village is transformed into an ideal socialist one.

We should focus our efforts on industrial construction and land development so that fresh foundations for economic development are steadily laid.

The objective we must attain in industrial construction is to create fresh foundations for the development of the national economy, and to provide the working people with better and advanced working conditions by establishing and upgrading not only production lines but also all the industrial, cultural and welfare facilities. Buildings should substantially conform to the requirements of the new era in terms of not only their appearance, but also their operation and profitability.

For the present, efforts should be concentrated, with a view to bringing forward their completion, on the projects for establishing a C1 chemical industry, renovating the Kumsong Tractor Factory, building an energy-saving iron furnace and other major industrial construction projects of national significance. With the Jungphyong Vegetable Greenhouse Farm as a model, similar modern large-scale farms should be built, and the renovation of the cereal administration agencies in cities and counties, and of regional-industry factories, should be stepped up.

While directing efforts to building key infrastructure

such as railways, ports and power plants, which constitute the foundation of the country's development, we should be working persistently on such land administration projects as sea walls and hydraulic structures, river improvement and road construction. In this way, we can transform the country's appearance, and defend from natural disasters the people's lives and property and the material and cultural wealth they have created through such great exertion.

So, the construction tasks we are facing are enormous and challenging. But if we press ahead with them responsibly without interruption, with the mindset that doing so is an essential process in opening up a broad and smooth road for the state's development and securing a guarantee for improving the people's living standards, not only we, but also the coming generations, will enjoy the tangible benefits and, in the near future, our country will be transformed into a beautiful and ideal socialist country that is good to live in.

The first basic requirement that we should meet consistently in construction work is to establish thoroughly within it the unified leadership system of the Party Central Committee.

As I have just said, construction work, before being a task for creating material wealth, is an important undertaking to apply our Party's people-first politics, improve the level of the people's spiritual and cultural attainments and transform the country's look. Only when the unified leadership system of the Party Central

Committee is thoroughly established in it can construction work be carried out in line with the policy-oriented intentions and plans of the Party, which is guiding the comprehensive development of our style of socialism, and can all the structures created in our era properly embody the Juche-oriented idea and ideals on architecture.

At every stage of construction, from planning to completion, we should concentrate all our thoughts and actions on implementing the Party Central Committee's plans and intentions. At the same time, we should make sure that the Party's policy on construction is the one and only guideline and absolute standard in organizing and carrying out construction projects. A strict rule should be enforced whereby all construction-related matters are reported promptly to the Party and handled in accordance with the Party's conclusion. Only the design ratified by the Party should be adopted in any building, even when something more is wanted or could be done. Undertaking a project without receiving the Party's approval is an abnormal practice which should never be connived at.

The second basic requirement that we should always meet in construction work is to regard architecture as a political matter, an aspect of policy.

Our architecture, if it is separated from its political character, has no value. We reject the tendency to regard construction as merely a practical undertaking, as the pursuit of beauty alone and as art for art's sake. Making architecture political and policy-oriented is the core and the

seed from which Juche-oriented architecture develops. It should be our consistent policy to ensure that structures bear visual representation of the principle of regarding our Party, our ideology, our system and our nation as the best. This can be done by, for instance, displaying political slogans or catchphrases on them. All the structures we build should be lively ones that fully embody the Juche- and people-oriented character unique to our Party and state, our national traits, the people's aspirations and emotions, and the dignity and mettle of our great powerful nation.

The third basic requirement that we should meet consistently in construction work is to create and develop new, original styles of architecture that are representative and symbolic of the era of the Workers' Party.

Architectural style is a visual representation of the aspirations, aesthetic views, level of civilization and national strength in a particular period of time. We should create and introduce into overall construction architectural styles that are symbolic of the civilization in the era of the Workers' Party, typical styles of our own that encapsulate the features of the architectural art to which we aspire. In this regard it is important to ensure that every element of architecture embodies our national style, the spirit of the times and the mettle of innovation and creation. In other words, we should sustain our inherent style and features while meeting the requirements of modern architectural art in our own way.

The fourth basic requirement that we should meet

consistently in construction work is to ensure a high level of economic efficiency and practicality.

Construction requires a huge amount of human and material resources and, once it has been completed, it cannot be reversed—this is its unique feature. Depending on its purpose and standard, a construction project may powerfully lead social progress, or hinder it. Therefore, it should be carried out, based on a scientific calculation in close combination with the long-term national development plan. Moreover, throughout the whole course of the project, from drawing up the master plan to the design and building work, we should strive to achieve economic efficiency and practicality by adopting the optimum options. We should maintain the principle of profitability, actively encourage resource-, area- and energy-saving models in accordance with the global trend and the actual conditions in our country, and perfect every aspect of every structure so that it serves as a base for the growth of our economic potential and the development of our country's civilization and prosperity even after fifty years, nay one hundred years, to say nothing of today.

Keeping to this basic orientation and requirements in construction, we should turn out with a fresh resolve in an all-out effort to bring about a revolutionary upsurge in the era of grand construction.

If construction is to make the dramatic advance desired by the Party, progress and change should be achieved first in design work.

An excellent structure which embodies the Party's Juche-based idea of architectural aesthetic beauty and encapsulates the people's ideals comes from the design desk, and it is at this desk, too, that we take the first big strides towards a civilized socialist country.

Our Party demands that every single line and dot drawn on a blueprint should reflect the ideology, essence and vibrant spirit of the era of the Workers' Party and embody the standards of a civilization that can proudly take the lead globally. As for the architects who are charged with this task, what they need is the enduring perseverance with which to rack their brains and get an ingenious idea or inspiration that is consistent with the Party's idea and ideals and the people's aspirations, and with which they admit or yield to nothing that is not new.

Designers should think, study and strive every minute of their life, well aware that every design they produce will translate our Party's line and policy into reality and open up a bright future for their country.

The central task in architectural design is to maintain the Juche character and our national identity, sustain originality and convenience, and promote practicality and functionality.

As the Party has often stressed, the Juche character and our national identity are the lifeblood of architecture, while originality and convenience, practicality and functionality are the guidelines in drawing up architectural designs. The design sector, while

maintaining the principle of giving priority to convenience, aesthetic beauty and infrastructure construction, should, as required by our Party's construction policy, design all structures in such a way that they accord with the sentiments and aesthetic tastes of our people and with our actual conditions, are diverse and distinctive, and are fit for purpose. This will help to open up a new phase in architectural creation.

Its elevation is the face of a structure, where its attractiveness is primarily expressed.

It is important to avoid similarity and repetition and to sustain the individuality of all structures in designing the elevation. In other words, it is necessary to sustain the characteristics of the structural skeleton of a building while ensuring its formative and artistic beauty so that it is possible to tell at a glance from its outward appearance what it is for. In the elevation formation we should pay attention to finding an original seed that can intently reflect the mission, purpose and characteristic features of the structure and to thoroughly subordinating every part and detail to the seed. In particular, even structures with the same mission and purpose must be designed in harmony with their surroundings, without being repetitive and monotonous while preserving the characteristics of the area—whether mountains, coast or plain.

A structure's appearance should be attractive, and its interior, as well as being practical and convenient, should also be flawless in terms of its aesthetics.

A fundamental principle in interior design is to achieve the perfect combination of practicality, convenience, and artistic and formative beauty. Even though practicality and convenience are being emphasized, formative and artistic beauty should not be neglected, nor should practicality and convenience be overlooked because formative and artistic beauty are being stressed.

Attention should be paid to creating a rational floor plan based on the principles of fully meeting the functional requirements of the building according to its mission and purpose, maximizing the utility rate of the building area, and ensuring its convenience. At the same time, we should actively create and make use of new and diverse architectural formation methods of our own style.

The interior decoration is particularly important in architecture. It can be likened to an art. In interior decoration, the principle should be observed of sustaining modernity and our taste. We should improve the effect of interior decoration by employing such various decorative elements as folding screens and paintings and such methods of decoration as openwork, as well as by arranging the various items of furniture and fixtures in good harmony according to their purposes.

The design sector should pay special attention to encouraging national forms of architecture on a wide scale and designing the exterior and interior of structures so that they suit our national characteristics.

The formation plan for a structure acquires its detailed



features through technical design, and it is the technical design that guarantees that the quality, safety and technical engineering standards are met.

Scientific character, accuracy, rationality and delicacy should all be assured in the technical design. The design sector, in strict accordance with the formation plans ratified by the Party and the technical requirements, should present optimum technical design options which can guarantee the quality and safety of structures with less materials and manpower and fully satisfy the functional occupancy demands and the technical engineering demands while sustaining modern aesthetic tastes and decorative effects.

A considerable effort should be directed to drawing up a draft construction design budget. Those engaged in drafting the budget should eliminate such practices as creating a reserve or incurring waste as a result of an improper calculation of manpower, materials and funds. They should ensure that every single person-day, every gram of cement and every piece of steel is used efficiently.

A fundamental change should be brought about in furniture and landscape design.

At present, since the level of furniture design is not so high, items of furniture that are poorly-shaped, unattractive and inconvenient to use are being manufactured. Even though they may be made from good materials, they undermine the quality of the building's interior.

Furniture designers should hold fast to the principle of designing furniture that is fit for purpose, blends well with

the structure's character and its interior space, and caters to the tastes of the users. While attaching importance to making furniture that is varied, formative, multi-functional and light, they should switch from pre-assembled to flat-pack models and design all items of furniture to suit their purpose. They should encourage the production of light and good-looking furniture made not only of wood but also of various other materials, and choose colours that are congenial to that of the structure's interior space.

In modern architecture, landscaping plays an important role as a means of formation, and its standard is a yardstick for evaluating the level of a country's civilization.

As landscaping is another form of formative art, the design should be given priority, and the work should be carried out according to the design.

Landscaping designs should be drawn up in a characteristically formative and artistic manner and in such a way as to enhance the dignity of the building and sustain the natural scenery, taking into account the surrounding environment, the features of the terrain and the ecological characteristics of the garden plants. Landscape designers should guard against stereotypes in their work, and draw up varied designs, for example by planting trees of high ornamental value in groups, laying out lawns and flower beds in harmony and enhancing the natural beauty through a combination of such elements as artificial hills and rocks.

We should work effectively to widen the vision of landscape designers, should step up the research on

landscaping and should adopt methods that are widely used internationally, as suited to the situation in our country.

The design sector should draw up proper master plans.

Master plans should be drawn up on a long-term basis with an eye to more than 50, nay 100, years ahead, and with their ideals properly defined in line with the Party's intention. They should be based on a scientific calculation of the specific conditions and environment of the region and project and the direction of their development, while making sure their seeds and themes are sustained.

It is important in drawing up a master plan to define the central axis properly according to the area and project, to divide the districts clearly according to their functions, and to form architectural groups in such a way that they retain their unique features. In undulating areas it should be a principle to distribute buildings by making the most of the natural curves and slopes, while in flat areas it would be a good idea to divide them into square districts and settle the location of imposing buildings. Artistic interaction, compatibility and connection between buildings should be ensured in a smooth and refined way, while retaining the unique style of the individual buildings that constitute the architectural formation. In drawing up a master plan, the infrastructure networks, including the water supply, sewage treatment, electricity supply and telecommunications, should be carefully laid out so as to provide the people with the conditions and an environment in which they do not experience the slightest inconvenience.

In keeping with the global development trend, we should study and introduce alternative architectural design options, including green and smart architecture, so that we are competing with the world in terms of the level of our advanced architectural technology. Along with this, we should make a big effort to raise to the world standard the comprehensive level of our design in the construction of ports, railways, roads, bridges and everything else.

The design sector should eliminate subjectivism and formalism and ensure scientific accuracy and promptness in the guidance and deliberation of designs. It should fully realize cooperation and unity among design institutes by branches and systems so as to secure, from the stage of making an operations plan, a guarantee of victory in construction.

The quality of a structure is immediately the quality of the building work.

In ensuring the quality of building work, the primary task is to raise the level of what the builders do. Construction units should promote the efforts to ensure that builders possess the expertise and qualifications for completing any building task flawlessly. In particular, efforts should be made to strengthen the ranks of skilled workers who are good at finishing work. The overall level of technical skills should be raised by effectively organizing technical studies, skills transfer and competition among skilled workers and by forming construction workforce in a rational way so that novices learn and master the building methods while

working alongside highly skilled workers.

The construction sector should establish a proper quality control system, introduce advanced methods to this end, and never allow any concession or compromise concerning the quality of building work.

Construction units should strengthen the leadership bodies of building work that guide building work and provide proper guidance so that it can be done in accordance with the requirements of architectural engineering and aesthetics. They should also keep their workers fully informed of the standards of design and building work and the engineering requirements and make exacting demands on them so that these standards and requirements are fully met. They should conduct an incisive review of work with the focus on the quality. Builders guilty of bad habits and empiricism, who have violated the engineering requirements, should be called to serious account and made to put matters to rights.

The construction sector should overcome the deviation of attaching overriding importance to speed through crash campaigns on the pretext of completing a project by a fixed date, and give precedence to ensuring the quality of a building on the principle of prioritizing quality over quantity.

The quality and speed of building work can be improved by advanced engineering methods. The construction sector should launch a fresh innovation movement to introduce advanced building methods. It

should step up the research into and the invention of material- and labour-saving building methods, including the introduction of dry processing, and should perfect the method of coloured mortar plastering. Construction units should constantly investigate and apply advantageous and new building methods.

If we are to push ahead with construction without interruption at the level intended by the Party and according to our resolve, we need larger quantities of building materials.

In this new era, when the flames of the construction revolution are flaring up, something that is needed everywhere is cement. We should attain the goal for cement production set by the Eighth Party Congress by operating the existing cement factories at full capacity, pushing ahead with the expansion of their production capacity, and building modern cement factories in places that are suitable for cement production.

From this year on, the full amount of cement to be supplied to cities and counties should be produced, and supplied to them without fail.

In particular, the building-materials industry should achieve substantial results in carrying out the Party's policy of attaining self-sufficiency in finishing materials and producing a greater diversity of building materials in terms of type, shape and colour. We can proudly say that only the structures erected by our builders from our own designs and completed with the finishing materials of our own style

stand as symbols of Juche-oriented architecture.

The building-materials industry should push ahead forcefully with developing from our own resources the finishing materials that are needed for construction, and installing production lines for them. It should set proper standards and targets for the domestic production of finishing materials including not only tiles, stone materials, glass and metal and plastic materials, but also heat insulators, coating materials, waterproofing materials, wallpaper, vinyl flooring and wall panelling, and attain the standards and targets in a planned way.

It should strive to lower the production costs of finishing materials while improving their quality and increasing production. It should modernize production lines, proactively introduce advanced technologies for producing building materials, and standardize the building materials in terms of type, material, size, form and colour.

It should step up the research into green building materials, and study how to use various waste materials effectively in their production.

We should work effectively to protect and develop our building-materials industry. While increasing investment in the sector, the state should encourage, from the stage of the architectural design, the use of our own building materials, and adopt measures for restricting import of those finishing materials the demand for which can be satisfied by domestic production.

The Party's policy of making construction professional

and focused should be carried out consistently.

The key to making construction professional is to train specialized workforce capable of fulfilling any building tasks. It is a matter of course that construction should be undertaken on a mass basis, but the principle to be adhered to here is for specialized workers to undertake it.

The state should ensure that the specialized construction enterprises play their role to the full. It should take steps to readjust and reinforce those enterprises that are not playing their proper role, strengthen their workforce, and furnish them with modern construction equipment.

Construction enterprises should not simply depend on supplies from the state, but train their own technical forces, expand the ranks of their skilled workers, and obtain construction equipment and tools for themselves.

Construction should be conducted in a focused manner in strict accordance with the blueprint.

To this end, the initial planning should be done properly.

Not only the state but also provinces, cities and counties should make it an iron rule to regard the Party's policy on construction as their guideline, conduct a detailed assessment of their actual conditions, potential and possibilities, and, on this basis, set their annual targets to the minutest detail and meet them without fail. Construction should be carried out in a planned way with a proper orientation and a proper order of priority, in close combination with the long-term objectives for the



development of the national and regional economy and the improvement of the people's standard of living.

Once a plan has been completed, designers and construction workers, materials and funds should be supplied in a concentrated manner and in reasonable order, and the organization and command of the construction work should be arranged vigorously so as to finish the project on time. Such practices as pretending that they are doing something by conducting construction projects here and there out of a subjective desire and without any detailed calculation, or such as wasting labour, materials and funds by delaying construction, should be eliminated.

Substantial improvement needs to be brought about in making construction scientific and modern.

There should be a change first in the attitude of officials and builders towards, and their stand on, making construction scientific. As construction has a direct impact on the life and safety of the people and social and economic development, officials and builders should always be aware that the whole process of construction, from the foundation work to erecting the framework and the finishing, must be run through with scientific accuracy. They should rid themselves of the deviation of working haphazardly by relying on their experience while neglecting the scientific and technical requirements, and support every stage of a project, from the design to the building work, with science and technology. In particular, every one of them should adopt the stand of a master in introducing the achievements

of the latest science and technology.

Scientists and technicians in the construction sector should, by setting high objectives, launch a drive to conceive and develop new, advanced design and building methods, as well as building materials, equipment and tools, from a Juche-oriented standpoint.

They should organize seminars and symposiums at which, through broad discussions and debates on practical issues, new concepts and the experiences gained, they can find workable solutions, and learn and spread the positive achievements.

The educational institutions in the construction sector, including Pyongyang University of Architecture, should improve the level of their teaching in conformity with our Party's idea of Juche-oriented architecture and with the demands of the developing modern architecture, and should produce a larger body of talented individuals who can shoulder the future of our architecture. Graduates of universities and colleges in the construction sector should be appointed to fields that are related to their major, such as design institutes and construction enterprises, so that they can play the key role in putting construction on a scientific basis. Construction units, for their part, should discover talented individuals and make strenuous efforts to train them into standard-bearers in the development of their respective units. Officials and builders should steadily raise the level of their knowledge by making active use of the system and means of disseminating science and technology.

The greatest weakness in our construction sector at present is that it is not modern. It is usual practice to mobilize a large workforce ahead of a state construction project. This means there are regular manpower problems, the work of other sectors is affected, the speed and quality of construction cannot be ensured, and large quantities of materials are wasted. Conducting manual work at crowded construction sites still today, in the era of the knowledge-based economy, is inappropriate to our architecture's level of development.

We should regard modernizing construction as a crucial task that is of the utmost urgency, and promote it with serious intent.

By modernizing the means of design and establishing a system of disseminating various advanced design methods and CAD software programmes on a regular basis, we can create the conditions for drawing up designs at any level at the earliest possible date and with a high quality standard.

We should radically increase the rate of mechanization in construction work. We should lay state-level foundations for producing modern construction equipment and tools and develop and produce machinery that can be used in various kinds of construction work including not only housing construction but also industrial construction and land development. Construction units should be encouraged to manufacture simple equipment and tools for themselves and to organize regular events, such as exhibitions of tools and invented devices, so as to make the best ones widely known.

The supervision and control of construction need to be strengthened.

If supervision and control are weak, the Party's idea on Juche-oriented architecture and its construction policy cannot be implemented accurately, the interests of the country and people will be infringed, and the safety of structures cannot be guaranteed.

Construction supervision organs should be rigorous in their supervision and control throughout the whole course of construction, in line with the Party's principles and in full compliance with the requirements of Party policy and the country's construction law. They should adopt the attitude of assuming full responsibility for the quality of structures before the Party, state and people, and work according solely to the country's supervision rules and without bending to the will of others.

They should permit only those units that have obtained state approval as required by the regulations to carry out construction work, whatever is being built, and should exercise strict supervision and control over every process—whether the requirements of engineering have been correctly observed in the design and whether the design's architectural and aesthetic requirements have been satisfied in the building work. They should raise the standard for inspecting all completed structures and establish strict rules and regulations whereby structures are used only after they have passed inspection. They should promptly take issue with and combat any practice of

violating the construction law, irrespective of the affiliation of the violator or their reason for doing so, thus allowing no room on any account for illegal actions to take root.

On this occasion I intend once again to emphasize regional construction, and rural construction in particular.

The revolution in regional construction and rural construction, which our Party is determined to carry out without fail, is a massive undertaking without precedent in the history of socialist construction in our country.

This undertaking is a sweeping drive, the purpose of which is to wash away the long-lingering historical dirt from the rural areas and develop them into modern locales where socialist civilization can flourish. It is not a campaign that can be completed in just a year or two, but a highly responsible undertaking that should be resolutely executed with a medium- and long-range vision aimed at creating a new era of transformation of the regional areas and realizing the centuries-old desire of our agricultural workers.

Building up regional forces for architectural design and building work is the most pressing issue in realizing our Party's plan for regional construction. As all the provinces, cities and counties across the country are expected to conduct regional construction simultaneously, true to the measures adopted by the Party, none of them will ever carry out the Party's policy of regional construction if they merely anticipate receiving help from the central design and construction units.

They should strengthen the body of designers who can play the vanguard role in their regional construction, and steadily improve their qualifications.

One of the main purposes of the current short course is to develop architectural design for the capital city and regional areas alike by strengthening the regional design bodies.

Our Party requires regional construction to sustain the characteristics of the specific area. The country's regions differ from one another not only in their natural and geographical conditions and their climate for economic development, but also in the lifestyle habits that have been handed down throughout history. Therefore, if the characteristics inherent to regions are to be sustained, the designers should be fully aware of their respective regions' characteristics, ranging from the natural and geographical features to the unique economic conditions and people's manners and customs, and should be capable of embracing them in the architectural design.

It is necessary to reinforce the regional design institutes with talented people who have architectural insight, and to enhance their qualifications and role. Regional designers should accumulate experience through practical construction work and learn from the designers from the capital city whom they work with. Regions, while making exacting demands on designers to steadily improve their qualifications, should provide them with the conditions for accessing the latest architectural materials from abroad. They should enrol promising individuals,

including those with an aptitude for fine art, in universities and colleges in the construction sector so as to train them as the reserve for their design bodies.

Regions should strengthen their local building workforce so that they can build any structure for themselves at a high level of quality. As I have emphasized before, cities and counties should wind up the work of forming construction brigades and should improve their technical skills and qualifications. Provinces, cities and counties should form competent construction units by enlisting people who have been trained and become highly qualified in specialized army or shock brigade construction units, making them the core, and should expand the ranks of skilled workers in such a way that they transfer their skills to others.

Provincial, city and county Party committees should play a major role in building up their local construction workforce. Despite the prevailing hardships, the Party has set aside a considerable quantity of cement for rural construction. Therefore, provinces, cities and counties should, first of all, have their own powerful construction workforce if they are to push ahead with regional construction on a long-term and qualitative basis with an eye to 100 years in the future. They should be well aware that the work of consolidating their regional construction workforce, the body of designers in particular, is not only a major guarantee for developing their regions in a characteristic way but also an undertaking for creating resources and wealth locally.

Regions should take the path of building up reliable bases for producing finishing materials and developing quality ones by using the resources that are available locally, thus enabling their buildings to preserve their unique characteristics.

They should organize annual provincial building-materials exhibitions and conduct proper reviews and appraisals so that these exhibitions can boost the domestic production of finishing materials and contribute to the development of the country's building-materials industry.

True to the Party's intention, they should draw up realistic plans for regional and rural construction, with the top priority given to building houses in rural communities, and should establish rigid discipline whereby they are carried out without fail.

The officials and workers in the construction sector should radically improve their sense of responsibility and role.

They should adopt a serious approach to the important missions and responsibilities entrusted to them by the Party and the revolution, the country and the people, and fully discharge their duties and role as befits the main force in the current revolution in construction.

They should be well-versed in the Party's policy on construction and strive steadily to master the latest science and technology of construction and all-around construction skills. By doing so, they can prepare themselves fully for



the Party to entrust them with any task at any time, with no worries.

They should all remember that their patriotism will find expression in the quality of the structures they build, and devote their pure conscience, sincere heart and skills even when laying a single brick. They should make it a habit to take loving care of their equipment and tools, achieve maximum economies in their use of building materials, and carry out all their work assiduously and scrupulously.

In the new revolution in construction, the might of the army and people operating together should be dynamically demonstrated once again.

Our People's Army service personnel have done a lot for the gigantic struggle to usher in a golden age of construction as the facilitator of the people's happiness, even in the super-intense situation in which they have shouldered the heavy responsibility of defending the country. The monumental creations in which we can take such great pride before the world as models of Juche-oriented architecture, and the grand construction sites, are all permeated with the patriotic devotion, creative wisdom and talents of our soldiers who always follow the orders and instructions of the Party faithfully. Our Party will never forget their heroic feats for and ennobling devotion to the country's prosperity and the people's happiness, and our people will, for many generations to come, pride themselves on the genuine character of our soldiers who glorified the great era of the Workers' Party.

Our soldier-builders, just as they have done until now, should fully demonstrate the might of our army by becoming standard-bearers in the new revolution in construction and carrying out to perfection every task entrusted to them by the Party, by the date set and at the desired level.

The officials and workers in the construction sector should learn from the soldiers' spirit of regarding Party policy as absolute and implementing it unconditionally, as well as from their immaculate and scrupulous work style befitting the teachers of construction skills, and their vigorous and optimistic fighting spirit. By doing so, they can work new miracles and feats at every construction site and build every structure at the highest level possible as symbols of the civilization of our style of socialism.

Party organizations should fully discharge their duties and responsibilities in the struggle for waging a new revolution in construction.

They should direct a major effort to educating the officials and workers in the construction sector so that their minds are deeply implanted with the greatness and leadership exploits of Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, who built a socialist paradise on the debris after the war and ushered in a new history of Juche-oriented architecture, and of our Party which heralded a golden age of construction in the era of the Workers' Party; in this way, the officials and workers can be encouraged to cultivate ardent loyalty to the Party and the leaders and make

strenuous efforts to wage a new revolution in construction with pride in their missions and jobs.

They should step up ideological education among the officials and workers so that they are fully armed with our Party's Juche-oriented idea on architecture and its construction policy, and apply them thoroughly, and ultimately, so that they support the Party's plans with practical achievements in construction.

They should, by deploying powerful information and motivation forces at construction sites and conducting vigorous information work through visual aids and motivational work for increased labour efficiency, further enhance the spiritual strength of the masses and raise the hot wind of the socialist emulation drive in which every construction site seethes with enthusiasm for creating new miracles.

They should pay primary attention to the lives and safety of the builders, whom our Party values most, and exercise strict Party control, and take practical responsibility, so that no construction work is permitted unless labour safety is guaranteed 100 per cent.

They should provide the builders, whose job involves heavy physical labour, with excellent supplies and services and ample conditions for rest, and should take warm care of their families so that those who are seconded to construction sites have no need to worry about them.

The mission of the officials in the construction sector is very important and heavy, in that it involves providing the

people with the happiest life and bringing about a fresh transformation of the appearance of Juche-oriented architecture by fully applying our Party's people-first architectural idea.

I firmly believe that all the officials and workers in the construction sector will continue to perform proud feats in every theatre of a new revolution in construction, for the sake of the prosperity and development of our great state and the wellbeing of our people, true to the Party's far-reaching plan for grand construction, and thus dynamically lead the way in the development of our own style of socialist civilization.

**KIM JONG UN**  
**LET US ACHIEVE**  
**A COMPREHENSIVE**  
**DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIALISM**

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