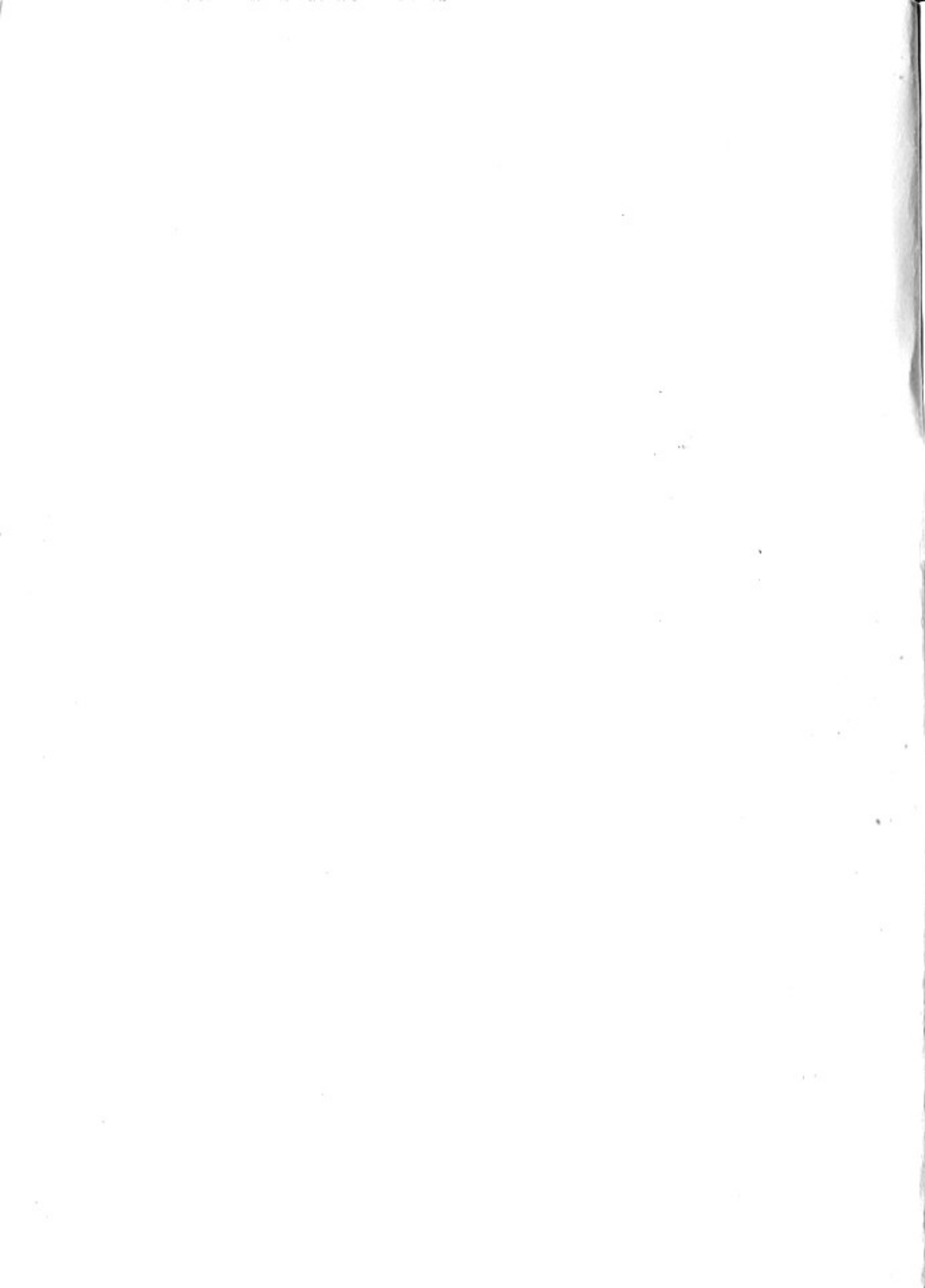


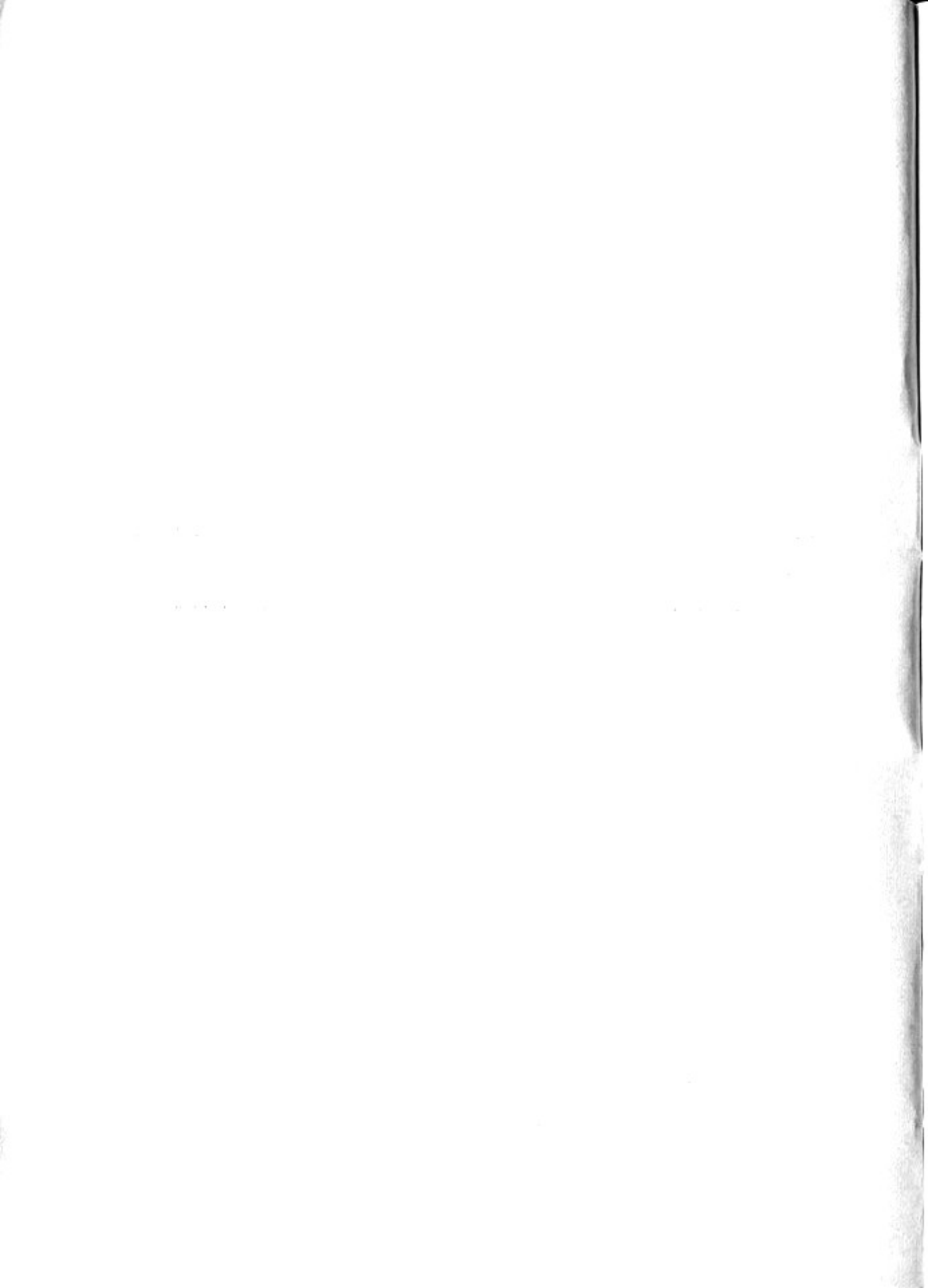
**A NEW VICTORY OF
THE POLICY OF THE PARTY
OF LABOUR OF ALBANIA
IN THE UPLIFT OF
THE GENERAL WELLBEING
OF THE PEOPLE**



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DECISION

OF THE CC OF THE PLA AND THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA ON THE REDUCTION OF HIGHER WAGES, ON SOME IMPROVEMENTS IN THE WAGE SYSTEM OF WORKING PEOPLE AND ON THE FURTHER NARROWING OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN COUNTRY AND TOWN

The Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania and the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Albania notice with satisfaction that in the revolutionary atmosphere prevailing all over the country, the working class, the cooperativist peasantry and the people's intelligentsia, inspired by the directives of the 6th Congress of the PLA, the decisions of the 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th Plenums of the CC of the PLA and the programmatic speeches of comrade Enver Hoxha, have raised to a higher degree their proletarian consciousness, their determination, drive and mobilization at work to consolidate, defend and always carry ahead the revolution and the socialist construction in our country.

For more than three decades of socialist construction, Albania has carried out deep revolutionary

transformations in every field of life. The dictatorship of the proletariat and its social basis — the alliance of the working class with the cooperativist peasantry, have been consolidated further. The socialist economy has been developing and strengthening nonstop as a multi-branched, complex and stable economy which knows no crises or any other ulcers characteristic of the capitalist-revisionist economy. The defence of the homeland and the socialist achievements has been strengthened even further. The working masses, freed from all oppression and exploitation, led by the Party and educated with the ideology of the working class, have applied all their energies and are working with revolutionary drive to develop the productive forces and improve socialist relations in production at a rapid rate, consistently abiding by the Marxist-Leninist principle of self-reliance. The constant raising of the general material wellbeing and cultural level of the people has been secured on the basis of the steady increase of social production, essential differences between country and town, mental and physical labour have been narrowed step by step. This enthusiasm and high spirit of mobilization is emerging with a new impetus during the jubilee year of the 35th anniversary of the founding of the PLA and the discussion of the draft-Constitution of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, when the working class and the other working masses, in town and country, are engaged in a new great battle, the battle of the 6th Five-Year Plan of development of the people's economy and culture.

These historic achievements became possible through a severe class struggle against internal and

external enemies, against stains and remnants of the past in the consciousness of working people. They have been achieved by thwarting and foiling the attacks, blockades, encirclements and all round pressure of the imperialists and modern revisionists against our country.

In the process of the steady development and deepening of the socialist revolution, the Party of Labour has always consistently applied its line of struggle against all manifestations and influences of bourgeois and revisionist ideology and against liberal attitudes towards them, its line of class struggle against liberalism, bureaucratism, technocratism and intellectualism. This is a struggle of major importance for the fate of the revolution and the socialist construction, to allow no crack through which the dictatorship of the proletariat may be endangered. The working class, the cooperativist peasantry and the people's intelligentsia have risen in this struggle under the leadership of the Party.

In the present stage of the struggle for the complete construction of socialism the steady improvement and revolutionization of socialist relations of distribution have great importance. Making always a correct Marxist-Leninist revolutionary assessment of the role and importance of these relations, the Party has followed the line of the gradual narrowing of differentials in the level of income and the standard of living between the working class and the cooperativist peasantry and the categories of other working people within them, between town and country. It has always striven to maintain as correct a ratio as possible between the salaries of cadres and the income of workers and cooperativists, not

allowing marked differentials in income, which give birth to degenerate elements and privileged strata and directly endanger the dictatorship of the proletariat and the construction of socialism. At the same time, the Party has fought and continues to fight against tendencies of petty-bourgeois egalitarianism in the field of remuneration, which is also alien and harmful to socialism.

The system of wages and salaries of workers and officials and the system of remuneration of the work of cooperativists have been built and constantly improved in compliance with this Marxist-Leninist revolutionary line, always abiding by the socialist law of distribution according to work. The application of this system has enabled the narrowing of differentials and a more correct ratio between lower and higher wages, between the income of officials and workers and cooperativists. The opposite occurs in capitalist and revisionist countries where the remuneration of work is built on the basis of the enrichment of the minority which oppresses and exploits the majority.

Supporting and approving the revolutionary initiatives of the working people for the improvement of the system of wages and remuneration of work, in order to further develop the line followed in the field of distribution in accord with the directives of the 6th Congress of the PLA and the teachings of comrade Enver Hoxha to further narrow differences between mental and physical labour, country and town, according to the conditions and possibilities the socialist development of the people's economy has created, the Central Committee of the PLA and the Council of Ministers of the PR of Albania

DECIDED :

I. ON THE LOWERING OF HIGHER WAGES AND ON SOME IMPROVEMENTS IN THE SYSTEM OF WAGES AND REMUNERATION OF WORKING PEOPLE

1. In order to achieve a more correct ratio between wages of workers and salaries of officials, and among salaries of various categories of officials, to reduce higher salaries (from 900 leks and upwards a month) of leading cadres, the intelligentsia and cadres of armed forces, without affecting lower and middle wages, save certain cases to preserve the necessary proportions. Higher wages will be reduced from 4 to 25 per cent of their present level.

This measure of major ideo-political importance aims at the further revolutionization of the cadres, bringing their standard of living nearer to the general standard of living of the masses, barring the road to career-seeking, the preference of office work and many other evils which lead to bourgeois-revisionist degeneration.

2. In response to the revolutionary initiatives of the workers of literature and arts, of education and science to renounce copyrights and in order to better harmonize material stimuli with moral ones, giving priority to moral stimuli, to reduce the wages of pedagogic-scientific workers of higher schools and institutes of scientific research from 14 to 22 per cent, to reduce bonuses for scientific titles and degrees down to 50 per cent, bonuses for creative literary, artistic and scientific works to 30-50 per cent and to lift some bonuses in certain branches of the economy which are unjustifiable in the present conditions.

These measures help the revolutionary education of the working people of this important field of social activity and the strengthening of the feeling of proletarian modesty, urge them to always abide by the general interest of the revolution and socialism and live in conditions similar to those of other working people.

3. To raise the wages of workers and fruitgrowers of state farms, connecting their remuneration of work also with the realization of the tasks of production plans.

4. In order to make people better appreciate work places where material blessings are produced, and urge them to work and live wherever the interests of the homeland want them and to fight any manifestation of career-seeking and bureaucratism, the wages of specialists of the same economic branch will be unified irrespective of the category of the district or enterprise where they work. Likewise, these measures aim at unifying the wages of specialists working in production with those working in the administration of enterprises and cooperatives of the same economic branch and the apparatuses of executive committees of district people's councils.

To improve the ratio between the wages of specialists of higher and middle training and those of qualified workers with a long period of seniority at work, beginning from April 1st 1976, after graduating higher schools, for the first two years at work, young specialists will receive salaries approximate to those of workers of highest qualification of the same branch, while young specialists who finish middle vocational schools and are appointed as employees will, as a rule, receive salaries of a lower stage.

5. To further boost the interest of workers and specialists of enterprises, executive committees of district people's councils, ministries and other central institutions, in the raising of their ideo-political, cultural and technical-professional level, a system of assessing the qualification of workers and specialists through cultural-professional attestation will be applied.

This system will express the vital demand that the working class should not only produce more and better material blessings, but first and foremost, as the class in power, raise its level of qualification incessantly, so as to play, under the leadership of the Party, a more active role in running the entire life of the country. The cultural-professional attestation must also help workers and specialists respond better to their tasks in the development and deepening of the technical-scientific revolution, applying science and technology in production more broadly and placing the organization and management of the people's economy on a sounder scientific basis.

6. To improve the implementation of the principle of remuneration according to quantity and quality of work as well as the socialist organization of work, changes in the categorization of processes and places of work will be made and remuneration on the basis of work places will be extended further.

7. In order to further improve the ratio between wages of workers in various branches of the economy, certain disproportions occurring in the wages of workers of fishing and sea transport will be regulated.

8. Parallel with changes and improvements in the system of wages and remuneration, the Central Committee and the Council of Ministers recommen-

ded to reduce higher pensions of retirement, invalidity and length of service of militarymen to a level proportional to the lowering of higher wages.

In this way, a more correct ratio between the remuneration of work of people who continue their activity in production and in other social fields, on the one hand, and old age or other pensions, on the other, will be established. These aim also at narrowing differentials of income between various categories of pensioners.

9. Agricultural cooperatives are recommended to apply the above mentioned measures in the field of organization and remuneration of work.

II. ON THE FURTHER NARROWING OF ESSENTIAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN TOWN AND COUNTRYSIDE

The narrowing of essential differences between town and countryside has been and remains one of the fundamental problems of the general line of the Party for the construction of socialism in our country. To achieve this aim, the Party always implemented an extensive program of measures of a deep ideological, political, economic, social and cultural character. According to this program the productive forces have been developing at a rapid rate, socialist relations in production have been improving incessantly, the raising of the material and cultural wellbeing of the cooperativist peasantry has been and is being secured systematically. Useful social work, collective work for the continuous increase of socialist production has been and remains the unshaken basis for the raising of the wellbeing in the countryside. The efforts, toil

and sweat of all the cooperativist peasantry should be integrated into the work and struggle to increase the production of material blessings which is the main source for the improvement of their wellbeing and happiness and of the wellbeing and happiness of all the working masses.

1. In order to further narrow differences between countryside and town and, in rural areas, between hilly and mountainous zones and lowlands, to increase at a more rapid rate the economic, social and cultural level of the peasantry and to further improve working and living conditions in the countryside, the state assumes upon itself, in the countryside, too: to defray expenses for clinics, consultory centres, maternity homes, kindergartens and crèches, to pay the wages of the personnel of houses of culture in the centres of joint cooperatives, to invest funds for the construction of schools, kindergartens and crèches in the countryside, as well as houses of culture and health projects in the centres of agricultural cooperatives, to care for the maintenance of the internal power system in the countryside and the telephone network up to the centre of joint cooperatives.

The peasantry is called on to continue contributing as much as possible to these projects through voluntary work and with whatever material at their disposal.

2. The Central Committee and the Council of Ministers recommended to raise the percentage of pensions of cooperativists, equalizing them with those of city workers; to raise minimal pensions of cooperativists, defraying expenses for pregnancy leave of cooperativist women from state social insu-

rance funds, to unify the percentage of remuneration for pregnancy leave and financial assistance at childbirth in countryside and town.

3. State investments should be increased in hilly and mountainous zones, for building irrigation projects, opening secondary canals and extending the existing network of irrigation projects, for partially or totally covering the value of the work day in the opening and systemization of new land and for creating new blocks of fruit trees and vineyards; for financing by the state, up to fifty percent, the value of the work day spent on pruning and earthing up olive trees and for planting olive sapplings.

With the aim of increasing the number of beasts of burden, the state should help the cooperatives of hilly and mountainous zones with financial means for the purchase of these animals.

4. The price of nitrogenous fertilizers should be lowered by 9 to 15 per cent for agricultural cooperatives of hilly and mountainous regions.

5. Machine and tractor stations should defray all expenses of agricultural cooperatives for transportation and storage of fuel, and maintenance of agricultural machines. The construction of garages in machine and tractor stations should be financed by the state.

6. Agricultural cooperatives of hilly and mountainous zones should be excluded from paying bank interest on all the loans they have been accorded and will be accorded in the future, and the percentage of this interest should be lowered for the other cooperatives as well.

State insurance tariffs on crops, livestock and other property of agricultural cooperatives should be

reduced to such a degree as to make it possible for them to meet the costs.

These measures are possible through the development and strengthening of our socialist economy, the self-sacrificing work of working people of town and country, with the working class at the van, to increase industrial and agricultural production. They are a systematic implementation of the correct line of the Party for the construction of socialism in the countryside, too. Our patriotic cooperativist peasantry will, as always, correctly assess the measures which are being taken for their benefit, by raising their revolutionary drive and mobilization at work, for the increase of production of agricultural and livestock products and, first and foremost, of bread grain, for the allround development and flourishing of our socialist countryside, for the strengthening of the alliance between the working class and the cooperativist peasantry, for the further consolidation of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

The measures for the lowering of the higher wages, for some improvements in the system of wages and remuneration and the further narrowing of differences between town and countryside, come into power beginning from the 1st of April, 1976.

* * *

The Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania and the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Albania are fully convinced that the measures which are being taken express the desire, will and interest of the working class, the coopera-

tivist peasantry and the people's intelligentsia. They will give a new impulse to the revolutionization of the life of the country and become a new source of inspiration for new and still greater achievements in all fields of socialist construction.

The Party has educated and educates the communists, the working people in town and country, the leading cadres, to be proletarian revolutionaries, to place all their energies at the service of the great cause of the revolution and the construction of socialism, of the strengthening and defence of our socialist homeland from all attempts of internal or external enemies. The Party has unflinching confidence that we will build our happiness, prosperity and a happier future through our work, through our forces, through our incessant efforts.

Great tasks lie ahead of us. We have just begun the first year of the 6th Five-Year Plan. In November this year our people will celebrate the 35th anniversary of the founding of our glorious Party of Labour, the organizer and leader of all the historic victories achieved in our revolution and socialist construction. Let this outstanding jubilee mobilize all the forces of our heroic working class, cooperativist peasantry and people's intelligentsia in all fields of socialist construction, to raise still higher socialist emulation and revolutionary actions, holding always the red banner of triumphant socialism high and unstained in the People's Republic of Albania!

**THE COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
OF ALBANIA**

**THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE
OF THE PARTY OF LABOUR
OF ALBANIA**

A NEW VICTORY OF THE POLICY OF THE PARTY OF LABOUR OF ALBANIA IN THE UPLIFT OF THE GENERAL WELLBEING OF THE PEOPLE

*Editorial of the newspaper «Zëri i Popullit»
of April 2, 1976*

The decision of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania and of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Albania on the lowering of higher wages, on some amendments to the system of wages of the working people and some measures to further raise the economic, social and cultural level of the peasantry for the further narrowing of the differences between city and country, was published yesterday. This decision of great political, ideological, economic and social importance is the continuation and deepening of the policy of the Party of Labour, which has as its main aim the defence of the interests of the people, the fulfilment of their growing material and cultural demands. All the measures envisaged in this decision are the concrete implementation of the important orientations of the 6th Congress of the Party. «The Party», comrade Enver Hoxha stressed at the 6th Congress, «will continue to pursue its correct policy with regard to raising

the wellbeing: to attain general wellbeing for the entire people, to meet the most urgent and widespread economic, cultural and social needs of the workers, to continually reduce differentials in level of income and standard of living between town and country, between various groups of the population».

The classics of Marxism-Leninism teach us that the distribution of production in socialism must be based on the principles «from each according to his ability, to each according to his work», «equal pay for equal work», but they have also stressed that differentials in pay should be as small as possible, that the salary of the office worker, as Lenin says, must «not be higher than the average wage of a good worker».

The Party, adhering to the policy of continuous revolutionization of the life of the country, has always been led by the correct Marxist-Leninist principle to favour no one, not to fall into egalitarianism, and at the same time not to allow great differentials in remuneration of the working people of various categories. Thus, at present in Albania, the ratio between the medium wage of workers and the higher salaries of employees is 1 to 2,5.

The new decision of the CC of the PLA and the Council of Ministers of the PR of Albania on lowering the higher wages over 900 leks a month by 4 to 25 per cent without affecting the lower and middle wages, further narrows this ratio, bringing it down to 1 to 2. This is a concrete and unprecedented implementation of the Marxist-Leninist theses, a great reality of proletarian justice, which will be welcome by all the masses of the working people, the cadres and intelligentsia that see and understand their wellbeing in

close connection with the general wellbeing of the people, and not detached from it.

The lowering of higher wages as well as the measures that are being taken to abolish remunerations in excess of the basic wages of the working people of literature and arts, of education and science, so as to better harmonize material stimuli with moral ones, to unify the wages of specialists of the same economic plant at the base, to apply the system of assessing the qualification of workers and specialists through cultural and professional attestation, along with some improvements on the system of wages of the working people, further revolutionize socialist relations in the field of distribution. They are an expression of the class treatment of the problem of wages and aim at revolutionizing materially, too, relations between the masses and cadres as well as relations in the very fold of the cadres. This is an indispensable condition to protect the people and especially the cadres from alien influences and degeneration.

Our road is diametrically opposed to the road of the revisionists. It was openly declared at the 25th Congress of the Soviet revisionist party that their policy in the field of income and consumption, as always, proceeds from the fact that the main road to raise income is to raise wages, first and foremost, to raise the wages of the leading cadres and of the specialists, who have already degenerated into a new type bourgeoisie. In the revisionist countries where savage oppression and exploitation prevail and the class polarization deepens more and more, the people of the revisionist caste, through wages and legalized remunerations alone, ensure income 20 and more times

larger than the workers, without counting here other speculating embezzlements. In the countries of the capitalist and revisionist world, where everything is subject to the aim to ensure maximum profits, the life of the working masses becomes more and more difficult, the rich become richer, the poor become poorer.

The measures foreseen in the decision for the further economic, social and cultural raising of the peasantry are of special importance. Comrade Enver Hoxha during his visit to the Korça district and at his meetings with the working people and cadres, has stressed: «The working class sees in the peasantry its most loyal ally. Therefore, it is of the opinion, — and this is the opinion of the Party, — that the life of the peasantry must be improved, its level must be raised... The Party demands this, and the working class and all the people work for this». The present measures are also a clear testimony to this great care. On the basis of these measures, from now on the wages of the workers of agriculture and fruit growing of the state farms will be raised, connecting the remuneration of their work also with the realization of the tasks of the plan production. As in the town, in the countryside too, the state will undertake to meet expenditure for clinics, consultation centres, maternity homes, kindergartens and creches, the pay of the personnel of the houses of culture in the centres of the joint cooperatives. The state will also meet the investments to build schools, kindergartens and creches in the countryside, houses of culture and health projects in the centres of agricultural cooperatives, the expenditure on the maintainance of the internal power system and the telephone network in the countryside. An important measure will be the raising

of the percentage of the pensions of the cooperativists, equalling them with those of the working people in town, the raising of the minimal pension of the cooperativists, the meeting from the state social insurance funds of the remuneration for pregnancy leave of the women cooperativists, for the equalling of the percentage of the remuneration for pregnancy leave and for financial assistance for the birth of a child, so that it is the same in town and countryside. Besides these measures, in the hilly and mountainous zones, the budgetary finance means will be increased by the state for the construction of irrigation projects, the opening of new land, its systemization and terracing, the creation of new blocks of fruit trees, vineyards and olive groves, the purchasing of beasts of burden, while the price of nitrogenous fertilizers and urea will be lowered by 9 to 15 per cent.

For all these and for the other measures to the benefit of countryside, the state will spend from its budget over 140 million leks a year, an amount which greatly exceeds the biggest lowering of prices ever carried out in our country over previous years.

The decision of the CC of the PLA and of the Council of Ministers of the PR of Albania, with the very important measures it contains, is a new victory of our entire industrious, patriotic and revolutionary people, led by the Party with comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, in the jubilee year of the 35th anniversary of the founding of our glorious Party. It shows the force and vitality of our socialist order, of our state of the dictatorship of the proletariat. On its basis a new, very important step is made concerning the gradual narrowing of the differences between the country and town, for the further raising of the wellbeing

of the entire people. On this basis the proletarian consciousness of the working people is further tempered, the solidarity among them is strengthened, the unity of the people and the militant alliance between the working class and cooperativist peasantry is steeled further under the leadership of the working class and its Party, which is the guarantee of all our victories.

The working people of the country and town hail with boundless joy and enthusiasm this important decision. Correctly understanding the measures contained in it, they will draw new revolutionary tasks, and will set to work with multiplied energies to better organize and further develop our entire people's economy and culture and especially for the impetuous development of agriculture, livestock growing, fruit growing, etc. The party committees and organizations, as well as the state organs, must fight that in all the cooperatives, especially in the cooperatives not so powerful economically in mountainous and hilly zones, the work must be organized better, the participation at work and income must be increased, spreading the experience of other cooperatives that have the same conditions, but that ensure good income for man power and work day. Practice shows that when work goes well, not only in many cooperatives but in districts, too, the level of income of the cooperativists has already been brought nearer or has been equalled with those of the workers.

The measures foreseen by the decision are an expression of the superiority of our socialist economic-social system, of the impetuous and stable development of our planned economy. These measures assume special importance when we compare the

situation of our country with the situation in the capitalist-revisionist countries. In socialist Albania, where the Party is following a correct revolutionary Marxist-Leninist policy, life is developing normally, the economy advances, powerfully relying on its own forces, and it develops knowing no crises, unemployment or price rises, the general wellbeing of the people raises incessantly. And all this is achieved through a fierce class struggle against the internal and external enemies, against the stains and remnants of the past and alien influences in the consciousness of the working people, routing and smashing the attacks, all-round pressure, blockades and encirclement of the imperialists and modern revisionists towards our country. Such is our revolutionary reality. The opposite happens in the capitalist-revisionist world. The deep economic-financial crisis, chaos, spontaneity and anarchy are uninterruptedly corroding it. The entire structure and superstructure of the capitalist-revisionist world has been shaken to its very foundations and has irreparably lost its equilibrium and is uninterruptedly sliding down its inevitable course, making the situation of the working masses ever more difficult.

Our reality knows only its course of ascent and great realizations. In Albania, industrial and agricultural production, total social production and the national revenue, the fund of accumulation and that of consumption are constantly increasing. Within the last five years, in our country total industrial production has increased by 51 per cent and the total agricultural production by 30 per cent. In 1975, as against 1960, the national revenue has increased by about 2.8 times. It is precisely this general rise of

our economy which has made possible the application of the measures foreseen by the decision of the Central Committee of the PLA and the Council of Ministers of the PR of Albania.

The revolutionary social policy the Party of Labour applies shows that only in the conditions of genuine socialism and when its principles are consistently implemented can the general wellbeing of all the people be increased nonstop, can their aspirations be fulfilled. The clearest indication of this is the continuous increase of that part of the national revenue which is envisaged to fulfil the individual and social needs of the broad working masses. In our country the monthly pay is not the entire real income the worker receives from the society, no matter what he is, a cadre or a rank-and-file worker: it is another complete fund which the society, through other ways, spends in favour of the individual. Thus, in 1975, as against 1960, the consumption fund has more than doubled, while that part which is used to meet expenditures for the social-cultural measures, education, health service, social insurance, has increased by 2.7 times. The state spends one fourth of its budget annually to finance these expenditures which go directly to the benefit of the people. Every family profits an average sum of about four thousand leks a year from the expenditure the state makes on social cultural measures. The measures being adopted at present further increase these blessings and their tendency is to increase even further in the future.

In socialist Albania, where there are no exploiting classes, private property or exploitation of man by man, the grave ill of unemployment has been liquidated. In our country, people enjoy guaranteed

jobs and income, they are confident and optimistic in the present and the future.

In 1975 as against 1960, the number of people employed in the state sector alone increased 2.5 times, and on this basis the income of every family increased and is increasing. What a contrast this is with the situation of the working people in the capitalist and revisionist countries, where unemployment hangs over their heads like sword of Damocles! At present, more than 100 million people are suffering from full or partial unemployment.

In the capitalist Europe alone, there are about 20 million people deprived of the necessary means of living.

This is not all. Unprecedented uncurbed inflation, which has gripped the entire capitalist-revisionist world, is making havoc there. Last year, as against 1970, prices of consumer goods have increased: in the USA 140 per cent, Britain 190.6 per cent, Italy 171.4 per cent, Greece 182.5 per cent, while in Yugoslavia 252.1 per cent. The same situation prevails also in the other revisionist countries. Complete economic stability exists in socialist Albania. The market is uninterruptedly supplied with commodities and the prices are stable. Prices are not raised, on the contrary, the policy of their reduction is followed on the basis of the increase of production.

The picture of the gloomy reality of the «consumer society» becomes fuller in regard to the other fact that 60 per cent of the family income is spent on paying rents, levies, electricity, insurances, medical treatment and other such things.

The working people of our country are the first in the world not to pay taxes and levies. The income

of 1 or 2 work days of a worker is sufficient to pay the house rent. Payment for water, electricity and other services of the kind, are symbolic. Thus, almost the entire income the Albanian working people in our country receive is spent on food, clothing, household appliances, they buy at stable or reduced prices. It is precisely for this reason that the standard of living in our country knows only ascent. Facts clearly show: in 1975 as compared with 1970, the real income per head of the population grew by about 16 per cent. The opposite happens in the capitalist and revisionist countries where the standard of living falls constantly. For the comparable period 1970-1975, the cost of living in the USA rose by 42.4 per cent, in Britain by 97.3 per cent, in Italy by 77.8 per cent, in Greece by 89.2 per cent and in Yugoslavia by 163 per cent.

The theory and practice of socialist construction has proved that the constant improvement of the general wellbeing of the working masses is achieved through the revolutionary road of the increase of the production of the material blessings, of the all-round and stable increase and development of economy, implementing the instruction of the Party, «to produce more, faster, better and cheaper». Therefore, in the future too, the working masses of our country will advance on this Marxist-Leninist road, the sole correct road for raising the wellbeing of the people, our Party has followed and is following. This wellbeing is linked with the increase of labour productivity in the enterprises and agricultural cooperatives, with the increase of production in all the sectors, with the improvement of the quality and reduction of cost, factors which lead to the reduction of prices of foodstuffs and industrial commodities and to the creation

of reserves in all directions. This wants work and sweat, great mobilization and sound organization. The convincing educational work of the Party, as comrade Enver Hoxha teaches us, must lead and will lead, for certain, to the further increase of the revolutionary drive of the masses, to the strengthening of their practical spirit and their spirit of mass actions.

The measures in the decision of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour and of the Council of Ministers of the PR of Albania are not measures of a technical and administrative character, but measures of a profound ideological, political and social content. They have their national value, but at the same time they make an important contribution to the treasury of Marxism-Leninism. They prove that our Party carries out systematic and creative revolutionary work to implement the principles of Marxism-Leninism with courage and maturity. They express the desires and interests of our Party and people, of our working class, cooperativist peasantry and people's intelligentsia as a whole. By further revolutionizing the life of our country, they will become a fresh source of inspiration and mobilization. Under the banner of Marxism-Leninism, under the leadership of the glorious Party of Labour, with comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, let us march always forward, multiply our efforts and mobilize all our energies at work, realize our economic tasks better than ever and achieve new and greater victories in all fields of socialist construction and in defence of the country, for the further flourishing and tempering of our beloved Fatherland, to meet the great jubilee of the 35th anniversary of the founding of the Party so as it becomes our industrious, brave and revolutionary people!



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