

NorthKorea and South Korea have told the umpires that they don't want to compete on the table against each other here in Halmstad, Sweden, when they walked into the court for their Liebherr 2018 World Team Table Tennis Championships quarter-final match.

The decision for the unified team was a tripartite one between the leaders of the North and South Korean Table Tennis teams and the ITTF.

ITTF President Thomas WEIKERT who was chairing the ITTF Board of Directors meeting at the time stated: "When I informed the Board of Directors about this development, the unified team received a standing ovation from the delegates who showed their sign of support to this historic move."

The move follows the North and South Korean leaders' pledge for "lasting peace" to the Korea peninsula just last week, which portrays that table tennis is perfect medium to be promoting peace through sport.

President of the Table Tennis Association of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea JU Jong Chol stated: "this is the result of the strong support provided by the ITTF and IOC. We will do our best to get more successful results internationally in a joint effort between North and South Korea."

Korea Table Tennis Association Vice