



2 March 2007

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

Thank you for your letter of 28 February 2007, received yesterday, 1 March 2007, in person during your meeting with Mr. Melkert, UNDP Associate Administrator.

Concerning the future of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) Country Programme, I would like to reiterate that UNDP's actions have been guided by the collective decision of all UNDP Executive Board members on 25 January 2007. The measures included adjusting the content of the current Country Programme (2005-2006) and the proposed Country Programme (2007-2009) for DPRK to support sustainable human development objectives.

During the meeting, I understand that the Government of DPRK did not agree to such modifications and therefore is not in a position to agree to end all payments in hard currency to government, national partners, local staff and local vendors and discontinue sub-contracting of national staff via government recruitment as of 1 March 2007 (two measures decided by the Executive Board).

Under these circumstances, UNDP has no choice but to suspend its operations in DPRK. Should circumstances change at a later date, we would be willing to reconsider this position.

We will be taking the appropriate measures to implement the above action.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kemal Derviş', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Kemal Derviş

His Excellency
Mr. Pak Gil Yon
Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic
of Korea to the United Nations
New York, NY