



Security Council

Distr.: General
6 April 2020

Original: English

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006)

Letter dated 4 April 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Committee

I am writing with reference to paragraph 8 of Security Council resolution 2397 (2017), following Viet Nam's midterm report of 24 August 2019, to further inform you of the following:

Since the adoption of resolution 2397 (2017), the competent authorities of Viet Nam have strengthened their activities relating to the dissemination of relevant information and the promotion of full understanding of the resolution's provisions on the repatriation of nationals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea earning income abroad. Viet Nam's relevant agencies have thoroughly reviewed the status of all nationals of that country earning income in Viet Nam. Viet Nam has not issued licences for the new establishment or renewal of existing representative offices of enterprises of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea or work permits of nationals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Vietnamese authorities have stopped providing legalization of documentation, extending work permits and granting entry to nationals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for cooperation activities, as was mentioned in Viet Nam's midterm report.

By June 2019, the number of nationals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea working in Viet Nam had been reduced from 94 to 43, a decrease of more than 50 per cent. To date, there are 31 nationals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea remaining in Viet Nam (a decrease of 12 nationals since the last report). All the work permits of those people have expired. They currently only hold temporary stay visas (not a working visa, thus they cannot work). Due to the measures taken by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, such as closing its borders and suspending the entry of foreign visitors and all aviation and railway transportation to and from China and Russia, the above-mentioned individuals are not able to return to their home country for the time being.

Viet Nam reaffirms its commitment to fulfilling its obligations under Security Council resolutions related to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including resolution 2397 (2017).

(Signed) **Dang Dinh Quy**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the Socialist
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