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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Letter dated 15 September 1988 from the Permanent Representatives of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

At the request of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea we have the honour to transmit to you herewith a document entitled "Position of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea regarding the supplementary item entitled 'Fortieth anniversary of the establishment of the Government of the Republic of Korea' (see A/43/196/Rev.1 and Add.1)" (see annex).

We would be most grateful if this letter and the annex could be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 8 of the provisional agenda.

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to the United Nations

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ANNEX

Position of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea regarding
the supplementary item entitled "Fortieth anniversary of the
establishment of the Government of the Republic of Korea"
(see A/43/196/Rev.1 and Add.1)

The United States, Japan and some other countries have proposed to include in the agenda of the forty-third session of the General Assembly a supplementary item entitled "Fortieth anniversary of the establishment of the Government of the Republic of Korea", aimed at discussing the question of the "anniversary" of an observer, not a Member of the United Nations.

The co-sponsors of the supplementary item requested in A/43/196/Rev.1 and Add.1 explain the reason for the presentation of the item by saying that the "government" of south Korea came into being "with the effective involvement of the United Nations".

It is worth while to recall the deliberations on the Korean question in the United Nations 40 years ago.

The United States brought an internal matter of the Korean nation, not a post-war issue, to be considered before the United Nations contrary to Article 2, paragraph 7, of the Charter of the United Nations, and finally fabricated an unjustified resolution on having an "election under the supervision of the United Nations" in south Korea.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea proposed in those days the establishment of a unified government through a democratic general election throughout the peninsula free from any outside interference, so as to remove the danger of division of the nation.

The United States, however, conducted a separate "election under United Nations supervision" in south Korea on 10 May 1948, thus "establishing" the "Republic of Korea" with Syngman Rhee, then an American citizen, as its "president". The "government" was overthrown by the popular uprising that took place in April 1960 in south Korea.

The Korean people have always opposed the American interference in the internal affairs of Korea.

"Various attitudes were assumed by the major political groups towards the Commission after its arrival in Seoul early in January 1948. ... [They,] with some variation of emphasis, urged from the time of the Commission's arrival that it should cease its activities and leave the Koreans to settle their problems themselves. A characteristic charge levelled at the Commission ... was that it acted only as the servant of the United States 'imperialism'" (report of the United Nations Temporary Commission on Korea, A/575, submitted to the third session of the United Nations General Assembly in 1948).

The Canadian representative of the United Nations Temporary Commission on Korea stated that the "decision from the Interim Committee was unwise and unconstitutional" and all the members of the Commission had "genuine doubts whether it was legally open to them to implement the resolution of the General Assembly in one part of Korea only" (ibid.).

The "election under United Nations supervision" in south Korea was, in fact, a forced election held under the strict watch of the American forces.

The United Press correspondent who inspected the separate election in south Korea reported that "American reconnaissance planes flew overhead and thousands of policemen and specially appointed civilians, with the backing of the United States troops, set up barricades at main points and intersections. The Korean guards were armed with United States carbines. The atmosphere of election resembled that of a city under martial law" (South Korean paper Kyonghyang Sinmun, 12 May 1948). This proves that the south Korean government is an offspring of the misuse by the United States of the rights of the United Nations, a government that was established with the mobilisation of huge American forces.

The supplementary item requested in A/43/196/Rev.1 and Add.1 is designed to refurbish the image of south Korea, making use of the unfair past when the United States abused the name of the United Nations for the division of Korea, and to create an atmosphere favourable to south Korea's "admission to the United Nations", thus having "two Koreas" legalized internationally. Such a move of opposing the will of the international community does not accord with the objectives and principles of the United Nations, and it is against the aspirations of the Korean people longing for the removal of antagonism and confrontation between the north and the south and for the national reunification.

1. The proposed inclusion in the agenda of the session of the General Assembly of an item on the "fortieth anniversary of the establishment of the Government" of south Korea is contrary to the objectives and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the resolutions of the General Assembly.

The purpose of the United Nations is to maintain international peace and security, as stipulated in Article 1 of the Charter. Respect for the objectives and principles of the United Nations is of great significance in maintaining international peace and security and implementing other objectives of the United Nations.

South Korea is not a member of the United Nations. Attempts to include the question of "anniversary of the establishment of the government" of south Korea in the agenda of the session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, which rejected the south Korean requests for its "admission to the United Nations", constitute acts of challenging the United Nations and its Member States.

South Korea submitted the requests for "United Nations membership" several times during the period from 1948 and 1975, and all of them were rejected.

These attempts are designed to make the role of the United Nations useless.

Making discussions on the anniversary of national days a customary practice in the sessions of the General Assembly will prevent the United Nations from concentrating its attention upon international peace and security and other urgent and important international matters.

The United States wants the United Nations to be an obsolete organization in which the national days are merely celebrated.

Therefore, the proposal to include in the agenda of the session of the General Assembly the supplementary item requested in A/43/196/Rev.1 and Add.1 and to discuss the item in the plenary meetings of the General Assembly does not meet the demands of the United Nations Member States for increased administrative and financial efficiency to promote the functioning and role of the United Nations. It is contrary to General Assembly resolution 2925 (XXVII), which "expressed the conviction that it is necessary to strengthen the role of the United Nations so that it may bring an increased contribution to the settlement of international issues in the interest of all peoples and of general peace and security".

Attempts to create an atmosphere for the creation of "two Koreas" under the item "Fortieth anniversary of the establishment of the Government of the Republic of Korea" will only help expand the confrontation between the north and the south even to the arena of the United Nations and sow seeds of trouble capable of aggravating the tension in the world, particularly in the region of the Far East.

The artificial division of Korea, a homogeneous nation, constitutes a source of discord and war, and it is detrimental to the Joint Statement of 4 July 1972 agreed to both by the north and the south of Korea.

Partition of the Korean peninsula will contribute to the increased international tension and confrontation. It is, therefore, contrary to General Assembly resolution 2734 (XXV), entitled "Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security", which "solemnly reaffirms that States must fully respect the sovereignty of other States and the right of peoples to determine their own destinies, free of external intervention, coercion or constraint, and refrain from any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and territorial integrity of any other State or country".

2. The proposed discussion of the item on the "fortieth anniversary of the establishment of the Government" of south Korea in the plenary meetings of the General Assembly will get the United Nations and its Members involved in the moves by the United States and south Korea to have the present division of Korea and "two Koreas" legalized.

The United States and Japan are working to get the United Nations and its Member States entangled in their attempts to freeze the division of Korea.

Through the decision on Korea adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session, the Member States unanimously supported and welcomed the 4 July North-South Joint Statement, a programme for the reunification of Korea. The United States is working to make them give up their support for the 4 July

Joint Statement and back the division of Korea, an act that constitutes a challenge to General Assembly resolution 2925 (XXVII), which "urged all Member States to fulfil their obligations under the Charter and, in accordance with its provisions, to implement the resolutions of United Nations organs".

Acceptance by the United Nations and its Member States of inclusion in the agenda of the session of the General Assembly of the supplementary item requested in A/43/196/Rev.1 and Add.1 would only help incite the north and the south of Korea to a political confrontation and create an obstacle that could disrupt the preliminary meetings under way to prepare for the north-south joint parliamentary meeting.

The international community is requested to help create a favourable atmosphere in which the north and the south of Korea could resolve their internal problems through dialogue and negotiation, thus contributing to the strengthening and promotion of international peace and security.
