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Kim Jong Un elected chairman of DPRK State Affairs Commission

Kim Jong Un was elected as chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK at the First Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly.

The Supreme People's Assembly, on behalf of all the Korean people, solemnly declared to the world that Kim Jong Un, who has made a new history of modelling the whole society on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism with his outstanding ideological and theoretical wisdom and experienced and seasoned leadership and is demonstrating the politico-ideological might and inexhaustible national strength of socialist Korea on the highest level with the people-first and our state-first principles, was elected chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission.

His election to the chairmanship of the DPRK State Affairs Commission is a great political event of immense



historic significance in further consolidating and developing the DPRK into the state of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il forever and carrying through the revolutionary cause of Juche generation after generation, and a revolutionary, auspicious event that guarantees the eternal future of Kim Il Sung's Korea and prosperity of the nation.

His reelection as the top leader of the DPRK is a manifestation of the profound reverence and trust of all Party members and other people and service personnel in him, who has opened up the bright future of all generations to come by leading the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK straight forward along the road of victory with extraordinary political acumen and sweeping revolutionary practices.

ASSEMBLY

14th Supreme People's Assembly convenes first session

The 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK met for the first-day meeting of its first session at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on April 11.

Newly-elected deputies to the SPA attended the meeting. Present there as observers were officials of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the SPA Presidium, the

Cabinet, military organs, ministries and national agencies, chairpersons of city and county Party and people's committees and officials of central and provincial-level institutions.

The participants observed a moment's silence in reverence for President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Yang Hyong Sop delivered an

opening address.

The session elected Pak Thae Song as chairman of the SPA and Pak Chol Min and Pak Kum Hui as its vice-chairpersons.

It also elected the Deputy Credentials Committee of the 14th SPA.

It discussed the following agenda items: Election of chairman of the

State Affairs Commission of the DPRK; election of state leadership bodies of the DPRK; revision and supplementing of the Socialist Constitution of the DPRK; and the results of the implementation of the state budget of the DPRK for 2018 and the state budget for 2019.

Kim Jong Un charts course for socialist construction, sets forth policies



*Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un delivered a policy speech **On Socialist Construction and the Internal and External Policies of the Government of the Republic at the Present Stage** at the First Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK on April 12.*

The following is the full text of it:

Dear Deputies,

The First Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is convened at a time when the prestige and strength of our Republic advancing along the road of independence are being demonstrated to the full and its socialist construction has entered a very important period.

As the election to the 14th Supreme People's Assembly was held successfully amid the high political enthusiasm of all the people and with their active participation and the government of the Republic was reorganized, our State power has been further consolidated and the revolutionary advance of our people, who, united with one mind and will around the Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the Republic, are marching confidently towards a higher goal of socialism, will be further accelerated.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to all the Deputies for having placed, on behalf of all the people, great trust in me so that I would continue to lead the overall work of the State as Chairman of the State Affairs Commission of our glorious country, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; and I pledge myself to work with devotion for the development and prosperity of the Republic and the happiness of our people.

Comrades,

Accomplishing the socialist cause under the

unfurled banner of modelling the whole society on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is a great and historic task facing the government of the Republic.

Modelling the whole society on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is the highest programme of our Party and the government of our Republic and the general direction and general goal of the construction of a socialist State.

It is only when we thoroughly apply Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism to State building and activities that we can develop our Republic into the State of the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il for ever and creditably satisfy our people's demands for and ideals of independence true to the will and wishes of the great leaders.

The government of our Republic will achieve decisive victory in implementing the socialist cause by conducting more vigorously the struggle for modelling the whole society on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism.

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Comrades,

The major fighting task facing us in our efforts for modelling the whole society on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism is to accomplish the cause of building a powerful socialist country.

Building a powerful socialist country is a historic stage in the struggle for achieving the final victory of socialism, and this can be accomplished with credit only by applying the Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist ideas of State building in a thoroughgoing way.

The Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist ideas of State building contain in a concentrated way the ideas of, and exploits in, State building of the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il, who developed our Republic into the most prestigious and strong socialist State in its history; these ideas also indicate clearly the ways and means for accomplishing the socialist cause with the State government as a political weapon.

With the great Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist ideas of State building as the immutable guiding principle, the government of the Republic should raise the country's strategic position and national strength onto a new high and bring about a fundamental turn in accomplishing the Juche-oriented socialist cause.

The revolutionary line of independence should be carried out in State building and activities.

Independence is the political philosophy of our Republic, and it constitutes the core of the

Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist ideas of State building. A socialist State can defend the country's prestige and people's destiny and build and perfect socialism as suited to its situation and by its own efforts, only when it maintains the principle of independence and the Juche-oriented stand definitely in all its activities. The great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il raised independence as the life of the Korean revolution and the fundamental cornerstone for State building and advanced the revolution and construction in our own way while categorically rejecting worship of big countries, dogmatism and the high-handedness and pressure by outside forces. Under their wise leadership our Republic has been built and developed to be a socialist State, independent in politics, self-supporting in the economy and self-reliant in national defence, and it is still demonstrating to the world its prestige and might as a powerful independent country. Its strategic position and influence is being raised day by day as it recently achieved the historic cause of developing the two fronts simultaneously amid a do-or-die confrontation with the imperialists and is leading the trend of situation towards peace. Today the imperialists' wilful violation of the sovereignty of other countries is growing more undisguised than ever before, and not a few countries are being forced into a miserable plight as they have no strength with which to defend themselves; in this world it is hard to find a country like our Republic that is steadfast in the principle of independence and assures the security of the State and the happiness of the people by its own efforts.

Holding fast to the revolutionary line of independence in State building and activities is a consistent and immutable stand of our Republic.

Geographically, Korea is sandwiched between big countries and its territory remains divided. Our Republic is conducting socialist construction as the hostile forces are resorting to more vicious schemes in trying to contain, undermine and stifle it. On the other hand, the contradictions and confrontations among great powers in their pursuit of hegemony are worsening on a regional and worldwide scale.

Given the special circumstances of our revolution and the complexity of the present world situation, our Republic should build up its own strength from the firm standpoint of independence and seek independent development to defend its sovereignty and dignity and achieve true prosperity. In the past, too, when the world socialist camp existed and the countries concerned maintained cooperative relations to varying degrees, our Republic adhered to self-determination and independence in carrying on the revolution and construction, and promoted socialist construction on the principle of self-reliance. Building socialism by its own efforts according to the revolutionary line of independence is the basic principle our Republic must invariably maintain in State building.

Whatever wind may blow and whatever challenges and difficulties may lie ahead, our Republic will, in the future, too, make no concession or compromise over the issues concerning the fundamental interests of our State and people. It will resolve everything on the strength of self-reliance and self-development, stepping up the building of a powerful socialist country in our own way and by our own efforts.

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A crucial factor in applying the revolutionary line of independence to the building and activities of our State is to strengthen the motive force of our revolution and develop all fields of social life in our own way. We should consolidate the country's politico-ideological position rock-solid by fully equipping the people with the great Juche idea and the spirit of national independence and rallying them firmly behind the Party and the government of our Republic. The government will develop all realms of the economy, defence and culture from the steadfast Juche-oriented stand and in our own way, and it will never tolerate others' way, others' fashion, in the slightest.

Our Republic has a bright, promising future ahead, as it is steadily developing on the strong basis of independence, self-sufficiency and self-reliant defence, with the Party and the people achieving solid unity to form the powerful motive force of the revolution.

It is important to apply the people-first principle to the letter in all aspects of State activities and social life.

This principle is a political ideal of regarding the masses of the people as masters of the revolution and construction, relying on them and making selfless, devoted efforts for their interests. It embodies the Juche-oriented revolutionary philosophy that the people are the most precious and powerful beings in the world; it reflects the unwavering commitment of our Party and the government of our Republic to love the people dearly and satisfy their demands and interests.

The people are the roots of our socialist State and its foundation; they are responsible for developing it. All the activities of Party and government organs should be thoroughly oriented and subordinated to safeguarding and realizing the people's demands and interests and faithfully serving them—this is just the way to promote the revolution and construction with success and bring the viability and advantages of socialism into full play.

Maintaining the viewpoint and attitude of prioritizing the people in the activities of the State presents itself as an important matter, in view of the fact that abuses of power, bureaucratism and other violations of their interests may appear among officials in the course of socialist construction. The impudent practices of lording it over the people and abusing the authority vested by them will impair the prestige of socialism and its people-oriented character, and weaken the people's support for and trust in the Party and the State. They may end up threatening the very existence of our socialist system.

With a view to carrying forward and holding up the ennobling ideas and intentions of the great leaders, who believed in the people as in heaven and devoted their lives to their interests, our Party defined the essence of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism, the guiding ideology of our revolution, as the people-first principle and set it as the greatest priority to apply the Juche-oriented view on the people, a people-oriented philosophy, in the activities of the Party and the State.

The slogan "Everything for the people and everything by relying on them!" encapsulates the people-first principle maintained by our Party and the government of our Republic. In all spheres of State and social life we have given top and absolute priority to what are oriented to the people and popular among them, unsparingly investing everything for their wellbeing. Over recent years our State has implemented gigantic construction projects in a bold manner. This is not because there is a surplus of funds in the country's coffers; those projects are aimed at providing our people, who are

the best in the world, with better conditions for a happy, cultured life.

Our Party and the government of our Republic have resolutely declared a war against abuses of power, bureaucratism and corruption, which are infringing upon the people's interests, and waged an intensive struggle against such practices, taking it as a matter with a vital bearing on the existence of our State.

In the course of the endeavour to apply the people-first principle in all the activities of the Party and the State and in all fields of social life, the Party, the State and the people have formed a community in which they share the same destiny with one another; our Republic has advanced dynamically along the orbit of its development, never flinching in the face of unprecedented trials and difficulties.

As socialist construction is progressing, we should direct closer attention to applying the people-first principle. Then we can double the dynamic for the advancement of our revolution and continue to demonstrate the advantages peculiar to our style of socialism, those which other countries cannot imitate.

The Party and the State make selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people, and the people support their Party and State whole-heartedly, entrusting their destiny and future entirely to the latter—these are the genuine features of our State embodying the people-first principle.

The government of the Republic will invariably hold fast to the people-first principle as the core of its mainstay, and strive to hasten the bright future of socialism aspired after by the people by relying on their strength.

Party leadership over the overall affairs of the State should be provided in every way possible.

Party leadership is the intrinsic requirement of the building of a socialist State and lifeline of its activities. Only under the leadership of a party, the incarnation of the demands and interests of the masses, can the socialist State perform its mission as their servant with credit and properly organize and undertake unified guidance over all realms of social life and all regions and the overall socialist construction. A socialist government, not led by a revolutionary party, will lose its intrinsic nature and fall prey to the reactionaries and plotters, with the result that its people cannot escape the pitiful plight of a political orphan.

Our Party is the veteran and seasoned General Staff of the revolution, which has gained rich experience and outstanding leadership skills and abilities in the course of leading the several stages of social revolution and socialist construction. What instils boundless dignity and confidence in sure victory in our people is the leadership of our Party, which is bringing about world-startling, miraculous achievements one after another while leading the gigantic campaign of creation for building a powerful socialist country amid acute confrontation with the hostile forces.

Party leadership over State activities should be consistently based on political guidance, policy-oriented guidance. The Party is the guiding force that provides guidelines to be followed by the socialist government and guides all State activities so that they are properly conducted; the State is the executor and performer of the Party's lines and policies. Proceeding from these interrelations between the Party and the government, our Party has shown close concern over encouraging its organizations to exercise unified control over the affairs of their sectors and units and give political and policy-oriented guidance over them in the efforts to materialize its leadership over State activities. If the Party, a political leadership body, is involved in the administrative work and resorts to technical methods, it will not only deviate from

its main principle but paralyse the functions of administrative organs and impair its authority, ending up making a mess of the revolution and construction.

At present, the government of our Republic is satisfactorily effecting unified leadership over the State and society by relying on the revolutionary guiding ideology and scientific strategy and tactics advanced by the Workers' Party of Korea. In the future, too, it should remain faithful to the Party's ideas and leadership, so as to perform its missions of representing the rights of the masses of the people to independence, organizing their creative abilities and activities, taking care of their lives and protecting their interests.

When it strictly adheres to the ideas and principles of building a socialist State elucidated by Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism, our Republic will be built more splendidly as an independent powerful State that no one can dare provoke, a people's State in which the people's ideals are fully realized and a great State that leads the world by giving full scope to its unlimited potential for development, and the victory of the socialist cause will be brought closer.

2

Comrades,

The central task facing our Republic at the present stage of the struggle to build a powerful socialist country is to solidify the material foundations of socialism by concentrating all national resources on economic construction.

Economic self-sufficiency is a material guarantee and prerequisite for building an independent State. Only by relying on independent and strong economic capability, it is possible to defend the dignity of a State and increase its political and military might on a steady basis.

The present political situation demands that our State hold higher the banner of self-sufficiency and self-reliance.

Recently, the United States has grown fearful of the threats posed by our rapidly-developing nuclear armed force to the security of its mainland. At the negotiating table, it has made much ado about improved relations and peace; on the other hand, it is resorting to all conceivable schemes in trying to prolong the economic sanctions, with the aim of preventing us from following the path of our own choice and disarming us first to create conditions for realizing its ambition of overthrowing our social system. Now that it is raising demands that run counter to the fundamental interests of our State, as a prerequisite for lifting the above sanctions, the confrontation between our country and the United States is bound to be drawn out and the hostile forces' sanctions will persist. We have built socialism in the face of their constant sanctions, but we must neither become accustomed to this nor slacken the speed of advance of our revolution. To the forces who cannot thwart us by force, sanctions are a last resort. However, these are an intolerable challenge to us; we must never connive at or remain indifferent to them, but act resolutely to frustrate them. As we put an end to the prolonged nuclear threat by dint of nukes, we must frustrate the hostile forces' sanctions on the strength of self-sufficiency and self-reliance.

We have the capabilities and foundations for independent development to revitalize the national economy and raise it to the advanced international level in the shortest possible period. The foundations of our self-supporting economy that have been laid for several decades, able scientific

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and technical personnel, and the creative strength of the heroic people who have made self-reliance part of their mental qualities and are brimming with patriotic enthusiasm—these constitute our valuable strategic resources. By making the most of these enormous and unlimited potentialities, we must create another legendary tale of world-startling, miraculous successes and go ahead of others by making a greater leap forward.

When we adhere to the line of building an independent national economy and give full play to the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance, we can achieve remarkable development with a strength that others can neither fathom nor imagine.

The strategic policy pursued by our Party and the government of our Republic in promoting socialist economic construction is to make the national economy Juche-oriented, modern, IT-based and scientific.

The independence and Juche character of the national economy should be consolidated in every way possible.

We must strive hard to achieve self-sufficiency in power, fuel and raw materials, which constitute the basic guarantee for independent economic development.

The electric-power industry should maintain and strengthen the existing bases to maximize the production of electricity, put power supply on a scientific and rational basis, and actively develop the hydraulic, tidal, atomic and other promising sources of energy so as to create greater generating capacity.

Coal and other mines, which are in charge of the primary front for economic development, should give precedence to prospecting and tunnelling, and concentrate their efforts on realizing mechanization of extracting and transport, thus extensively increasing the production of coal, the food of industry, and minerals.

The metallurgical industry should establish a new modern yet large-scale iron production system that suits our actual situation by solving the scientific and technological problems arising at the Juche-oriented iron production bases and operating them properly. The chemical industry should turn itself into a Juche-oriented, energy- and labour-saving industry that totally relies on locally available raw and other materials. By doing so, it should meet the domestic demands for fertilizer, chemical fibre, synthetic plastics and various other chemical goods.

The problems of food and consumer goods, which are of decisive importance in the improvement of the people's living, should be solved in the earliest period.

The agricultural sector should pay special attention to solving the problems of seed, fertilizer and water and securing the land under cultivation, introduce scientific farming methods and raise the rate of mechanization of farm work, and thus attain without fail the grain production target set by the Party. The stockbreeding bases such as chicken and pig farms should be modernly built or renovated, domestic animals be raised in a scientific way, and a mass movement be launched to raise grass-eating animals perseveringly. Also, a turn should be made in the production and processing of seafood by consolidating the material and technical foundations of the fishing industry.

The light industry establishments should hold fast to recycling as one of their strategies, along with the strategy of relying on locally-available raw and other materials, step up modernization of their production lines and invest great efforts in developing new products. In this way, it should ensure that larger amounts and various kinds

of quality consumer goods are supplied to the people.

We should carry on grand construction projects more vigorously to provide the people with more affluent and cultured living conditions. The construction sector should make innovations in architectural designing and construction method and improve the level of technical equipment of construction units to build world-class architectural structures in a larger number. The building-materials industry should build up the capacity of cement production and decisively raise the proportion of domestically-produced finishing materials.

The transport sector should adopt revolutionary measures for improving rail and water transport in conformity with the actual conditions in our country and resolve the problem of passenger transport in the capital city and provincial seats in our own way.

We should improve the structure of the national economy still further, develop all its branches in a harmonious way and secure the international competitive edge in the magnesia and graphite industries and other promising economic sectors.

We should make proactive efforts to put the national economy on a modern and IT footing so as to transform the country's economy definitely into one that is knowledge-based.

We should work out strategies and targets for developing hi-tech industries including the machine-building, electronics, information, nanotechnology and biological industries, and concentrate investment on them. Every sector should build a parent, standard factory in which science and technology are integrated with production and all production lines are made remote-controlled, intelligent and fully automated and generalize its experiences, so as to raise the overall economy to the advanced level of the world.

We should develop the local economy and reenergize the external economic work.

Provinces, cities and counties should build and develop the economy with their own distinctiveness by giving full scope to their natural and geographical advantages and properly sustaining their economic, technical and traditional characteristics. The State should empower the local authorities to stand on their own feet and develop by themselves, and adopt relevant practical measures.

The external economic sector should conduct external economic cooperation, technical exchanges and trading activities in a multifarious, proactive and tactical way on the principle of strictly abiding by the line of building an independent national economy and in the direction of reinforcing the fields and links essential in strengthening the country's economic foundations.

In order to give full play to the potentials of the self-supporting socialist economy, comprehensive measures should be taken to enlist all the human and material resources and potentialities of the country in a coordinated way and utilize the new elements and driving force for economic development.

The economic work of the country should be conducted under the State's unified control and supervision, and in accordance with its strategic plan and command.

We should adopt a scientific and practical strategy and phased plans for the economic development of the State and execute them without fail. The structural and work system should be adjusted so that enterprises can arrange and conduct production and management activities smoothly while fully satisfying the needs of the State's unified guidance over and strategic management of the economic work.

The State's institutional and legal conditions and environment concerning economic affairs should be improved and an iron discipline be established

so that the economic organs and enterprises give priority to the national interests and the promotion of the people's wellbeing and observe the law and order strictly.

We should further improve planning in compliance with the essential requirements of the socialist economy and deal with pricing, monetary and financial matters—the important links in the whole chain of economic management—in accordance with the economic principles and laws and in such a way as to reap profit in reality. By so doing we can encourage the enterprises and producers to work with great interest and high enthusiasm. Measures should be taken to conduct the economic management on the basis of scientific calculation so that optimum results can be obtained. Raw and other materials, funds and manpower should be economized as much as possible and the expenditure be made cost-effective so that all the resources of the country may contribute to the development of the State to the maximum.

The main force that propels a self-supporting economy is the talented personnel and science and technology.

We should make it part of the national social practices to attach importance to the talented personnel and science and technology, identify and appoint the talented personnel to the appropriate posts so that they may lead production and the development of technology; and we should steadily increase State investment in the field of science and technology.

We should make proper decisions on major scientific and technological tasks and projects, strategic, pivotal, profitable and economically important, and concentrate our forces and funds on them to ensure that science and technology may render decisive services to reenergizing the overall economy and developing the hi-tech industry.

We should build up the political and military might of our Republic.

Our political and ideological might is based on the advantages and stability of the political system of our socialist State. We should substantially provide all the people with genuine political rights and dignity and give full play to the political and ideological advantages of our system, in which the whole country, united in ideology, purpose and moral obligation, makes uninterrupted progress.

The government of the Republic should regard the people's interests as the absolute standard and give the first consideration to their will and desire in formulating and carrying out its policies; in this way, we can encourage the broad sections of the working masses including workers, farmers and intellectuals to take active part in the management of the State and society as befits the genuine masters of State administration.

The government should give definite precedence to the political and ideological work as required by the intrinsic nature of the socialist society, so as to train all members of society as true advocates of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism and further consolidate the political and ideological unity and cohesion of our State.

The government of the Republic should perfect the legal system of the State and intensify the role of law in State and social life.

The laws of the Republic are powerful weapons for defending the gains of the revolution, consolidating and developing the socialist system and championing and guaranteeing the people's rights and interests. In keeping with the intensification of the revolution and construction, the laws and regulations should be subdivided and specified on the basis of the requirements of the Party's policies and in reflection of the prevailing realities

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so as to legislate and perfect them in a scientific way; they should be modified and supplemented in good time, so that they can reliably guarantee the administration of the people-oriented politics of the socialist State. It is necessary to thoroughly establish a habit of observing the socialist laws throughout society so that all the people respect the State laws with a noble sense of law observance and abide by them on a voluntary and obligatory basis; law-enforcement organs should enhance their role, never allow double standards of discipline in enforcing laws and strictly adhere to scientific accuracy, objectivity, impartiality and prudence in applying laws; in this way, we should turn ours into the most advantageous socialist law-governed State in which laws safeguard the people and the latter observe the former.

The self-reliant defence capability is a powerful and valuable weapon for defending the sovereignty of our Republic.

The peace-oriented atmosphere that has begun to be created on the Korean peninsula is not stable, and the hostile forces have not given up their attempt to invade our Republic. Always keeping in mind the iron truth that peace can be guaranteed only by powerful military strength, we should hold fast to the principle of self-reliant defence and keep building up the country's defence capability.

The government of the Republic will provide, on a preferential basis and in full, the human and material resources necessary for strengthening the People's Army, arming all the people and fortifying the whole country, and steadily raise the national defence capability by putting the defence industry on a highly Juche-oriented and modern footing.

Socialist culture should be developed in our own way.

It is important to create a climate of giving top priority to education throughout the country and bring about a radical improvement in education in our own way so as to overtake the developed countries in the educational level. The educational sector should strengthen the ranks of teachers, improve the quality of education as demanded by the trend of developing modern education, and thus train larger numbers of talented personnel who will shoulder the scientific and technological development of the country and socialist construction.

Upholding the slogan of making all the people well versed in science and technology, we should enrol all the working people in the study-while-you-work system and prepare them as intelligent workers.

The government of the Republic should give special attention to the socialist health service. It should further improve medical service, raise medical science and technology to the cutting-edge standard and consolidate the material and technical foundations of the health service sector, thereby bringing greater benefits of our country's socialist healthcare system to the people.

The sector of culture and arts should create larger numbers of masterpieces that represent the demands of the times and aspirations of the people, and the sector of cinematic art, in particular, should kindle the flames of effecting an upsurge in film-making in the new century, thus playing the role of pacesetter in opening up a new heyday of the development of socialist culture.

Sports play a very important role in consolidating a nation's strength and exalting its resourcefulness and prestige. A nationwide effort should be directed to developing sports science and specialized sporting techniques and organizing the mass-based sports activities on a wide scale. At the same time, sports facilities should be increased in number

and the existing ones renovated with an eye to satisfactorily hosting even international games.

Establishing a socialist way of life and moral discipline is a severe political struggle and an acute class struggle to safeguard and add lustre to our ideology and system.

We should encourage all the members of society, with a high sense of pride and self-confidence that our culture, our way of life and our morality are the best, to give full play to the collectivist way of life and moral traits and actively create and fully enjoy the revolutionary and optimistic cultured way of life of our style as suited to the aesthetic sensibilities of today that aspire after cultural development. We should firmly defend the ideological and cultural position of our State by strictly guarding against any slightest expression of immoral and alien phenomena that poison the people spiritually and degenerate and debase society, improving ideological education and struggle and intensifying legal sanctions against them.

In order to successfully carry out the enormous revolutionary tasks facing the government of the Republic, the people's government organs should enhance their functions and roles.

They should further intensify their unified guidance over the whole society as required by the developing revolution.

They should consolidate and develop the socialist political system and carry on the work of accelerating economic and cultural construction. In particular, they should give precedence to economic work and concentrate their efforts on improving the people's living standards. They should put every realm of social life and every region under their supervision and provide unified guidance over them while giving free rein to the creativity of individual sectors and units.

The people's government organs should establish the trait of making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people as appropriate to their basic duty.

They should always pay heed to the people's opinions, plan and organize their work in reflection of their demands, find what can be done for them and carry it through to completion, and enlist them in carrying out the Party's lines and policies. They should give top priority to the people's interests and comfort and take responsible care of their living.

They should properly enforce the advantageous people-oriented policies including free compulsory education and free medical care, which General Kim Jong Il pursued invariably even in the most trying days, so that the people can feel keenly the gratefulness of the socialist country in their daily life and turn out in the efforts for achieving its prosperity.

The people's government organs should maintain it as the iron rule to work only under the Party's leadership.

They should organize and carry on all work with the Party's ideas and policies as the yardstick, proactively defend the Party's policies and implement with credit the revolutionary tasks advanced by the Party, thereby giving full play to the validity of our Party's policies. Party organizations at all levels should intensify collective guidance over the activities of government organs in conformity with the demands of the developing revolution and actively encourage all their officials to perform their responsibilities and basic duties for the revolution.

Officials of the people's government organs at all levels should enhance their sense of responsibility and roles.

The present stirring realities urgently demand that our officials take the lead in the general offensive and wage a vigorous struggle in order to discharge their duties as befits the leading personnel of the

revolution.

Officials of the people's government organs should possess a high degree of Party spirit and revolutionary principle and conduct their work in a daring and active manner with the attitude that they are fully responsible for it. Courage and activeness arise out of trust in the Party, whereas timidity and acts of basing their actions on how people look at them result from lack of trust in the Party. Officials of the people's government organs should definitely root out passive approaches of expediting their work only when the Party throws its full weight behind them, and cherish an unyielding revolutionary work style of carrying through the task set by the Party even though their bodies are torn to pieces. They should constantly cultivate abilities for conceiving, organizing, supervising, guiding and developing their work to become versatile workers who are capable of implementing any tasks with credit. They should acquire our Party's methods of mass work, set personal examples in all undertakings and make tireless efforts for the good of the people. Cherishing deep in their hearts the true meaning of our Party's affection for the people, they should be infinitely courteous to them and become their faithful servants, always sharing weal and woe with them and working with devotion for them.

3

Comrades,

At present, our historic struggle for national reunification, a long-cherished desire of the nation, has entered a new phase.

We have taken momentous measures in succession to improve inter-Korean relations and ensure peace on the Korean peninsula with a firm resolve to achieve without fail the cause of national reunification, into which the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il put their heart and soul all their life.

Last year we held three rounds of historic north-south summit meetings and talks and adopted inter-Korean declarations to bring about a dramatic turn in the relationship. They were events of great significance which turned around the grave situation that was teetering on the brink of war every moment and which heralded the start of a new journey to national reunification.

Now the entire nation ardently hopes that the historic Panmunjom Declaration and the September Pyongyang Joint Declaration will thoroughly be implemented so that the peaceful atmosphere on the Korean peninsula will continue and inter-Korean relations will improve uninterruptedly.

The south Korean conservative forces, however, are responding to the aspirations of the nation and the unanimous expectations of the international community with too perfidious words and behaviours, and are struggling to bring inter-Korean relations back to those in the period before the publication of the Panmunjom Declaration.

The United States openly forces "speed adjustment" on the south Korean authorities and tries in every way to subordinate the implementation of inter-Korean agreements to its anti-DPRK policy marked by sanctions and pressure.

As a result, a grave situation has been created for us to decide whether to ease the tension on the Korean peninsula and continuously carry on the atmosphere of inter-Korean rapprochement or to return to the past when the tension spiralled up towards a catastrophe with the danger of war looming larger.

We cannot look on with folded arms the current situation which causes serious concern over the

FROM PAGE 5

destiny and future of the nation and peace and security in the region, but we have to take proactive measures without delay to straighten it out in line with the unanimous aspirations of all the fellow countrymen.

To this end, it is needed above all to take a proper stand and attitude with which to invariably adhere to and implement the inter-Korean declarations encapsulating the unanimous will of the nation, whatever difficulties and obstacles in the way.

I would like to make it clear once again that as I already declared, it is my firm determination to turn, together with the south Korean authorities, inter-Korean relations into a lasting and durable relationship of reconciliation and cooperation and write a new history of the nation that achieves peace and co-prosperity as desired by all the countrymen.

In order to untangle the prevailing unsavoury situation, heighten the good atmosphere for improved relations north and south created with much effort and make it bear meaningful fruit of peace and reunification, it is important to put an end to big-power worship marring the spirit of independence and to the policy of dependence on foreign forces encroaching upon the common interests of the nation, and subordinate everything to the improvement of the relations.

I think that if the south Korean authorities truly want improved relations, peace and reunification, they should come back to the original intention they had at the time of the Panmunjom summit and the September Pyongyang summit and fulfil the responsibility they have assumed before the nation through the sincere implementation of the north-south declarations.

They should not waver in their attitude as they see the tide nor pose as a meddlesome "mediator" and "facilitator" as they busy themselves with foreign trips, but be a responsible party that defends the interests of the nation speaking what they have to say squarely with the mind of their own as members of the nation.

It is our consistent assertion that it is imperative to smash the underhand schemes of the hostile anti-reunification and anti-peace forces within and without in order to sustain the atmosphere of improved inter-Korean relations.

It is needed to realize before it is too late that neither progress in inter-Korean relations nor any fruit of peace and prosperity can be expected if the hawkish forces in the south Korean military, who persist in veiled hostility as they resume the military exercises, which were agreed before to be discontinued, jointly with the United States by changing their names, continue to be allowed to make reckless moves, and unless the anachronistic arrogance and hostile policy of the United States, which is creating artificial obstacles in the way of improved relationship as it presents its arbitrary outrageous demand, are eradicated.

All the fellow countrymen in north and south and abroad should, staking the destiny and future of the nation, resolutely check and foil the moves of the United States and south Korean conservative forces that go against the historic current towards improved inter-Korean relations and peaceful reunification.

If they are truly willing to opt for the improvement of north-south relations, peace and reunification, the south Korean authorities should sympathize with our stand and will, keep pace with us and make a courageous decision to show their sincerity by practical action, not by words.

Our Party and the government of our Republic will continue to make sincere and persevering efforts to achieve the sustained development of

north-south relations and peaceful reunification of the country, solemnly cherishing the aspirations and desires of the nation in the future, too.

Comrades,

The first-ever DPRK-US summit meeting and talks, which were held in Singapore in June last year under the world's spotlight, were a momentous occasion that brought the hope of settlement of peace to the Korean peninsula where fire had been exchanged; and the June 12 DPRK-US Joint Statement was a historic declaration announcing to the world that the two countries which had been hostile to each other from one century into the next would write a new history of relationship, and therefore it won full support and approval of the international community aspiring to peace.

The DPRK voluntarily took crucial and significant measures including the discontinuation of nuclear test and test-fire of intercontinental ballistic missile, thereby taking the first step towards confidence-building which is the main key to the removal of bilateral hostile relations, and it also took the broadminded measure of realizing the repatriation of the remains of US soldiers, which had been requested by the US President, as a show of its will to sincerely implement the June 12 DPRK-US Joint Statement which serves as a milestone in the establishment of a new bilateral relationship.

However, the second DPRK-US summit talks held in Hanoi last February raised a doubt as to whether we were right or not to have taken these steps by making a strategic, courageous decision, and they were an occasion that made us cautious, wondering whether the United States has a thought of truly improving bilateral relations.

At the talks we expressed our resolve to set the essential stages and course to be followed without fail for the implementation of the June 12 DPRK-US Joint Statement in the interests of both sides and to take more prudent and trustworthy steps, and looked forward to a positive response of the United States.

But the United States came to the negotiating table after thinking only about impossible methods.

In other words, they were unprepared to solve problems with us at the table and they had no definite orientation or methodology.

With such thinking, the United States could never have us budge in the slightest nor make any gains, no matter how often it sits face to face with us.

It has recently conducted a test for simulated interception of our intercontinental ballistic missile and resumed military exercises the US President committed himself to suspending, while making other hostile moves contrary to the spirit of the June 12 Joint Statement in a more undisguised way. These seriously get on our nerves.

I am very displeased with such a trend.

As waves rise when wind blows, the more pronounced the US policy hostile towards the DPRK becomes, the tougher our counteraction will become.

Although it strongly hints at the settlement of issues through dialogue as it thinks about the third round of DPRK-US summit talks, the United States still looks away from the withdrawal of its hostile policy, the basic way for establishing a new bilateral relationship; rather it miscalculates that it could bring us to our knees if it applies maximum pressure on us.

We, of course, attach importance to the settlement of issues through dialogue and negotiations, but we are constitutionally unfit for and uninterested in the American way of dialogue, by which it unilaterally enforces its own demand.

Though the United States calls for a negotiated settlement of issues, it is stirring up hostility to us day after day, which is an act that is as foolish and risky as an attempt to put out fire with oil.

Given the deep-rooted animosity between the DPRK and the United States, in order to implement the June 12 Joint Statement both sides should give up their unilateral terms and seek a constructive solution that meets each other's interests.

To this end, it is needed above all for the United States to approach us with a new way of calculation after putting aside the current one.

The United States is talking much about holding the third round of bilateral summit talks, but the recurrence of such summit talks as those in Hanoi is unwelcome to us and we are not desirous of holding such talks.

However, as President Trump continuously observes, personal relations between he and I are not hostile like the relationship between the two countries, and we still maintain good relations and can exchange letters of asking about each other's health any time as we wish.

If the United States proposes holding the third round of summit talks after finding out with a proper attitude a methodology that can be shared with us, we are ready to have another round of talks.

But in my opinion at this moment, it comes to my mind that there is no need for me to be set on the summit talks with the United States with a thirst for the lifting of sanctions.

Anyway, we will wait and see with patience whether the United States makes a courageous decision or not till the end of this year, but it will obviously be difficult to get another good chance like the previous one.

In future, I will put my signature on an agreement without hesitation only when it contains fair clauses which conform to the interests of both sides and which are acceptable to them, and this depends entirely on the stand the United States takes and the way of calculation it comes up with.

What is obvious is that if it persists in the present political way of calculation, the prospects of settlement of problems will be bleak and very dangerous.

At this crucial time, I hope that the United States will make a well-advised judgment and the second hand of the clock of the DPRK-US showdown which they stopped with so much difficulty will not move again for all ages.

The government of the Republic will strengthen and develop the bonds of friendship and cooperation with all the countries of the world that respect the sovereignty of our country and are friendly to it, and will advance hand in hand with all the peace-loving forces of the world to establish a lasting and durable peace mechanism on the Korean peninsula.

Comrades,

As I have just said, I will no longer set my heart on such a trivial issue as lifting sanctions by the hostile forces, but open up the way to prosperity by our own efforts.

Although the goal of our struggle is demanding and challenges and difficulties stand in the way of our socialist construction as ever, our Party and the government of our Republic are steadfast in their will to open a new phase of prosperity and achieve the ideal and goal of building a powerful country by their own efforts under the unfurled banner of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism.

The road of independence leads to prosperity and victory. Nothing can reverse or stop the dynamic advance of our State and people that have unshakable faith and will to pave their own way by themselves with confidence in their own strength.

Let us all make a general advance to successfully accomplish the cause of building a powerful socialist country, holding higher the banner of the great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism and firmly rallied behind the Party and the government of the Republic.

Seventh WPK Central Committee holds fourth plenum

The Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea took place on April 10 at the headquarters of the Party Central Committee.

WPK Chairman Kim Jong Un directed the plenary meeting.

The meeting was attended by members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, members and alternate members of its Political Bureau, members and alternate members of the WPK Central Committee and members of the Central Auditing Commission of the WPK.

Deputy directors of some departments of the WPK Central Committee and others were present as observers.

Chairman Kim Jong Un presided over the meeting upon authorization of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee.

The plenary meeting discussed the following agenda items:

1. On holding higher the banner of self-reliance in socialist construction

2. On the plan for the formation of state leadership bodies to be submitted to the First Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly

3. Organizational matters

The first item on the agenda was discussed at the plenary meeting.

WPK Chairman Kim Jong Un delivered a report on the first issue.

He said the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Party Central Committee was called to discuss and decide a series of important matters that arise in solidifying the country's independent economic foundations and stepping up socialist construction by holding higher the banner of self-reliance.

As he, in his report, scientifically

analysed the changed international circumstances and the peculiarities of the present aggravating situation and clarified the main points of the recent DPRK-US summit talks and the WPK's position on them, he underscored the need to more vigorously advance socialist construction on the basis of the independent national economy that suits the conditions and actual circumstances of the country and relies on local efforts, technology and resources under the uplifted banner of self-reliance, so as to deal a telling blow to the hostile forces that miscalculate they can bring the DPRK to its knees with the help of sanctions.

He reviewed and analysed the successes achieved and faults revealed in the struggle to speed up socialist construction under the uplifted banner of self-reliance after the Seventh Congress of the WPK, and set forth immediate goals to be achieved and tasks to be carried out without fail in further demonstrating the might of the self-reliant national

economy.

Judging from the fundamental requirements of the developing revolution and socialist construction, the Party Central Committee reaffirms that it is the WPK's steadfast political line to build a socialist power under the uplifted banner of self-reliance, the Chairman said.

On the basis of the scientific insight into the present state and prospect of the building of Korean-style socialism and the trend of the development of the situation, the WPK suggested the revolutionary slogan "Let us open a new road of advance for socialist construction under the uplifted banner of self-reliance!" in the New Year Address for this year, he said.

The priority issue in stepping up socialist construction under the uplifted banner of self-reliance is to provide a sure guarantee for developing the country's economy onto a new stage of growth by expanding and reinforcing the groundwork of the independent economy, he said, and specified immediate tasks to be tackled in each

sector of the national economy.

It is also important to fully exploit the economic potentials of the state in accelerating socialist construction under the banner of self-reliance, he noted.

He put special emphasis on decisively enhancing the role of Party organizations in the nationwide efforts to vigorously advance socialist construction under this banner.

He called on all Party organizations and officials to cherish the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude as the foremost wealth and thoroughly apply it to practice in order to usher in a golden age of socialist construction.

Speeches were made on the first item on the agenda.

Speakers unanimously extended full support to the WPK Chairman's historic report and expressed the resolve to implement the important tasks advanced at the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Party Central Committee at the cost of their lives by consistently upholding the banner of self-reliance as indicated by the Party's consistent political line reflecting the requirements of the prevailing situation and developing revolution.

The meeting discussed the second agenda item.

Kim Jong Un presented for discussion a proposal for the formation of state leadership bodies including the State Affairs Commission, the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly and the Cabinet of the DPRK to be submitted to the First Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly.

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The meeting decided with unanimous approval to submit the proposal to the First Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly.

It discussed the third agenda item of organizational affairs.

It recalled and held a by-election of members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee, as well as members and alternate members of its Political Bureau.

Kim Jae Ryong, Ri Man Gon, Choe Hwi, Pak Thae Dok, Kim Su Gil, Thae Hyong Chol and Jong Kyong Thaek were elected as members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee to fill vacancies.

Jo Yong Won, Kim Tok Hun, Ri Ryong Nam, Pak Jong Nam, Ri Hi Yong and Jo Chun Ryong were elected as alternate members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee to fill vacancies.

The meeting also recalled and held a by-election of members and alternate members of the Party Central Committee and a member of the Party

Central Auditing Commission.

Vice-chairmen of the Party Central Committee were removed and elected.

Pak Pong Ju and Ri Man Gon were elected vice-chairmen of the Party Central Committee.

The meeting recalled and elected members of the Party Central Military Commission to fill vacancies.

It elected Kim Jae Ryong, Ri Man Gon, Thae Jong Su and Kim Jo Guk members of the Party Central Military Commission to fill vacancies.

It removed and appointed directors of some departments of the Party Central Committee, and appointed first deputy department directors.

Chiefs of provincial Party committees were removed and appointed.

Chairman Kim Jong Un made a historic conclusion at the meeting.

He described the plenary meeting as a landmark event that set up an important milestone in putting forward self-reliance as the eternal lifeline of the Korean revolution, safeguarding and adding brilliance to the undying exploits of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman

Kim Jong Il and advancing the cause of building a powerful socialist country from the firm standpoint of Juche.

He emphasized some issues arising in applying the revolutionary stand and principle of self-reliance.

The basic spirit of the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Party Central Committee is to bring about a great upsurge in socialist construction by courageously mounting an all-out offensive, an all-out death-defying campaign, involving the whole Party, the entire country and all the people, with self-reliance as the treasured sword for prosperity, now that the building of an economic giant has come up as a key political task, he noted.

He referred to the need to launch a grand daring march for attaining the goals of economic construction set forth by the plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee so as to give full play to the aggressive stamina of the country and definitely switch over to a new stage of growth.

He underlined once again the

importance of the duty and role officials are assuming in drawing up a proper strategy of self-reliance and organizing and conducting all work on a scientific basis.

He said that to thoroughly establish the socialist lifestyle is an important undertaking to preserve the Juche character and national identity, retain the original features of socialism and give full play to its advantages in the domain of cultural life, and advanced the tasks facing Party organizations and officials in the efforts to do so.

He expressed expectation and conviction that all the officials and other Party members and working people would launch a grand dynamic march of self-reliance to successfully achieve the goals of struggle put forward by the plenary meeting, thereby bringing about fresh development in socialist construction and powerfully demonstrating once again the might of the country winning victory after victory by dint of self-development.

Compiled from KCNA

Press release of the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea

Members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee

Kim Jae Ryong, Ri Man Gon, Choe Hwi, Pak Thae Dok, Kim Su Gil, Thae Hyong Chol and Jong Kyong Thaek were elected to fill vacancies as members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee at the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh WPK Central Committee.

Jo Yong Won, Kim Tok Hun, Ri Ryong Nam, Pak Jong Nam, Ri Hi Yong and Jo Chun Ryong were by-elected as alternate members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee.



Kim Jae Ryong



Ri Man Gon



Choe Hwi



Pak Thae Dok



Kim Su Gil



Thae Hyong Chol



Jong Kyong Thaek

Compiled from KCNA

Alternate members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee



Jo Yong Won



Kim Tok Hun



Ri Ryong Nam



Pak Jong Nam



Ri Hi Yong



Jo Chun Ryong

Session: 14th SPA meets for its first session

FROM PAGE 1

In the discussion of the first item on the agenda, Choe Ryong Hae courteously proposed the SPA elect Kim Jong Un as chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, the supreme representative of all the Korean people and supreme leader of the country, which met with full support and approval of all the participants.

The session declared that Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, was elected chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK.

In the discussion of the second agenda item, the session elected Choe Ryong Hae as first vice-chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, Pak Pong Ju as its vice-chairman and Kim Jae Ryong, Ri Man Gon, Ri Su Yong, Kim Yong Chol, Thae Jong Su, Ri Yong Ho, Kim Su Gil, No Kwang Chol, Jong Kyong Thaek, Choe Pu Il and Choe Son Hui as its members.

The session also elected Choe Ryong Hae as president of the Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, Thae Hyong Chol and Kim Yong Dae as its vice-presidents, Jong Yong Guk as its secretary general and Kim Yong Chol, Kim Nung O, Kang Ji Yong, Ju Yong Gil, Kim Chang Yop, Jang Chun Sil, Pak Myong Chol, Ri Myong Chol, Kang Su Rin, Kang Myong Chol and Ri Chol as its members.

It elected Kim Jae Ryong as premier of the Cabinet.

The members of the Cabinet proposed by the Premier were appointed with unanimous approbation.

Ro Tu Chol was appointed as vice-premier-cum-chairman of the State Planning Commission; Im Chol Ung, Kim Tok Hun, Ri Ju O, Ri Ryong Nam, Jon Kwang Ho and Tong Jong Ho as vice-premiers; Ko In Ho as vice-premier-cum-minister of Agriculture; Ri Yong Ho as minister of Foreign Affairs; Kim Man Su as minister of Electric Power Industry; Mun Myong Hak as minister of Coal Industry; Kim Chung Gol as minister of Metallurgical Industry; Jang Kil Ryong as minister of Chemical Industry; Jang Hyok as minister of Railways; Kang Jong Gwan as minister of Land and Maritime Transport; Ryom Chol Su as minister of Mining Industry; Kim Chol Su as minister of National Natural Resources Development; Ko Kil Son as minister of Oil Industry; Han Ryong Guk as minister of Forestry; Yang Sung Ho as minister of Machine-building Industry; Kang Chol Gu as minister of Shipbuilding; Wang Chang Uk as minister of Nuclear Power Industry; Kim Jae Song as minister of Electronics Industry; Kim Kwang Chol as minister of Posts and Telecommunications; Pak Hun as minister of Construction and Building-materials Industry; Kwon Song Ho as minister of State Construction Control; Choe Il Ryong as minister of Light Industry; Jo Yong Chol as minister of Local Industry; Ri Kang Son as minister of Daily Necessities Industry; Song Chun Sop as minister of Fisheries; Ki Kwang Ho as minister of Finance; Yun Kang Ho as minister of Labour; Kim Yong Jae as minister of External Economic Relations; Ri Chung Gil as chairman of the

State Commission of Science and Technology; Jang Chol as president of the State Academy of Sciences; Kim Kyong Jun as minister of Land and Environment Protection-cum-director of the Forestry Policy Supervisory Department of the State Affairs Commission; Kang Yong Su as minister of Urban Management; Mun Ung Jo as minister of Food Procurement and Administration; Kim Kyong Nam as minister of Commerce; Kim Sung Du as chairman of the Education Commission; Choe Sang Gon as president of Kim Il Sung University and concurrently chairman of its Party guidance committee and minister of Higher Education; O Chun Bok as minister of Public Health; Pak Chun Nam as minister of Culture; Kim Il Guk as minister of Physical Culture and Sports; Kim Chon Gyun as president of the Central Bank; Choe Sung Ho as director of the Central Bureau of Statistics; and Kim Yong Ho as secretary general of the Cabinet.

It appointed Kim Myong Gil as director of the Central Public Prosecutors Office and elected Kang Yun Sok as president of the Central Court.

It also elected the Legislation Committee, the Budget Committee and the Foreign Affairs Committee, panel committees of the SPA.

Choe Pu Il was elected as chairman of the Legislation Committee, with Kim Myong Gil, Kang Yun Sok, Pak Jong Nam, Kim Yong Bae, Jong Kyong Il and Ho Kwang Il as its members.

O Su Yong was elected as chairman of the Budget Committee, whose members are Ri Hi Yong, Hong So Hon, Kim Kwang Uk, Choe Yong Il, Pak Hyong Ryol and Ri Kum Ok.

Ri Su Yong was elected as chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, and Ri Ryong Nam, Ri Son Gwon, Kim Jong Suk, Choe Son Hui, Kim Song Il and Kim Tong Son were picked up as its members.

The Premier of the Cabinet took an oath of office on behalf of the Cabinet members.

Kim Phyong Hae, chairman of the Deputy Credentials Committee, made a report of the committee of the 14th SPA, which adopted a decision on approving the report.

The session discussed the third agenda item.

It adopted an ordinance of the SPA on revising and supplementing the Socialist Constitution of the DPRK.

Ki Kwang Ho made a report on the fourth agenda item.

The session adopted decision of the SPA "On approving the results of the implementation of the DPRK state budget for 2018" and ordinance of the SPA "On the DPRK state budget for 2019".

The 14th DPRK Supreme People's Assembly met for the second-day meeting of its first session at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on April 12.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un attended the meeting and delivered a historic policy speech.

All the deputies extended full support to his speech, unanimously acknowledging that the policy speech has clarified the orientation of development of the DPRK government and the path of a thriving socialist country building by reflecting the Korean people's will and demands.

Choe Ryong Hae made a closing address.

Compiled from KCNA



Kim Jong Un poses with senior officials and deputies

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un met with newly-elected members of Party and state leadership bodies at the office building of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and had a photo session with them on April 12.

He hoped that they would honourably discharge their responsibility and duty as the leading personnel of the revolution in the sacred struggle to pave a

new way for prosperity by dint of self-reliance and bring earlier the great victory of socialist power by always keeping in their minds the sacred mission assigned by the Party and people.

He exceptionally met with the members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and shared the feeling of revolutionary comradeship, before having photographs taken

with them. He also posed for a camera with members of the State Affairs Commission.

He also had photos taken with members of the newly-formed Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly and the Cabinet, as well as deputies to the 14th SPA in front of the Mansudae Assembly Hall.

He congratulated the deputies on the successful holding of the First Session of the 14th SPA

amid high political enthusiasm, expressing expectations and belief that they would creditably fulfil their revolutionary duty as faithful servants of the people and number one standard-bearers in implementing the Party policies always cherishing in their minds the deep trust and expectations of the Party and people.

Compiled from KCNA

First vice-chairman, vice-chairman and members of the DPRK State Affairs Commission



First Vice-Chairman
Choe Ryong Hae



Vice-Chairman
Pak Pong Ju



Member
Kim Jae Ryong



Member
Ri Man Gon



Member
Ri Su Yong



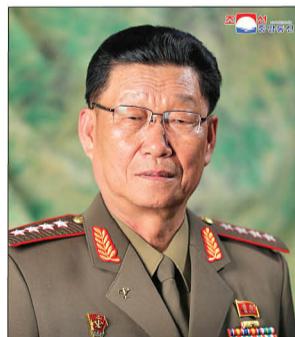
Member
Kim Yong Chol



Member
Thae Jong Su



Member
Ri Yong Ho



Member
Kim Su Gil



Member
No Kwang Chol



Member
Jong Kyong Thaek



Member
Choe Pu II



Member
Choe Son Hui

President and vice-presidents of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly



President
Choe Ryong Hae



Vice-President
Thae Hyong Chol



Vice-President
Kim Yong Dae

Premier and vice-premiers of the Cabinet



Premier
Kim Jae Ryong



Vice-Premier and
chairman of the SPC
Ro Tu Chol



Vice-Premier
Im Chol Ung



Vice-Premier
Kim Tok Hun



Vice-Premier
Ri Ju O



Vice-Premier
Ri Ryong Nam



Vice-Premier
Jon Kwang Ho



Vice-Premier
Tong Jong Ho



Vice-Premier
Ko In Ho

Art performance "Our National Flag" was given on April 12 at the East Pyongyang Grand Theatre in honour of the deputies to the 14th Supreme People's Assembly.

Among the audience were Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, first vice-chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and president of the Presidium of the SPA, Pak Pong Ju, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice-chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee, Premier Kim Jae Ryong, member of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, and other deputies to the 14th SPA.

Artistes of leading art troupes

HONOUR

Art performance and reception given in honour of SPA deputies

put on stage masterpieces of the times.

Patriotic feelings pervaded the hall as it resounded with prelude "Our National Flag" led by the children.

The performers represented the glorious history of the DPRK which is advancing victoriously upholding the banner of self-reliance under the leadership of the great Party in a solemn and beautiful musical epic with such numbers as orchestral music and male chorus *We Started from Scratch*, female duet and male chorus *Are We Living like in Those Days?* and

male chorus *We Wish Comrade Supreme Commander Good Health.*

Medley of songs *The Dear Name Called by People*, female solo and male chorus *We Will Follow Marshal to End* reminded the audience of the glorious days when they led a worthwhile life as revolutionary fighters.

The performance was highly acclaimed by the audience.

A reception was given at the Mokran House on April 12 in honour of the participants in the First Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly.

Upon authorization

of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, Choe Ryong Hae, in his speech, congratulated the participants who assumed heavy responsibilities with the confidence and expectations of the Party and people.

He called on all of them to become genuine leading members of the revolution and stout doers who make substantial achievements by devoting themselves to implementing the spirit of the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh WPK Central Committee, with self-reliance as the treasured sword for development and

prosperity.

They should plan everything on the basis of Party policies, learn from the people and encourage them to make decisive innovations in their fields and units, well aware that President Kim Il Sung, Chairman Kim Jong Il and the people are always watching them, he said.

He referred to the need for them to work harder as passionate loyalists to be always remembered by the Party and the people, keeping in mind the special honour and important mission of making the revolution, sharing the intention and feeling, joy and worry with the Supreme Leader.

Choe expressed the belief that the DPRK would surely emerge as a powerful socialist country as it is led by Kim Jong Un.

LEADING ARTICLE

President Kim Il Sung lives on in the hearts of people

With the Day of the Sun just in the offing, all the Korean people look back with immense yearning upon the life of President Kim Il Sung, who was always among the people and mindful of how to provide them with happiness.

Cherishing "The people are my God" as his motto all his life, the President trusted in the people and always found himself among them in the whole period of his leadership of the revolution and construction.

Therefore, the Korean people have built monuments dedicated to his visits to their workplaces and villages to always remember and pass on the stories about them to the younger generations.

Whenever he met the people, he sat together with them without ceremony, opened his heart to them and gave instructions persuasively in their language on how to better their living.

In mountain villages he told the locals to make effective

use of the mountains, gather wild fruits, medicinal herbs and wild vegetables abundant in the mountains, develop livestock farming, promote bee-keeping and do silk raising on a large scale, saying they should harvest "treasures" in the mountains.

When he heard the students at seaside villages saying they wanted to become tractor drivers or lathe operators, he persuaded them to become conquerors of the sea who extract abundant natural resources from the sea in the future, saying that they could lead a happy life only when they conquer nature and that they should think of catching the fishes teeming in the sea off their villages.

At factories he shook workers by their grease-stained hands, and at farms he sat together with farmers at the edge of fields and had a talk informally with them.

His jokes, good humour, informal chat about life and precious advice made the people

feel at home to be with him and regard him as their dear father rather than their leader.

As he took the greatest pleasure of his life in the betterment of the people's living, whenever he visited the homes of ordinary people

he first opened the lids of their rice chests and cooking ovens to see the situation of their living, and at the hostels of workers he opened the chests of clothes and quilts to see how they lived. And whenever he met children he opened their satchels to see the textbooks and pencils they used and lunch boxes to know what they ate.

In June 1994,

the last year of his life, he visited the agricultural workers to acquaint himself with the farming in Onchon County of South Phyongan Province and Taesong District of Pyongyang despite the sizzling summer heat of over 30 degrees centigrade at

the advanced age of over 80.

As he devoted his all to the happiness of the people always finding himself among them, the Korean people lauded him as the "father of the people".

By Kim Rye Yong PT



RI TONG GYU / RODONG SINMUN

An endless stream of visitors flows to President Kim Il Sung's birthplace at Mangyongdae, which reflects the Koreans' deep yearning for him.

EXHIBITION

Candy sculpture show lures many visitors

The fourth sweets and cake sculpture exhibition took place at Chongnyu Restaurant in Pyongyang between April 9 and 11 to mark the Day of the Sun.

"The annual event which began in 2016 is a good occasion for improving food culture and the level of civilization of our people," said Ri Yong Il, department director of the Cooks Association of Korea.

The recent exhibition drew over 50 public catering establishments and foodstuff factories. On show there were candy sculptures produced on various themes.

The exhibits drew the admiration of many visitors as they reminded them of elaborate works of art.

Most attractive was the booth of Okryu Restaurant.

Over 40 exhibits on display against the backdrop of the miniature version of Delicacy House under Okryu Restaurant were highly appreciated as each of them was very distinctive in plastic arts and method of depiction.

Over 10 000 rice grains, nearly 300 maize grains, watery nut-pine needle leaves and a large number of small sharp points on

chestnut burrs made by Ri Su Gyong, a cook who came first in the same exhibition last year, were so lifelike that the visitors lavished praise on her.

Other draws included "Apricot tree" of Chongnyu Restaurant, "Eight fairies of Mt Kumgang" of Chongchun Restaurant, "Flower and butterfly" from the Pyongyang Koryo Hotel, "Gold carp" from Haebangsan Hotel and "Magnolia" of the Kyonghung Unhasu Foodstuff Factory.

Ornamental cakes and cake sculptures of various animals and main characters of animations from the Sonhung Foodstuff Factory, Kumkhop General Foodstuff Factory for Sportspeople, Pyongyang Wheat Flour Processing Factory, Pyongyang Children's Cake Factory and Ryugyong Restaurant were a showcase for the deep thinking and refined skills of the cooks.

Exhibits from the Songdowon and other provincial general foodstuff factories also showed the rising level of the dietary life of the Korean people.

The exhibition was enlivened as it featured the demonstration of excellent cooks and provided a variety of service.



The fourth sweets and cake sculpture exhibition is held at the Chongnyu Restaurant.

KCNA

MARATHON

Pyongyang hosts int'l marathon



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A flock of runners leave Kim Il Sung Stadium as the 30th Mangyongdae Prize International Marathon kicks off.

The 30th Mangyongdae Prize International Marathon took place in Pyongyang on April 7 to mark the birth anniversary of President Kim Il Sung, or the Day of the Sun.

Marathoners from the DPRK, China, Morocco, Kenya and Ethiopia and amateur runners from different countries competed in marathon, half marathon and 10 km and 5 km races.

In the marathon event, DPRK marathoners Ri Kang Bom (man) and Ri Kwang Ok (woman) came first, Ethiopia's Dabi Tadesse Yae (man) and the DPRK's Jo Un Ok (woman)

second and the DPRK's Han Il Ryong (man) and Kim Ji Hyang (woman) third.

In the half marathon the DPRK's men and women runners won gold, silver and bronze medals.

In the amateur event a Russian male and a Swedish female took the first place, a Portuguese man and an Austrian woman the second and an Irish male and an Austrian female the third.

At the closing ceremony trophies, medals, diplomas and certificates were awarded to successful runners.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

