

## U.S. Sanctions Racket Being Subject to Condemnation from World: FM Spokesman

Pyongyang, August 1 (KCNA) -- The spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the DPRK gave the following answer to a question raised by the KCNA on August 1 as regards the fact that the U.S. sanctions racket against several countries is provoking an international backlash:

The new "sanctions bill" against the DPRK, Russia and Iran which recently passed the U.S. Congress is prompting a growing international backlash.

Russia stated that it will take serious counteraction against the ferocious and reckless acts of the U.S. while Iran responded by vowing to pass retaliatory bills regarding the passage of the sanctions bill as a blatant act of hostility against Iran.

EU member states including Germany, Austria and France are also taking a tough stand towards the U.S. attempts to sacrifice Europe for the sake of "America First Policy", criticizing the U.S. sanctions on Russia. Meanwhile, China and Venezuela are also showing strong reaction to the escalating threats of sanctions by the U.S.

China warned that the U.S. "secondary boycott" targeting Chinese entities would bring about a serious clash between the two countries and the Venezuelan president declared that Venezuela would take a resolute countermeasure against any U.S. sanctions on the country. The U.S. is running the sanctions campaign against several countries with the sole and impudent intention to use it as a means to seek its own interests.

The sanctions by the U.S. which are geared to "saving the U.S. economy" by securing the market for energy and increasing its export are encroaching upon the interests of its allies and friends without hesitation as well as its rivals.

It is only natural that the sanctions racket caused by the U.S is being subject to condemnation and rejection from all over the world for its illegality and impudence.

The world should not tolerate the outrageous behavior of the U.S. that threatens sovereign states with sanctions whenever it pleases in pursuance of its exclusive interests.

The frantic sanctions campaign by the U.S. against the DPRK is also, in essence, serving the "pivot to Asia-Pacific" strategy of the U.S. and its wild dream of dominating the entire world.

The U.S. threat to impose extreme sanctions on the DPRK only increases the latter's vigilance and stamina, and strengthens the resolve of its people to build a powerful socialist country by dint of self-reliance and self-development.

The U.S. should wake up to reality that the overall state power and strategic position of the DPRK have reached a new high and act with discretion.