

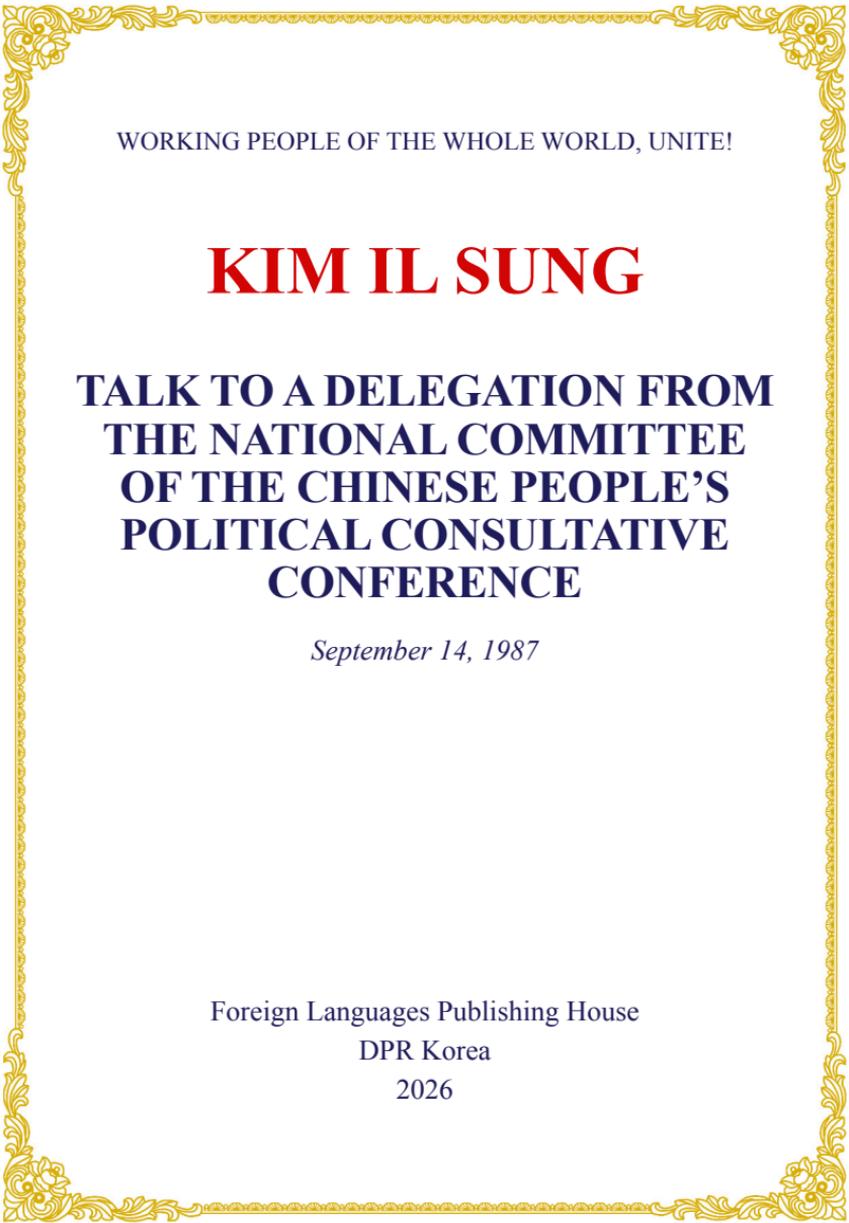
WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, UNITE!

# **KIM IL SUNG**

## **TALK TO A DELEGATION FROM THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE**

*September 14, 1987*

**Foreign Languages Publishing House  
DPR Korea  
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I warmly welcome you, a delegation from the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, on your visit to my country.

You have conveyed to me greetings from the leading cadres of the Chinese party and state. I thank you for this. On my visit to your country in May this year I met them. Comrades Deng Xiaoping and Deng Yingchao looked hale and hearty. I was very glad to see them in such good health. It is a good thing that they are well.

You say you are pleased to see me working in good health. I am grateful for this. I am healthy.

You also say you have been greatly encouraged to see me setting an example for our officials in the course of providing regular on-site guidance. I do not like to work only in my office. I like to visit the places where the people are at work, and to give on-site guidance there. So, I visit several provinces every year, investigating the problems there and taking steps as appropriate. I go among the people to talk to them and solve their problems. For me, it has become a habit to give on-site guidance frequently and meet the people.

You have told me that you visited the Chongsan Cooperative Farm on this occasion. I also visited it some

time ago. I have met the chair of the farm's management board several times. She has a profound knowledge of agriculture, having graduated from an agricultural university and served as the chair of the management board of the Jangsuwon Cooperative Farm in Samsok District of Pyongyang. This spring I gave her the task of experimenting with a new method of sowing rice directly. I have learned that the new method is unlikely to yield less than that of transplanting rice seedlings.

I have been experimenting on the direct sowing of rice with our farmers for many years. The per-hectare yield used to be 500 kilogrammes less than that attained by transplanting. We still have not adopted direct sowing in rice farming. Previously, I ensured that early-ripening rice strains were cultivated, as sowing the seeds directly could not guarantee the full period of growth. But the yield was much lower than that of the late-ripening rice strains.

Recently, our agricultural scientists developed a rice strain that demands a short growth period and can produce a high yield. So, I gave the officials concerned the task of sowing these seeds directly on an experimental basis.

The seeds sown directly by the Chongsan Cooperative Farm this year are of that strain. I intend

to have every farm sow rice seeds directly in a few hectares on an experimental basis.

I am constantly studying how we can reap a higher rice yield by sowing the seeds directly, rather than transplanting the seedlings. If, in rice farming, cold-bed seedlings are transplanted, as is done now, 380-400 man-days are needed to cultivate one hectare of paddy fields. However, if the seeds are sown directly, it will take only 100 man-days to cultivate one hectare. This means that a single farmer can cultivate three hectares of paddy fields. If rice is farmed by sowing the seeds directly instead of transplanting the seedlings and the yields are increased, it will be an important solution to the problem of freeing farmers from difficult and back-breaking labour.

We are yet to free our farmers from difficult and back-breaking labour. They are still doing such difficult work as making straw bags, even in winter.

Freeing them from back-breaking labour is not a simple matter. At present, our industrial sector is achieving success in relieving workers from back-breaking labour by mechanizing, semi-automating, automating and robotizing production lines, but in the agricultural sector the work of freeing farmers from back-breaking labour is not going well. If we

are to free them from back-breaking labour, we should step up irrigation and electrification, and introduce machinery and widely apply agrochemicals in the rural economy at the earliest possible date. We intend to make great strides in liberating the farmers from difficult and back-breaking labour in the next few years. In particular, we will free them within a few years from making straw bags.

Everything is currently going well in our country. This year, farming is better than last year and there has been no flood damage even though it rained heavily.

You say you visited the West Sea Barrage yesterday. The barrage is very impressive.

In 1967, Pyongyang suffered from severe flooding due to torrential rain on the upper reaches of the Taedong River, and the high tide surged into the river from the West Sea. At that time many streets and factories in Pyongyang, including the textile mill, thermal power stations and machine factories, suffered serious damage from flooding. We spent several months working hard to repair the flood damage by mobilizing even university students. Afterwards, to prevent further flood damage in Pyongyang, we established four barrages at various points on the river and then built the West Sea Barrage across the sea at its mouth, so as to regulate its water

level and prevent the high tide from entering it.

In summer last year and this year, it rained more than in 1967. Yet Pyongyang did not suffer any damage. This was thanks to the four barrages built on the river, and the West Sea Barrage. Had we not built them, Pyongyang would have suffered damage again. The citizens of Pyongyang no longer worry about flooding even when it rains heavily on the upper reaches of the Taedong River.

We use the water collected behind the West Sea Barrage for both irrigation and industrial purposes. Before its construction, the salty water of the West Sea that had flowed into the Taedong River could not be supplied to the factories and enterprises in the river basin. Since the barrage's construction, we have been able to supply sufficient water to the factories and enterprises in the basin. This means we have recouped all the funds we spent on building the barrage.

We are currently reclaiming vast expanses of tidal flats. Under the Third Seven-Year Plan, we envisage reclaiming 300 000 hectares of them. In our country, where the area of land under the plough is limited, we need to reclaim tidal flats. The soldiers of the People's Army who built the barrages are now reclaiming tidal flats. We are building embankments at sea level

to reclaim tidal flats. When building the West Sea Barrage, the soldiers built dams even in places scores of metres deep.

You say that you visited Hamhung on this occasion. Hamhung, a chemical industry city, is working hard to eliminate air pollution. You say that the air is polluted also in some parts of your country. The air in most countries and regions where there are chemical factories is polluted. Some items of equipment at the chemical factories in Hamhung are outdated, so it is important to work to eliminate air pollution there. I have repeatedly given explicit instructions to our officials to eliminate air pollution in the city. If the chemical factories in Hamhung are rebuilt after the Sunchon Vinalon Complex is built, air pollution will be eliminated there.

I am grateful to you, the head of the delegation, for praising us so highly. Your words are a source of great encouragement for us.

I hope that, upon your return home, you will convey my greetings to the leading party and state cadres in your country, and tell them that farming is fine and everything is going well in my country this year.

I wish you good health during your stay in my country.

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