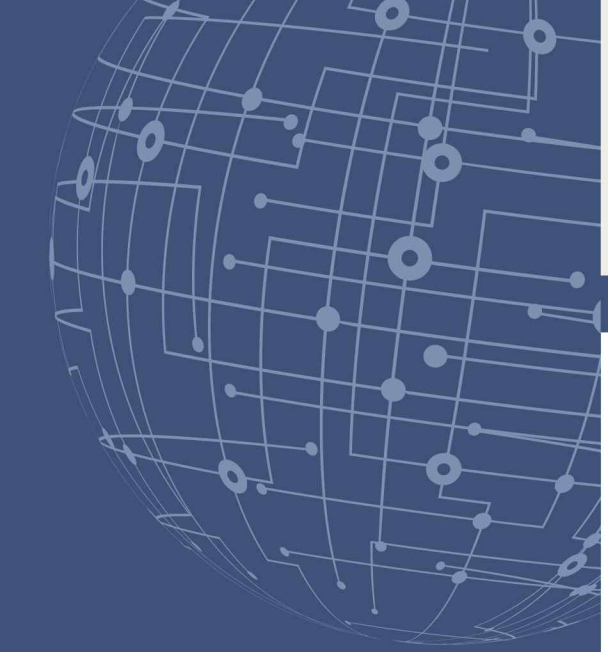
The Territory of the Republic of Korea shall consist of the Korean Peninsula and its adjacent islands.
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Analysis of North Korean Top Leadership's Public Activities from June to August 2024

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Based on reports from North Korean media such as the Korean Central News Agency and Rodong Sinmun, it is understood that Kim Jong-un and the top leadership of North Korea, including the members of the Politburo Standing Committee, engaged in a total of 57 public activities between June and August 2024. This marks a 33% increase compared to the average number of public activities (43) during the same period over the previous three years. Breaking down Kim Jong-un's public activities from June to August 2024 by sector, there were 6 political activities, 7 military, 10 economic, and 18 categorized as others, totaling 41 activities. Compared to the same period over the last three years, a notable highlight is the significant increase in economic-related activities, which rose by 238%. Of the 10 economic activities conducted by Kim Jong-un over the past three months, 4 involved inspecting flood-affected areas in North Pyongan and Jagang provinces due to the Amnok River overflowing after heavy rains in late July, and providing support for recovery efforts. The remaining six activities all involved visits to local industrial construction sites outside of Pyongyang. Kim Jong-un's public activities related to the "20×10 Regional

Development Policy" had completely ceased for six months after February 28, 2024, but resumed in late August 2024 and have been ongoing since. Public activities in the "others" category also saw a significant increase (68%) compared to the same period over the past three years. The largest portion of these activities was related to Russian President Vladimir Putin's visit to North Korea and the North Korea-Russia summit, which took place in mid-June 2024.

From June to August 2024, Kim Tok-hun, Choe Ryong-hae, and Jo Yong-won's solo public activities totaled 16, a figure similar to the average of the past three years (18.7). One notable point is the decrease in Kim Tok-hun's public activities in the economic sector, while his activities in other sectors increased. Since 2021, Kim Tok-hun had engaged in economic public activities 3 to 6 times per month during June to August each year. However, in the last three months, he only conducted 4 significant economic activities. During this same period in 2024, Kim Tok-hun carried out 3 public activities in other sectors, 2 of which were related to diplomacy. After North Korea lifted its border blockade in August 2023, the country resumed exchanges with foreign countries, including China and Russia. In particular, since 2024, North Korea has been actively re-establishing diplomatic relations, focusing on countries with which it had previously maintained friendly ties. Therefore, it is expected that Kim Tok-hun will increasingly engage in diplomatic activities, such as meeting with foreign government delegations visiting North Korea.

Choe Ryong-hae also received the credentials of the newly appointed Ambassador of Laos to North Korea on August 22, 2024. Earlier this year, in late January, Choe accepted the credentials of the Ambassadors of Mongolia and Cuba to North Korea in consecutive ceremonies. Prior to that, just before North Korea lifted its border blockade, in late July 2023, he met with and hosted a welcoming banquet for the Chinese party and government delegation visiting North Korea for the 70th anniversary of the signing of the Korean Armistice Agreement. From 2021 until late July 2023, Choe Ryong-hae's only diplomatic-related public activity was meeting with the outgoing Chinese ambassador to North Korea, Li Jinjun, on December 22, 2021. Given that North Korea resumed diplomatic activities in 2024 by dispatching new

ambassadors abroad and allowing foreign ambassadors to visit North Korea, it is highly likely that Choe's diplomatic engagements, such as receiving credentials from newly appointed foreign ambassadors to North Korea, will increase in the future.

When expanding the analysis of Kim Jong-un, Kim Tok-hun, and Choe Ryong-hae's public activities over a 9-month period, there was a 53% increase compared to the same period over the previous three years. By sector, political activities saw a slight decrease, while military and other activities increased, with economic-related activities showing significant growth. The notable trend is the rising number of military and economic public activities compared to the same period over the last three years, highlighting these sectors as areas of growing focus.

<Table> Details of public activities of Kim Jong-un, Kim Duk-hoon, and Choi Ryong-hae: from December 2020 to August of the following year

(Unit: Case)

Category	Kim Jong-un					Kim Tok-hun			Choe Ryong-hae			
	Politics	Military	Economy	Others	Total	Economy	Others	Subtotal	Politics	Economy	Others	Subtotal
December 2020~August 2021	26	13	5	20	64	33	0	33	5	4	1	10
December 2021~August 2022	24	20	7	24	75	33	2	35	6	5	2	13
December 2022~August 2023	13	30	8	16	67	33	1	34	7	4	5	16
Three-Year Average	21	21	6.7	20	68.7	33	1	34	6	4.3	2.7	13
December 2023~August 2024	20	37	19	29	105	27	7	34	4	5	17	26
Rate of Change Compared to the Three-Year Average (%)	-5	+76	+185	+45	+53	-18	+600	-	-33	+15	+538	+100

Source: The Author based on reports from North Korean media

Kim Tok-hun engaged in a total of 27 public activities in the economic sector over the past nine months, which marks an 18% decrease compared to the average of 33 activities during the same period over the previous three years. However, his public activities in other sectors (7 activities) were significantly higher than the three-year average for the same period. Similarly, Choe Ryong-hae maintained a frequency of public activities in the political and economic sectors over the past nine months that was nearly identical to the previous three years. However, he conducted far more public activities in other sectors during this time. Choe's 17 public activities in the "others" category included 7 diplomatic activities and 9 activities related to various commemorative events. This might be due to Choe Ryong-hae's role as the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, which, according to the North Korean constitution, allows him to exercise authority alongside Kim Jong-un in representing the North Korean regime.

Analyzing the public activities of North Korea's top leadership over the past nine months in three-month intervals reveals that Kim Jong-un has consistently conducted 30-40 activities every three months, while Kim Tok-hun and Choe Ryong-hae have each carried out approximately 10 activities in the same period. If this trend continues over the next three months, it is expected that by November 2024, Kim Jong-un will have engaged in around 140 public activities for the year, while Kim Tok-hun and Choe Ryong-hae will have performed 30-40 activities each. This suggests that Kim Jong-un's frequency of public activities may fully recover to pre-COVID-19 pandemic levels. From 2020 to 2023, Kim Jong-un averaged 69 public activities annually, but before the pandemic, he averaged around 144 public activities per year. If the current trend holds, his activity level could soon return to that higher, pre-pandemic average.

It is important to closely monitor whether Kim Jong-un's noticeable increase in economic-related public activities over the past three months will continue actively in the coming months. On August 31, 2024, during a visit to a local industrial factory construction site in Hamju County, South Hamgyong Province, Kim Jong-un

emphasized the importance of "quality over speed." He instructed that the so-called "three major construction tasks," namely the construction of healthcare facilities, science and technology hubs, and grain management facilities, be pursued alongside local industrial projects. Notably, he stressed that modern healthcare facilities, particularly local hospitals, must be completed within the year. This indicates that Kim Jong-un may visit certain regions multiple times over the next three months, particularly where tangible progress is being made. Additionally, it is worth paying attention to Kim Tok-hun, who has not engaged in much public activity related to the "20×10 Regional Development Policy" since early May 2024. Given the push for visible results in this policy, Kim Tok-hun is also likely to increase his public activities in the coming three months to demonstrate progress in this area. ⓒKINU 2024

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