

The Upholding of Trust in External Trade and the Improving of the National Trade Structure as Part of the Position of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (Summary)

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In developing the nation's economy, raising the people's standard of living, and continuing to expand and develop economic cooperative relations with other nations, the DPRK has been looking with deep interest to upholding trust in external trade and improving the trade structure.

Comrade Kim Jong Un made the following statement:

“In external trade, we must uphold trust, lose our one-sidedness, and improve the trade structure in a direction which raises the specific gravity of processed export goods, technological trade, and service trade.”

Honoring in good faith the rights and obligations stipulated in contracts and agreements related to trade transactions is precisely upholding trust in trade.

In the DPRK, we stipulate the planned execution of external trade under the unified guidance of the state in the “Law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on Trade”.

In the DPRK, all reproduction processes, from production of manufactured goods to realization, have basically been formed domestically, and we are safeguarding production on our own of what is necessary in large part for production and construction, from raw materials production to production of finished goods.

The trade with an applicable country is reflected in the trade structure of the country. At the current time, the DPRK is improving the trade structure in a direction which raises the

specific gravity of exports of processed goods, technological trade, and service trade.

Moreover, we are gradually shifting exports of raw materials to exports of semi-finished goods, and exports of semi-finished goods to exports of finished goods, and we are improving the trade structure to an export structure which decisively increases the share of processed goods, including finished goods in exports.

On introducing or utilizing technology, including patents and knowhow, via technological trade, we raise the efficiency of labor productivity, achieve rapid development of science and technology, and are able to shorten the process of technology acquisition. The continuing to raise the specific gravity of technological trade, through this once again, lies in actively striving to export the technology we have developed.

We are striving to improve the trade structure via service trade, namely trade undertaken with intangible services as its target, excluding commodity trade transactions. Generally a wide range of sectors belong here, including construction, transportation, insurance, communications, intellectual property rights, labor, tourism, physical training, the arts, medical care, and education.

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