

N. Korean leader reaffirms unconditional support for Russia in Ukraine war



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Seoul, July 13 (QNA) – North Korean leader Kim Jong-un reaffirmed his unconditional support for all of Russia’s actions in its war against Ukraine as he met with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, the North’s state media reported on Sunday.

Kim made the remarks in a meeting with Lavrov on Saturday, a day after the Russian minister flew to North Korea for his second round of strategic talks with his North Korean counterpart,

according to the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA).

During the talks, Kim and Lavrov discussed the implementation of the agreements reached during Kim's summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Pyongyang in June last year, as well as ways to further develop the two countries' strategic partnership, the KCNA said.

Kim "reaffirmed that the DPRK is ready to unconditionally support and encourage all the measures taken by the Russian leadership as regards the tackling of the root cause of the Ukrainian crisis" in line with the North Korea-Russia mutual defense treaty, the KCNA said.

The meeting reaffirmed the determination of the North Korean and Russian leaderships to "closely support and cooperate with each other in the journey for thoroughly safeguarding the core interests of the two countries and powerfully promoting the overall development of bilateral ties" under their comprehensive strategic partnership treaty, the KCNA said.

Meanwhile, the KCNA carried a statement from the strategic dialogue held the previous day between North Korean Foreign Minister Choe Son-hui and Lavrov.

The statement reaffirmed the two countries' "unwavering" commitment to advancing North Korea-Russia relations into long-term strategic ties by faithfully implementing the mutual treaty.