

3 April 2023

Dear Ms. Bechdol,

On behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006), I have the honour to refer to your letter dated 20 March 2023, conveying to the Committee a request for an exemption pursuant to paragraph 25 of resolution 2397 (2017) to engage in humanitarian activities in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), in particular to allow the importation of items related to the FAO project to support soybean production for improving nutritional status of urban and rural populations in the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea (DPRK), which is aimed at ensuring that the basic needs of the vulnerable civilian population can be met.

I have the further honour to inform you that, following due consideration, the Committee has decided to approve the requested exemption in the abovementioned letter, in accordance with paragraph 25 of Security Council resolution 2397 (2017), to transfer the items and services outlined in your letter within the next 12 months, which is enclosed in this letter as an attachment. The items are requested to be shipped once together or in a consolidated manner, with a view to increasing efficiency of shipping and custom clearance.

The Committee reiterates that the sanctions measures imposed by the Security Council through its resolutions with respect to the DPRK are not intended to bear a negative impact on the people of the DPRK, and the note verbale it issued to all Member States, as well as its press release SC/13113 of 8 December 2017, offer clarifications as regards humanitarian aid to the DPRK. The note verbale further recalls that each Member State must fully implement relevant Security Council measures, while keeping in mind the need to clarify to public and private sector entities in their jurisdiction that, while properly implementing United Nations sanctions, humanitarian activities should not be unduly restricted.

The Committee further supports and approves FAO engaging in necessary business and financial transactions only for the purchase of goods and services exempted by the Committee and found in the attachment without prejudice to the relevant commercial decisions.

Ms. Elizabeth Bechdol  
Deputy Director-General  
Food and Agriculture Organization of the  
United Nations (FAO)  
Rome, Italy

At the same time, the Committee requests relevant organizations delivering humanitarian assistance to the DPRK to adhere to the exemption time limit approved by the Committee and fully respect and abide by relevant national laws, regulations, and licensing requirements governing financial and commercial transactions, and shipping and custom clearance conducted in the jurisdictions of affected Member States.

I wish to inform you that this letter and its annex will be published on the 1718 Committee website for the public, including relevant national authorities involved in reviewing the exempted transfers to the DPRK, for a period of 12 months.

The Committee would like to thank FAO for its diligence.

Yours sincerely,

*(Signed)*

Pascale Baeriswyl  
Chair  
Security Council Committee established  
pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006)

Attachment:

- List of Items and Services for Transfer to the DPRK

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

1718 Committee Exemption Request for proposed humanitarian assistance:  
Project title: Support to soybean production for improving nutritional status of urban and rural populations (TCP/DRK/3801)

Annex II: Detailed list of items and specifications for proposed humanitarian assistance  
1-Mar-23

Item No.	Material Description	HS code	Make	Model	Manufacturer	Specifications	Country of Origin	Unit	Quantity	Value	Purpose of item for project	Planned date(s) of transfer	Port of Departure	Port of Entry	Parties involved in transaction	Measure to ensure assistance is used for intended purpose / Monitoring Plan
1	Two wheel tractors	8701	Tendering to be done contingent on approval of exemption request and therefore currently unknown.			• Capacity: 12 hp • Single Cylinder Diesel Engine • With the trailer	China	pc.	10	\$50,000	Rapid transport of crops to shelter in event of flooding, transport of water in event of drought.	Earliest possible and no later than July 2023, contingent on re-opening of Sino-DPRK border for shipment.	Dandong	Siniuju	All materials will be sourced from China and payments made to suppliers outside of DPRK using EFT. Tendering will be done once sanctions exemption has been approved. Therefore it is not possible to identify specific suppliers.	Receipt and distribution of goods will be monitored by FAO staff and Ministry of Agriculture as per monitoring plan described in Annex III.
2	Mobile soybean thresher	8433	Tendering to be done contingent on approval of exemption request and therefore currently unknown.			• Electric, voltage 220/380 • Production capacity 400-500 kg/h	China	pc.	5	\$15,000	Rapid threshing of soybeans to reduce loss in event of flooding	Earliest possible and no later than July 2023, contingent on re-opening of Sino-DPRK border for shipment.	Dandong	Siniuju	All materials will be sourced from China and payments made to suppliers outside of DPRK using EFT. Tendering will be done once sanctions exemption has been approved. Therefore it is not possible to identify specific suppliers.	Receipt and distribution of goods will be monitored by FAO staff and Ministry of Agriculture as per monitoring plan described in Annex III.
3	Portable water pump	8413	Tendering to be done contingent on approval of exemption request and therefore currently unknown.			• Engine: gasoline • Flow 75 m3/h • power: 5.5 kw	China	pc.	30	\$10,500	Irrigation in case of drought and drainage in case of typhoon or flood	Earliest possible and no later than July 2023, contingent on re-opening of Sino-DPRK border for shipment.	Dandong	Siniuju	All materials will be sourced from China and payments made to suppliers outside of DPRK using EFT. Tendering will be done once sanctions exemption has been approved. Therefore it is not possible to identify specific suppliers.	Receipt and distribution of goods will be monitored by FAO staff and Ministry of Agriculture as per monitoring plan described in Annex III.
4	Solar powered knapsack sprayer	8424	Tendering to be done contingent on approval of exemption request and therefore currently unknown.			• Capacity 20 l. • Including solar panel, storage battery, inverter	China	pc.	5	\$375	Control of insects and disease	Earliest possible and no later than July 2023, contingent on re-opening of Sino-DPRK border for shipment.	Dandong	Siniuju	All materials will be sourced from China and payments made to suppliers outside of DPRK using EFT. Tendering will be done once sanctions exemption has been approved. Therefore it is not possible to identify specific suppliers.	Receipt and distribution of goods will be monitored by FAO staff and Ministry of Agriculture as per monitoring plan described in Annex III.