NEWS FROM CHINA

CHINA-INDIA REVIEW





TWO SESSIONS

NEXT STEPS FOR MODERNISATION













Editor's Words

"Two Sessions", China's biggest annual political meetings, unveiled a template of high-quality development, opening-up, modernisation and eco-friendly growth. Held from March 4 to March 11, 2022 in Beijing, the "Two Sessions" include the annual meetings of the two main political bodies of the People's Republic of China: the National People's Congress (NPC), and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC).

Promoting high-quality development and sustaining economic stability were identified as the major tasks in the government work report submitted to the national legislature. Innovation will be the primary drive of this new phase of China's modernisation and development. Two Sessions also imparted a momentum to China's mission of pursuing common prosperity, which involves making "a bigger and better cake" through joint efforts of the people, and then distributing the cake properly through rational institutional arrangements.

Speaking during the fifth session of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), Chinese President Xi Jinping placed people's welfare at the centre of China's modernisation drive. "When it comes to the wellbeing of the public, there is no such thing as a trivial matter," President Xi said. "We must give extra attention and care to the people in difficulty, to help them resolve problems." In a similar vein, President Xi highlighted food security as a key achievement of the country. "Today, China's 1.4 billion people are eating well with a great range of choices," President Xi said. "Through enormous efforts, China is capable of feeding one-fifth of the global population with 9 percent of the world's arable land and 6 percent of the freshwater resources," said Xi.

The work report submitted by the government to the national legislature projected major targets for development in 2022, including GDP growth of around 5.5 percent, generating over 11 million new urban jobs and an urban unemployment rate of no more than 5.5 percent. Other key targets included steady increases in both the volume and quality of imports and exports, equilibrium in the balance of payments, - grain output of over 650 million metric tons and further improvement in the environment.

Two Sessions were held in accordance with whole-process socialist democracy with Chinese characteristics. The NPC deputies and CPPCC National Committee members raised a host of issues aimed at accelerating rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. The key issues highlighted at Two Sessions included "building a nationwide, unified health code," a digital technology registration tool that has become an everyday occurrence in the lives of people in China since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Raising the threshold of personal income tax and slashing the medical insurance payment by rural people above 60 years old were among other important topics at the "two sessions."

Looking ahead, the annual sessions placed green growth and sustainable healthy lifestyle as the heart of China's modernisation drive. China has pledged to peak carbon emissions before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060.



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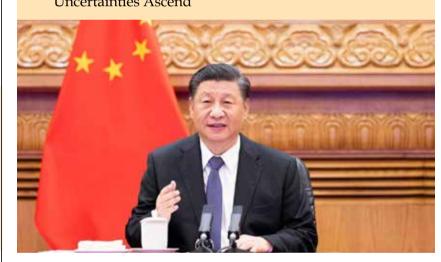
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From Food Security to Carbon Goals, "Two Sessions" Demonstrate China's Steady Steps Toward Modernization

China is now capable of feeding one-fifth of the global population with 9 percent of the world's arable land and 6 percent of the freshwater resources, said Chinese President Xi Jinping. Xi and other Chinese leaders joined NPC deputies and CPPCC National Committee members for discussions on issues relating to national development and great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

In 1995, a book titled "Who Will Feed China?" speculated, "In an integrated world economy, China's rising food prices will become the world's rising food prices. China's land scarcity will become everyone's land scarcity."

A "powerful answer" has been delivered. "Today, China's 1.4 billion people are eating well with a great range of choices," Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), said during the fifth session of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC).

"Through enormous efforts, China is capable of feeding one-fifth of the global population with 9 percent of the world's arable land and 6 percent of the freshwater resources," said Xi, also Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission.

That China feeds itself well is but one anecdote of what has been dubbed the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, which is first and foremost about the people.

For The People

"Of all things, eating matters most, and food is the most basic necessity of the people," Xi said, stressing that despite China's industrialization, food supply should never be considered an insignificant issue.

"How many days has it been since hunger is behind the Chinese people? Probably just the kids born after the 1980s," he added, evoking not-so-distant memories and wide agreements at the fifth sessions of the 13th National People's Congress (NPC) and the 13th CPPCC National Committee, also dubbed the "two sessions."

Since the 18th National Congress of the CPC in 2012, Xi has attended 10 annual "two sessions," where the "people" stood out as his most frequently used word.

Yeshe Dawa, a national political advisor from southwest China's Sichuan Province, brought two photos to Xi depicting staggering changes of a village on a cliff at an elevation of 1,700 meters in his hometown.



A steel ladder built on the cliff in Atulieer Village, Zhaojue County, Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture, southwest China's Sichuan Province.

Xi carefully looked at the photographs -- one showing a ramshackle rattan and wooden ladder as the only access to Atulieer Village, and the other depicting a renovated steel ladder that is imposing and strong.

"Have the villagers moved down the hills to their new homes? How about children and the elderly?" Xi asked.

"Some moved down and some stayed in the village, which is now a popular tourist destination. People's lives are getting better," Yeshe Dawa replied.

Over the last 10 years, Xi has joined national lawmakers and political advisors in group discussions on 53 occasions at such annual sessions.

The topics ranged from poverty reduction to equal access to education, epidemic control, rural revitalization, common prosperity and food security, among others.

"When it comes to the wellbeing of the public, there is no such thing as a trivial matter," Xi said this year. "We must give extra attention and care to the people in difficulty, to help them resolve problems. We should further reform the social assistance system, and work for a comprehensive, effective, multi-tiered, and multi-category social assistance framework centered on basic living assistance, special assistance, and emergency assistance."

Over the last 10 years, Xi has joined national lawmakers and political advisors in group discussions on 53 occasions at such annual sessions.

People's Democracy

Xi and other Chinese leaders joining NPC deputies and CPPCC National Committee members for extensive exchanges and discussions on important matters of national development and public interest is one of the features of socialist democracy with Chinese characteristics.

Among the issues raised by the NPC deputies and CPPCC National Committee members at the "two sessions" are "building a nationwide, unified health code," a digital technology registration tool that has become an everyday occurrence in the lives of people in China since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Proponents say the various codes in use across the country create inconveniences and confusion. Raising the threshold of personal income tax and slashing the medical insurance payment by rural people above 60 years old were among other important topics at the "two sessions."

As always, one highlight of the annual sessions was the report on the work of the government. Thousands of opinions and suggestions were solicited via multiple channels from all walks of life.

As of the end of 2020, China had 2.62 million deputies to people's congresses at all five levels. Of the total, 94.5 percent were from the county and township levels, all directly elected on a one-person-one-vote basis. Deputies to people's congresses at the city, provincial and national levels are elected by people's congresses at the next level below. China's whole-process people's democracy, which covers elections, consultations, decision-making, management, and oversight, ensures that it is the people who are running the country.

Seeking Stable Progress

The annual sessions also speak volumes about China's general principle of maintaining stability while pursuing progress of the economy.

For example, China has pledged to peak carbon emissions before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060.

Southwest China's Tibet is working to develop itself into a national clean energy base. By 2020, clean energy had contributed 89.1 percent of the total installed capacity of power generation in the autonomous region.

"We will take proactive and prudent steps to advance carbon emissions peaking and carbon neutrality initiatives," Xi said. "When carrying out carbon reductions, we must also ensure the security of energy, food, and industrial and supply chains, as well as the normal life and work of our people. We must not distance ourselves from realities and rush for quick results."

As the world is grappling with the COVID-19 pandemic and other challenges unseen in a century, China seeks stable progress amid all headwinds.

On the current situation in Ukraine, Premier Li Keqiang said at a press conference at the end of the NPC session on Friday that China is deeply concerned and grieved. "We sincerely hope that the situation will ease and peace will return at an early date."

On the vital China-U.S. relations, Li said, "We hope that the two countries will properly manage differences in a rational and constructive manner and respect each other's core interests and major concerns. There should be more dialogues and communication. Now that the door has been opened, it shouldn't be shut again, nor should there be decoupling."

"I can tell you very clearly that no matter how the international environment may change, China will keep to the course of wider openness. Just as the course of the Yangtze and Yellow rivers will not be reversed," Li added.

Photo shows wind turbines at Changma wind farm in Yumen City, northwest China's Gansu Province.

China's Opening-Up Policy Will Not Change: Premier



Underlining China's commitment to high-level economic reforms, Premier Li Keqiang told a press conference after the closing of the fifth session of the 13th National People's Congress that China's opening-up policy will not change "just as the course of the Yangtze and Yellow rivers will not be reversed."

hinese Premier Li Keqiang has said China's opening-up policy will not change "just as the course of the Yangtze and Yellow rivers will not be reversed."

No matter how the international environment may change, China will keep the course of wider openness, Li told a press conference on March 11 after the closing of the fifth session of the 13th National People's Congress.

"If there will be any change, the change will be conducive to China's greater openness to international exchanges, trade and investment," the premier said. "Anything that is conducive to expanding high-level opening-up, we will go for it."

China's economy has deeply integrated into the world, Li said. Imports and exports in goods contribute to more than one third of China's gross domestic product, and the country has remained the world's second-largest import market for 10 consecutive years. China has also been the largest trader in goods over the past five years.

As the economy is still climbing up the industrial chain, China has tremendous potential and broad space for the growth of all types of investment, the premier said, promising a level playing field for all types of businesses, no matter homegrown or foreign-funded.

As the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership agreement, the world's largest trade deal, has come into effect, China will seize the opportunity to push forward free trade and keep itself a popular destination for foreign investment, he said.

As more than 40 years of opening-up has brought mutual benefits to China and the world, Li described the policy as a "door of opportunity." China will not and must not close it, he added.

China Releases Full Text of Government Work Report

he Government Work Report was delivered by Premier Li Keqiang on behalf of the State Council at the fifth session of the 13th National People's Congress on March 5, and was adopted on March 11.

The report comprises three parts:

I. A Review of Our Work in 2021

II. Overall Requirements and Policy Orientation for Economic and Social Development in 2022

III. Major Tasks for 2022

Noting that 2021 was a milestone in the history of the Communist Party of China and the country, the report points out that facing complicated and challenging circumstances both in and outside of China, as well as many risks and challenges, people throughout the country worked hard as one, responded to COVID-19 and pursued economic and social development in a well-coordinated way, accomplished the main targets and tasks for the year, got the 14th Five-Year Plan off to a good start, and once again secured new and major achievements in the country's development.

The report proposes the main projected targets for development in 2022 as follows:

- GDP growth of around 5.5 percent
- over 11 million new urban jobs
- a surveyed urban unemployment rate of no more than 5.5 percent
- CPI increase of around 3 percent
- growth in personal income that is basically in step with economic growth





- steady increases in both the volume and quality of imports and exports
- a basic equilibrium in the balance of payments
- grain output of over 650 million metric
- further improvement in the environment
- continued reduction in the discharge of major pollutants
- energy consumption per unit of GDP to be assessed with appropriate flexibility within the framework of the 14th Five-Year Plan; and the exclusion of newly added renewable energy and coal, petroleum, and natural gas consumed as raw materials in the total amount of energy consumption.

It also lists the following major tasks for 2022:

- Achieving stable macroeconomic performance and keeping major indicators within economic appropriate range;
- Keeping the operations of market entities stable and maintaining job security by strengthening macro policies;
- Steadfastly deepening reform to strengthen market vitality and internal momentum for development;
- Further implementing the innovationdevelopment strategy strengthening the foundation of the real economy;
- Expanding domestic demand and promoting coordinated regional development and new urbanization;
- Boosting agricultural production promoting and all-around revitalization:
- Pursuing higher-standard opening up and promoting stable growth of foreign trade and investment;
- Continuing to improve the environment and promoting green and low-carbon development;
- Ensuring and improving the people's wellbeing and promoting better and new ways of conducting social governance.

High-Quality Development Paves China's Path Toward Modernization

The government work report submitted to the national legislature at the "Two Sessions" showcased promotion of high-quality development, driven by innovation and eco-friendly growth, as one of the major priorities of the world's second largest economy.

Por a year of great significance to the country's modernization, promoting high-quality development is highlighted as one of the major tasks in the government work report submitted to the national legislature, which began its annual session on Saturday.

- With a departure from the obsolete pattern concentrating on the quantity of growth, China is putting into practice a new blueprint where "innovation is the primary driver, coordination is an endogenous trait, eco-friendly growth prevails, openness to the world is the only way, and shared growth is the ultimate goal."
- After eradicating absolute poverty, the country has set about a new mission of pursuing common prosperity, one of the features of China's modernization drive.

High-quality development once again grabbed the spotlight as one of the catchphrases at China's ongoing annual "two sessions," which mapped out the 2022 development priorities of the world's second-largest economy.

For a year of great significance to the country's modernization, promoting high-quality development is highlighted as one of the major tasks in the government work report submitted



to the national legislature, which began its annual session on Saturday.

Having fulfilled its first centenary goal of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, China is now striding full-steam ahead toward a modernized future it has pledged.

History has proven that high-quality development is the path China must take. After decades of galloping expansion, the extensive growth model began to exhaust the Chinese economy upon entering the 2010s.

"China's transformation has seen it rise from low-income to upper-middle-income status in just over four decades. Its 20th-century growth story had physical capital at its core," stated Isabella Neuweg and Nicholas Stern, scholars at the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment at the London School of Economics and Political Science, in a paper on China.



Aerial photo shows a view of Tangshan Huahai project in Tangshan, north China's Hebei Province.

"China will transform again in the next 30 to 40 years but this time with wellbeing, quality and sustainability at center stage," Neuweg and Stern forecast in their paper.

With a departure from the obsolete pattern concentrating on the quantity of growth, China is putting into practice a brand-new blueprint where "innovation is the primary driver, coordination is an endogenous trait, eco-friendly growth prevails, openness to the world is the only way, and shared growth is the ultimate goal."

Prosperity For All

After eradicating absolute poverty, the country has set about a new mission of pursuing common prosperity, one of the features of China's modernization drive.

"We must act on the people-centered development philosophy and rely on the efforts of everyone to promote prosperity for all, so as to keep realizing the people's aspirations for a better life," said the government work report.

Rather than "robbing the rich to help the poor" or pursuing egalitarianism, the philosophy of common prosperity China pursues refers to affluence enjoyed by everyone, echoing the objective of high-quality development.

Thanks to the measures aimed at improving livelihoods, China's per disposable income rose 9.1 percent year on year in nominal terms to reach 35,128 yuan (about 5,550 U.S. dollars) in 2021.

"We must act on the people-centered development philosophy and rely on the efforts of everyone to promote prosperity for all, so as to keep realizing the people's aspirations for a better life," said the government work report.

While some Western economies adhere to a trickle-down model. China strives to "make a bigger and better cake" through joint efforts of the people, and then divide and distribute the cake properly through rational institutional arrangements. Last year, the country's urbanrural income ratio narrowed 0.06 to 2.5, continuing a declining trend, data from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) showed.

Apart from fueling China's modernization drive, common prosperity has become a recipe for development the world can draw wisdom from. David Monyae, director for the Center for Africa-China Studies at the University of Johannesburg, said China's prosperity vision offers Africa a "new growth platform."



Aerial photo shows a molten-salt solar thermal power plant in Yumen City, northwest China's Gansu Province.

"Through common prosperity, China seeks to pursue a more just development path guided by moral values and a practical program of action," Monyae said.

Jiang Ying, deputy CEO of Deloitte China, said digital technologies will help China push forward common prosperity as the country ushers in an era of digitalization.

By building a digital government, the country is improving its public services, tilting more favorable policies and market information toward rural areas, and creating more opportunities for job seekers and economic growth, said Jiang, who is also a national political advisor.

Innovation-Driven Growth

In the pursuit of high-quality development, China is doubling down on technological innovation as a primary driver of growth.

According to official data, the country's total spending on research and development (R&D) hit a new high of 2.44 percent of its gross domestic product in 2021, up from 1.98 percent in 2012.

This year's government work report also stressed the importance of scientific and technological innovation, stating that it helps the country upgrade industries, eliminate the bottlenecks in supply, and realize high-quality development through innovation.

One of the latest moves in the field of innovation came in February, as China approved a megaproject involving the construction of eight national computing hubs and 10 national data center clusters. It is aimed at channeling more computing resources from the country's eastern regions to its less developed yet resource-rich western regions.

This project marks the completion of the overall layout for the national integrated big-data center system, and is expected to better empower the country's digital development.

Thanks to its commitment to innovation, China rose to 12th on the Global Innovation Index 2021 released by the World Intellectual Property Organization. It is the only middle-income economy to rank in the top 30.

Innovation is leading China to ride the wave of digitalization and transform into a global tech hub. Amid the innovation drive, new industries and business models are thriving nationwide.

The value-added output of China's high-tech manufacturing industry increased 18.2 percent year on year in 2021, according to the NBS. Specifically, the output of new energy vehicles and integrated circuit products surged 152.5 percent and 37.5 percent, respectively.

Paolo Bazzoni, chairman of the China-Italy Chamber of Commerce, told Xinhua that China's high-quality development path is "in full harmony" with the values pursued by Italian companies, which place the "highest priority on quality, technological innovation and sustainable development" when investing in China.

"This is the path we want to continue to follow and strengthen," Bazzoni said, noting that opportunities will emerge in sectors such



A view of the automated container terminal of Shanghai's Yangshan Port in east China.

as mechanical engineering, high-quality retail, pharmaceuticals, food and beverage, lifestyle and energy transition.

"China's high-quality development will increasingly match with Italian companies that have invested and will continue to invest in the Chinese market," Bazzoni added.

China rose to 12th on the Global Innovation Index 2021 released by the **World Intellectual Property Organization.** It is the only middle-income economy to rank in the top 30. Innovation is leading China to ride the wave of digitalization and transform into a global tech hub.

Green Shift

In a bid to pursue green growth, an essential part of high-quality development, China has announced that it would strive to peak carbon dioxide emissions by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2060.

Amid efforts to achieve the carbon-cutting targets, the government work report said the country will work harder this year to address pollution and protect and restore ecosystems, and "promote development while also reducing emissions." Riding the wave of high-quality development, traditional industries in the country are scrambling for technological transformation and upgrades to make their production more sustainable. Sinopec, China's largest oil refiner, announced in January that it had completed the country's first megaton-scale project of carbon capture, utilization and storage.

By capturing carbon dioxide from production activities and then either reusing or storing it, the project is expected to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 1 million tonnes per year, an amount equivalent to the effect of planting nearly 9 million trees.

In Zhejiang Province's Lishui City, known as "green valley" for its stunning natural landscape and ecological-conservation achievements, the local synthetic leather industry is transforming from a heavy emitter into a frontrunner of ecofriendly growth to better nurture the city's natural treasures.

According to the government work report, China will continue to promote R&D and application of green and low-carbon technology, develop green manufacturing and services, and encourage the steel, non-ferrous metals, petrochemicals, chemicals and building materials industries to enhance energy conservation and reduce carbon emissions.

Such a green shift is reshaping China into a magnet for global investors dedicated to the use of green energy and technology.

China Promotes Cooperation, **Dialogue As Global Uncertainties Ascend**

China's State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi has called on countries in the world to resolve conflicts and disputes through dialogue, and stressed the need for multilateralism and joint efforts to build a community with a shared future for mankind.



Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi addressed a a press conference on China's foreign policy and foreign relations via video link on the sidelines of the fifth session of the 13th National People's Congress (NPC) at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on March 7, 2022.

n the face of profound changes unseen in a century, China has called on countries in the world to stay committed to ceasing conflicts through negotiation, resolving disputes through dialogue, and increasing mutual trust through cooperation. The message was delivered by Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi at a press conference on the sidelines of the country's annual "Two Sessions" on March 7.

"The right way forward lies in greater solidarity and cooperation under the banner of multilateralism and joint efforts to build a community with a shared future for mankind," said Wang.

Major-Country Relations

Responding to China's relationship with Russia, Wang said the two countries will maintain strategic focus and keep deepening China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for a new era. He noted that the China-Russia relationship is grounded in a clear logic of history and driven by strong internal dynamics, and the friendship between the Chinese and Russian peoples is rock-solid.

On the China-U.S. ties, Wang said the two countries must replace the "competitivecollaborative-adversarial" trichotomy with the three principles of mutual respect, peaceful coexistence and win-win cooperation.

"Competition between major countries should not be the order of the day and zero-sum game is not the right choice," he said.

Noting that this year marks the 50th anniversary of the "Shanghai Communique," Wang said China and the United States need to re-embrace the conviction that helped the two countries break the ice five decades ago, and set out on a new journey.

However, the United States is still going to great lengths to engage in intense, zero-sum competition with China, keeps provoking China on issues concerning China's core interests, and is taking a string of actions to piece together small blocs to suppress China, which not only harm the overall bilateral relations, but also undermine international peace and stability, Wang noted.

Slamming the U.S. Indo-Pacific strategy, Wang said its real goal is to establish an Indo-Pacific version of NATO, and the strategy seeks to maintain the U.S.-led system of hegemony, undermine the ASEAN-centered regional cooperation architecture, and compromise the overall and long-term interests of countries in the region.

Lauding China-Europe fruitful cooperation last year, Wang said dialogue and cooperation between China and Europe on the basis of mutual respect and mutual benefit will add more stabilizing factors to an unstable world.

Noting that China-Europe cooperation is rooted in solid public support, extensive common interests, and similar strategic needs, Wang said no force can reverse the cooperation.

Cooperation in Year of Challenge

For the world, the year ahead continues to be full of challenges. At such a critical moment, countries need solidarity, not division; dialogue, not confrontation, Wang told the press conference in his opening remarks.

China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have established a model of the most dynamic and promising regional cooperation over the past three decades, Wang said.

"China and ASEAN must be forerunners in international cooperation against COVID-19, pacesetters in regional cooperation, and defenders of stability in the Asia-Pacific region," he said.

On China-Africa cooperation, Wang said China honors its commitment to cooperation with African countries and never makes empty promises.

Over the years, China has built over 10,000 km of railways, up to 100,000 km of highways, nearly 100 ports, and innumerable hospitals and schools in Africa, according to Wang. "These are not 'debt traps,' but monuments of cooperation."

Wang hailed the cooperation between China and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region, saying that LAC is a region of promise and vitality and is not the backyard of anyone.

"What the people in this region need is fairness, justice and mutually beneficial cooperation, not power politics, hegemony or bullying," Wang said, adding that China will continue to deepen friendship, expand cooperation and work with LAC friends for a China-LAC community with a shared future.

The joint construction of the Belt and Road has maintained a sound momentum despite shocks from factors including the COVID-19 pandemic, Wang said, noting that since last year, 10 more countries have signed Belt and Road cooperation documents with China, bringing the Belt and Road family to 180 members.

China will work with the international community to continue advancing high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, making the initiative a "belt of development" to the benefit of the world and a "road to happiness" for people of all countries, he added.

Slamming the US Indo-Pacific strategy, Wang said its real goal is to establish an Indo-Pacific version of NATO, and the strategy seeks to maintain the U.S.-led system of hegemony, undermine the ASEAN-centered regional cooperation architecture, and compromise the overall and long-term interests of countries in the region.

Ukraine & Other Issues

Calmness and rationality, instead of moves that pour oil on the flame and escalate tensions, are needed to resolve complex problems, Wang said while elaborating on China's position on resolving the Ukraine crisis.

The foreign minister put forth a sixpoint initiative on preventing a large-scale humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, including ensuring humanitarian operations abide by the principle of neutrality and impartiality, giving full attention to the displaced people in and from Ukraine, and supporting UN's coordinating role in channeling humanitarian aid and the work of the UN crisis coordinator for Ukraine. China is willing to continue playing a constructive role in facilitating dialogue for peace, and work alongside the international community to carry out necessary mediation, he said.

Wang also answered questions regarding China's stance on other issues, including the situation in the Middle East, the Afghanistan issue, and the Korean Peninsula issue.

On the Afghanistan issue, the immediate priorities are to race against time to provide humanitarian aid, Wang said, urging the United States to immediately lift the freeze on Afghanistan's assets in the United States and various unilateral sanctions.

China is preparing for the third foreign ministers meeting among the neighboring countries of Afghanistan, and is willing to contribute to the durable stability and security of Afghanistan, he said.

Stressing the root cause for the Korean Peninsula issue is that the external security threats facing the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) have remained unaddressed and its legitimate security concerns unresolved for too long, Wang reiterated China's commitment to continuing to play a constructive role in helping promote political settlement of the issue.

The foreign minister put forth a six-point initiative on preventing a large-scale humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, including ensuring humanitarian operations abide by the principle of neutrality and impartiality, giving full attention to the displaced people in and from Ukraine, and supporting UN's coordinating role in channeling humanitarian aid and the work of the UN crisis coordinator for Ukraine.

"We have noticed that the U.S. side has recently stated that it has no hostile intent toward the DPRK and is willing to solve the issue through diplomatic means, which is worthy of affirmation," Wang said.



The "Belt and Road" International Pavilion at the 18th China-ASEAN Expo in Nanning, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

Xi to Biden: Need for More Dialogue Between China, US



In his virtual conversation with US President Joe Biden on March 18, President Xi called for enhancing dialogue between the two countries and stressed on the need for the two countries to respect each other, coexist in peace and avoid confrontation.

In the evening of March 18, President Xi Jinping had a video call with US President Joe Biden at the request of the latter. The two Presidents had a candid and in-depth exchange of views on China-US relations, the situation in Ukraine, and other issues of mutual interest.

President Biden said that 50 years ago, the US and China made the important choice of issuing the Shanghai Communiqué. Fifty years on, the US-China relationship has once again come to a critical time. How this relationship develops will shape the world in the 21st century. Biden reiterated that the US does not seek a new Cold War with China; it does not aim to change China's system; the revitalization of its alliances is not targeted at China; the US does not support "Taiwan independence"; and it has no intention to seek a conflict with China. The US is ready to have candid dialogue and closer cooperation with China, stay committed to the one-China policy, and effectively manage competition and disagreements to ensure the steady growth of the relationship. President Biden expressed readiness to stay in close touch with President Xi to set the direction for the US-China relationship.

President Xi noted the new major developments in the international landscape since their first virtual meeting last November. The prevailing trend of peace and development is facing serious challenges. The world is neither tranquil nor stable. As permanent members of the UN Security Council and the world's two leading economies, China and the US must not only guide their relations forward along the right track, but also shoulder their share of international responsibilities and work for world peace and tranquility.

President Xi stressed that he and President Biden share the view that China and the US need to respect each other, coexist in peace and avoid confrontation, and that the two sides should increase communication and dialogue at all levels and in all fields.

President Biden has just reiterated that the US does not seek to have a new Cold War with China, to change China's system, or to revitalize alliances against China, and that the US does not support "Taiwan independence" or intend to seek a conflict with China. "I take these remarks very seriously," said President Xi.

President Xi pointed out that the China-US relationship, instead of getting out of the predicament created by the previous US administration, has encountered a growing number of challenges. What's worth noting in particular is that some people in the US have sent a wrong signal to "Taiwan independence" forces. This is very dangerous. Mishandling of the Taiwan question will have a disruptive impact on the bilateral ties.

China hopes that the US will give due attention to this issue. The direct cause for the current situation in the China-US relationship is that some people on the US side have not followed through on the important common understanding reached by the two Presidents and have not acted on President Biden's positive statements. The US has misperceived and miscalculated China's strategic intention.

President Xi underscored that there have been and will continue to be differences between China and the US. What matters is to keep such differences under control. A steadily growing relationship is in the interest of both sides.

The two sides exchanged views on the situation in Ukraine.

President Biden expounded on the US position, and expressed readiness for communication with China to prevent the situation from exacerbating.

President Xi pointed out that China does not want to see the situation in Ukraine to come to this. China stands for peace and opposes war. This is embedded in China's history and culture. China makes a conclusion independently based on the merits of each matter. China advocates upholding international law and universally recognized norms governing international relations.

China adheres to the UN Charter and promotes the vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security. These are the major principles that underpin China's approach to the Ukraine crisis. China has put forward a six-point initiative on the humanitarian situation in Ukraine, and is ready to provide further humanitarian assistance to Ukraine and other affected countries. All sides need to jointly support Russia and Ukraine in having dialogue and negotiation that will produce results and

lead to peace. The US and NATO should also have dialogue with Russia to address the crux of the Ukraine crisis and ease the security concerns of both Russia and Ukraine.

President Xi stressed that with the need to fight COVID-19 on the one hand and protect the economy and people's livelihood on the other, things are already very difficult for countries around the world. As leaders of major countries, we need to think about how to properly address global hotspot issues and, more importantly, keep in mind global stability and the work and life of billions of people. Sweeping and indiscriminate sanctions would only make the people suffer.

If further escalated, they could trigger serious crises in global economy and trade, finance, energy, food, and industrial and supply chains, crippling the already languishing world economy and causing irrevocable losses. The more complex the situation, the greater the need to remain cool-headed and rational. Whatever the circumstances, there is always a need for political courage to create space for peace and leave room for political settlement. As two Chinese sayings go, "It takes two hands to clap." "He who tied the bell to the tiger must take it off." It is imperative that the parties involved demonstrate political will and find a proper settlement in view of both immediate and long-term needs. Other parties can and should create conditions to that end.

The pressing priority is to keep the dialogue and negotiation going, avoid civilian casualties, prevent a humanitarian crisis, and cease hostilities as soon as possible. An enduring solution would be for major countries to respect each other, reject the Cold War mentality, refrain from bloc confrontation, and build step by step a balanced, effective and sustainable security architecture for the region and for the world. China has been doing its best for peace and will continue to play a constructive role.

The two Presidents agreed that the video call is constructive. They directed their teams to promptly follow up and take concrete actions to put China-US relations back on the track of steady development, and make respective efforts for the proper settlement of the Ukraine crisis.

Ding Xuexiang, Liu He and Wang Yi were present at the call.

China, Russia Reaffirm Support on **Core Interest, Oppose Interference** in Internal Affairs: Joint Statement

In a meeting between the leaders of China and Russia on February 4, the two sides underlined their commitment to building an equitable, open and inclusive security system in the Asia-Pacific region that is not directed against any third country.

Thina and Russia reaffirmed strong support for each other's core interest, state sovereignty and territorial integrity, and voiced opposition to external interference in their domestic affairs, according to a joint statement issued on February 4 after a meeting between the two countries' presidents.

At the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping, Russian President Vladimir Putin visited China. The two heads of state held talks in Beijing, and attended the opening ceremony of the 24th Olympic Winter Games.

The two countries oppose further enlargement of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and urged NATO to abandon its Cold-War mentality, respect the sovereignty, security and interests of other countries, and hold a fair and objective attitude towards the peaceful development of other countries.

China and Russia stand against any attempts to forge exclusive blocs and to stoke confrontation between blocs in the Asia-Pacific region, and they are highly vigilant about the negative impact of the U.S. Indo-Pacific strategy on peace and stability in the region, said the statement.

The two sides are committed to building an equitable, open and inclusive security system in the Asia-Pacific region that is not directed against any third country, and have made consistent efforts in promoting peace, stability and prosperity, it added. According to the statement, the two countries are seriously concerned about AUKUS, the trilateral security

partnership between the United States, Britain, and Australia, in particular their cooperation in the field of nuclear-powered submarines that involves strategic stability.

The deal runs contrary to the security and sustainable development objectives of the Asia-Pacific region, increases the risk of an arms race in the region, and poses serious risks of nuclear proliferation.

At the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping, Russian President Vladimir Putin visited China. The two heads of state held talks in Beijing, and attended the opening ceremony of the 24th Olympic Winter Games.

China and Russia strongly condemn such moves and call on AUKUS participants to strictly fulfill their nuclear and missile nonproliferation commitments and to safeguard regional peace, stability and development. The two sides reaffirmed that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is the cornerstone of the international disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation system, and also an important part of the post-war international security system, which plays an indispensable role in global peace and development.

The international community should promote the treaty's three pillars in a balanced way, and work together to protect the credibility, effectiveness and universal nature of the treaty, the statement added.

Xi Holds Virtual Summit with Leaders of France, Germany

In his online interaction with French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, Chinese President Xi Jinping focused on the need for enhancing dialogue and promoting steady and sustained progress of China-EU relations to address a host of global challenges.



Chinese President Xi Jinping participated in a video summit with French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz in Beijing on March 8, 2022.

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Xi pointed out that the combined impact of major global changes and the pandemic, both unseen in a century, has brought multiple global challenges that need to be addressed through global cooperation. Noting that China and the EU share much common understanding on promoting peace, seeking development and advancing cooperation, Xi said that we need to shoulder our responsibility to bring more stability and certainty to a turbulent and fluid world.

Xi said it is important for the two sides to enhance dialogue, stay committed to cooperation, and promote steady and sustained progress of China-EU relations.

China's development will create broader space for China-EU cooperation, Xi said, adding that the two sides must, under the principle of mutual benefit and win-win, further deepen green and digital partnerships as well as practical cooperation in various fields.

The two sides need to continue upholding multilateralism and advancing major global agenda, he added.

Macron and Scholz congratulated China on its successful hosting of the Beijing Olympic Winter Games, saying that the world faces many challenges, and each country acting on its own will only make things worse.

The European side values the important and positive role of China in global affairs, and is willing to engage in close cooperation with China to jointly tackle climate change, public health and other major global challenges, they said.

The two leaders said the European side is ready to work with China for a successful EU-China summit, and to move forward France-China, Germany-China and EU-China relations.

The leaders exchanged views on the key issue of the current situation in Ukraine.

Macron and Scholz shared their assessment and positions on the current situation in Ukraine, saying that Europe is facing the worst crisis since World War II.

France and Germany support reaching a settlement through negotiation and giving peace a chance, they noted.

The two leaders thanked China for its initiative on the humanitarian situation and said the two countries are ready to strengthen communication and coordination with China to promote talks for peace, and prevent further escalation of the situation that may worsen the humanitarian crisis.

Xi stressed that the current situation in Ukraine is worrisome, and the Chinese side is deeply grieved by the outbreak of war again on the European continent.

China maintains that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries must be respected, the purposes and principles of the UN Charter must be fully observed, the legitimate security concerns of all countries must be taken seriously, and all efforts that are conducive to the peaceful settlement of the crisis must be supported, he said.

The pressing task at the moment is to prevent the tense situation from escalating or even running out of control, Xi stressed.

China commends the mediation efforts by France and Germany on Ukraine, he said, adding that China will stay in communication and coordination with France, Germany and the EU and, in light of the needs of the parties involved, work actively together with the international community.

Xi emphasized that we need to jointly support the peace talks between Russia and Ukraine, and encourage the two sides to keep the momentum of negotiations, overcome difficulties, keep the talks going and bring about peaceful outcomes.

We need to call for maximum restraint to prevent a massive humanitarian crisis, Xi said, adding that China has put forward a six-point initiative on the humanitarian situation in Ukraine, and stands ready to provide Ukraine with further humanitarian aid supplies.

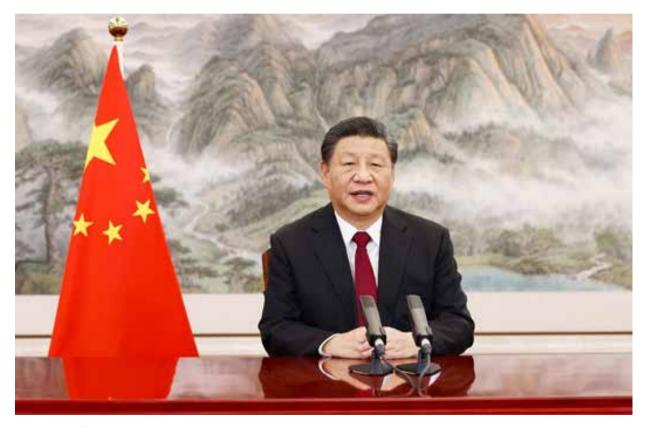
We need to work together to reduce the negative impact of the crisis, Xi said, adding that relevant sanctions will affect global finance, energy, transportation and stability of supply chains, and dampen the global economy that is already ravaged by the pandemic. And this is in the interest of no one.

We need to actively advocate a vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative sustainable security, Xi said.

China supports France and Germany in promoting a balanced, effective and sustainable European security framework for the interests and lasting security of Europe, and by upholding its strategic autonomy, he said.

China will be pleased to see equal-footed dialogue among the EU, Russia, the United States and NATO, Xi added. The leaders also exchanged views on the Iranian nuclear issue.

Forge Ahead with Confidence and Fortitude to Jointly Create a Better Post-COVID World, says Xi Jinping at WEF



In a defining speech at the 2022 World Economic Forum virtual session, Chinese President Xi Jinping exhorted people to act with the courage and strength of the tiger to overcome all obstacles, including the pandemic, and boost economic and social recovery and development, so that "the sunshine of hope may light up the future of humanity."

n January 17, 2022, President Xi Jinping attended the 2022 World Economic Forum Virtual Session in Beijing and delivered a speech titled "Forge Ahead with Confidence and Fortitude to Jointly Create a Better Post-COVID World".

Xi Jinping first pointed out, in two weeks' time, China will celebrate the advent of spring in the lunar new year, the Year of the Tiger. In Chinese culture, tiger symbolizes bravery and strength, as the Chinese people often refer to spirited dragon and dynamic tiger, or soaring dragon and leaping tiger. To meet the severe challenges facing humanity, we must "add wings to the tiger" and act with the courage and strength of the tiger to overcome all obstacles on our way forward. We must do everything necessary to clear the shadow of the pandemic and boost economic and social recovery and development, so that the sunshine of hope may light up the future of humanity.

Xi Jinping stressed that the world today is undergoing major changes unseen in a century. These changes, not limited to a particular moment, event, country or region, represent the profound and sweeping changes of our times. As changes of the times combine with the oncein-a-century pandemic, the world finds itself in a new period of turbulence and transformation. How to beat the pandemic and how to build the post-COVID world? These are major issues of common concern to people around the world. They are also major, urgent questions we must give answers to.

Xi Jinping emphasized, "The momentum of the world either flourishes or declines; the state of the world either progresses or regresses." The world is always developing through the movement of contradictions; without contradiction, nothing would exist. The history of humanity is a history of achieving growth by meeting various tests and of developing by overcoming various crises. We need to move forward by following the logic of historical progress, and develop by riding the tide of development of our times. We need to learn from comparing long history cycles, and see the change in things through the subtle and minute. We need to foster new opportunities amidst crises, open up new horizons on a shifting landscape, and pool great strength to go through difficulties and challenges.

First, we need to embrace cooperation and jointly defeat the pandemic. Facts have shown once again that amidst the raging torrents of a global crisis, countries are not riding separately in some 190 small boats, but are rather all in a giant ship on which our shared destiny hinges. Small boats may not survive a storm, but a giant ship is strong enough to brave a storm. Strong confidence and cooperation represent the only right way to defeat the pandemic. Holding each other back or shifting blame would only cause needless delay in response and distract us from the overall objective. Countries need to strengthen international cooperation against COVID-19, carry out active cooperation on research and development of medicines, jointly build multiple lines of defense against the coronavirus, and speed up efforts to build a global community of health for all. Of particular importance is to fully leverage vaccines as a powerful weapon, ensure their equitable distribution, quicken vaccination and close the global immunization gap, so as to truly safeguard people's lives, health and livelihoods.

We need to embrace cooperation and jointly defeat the pandemic. Facts have shown once again that amidst the raging torrents of a global crisis, countries are not riding separately in some 190 small boats, but are rather all in a giant ship on which our shared destiny hinges. Small boats may not survive a storm, but a giant ship is strong enough to brave a storm. Strong confidence and cooperation represent the only right way to defeat the pandemic.

Second, we need to resolve various risks and promote a steady recovery of the world economy. The world economy is emerging from the depths, yet it still faces many constraints. In the context of ongoing COVID-19 response, we need to explore new drivers of economic growth, new modes of social life and new pathways for people-to-people exchange, in a bid to facilitate cross-border trade, keep industrial and supply chains secure and smooth, and promote steady and solid progress in global economic recovery. Countries around the world should uphold true multilateralism. We should remove barriers, not erect walls. We should open up, not close off. We should seek integration, not decoupling. This is the way to build an open world economy, to make economic globalization more open, inclusive, balanced and beneficial for all, and to fully unleash the vitality of the world economy. To turn the world economy from crisis to recovery, it is imperative strengthen macro-policy coordination. Major economies should see the world as one community, think in a more systematic way,



increase policy transparency and information sharing, and coordinate the objectives, intensity and pace of fiscal and monetary policies. Major developed countries should adopt responsible economic policies, manage policy spillovers, and avoid severe impacts on developing countries. International economic and financial institutions should play their constructive role to pool global consensus, enhance policy synergy and prevent systemic risks.

Third, we need to bridge the development divide and revitalize global development. The process of global development is suffering from severe disruption. The Human Development Index has declined for the first time in 30 years. Some developing countries have fallen back into poverty and instability due to the pandemic. Many in developed countries are also living through a hard time. No matter what difficulties may come our way, we must adhere to a peoplecentered philosophy of development, place development and livelihoods front and center in global macro-policies, realize the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and build greater synergy among existing mechanisms of development cooperation to promote balanced development worldwide.

We need to uphold the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, promote international cooperation on climate change in the context of development, and implement the outcomes of COP26 to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Developed economies should take the lead in honoring their emissions reduction responsibilities, deliver on their commitment of financial and technological support, and create the necessary conditions for developing countries to address climate change and achieve sustainable

development. The Global Development Initiative is a public good open to the whole world. China stands ready to work with all partners to jointly translate the Initiative into concrete actions and make sure that no country is left behind in this process.

Fourth, we need to discard Cold War mentality and seek peaceful coexistence and winwin outcomes. Our world today is far from being tranquil; rhetorics that stoke hatred and prejudice abound. Acts of containment, suppression or confrontation arising thereof do all harm, not the least good, to world peace and security. History has proved time and again that confrontation does not solve problems; it only invites catastrophic consequences. Protectionism and unilateralism can protect no one; they ultimately hurt the interests of others as well as one's own.

Countries around the world should uphold true multilateralism. We should remove barriers, not erect walls. We should open up, not close off. We should seek integration, not decoupling. This is the way to build an open world economy, to make economic globalization more open, inclusive, balanced and beneficial for all, and to fully unleash the vitality of the world economy.

Even worse are the practices of hegemony and bullying, which run counter to the tide of history. Naturally, countries have divergences and disagreements between them. Yet a zerosum approach that enlarges one's own gain at the expense of others will not help. The right way forward for humanity is peaceful development and win-win cooperation. Different countries and civilizations may prosper together on the basis of respect for each other, and seek common ground and win-win outcomes by setting aside differences. We should follow the trend of history, work for a stable international order, advocate common values of humanity, and build a community with a shared future for mankind. We should choose dialogue over confrontation, inclusiveness over exclusion, and stand against all

forms of unilateralism, protectionism, hegemony or power politics.

Xi Jinping stressed that last year, the Communist Party of China (CPC) celebrated the 100th anniversary of its founding. Through a century of tenacious struggle, the CPC has rallied and led the Chinese people in accomplishing remarkable achievements in the advancement of the nation and betterment of people's lives. We have realized a moderately prosperous society in all respects and won the battle against poverty, both according to plan, and found a historic solution to ending absolute poverty. Now, China is marching on a new journey of building a modern socialist country in all respects.

- China will stay committed to pursuing highquality development. China's economy enjoys a good momentum overall. Last year, our GDP grew by around eight percent, achieving the dual target of fairly high growth and relatively low inflation. Shifts in the domestic and international economic environment have brought tremendous pressure, but the fundamentals of China's economy, characterized by strong resilience, enormous potential and long-term sustainability, remain unchanged. We have every confidence in the future of China's economy. China has made it clear that we strive for more visible and substantive progress in the well-rounded development of individuals and the common prosperity of the entire population. We are working hard on all fronts to deliver this goal.
- China will stay committed to reform and opening-up. For China, reform and opening-up is always a work in process. Whatever change in the international landscape, China will always hold high the banner of reform and opening-up. China will continue to let the market play a decisive role in resource allocation. We will be steadfast in consolidating and developing the public sector, just as we are steadfast in encouraging, supporting and guiding the development of the non-public sector. We will build a unified, open, competitive and orderly market system, where all businesses enjoy equal status before the law and have equal opportunities in the marketplace. All types of capital are welcome to operate in China in compliance with laws and regulations, and play a positive role in the development of the country. China will continue to expand high-standard

opening-up, steadily advance institutional opening-up that covers rules, management and standards, deliver national treatment for foreign businesses, and promote high-quality Belt and Road cooperation.

- China will stay committed to promoting ecological conservation. We should never grow the economy at the cost of resource depletion and environmental degradation, which is like draining a pond to get fish; nor should we sacrifice growth to protect the environment, which is like climbing a tree to catch fish. Guided by our philosophy that clean waters and green mountains are just as valuable as gold and silver, China has carried out holistic conservation and systematic governance of its mountains, rivers, forests, farmlands, lakes, grasslands and deserts.

We will build a unified, open, competitive and orderly market system, where all businesses enjoy equal status before the law and have equal opportunities in the marketplace. All types of capital are welcome to operate in China in compliance with laws and regulations, and play a positive role in the development of the country.

We do everything we can to conserve the ecological system, intensify pollution prevention and control, and improve the living and working environment for our people. Achieving carbon peak and carbon neutrality are the intrinsic requirements of China's own high-quality development and a solemn pledge to the international community. China will honor its word and keep working toward its goal. Carbon peak and carbon neutrality cannot be realized overnight. Through solid and steady steps, China will pursue an orderly phase-down of traditional energy in the course of finding reliable substitution in new energy. This approach, which combines phasing out the old and bringing in the new, will ensure steady economic and social development. China will also actively engage in international cooperation on climate and jointly work for a complete transition to a greener economy and society.

Yang Jiechi Meets US NSA, Calls for Expanding **Mutual Understanding**

Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Director of the Office of the Central Commission for Foreign Affairs Yang Jiechi met US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan in Rome on March 14 and conveyed that improving relations between the US and China are in line with the wishes of the leaders as well as the interests of the people of the two countries.



n March 14, 2022, Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Director of the Office of the Central Commission for Foreign Affairs Yang Jiechi met with US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan in Rome, Italy. The two sides had candid, indepth and constructive talks on China-US relations and international and regional issues of mutual interest and concern, and agreed to follow through on the consensus reached by the heads of state of the two countries to enhance mutual understanding, manage differences, expand

common ground and strengthen cooperation, and to accumulate enabling conditions for China-US relations to return to the right track of sound and steady development.

Yang Jiechi noted that implementing the consensus reached by the two heads of state is the most important task in China-US relations. President Xi Jinping proposed the principles of mutual respect, peaceful coexistence and winwin cooperation as ways to manage China-US relations in the new era, charting the course for the development of China-US relations.

President Biden responded positively, making such important commitments as not seeking a new Cold War, not seeking to change China's system, not seeking to target the revitalization of its alliances against China, not supporting "Taiwan independence", and having no intention to have a conflict with China. Noting that China has viewed and handled its relations with the US on the basis of the three principles put forward by President Xi, Yang Jiechi expressed the hope that the US side will follow through on the commitments made by President Biden.

He emphasized that to strengthen dialogue and cooperation, properly manage differences, and avoid conflict and confrontation between China and the US under the current international situation is in line with the interests of the two peoples, the expectations of the international community and the interests of the people of the world.

Yang Jiechi noted that implementing the consensus reached by the two heads of state is the most important task in China-**US relations. President Xi Jinping proposed** the principles of mutual respect, peaceful coexistence and win-win cooperation as ways to manage China-US relations in the new era, charting the course for the development of China-US relations.

Jiechi stressed that the Taiwan question bears on China's sovereignty and territorial integrity. In the three China-US Joint Communiqués, the US clearly acknowledges that there is but one China. The one-China principle is the prerequisite for the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and the US, and constitutes the political foundation of China-US relations.

The current US administration has made a commitment on the Taiwan question to adhering to the one-China policy and not supporting "Taiwan independence", but its recent actions are obviously not consistent with its statements. The Chinese side is gravely concerned about and firmly opposes the recent erroneous words and deeds by the US side on Taiwan-related issues. Any attempt to connive at or support the "Taiwan independence" separatist forces and to play the "Taiwan card" to "use Taiwan to contain China" will get nowhere. China urges the US to fully recognize the highly sensitive nature of the Taiwan question, strictly abide by the one-China principle, the provisions of the three China-US Joint Communiqués and the commitments made by the US, and not to go further down the road of great danger.

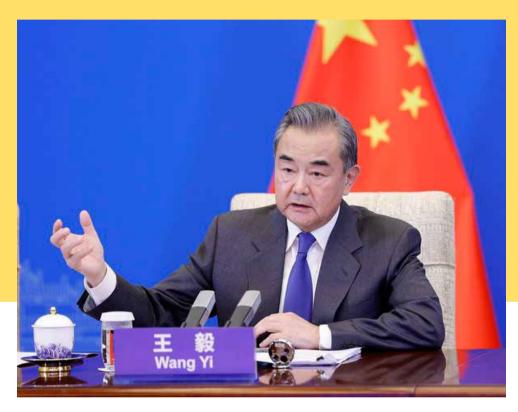
Yang Jiechi also stated China's solemn position on issues related to Xinjiang, Tibet and Hong Kong. He pointed out that these issues involve China's core interests and are China's internal affairs that allow no interference from external forces. Any attempt to use these issues to suppress China is doomed to fail. He noted that seeking common ground while reserving differences and building a bridge of cooperation on the basis of proper handling of differences has been proven, by our practice in the past 50 years since the release of the Shanghai Communiqué, to be the right way for China and the US to get along with each other.

Both sides should draw lessons from the past, follow the principle of mutual respect as the premise to development of bilateral relations, stick to peaceful coexistence as the bottom line, and focus on win-win cooperation as the key.

The two sides also exchanged views on international and regional issues including the Ukraine issue, the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula, the Iranian nuclear issue, and the Afghan issue.

The one-China principle is the prerequisite for the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and the US, and constitutes the political foundation of China-US relations. The current US administration has made a commitment on the Taiwan question to adhering to the one-China policy and not supporting "Taiwan independence", but its recent actions are obviously not consistent with its statements.

Rising to Challenges Together for a Shared Future: Wang Yi



In his speech at the 58th Munich Security Conference, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi underlined that China is ready to work with all countries as passengers in the same boat and, with unity as the sail and cooperation as the oar, sail through the pandemic and toward a brighter future.

Chairman Ischinger,

Dear Friends,

I am delighted to attend the Munich Security Conference (MSC) once again and to meet with old and new friends on the "cloud".

In the past few years, the most frequently discussed topic at the MSC was "uncertainty". And this year it has been replaced by a sense of

"helplessness". All this reflects the deep confusion among nations about the current state of the world, as well as their widely shared concern about its future. Secretary-General of the United Nations António Guterres cautioned expressly many times that the world is at risk of division, and major countries are expected to shoulder their responsibilities and live up to international obligations.

As China sees it, this warning is no alarmism. Indeed our world faces once again the danger of division and confrontation. Certain big power is reviving the Cold War mentality and stoking confrontation between blocs. It willfully wields unilateral sanctions and undermines international rule of law. It puts together various circles and stirs up antagonism. It gets zealous about decoupling and building walls and acts against the trend of globalization. It boasts of its strength and power and glorifies hegemony and bullying. This should not be allowed to continue, because it runs counter to the advancement of history.

So what shall we do? The answer lies in greater solidarity and cooperation under the banner of multilateralism. As President Xi Jinping highlighted at the World Economic Forum earlier this year, "Amidst the raging torrents of a global crisis, countries are not riding separately in some 190 small boats, but are rather all in a giant ship on which our shared destiny hinges." Only when countries row the oars together and cheer up each other, rather than undercut and come after one another, can we overcome the current challenges and sail into a bright future. In this process, the role and action of major countries are critically important. Let me share with you three points.

First, to make the world a better place, major countries must lead by example. President Xi Jinping has stressed time and again that major countries should act like major countries. We expect all major countries to take the lead in supporting multilateralism, living up to their international commitments, acting on the purposes of the UN Charter, and contributing to world peace and development. China has all along honored its international responsibilities and obligations with real actions.

Facing the persistent global pandemic, China has acted on President Xi Jinping's announcement of making vaccines public goods. China was among the earliest to provide vaccines to countries in need, and has so far provided over 2.1 billion doses of vaccines to more than 120 countries and international organizations. We are now focusing on providing a new round of largescale vaccine assistance to Africa.

Facing the sluggish global economic recovery, China has put actions behind the vision of common development. It has worked to advance high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, and pursue green, open and clean development as well as high-standard, people-centered and sustainable progress.

Facing the impact of COVID-19 on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, China has put forward the Global Development Initiative and called on all countries to take action together and lend fresh impetus to the realization of the Agenda.

Facing the complex governance challenge, China has taken an active part in developing systems governance on environment, health and in the digital sector and worked to make globalization more open and beneficial to all. It has been a staunch stalwart of the international system with the United Nations at the center and the international order based on international law.

Facing the volatile global landscape, China upholds the new vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, and has worked for political settlement of regional hotspot issues, playing a constructive role in maintaining international peace and security.

As China sees it, this warning is no alarmism. Indeed our world faces once again the danger of division and confrontation. Certain big power is reviving the Cold War mentality and stoking confrontation between blocs.

Facts have proved that China's development has increased certainty in the world and expanded the force for peace. China, with higher quality development and better capability to deliver, will provide stronger impetus for global recovery beyond COVID and greater contribution to international peace and stability.

Second, to make the world a better place, countries must work in sync.

We need to work together for a new type of international relations based on mutual respect, equity, justice and win-win cooperation. State-tostate relations should not be simplistically defined by competition only. And no country should be fixated on turning back the wheel of history and repeat past mistakes of forging rivaling alliances.

We need to work together to champion and act on true multilateralism. The authority of the United Nations must be guaranteed, and the purposes and principles of the UN Charter must be upheld. No country, not even a super power, should replace international norms with its own will, still less put itself above international norms.

We need to work together to promote balanced and robust recovery of the world economy. What is urgently needed is further openness and integration, not isolation and decoupling, and to remove trade barriers, bring down "exclusive yards with high walls", promote open, green and common development, and foster and maintain an open world economy.

We need to work together to safeguard global peace and tranquility. Security of a country should not come at the expense of that of another country. And security of a region cannot be realized by beefing up military blocs. The idea of exclusive security and absolute security must be rejected. We all must guard against and oppose any attempt for a "new Cold War", and strive for a world of enduring peace.

Third, to make the world a better place, China and Europe must play their part. China and Europe are two major forces and great civilizations. We can, and we must, provide more stability and positive energy for the world.

The two sides need to stay committed to the China-EU comprehensive strategic partnership, and should not be swayed by any turn of event. China will continue to support European integration, support an EU with greater unity and prosperity, and support European strategic autonomy.

At the same time, we hope that Europe could move forward from the "partner-competitor-rival" characterization of its relations with China, focus on the mainstream of dialogue and cooperation, stick to the keynote of mutual benefit, and view the China-Europe relationship from a strategic and long-term perspective to ensure the overall direction of a healthy relationship.

The two sides need to respect each other's core interests and adhere to the basic international

norm of non-interference in internal affairs. Given the differences in our history, cultural background and development stage, it is natural that we do not always see eye to eye with each other. China is ready to, on the basis of mutual respect and equality, enhance dialogue with the European side and seek common ground in spite of the differences, and find a mutually acceptable path forward.

The two sides need to expand mutually beneficial cooperation across the board. China and Europe are linked by highly complementary development edges, and a cooperation foundation built over the years. We should look beyond the pandemic to unlock further potential and room for cooperation, and give substance to our partnerships for green and digital cooperation, so as to bring about greater possibilities and sustained momentum for China-Europe relations.

Friends,

The Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022 is drawing to a successful conclusion. I wish to take this opportunity to express my hearty appreciation to all those who have warmly supported and participated in the Games.

The success of Beijing 2022 is an accomplishment for China, and even more so for the world. The Games, which attracts the eyes of the world, not only brings warmth and hope to people of all countries who are caught in the chilly winter of the pandemic, but also injects the much-needed strength of peace and unity into this volatile world.

"Together for a Shared Future" — this is the official motto of the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022. As we have seen in the field of play, even the strongest contenders can compete peacefully and cheer for one another, because their goal is not to beat others but to surpass themselves.

The same spirit should also ring true when it comes to relations between states. In this spirit, China is ready to work with all countries as passengers in the same boat and, with unity as the sail and cooperation as the oar, sail through the pandemic and toward a brighter future!

Thank you! Now, I am ready for your questions.

Resolving Afghan Issue Requires Regional Cooperation among Neighbouring Countries



While chairing the third foreign ministers meeting of neighbouring countries of Afghanistan, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi stressed on resolving the Afghan issue through regional consensus, collective wisdom and joint efforts.

n March 31, 2022, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi chaired the Third Foreign Ministers' Meeting on the Afghan Issue Among the Neighboring Countries of Afghanistan in Tunxi, Anhui Province.

Wang Yi first read out President Xi Jinping's written remarks and spoke on behalf of China.

Wang Yi said that Afghanistan is now at the critical stage of moving from chaos to stability. The Afghan people are presented with a historic opportunity to truly take their future into their own hands. Over the past six months, the Afghan Interim Government has made efforts to stabilize the situation, improve people's livelihood and protect human rights, and achieved certain phased results. However, Afghanistan still faces multiple challenges such as humanitarian, economy and security.

The international community, Afghanistan's neighboring countries, showed many concerns about the governance of the Afghan Interim Government. Afghanistan still has much to do in order to achieve lasting peace and sustainable development and promote foreign relations.

Wang Yi said that in the face of Afghanistan at the crossroads of history, we have timely established the mechanism of coordination and cooperation among Afghanistan's neighboring countries and reached the political consensus on cooperation in coping with the changes in the situation in Afghanistan, which fully embodies the spirit of good-neighborliness, friendship and mutual assistance between good neighbors. We should uphold the concept of a community with a shared future, take our neighbors as friends and partners, give further play to the unique role of the mechanism of coordination and cooperation among Afghanistan's neighboring countries, promote stable development in Afghanistan at an early date, and work together to achieve lasting security, development and prosperity in the region.

Wang Yi put forward three suggestions.

First, we should support Afghanistan in embarking on a path of self-reliance and selfimprovement. We should support the Afghan people in independently determining the future of the country, truly implementing the "Afghanled, Afghan-owned" principle, realizing Afghan national reconciliation and domestic solidarity, and exploring a governance model that conforms to Afghanistan's national conditions and the development requirements of the times. We are firmly opposed to non-regional countries' acts that create chaos in Afghanistan and use Afghanistan to engage in geographical rivalry. We should encourage and support Afghanistan's efforts to build a broad-based and inclusive government, exercise moderate and prudent governance, adhere to good-neighborliness and friendship, and protect the fundamental rights of all Afghan people, including all ethnic groups, women and children. We should stay patient and focused, steadily seek solutions that are in line with the common concerns and interests of all parties, and promote Afghanistan to fulfill its foreign commitments and assume its due responsibilities.

Second, we should support Afghanistan in embarking on a path of prosperity and progress. The most imperative task at hand is to provide humanitarian assistance for Afghanistan. What matters in the long run is to improve Afghanistan's capacity for self-reliant development. It is an essential step to synergize international forces to assist Afghanistan. China has provided Afghanistan with emergency assistance such as food, vaccines, medicine and winter supplies, and is willing to promote and support Afghanistan's integration into the regional economic pattern and participation in regional coordinated development. We should promote synergy among the international community's bilateral and multilateral mechanisms related to Afghanistan and increase their positive effect, and support the United Nations in playing its due role. We should respect the dominant position of the Afghan Interim Government in accepting foreign aid and oppose the politicization of humanitarian aid. We should urge the United States, as the culprit that caused the difficult situation in Afghanistan, to take the primary responsibility, stop unilateral sanctions and unconditionally return Afghanistan's national assets.

Third, we should support Afghanistan in embarking on a path of peace and development. We should promote Afghanistan to take comprehensive and multi-pronged measures to cut off terrorism at the source, resolutely crack down on all kinds of extremist terrorist organizations, including the Islamic State and the East Turkestan Islamic Movement, and ensure that Afghanistan will no longer become a hotbed, harbor or source of terrorist forces. We should address both the symptoms and root causes of the refugee and drug problems, help Afghanistan deal with urgent livelihood issues, and support Afghanistan in carrying out alternative cultivation, so as to jointly eliminate regional drug sources.

Wang Yi stressed that solving the Afghan issue requires collective wisdom and joint efforts. We should further build regional consensus, make the voice of neighboring countries heard, and contribute to neighboring countries' solutions, so as to promote Afghanistan to create a brighter future and achieve lasting peace in the region.

Foreign ministers of neighboring countries attending the meeting thanked President Xi Jinping for his important remarks injecting strong impetus into the mechanism of coordination and



cooperation among Afghanistan's neighboring countries, and appreciated China's important role in gathering the concerted efforts of neighboring countries and supporting Afghanistan's peace and reconstruction. They agreed that coordination and cooperation should be strengthened to help Afghanistan achieve peace, stability and economic reconstruction, and agreed to support and guide the Afghan Interim Government to earnestly fulfill its commitments and actively respond to the expectations of the international community, especially the expectations of its neighboring countries. They stressed that the United States and NATO should earnestly assume the primary responsibility for the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan and return the property of the Afghan people as soon as possible.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres delivered a video speech. He spoke highly of the generous support of China and other neighboring countries to the Afghan people, pointed out that the solidarity of neighboring countries of Afghanistan demonstrated the spirit of the global community, and proposed to strengthen humanitarian assistance, economic revitalization, constructive engagements and cooperation.

The Joint Statement of the Third Foreign Ministers' Meeting on the Afghan Issue Among the Neighboring Countries of Afghanistan and the Tunxi Initiative of Afghanistan's Neighboring Countries on Supporting Afghanistan's Economic Reconstruction and Practical Cooperation were released at the meeting. The meeting announced the launch of the mechanism of the regular meeting of special envoys for Afghan affairs, and the establishment of three working groups on political diplomacy, economy and humanity, and security and stability. Uzbekistan will host the fourth Foreign Ministers' Meeting on the Afghan Issue Among the Neighboring Countries of Afghanistan.

Wang Yi stressed that solving the Afghan issue requires collective wisdom and joint efforts. We should further build regional consensus, make the voice of neighboring countries heard, and contribute to neighboring countries' solutions, so as to promote Afghanistan to create a brighter future and achieve lasting peace in the region.

Turkmen Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Rashid Meredov, Uzbek Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Investments and Foreign Trade Umurzakov Sardor Uktamovich, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian and Tajik Justice Minister Muzaffar Ashurion attended the meeting.

US Writer Brahm Unravels Misunderstandings about Chinese Civilization in Western Society



t that time, what overseas media reported was always China ten years ago. In the 1980s they were reporting on the 1960s, and in the 1990s they were still reporting on the 1970s and 1980s. American writer Laurence Brahm recalls how he felt when he first came to China 40 years ago. He said that China at that time was different from what he had known before, and he decided to try to record what he saw with his own eyes. Over the past 40 years, his "China Story" has covered a wide range of areas, traveling to many places and interviewing many people. In his view, when foreigners write about China, they should eventually return to

writing about Chinese people, including their institutions, their lives and their culture.

Recently, in an exclusive interview with China News Service, Laurence Brahm was deeply impressed by the development and changes of China in the past 40 years. He expressed the hope that through his series of works "Searching for China", he could pass on the excellent traditional culture in Chinese history to more Western readers, break cultural barriers and achieve better communication.

Here's the excerpt of the dialogue.

Wu Xu: In your opinion, what are the essential differences between eastern and western cultural values?

Laurence Brahm: In a nutshell, the one difference between these Asian philosophies and western religions lies in a single concept. Western religion is all about duality. Asian philosophy seeks non-duality.

In Western religion it is all about opposites, polarities, exclusion, expulsion, and conflicting ideologies. In Western thinking there is only black vs. white, right vs. wrong, man vs. nature, good vs. bad, them vs. us, and so on.

Asian philosophies seek harmony and balance, equanimity and collective consciousness, and a deep recognition that man does not overcome nature, rather we exist only as a part or even subpart of the natural world. In Chinese its called "Yang-Yin," across South Asia it is the Shiva-Shakti synergy. All of these seek to explain how

we may synchronize seeming opposites into harmonious synergy like photons and neutrons in symbiotic mutually attracted orbit. Not judge and reject bilaterally. Rather embrace multilaterally.

These ancient Asian philosophies borrowed from each other and integrated ideas as they were all interlinked by the ancient Silk Road and Southern Silk Road that served not only for trade but the exchange of ideas. Somehow with all of our so-called modernity, we lost touch with philosophies and values that were in many ways more sophisticated than what we have achieved in our so-called modern times. Now, its time for us to find our roots and bring these traditions back because they can show us the way to the future.

Wu Xu: What kind of misunderstandings about Chinese civilization exist in western society?

Laurence Brahm: In my early films such as "Searching for Shangri-la," "Conversations with Sacred Mountains," and "Shambhala Sutra," I crossed remote regions of western China, searching for China's core cultural values of respect for nature, mutual respect among people and harmony with nature. In the competitive rush to get ahead and develop quickly, many of these values could not be felt in the major cities. So I went to rural areas, ethnic minority regions, searching for these values in their pure form.

Today I witness a renaissance of Chinese culture and traditional values, ironically mostly among young people. If you have deep roots, then no wind storm can blow down a tree. But if the roots are shallow, then the tree will be vulnerable in s storm. Likewise, traditional values play such an important part in the resilience of a people and nation.

To understand Chinese cultural values, look to the core pillars of Chinese culture that have been unbroken for thousands of years. Taoism is about change. Buddhism is about seeing past-present-future simultaneously and being able to turn negative situations into positive by realizing that everything is about how something is perceived. Confucianism gives Chinese people the organizational capability to respond to any situation and crisis and the longitudinal and latitudinal matrix of organization to respond to any situation and crisis. These are three aspects of



Pastoral scenery of Shangri-La, SW China's Yunnan Province

the Chinese collective unconscious that are everpresent in everyone in China always and that is a resilience that no western country or people have.

Wu Xu: In your opinion, what opportunities and challenges does China's development bring to the coexistence of Eastern and western civilizations?

Laurence Brahm: I have both observed and participated in many of the reforms and policies of China to overcome challenges over the four decades living here. I have seen a consistent pattern of unity and cooperation among the Chinese people, and meticulous coordination of government policies when faced with a crisis or challenge. Experience has shown me, time and again, when a crisis occurs, China's leadership faces it with a rational clear-headedness. Something seems to kick into the subconscious of both people and they work together in synergy with the organizational institutions of government to overcome these moments of crisis.

China's past four decades of rapid economic growth has met challenges of alleviating poverty and promoting education and economic advancement with unprecedented achievement.

In the Chinese language, the word for "crisis" consists of two characters: "wei" meaning "danger" and "ji" meaning opportunity. Throughout China's history, the nation and its people have responded to each crisis and challenge. They respond collectively and united in overcoming the danger of each crisis. More importantly, they turn each into an opportunity to re-build, grow and develop further.

China's past four decades of rapid economic growth has met challenges of alleviating poverty and promoting education and economic advancement with unprecedented achievement. In 2022 China has been able to eliminate poverty altogether. China has become a model of growth and development. Adopting Ecological Civilization policy as a response to pollution and climate change crisis, China has become a global leader in renewable energy and green finance. The emphasis on smart infrastructure to achieve commerce and connectivity has become a key to the Belt and Road Initiative that has brought so many developing nations together in a matrix seeking a common shared destiny of mankind.



A staff is filling a hydrogen bus for the Beijing Winter Olympic Games in a refueling station in Yanqing District, Beijing.

Another factor is the ability of the government to respond quickly to crisis through the matrix of organization that has been established from grassroots to the center of government since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949. This system of government organization is strong and resilient as it is built upon the common and shared characteristics of the Chinese people

People across the world turn to Kung Fu and martial arts, not for fighting but for the underlying Chinese values of persistence, perseverance, respect and harmony. Kung Fu in the minds of many underprivileged and minority groups stands as a symbol of justice, of standing up against unfairness.

that have become an inherent part of their culture and cultural response to all situations. These cultural factors make the Chinese people resilient and responsive to crisis. Their positivity allows them to turn each crisis into a new opportunity.

Wu Xu: You have created "Searching for China" series of works and recorded many Chinese stories. In your opinion, how can China and the United States achieve better exchanges and mutual learning between civilizations?

Laurence Brahm: There seems to be an old formula for thawing cold relations. In 1972 Ping-Pong Diplomacy opened the door paving the way for President Richard Nixon's visit to China and a blueprint for forging diplomatic relations. It was pretty simple and straightforward at a time when world circumstances were also quite complicated. An American Ping Pong sports team came and played with China's. A conversation began around sports and good will followed.

Maybe we need a new kind of Ping-Pong Diplomacy in this era of global confusion. So how about Kung Fu Diplomacy? Sure enough, culture and sports are the fabric of people-to-people communication.

Everyone loves a Bruce Lee or Jackie Chan movie. MMA and UFC are ragingly popular now in America and many of the really great fighters come from martial arts traditions. Certainly MMA literally means mixed martial arts. It is acknowledged that the concept began with Bruce Lee who selected and combined different traditions, setting the stage for MMA with his famous fight scene in Enter the Dragon.

People across the world turn to Kung Fu and martial arts, not for fighting but for the underlying Chinese values of persistence, perseverance, respect and harmony. Kung Fu in the minds of many underprivileged and minority groups stands as a symbol of justice, of standing up against unfairness.

I recently had the pleasure of directing and writing the screenplay for a documentary feature film called "Searching for Kung Fu". Having over forty years of hard martial arts training behind me in different styles, the film was an exploration into the origins of martial arts bringing me and our film team right back to Shaolin Monastery where the legend began. The journey through China's legacy of martial arts traditions brought us to understand that it is not about fighting, but striving and there are key values that are inherent in the martial arts. These range from perseverance, loyalty, respect, roots and identity, centering, harmony with nature, flow, emptiness, and at the core of everything non-violence.

Non-violence? Many might jump up reading this and ask, what? Non- violence? Yes, nonviolence. The Chinese term for martial arts is Wushu. Actually "martial" is a mis-translation. The character Wu (武) is composed of two radicals Zhi (止) which means to stop or halt, and Ge (戈) which means a weapon. So the literal translation of Wushu is the "art of halting weapons or fighting," more precisely expressed as the "art of non-violence."

Core to everything is non-violence. It is just not worth having a conflict as nobody will gain from this. So if America really adheres to the values of non-violence that Martin Luther King once spoke about, then through Kung Fu, there should be a lot to talk about and a positive dialogue can begin between China and America. Many of the world's problems could be avoided if America's congress members practiced Tai Chi every morning.

A martial artist who is trained in both the fighting techniques but also the mind management and control of emotions that comes with the cultural aspect of such training, is the last person to pick a fight, and the first to avoid one.

Hopefully that spirit will set the tone of discussions for upcoming dialogues between China and American diplomatic representatives. Values of Kung Fu should be recognized as universal values. Loyalty and respect need to be applied today more than ever. You can have a nice democracy with two parties, but when neither respect each other and only fight against each other on every issue blindly, then both sides need to learn respect.

Learning centering is also core in body and mind training to prevent one from being misled into being self-caught in intractable extremes. This applies to personal beliefs and political posturing as well.



Martial arts was performed on a Chinese New Year Festival celebration hosted by the Huntington Library in Los Angeles, U.S. in Feb, 2016.

Wang Yi Meets with National Security Advisor Ajit Doval of India



During his meeting with India's National Security Advisor Ajit Doval in New Delhi on March 25, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi proposed a three-point approach for improving China-India relations, which included, among other things, taking a long-term perspective and viewing each other's development with a win-win mentality.

n March 25, 2022 local time, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi met with National Security Advisor Ajit Doval of India in New Delhi during his working visit to India.

Wang Yi said, as the two largest developing countries and representatives of emerging economies, China and India should walk steadily on the path the two countries have chosen, keep the development of bilateral relations on the right course, bear in mind a long-term perspective and join hands to make respective contributions to peace and stability in the region and beyond. To this end, Wang Yi put forward a three-point approach.

First, both sides should view bilateral relations from a long-term perspective, adhere to the strategic judgment made by the leaders of the two countries that "China and India pose no threat but offer development opportunities to each other", and place the differences on the boundary issue in a proper place in bilateral relations.

Second, both sides should view each other's development with a win-win mentality, and forge a sound interaction model, so as to achieve mutual benefit and win-win results at a higher level and in a wider range.

Third, both sides should participate in multilateral processes with a cooperative posture, step up communication and coordination, support each other, send more positive signals for upholding multilateralism, and inject more positive energy into improving global governance.

Doval appreciated China's profound thinking and constructive opinions on India-China relations, saying that India also believes that India and China, as partners rather than rivals, should not let the boundary issue affect the overall bilateral relations.

Fostering amicable relations between India and China is an important consensus between the leaders of the two countries, as well as the common aspiration of the two peoples. India is ready to work with China to develop sound and stable bilateral relations. Just as rocks can't stop rivers from rushing forward, differences between the two sides should not change the positive trend of bilateral relations. Both sides should make efforts to remove obstacles and interference affecting bilateral ties and strive for an early return of bilateral relations to the right track.

Wang Yi stressed, the two sides should meet each halfway and adhere to the right direction, so that the "streams" of amicable relations between China and India can converge into a mighty and irresistible "tide" of the times.

The two sides affirmed the results of the China-India Corps Commander Level Meeting and diplomatic consensus, and agreed to speed up the resolution of individual remaining problems, properly manage and control the ground situation, and avoid misunderstanding and misjudgment. The two sides agreed to follow the Agreement on the Political Parameters and Guiding Principles for the Settlement of the India-China Boundary Question signed in 2005, and solve the boundary issue through peaceful and friendly consultations without using or threatening to use force against each other.

Wang Yi stressed, as the special representatives of the boundary issue between the two countries, the two sides should maintain communication and exchanges, strive to switch from emergency response to normalized management and control of the boundary issue as soon as possible, make unswerving efforts toward proper management and control of the border issue, and seek a fair and just solution.

Doval appreciated China's profound thinking and constructive opinions on India-China relations, saying that India also believes that India and China, as partners rather than rivals, should not let the boundary issue affect the overall bilateral relations.



Wang Yi Holds Talks with Indian External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar



During his talks with India's External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar in New Delhi on March 25, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said that China and India should put the boundary issue in a proper place in bilateral relations, and should not let the boundary issue define or even affect the overall development of bilateral relations.

n March 25, 2022 local time, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi held talks with Indian External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar in New Delhi during his working visit to India.

Wang Yi said, as two neighboring ancient civilizations and the two largest developing countries and representatives of emerging economies with a combined population of 2.8 billion, China and India are two main forces in promoting multi-polarization of the world, economic globalization, diversity of civilizations, and democratization of international relations. As

the world is entering a new phase of turbulence and transformation, the two countries should strengthen communication, coordinate stances, safeguard respective legitimate interests and the common interests of the developing countries, and make respective contributions to peace and stability in the region and beyond.

Subrahmanyam Jaishankar said that India attaches great importance to its relations with China, with no changes made in its strategic assessment of the importance of China. India is ready to strengthen communication with China and enhance mutual trust, so as to get the bilateral



Wang Yi said that as mature and rational major developing countries, China and India should put the boundary issue in a proper place in bilateral relations, and should not let the boundary issue define or even affect the overall development of bilateral relations.

relations out of the trough as soon as possible, and continuously push for pragmatic cooperation between the two countries.

Wang Yi said that as mature and rational major developing countries, China and India should put the boundary issue in a proper place in bilateral relations, and should not let the boundary issue define or even affect the overall development of bilateral relations. China and India should help each other succeed, rather than engage in attrition; support each other, rather than exclude each other. The two sides need to uphold the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries that "China and India pose no threat but offer development opportunities to each other", properly resolve the boundary question, and manage and control differences, so as to contribute to the development of bilateral relations.

Subrahmanyam Jaishankar said, India and China have maintained effective communication via diplomatic and military channels since last year. After rounds of the corps commander level meeting and meetings of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on China-India Border Affairs, the two militaries have realized disengagement in most parts of the border areas' western sector, and should disengage each other in the remaining parts as soon as possible.

The two sides agreed that it is in the common interests of both countries to restore peace and tranquility in the border areas, and the two countries should achieve regular management

and control of the areas on the basis of disengagement, and take effective measures to avoid misunderstanding and misjudgment.

The two sides believe that China and India share the same or similar positions on major international and regional issues. Efforts should be made to understand and support each other to provide more positive energy to the unstable world.

The two sides agreed to engage in dialogue and communication on deepening economic and trade cooperation, facilitating personnel exchanges, and promoting exchanges on the transboundary river hydrology.

The two sides agreed to engage in dialogue and communication on deepening economic and trade cooperation, facilitating personnel exchanges, and promoting exchanges on the transboundary river hydrology.

The two sides also exchanged views on the prevention and control of the COVID-19 pandemic, Ukraine, Afghanistan, and multilateral affairs, and agreed that multilateralism should be upheld, the UN Charter and international law should be abided by, and disputes should be settled peacefully via dialogue. The two sides also expressed grave concerns over the impact of unilateral sanctions on the global economy and supply chain security.

On the same day, Wang Yi also met with National Security Advisor Ajit Doval of India.

China, India Hold 15th Corps **Commander Level Meeting**

¬he 15th round China-India Corps Commander Level Meeting was held at Moldo-Chushul border meeting point on the Indian side on March 11, said China's Ministry of National Defense.

The two sides carried forward their discussions from the previous round held in January for the resolution of the relevant issues along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Western Sector of China-India border areas, said the ministry in a statement.

The two sides agreed to maintain the security and stability on the ground in the Western Sector in the interim, said the statement.

They had a detailed exchange of views in this regard, in keeping with the guidance provided by the leaders of the two countries to work for the resolution of the remaining issues at the earliest possible date, it added.

They reaffirmed that such a resolution would help restore peace and tranquility along the LAC in the Western Sector and facilitate progress in bilateral relations.

The two sides agreed to maintain the security and stability on the ground in the Western Sector in the interim, said the statement.

They also agreed to maintain dialogue via military and diplomatic channels to reach a mutually acceptable resolution of the remaining issues at the earliest.



In Year of the Tiger, Let's **Move Towards a Better Future Together: Ambassador Sun**

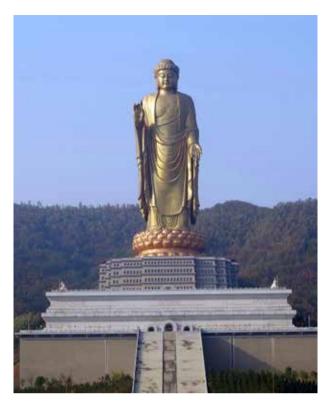


The Chinese Embassy in India and Henan Province jointly presented this "Happy Chinese New Year" online performance on February 28. Speaking on the occasion, Chinese Ambassador to India H.E. Ambassador Sun Weidong conveyed Spring Festival greetings to people of India and called for enhancing cultural and people-to-people links between the two countries.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Indian friends, Namaste!

n a few days, we will celebrate the most important festival in China, the Spring Festival. For Chinese people, the Spring Festival represents reunion, harmony, happiness and hope, and carries the profound connotation of Chinese culture. According to the Chinese zodiac culture, 2022 is the Year of the Tiger. Tiger is known as the "king of animals" in China, symbolizing strength, bravery and endeavor. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere wishes to all of you. Wish you a happy, sound and prosperous Year of the Tiger!

This year, the Chinese Embassy in India and Henan Province jointly present this "Happy Chinese New Year" online performance to share the joy of the new year with our Indian friends. As we all know, cultural and people-to-people exchanges have made a mark in the annals of China-India relations, and Henan Province holds a special place in this regard. The White Horse Temple in Luoyang is an early witness of cultural exchanges between our two countries. Longmen Grottoes enjoy similar art feature with the Ajanta Grottoes in India, both are treasures of the two ancient civilizations. Master Xuanzang from Henan traveled long distances to India to collect Buddhist scriptures. His book "Buddhist



The Spring Temple Buddha, a colossal statue depicting Vairocana Buddha, is located in the Zhaocun township of Lushan County, Henan, China.

As ancient civilizations, China and India share the philosophical concepts of "harmony under heaven" and "Vasudhaiva **Kutumbha**" (the world is one family). We are both developing countries and important emerging economies with population of more than 1 billion. And we face both arduous development tasks and broad development prospects. As a Chinese saying goes, "one should take a long-term perspective with a broad horizon".

Records of The Western World" is a classic study of ancient Indian history and culture. India's Bodhidharma founded the Zen Buddhism in Henan, which had a profound influence on the spread of Buddhism in East Asia.

Henan Province is located in central China. As the origin of the Chinese civilization, it has a long history and outstanding people. In the 5000 years history of Chinese civilization, Henan has been the political, economic and cultural center for more than 3000 years, and more than 20 dynasties established their capitals there. The origin of Chinese civilization, the invention of Chinese characters, the roots of many Chinese surnames, the formation of cities and the establishment of a unified country are all closely related to Henan. Therefore, I sincerely hope that vou could know more about Henan and like Henan.

Founded more than 1300 years ago, the Tang Dynasty is an important dynasty of China. During its glorious age, it had enlightened politics and prosperous economy. The people then were relatively well-off and created splendid culture. The level of arts including poetry, calligraphy, sculpture, music, and dance reached one of the peaks in Chinese ancient civilization at that time. The brilliant cultural achievements was the result of its openness and inclusiveness, which still inspires us today.

In the following videos, the artists will present a Tang Dynasty style cultural feast, including stories of the exchanges between China and India through the ages, and excellent programs enjoying great popularity in China. Let's travel through the tunnel of time and space to feel the magnificent Tang Dynasty with the help of modern technology, and have a taste of the broad and profound Chinese culture. I would also like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to relevant agencies and friends of Henan Province for their contribution in producing and promoting the program.

Dear friends,

At present, as changes of the times combine with the once-in-a-century pandemic, the "global village" of humanity faces multiple challenges. In his special address at the 2022 World Economic Forum, President Xi Jinping pointed out that notwithstanding all vicissitudes, humanity will move on. The right way forward for humanity is peaceful development and win-win cooperation. Different countries and civilizations may prosper together on the basis of respect for each other, and seek common ground and win-win outcomes by setting aside differences. We should follow the



trend of history, work for a stable international order, advocate common values of humanity, and build a community with a shared future for mankind.

As ancient civilizations, China and India share the philosophical concepts of "harmony under heaven" and "Vasudhaiva Kutumbha" (the world is one family). We are both developing countries and important emerging economies with population of more than 1 billion. And we face both arduous development tasks and broad development prospects. As a Chinese saying goes, "one should take a long-term perspective with a broad horizon".

China and India are eternal neighbors, our common interests far outweigh frictions. We must adhere to the important consensus reached by the leaders of our two countries that "China and India pose no threat but offer development opportunities to each other, the two countries are partners rather than rivals". We should enhance mutual trust through dialogue, seek development through cooperation, and promote progress through mutual learning. We should expand common ground and manage our differences properly. We should not only look forward but also move

forward, and bring the bilateral relations back to the sound and steady track.

Dear friends,

Last year, China had grandly celebrated the centenary of the Communist Party of China. Under the leadership of the CPC Central Committee with President Xi Jinping at its core, China has achieved its first centenary goal and embarked on a new journey of building a modern socialist country in all respects. China will continue to run its own affairs well, pursue high-quality development and all-round development of individuals. We will promote reform and opening-up and ecological conservation, and continue to meet people's aspirations for a better life.

On February 4th, the Beijing Winter Olympic Games will begin. The slogan of this Winter Olympics is "Together for a Shared Future", which demonstrates the mental strength and common aspiration of the Olympic and Paralympic Games to unite the world to overcome challenges. China is ready to present a simple, safe and splendid Olympic Games to the world. Let's join hands in the new year and move forward to a better future together!

Thank you!

Together for a Shared Future: Envoy Cautions Against Playing Politics with Olympics

At a webinar ahead of the 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games in Beijing, Chinese Ambassador to India Sun Weidong illuminated the significance of the Olympic motto of "Together for a Shared Future" and cautioned against politicization of the Olympics by some countries and politicians.



r Wan Xuejun, Deputy Director General of International Relations Department, Beijing Organising Committee for the 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

Mr. Himadrish Suwan, Chairman of the Confederation of Young Leaders of India,

Friends,

Good morning!

At the beginning of 2022, the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games entered "Beijing Time". On February 4th, the Olympic Flame will be lit for a second time in Beijing after 14 years,

we will witness this ancient city with thousandsyear history to be the first "Dual Olympic City" in the world. After 6 years of efforts, preparations are basically all set. The 3 competition zones, namely the one in Beijing municipal city as Beijing Competition Zone, the one in Yanging district of Beijing's suburban as Yanging Competition Zone, and the one in Zhang Jiakou city of Hebei Province as Zhang Jiaqkou Competition Zone, are filled with tastes of Winter Games. Ice Ribbon (National Speed Skating Oval), Ice Cube (The National Aquatics Centre), Snow (Chinese National Alpine Skiing Centre) and Snow Ruyi (National Ski Jumping Center, where the center's S-type curve resembles the shape of a jade Ruyi scepter, a traditional Chinese ceremonial object) and all 12 venues will warmly welcome athletes from all over the world with high quality, good environment and considerate logistical support.

Winter sports have a long history and a broad mass base in China. During the Qianlong reign of the Qing Dynasty in the 18th century, ice-playing sport was officially designated as "annual national custom". I still remember that in the 1980s, when I was a university student in Beijing, I went to the park to learn ice skating, and there were many ice sports enthusiasts of all ages around me. Entering the 21st century, the Chinese government promised of "involving 300 million"



The mascots of Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics and Paralympics Bing Dwen Dwen and Shuey Rhon Rhon in Beijing.

people in winter sports" through bidding and preparations for the Beijing Winter Games, this goal has now been achieved ahead of schedule. Not long ago, the skiing video of one Chinese kid went viral on social media, which shows winter sports have grown on Chinese people. How amazing!

When talking about the 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, the most conspicuous symbols are the vivid emblems, which are inspired by the Chinese character for "winter" as冬and "flying" as飞 respectively. Character 冬 appeared in oracle bone inscriptions more than 4,000 years ago, which means "entering the cold season". Today, the two dots under it represent "ice". In this way, the emblems integrate the charm of form and meaning, resembles a skater and a skier rushing towards the finish line and victory. 飞 also vividly evokes the image of an athlete in a wheelchair. The flowing ribbon-like motif symbolises the rolling mountains, Olympic venues, ski pistes and floating festival ribbons. It also points to the fact that the Games will coincide with the Chinese New Year. Both emblems combine traditional and modern elements of Chinese culture, as well as features embodying

the passion and vitality of winter sports, and the resilient spirit of participating athletes striving for excellence. The most popular mascots for the Beijing Winter Games are "Bing Dwen Dwen" and "Shuey Rhon Rhon". Let's watch two video clips. Bing Dwen Dwen is inspired by Chinese national treasure panda. It wears a full-body "shell" which resembles the helmets commonly used in winter sports. "Dwen Dwen" in Chinese means honest, robust and lively. Shuey Rhon Rhon is inspired by Chinese lantern, which is a millennia-old cultural symbol. The first Rhon in the mascot's Chinese name means 'to include, to tolerate', while the second Rhon means 'to melt, to fuse' and 'warm'. The name expresses the well wish that there could be more inclusion for people with impairments more dialogue and understanding between cultures of the world.

The most shining symbols for the Beijing Winter Games are the Olympic torches. The Olympic torch is made of red and silver as primary colours which are metaphors of ice and fire, meant to symbolise how the torch will bring "light and warmth to the world of ice and snow". The Paralympic torch is featured of gold and silver meant for brilliance and dreams. As When talking about the 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, the most conspicuous symbols are the vivid emblems, which are inspired by the Chinese character for "winter" as and "flying" as respectively. Character appeared in oracle bone inscriptions more than 4,000 years ago, which means "entering the cold season". Today, the two dots under it represent "ice". In this way, the emblems integrate the charm of form and meaning, resembles a skater and a skier rushing towards the finish line and victory.

the torch turns, the whirling red line hidden in the crack seems to stretch endlessly, resembles the vigorous tracks of winter sports, representing mankind's relentless pursuit of brightness, peace, excellence and the values promoted by the Olympic Movement. After 24 days, the main torch of the Winter Olympics will be lit at the National Stadium, the "Bird's Nest", let's wait and see what kind of creativity there will be in the opening ceremony.

Friends,

The principles of hosting the 2022 Beijing Winter Games are featured with "green, inclusive, open and clean". I would like to elaborate in three aspects:

The first aspect is about being "green" and "eco-friendly". The idea of a green Beijing 2022 is presented all through the process of preparation and hosting of the Olympic Games. Literally speaking, the aim is to create wooded competition zones: in Beijing, the city's overall forest coverage rate has reached 44.4 percent, the forested area in Zhangjiakou has increased to more than 18,000 square kilometers, and there are 24,000 trees transplanted to an "Olympic forest" in Yanqing Winter Olympic village. All three Winter Olympic villages in Beijing, Yanqing and Zhangjiakou meet the three-star green building standard. All 12 Olympic venues will be powered entirely by green and renewable energy for the first time in the world. As for low carbon technology, the National Speed Skating Oval (Ice Ribbon) has introduced carbon dioxide refrigerants for ice-making, and it will be the first in Olympic history where such technology is applied in large scale with near-zero carbon emissions. In outdoors snow-making, water will be stored via multiple channels, recycled and conserved with technological support. This will meet the need for snow-making during the Olympics without affecting local water security or ecological environment. The Beijing Olympics combine the promotion of sports with ecological conservation so that people can enjoy the charm of winter sports while protecting the beauty of Nature and the ecology.

The second aspect is about being "streamlined" and "clean". Beijing Winter Games adopt multiple innovative measures to keep strict budget management and cost control, in order to ensure streamlined, splendid but not shabby Games. From the view of streamlining the Games, except for the National Speed Skating Oval (Ice Ribbon), all ice sport events will take place in renovated venues built for the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics. In this way, all these venues can be used for both summer and winter sports in the future. By doing so, we solve the problem of using the venues after the Games. The "borrowing" of urban infrastructure to serve the Beijing Winter Games, and continuing to serve the city after the game, has become another innovation in Beijing's streamlined hosting of the Olympics. For example, the second phase project of the China National Convention Center was used as the Main Media Center of the Winter Games during the competition, and it will return to the original exhibition function after the competition. From the view of hosting "clean" Games, we adopt zero-tolerance towards doping and acts in violation of sportsmanship, all in an effort to make the incoming Olympics in Beijing as clean and pure as ice and snow, and a sporting event full of passion.

The third aspect is about being "healthy" and "safe". The health and life safety of athletes and other participants are highest on our agenda of guarantee of the Winter Games. Facing the challenge posed by the pandemic, especially the Omicron variant, the Chinese Government has put the people front and center. We make every effort to ensure safety of the people, put

epidemic prevention and control in the first place, and formulate science-based and targeted epidemic prevention policies. Few days earlier, the IOC and the Beijing Organising Committee have published the second edition of the Beijing 2022 Playbook. This is the guidance book for safe and successful games. We will take necessary measures such as remote prevention and control, closed-loop management and vaccination, to realize targeted measures of customs entry, health inspection, and close contact management, etc.. We will make every effort to create a healthy and safe environment and good experience for all participants.

Friends,

In the Olympic Charter, the Olympic spirit embodies as "mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play". Last July, the International Olympic Committee approved the addition of the word "together", after an en dash, to the motto, which now reads as "Faster, Higher, Stronger - Together". This is highly consistent with the concept of building a community with a shared future for mankind proposed by President Xi Jinping. In the Chinese translation, "together" carries a further meaning of unity and solidarity. The Olympic Games is a platform for athletes to shine, an event for all people of different countries, races, and cultures to compete with and to help each other become "faster, higher, stronger, together". In comparison, politicization of the Olympics by certain countries and few politicians completely violates and discredits the Olympic spirit, which is unavailing. The overwhelming majority of the international community support and expect a successful Beijing Winter Games. Not long ago, the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly adopted by consensus the resolution on Olympic Truce for the Beijing Winter Games. Important documents of multilateral mechanisms such as the BRICS summit and the SCO summit, and the Joint Communique of the 18th Meeting of the foreign ministers of Russia-India-China, all explicitly stated support for the Beijing Winter Games.

"Together for a Shared Future" is the motto of the 2022 Beijing Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. It is also China's attitude, initiative and more of an action plan to practice the new

Olympic motto. We firmly believe that all of us should work hand in hand, stand together and help each other. All of us should uphold the goal of pursuing unity, peace, progress and tolerance to build a community with a shared future for mankind. Only in this way, can we jointly cope with major challenges as COVID-19 pandemic and climate change, and together we can go for a wonderful future.



Skaters practice on the lake at Olympic Forest Park in Beijing.

Friends,

President Xi Jinping stressed that it is China's solemn pledge to ensure the Beijing Winter Olympics and Paralympics are "a full success". We are confident and capable of delivering a splendid, exceptional and extraordinary Olympic event for the world. Athletes from all around the world are welcome to compete in the Beijing Winter Games. We will ensure the safety and convenience of all athletes and provide support to each and every one in the pursuit of their Olympic dreams. Let's look forward to the wonderful performance of the athletes, hope that they will be able to excel themselves in the Beijing Winter Games. Let's wish all countries in the world to join hands to ignite the flame of hope for mankind and protect the light of common destiny inheriting the Olympic spirit, and "together for a shared future".

Year 2022, Beijing welcomes you all.

Thank you!

Xinjiang Sees 7% Rise in GDP Despite Obstacles

Although the United States took a series of unjustifiable measures last year to curb the development of the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region to restrain China's growth, the region's GDP in 2021 saw healthy growth of 7 percent year-on-year.

Ithough the United States took a series of unjustifiable measures last year to curb the development of the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region to restrain China's growth, the region's GDP in 2021 saw healthy growth of 7 percent year-on-year.

And as the US and other Western anti-China forces are expected to step up their efforts to target the region, Xinjiang will face more challenges in 2022, said Arkin Tuniyaz, acting chairman of the regional government. Other challenges include the COVID-19 pandemic, economic issues such as a contraction in demand, the grave anti-terrorism situation and the threats from extremists, separatists and terrorists, he said, while delivering a government work report during the fifth session of the region's 13th People's Congress, which started on January 23.



For the first time, "the slanderous claims" of US and other Western anti-China forces and their punitive measures have been listed as obstacles that the region must deal with.

Last year, Xinjiang was the target of a series of such measures by Western anti-China forces, especially the US, which banned cotton and tomato products from the region over alleged human rights violations including "forced labor" and "genocide". Later, businesses in the region's rising photovoltaic industry were sanctioned by the US amid "forced labor" claims.

Other challenges include the COVID-19 pandemic, economic issues such as a contraction in demand, the grave antiterrorism situation and the threats from extremists, separatists and terrorists, he said while delivering a government work report during the fifth session of the region's 13th People's Congress, which started on January 23.

Although the Chinese government and local businesses and farmers have repeatedly denied such accusations, a law was passed in the US in December banning all businesses in the nation from sourcing goods manufactured in Xinjiang over claimed "human rights abuses".

Despite these measures, Xinjiang produced 5.13 million metric tons of cotton in 2021, which accounted for 89.5 percent of China's total. In addition, 469,400 tons of photovoltaic materials were produced in the region, an increase of 30.9 percent year-on-year, the work report said. Furthermore, Xinjiang is determined to make its promising industries even stronger.

"In 2022, Xinjiang will further develop labor-intensive industries to create more job opportunities. We will also step up efforts to boost the cotton and textiles industries while accelerating the process of building a nationallevel cotton yarn trade center," Arkin said.

Also, the region will support photovoltaic businesses in extending their industrial chains, he added.



After successfully curbing the spread of religious extremism and terrorism, Xinjiang is now able to focus more on economic development. The region has set its GDP growth target for 2022 at around 6 percent year-on-year.

"Xinjiang needs to better balance epidemic control measures and economic development. The region, which hasn't witnessed a single terrorist incident for the past five years, is now in the best era for economic development and improving people's livelihoods," Sharhet Ahan, a member of the standing committee of the regional People's Congress, said on January 24.

Despite these measures, **Xinjiang** produced 5.13 million metric tons of cotton in 2021, which accounted for 89.5 percent of China's total. In addition, 469,400 tons of photovoltaic materials were produced in the region, an increase of 30.9 percent year-on-year, the work report said.

But measures to maintain social stability in accordance with the law will always be in place because stability is the strongest support for Xinjiang's social and economic development, Arkin said.

Across China: Gen Z Injects New Life into Traditional Tibetan Costumes

angkyi Zhoima often shares her outfits, combine traditional clothing with casual wear, with her 4,000plus followers on the Chinese microblogging site Sina Weibo.

"I love the traditional elements of Tibetan costumes, and also leisure wear which is very convenient," the 23-year-old said, displaying on camera her Tibetan clothing embroidered with green thread, styled with a pair of jeans and boots. For young generations today, traditional Tibetan costumes are no longer simply festival dress, but a new fashion trend.

Yangkyi Zhoima is from the Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture of Gannan in northwest China's Gansu Province. There, newly established Tibetan costume brands have mushroomed in number and gained popularity among young people.

Gannan Nuri Original Clothing Sales Co., Ltd, which was established by four Tibetan women born after 1995, is one of the most influential companies. Its accounts on the short-video platform Douyin, the Chinese version of TikTok, have about 50,000 followers.

Chimchim, 25, is one of the brand's founders. She said their products have not only been selling like hot cakes in their prefecture, but have also gained popularity in Chengdu, capital of southwest China's Sichuan Province, and in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province.

"Traditional Tibetan costumes are very particular when it comes to color matching and workmanship, which provides continuous inspiration for my design work," Chimchim said. The company's highest daily turnover was 20,000 yuan (about 3,136 U.S. dollars).



Photo shows traditional Tibetan costumes in a gallery run by Tobjor Drolma's company in Gannan Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, northwest China's Gansu Province.

Chimchim said her clothes are made using traditional Tibetan costume materials such as cashmere and leather, but the designs are more fashionable and personalized. "The price of each piece of clothing does not exceed 500 yuan, which is good for young consumers."

Tobjor Drolma, 38, has been promoting traditional Tibetan costumes and culture for many years.

"My company has seen an increasing number of designers and models born after 1995 in recent years," she said. And each year, the company holds themed fashion shows, which have become important platforms on which Tibetan costumes and culture are popularized. In the eyes of Tobjor Drolma, Gen Z has a passion for tradition, and for fashion as well.

"They dress according to their own wishes, they make tradition more fashionable, and they're turning the Qinghai-Tibet plateau into a fashion highland," she said.

Hong Kong Maintains 3rd Place among World's Financial Centers

ong Kong maintained the third place globally in the latest Global Financial ▲ Centers Index (GFCI) published by British think tank Z/Yen Group and China Development Institute in Shenzhen on March 24.

The report reaffirms Hong Kong's status and strengths as a leading global financial center. Hong Kong has remained among the top in various areas of competitiveness, including business environment, human capital, and infrastructure, said a spokesperson for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government.

The spokesperson said that Hong Kong's financial markets have been functioning in an orderly manner with no abnormal signs of capital flow observed despite the persistent uncertainties stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic and heightened geopolitical tensions which continue to affect global financial markets.

The robust and effective regulatory regime, a well-established institutional framework for systemic risk monitoring and the well-functioning Linked Exchange Rate System underpinned by large foreign exchange reserves have helped Hong Kong in this regard, the spokesperson said.

The spokesperson said that Hong Kong's unique advantages, including institutional advantages under "one country, two systems," a fine tradition of the rule of law, and a marketinternationalized oriented and business environment, coupled with robust infrastructure support, internationally aligned regulatory regimes, a full range of financial products, and free flow of information and capital, have continued to consolidate Hong Kong's status as a leading global financial center.

Also, the national 14th Five-Year Plan expresses staunch support for Hong Kong to strengthen its



functions as a global offshore Renminbi business hub, an international asset management center and a risk management center, as well as to deepen and widen mutual access between the financial markets of Hong Kong and the mainland.

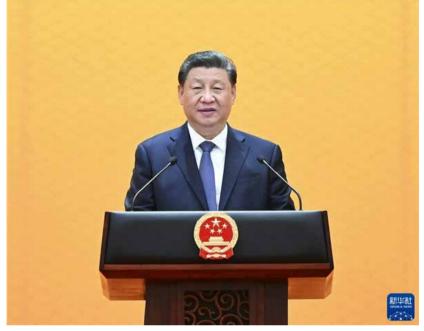
The spokesperson said that the HKSAR government will continue to make good use of national policies and Hong Kong's own advantages and take the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area as an entry point, proactively exploring the mainland market and participating in the domestic circulation of the national economy.

At the same time, Hong Kong will play its bridging and platform role at the intersection of domestic and international circulations, connecting domestic and foreign markets and investors, and assisting mainland enterprises to explore the international market, the spokesperson said.

The GFCI report has been released in March and September every year since 2007. In the latest report, 119 financial centers were assessed and Hong Kong came third with an overall rating of 715.

Toast by Xi Jinping at Welcoming **Banquet: Let's Invoke Olympic Spirit** to Jointly Uphold World Peace







President Xi Jinping hosted a banquet in the Golden Hall of the Great Hall of the People in Beijing to welcome international distinguished guests attending the opening ceremony of the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022, on February 5, 2022.

IOC President Thomas Bach, Dear Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends.

"t gives me great pleasure to meet so many old and new friends in Beijing as the Chinese **L**people celebrate the Spring Festival, the start of the lunar new year. Let me begin by extending, on behalf of the Chinese government and people, and in the name of my wife and myself, a warm welcome to all the distinguished guests travelling to China and attending the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022. I sincerely thank all governments, peoples and international organizations that care about and support the Beijing Olympic Winter Games. In particular, I wish to express my appreciation to all the friends present here who have overcome difficulties and inconveniences caused by COVID-19 and come all the way to Beijing to cheer for the Olympic Winter Games and for China.

Last night, the Beijing Olympic Winter Games officially opened at China's National Stadium. After 14 years, the Olympic cauldron has been lit once again in Beijing, making the city the world's first to host both the Summer and Winter Olympic Games. Committed to organizing a green, inclusive, open and clean Games, China has made every effort to counter the impact of COVID-19, earnestly fulfilled its solemn pledge to the international community, and ensured the smooth opening of the Beijing Olympic Winter Games as scheduled.

Greater public participation in winter sport contributes to the Olympic Movement. By preparing for and organizing the Olympic Winter Games and promoting Olympic winter sport, China has popularized winter sport among the ordinary people, achieved the goal of engaging 300 million Chinese in sport on snow and ice, and made new contribution to the cause of Olympism worldwide.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Friends.

Since ancient times, the Olympic Movement has carried humanity's aspirations for peace, solidarity and progress.

- We shall keep in mind the original aspiration of the Olympic Movement and jointly uphold world peace. The Olympic Movement was born for the sake of peace and has thrived thanks to peace. The Olympic Truce Resolution adopted last December by consensus at the United Nations General Assembly, calling for promoting peace through sport, represents the common aspiration of the international community. We need to uphold mutual respect, equality, dialogue and consultation, strive to bridge differences and eliminate conflict, and work together for a world of durable peace.
- We shall promote the spirit of the Olympic Movement and meet the common challenges facing the international community through solidarity. The COVID-19 pandemic is still raging, while global issues including climate change and terrorism keep emerging. The international community should stand closer together. The only way for all countries to address the various challenges effectively is to strengthen solidarity and cooperation and work together for a shared future. We need to practice true multilateralism, uphold the international system centered on the United Nations and the international order underpinned by international law, and work together to build an international family of harmony and cooperation.
- We shall act on the purpose of the Olympic Movement and continuously pursue human progress. The Olympic Movement aims to achieve well-rounded human development.

We need to follow the trend of the times, stay true to humanity's common values of peace, development, equity, justice, democracy and freedom, promote exchanges and mutual learning between civilizations, and work together to build a community with a shared future for mankind.

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Friends,

To borrow a Chinese poetic line, "Out goes the old year with the sound of firecrackers; in comes the new with the warmth of wine and spring breeze." China has just entered the Year of the Tiger according to the lunar calendar. Tiger is a symbol of strength, courage and fearlessness. I wish all Olympic athletes excellent performance with the strength of the tiger. I am confident that with the joint efforts of us all, Beijing 2022 will surely go down in history as a streamlined, safe and splendid Olympic Games.

To conclude, I propose a toast:

To the dynamic development of the Olympic Movement;

To humanity's noble cause of peace and development; and

To the health of all distinguished guests and your families.

Cheers!





China Keeps Promises as Winter Olympics Draws to Triumphant Close



International Olympic Committee president Thomas Bach at the closing ceremony of the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games at the National Stadium on Feb. 20, 2022.

The 2022 Winter Olympics provided a stage for the world's top winter sports athletes and also highlighted China's efforts to host a safe and sustainable global-scale event.

The Olympic flame has been extinguished, bringing down the curtain on the Beijing 2022 Winter Games, but the passion still lingers from the sports gala that has enlivened and inspired the world amid the pandemic.

After all 109 medal events had been decided, the closing ceremony was held on February 20 at the National Stadium in Beijing, the first ever city to have hosted both the Summer and Winter Olympics. The Olympic baton now has been passed to the Italian cities Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo, which will host the 2026 Winter Games.

The 2022 Winter Olympics stands out as it both provided a stage for the world's top winter sports athletes and also highlighted China's efforts to host a safe and sustainable global-scale event.

Thomas Bach, President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), lauded the Beijing Winter Olympics as "truly exceptional" when addressing at the closing ceremony.

"The Olympic spirit could only shine so brightly, because the Chinese people set the stage in such an excellent way - and in a safe way," said Bach.



"The Olympic Villages were outstanding. The venues - magnificent. The organization extraordinary... This unforgettable experience was only possible because of our gracious hosts, the Chinese people," he added.

The Olympic Spirit Shines

"Let the Olympic spirit of peace, mutual respect, and understanding shine throughout the Games and beyond," said UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres in a video message to the opening of the Games on February 4.

And the smooth running of the Olympics has met what the organizers promised - that is, to warm up the world through greatness in winter sports and offer up tear-jerking and heart-filled moments.

Ski prodigy Gu Ailing caused a huge sensation at the Olympics, as the 18-year-old became the first freestyle skier to win three medals in a single Games, inspiring millions of people of younger generations.

"It's really great to see and it's so inspiring. She makes me want to be a better skier myself. I think she's amazing for the sport," said British freestyler Zoe Atkin.

Inspiring stories of breakthroughs also came at the National Speed Skating Oval, where Sweden's Nils van der Poel lowered his own previous world record in 10,000m and home favorite Gao Tingyu became the first-ever Chinese male Olympic gold medalist in speed skating.

The host nation dispatched a 388-member contingent, including 177 athletes. With its largestever presence in the Winter Games, China recorded its best-ever Winter Olympic haul of 15 medals, while powerhouse Norway leads the medal count with 37 medals, 16 of which are gold. But medals are not all that matters at the Olympic Games.

After losing to the United States, China's curling duo Fan Suyuan and Ling Zhi presented their American counterparts, Vicky Persinger and Chris Plys with a set of pin badges featuring Bing Dwen Dwen, the mascot for the Games that has gone viral.

China's four-time Olympian Xu Mengtao finally realized her dream of winning an Olympic gold in the women's aerials and she burst into tears before receiving a long hug from American freestyle skier Ashley Caldwell. "Taotao! Olympic champion!" Caldwell warmly said to Xu, referring to her nickname, adding, "I am so proud of you!"

Despite coming in last in the women's 3,000m, German speed skater Claudia Pechstein embraced the result as if she had won a gold. "It's my success!" remarked the 49-year-old who made history to become the oldest woman Winter Olympian, and the first-ever female to compete in eight Winter Olympics.

Safe And Splendid

With more than 10,000 athletes, journalists and officials from around the world having descended on Beijing, the organizers met the daunting challenge of holding a safe Games by employing a closed loop system that went into operation in late January.

Typified by daily nucleic acid testing and designated shuttle buses connecting different facilities, the closed loop saw COVID-19 cases decline from a peak of 26 cases on February 2 to zero on February 13 and only one new positive case was reported since February 16.

"The situation inside the closed loop is safe and there is no sign of virus transmission, which can be said to have met our expectations," said Brian McCloskey, chief of the Beijing 2022 Medical Expert Panel.

Christophe Dubi, the IOC's Olympic Games Executive Director, spoke highly of China's efforts to hold a virus-free Olympics. "Really no effort is spared, no stone unturned to keep everybody safe. The degree of sophistication of the operation is something unprecedented," he said.

"The COVID-19 countermeasures at the Village were at the highest level, and officials were diligent on social distancing and mask-wearing requirements. After each meal, tables and eating areas were disinfected," said Furkan Akar, a Turkish short-track speed skater.

China has lived up to its promise of delivering the world a "safe and splendid" Winter Olympics,

as it also went to great lengths to showcase a future world which has robot chefs cooking meals, self-driving cars and smart navigation supported by augmented reality and artificial intelligence.

Off the competition venues, athletes have taken to social media to share stories about their life since arrival, and dishes that satiate their appetites are among the most popular hashtags.

"It is very obvious that the athletes are happy and are more than happy. They are extremely satisfied with the venues, with the Villages, with the services having been offered, and with the safety within the closed loop under these very difficult circumstances," said IOC chief Bach.

And the Games has attracted unparalleled viewership. According to Timo Lumme, managing director of television and marketing services for the IOC, about two billion people worldwide have been tuning in to watch the Olympics.

"The IOC-owned Olympic social media accounts have surpassed 2.7 billion engagements for Beijing 2022. There, I'm not speaking of the many other means and platforms," Bach said, noting the trend towards digital engagement with the Games is also record-breaking.

An Enduring Olympic Legacy

Beijing 2022 has been a journey about both physical and human infrastructure: encompassing green construction and reuse of venues, and massive investment to fuel domestic participation in winter sports.

Several technologies were applied for the first time to realize a carbon-neutral event. All competition venues were powered with renewable energy, marking a first in the Games history. As a gesture of the Games' sustainable intent, the National Speed Skating Oval in downtown Beijing - which measures 12,000 square meters - is the first Olympic venue in the world to use carbon dioxide for making ice.

The impressive Big Air Shougang has seen world's top snowboarders flying down ramps built on the side of former cooling towers, but the gigantic ski ramp rising from a disused steel mill was designed with a bigger agenda: boosting the winter sports industry and tourism.

"The design of new solutions for the venues will be a sign for everyone else that it is doable," said Dubi.

"Sports venues and infrastructure are certainly the tangible legacies of the Games, but the human capital is possibly an even more impactful aftermath. Engaging and educating children and youths about the Olympic Games and Olympic values goes beyond sport," he added.

The world can expect the passion generated for winter sports to loom larger and longer, as more Chinese people become true-hearted winter sports enthusiasts due to the Games.

As of last October, around 346 million people -- about a quarter of the country's population -- have participated in winter sports since China's successful bid to host the Winter Olympics, according to the National Bureau of Statistics. China's winter sports industry is projected to achieve one trillion RMB in value by 2025.

China's fulfillment of its pledge to engage 300 million people in winter sport was praised by Bach, who hailed it as an "unprecedented, great achievement" and an important legacy of Beijing 2022.

"With over 300 million people now engaged in winter sports, with the great success of the Chinese athletes, the positive legacy of these Olympic Winter Games is ensured," said Bach.

"With the truly exceptional Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022 we welcome China as a winter sport country."

And the inspiration derived from the 2022 Olympics goes far beyond sport.

"What we could learn is that in the Olympic movement if we are united, we can be extremely resilient," said Bach, adding that this has been demonstrated by organizing Olympics under the pandemic.

The Games could also very much contribute to expanding the global knowledge and better understanding of China's philosophy and ideas, said Muhammad Asif Noor, secretary general of the Pakistan Shanghai Cooperation Organization Friendship Forum.

The Games' motto of "Together for a Shared Future" corresponds to China's aspiration of building a community with a shared future for mankind, he added.



Success of Beijing Winter Olympics, Paralympics Epitomizes Spirit of Community with Shared Future for **Mankind: Experts**

s the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games closed in Beijing on March 13, China has fulfilled its commitment to the world, and made fresh contributions to the international Olympic cause.

Experts from around the world have expressed their appreciation for China's efforts in this regard, stressing that the success of the Beijing Winter Olympics and Paralympics epitomized the spirit of a community with a shared future for mankind.

China has made every effort to overcome the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic to make the



Fireworks illuminated the night sky during the closing ceremony of the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games at the National Stadium in Beijing on March 13, 2022.

Beijing Winter Olympics and Winter **Paralympics** splendid international sports events, which not only fulfills China's solemn commitment to the international community, but has also contributed significantly to the development of the global Olympic cause, the promotion of cultural exchanges among countries and the strengthening of friendship among peoples of the whole world, said former Egyptian tourism advisor to Beijing Nasser Abdel-Aal.

Experts from around the world have expressed their appreciation for China's efforts in this regard, stressing that the success of the Beijing Winter Olympics and Paralympics epitomized the spirit of a community with a shared future for mankind.

The success of the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics and Paralympics is a vivid, inspiring and far-reaching international case for building a community with a shared future for mankind. Abdel-Aal said.

The success of the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics and Paralympics is a vivid, inspiring and far-reaching international case for building a community with a shared future for mankind, Abdel-Aal said.

The world once again saw a responsible China, said Zahid Faroog Malik, chief

editor of Pakistan's Daily Metro Watch, adding that China showed the world "a beautiful picture of humanity's unity."

While hosting the two events, China has promoted unity and cooperation, and promoted a message of harmony and a shared future, he said, stressing that via the Games, China has united the world and successfully highlighted the importance of building a community with a shared future for mankind in the field of international sports.

China has won admiration from world countries by staging the events against the backdrop of the global pandemic with impressive safety and sporting standards, said Cavince Adhere, a Kenya-based international relations scholar.

China has demonstrated the values of equity, tolerance and self-improvement through the Olympic Games, which, Adhere said, made China "a home of equal opportunity for all."

Liu Di, a professor at Japan's Kyorin University, said the Beijing Winter Olympics and Paralympics were held at a time of unprecedented complexity, and the sportsmanship displayed at the two events will surely continue to inspire mankind to unite, cooperate and make progress.

Khunying Patama Leeswadtrakul, a member of the executive board of the National Olympic Committee of Thailand, said that China has presented a streamlined, safe and splendid Winter Olympics to the world, highlighting the admirable efforts China has made to combine its traditional culture with ice and snow culture and the Olympic culture.

China has demonstrated the values of equity, tolerance and self-improvement through the Olympic Games, which, Adhere said, made China "a home of equal opportunity for all."



A captivating performance during the closing ceremony of the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games at the National Stadium in Beijing.



The Beijing Winter Olympics raised the bar and set a new milestone in the application of science and technology.

The Beijing Winter Olympics is unprecedented in the application of science and technology, which will hopefully be widely used around the world, said Thomas Bach, president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), to global media in an Alibaba Cloud ME booth on February 6.

The booth, an innovative cloud-based technology that uses true-to-life reality, is available both outside and within the closed-loop of Beijing 2022 official venues, allowing participants and fans to experience mixed reality social interactions.

Backed by the low latency, high availability and high concurrency features of Alibaba Cloud, the live recording can be projected onto a remote 4K high-definition screen, generating a true-to-life hologram effect, reconstructing all details in high definition -- including micro facial expressions and clothing texture -- where are essential to inperson interaction, according to an introduction on the IOC website.

Starting at February 4 opening ceremony of the Beijing Winter Olympics, various types of high and new technologies have been seen and marveled at.

"We decided about two years ago that instead of huge crowds, we were going to rely more on modern digital technologies and their chemistry with performers," said Chang Yu, director of the opening and closing ceremonies department of the Beijing 2022 organizing committee.

In the context of 5G, artificial intelligence and the Internet of Things, the national stadium -- known as the "Bird's Nest" -- has undergone an intelligent transformation to host the opening and closing ceremonies. For example, digital technology has been used in equipment operation,



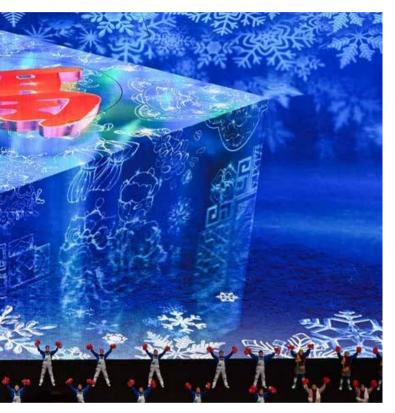
energy management and environmental quality control, providing favorable conditions for the ceremonies.

"Inside the Bird's Nest, we've built digital workstations and rendering workshops for instant visual-effect generation, completely upgrading it from a traditional building to a smart stadium," Chang said.

Instead of traditional projections, the entire floor of the Bird's Nest is fully equipped with high-definition LED technology, with 16K picture quality, according to Wang Zhi'ou, visual-effects director. Meanwhile, the audience experienced the comprehensive application of AI, AR, glassfree 3D and other technologies.

Actors' movements can be captured in realtime through the screens on the floor, so as to realize the interaction between actors and screens, according to Zhang Yimou, chief director of the ceremony. "We actually talked about this technology for the 2008 opening ceremony, but it was not possible at the time."

During the "peace dove" segment, no matter where the child performers ran, the snow at their



Artists perform with the LED floor image of Chinese character "Fu", meaning fortune and luck in English, during the opening ceremony of the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games at the National Stadium in Beijing, capital of China, Feb. 4, 2022.

feet followed, creating a strong appeal to viewers. Chang said that this was not a pre-designed snow effect, but the use of real-time capture, rendering and playback.

"It's not the latest technology. But it is very rare to achieve such a large-scale application in such a large live square performance," Chang said.

More importantly, cutting-edge technologies have been widely applied to venues and events.



Staff members work on the ice rink before the women's 3,000m final of speed skating at the National Speed Skating Oval in Beijing, capital of China, Feb. 5, 2022.

For the first time in Olympic history, carbon dioxide refrigerants have been introduced to make the "fastest" ice ever; weather forecasting radar equipment and weather tracking stations have been set up in the two mountain areas of Yanging and Zhangjiakou, forming a meteorological monitoring network to achieve accurate weather forecasting at the level of minutes in time dimension and 100 meters in spatial dimension, and the Olympic broadcasting service is 5G-based.

Eleven of the venues are being reused from the Olympic Games in 2008 in a bid to cut emissions, reduce environmental impact, and minimise the consumption of water, energy and materials.

All competition venues are powered by 100-percent green electricity, and clean energy vehicles account for 80 percent of the total vehicles used during the games.

Zhangjiakou has put into use 655 hydrogenfueled vehicles for transportation and logistics support services during the games. A hydrogenfueled vehicle can be refueled quickly, and realize a low temperature start of minus-30-degrees Celsius. Each vehicle traveling 10,000 km can reduce carbon dioxide emission by about 11.8 tonnes.

"First, our hydrogen vehicles are energy saving and environmental friendly; second, it's safer; third, it's suitable for high-altitude and cold areas; and fourth, it has a pretty long range," said Xie Yinglong, a bus driver in Zhangjiakou.

Beijing Olympics the Most Gender-Balanced Winter Games Ever, Declares IOC



he International Olympic Committee (IOC) has declared the Beijing 2022 Winter Games to be "the most gender-balanced" Winter Games in history.

The Beijing Winter Olympics has "women accounting for a record 45 percent of the athletes," reported Cuba-based news agency Prensa Latina, citing data released by the IOC.

According to IOC Sports Director Kit McConnell, of the 2,902 athletes competing at the games, 1,325 are women, presenting an

unprecedented ratio at a Winter Games, said the agency.

During the Pyeongchang 2018 Games in South Korea, for example, women represented 41 percent of the athletes, and the organizers of Beijing 2022 sought to do even better in promoting their participation, McConnell was quoted as saying.

The IOC aims to achieve gender-parity ahead of the Milano-Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games, said the agency.

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