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## **S. KOREA, U.S. AGREE TO FORM CONSULTATIVE BODY TO ADDRESS N. KOREA'S OIL SMUGGLING**

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Yonhap (21 March 2024)

Yi Wonju

*South Korea and the United States agreed to launch a working-level consultative body to tackle North Korea's illegal smuggling of refined oil, the foreign ministry said Thursday.*

Lee Jun-il, South Korea's deputy nuclear envoy, and U.S. Senior Official for North Korea Jung Pak agreed to step up the allies' bilateral cooperation with the launch of the body during their phone talks earlier in the day, according to the ministry.

"Noting that North Korea continues to smuggle refined oil in violation of U.N. Security Council (UNSC) resolutions, the two sides agreed to bolster their cooperation a step further to block such efforts through the launch of the South Korea-U.S. consultative body," the ministry said.

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