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HOANG QUOC VIET LOOKS TO TIGHTENING OF
LEGAL CONSTRAINTS IN DRV TO IMPROVE
ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT

[Editor's Note: Hoang Quoc Viet is a long-time Communist leader, a member of the Central Committee of the Viet-Nam Workers' Party, and President of the North Vietnamese Federation of Trade Unions. He is also "Procurator General" of the "Supreme People Organ of Control," which is defined in Article 105 of the DRV Constitution as the body which "controls the observance of the law by all departments of the Council of Ministers, all local organs of State, persons working in organs of State and all citizens." It controls its own local bodies and reports to the Standing Committee of the National Assembly, not to the Council of Ministers.]

"STRENGTHEN THE SOCIALIST LEGAL SYSTEM
IN ORDER TO SATISFACTORILY SERVE ECONOMIC
MANAGEMENT" BY HOANG QUOC VIET

[Hanoi Hoc Tap in Vietnamese November 1971]

To insure the successful implementation of economic tasks in order to strengthen socialism in the North, the 19th Plenum of the Party Central Executive Committee stressed the heightening of the level of guidance of and the improvement of economic management. The Plenum considered them to be main measures. Moreover, the Plenum points out: "Intensify ideological and political education and strengthen the socialist legal system together with economic and organizational measures."

Experiences in the past ten years or more have demonstrated that the more consolidated and perfected the socialist production relationships are, the stronger the material and technological bases of socialism are, and the more varied economic activities are, the more economic management must manifest its creativeness through democracy and discipline, must adopt scientific and stabilized activities and must be insured by a solid socialist legal system. Loose economic management in the past period has reflected the fact that the socialist legal system has not been strictly implemented and the socialist legal system's effect on economic management still has been incorrectly understood. Therefore, in order to step up the improvement of economic management, it is impossible not to strengthen the socialist legal system.

1. Laws should faithfully reflect the economic relationships of a society. They "can never transcend the economic structure and the modernization of the society that corresponds to this economic structure." (Marx-Engels: Selected Works, Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1962, Volume 2, page 23). But the law is not simply a direct product of the economy. It is built and developed in accordance with the will of the State, the will of the ruling class. On the other hand, the law is not a passive product of the economy. It influences the economy and the entire social life.

In today's northern society, the law reflects the will of the working class. It is the tool that the people's democratic state uses to fulfill the historic mission of proletarian dictatorship. Our socialist legal system serves the working class in the struggle between the two paths

...struggle aimed at eliminating exploitation in our country and at advancing our national production from small-scale, individualistic, unorganized and backward production to large-scale socialist production having a modern structure and based on the system of all-people ownership and collective ownership of the main production means. In this struggle, the working class must keep a firm hold on the proletarian dictatorship and use the State machinery and the law as a weapon to simultaneously carry out the three revolutions, of which the technical revolution is the key.

Simultaneously carrying out the three revolutions is the fundamental and inevitable task to construct socialism in our country. Closely interrelated, the three revolutions create a combined power that encourages North Viet-Nam to advance. They are aimed at building a new economy, a new society and new men. The socialist legal system must reflect the contents and requirements of the three revolutions and insure the materialization of these contents and requirements. At present one of the main tasks to be fulfilled to step up the three revolutions is improving the economic management task. Therefore, the socialist legal system must exert a strong influence upon this link. Through laws, regulations and systems it contributes to strengthening and improving the socialist production relations, strengthening the material and technical base and improving man's views and morality.

On this point, Lenin pointed out: "Socialism cannot be achieved if there is no State-controlled organization having its own methods, an organization that forces tens of millions of people to adopt a uniform standard in production and in the distribution of the products they produce." (Lenin: Selected Works, Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1959, Volume 2, Part 2, page 491).

In our country, the role of the legal system in economic management is more important. Our country has moved from a backward agriculture toward socialism by bypassing the capitalist development state. Small-scale production has influenced the thoughts, behavior and work methods of our cadres and people, especially in the economic management sphere, by fostering liberalism, the tendency to work at one's own convenience, regionalism, sectarianism and the tendency of gaining private profits. In addition, the life-styles and thinking left by the previous rotten colonialist and feudalism regimes have not been eliminated.

Our socialist legal system must contribute to completely eradicating capitalist management and trade, must persistently struggle against bourgeois trade methods, bureaucracy, lack of criticism, violations of the law and crimes and must insure the absolute superiority of the economic management system and socialist trade.

Our country's national economy has developed in a harmonious and balanced manner according to a plan. This is exemplified by the State Plan. We can say that the State Plan is like a stick directing all economic and cultural activities and "an essential tool in the management of national economy. (Resolution of the 19th Party Central Committee Plenum) Any violation of the State Plan concerning a certain aspect, in a certain branch and in a certain locality will affect the national economy and daily life.

The State Plan is a consolidated law because it is a centralized manifestation of our Party's line and policy and State laws regarding the economic, cultural, military, political and social fields and shows the earnest desires of our people who have closely united in the anti-U.S. national salvation struggle and socialist construction. The legality of the State Plan is revealed in the legal norms that all economic units, economic management cadres and workers must fulfill because they are held responsible for any failure to fulfill their tasks by the Party, State and people.

To satisfactorily carry out the State Plan, it is not allowed to adopt the working methods of small producers, that is, to work without a plan, in a passive and shortsighted manner, at one's convenience or according to a patched-up plan but it is necessary to make accurate calculations, to hold fast to the characteristics and action rules of one's branch and locality and to get a view of other branches and localities. The activities of each unit in each period of time must be considered as a part of the process of a complicated production chain. To this end, economic management must be based on the legal patterns and State systems and regulations. On this basis, we can direct the very complicated activities in the economic management sphere. Otherwise, we will be embarrassed, will lose our direction and will encounter immediate and difficult consequences.

The improvement of the socialist legal system in economic management will result in heightening labor discipline and production discipline. To really enhance discipline and to make each person or each unit voluntarily fulfill his or its tasks, it is necessary to insure and develop the working people's right to be masters in the economic, political and social fields.

In our regime, our laboring people are the owners of the essential production means. The economic management, production development, and rational, just distribution must be an undertaking of the masses. Only with a spirit of collective ownership can the masses give full play to their creativeness and enthusiasm for labor. Democracy is not against but is closely coordinated with the centralization of the socialist economic management system.

When we are managing an economy that is advancing from small, manual production to large socialist production, when the development of production and redeployment of the labor force are going through their first stage, and when we are developing the central economy and local economy at the same time, the strengthening of the socialist legal system in economic management must reflect these characteristics in order to be able simultaneously to develop the broad leading character, the rich creativeness, the variety and the potentials of the localities and production bases, to uphold the responsibilities of the localities and production bases, and to strengthen centralized leadership and uniform management at the central echelons. The fact that in strengthening the socialist legal system we emphasize only one of the two aspects -- uniform centralization and broad democracy -- is inconsistent with the characteristics of our economy and does not faithfully reflect the principle of democratic centralization. In the truly democratic sense, "A centralized system means that capabilities (capabilities that were created for the first time in history) must develop in a completely free manner. These include not only the characteristics but also the initiatives and activities of localities and the different lines, methods, and measures for attaining the common objective." (Lenin: "Discourse on Heavy Industry and Electrification of the Entire Country," Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1962, page 31) Naturally, localities cannot use their own characteristics as a pretext to make their variety become an "unreasonable originality." [sic] (Lenin: "Discussion of Heavy Industry and Electrification of the Entire Country," Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1962, page 31).

Therefore to perfect the democratic centralization system in economic management, the socialist legal system must satisfactorily resolve relations between the higher and lower echelons and between the central and local levels.

This is a rather complex task because laws must readjust the economic relations between the central and local echelons in many aspects such as planning, financial receipts and expenditures, and distribution of materials and products. Laws must also settle these problems by setting forth the content, scale, and degree of the classification of management in the establishment and implementation of systems and regulations, in the outlining of the principles of organization of economic management and in the setting forth of the system of responsibility and the control system.

It is necessary to insure a basic principle of the socialist legal system, which is uniform centralization. On this point, Lenin stressed: "Laws must be uniform. Our greatest danger as well as the manifestation of our culturally underdeveloped situation lies in our tolerance toward Russia's age-old viewpoint and its semi-barbarous habit of keeping the laws of Kaluga Province different from those of Kazan Province." (Lenin: "Complete Works," Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1970, Volume 33, page 340).

In a highly organized society like the socialist society there must absolutely not be a loose and scattered legal system in which localities, echelons and branches outline and implement different systems that are contrary to the principles set forth by the central echelons. The existence of that type of situation means the elimination of the role and effect of socialist laws and the collapse of the democratic centralization system, thereby causing regionalist thoughts to germinate and develop. Naturally, the uniformity of socialist laws does not force the various regions to apply the general laws in an inflexible manner, but these regions have 'the right and the duty to apply the general laws according to their own methods. By 'according to their own methods,' we do not mean that these laws are violated but that these laws are applied in diversified forms." (Lenin: "Discussion of the Organization and Management of the Socialist Economy," Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1970, page 78). At present, we must overcome the violations of the uniformity of socialist laws in order to further consolidate the relations between the central and local echelons and among branches and echelons.

Thus the socialist legal system is very important. Yet recently a number of people in a number of areas demonstrated their disregard for the State law. To justify their encroachments upon the law, they said: "Since our work is well done, infringing on the law is not a matter of importance," or "I admit that this is against the law but one or two violations do not cause much damage," or "Will the other side strictly execute the contract? If we strictly execute the contract, we alone will suffer losses," or "It does not matter if our report contains some erroneous figures." In using these arguments to try to deceive their higher authorities and the people, these persons wanted to erase the limit between right and wrong, between benefits and damages and between merits and offenses. They even negated the influence of the legal system on economic management. What is more harmful is that they have arrived at opposing the Party policies and lines to the State law, reasoning that it suffices to implement Party policies and that the law imposes restrictions and must be discarded. In fact, the State law is one of the most efficient means to be used to implement Party policies and lines. Party policies and lines are materialized and confirmed by the State and must be enforced by everyone. The laws that our government has promulgated and that deal with economic activities originate from the line on the development of our socialist economy during the initial phase: "Developing heavy industry on a priority basis and in a rational way on the basis of developing agricultural and light industry, building the economy at the central level and simultaneously developing the local economy, and linking the national economy with national defense." The law is aimed at building an appropriate management system in order to insure satisfactory implementation of the above line and trend of economic development.

On this point, Comrade Le Duan said: "Representing the people's mastership right, the government is the organ that represents the people in managing the national economy. Therefore, to enable all Party economic lines and policies to become practicable it is necessary that they be consistent with managerial functions and practical organizations of the administration. Basing itself on the law, regime and Party by-laws and on its own professional, technical and business operations, the administration at various levels is the direct manager of economy, production and distribution and the one that regulates material rights of the various social strata in accordance with Party lines. To build a strong, firm administration apparatus and to compel respect of the managerial function and the role of authoritative organs

of the administration at various levels in order to insure that these organs have sufficient conditions and economic management power is the responsibility of Party committees at various levels. The success of our Party in economic management is not only a correct economic line and a successful mobilization of Party ranks to engage in economic and technical activities, but also demands a successful building of a firm, strong administration system to assume management and to induce the masses to put into practice the Party lines and policies." (Le Duan: "Under the Glorious Party Banner For Independence, Freedom and Socialism, Let Us Advance Toward Scoring New Successes", 'Hoc Tap Magazine, February 1970, page 24).

To strictly implement the law is to insure strict implementation of Party policies and lines. On the contrary, to encroach upon the law will lead to violations of Party policies and lines and to encroachments upon the interests of the revolution and people and upon socialist morality. Naturally we must not forget that Party policies and lines are the soul of the law. Only through thoroughly understanding the views of Party policies and the class nature of the proletarian dictatorial State can we keep a firm hold on the spirit and content of the law and correctly enforce it.

For this reason the Resolution of the 19th Party Central Committee Plenum points out: "The organs in charge of managing the State and national economy must thoroughly understand and properly implement the Party's line and policy, must develop the laboring people's right to collective ownership so that they can exercise their functions and power to carry out the three revolutions, must make calculations and effectively mobilize all economic potential, must insure the increase in accumulations and must achieve enlarged reproduction and socialist distribution in accordance with our country's conditions."

Someone said: We respect the law. If some provisions in the law, systems and regulations of the State concerning economic management are no longer consistent with realities and if these provisions must be always enforced, production and trade will be affected. In this case what must we do?

This is possible and is easy to understand because life in our regime has constantly changed, whereas the law has not changed in time in some aspects.

In such a case we must gather experience, raise the problem and consult the responsible State organs instead of changing the law at will. The competent State organs will base themselves on the general situation in the country to constantly draft and improve the laws.

In sum, to improve the socialist legal system in order to properly serve economic management, it is necessary to make everyone correctly understand the socialist legal system and seriously comply with the law.

To step up the improvement and drafting of laws is a necessary measure to strengthen the socialist legal system in economic management.

Our socialist constitution has laid the foundations for the socialist legal system in general and for economic laws in particular. On this basis the law governing economic management has developed rapidly. Especially since the 8th Party Central Committee Plenum (1963) on the first five-year Economic Development Plan, numerous regulations and systems on economic contracts, economic auditing and the management of labor, materials, financial affairs and techniques have been promulgated. During the years of struggle against the fierce U.S. war of destruction our State promulgated documents on the policies and principles concerning economic management, classified management and the building of local industries to respond to the urgent requirements of wartime and to build an advanced economic management system.

In general, our law has properly served economic management in all aspects. However, a number of important problems have not been determined or completely solved. For instance the content of the right to socialist ownership and the principles of exercising this right have not been determined; the juridical status of enterprises aimed at developing their activeness has not been defined and the labor obligations of a citizen have not been concretely determined.

Moreover a number of promulgated laws have scattered, incoherent or contradictory contents. All these deficiencies must be overcome.

In the drafting of laws the improvement of the political and economic contents of the law governing economic management is of special importance. To solve this problem it is necessary to understand this basic view: "Economic management is the management of a living body which develops according to objective rules." (Le Duan: "Under the Glorious Party Banner, for Independence, Freedom and Socialism,

Advance Toward New Successes," Hoc Tap, February 1970, page 79) For this reason economic management generalizes these objective economic rules. Under the present conditions of our North Viet-Nam, these rules are the general economic rules of socialism and also the rules of the advance from small-scale production to socialist large-scale production. To secure a high political and economic content the law governing economic management must fully reflect these rules because they must readjust economic relations in consonance with the application of economic rules under conditions favorable for the development of our socialist economy.

Therefore the law must fully reflect the principles governing the management of the socialist economy: The principle of democratic centralization, the principle of economic accounting, the principle of correctly associating ideological education with encouragement, with material benefit and so forth. A proper use of market relationships and economic levers concerning credit, prices, salaries, profits and so forth also contributes to improving the political and economic content of the law.

In drafting economic laws we must not think only of economic interests. We must always remember that the law must first of all efficiently serve the present two strategic objectives of our revolution.

To enable the laws in general and economic laws in particular to timely serve the political and economic tasks of each phase it is necessary work out a plan to draft legal documents. This plan must take into consideration the requirements of long-term or short-term State Plans. To satisfactorily serve the State Plan our laws must be built according to a plan. In drafting the laws the various ministries and branches must collaborate closely under the uniform guidance of the Council of Ministers. The Council of Ministers must create a ministry in charge of fulfilling this task. If this line is followed our laws will develop harmoniously and in the right direction. For instance our government advocates the necessity of more actively serving agriculture so that after a short period agriculture will undergo fundamental changes and contribute to bringing about other changes in our entire national economy. Therefore special attention must be paid to building agricultural laws. However, in the meantime laws and systems concerning industry must continue to be built.

Now, in building our economic laws we have to deal with concrete problems more than with problems concerning principles; therefore we must now on the one hand solve concrete problems in order to satisfy the requirements of the task of turning small-scale production into large-scale socialist production, and on the other hand we must pay attention to establishing principles. Only in so doing will we be able to basically solve problems. From harmoniously developing these two aspects we will gradually advance toward drafting the various codes.

The fundamental problem we must solve to strengthen our socialist legal system and manage our economy is to build and strengthen a determination to voluntarily, strictly and uniformly enforce the State laws. No organization and no individual can advance any pretext to exonerate themselves from enforcing the laws.

To cause the people to respect the laws and develop their influences, State organs, cadres and Party members must first of all set a good example in abiding by the laws.

In his sacred testament President Ho said: "Our Party is a ruling Party. All Party members and cadres must be actually imbued with revolutionary morality and be truly industrious, thrifty, honest, upright and impartial. We must keep our Party pure and be worthy of being the leaders and loyal servants of the people."

As loyal servants of our people we cadres and Party members must strictly implement the State laws because these reflect the will and aspirations of our people. We must respect the democratic rights of our people. First of all we must guarantee their democratic rights in the economic field -- that is, their ownership right in labor, production and distribution.

The Party Central Committee Political Bureau's 195th Resolution on the movement to improve Party members' quality and recruit Party members pointed out that the first duty of each Party member is "to struggle with highest revolutionary enthusiasm and sense of responsibility in order to correctly and efficiently implement Party policies and lines and State laws, strive to most satisfactorily fulfill all tasks entrusted by the Party and State and always set a good example in combat and production."

He who infringes upon the laws seriously infringes upon the Party's discipline, impairs his own quality and acts against Party policies and lines -- policies and lines that represent the life of the Party. Every infringement of laws and policies by a cadre or Party member exerts a negative influence on the power of our regime because this power is built on the people's confidence in and love for our Party, cadres and Party members.

Laying emphasis on this problem is very necessary. Most of our cadres and Party members come from the laboring peasants and the petty bourgeoisie, usually bringing with them the economic awareness and viewpoint of small producers. This awareness and viewpoint is an impediment to the application and implementation of policies and laws in a society that is struggling to advance to large socialist production. Therefore these cadres and Party members must improve themselves ideologically and dialectically and gain experience before they can overcome their erroneous awareness and viewpoint and shape for themselves a way of life and thinking consistent with the socialist economic managerial system and with socialist laws.

An important characteristic of socialist laws is that the State, while requiring that each citizen and organization implement laws, must create favorable conditions (spiritual, material, political and social conditions) for the implementation of laws.

Insuring the implementation of laws and struggling against violations of laws and crimes are the two aspects of a problem.

At present the majority of cadres, Party members and people respect laws. However, there still are phenomena of violations of laws and in certain places at certain moments the offenses are serious, especially in the economic field. In the field of State-run economy, trade union laws as well as the regulations on the management of enterprises and stores are not seriously implemented. In a number of enterprises and stores and at some construction sites the systems on profit-and-loss accounting, on economic contracts and on the management of the labor force, materials and capital are violated. In a number of agricultural cooperatives phenomena of disregarding the members' mastership right are prevalent, financial management is still unclear and the distribution of income is still unfair, unreasonable and undemocratic, thereby resulting in corruption and waste. There are groups of people who still adopt the old, individual work method in handicraft cooperatives. These practices are contrary to the

beautiful nature of our regime. In view of this, in order to strengthen socialist laws attention must be paid to insuring the serious implementation of laws in the basic-level organizations.

There are many rather complex historic and social causes for this problem. Therefore struggling against violations of laws and against criminals in order to eliminate them is a protracted, many-sided process aimed at eradicating root and branch the vestiges of the old society and of old production. This struggle must be related to the building of the new regime, the new economy and new man in the revolutionary movement of the masses under Party leadership. The important thing is that we must seek ways to prevent and promptly stop violations of laws and crimes. If violations of laws and crimes occur they will not only harm society but will also give rise to other violations and crimes. For instance such phenomena as "the lack of a sense of responsibility," "intentionally drafting false reports" and "setting up phantom funds" usually result in waste, corruption, stealing, speculation and bribery. Worse still, they might cause gaps where the enemy usually seeks ways to take advantage to undermine our regime economically and politically.

But what must we do if violations of laws and crimes are committed? In this case socialist laws require that the system of responsibility be applied to the organizations or individuals that have violated laws or have committed crimes.

There are many categories of responsibility: penal responsibility, administrative responsibility, civil responsibility and limited material responsibility. (Limited material responsibility was outlined by Order No. 49 of 9 April 1968 of the Council of Ministers. It is the responsibility of State employees and workers for the slight damage caused by the violations of labor discipline or by a lack of the sense of responsibility in production and work. One must repay the State for the damage caused to its property and the maximum indemnity must not exceed three months' salary -- Hoc Tap footnote) Laws specify in which case a given category of responsibility is to be applied or a coordination of all these categories of responsibility is necessary.

At present a number of our economic laws are still incomplete. They have not yet specified responsibility or specify it in an unclear and inadequate manner vis-a-vis law encroachments. These laws must be complemented so that the implementation of laws may be

favorable and effective. Particularly with regard to the law infringements in the economic domain, attention must be paid to outlining and applying the system of material responsibility (comprising civil responsibility and limited material responsibility). The principle of socialist economic management requires that we pay attention to encouraging with material interests those acts which benefit production and distribution; conversely, with regard to law infringements that damage socialist property and the national economy, violators must repay the State or cooperatives. In other words, to further improve the economic managerial system and to better the economic contract and loss-and-profit accounting systems, the switch from the management patterned after administrative and supply procedures to socialist trade management must be stepped up with every passing day and attention must be paid to adequately building and seriously implementing the reward and fines system.

Responsibilities may be delegated to organizations or individuals. At present in many cases an individual who has committed errors has shifted all responsibility to the organization or collective. This must be ended and the spirit of responsibility of each person must be heightened. For this reason the Resolution of the 19th Party Central Committee Plenum stresses the need to "build a system of individual responsibility and material responsibility."

A proper responsibility system will be a basis for properly handling matters. To properly handle matters implies that all violations of the law and all offenses cannot be overlooked, but it is necessary to determine the responsibilities and to solve matters in accordance with policy and law with a view to educating the cadres and people and heightening their political and ideological level and their spirit of complying with the law and of positively struggling against all violations of the law and against offences in order to protect the socialist legal system.

To positively and permanently control the enforcement of laws is an effective measure to improve the socialist legal system, to overcome in time all shortcomings and mistakes in the managerial tasks and to insure the implementation of the responsibility system in this task.

In this connection Party Control Committees at various levels, popularly elected organs, inspection organs, State control organs and people's organizations despite their different functions -- are all responsible for supervising implementation of Party policies and State laws in order to maintain Party discipline and the socialist legal system.

To insure proper control, on the one hand it is necessary to determine the functions and tasks of the organs and people's organizations so that their activities will not be mixed together. On the other hand all these organs and people's organizations are closely coordinated to unify their viewpoints in control and judgement matters, without overlooking any offense and without unjustly accusing anyone.

In their control task these organs and people's organizations must closely watch the State organs' activities in economic management, financial management and the management of labor, materials, food and foodstuffs and must concentrate on controlling the enforcement of laws in State organs, because any violation of the law by the organs will encroach on the people's democratic rights, will run counter to the Party's plans and policies and will cause disastrous consequences in both the economic and political spheres.

The key to success in this control task is to depend on the masses, to follow the mass line and to give full play to the people's sense of collective ownership. In this spirit, all levels and branches must pay major attention to creating conditions for the people to properly express their views, observations and criticism on the leadership and guidance of Party and administrative organs and people's organizations and on implementation of policies and application of laws by cadres, Party members and employees.

If the people can fully exercise their right to complain or to denounce -- an important democratic right mentioned in the constitution -- this will be very helpful to the control of the application of laws.

An important problem in the control task is the need to permanently and closely associate control over organs from bottom to top with control over organs of the same level and control over organs from top to bottom in accordance with the trend set forth by the Party Central Committee. In this way we can reveal in time all deficiencies in all complicated spheres of activity and economic management.

To step up the task of propagandizing and popularizing the laws is also an important requirement which the socialist legal system must satisfy in economic management.

To insure the enforcement of laws among the people the main measure is not forcing but educating and persuading them to comply with the law. When coercion is applied it must be aimed at satisfactorily obtaining good results in the education and persuasion of law-breakers and other people. Along with heightening the cadres' and people's spirit of voluntarily complying with the law, this propaganda and education task can help us avoid shortcomings the enemy can take advantage of, thereby preventing his sabotage activities and schemes.

Now the task of disseminating the laws is still weak. There is no comprehensive plan; there is no close cooperation among the various branches. Its content is not rich; the forms under which it is performed are not lively. This situation is due to the fact that in fulfilling this task a number of localities do not realize that our socialist laws deeply reflect and are closely connected with life - especially the economic life of our people. That is why the task of disseminating the laws must be carried out in a lively and creative, gentle and deep way, through different measures and under different forms. However, no matter what measures and forms are used this task must be closely linked with the movements to mobilize the masses to contribute to fulfillment of the central tasks of the Party and State in each phase. To serve the improvement of economic management we must pay special attention to disseminating and popularizing economic laws.

To serve the improvement of economic management we must apply economic laws to the professional activities and tasks of our people and help cadres, Party members and people understand the laws so they will voluntarily abide by them, with the aim of turning the laws into daily concrete deeds of workers, collective peasants and socialist intellectuals in factories, in organs, at schools, at construction sites, on collective farms, at forest exploitation sites, in cooperatives and so forth. Only then will everyone do his utmost to develop his spirit of mastership in order to contribute to the economic management task. In particular, economic management cadres must study in order to understand the principles of the socialist legal system in general and the regulations on the economic laws in particular in the same way as judiciary cadres must understand economic theories and realities. In so doing they will be able to contribute to making the legal system and economic management penetrate each another and help each another progress.

On the other hand it is necessary to accelerate the opening of schools for training judiciary cadres who will be assigned to various large economic branches, echelons and bases. Attention must also be paid to teaching laws in general education schools.

"The Party must work out a good plan to develop the economy and culture in order to incessantly improve the people's living conditions." This is a fervent recommendation by venerated and beloved Uncle Ho. At the 19th Party Central Committee Plenum the problem of improving economic management was thoroughly discussed and solved, and this was aimed at implementing the oath of the entire Party, armed forces and people to their venerated and beloved leader.

In the advance toward socialism in the northern part of our country the problem of economic management and strengthening of the socialist legal system is still new and little experience has been gained.

The newer and the more difficult the tasks, the more we should uphold the sense of discipline and responsibility, the more we should strive to study and train ourselves in order to improve the level of political, ideological and professional knowledge and the more we should develop strong points and remedy weaknesses, should uphold the sense of properly implementing the Party policy and enforcing State law and should be determined to overcome difficulties to fulfill our mission of restoring and developing the economy. Only in this way can we realize President Ho's wishes.

In this task, along with implementing other measures we should strengthen the socialist legal system to better serve economic management to satisfactorily carry out the legal system activities. With this determination in mind we will certainly achieve good results.