

China wants to speed up six-party talks

by UPI

BEIJING - China's foreign minister Wednesday urged all nations involved in North Korea's denuclearization effort to work harder to achieve the goal. "The Chinese side will play a constructive role in realizing Korean Peninsula denuclearization, maintaining peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula," Yang Jiechi told reporters. The talks involving the United States, China, Russia, Japan and the two Koreas have stalled over claims that North Korea has not fully declared all its nuclear programs. The communist country has dismantled its main nuclear plant but also is to disclose all its nuclear programs. The sticking point is the U.S. assertion the list of nuclear activities provided by North Korea last November was incomplete, having failed to address the North's uranium enrichment program and its nuclear cooperation with Syria. North Korea denies both charges. Yang urged all parties to be patient, creative and make concerted efforts to implement the second phase, Xinhua reported. He said the chief U.S. negotiator at the talks, Christopher Hill, will soon meet with his North Korean counterpart, Kim Kye Gwan, in a third country. Separately, Yonhap news agency reported South Korean Foreign Minister Yu Myung-hwan warned Wednesday further delay in the talks would kill the momentum of the overall denuclearization effort.

© 2008 United Press International. All Rights Reserved

China wants to speed up six-party talks by UPI