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Letter to Those Attending the Eighth Congress
of the Union of Agricultural Workers of Korea
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In this stirring period, when the service personnel and people are working a miracle in turning misfortune into blessing on the front line of rehabilitating the disaster-stricken northern areas of North Hamgyong Province, true to the militant call of the Party, and are flying the flag of the victorious 200-day campaign in all the places where a powerful socialist country is being built, the Eighth Congress of the Union of Agricultural Workers of Korea is being held.

This congress will constitute an important occasion in honouring the imperishable exploits performed by the great leaders for the development of the UAWK and in stepping up the building of a powerful socialist country by improving the role of UAWK organizations under the Party’s leadership.

I warmly congratulate the congress and extend militant greetings to those attending it and all other officials of the UAWK and agricultural workers.

The UAWK is a mass-based political organization of our socialist agricultural workers which was founded and developed under the wise guidance of the great leaders; it is a reliable transmission belt and peripheral organization of the Party.

The great Comrade Kim Il Sung, based on the unique idea and tradition he created in the days of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle of building a Juche-oriented peasants organization, founded a patriotic and revolutionary peasants union after the liberation of the country. He ensured that changes were brought about in resolving the problems of the peasants and agriculture by implementing the historic agrarian reform and agricultural cooperativization and implementing the socialist rural theses; and in step with the intensification of the revolution and construction, he saw to it that the peasants union was developed into the Union of Agricultural Workers of Korea.
The great Comrade Kim Jong Il provided energetic guidance for defending and honouring Comrade Kim Il Sung’s idea of and exploits in socialist rural construction and for ensuring that UAWK organizations creditably perform their duties as organizations providing ideological education. He made sure that the union held fast to carrying out the socialist rural theses as its central task and further improved the role of its organizations in the gigantic practical struggle for increasing agricultural production, realigning crop fields and building gravitational waterways.

The UAWK and agricultural workers, in support of the leadership of the Party and the leaders during every decade of the revolution, strove to consolidate the class position in the countryside and fulfil their responsibilities and basic duties as masters on the agricultural front.

The peasants who, after the liberation of the country, became the masters of their land and their country thanks to the benevolence of Comrade Kim Il Sung, launched campaigns for increasing agricultural production and donating cereals out of patriotism; in this way they faithfully supported the Party’s line of nation building. In the grim days of the Fatherland Liberation War they fought self-sacrificingly even under the indiscriminate bombing by enemy aircraft, so as to send larger amounts of food grain to the front. In the difficult postwar days, while following Comrade Kim Il Sung with firm trust in him, they carried out the Party’s policy on agricultural cooperativization and thus transformed the rural economy along socialist lines within a short period and developed it significantly; in this way, they confirmed through practice the advantages of the collective economy.

In the days of the Arduous March and forced march, the agricultural workers, without hesitating or vacillating in the face of the worst adversity and trials, made tireless efforts to defend the socialist rural economic system and increase agricultural
production. During this year’s 70-day and 200-day campaigns, UAWK organizations and agricultural workers raised a strong wind of collective competition, and thus brought about a surge in output and achieved excellent results in crop and fruit production.

I extend warm thanks to the members of the UAWK and all the other agricultural workers, who have worked with devotion, dedicating their pure sweat and blood to the fields of the country out of loyalty and patriotism so as to carry out the great leaders’ idea on socialist rural construction and the Party’s policy on agriculture.

Today the UAWK and agricultural workers are faced with the heavy and yet honourable task of contributing to hastening the final victory of the Juche-oriented socialist cause by carrying out the socialist rural theses, true to the programme of modelling the whole society on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism advanced at the Seventh Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea.

Agricultural workers, together with the working class, constitute the main force in building a powerful socialist country, and the agricultural front is now a major point of attack in building the country into a socialist economic giant. Only when agricultural workers are trained to be genuine masters of the socialist countryside through the improved role of the UAWK and the agricultural front achieves the great victory intended by the Party, can our revolutionary position be made rock-solid and the cause of building a powerful socialist country accomplished with success.

If the UAWK is to fulfil the noble mission and duties it has assumed before the times and the revolution, it should model itself on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism.

Modelling itself on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism—this is the general objective and general fighting task of the UAWK. It should develop itself into an eternal organization of the great leaders and of the Party by preparing all its members as true Kimilsungists-Kimjongilists and conducting its construction and
activities as Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il did.

The UAWK should add further lustre to the leadership exploits of the great leaders and faithfully support the Party’s leadership.

It should hold high the great leaders as the Sun of Juche for all ages and honour down through the generations their idea on and imperishable exploits in socialist rural construction. It should regard their instructions as its guidelines and apply them fully in its construction and activities.

Establishing a comprehensive system of the Party’s unified leadership is the decisive guarantee for modelling the whole UAWK on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism. Only when such a system is established within the UAWK can its organizations be developed into powerful and militant ones that share the Party Central Committee’s ideology, and breathe the same air as and keep pace with the Party Central Committee and can they fully perform their revolutionary tasks.

They should establish revolutionary discipline and order by which they organize and conduct all their work in line with the requirements of the Party’s ideas and policies, report problems to the Party promptly and deal with them according to its conclusion. They should create a revolutionary atmosphere of accepting the Party’s ideas and lines as the absolute truth and defy death to implement its policies, however difficult the conditions and circumstances.

The UAWK should mobilize its organizations and agricultural workers to the effort for implementing the socialist rural theses.

The theses published by Comrade Kim Il Sung clearly explains the fundamental principles, tasks and ways for solving the socialist rural question; it addresses the issue of carrying out the three revolutions–ideological, technological and cultural–in the countryside. The theses is our Party’s programme for socialist rural construction intended to finally solve the rural question and
a militant banner the UAWK should always hold up.

The UAWK should direct primary efforts to carrying out the ideological revolution in the countryside.

The ideological revolution in the countryside in the new era of the Juche revolution is a higher stage of ideological education; it is the work of transforming people, aimed at training all agricultural workers into genuine Kimilsungists-Kimjongilists and faithful agricultural workers of the Party in line with the requirements of modelling the whole society on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism.

UAWK organizations should take ideological education for training their members into Kimilsungists-Kimjongilists as their main duty, and orient the content and methods of ideological education to it.

They should intensify the five-point education, with the focus on education in the greatness of the leaders, so as to train all their members into genuine rural revolutionaries and patriotic farmers who are boundlessly loyal to the Party and the leaders, and who hold fast to Kim Jong Il’s patriotism, a firm revolutionary faith, high-level class consciousness and ennobling moral traits.

They should conduct effective education to arm their members with the Party’s agricultural policy. They should make sure that their members have a correct understanding of the Party’s agricultural policy and its other policies put forward in every period, as well as the Juche farming method. They should encourage their members to equip themselves with the revolutionary soldier spirit, the spirit of the Paektusan hero youth and the spirit of self-reliance and self-development, and to apply them in their practical work, thus creating new heroic miracles in the Mallima era.

They should strengthen education in collectivism so as to make their members value the interests of society and the community more than their individual interests, to take a
voluntary and sincere part in the collective life and communal labour and to find the worth of a genuine life in their society and community. They should encourage their members to learn from the ennobling self-sacrificing spirit of the farmer heroes of the Songun era who dedicated their lives without hesitation for the sake of their comrades and collective, so that revolutionary comradeship and collectivist spirit of helping and caring for one another pervades their organizations.

They should steadily intensify ideological education and the ideological struggle among agricultural workers so as to thwart the imperialists’ moves for ideological and cultural infiltration, thus allowing no room for the capitalist ideology and culture and alien lifestyle to infiltrate and ensuring that no outdated ideological remnants and non-socialist practices are revealed among them.

They should conduct ideological education as suited to the preparedness of agricultural workers and the specific situation in the rural areas. As agricultural work differs according to the season, political and ideological education should be undertaken in different ways; in a brief and flexible way in the fields in the busy season and in an intensive and profound way in the slack season. They should conduct education on a planned and regular basis via the bases for ideological education.

The educational system established within the UAWK should be run efficiently, and the sense of responsibility and role of study session lecturers, public lecturers and expounders enhanced. The newspaper Nongop Kulloja and other publications should be responsive to Party policy and the demands of the reality, and edited in keeping with the characteristics of agricultural workers, so that they become close companions of the UAWK members and other agricultural workers. It is also necessary to prepare substantive materials for political work for every period, send them down to
the lower echelons promptly and make effective use of them.

UAWK organizations should push forward the technological and cultural revolutions in the countryside in line with the demands for building a sci-tech power and civilized nation.

Giving priority to the ideological revolution while pushing forward the technological and cultural revolutions is the basic way of successfully building a powerful socialist country and accomplishing the Juche-oriented socialist cause by solving the rural question once and for all.

Only when the technological revolution is conducted dynamically in the countryside can the essential differences between agricultural labour and industrial labour be eliminated, agricultural workers be freed from backbreaking and hard labour and a rapid increase be brought about in agricultural production.

UAWK organizations should regard the technological revolution as vitally important for agricultural development and socialist rural construction and make a positive contribution to achieving a high level of irrigation, electrification, mechanization and the application of agrochemicals in the rural economy. They should pay particular attention to the comprehensive mechanization of the rural economy so as to raise the level of mechanization in farm work radically. They should vigorously conduct the movements for invention, technical conception and technical innovation in agricultural development, and make sure that all agricultural workers possess one or more skills and know how to operate modern farm machines properly. Agricultural workers should be well-versed in agricultural science and technology and the latest farming methods and do all their farm work in a scientific and technological way. In this way, they can become the practitioners and masters of scientific farming.

Stepping up the cultural revolution in the countryside is a key task in building a civilized socialist nation.
Agricultural workers should be involved in the study-while-you-work system, in line with the requirements for making all the people well-versed in science and technology, and they should be prepared as intelligent workers of the new era who possess a knowledge of agriculture and of science and technology. If the halls of culture in ri and agricultural sci-tech learning spaces at farms and workteams are well run, agricultural workers can acquire a scientific and technological knowledge of farming and other fields, as befits the masters of a cultured socialist countryside.

UAWK organizations should make sports mass-based and part of daily life in the countryside, so as to increase the ranks of model sports units, and they should create an enthusiasm for sports in rural villages across the country. They should conduct various forms of mass-based cultural and artistic activities so that the songs of struggle and life ring out in crop fields, and agricultural workers are encouraged to work and live in an optimistic manner, filled with revolutionary enthusiasm.

UAWK members in the rural education and public health sectors should improve the level of education of the rising generations and medical services by thoroughly implementing our Party’s policies on education and public health.

UAWK organizations should lead their members and other agricultural workers to spruce up their villages and houses so as to make them more sanitized and civilized, plant fruit trees at every home and cover the mountains around their villages with thick forests out of warm affection for their country and native lands; in this way rural villages can be transformed into civilized and beautiful socialist paradises.

They should enlist their members and other agricultural workers in the struggle to carry out the Party’s agricultural policy, and thus effect a radical turn in agricultural production.

The agricultural front is an outpost in the battle for defending
socialism. We must farm well and thus solve the problem of food for the people; only then can we defend our style of socialism and build a powerful socialist country successfully.

UAWK organizations and agricultural workers should by all means achieve the agricultural production target set by the Seventh Party Congress and make our country rich in grain, vegetables, meat and fruit by bringing about great innovations and a great leap forward in agricultural production.

The masters of farming are the farmers, and the key to increased agricultural production lies in inspiring agricultural workers with enthusiasm for production. They should do all their farm work in a scientific way and assiduously and meticulously, as required by the Juche farming method and from the standpoint of being masters responsible for filling the country’s granaries, and they should execute the agricultural production plan without fail. The field responsibility system should be introduced, in accordance with the Party’s wishes, so as to enhance the sense of responsibility and enthusiasm for production among agricultural workers.

UAWK organizations should carry out the Party’s policy on scientific farming.

The present is an era of scientific farming, and agricultural production is guaranteed not by the natural and climatic conditions but by agricultural science and technology.

To bring about a turn in agricultural production, it is imperative to breed many high-yielding, superior grain species and propagate them on a large scale by holding fast to the Party’s policy on the seed revolution. Along with this, efforts should be concentrated on fully solving the scientific and technological problems arising in agricultural development, such as developing advanced farming techniques and methods, and inventing and introducing high-performance farm machinery and equipment.

The agricultural sector should breed seeds and distribute
crops correctly as suited to the features of each locality, manure and cultivate them on a scientific and technological basis, actively introduce advanced farming methods and establish the food production cycle, thus raising farming to a higher scientific and intensive level. The sector should ensure that the validity and vitality of the Party’s policy on scientific farming are constantly and vividly manifested in practice by increasing the number of farms, workteams and sub-workteams that conduct farming on the strength of science and technology and so enjoy the benefits of science and technology.

UAWK members and other agricultural workers should take loving care of their land and farm machinery and equipment.

Land is the basic means of production in agriculture, and farm machinery and equipment are agricultural workers’ weapons and combat equipment. UAWK organizations should ensure that their members and other agricultural workers tend the farm fields as meticulously as they would do their own gardens, and treasure and take good care of their farm machinery and equipment. UAWK members and other agricultural workers should be encouraged to produce a larger quantity of quality manure for applying to paddy and non-paddy fields, and make acidified fields fertile by spreading slaked lime on them, carpeting them with fresh soil and planting legumes there. They should also be led to keep and maintain their tractors and other farm machines and facilities properly, repair them promptly and use them effectively.

UAWK organizations should launch vigorous mass movements among the agricultural workers.

Mass movements are a powerful means of rousing the revolutionary enthusiasm and creativity of agricultural workers and of boosting agricultural production through collective innovation. Launching vigorous mass movements in the rural areas is an important task assigned to UAWK organizations.
These organizations should organize and conduct wide-scale mass movements, including the socialist emulation drive, the movement to create model lathes following the example of Lathe No. 26, the mass technical innovation drive and various do-good-deeds movements so as to inspire the agricultural workers continuously with enthusiasm for production.

The farming sector should continuously expand the ranks of model cooperative farms by encouraging provinces, large crop-producing counties and cooperative farms to compete fiercely to increase unit-area yields.

The stockbreeding sector should launch a competition aimed at breeding more species of domestic animals that are strongly viable and quick in gaining weight, propagating them widely and overfulfilling the meat, egg and milk production plans. The fruit-growing sector should conduct the competition with the focus on producing delicious fruits in larger quantities by raising fruit farming to a higher scientific and intensive level. Competitions should also be organized to increase the production of vegetables, potatoes and cash crops.

UAWK organizations should control and guide mass movements efficiently. The results of socialist competitions should be judged fairly and their review and evaluation should be conducted in a meaningful way so as to make these mass movements undertaken by the agricultural workers themselves; then, agricultural workers can exchange and learn the good experience they have gained while conducting these movements.

The UAWK should render an active contribution to the struggle for realizing the independent reunification of the country and global independence.

It should strive to implement the great leaders’ instructions and the Party’s line on national reunification. It should strengthen its solidarity and collaboration with the progressive peasants
unions in south Korea and support the peasants and other people in south Korea in their struggle for anti-US independence, the democratization of society and national reunification.

It should, in its external activities, defend the high international prestige of the great leaders and their achievements, steadfastly apply the ideals and principles of our Party’s foreign policy and strengthen friendly exchanges, cooperation and solidarity with peasants organizations in various countries, so as to contribute to creating a favourable international environment for our revolution.

It is imperative to build up UAWK organizations and improve their militant functions and role.

A revolutionary work system and revolutionary discipline should be established in the UAWK.

UAWK organizations should establish throughout the union a well-regulated work system of moving as one under the unified leadership of the Party Central Committee and accepting and carrying out the Party’s lines and policies unconditionally, and of planning their work by giving top priority to the implementation of their basic duties and controlling and guiding the efforts to this end in a responsible manner. They should establish the rigid discipline of working in line with the demands of the Rules of the union and ensure that their officials and members do not commit acts that violate organizational discipline.

The Central Committee of the UAWK should plan the overall work of the union as intended by the Party and provide unified guidance over it, so as to make its organizations at all levels active, vibrant bodies. It should conduct effective organizational and political work for implementing the great leaders’ instructions and the Party’s policies that are related to the union’s work, and provide scrupulous control and guidance to its organizations.

Provincial, city and county committees of the UAWK should
make internal work aimed at strengthening the lower-echelon organizations organizationally and ideologically, their main task. They should establish a well-knit system of control and guidance for these organizations, and go down to them and render them proper assistance.

The primary organizations of the UAWK should be strengthened. To strengthen them, the grass-roots organizations of the UAWK, is the basis and starting point for strengthening the union as a whole. UAWK organizations at all levels should render effective assistance to its primary organizations as intended by the Party, so as to turn them all into organizations with high fighting efficiency. They should push forward the movement of creating model primary organizations, and expand their ranks.

The whole of the UAWK should put the main emphasis on the work with its members, which is the essence of its work.

UAWK organizations should work well with its core, active members and lead them to play the vanguard role in carrying out their revolutionary tasks and to become models for the masses in all aspects. They should direct strenuous efforts to working with laggards. No one is ever born bad, nor is there anyone who cannot be educated and transformed in our socialist society. They should care more warmly for those who are troubled about their prospects and living conditions and foster and promote their positive deeds, however negligible they may be, so as to transform them into progressive and active elements.

Organizational life should be intensified among UAWK members. UAWK organizations are the bases of their members’ political life; through organizational life, UAWK members are linked inseparably with the Party by a feeling of kinship and are trained to be revolutionaries. Intensifying the organizational life of agricultural workers is all the more important as they work in scattered areas. UAWK organizations should improve the level of
the organizational and ideological life of their members by providing substantial guidance over their organizational life, based on a proper methodology. They should ensure that all their members treasure their organizations, work and live by relying on them and carry out their decisions and assignments without fail. They should ensure that they take part in every gathering, such as meetings and study sessions.

UAWK officials should raise their own political and practical qualifications and improve their work methods and style.

Whether the union’s work is conducted properly in line with the Party’s intentions or not depends on the political and practical qualifications, abilities and role of its officials. Officials should maintain Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism as their steadfast faith, be well-versed in the Party’s agricultural policy, possess economic, scientific and technological knowledge and a general knowledge of different sectors and have high cultural attainments. UAWK organizations should scrupulously organize the work of improving the qualifications of their officials by various means such as workshops, demonstration lectures and meetings for swapping experience.

UAWK officials should learn from Comrade Kim Jong Il’s method of work and apply it thoroughly in their work. They should always go deep among the masses and, while working together with the union members in the field, explain to them the Party’s policies and the scientific and technological problems and general knowledge for raising good crops.

They should be modest in front of the masses, mix with them unceremoniously and strive to solve the problems arising among union members. They should smell of earth and be exemplary in their words and actions before union members.

They should eliminate formalism, expediency, clinging to outdated ways and laxity in their work, and establish a creative
and enterprising work style.

Party organizations should effectively guide and help UAWK organizations in their work.

Party organizations at all levels should direct their efforts to building up the ranks of UAWK officials. They should strengthen these ranks with people who are loyal to the Party, have high political and practical qualifications, are tempered in the practical struggle and enjoy the trust of the masses. They should pay close attention to educating these officials so that they can become hands-on officials who support the Party by achieving exceptional results in their work. They should identify among UAWK members working at production sites promising men and women who can be reserve officials for the UAWK, and train them systematically.

Party organizations should promptly inform UAWK organizations of the policies and directives advanced by the Party in each period, and control and guide their implementation; they should make a point of throwing their weight behind them so that they can conduct various mass movements vigorously.

They should enhance the independence of UAWK organizations so that they can conduct their work boldly, creatively and on their own initiative with an attitude befitting masters. They should be bold in assigning tasks to UAWK officials, help them carry out these tasks by relying on their own efforts and provide them with adequate conditions for their work. They should ensure that there is no sign of such practices as assigning burdensome social tasks to UAWK organizations and seconding their officials at random to other projects.

It is the firm will of our Party to carry out its socialist rural construction plan and successfully accomplish the Juche-oriented socialist cause by strengthening the UAWK and enhancing its militant functions and role, true to the noble intentions of the great leaders.
I am firmly convinced that UAWK organizations and all UAWK members will perform with credit their honourable mission and duties in developing the UAWK and carrying out the Juche-oriented socialist cause.