NK Brief No. 06-10-12-1

DPRK: NEW INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SYSTEM NEEDED

Already facing hardships due to the U.S. financial sanctions -- and most likely more of the same

in the wake of a nuclear test -- North Korea is pushing for the establishment of a new

international monetary system.

On October 6, the North Korean Rodong Sinmun (Newspaper of the Workers), stated that the

establishment of such a system is "necessary in order to break out of imperialism's subjugation

and control," and, "the establishment of an impartial international monetary system is an

important necessity for non-aligned and developing countries to achieve economic

independence," while stressing, "these countries need to invest in order to establish a new

international monetary system."

According to the paper, "the creation of an impartial international economic system is necessary

to check the arbitrariness of imperialists in the financial realm," and indirectly touches on North

Korea's woes, decrying, "non-aligned and developing countries can not prevent the arbitrary

actions of imperialists under the current unfair and antiquated international monetary system."

"Tearing down the unfair and antiquated international monetary system and creating a new,

impartial one is the collective task of peoples from all nations on a path to independence,"

according to the paper. What was lacking among all of these calls for change, however, was

any concrete suggestion from North Korea as to how this new system might be established.

Institute for Far Eastern Studies, Kyungnam University The Center for International Cooperation for North Korean Development

28-42 Samchung-dong, Chongro-ku, Seoul, 110-230, Korea Tel: 82-2-3700-0780 Fax: 82-2-3700-0707 E-mail: icnk@kyungnam.ac.kr http://ifes.kyungnam.ac.kr