Ambassador Luo Zhaohui met with Mr. Lal Krishna Advani, an Indian politician and senior leader of the BJP.

Ambassador Luo Zhaohui and his wife Counselor Jiang Yili hold a book launch ceremony for Mr. Sarin who is the author of *China’s Agriculture and Political Economy*.

Ambassador Luo Zhaohui met with Mr. Li Xiaosan, member of the CPC Yunnan Provincial Standing Committee, Director of the Organization Department of CPC Yunnan Provincial Committee.

Ambassador Luo Zhaohui met with Dr. Tang Qian, Assistant-Director General for Education of UNESCO.

Ambassador Luo Zhaohui received Interview with Xinhua News Agency.

Counselor Jiang Yili met with Mr. Malik, a famous Indian movie star.
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CHINA’S “ALL-ROUND WELL-OFF SOCIETY” AN INSPIRATION FOR WHOLE WORLD

by Guo Likun, Yang Hongtao, Xu Xiaoqing (China Features)

Long Tianbao, a 44-year-old peasant in Guizhou, one of China’s poorest provinces, did not expect three kilograms of rice to change his family’s fate.

Having his home village nestled deeply in the inhospitable Moon mountain, Long, an ethnic Miao in Baiwang village, Rongjiang county, had no idea what to expect when the government relocated his entire village to the county seat, 25 kilometers away.

“With no education background and only strength, can I find a job? How can I make ends meet in a town with high expenditure level?” he said.

After much deliberation, Long and his wife decided to take three kilograms of rice to their new destination.

“If we find a job before we have eaten the rice, we will stay; if not, we
income double those of 2010 by 2020.

The baseline task is to lift all people out of poverty.

This entails improving the wellbeing of 43.35 million people living below the national poverty line of 2,300 yuan in annual income at 2010 prices.

If the tasks are completed on time, China will meet the United Nations goal of wiping out poverty in all its forms 10 years ahead of the 2030 deadline.

China had 770 million poor residents in rural areas, or 97.5 percent of the rural population, when it started the reform and opening-up drive more than 30 years ago. Over 700 million have shaken off poverty since, accounting for over 70 percent of global poverty reduction.

These figures prompted The Economist to describe China as the “hero of the world’s poverty-reduction efforts.”

With 700 million people still struggling with poverty worldwide, half in sub-Saharan Africa and one-third in South Asia, more countries are turning to China for inspiration.

THE FINAL BUT PUSH

In past decades, China has built highways, railroads and ports, networks for electricity and water access, and every possible infrastructure to connect every possible place in the country, bringing vast numbers of people out of poverty.
For places like Baiwang village, which are locked in mountains with arid land, a fragile environment and frequent natural disasters, traditional relief methods failed.

Relocation has proved to be effective, ensuring every household a 50-square-meter apartment, access to tailored training and at least one family member employed.

Poverty in Baiwang has reduced to 4.8 percent from 68.9 percent.

To speed up eradication of extreme poverty, Guizhou has singled out 7,654 villages, each with no more than 50 households and poverty over 50 percent, to be relocated by 2020.

Hannah Ryder, a former head of policy and partnerships for the United Nations Development Programme in China, has warned of significant costs as China enters the most difficult phase of poverty alleviation.

“Poverty reduction, like so many important endeavors, is subject to the law of diminishing returns,” she said.

The people who benefit first are most likely those who were best equipped to do so, owing to, say, their background or geography. By the time there are only a few - or even a few million - left, one can expect reaching them to be much harder, Ryder said.

Answering such problems, China is seeking to reform and diversify its poverty relief tactics.

The Chinese leadership has underlined high precision in its final poverty eradication push. This means poverty alleviation must focus on individuals, and use the right tools to ensure resources trickle down to the poorest in the most effective way.

China used to rely on sampling surveys to determine which villages or even counties could be legitimately considered impoverished, and concentrated efforts accordingly.

When poverty was widespread and the income gap was small, such a one-size-fits-all approach worked wonders.

In 2014, however, the government mobilized more than 800,000 people to put every poor individual on file, while identifying the causes of their poverty and needs to rid of it.

Nearly 2 million people were organized between August 2015 and June 2016 to make sure those who were really poor were included on the database, according to the State Council Leading Group Office of Poverty Alleviation and Development.

As a result, apart from a multi-year timetable to wipe out poverty, the Chinese government also created
“Achieving an all-round well-off society is not a game of figures or speed,” Chinese President Xi Jinping told officials late last year.

At a high-profile workshop in late July, Xi identified three battles that must be won to ensure the goal is achieved on schedule: preventing and defusing major risks, precision in poverty eradication, and pollution prevention and control.

“While maintaining medium to high economic growth, the Communist Party of China (CPC) also moves to improve people’s quality of life, which may include fewer hazy days, cleaner rivers, affordable apartments and a better social welfare safety net,” said Xin Ming, professor with the Party School of the CPC Central Committee.

“A moderately prosperous society in the world’s most populous country would be good news for both China and the world,” Xin said.

Though China’s economy is no longer growing at the dazzling speed it once was, its systematic efforts on restructuring and defusing possible threats to sustainability make it remain a powerful engine for global growth.

China’s rapid development comes at a heavy price to the environment, something the West knows all too well, said UNDP Administrator Helen Clark.

“China’s major achievements in past years mean that socialism with Chinese characteristics has expanded the pathway to modernization for developing countries, thus providing Chinese wisdom and Chinese solutions to problems facing mankind,” Xi said.
Severino Cabral, head of the Brazilian Institute of China and Asia Pacific Studies, said that what China had done in ensuring social progress while markedly improving people’s living standard had won admiration across the globe.

As a major developing country with over 1.3 billion people, China has gradually embarked on a successful path of reducing poverty through development with distinct Chinese features.

“China’s growth model and the country’s governance style have offered inspiration to other countries, and China’s proposal for common development has been increasingly responded to in the face of unstable global economy and security,” Cabral said.

What happens in China does not and should not stay in China.

China’s successful poverty reduction experience has drawn the attention of the world. Last October, officials from 15 developing countries, including Malawi, Ghana, and Kenya, came to Beijing to attend a seminar on public service and poverty reduction for developing countries.

“China is a country with a large population, a weak economic foundation and unbalanced development. Almost each of its problem involving people’s livelihood is a tough global problem,” said Wang Jun, head of the information department of the China Center for International Economic Exchanges.

“The journey to a moderately prosperous society, an incessant process of exploring and solving such problems, could offer a China recipe for the least developing nations facing similar issues,” Wang said. “It may possibly serve as a fate changer for them.”

NEW FORCE BEHIND CHINA’S SHIFTING ECONOMIC LANDSCAPE

by Wang Xiuqiong (China Features)
Is there any connection between a jungle of bikes crowding a suburban subway exit, and the smell of money in the heart of the financial market?

In China, there is.

Riding the tide of bike sharing, a new business model emerging in China, Changzhou Youon Public Bicycle System Co., Ltd. went public on the Shanghai Stock Exchange on Aug. 17, the first initial public offering by a company providing bike sharing services.

With its blue and yellow bikes ready for use with a simple scan of a QR code by a mobile phone, Youon is set to get traction on the stock market.

Its shares soared by the daily limit instantly after trade started. The same happened for the following several trading days.

The success of Youon’s IPO was an epitome of quiet but ubiquitous changes to China’s economy brought by a new force of Internet-based, innovation-driven businesses.

Youon and its more prominent rivals, Mobike and ofo, have shaken up the transport industry. Whizzing down the street on colorful bicycles, rather than in a car, has become a new fad.

At the exit of Anheqiao North subway station in the remote northwestern corner of Beijing, a bicycle jungle forms in the morning travel peak and is whittled down in the evening as throngs of commuters leave the station and pedal back to their homes.

“Bike sharing is much cheaper than taking a taxi, and a good way of exercise,” says Mr. Zhao, whose home is a five-minute ride from the subway station.

China’s bike sharing market is expected to rake in 10.3 billion yuan (1.5 billion U.S. dollars) in revenue this year, a 736-percent increase from 1.2 billion yuan in 2016, according to a report from iiMedia Research.

It estimated the number of shared-bike users in China will hit 209 million this year, compared with 28 million last year.

It’s not just transportation. New business models inspired by information technology and upgrading consumer demand have slipped into a broad range of sectors of the economy.
The rise of online shopping has forced brick-and-mortar stores to either close doors or focus on better services and customer experiences.

Mobile payment has made it possible to order food, pay credit card bills and manage stock accounts at anytime, anywhere, or buy a pancake at a roadside breakfast stall without having to carry a wallet.

The value of third-party e-payments in China has grown at an annual rate of more than 100 percent since 2015, offering consumers an alternative to bank payment channels at lower transaction costs, global rating agency Moody's said in a report earlier this year.

In the countryside, farmers are learning how to advertise and sell fruit through online channels such as Taobao or WeChat. In urban homes, a variety of applications on smart phones have boosted consumption of novel services including in-home massages and manicures.

A bigger slice of the nation's economic pie is now digital. The aggregate value of China's digital economy accounted for over 30 percent of GDP last year, according to the China Academy of Information and Communications Technology (CAICT).

The wave of change is evident in the capital market, with ripples sent beyond the border.

The total market value of Chinese listed Internet firms soared 48.7 percent year on year to a record high of 7.24 trillion yuan (about 1.1 trillion U.S. dollars) in the second quarter, according to the CAICT.

The market value of those listed in the United States accounted for 57 percent of the total market capitalization. Worldwide, nine Chinese firms, including Alibaba and Tencent, ranked among the 30 largest Internet companies in market value, with their combined share exceeding 30 percent for the first time.

The new force is reshaping China's economic structure. The economy, once reliant on fixed-asset investment and exports, is increasingly fueled by services and consumption, and the Internet is speeding up this process.

Online retail sales surged 33.7 percent year on year in the first seven months of this year, with online sales of goods accounting for 13.8 percent of the country's overall retail sales of consumer goods, up 2.2 percentage points from a year earlier, according to data from the National Bureau of Statistics.

Thanks to the revolution of information technology and innovative business models, the cost of consumption is getting lower, which helps boost economic growth, said Lyu Wei with the Development Research Center of the State Council.

In the first half, final consumption contributed 63.4 percent of GDP growth, and will probably increase more in future.

In the long term, the development of e-payments and e-commerce will encourage China's economic rebalancing from investment toward consumption, according to Moody's.

Consumption is the first sector to benefit from the extensive application of Internet technology, because the market threshold in this sector is relatively low for newcomers, said Wu Hequan from the Chinese Academy of Engineering and president of the Internet Society of China.

"Eventually, the Internet is going to remake the traditional industrial sector," he said.

For example, big data could be used to analyze the preferences of car purchasers and guide production, millions of small manufacturers could upgrade their products by seeking help from professional designers through online platforms, while sensors and software could make the production process smarter.

Government regulation is catching up with the changing economic landscape. Chinese authorities have cut red tape and slashed taxes to support innovative businesses, while tightened oversight over some risky new sectors including Internet finance.

In June, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang told a cabinet meeting that authorities should avoid simply applying traditional methodology on sharing economy and regulate it in a "tolerant while prudent" manner.

More needs to be done, as new business models and technology could bring new problems and demands, said Zhang Zhanbin, a researcher with Chinese Academy of Governance.

The regulatory framework remains fragmented, with too many agencies overseeing one sector, while the standards of regulation are not unified, he said.
CHINA CONCENTRATES ON SCI-TECH INNOVATION
by Yu Fei, Qu Ting (China Features)

Wang Junfeng and seven fellow Chinese researchers at Harvard Medical School gave up life in the United States to move to a small island on the outskirts of Hefei, capital of east China’s Anhui Province.

“Science Island” is home to more than 10 research institutes and 1,000 top researchers – and an ideal place to quietly conduct their research, they said.

In the 1990s and early 21st Century, many Chinese college students flocked to developed countries to pursue studies and professions with the help of more advanced research equipment.

In the past two decades, as its economy blossomed, China has attached more importance to science and technology, making it an increasingly attractive base for researchers.

Wang said he came to the island because advanced experimental equipment on steady high magnetic fields was to be built there. It would make China the fifth country in the world to have such equipment.

Kuang Guangli, leader of the project, said the team has already made an impact in international academic circles and that the members have made greater academic achievements here than
they did in Harvard.

**SCI-TECH BOOM**

Experience over almost a century has shown the Communist Party of China that it is necessary to mobilize efforts and resources to concentrate on major tasks. Now the experience is being applied to scientific and technological innovation.

Innovation is at the heart of China’s 13th Five-Year Plan (2016-2020), which sets the aims to become an “innovation nation” by 2020, an international leader in innovation by 2030, and a world powerhouse in scientific and technological innovation by 2050.

At the forefront of fundamental research and strategic key technologies in fields such as space, deep sea, super computers and quantum communication, China has shown determination and speed, capturing world attention.

Over the past year, Chinese have been inspired by landmark achievements in science and technology.

Chinese scientists completed all the experiments designed for the world’s first quantum satellite a year ahead of schedule, laying the foundation for a hack-proof global quantum communication network.

China’s supercomputer, Sunway TaihuLight, was crowned the world’s fastest computer at both the 2016 and 2017 International Supercomputing Conferences held in Frankfurt, Germany.

In early July, China made breakthroughs in the search for alternative clean energy sources by completing a 60-day trial of mining gas hydrates, commonly known as combustible ice, in the South China Sea.

“Combustible ice is considered a strategic alternative to oil and natural gas,” China Geological Survey Bureau deputy director Li Jinfa said. “The whole world is looking towards it.”

In mid-June, China launched its first X-ray space telescope to observe black holes, pulsars and gamma-ray bursts.

“I am really impressed with how China is developing its scientific space program,” said Arvind Parmar, head of the Scientific Support Office...
in the Science Directorate of European Space Agency (ESA). “The recent launches of the Dark Matter Particle Explorer and the Quantum Experiments at Space Scale missions highlight China's capabilities and commitment to science as does the range of missions under study for future launch opportunities.”

China took a major step toward becoming a global aviation powerhouse as its homegrown large passenger plane, the C919, took to the sky on May 5. The flight makes China the fourth jumbo jet producer after the United States, Western Europe and Russia.

Last year, China launched its first space lab, Tiangong-2, and sent the Shenzhou-11 manned spaceship to dock with it. Two Chinese astronauts stayed in Tiangong-2 for a month, setting a new Chinese record for space residency.

In April this year, China launched its first cargo spacecraft, Tianzhou-1, to dock with Tiangong-2, to test space refueling technology, laying the foundation for building the country’s space station.

This string of achievements shows the innovation-driven development strategy is paying dividends.

A report jointly issued by the National Center for Science and Technology Evaluation and Clarivate Analytics said China’s expenditure on research and development accounted for 1.42 percent of GDP in 2006 and the ratio increased to 2.1 percent in 2016.

In 2016, China had over 1.1 million patents for inventions, ranking the third after the United States and Japan.

The latest Global Innovation Index showed China rose three places to 22nd on the list of the world’s most innovative nations in 2017, the only middle-income country to join the top 25 innovative economies.

ORIGIN OF INNOVATION

In the 13th Five-Year Plan, the evolution of the universe was given pride of place on the scientific research list. It was followed by material structure, the origins of life, and neurology.

“Fundamental questions, like this, have the power to influence solutions to some of the most prominent problems faced by society and the world at large,” said Han Song, a Chinese sci-fi writer.

With economic pressures forecast to continue, China is committed to fostering new development momentum through innovation.

China has been striving to upgrade its industrial structure and shift its economy to a growth model that draws strength from innovation as its competitive advantages in low labor and raw material costs are eroded.

Zhang Xinmin, a researcher with the Institute of High Energy Physics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), said China is starting to value basic science.

“Exploring the red planet and deep space will mean that China can establish itself as a scientific and technological leader. The knock-on effect is that inventions and independent intellectual property rights will surge, and, as a result, China’s core competence will increase, pushing development in other industries,” said Jia Yang.
Although China still lags behind scientifically-advanced countries in some areas, we have made great strides in basic science and space science. As long as we are diligent, in the near future we will achieve great success,” said Chang Jin, vice director of the CAS Purple Mountain Observatory.

BELT AND ROAD GOLDEN CHANCE FOR GLOBAL GROWTH

by Wang Hongjiang (China Features)

The Belt and Road Initiative has brought tremendous trade and investment opportunities that the world cannot afford to ignore.

In the first seven months, China signed 78.09 billion U.S. dollars of contracted projects along the Belt and Road, up 32.6 percent year on year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

“Its concepts, such as inclusiveness and strategic connection, conform with the common interests of the world, and therefore have attracted global attention. The initiative has become the world’s largest growth initiative, livelihood project and public good so far,” said Wang Yiwei from Renmin University of China.

The Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road initiative, known as the Belt and Road Initiative, was proposed by China in 2013 with the aim of building a trade and infrastructure network connecting Asia with Europe and Africa along the ancient trade routes.

INVESTMENT ON FAST LANE

China’s outbound investment to countries involved in the Belt and Road Initiative stood at 6.61 billion
U.S. dollars in the first half of 2017, accounting for 13.7 percent of the country's non-financial outbound direct investment (ODI), up 6 percentage points from the same period in 2016.

In contrast, the country’s total ODI dropped 45.8 percent year on year to 48.19 billion U.S. dollars in the H1, Ministry of Commerce (MOC) datashowed.

Investment growth between China and Belt and Road countries is mutual. As a case in point, in the first seven months, the European Union (EU) direct investment on the Chinese mainland increased 5.4 percent year on year. The EU is China’s biggest trading partner, while China is the EU’s largest source of imports and second largest two-way trading partner.

Enormous potential for further investment cooperation still lies ahead given the EU’s investment in China only accounts for about 4 percent of its total overseas investment, while Chinese investment in the EU only takes up about 2 percent of all foreign direct investment (FDI) flowing to the EU.

Besides trade and investment, interactions have also increased in culture, education, science and technology, tourism and other areas.

On Aug. 18, a Belt and Road high level meeting for health cooperation was held in Beijing. China has launched 38 key projects in the health sector along with the Belt and Road countries, covering fields including infectious disease control, emergency medical assistance and traditional medicine.

As of February, 25 projects had been completed, according to the meeting.

INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORKS

China has been exporting high-speed trains and related technologies to the Belt and Road countries. In 2014, China completed the construction of its first overseas high-speed rail in Turkey. In June 2015, China and Russia inked deals for 770 km of track connecting Moscow and Kazan.

China’s rail services are stretching all the way to the west along the ancient Silk Road. In August this year, China and Egypt signed a 1.24 billion-U.S.-dollar light rail contract. The 66-km 11-station line will connect Cairo with adjacent cities.

Thanks to the China-Europe rail link in particular, merchandise trade witnessed robust growth between China and European countries including Germany, Spain and Britain.

Since May last year, over 64 million yuan worth of German products have been imported via the China-Europe rail link, data showed.

The number of transcontinental cargo rail lines via China’s northern Manzhouli port alone had increased to 35 as of Aug. 9 this year.

“The Belt and Road Initiative is key to solving the problem of sluggish recovery and has seized the crucial link of world economic growth — infrastructure,” Wang Yiwei said.

SOLID DRIVER

China’s growth will continue to be a key driver for a firming recovery of the world economy, according to the International Monetary Fund chief economist Maurice Obstfeld.

Global investors, including the EU, continue to be optimistic about China’s economic growth prospects. In the first seven months, 17,703 new foreign-funded companies were established in China, up 12 percent year on year, according to the MOC.

Expressing their confidence in the economy, international financial heavyweights have raised their forecasts for China’s economic growth. For example, the International Monetary Fund in July raised its forecast of China growth to 6.7 percent for 2017.

“Strong Chinese growth drives growth particularly in Asian region but also throughout the world,” said Obstfeld.

China’s economy expanded 6.9 percent for the first half of 2017, with consumption and services, as well as new innovation-driven economic sectors, taking up larger roles in the economy.

As China is transforming its economy from traditional manufacturing sector to service and consumption oriented sector, its structural transformation and the rebalancing of its economy should lower the growth rate and put growth on a firmer basis over time, the chief economist said.

WIN-WIN SCENARIO

Claims that the Belt and Road Initiative is a tool by China to expand its economic interests and dominance abroad ignore the key element underpinning the initiative — win-
win results.

Since China launched the initiative in 2013, it has invested more than 50 billion U.S. dollars in countries involved in the Belt and Road as of May. Meanwhile, a total of 56 economic and trade cooperation zones have already been built by Chinese businesses in these countries, generating nearly 1.1 billion U.S. dollars in tax revenue and creating 180,000 local jobs.

In May this year, China announced at the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation that it will contribute an additional 100 billion yuan to the Silk Road Fund to scale up financing support for the Belt and Road Initiative.

A total of 29 foreign heads of state and government leaders attended the forum. Other delegates include officials, entrepreneurs, financiers and journalists from over 130 countries, and representatives of key international organizations.

Thanks to the forum, Belt and Road countries had reached many agreements, including 76 items comprising more than 270 concrete results in five areas.

Appreciating that China has entered the debate of globalization in a positive way, Obstfeld believed the Belt and Road Initiative is “very important” in the context.

China has been striving to open up wider, instead of erecting trade and investment barriers. In August, the country announced more measures to attract foreign investment, including easier access and better protection of intellectual property rights.

China could take concrete actions to promote the global system, Obstfeld said.

**CHINA’S RAILWAYS ON TRACK TO FUTURE**

by Yang Jianxiang, Zeng Huang (China Features)

Since the first industrial revolution (1760s to mid-19th century), social development and progress has been closely linked to railways.

China’s early railways were a record of foreign colonialism. After the Opium War, many Western powers demanded road construction in China. The British built the first railway, the Wusong Railway, in Shanghai in 1876. After the Sino-Japanese War of 1894, Russia was authorized to build the Dongqing Railway, France the Dian-Yue Railway, and Britain the Guangzhou-Kowloon line. Germany built the Jiaozhou-Jinan Railway in 1904. Japan constructed railways in northeast China and Shandong.

The Beijing-Zhangjiakou line, built by Zhan Tianyou in 1909, is considered the first railway built independently by China. Most of the other rail projects undertaken by the Chinese government were made with foreign loans and technologies.

China’s railway history has followed its bitter evolution from a semi-colonial and semi-feudal society to a modern nation.

Since the founding of New China in 1949, railway construction has seen several phases of development. Rail widths were unified, double-track lines were built, diesel and electric locomotives were developed and then electric railways. Speeds rose again and again. High-speed railways have expanded rapidly. The building of the Beijing-Tianjin intercity railway in 2005 marked the beginning of China’s high-speed rail era. By the end of 2016, high-speed rail lines exceeded 22,000 kilometers, accounting for more than 60 percent of the world’s total.

According to the China Railway, Fuxing bullet trains begin to run at a speed of 350 kilometers per hour along the Beijing-Shanghai high-speed line in September, the fastest trains in service around the world.

China’s high-speed rail system is also crossing borders, thanks to its advanced technology, safety, reliability and cost-effectiveness. Cooperation extends to Asia, Europe, America and Africa. Important progress has been made in projects such as the Jakarta-Bandung high-speed railway in Indonesia, the Moscow-Kazan line in Russia, and the Malaysian Kuala Lumpur-Singapore service. A survey of young people in 20 countries found they thought of the high-speed rail as one of the “four great new inventions” of the Chinese.
A train runs on the Shanghai-Nanjing intercity high-speed railway at the Wuxi section in Jiangsu Province. This is one of China’s most economically developed and densely populated areas. The Shanghai-Nanjing service is one of the world’s longest, fastest and most advanced intercity railways. (Xinhua)

Beijing South Railway Station is a hub for China’s high-speed railways. (Xinhua)
On March 16, 2017, a train runs on the Shanghai-Kunming high-speed line, through the rape flower fields in Anshun, Guizhou Province. The construction of high-speed rail has promoted development in remote areas and boosted tourism. (Xinhua/Lu Wei)

Bullet trains run along the high-speed lines on Tunli grand bridges in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. (Xinhua/Huang Xiaobang)
China's next generation bullet train “Fuxing” debuted on the Beijing-Shanghai line on June 26, 2017. A CR400AF model departed Beijing South Railway Station at 11:05 a.m. for Shanghai. At the same time, the CR400BF model left Shanghai Hongqiao Railway Station for Beijing. The new bullet trains, also known as electric multiple units (EMU), boast top speeds of 400 kilometers an hour and a consistent speed of 350 kilometers an hour. (Xinhua/ Xing Guangli)

Many young women aspire to be stewardesses on China’s high-speed trains. New recruits at Harbin passenger division receive training in sitting posture. (Xinhua/ Wang Song)
The twin-engine C919 took off from Shanghai Pudong Airport on its maiden flight on May 5, 2017, marking a milestone in China’s aviation industry.

It is expected that the Shanghai-based manufacturer COMAC (Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China) of China will be the next global aviation giant after Airbus and Boeing.

“The C919’s successful maiden flight realizes China’s dream of developing a jumbo airliner,” said COMAC chairman He Dongfeng.

“It not only marks a major step toward China becoming a global aviation powerhouse, but also offers the world new benefits from China’s development.”

The maiden flight crew comprised two pilots, two test flight engineers and one observer.

“A steady take-off and all systems functioned well the whole flight,” said co-pilot Wu Xin after the 79-minute maiden flight.

The aircraft’s name C919 is quite symbolic. The letter “C” stands for both China and COMAC, while the number 9 symbolizes “forever” in Chinese culture, and 19 represents the aircraft’s 190 seats at maximum capacity.

With a standard range of 4,075
kilometers, the narrow-body jet is comparable to the updated Airbus 320 and Boeing's new generation 737.

“The C919 is made totally with Chinese intellectual property. It shows China finally has a jumbo passenger jet designed and developed in accordance with global airworthiness standards,” said chief designer Wu Guanghui.

China began developing large passenger jets in the 1970s and the first, the Y-10, had a successful test flight in 1980, but the project was later abandoned for some complicated reasons.

In 2007, the State Council approved plans to develop a large passenger jet. In November 2015, the first C919 rolled off the assembly line.

The C919 also represents cooperation between China and the rest of the world.

More than 200 enterprises in 22 provinces and cities in China took part in the development of the C919, and 16 leading international aviation companies were selected as airborne system suppliers, with 16 joint ventures set up.

Major components such as the avionics and control systems were sourced from the joint ventures and partners across Europe and the United States.

“You can see new giant of the global aviation industry. China is moving forward with major steps,” said Olivier Dubroeucq, executive vice president of the COMAC and AVIC program of Safran.

A leading aero engine and equipment manufacturer, Safran made the LEAP-1C engines and nacelles for the aircraft through CFM International, a joint venture between Safran Aircraft Engines and G E.

“China has created valuable opportunities in global aviation,” he said.

“We are not working in the short term in China. The market is here and we are right here. All we have done is to pave the way to share the future.”

Honeywell Aerospace Asia Pacific president Steven Lien was also confident of China’s aviation future.

“China is willing to share growth opportunities with the rest of the world. Honeywell has invested heavily in China, and we are picking the winner,” said Lien.

Honeywell provided the auxiliary power system, flight control package, wheel and braking system, and...
China will require more than 6,000 new aircraft over the next two decades with a total value of 1 trillion U.S. dollars. It will need 5,110 new single-aisle aircraft by 2035.

Unsettling the dominance of Boeing and Airbus in the near future is unrealistic, observers say, but Chinese airliners could be a strong option for global carriers in decades to come.

COMAC is seeking airworthiness certificates from the Civil Aviation Administration of China and foreign aviation regulators before making its navigation package. Almost 1,000 Honeywell personnel around the world worked on the C919 project.

“Root in China, share the honor with the Chinese aviation industry. Honeywell cherishes great opportunities of growing together with the second largest economy in the world, sharing mutual benefits along with its growth,” said Lien.

The C919 was designed and developed first to meet the booming domestic civil aviation market and then global markets.

According to a Boeing forecast, China will require more than 6,000 new aircraft over the next two decades with a total value of 1 trillion U.S. dollars. It will need 5,110 new single-aisle aircraft by 2035.

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As of June 2017, the C919 had 600 orders from 24 foreign and domestic customers, according to COMAC.

COMAC and United Aircraft Corporation of Russia announced in May a plan to jointly develop a wide-body jet for long-haul flights.

To become a real “competitor” in the global civil aviation market, China and its C919 still have a long way to go.

NATIONAL PARKS DRIVE CHINA’S GREEN DEVELOPMENT

by Liu Wei, Wang Minghao, Feng Changyong (China Features)
reserves as well as another 8,000 endangered animals and plants.

China started captive-breeding programs in the late 1990s and a reintroduction program in 2003, which proved effective in keeping the species on the map. "But increasing the wild population requires a large protection area and an upgraded ecosystem. The park will do the job," says Hou.

China is creating the national park system over several years. The Central Leading Group for Reform at the end of 2015 decided up to nine such facilities should be included in the system, including two parks to protect rivers.

Over six decades of nature protection, China has established 2,740 nature reserves, covering 14.8 percent of its territory, but insufficient funding and a lack of a unified plan and protection ability rendered many reserves ecologically unviable.

"The national park system will alter such sporadic protection and usher in a new established nature protection scheme," says Cui Guofa, professor of the School of Nature Conservation of Beijing Forestry University.

However, like many endangered species, pandas still suffer habitat loss and fragmentation due to natural disasters, climate change and human activity.

Some sub-populations number is fewer than 10. This makes them vulnerable to disease and reproductive problems, and less able to adapt to a changing environment.

Multiple administrations in the three provinces worsen the situation. When a panda crosses a provincial boundary, jurisdiction becomes blurred.

Following a pilot scheme begun earlier this year, the park will cover 27,134 square kilometers, three times the area of the United States' Yellowstone National Park. It will have four major zones: a core protection area; an ecological restoration area; a tourist and education area; and a breeding center. It will protect pandas in 67 current

Hou Rong wept when she heard that the Giant Panda National Park spanning three provinces is to be created by 2020.

After studying and protecting giant pandas for two decades, she knows the proposed park will unite pandas isolated on six mountains in Gansu, Shaanxi and Sichuan provinces, helping the endangered animals mingle and enrich their gene pool.

"Many years of conservation have paid off. Their numbers in the wild rose by 17 percent between 2003 and 2013. That's why the International Union for Conservation of Nature (ICUN) reclassified the giant panda in 2016 from endangered to vulnerable," says Hou, director of Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding.

Conflict is inevitable. When tigers attack humans or their cattle, the local set traps for them.

"Harmonious coexistence between people and wild tigers and leopards, and development that values both ecological protection and economic growth are a big challenge for the local government," says Li Zhixing, secretary-general of Hunchun-based Tianhe Manchurian Tiger Protection Association.

Jilin Province has offered compensation for those who suffer injury or property damage since 2006. This alleviates conflict and strengthens protection.

In 2008, with the help of international conservation associations, Hunchun Manchurian Tiger National Nature Reserve began a new plan that established cattle breeding and beekeeping cooperatives for villagers without charge.

Villagers' incomes have risen and they now patrol to protect wild tigers and leopards. They regularly remove traps in the nearby mountains and report poaching and traces of the animals.

"We are familiar with the mountain environment and wild tigers' habits and we are earning more by raising cattle on the cooperatives. We won't harm tigers," says one villager.
The creation of national parks will lead to the relocation of many people. For example, at least 170,000 people in Sichuan will have to move so that pandas will be able to roam freely between far-flung habitats.

Qubie Mazi of Yi ethnic group has lived in Sichuan’s Shanfeng Village for 40 years, earning a living by growing potatoes and collecting herbs. A panda reserve in the village is a key corridor connecting populations in Liangshan Mountain.

Poverty once drove the villagers to poach pandas, but after a penalty and bonus system was introduced, they learned to value them.

Asked how he feels about making way for pandas, Qubie Mazi says, “I will move if I get a new home and a new job.”

Hou Rong says people should be taught to protect the environment. “People can live outside the core protection area and find jobs in the park such as guides. They won’t risk poaching wild animals once they have a decent job and steady income.”

Enditem

(Zou Shengwen and Zong Wei also contributed to the story.)

On September 4, 2017, the ninth BRICS Summit was held at Xiamen International Conference Center. President Xi Jinping chaired the summit. President Jacob Zuma of South Africa, President Michel Temer of Brazil, President Vladimir Putin of Russia and Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India were present. Centering on the theme of Stronger BRICS Partnership for a Brighter Future, leaders of the five countries exchanged in-depth views on the current international situation, global economic governance, BRICS cooperation, international and regional hotspot issues and other topics, reviewed the ten-year history of BRICS cooperation, and reiterated the BRICS spirit of openness, inclusiveness, and win-win cooperation, reaching a series of consensus, which maps out blueprints and charts the course for the future development of BRICS cooperation.

At around 9:50 a.m., leaders of BRICS countries successively arrived at the meeting place. Xi Jinping warmly greeted them, respectively shook hands and posed for group photos with them.

At the plenary session, Xi Jinping delivered an important speech themed with Stronger BRICS Partnership for a Brighter Future, in which he spoke positively of the glorious decade that BRICS cooperation has walked through, stressing to usher in the second "golden decade" of BRICS cooperation, so as to make BRICS cooperation benefit people of the five countries as well as people of all countries at large.

Xi Jinping pointed out that the rapid development of BRICS cooperation lays in mutual respect and mutual assistance in jointly following the development path suited to our respective national conditions. We have pushed forward economic, political and people-to-people and cultural cooperation in the spirit of openness, inclusiveness, and win-win cooperation. We have worked in unison with other emerging market economies and developing countries to uphold international justice and equity and foster a sound external environment.

Xi Jinping stressed that as the world undergoes profound and
First, we need to seek practical results in our economic cooperation. We need to expand converging interests in such areas as trade and investment, currency and finance, connectivity, sustainable development, innovation and industrial cooperation. Together, we must seize the historic opportunities of the new industrial revolution, actively explore new areas and models of practical cooperation, and enhance our links to ensure sustained and steady progress of the BRICS cooperation mechanism.

Second, we need to strengthen the integration of our development strategies. We should make use of our respective comparative strengths in resources, market and labor force. Acting in the spirit of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, we need to identify those areas where our development policies and priorities converge, and continue to work toward the goal of connectivity in trade and investment, currency and finance, and infrastructure. By implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, we have the opportunity to achieve balanced economic, social and environmental progress, and bring about interconnected and inclusive development.

Third, we need to make the international order more just and equitable. We should remain committed to multilateralism and the basic norms governing international relations, and work for a new type of international relations. We need to make economic globalization open, inclusive, balanced and beneficial to all, build an open world economy, support the multilateral trading regime and oppose protectionism. We need to advance the reform of global economic governance, increase the representation and voice of emerging market and developing countries, and inject new impetus into the efforts to address the development gap between the North and South and boost global growth.
Fourth, we need to promote people-to-people and cultural exchanges. Making the spirit of partnership take root in people’s hearts will keep BRICS cooperation forever vibrant. This year, people-to-people and cultural exchanges among the five countries have been in full swing, marked by the diverse activities. It is hoped that these activities could take place regularly and be institutionalized. We need to expand our outreach to get the public more involved and encourage more lively exchanges of diverse cultures.

Xi Jinping pointed out that the past decade has seen the unremitting efforts of BRICS countries in pursuing development and deepening partnership. It is a beginning in the history of BRICS cooperation. Let us set sail from Xiamen and join hands to usher in the second "golden decade" of BRICS cooperation and deliver greater benefits to the people of our five countries and around the world.

Jacob Zuma expressed that under the new circumstances, BRICS countries should deepen BRICS strategic partnership, advance mechanism construction, enhance connection with other emerging market economies and developing countries, and seek common development. Next year, South Africa will take over the rotating presidency of the BRICS, and the country will spare no efforts in making good preparations for the next summit, in a bid to improve the cohesiveness and influence of BRICS cooperation.

Michel Temer expressed that the five countries should increase strategic investment in BRICS cooperation, consolidate the all-round partnerships, and inject greater impetus into the development of the five countries. BRICS countries should strengthen international development cooperation, improve global economic governance, and create a sound external environment.

Vladimir Putin expressed that BRICS countries should broaden and deepen practical cooperation in various fields, and push forward BRICS partnership for constant development. The five countries should build an open world economy, oppose protectionism, and promote inclusive and sustainable growth. BRICS countries should stress coordination, and play a constructive role in international and regional hotspot issues, in a bid to jointly safeguard world peace and stability.

Narendra Modi expressed that...
BRICS countries should deeply tap potential for economic cooperation, achieve more outcomes from practical cooperation, safeguard multilateral trading system, and push forward people-to-people and cultural exchanges, so as to make BRICS cooperation take root in people's heart.

Speaking positively of the BRICS Xiamen Summit, leaders of all countries agreed to well implement various outcomes achieved at the summit, in a bid push forward BRICS cooperation for constant progress. Leaders present at the summit expressed that they will support South Africa in well assuming its post as the BRICS rotating presidency next year.

At a small-scale meeting held previously, leaders of the five countries debriefed the report on the discussion results of the meeting of BRICS high representatives for security issues. Xi Jinping stressed that for vast emerging market economies and developing countries, no matter for the consideration of the overall situation of world economy or the future of respective development, we should adhere to opening up while pursuing no protectionism, adhere to multilateral trading system while pursuing no benefits at others' expense, and adhere to mutual benefit and win-win results while pursuing no zero-sum game. National security and development are of mutual interdependence. We should continuously coordinate the stance on political security, expand consensus, and enhance cooperation. As countries with important influence, BRICS countries should play a constructive role in coping with international and regional hotspot issues. First, abide by international law and the basic norms governing international relations. Second, firmly uphold multilateralism, firmly safeguard the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, and give play to UN's main-channel role in safeguarding peace, building peace, as well as preventing and curbing conflicts. Ushering in the new decade, we should fairly cherish the achievements from BRICS cooperation, respect each other, seek common points while reserving differences, and strive to build a closer, more comprehensive and solid strategic partnership.

BRICS Leaders' Xiamen Declaration was issued at the summit.

Wang Huning, Li Zhanshu, Yang Jiechi and others attended above activities.

FULL TEXT OF PRESIDENT XI’S REMARKS AT PLENARY SESSION OF BRICS XIAMEN SUMMIT

Stronger BRICS Partnership for a Brighter Future
Remarks by H.E. Xi Jinping President of the People’s Republic of China
At the Plenary Session of the BRICS Xiamen Summit Xiamen, 4 September 2017

Your Excellency President Jacob Zuma,
Your Excellency President Michel Temer,
Your Excellency President Vladimir Putin,
Your Excellency Prime Minister Narendra Modi,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear Friends,

I am delighted to meet with my colleagues again. I wish to begin by extending, on behalf of the Chinese government and people, a warm welcome to you all. Welcome to the BRICS Xiamen Summit. With the focus on the theme of the summit: “Stronger Partnership for a Brighter Future”, I look forward to working with you to take stock of BRICS cooperation, map out a blueprint for its future development and set sail on a new journey of cooperation.

BRICS cooperation has traversed a glorious journey of one decade. Though separated by mountains and oceans, our five countries have been closely bound by a shared commitment to win-win
cooperation.

As an ancient Chinese saying goes, “A partnership forged with the right approach defies geographical distance; it is thicker than glue and stronger than metal and stone.” We owe the rapid development of BRICS cooperation to our adoption of a right approach. Guided by this approach, we have respected and supported each other in following the path of development suited to our respective national conditions; we have pushed forward economic, political and people-to-people cooperation in an open, inclusive and win-win spirit; and we have worked in unison with other emerging market and developing countries to uphold international justice and equity and foster a sound external environment.

Past progress shows that BRICS cooperation has met our common need for development and is in keeping with the trend of history. Though we have different national conditions, we share the commitment to pursuing development and prosperity through partnership. This has enabled us to rise above differences and seek win-win results.

As the world undergoes profound and complex changes, BRICS cooperation has become more important. Our people expect us to jointly boost development and improve their well-being. The international community expects us to make contribution to world peace and common development. We must redouble our efforts to comprehensively deepen BRICS partnership and usher in the second “Golden Decade” of BRICS cooperation.

First, we need to seek practical results in our economic cooperation. Results-oriented cooperation is the foundation of BRICS cooperation, and significant progress has been made in this regard. However, we have yet to fully tap the potential of BRICS cooperation. Statistics show that of the 197 billion US dollars of outbound investment we made in 2016, only 5.7% took place among our five countries. This means BRICS cooperation still has broad space.

We need to stay focused on promoting results-oriented economic cooperation, and expand converging interests in trade and investment, currency and finance, connectivity, sustainable development, innovation and industrial cooperation. This year, we have formulated the BRICS Trade in Services Cooperation Roadmap, the Outlines for BRICS Investment Facilitation, the BRICS E-Commerce Cooperation Initiative, the BRICS Action Plan for Innovation Cooperation and the Action Plan for Deepening Industrial Cooperation Among BRICS Countries. We have launched the African Regional Center of the New Development Bank (NDB), decided to set up the BRICS Model E-Port Network and reached extensive agreement on taxation, e-commerce, local currency bond, public-private partnership, and the
network of financial institutions and services. Our practical cooperation has become more institutionalized and substantive, and delivered more tangible results.

I wish to announce here that China will launch the Economic and Technical Cooperation Plan for BRICS Countries with 500 million yuan for the first term to facilitate policy exchange and practical cooperation in the economic and trade fields. China will work with all parties to follow through on the outcomes and consensus achieved in the past, and make good use of existing mechanisms. Together, we must seize the historic opportunities of the new industrial revolution, explore new areas and models of practical cooperation, and enhance our links to ensure sustained and steady progress of the BRICS cooperation mechanism.

Second, we need to strengthen the complementarity of our development strategies. Despite our differences in national conditions, our five countries are in a similar stage of development and share the same development goals. We all face an arduous task in growing the economy. Strengthening the complementarity of our development strategies will help bring out our comparative strengths in resources, market and labor force, and release the growth potential of the five countries and the creativity of our three billion people, opening up huge space for development.

We need to plan well at the macro level and take concrete actions in key areas. Acting in the spirit of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, we need to identify those areas where our development policies and priorities converge, and continue to work toward the goal of connectivity in trade and investment, currency and finance, and infrastructure. With a focus on structural reform and sustainable development, we need to expand our converging interests and share experience on innovation, entrepreneurship, industrial development and production capacity to boost our respective economic development. It is important to strike a balance between the speed of growth and the quality and efficiency of growth. By implementing the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, we have the opportunity to achieve balanced economic, social and environmental progress, and bring about interconnected and inclusive development.

Third, we need to make the international order more just and equitable. Our ever closer ties with the rest of the world require that we play a more active part in global governance. Without our participation, many pressing global challenges cannot be effectively resolved. We should speak with one voice and jointly present our solutions to issues concerning international peace and development. This meets the expectation of the international community, and will help safeguard our common interests.

We should remain committed to multilateralism and the basic norms governing international relations, work for a new type of international relations, and foster a peaceful and stable environment for the development of all countries. We need to make economic globalization open, inclusive, balanced and beneficial to all, build an open world economy, support the multilateral trading regime and oppose protectionism. We need to advance the reform of global economic governance, increase the representation and voice of emerging market and developing countries, and inject new impetus into the efforts to address the development gap between the North and South and boost global growth.

Fourth, we need to promote people-to-people exchanges. Amity between the people holds the key to sound state-to-state relations. Only with intensive care can the tree of friendship and cooperation grow luxuriant. Enhancing the exchanges among our peoples and seeing the spirit of partnership embraced by all is a worthy cause that deserves our enduring commitment. A job well done in this regard will keep BRICS cooperation vibrant.

We are pleased to note that the important consensus reached at the leadership level on closer people-to-people exchanges is being translated into reality. This year, people-to-people exchanges among our five countries have been in full swing, marked by the diverse activities of the BRICS Games, the BRICS Film Festival, the BRICS Culture Festival and the High-level Meeting on Traditional Medicine. We hope that through our joint efforts, these activities will take place regularly and be institutionalized. We need to expand our outreach to get the public more involved and encourage more lively exchanges of diverse cultures.

Dear Colleagues,

The past decade has seen the unremitting efforts of BRICS countries in pursuing development and deepening partnership. It is but a
beginning in the history of BRICS cooperation. As I said in my letters to you early this year, looking ahead, BRICS cooperation is set to achieve greater development and play an even bigger role in international affairs. Let us set sail from Xiamen and join hands to usher in the second “Golden Decade” of BRICS cooperation and deliver greater benefits to the people of our five countries and around the world.

Thank you.
Dear Friends,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

BRICS cooperation has now reached a crucial stage of development. In assessing its performance, it is important to bear two things in mind: the historical course of global development and evolving international landscape and the historical process of development of the BRICS countries, both individually and collectively, in the context of which BRICS cooperation is pursued.

We are in a great era of development, transformation and adjustment. Although conflict and poverty are yet to be eliminated globally, the trend toward peace and development has grown ever stronger. Our world today is becoming increasingly multipolar; the economy has become globalized; there is growing cultural diversity; and the society has become digitized. The law of the jungle where the strong prey on the weak and the zero-sum game are rejected, and peace, development and win-win cooperation have become the shared aspiration of all peoples.

Against such a backdrop, a large number of emerging market and developing countries have come to the fore, playing an ever greater role in international affairs. BRICS cooperation is a natural choice made by our five countries, as we all share a desire for peace and development. In the past decade, we BRICS countries have surged ahead and become a bright spot in the global economy.

-- The past decade has seen the BRICS countries making headway in pursuing common development. The sudden outbreak of the 2008 global financial crisis left the world economy reeling, which is yet to fully recover. Facing the external shock, our five countries have held the ground by strengthening the domestic economy, boosting growth and improving people’s livelihood. In the past ten years, our combined GDP has grown by 179%, trade by 94% and urban population by 28%. All this has contributed significantly to stabilizing the global economy and returning it to growth, and it has delivered tangible benefits to three billion and more people.

-- The past decade has seen the BRICS countries advancing results-oriented and mutually beneficial cooperation. Leveraging our respective strengths and converging interests, we have put in place a leaders-driven cooperation framework that covers wide-ranging areas and multiple levels. A number of cooperation projects have been launched that are in keeping with our five countries’ development strategies and meet the interests of our peoples.

In particular, the New Development Bank and the Contingent Reserve Arrangement have provided financing support for infrastructure building and sustainable development of the BRICS countries, contributing to enhanced global economic governance and the building of an international financial safety net.

-- The past decade has seen the BRICS countries endeavoring to fulfill their international responsibility. Committed to multilateralism, fairness and justice, our five countries have staked out our positions on major regional and international issues and made our proposals to address them. We have promoted reform of global economic governance to increase the representation and say of emerging market and developing countries. As a champion of development, we have taken the lead in implementing the Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goals, and engaged in close dialogue and cooperation with other developing countries to pursue development through unity.

As an old saying goes, the construction of a tall building starts with its foundation. We have laid the foundation and put in place the framework of BRICS cooperation. In reviewing the past progress of BRICS cooperation, I believe there are three important practices that should be carried forward.

First, treating each other as equals and seeking common ground while shelving differences. In terms of BRICS cooperation, decisions are made through consultation among us all, not by one country alone. We respect each other’s path and model of development, accommodate each other’s concerns and work to enhance strategic communication and political mutual trust. Given differences in national conditions, history and culture, it is only natural
it may have some differences in pursuing our cooperation. However, with strong faith in cooperation and commitment to enhancing trust, we can achieve steady progress in our cooperation.

Second, taking a results-oriented, innovative approach to make our cooperation benefit all. BRICS is not a talking shop, but a task force that gets things done. Our goal is to build a big market of trade and investment, promote smooth flow of currency and finance, improve connectivity of infrastructure and build close bond between the people. In pursuing this goal, our five countries are engaged in practical cooperation across the board, covering several dozen areas, including economy, trade, finance, science, technology, education, culture and health, thus giving concrete expression to the endeavor of building a new type of international relations featuring win-win cooperation.

Third, developing ourselves to help others with the well-being of the world in our mind. Having gone through an arduous course of development, we BRICS countries share the agony of those people who are still caught in chaos and poverty. Since the very beginning, our five countries have been guided by the principle of dialogue without confrontation, partnership without alliance. We are committed to observing the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, international law and basic norms governing international relations in conducting state-to-state relations. When developing ourselves, we are ready to share development opportunities with other countries. The philosophy of BRICS cooperation has gained growing appreciation and endorsement, and it has become a positive energy in the international community.

All this is what the BRICS spirit is about. It is the shared value that has bound us in the past decade's cooperation. This spirit, constantly enriched over the years, has not only benefited our peoples but also enabled us to make a difference in the world.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear Friends,

Reviewing past progress helps us forge ahead in the right direction. Currently, the global economy has resumed growth, with emerging market and developing countries delivering a strong performance. A new round of technological and industrial revolution is in the making, and reform and innovation are gaining momentum. We have enough reason to believe that our world will be a better place.

On the other hand, more than 700 million people are still living in hunger; tens of millions of people are displaced and become refugees; so many people, including innocent children, are killed in conflicts. The global economy is still not healthy enough and remains in a period of adjustment featuring weak growth, and new growth drivers are yet to emerge. Economic globalization is facing more uncertainties. Emerging market and developing countries find themselves in a more complex external environment. The long road to global peace and development will not be a smooth one.

Some people, seeing that emerging market and developing countries have experienced growth setbacks, assert that the BRICS countries are losing their luster. It is true that affected by complex internal and external environments, we BRICS countries have encountered headwinds of varying intensity. But the growth potential and trend of our countries remain unchanged, and we are fully confident about it.

It is time to set sail when the tide rises. Going forward, we BRICS countries have a major task to accomplish, which is growing our economies and strengthening cooperation. We should build on past success, chart the course for future cooperation and embark on a new journey to jointly usher in the second "Golden Decade" of BRICS cooperation.

First, we should boost BRICS cooperation to create new impetus for economic growth of our five countries. In recent years, thanks to our strengths in terms of commodities supply, cost of human resources and international market demand, our five countries have driven global growth. As our five economies continue to grow, however, issues concerning resources allocation and industrial structure have become more acute. At the same time, the global economic structure is going through profound changes, evidenced by shrinking global demand and rising financial risks. All this has posed challenges to the traditional strengths of the BRICS economies, taking us to a crucial stage where we must work harder to overcome difficulties.

How should we get through this stage? Growth rate alone is not the answer. Instead, we should, on the basis of our current conditions and bearing in mind the long-term goal, advance structural reform and explore new growth drivers and development paths. We should seize the opportunity presented by the new industrial revolution to promote growth and change growth model through innovation. We should pursue innovation-driven development created by smart manufacturing, the "Internet Plus" model, digital economy and sharing economy, stay ahead of the curve and move faster to replace old growth drivers with new ones. We should eliminate impediments to economic development through reform, remove systemic and institutional barriers, and energize the market and
the society, so as to achieve better quality, more resilient and sustainable growth.

Despite different national conditions, we BRICS countries are at a similar development stage and share the same development goals. We should jointly explore ways to boost innovation-driven growth. This requires us to improve macroeconomic policy coordination, synergize our respective development strategies, leverage our strengths in terms of industrial structure and resources endowment, and create value chains and a big market for shared interests, so as to achieve interconnected development. Basing ourselves on our own practices of reform and innovation, we should blaze a new path which may also help other emerging market and developing countries to seize opportunities and meet challenges.

Economic cooperation is the foundation of the BRICS mechanism. With this focus in mind, we should implement the Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership, institutionalize and substantiate cooperation in various sectors, and continue to enhance the performance of BRICS cooperation. This year, we have made progress in the operation of the New Development Bank and Contingent Reserve Arrangement, and in e-commerce, trade and investment facilitation, trade in services, local currency bond issuance, scientific and technological innovation, industrial cooperation and public-private partnership, thus expanding and intensifying economic cooperation. We should continue to implement agreements and consensus already reached and better leverage the role of current mechanisms. We should also actively explore new ways and new areas of practical cooperation and strengthen our ties to ensure durable and fruitful BRICS cooperation.

Secondly, we BRICS countries should shoulder our responsibilities to uphold global peace and stability. Peace and development underpin and reinforce each other. People around the world want peace and cooperation, not conflict or confrontation. Thanks to the joint efforts of all countries, global peace has reigned for more than half a century. However, incessant conflicts in some parts of the world and hotspot issues are posing challenges to world peace. The intertwined threats of terrorism and lack of cybersecurity, among others, have cast a dark shadow over the world.

We BRICS countries are committed to upholding global peace and contributing to the international security order. This year, we have held the Meeting of High Representatives for Security Issues and the Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs/International Relations. We have put in place the regular meeting mechanism for our permanent representatives to the multilateral institutions, and convened the Foreign Policy Planning Dialogue, the Meeting of Counter-Terrorism Working Group, the Meeting of Cybersecurity Working Group, and the Consultation on Peacekeeping Operations. These efforts aim to strengthen consultation and coordination on major international and regional issues and build synergy among the BRICS countries. We should uphold the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and basic norms governing international relations, firmly support multilateralism, work for greater democracy in international relations, and oppose hegemonism and power politics. We should foster the vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, and take a constructive part in the process of resolving geopolitical hotspot issues and make our due contributions.

I am convinced that as long as we take a holistic approach to fighting terrorism in all its forms, and address both its symptoms and root causes, terrorists will have no place to hide. When dialogue, consultation and negotiation are conducted to create conditions for achieving political settlement of issues such as Syria, Libya and the Palestine-Israel conflict, the flame of war can be put out, and displaced refugees will eventually return to their homes.

Thirdly, we BRICS countries should contribute to enhancing global economic governance. Only openness delivers progress, and only inclusiveness sustains such progress. Due to sluggish global growth in recent years, such issues as uneven development, inadequate governance and deficit of fairness have become more acute, and protectionism and inward-looking mentality are on the rise. The global economy and global economic governance system, having entered a period of adjustment, face new challenges.

We should not ignore problems arising from economic globalization or just complain about them. Rather, we should make joint efforts to find solutions. We should work together with other members of the international community to step up dialogue, coordination and cooperation and contribute to upholding and securing global economic stability and growth. To this end, we should promote the building of an open global economy, advance trade and investment liberalization and facilitation, jointly build new global value chains, and rebalance economic globalization. Doing so will bring benefits to people across the world. We five countries should open more to each other, expand converging interests in this process, take an inclusive approach and share opportunities, so as to create even brighter prospects for growing the economies of the five countries.
The development of emerging market and developing countries is not intended to move the cheese of anyone but to make the pie of the global economy bigger. We should join hands to steer the course of economic globalization, offer more vision and public goods, make the governance model and rules more balanced and inclusive, and improve and reshape international division of labor and global value chains. We should work to reform the global economic governance system to make it commensurate with the reality of the global economic architecture. We should also improve governance rules for the new domains of deep sea, polar regions, outer space and cyberspace, so as to ensure that all countries share both rights and responsibilities.

Fourthly, we should increase the influence of BRICS and build extensive partnerships. As a cooperation platform with global influence, BRICS cooperation is more than about our five countries. Rather, it carries the expectations of emerging market and developing countries and indeed the international community. Guided by the principle of open and inclusive cooperation, we BRICS countries place high premium on cooperation with other emerging market and developing countries and have established effective dialogue mechanisms with them.

As a Chinese saying goes, "It is easy to break one arrow but hard to break ten arrows bundled together." We should leverage our respective strengths and influence, promote South-South cooperation and North-South dialogue, pool the collective strengths of all countries and jointly defuse risks and meet challenges. We should expand the coverage of BRICS cooperation and deliver its benefits to more people. We should promote the "BRICS Plus" cooperation approach and build an open and diversified network of development partnerships to get more emerging market and developing countries involved in our concerted endeavors for cooperation and mutual benefits.

During the Xiamen Summit, China will hold the Dialogue of Emerging Market and Developing Countries, where leaders of five countries from different regions will be invited to join the BRICS leaders in discussing global development cooperation and South-South cooperation as well as the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Mutual understanding and friendship among peoples are crucial to enhancing BRICS cooperation and building extensive partnerships. We should fully leverage the role of people-to-people and cultural exchanges and encourage extensive public participation in BRICS cooperation. We should hold more events like cultural festivals, movie festivals and sports games that are popular among the people so that the BRICS story will be told everywhere and the exchanges and friendship of the peoples of our five countries will become an inexhaustible source of strength driving BRICS cooperation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear Friends,

The past decade has not only seen solid progress in the BRICS cooperation mechanism; it has also witnessed the unfolding of all-round reform and opening up in China and its rapid economic and social development. Over these ten years, China's economic aggregate has grown by 239% and its total volume of exports and imports in goods risen by 73%. China has become the world's second largest economy, the lives of its 1.3 billion-plus people have been significantly improved, and China has made increasingly greater contribution to both regional and global economic development.

It is true that as China's reform endeavors have entered a crucial stage where tough challenges must be met, some underlying difficulties and problems have surfaced, which must be addressed with resolve and determination. As a Chinese saying goes, "Effective medicine tastes bitter." The medicine that we have prescribed for ourselves is to carry out all-round reform. Over the past five years, we have adopted over 1,500 reform measures covering all sectors, with breakthroughs made in multiple areas, and the reform is being pursued with greater intensity. The pace of economic structural adjustment and industrial upgrading has accelerated. China's economy has maintained steady and sound performance, and new drivers sustaining development have grown in strength. In the first half of this year, China's economy grew by 6.9%, the value added from services accounted for 54.1% of the GDP, and 7.35 million urban jobs were created. All these achievements have proven that deepening all-round reform is the right path that we should continue to follow.

Going forward, China will continue to put into practice the vision of innovative, coordinated, green, open and inclusive development. We will adapt to and steer the new normal of economic development, push forward supply-side structural reform, accelerate the building of a new system for an open economy, drive economic development with innovation, and achieve sustainable development. China will stay firmly committed to peaceful development and make even greater contribution to global peace and development.

Last May, China successfully hosted the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, which was attended by 29 heads of state or government and over 1,600 representatives from more than 140
countries and 80-plus international organizations. This ushered in a new stage of translating the Belt and Road Initiative from vision to action and from planning to implementation. Forum participants discussed ways of promoting cooperation and development and reached broad consensus. Let me make this clear: The Belt and Road Initiative is not a tool to advance any geopolitical agenda, but a platform for practical cooperation. It is not a foreign aid scheme, but an initiative for interconnected development which calls for extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits. I am convinced that the Belt and Road Initiative will serve as a new platform for all countries to achieve win-win cooperation and that it will create new opportunities for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The business community of the BRICS countries is the main force driving our economic development. Over the last decade, you have incorporated business development into BRICS cooperation, thus making important contribution to forging BRICS economic partnerships. The reason why we are holding the Business Forum on the eve of the Summit is to solicit your views and advice, so that we can work together to make the Xiamen Summit a success and enable BRICS cooperation to deliver. I hope you will leverage your strengths in terms of information, technology and funding to launch more practical and mutually beneficial cooperation projects that benefit our countries and peoples. What you do will help spur economic and social development and improve people's lives. The Chinese government will continue to encourage Chinese companies to operate and take root in other countries, and likewise, we also warmly welcome foreign companies to invest and operate in China.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear Friends,

We BRICS countries will enter a second decade of more vibrant growth. Let us work together with other members of the international community. Let our cooperation deliver more benefits to the peoples of our five countries. Let the benefits of global peace and development reach all the people in the world.

In conclusion, I wish the Business Forum every success.

Thank you!

XI JINPING ATTENDS DIALOGUE BETWEEN LEADERS OF BRICS COUNTRIES AND BRICS BUSINESS COUNCIL AND OPENING CEREMONY OF THE BRICS CULTURAL FESTIVAL AND PHOTO EXHIBITION

On September 4, 2017, President Xi Jinping attended and addressed the Dialogue between Leaders of BRICS Countries and the BRICS Business Council in Xiamen. President Michel Temer of Brazil, President Vladimir Putin of Russia, Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India and President Jacob Zuma of South Africa attended the dialogue.

After listening to the work report presented by the representatives of the Business Council and the New Development Bank (NDB), Xi Jinping pointed out that it is pleased to see the fact that the Business Council and the NDB have made significant achievements. The Business Council has carried out a lot of works in the fields of e-commerce, technical development, standard setting, the experience sharing in digital economy and other aspects, receiving sound results. The NDB has pressed ahead the implementation of new projects steadily, with the recent opening of its African regional center, work beginning on its headquarters, and constant progress in business
First, promote BRICS countries to achieve mutual benefit and win-win results. We need to give play to respective advantages and lead business and financial circles to transform the leaders' common ground into concrete action, implement Strategy for the BRICS Economic Partnership and tighten interest bond, so as to achieve common development.

Second, help BRICS countries to realize economic development. We need to follow the latest technological and industrial revolutions, try at first to open up space for the economic development of BRICS countries, and inject new impetus into it. We should comply with the general situation of economic globalization and deepen cooperation with enterprises from other countries, in a bid to drive common development of emerging market economies and developing countries.

Third, boost people-to-people bonds among BRICS countries. During the process of advancing practical cooperation, we should not only pursue economic benefits, but focus on social benefits, so as to make BRICS cooperation benefit peoples and consolidate the public opinion foundation.

At last, Xi Jinping pointed out that on the occasion of ushering in a new decade of BRICS cooperation, I wish the Business Council and the NDB could unite all efforts to make new contributions to a better future of BRICS cooperation.

Other BRICS leaders also spoke...

About 300 people, including members of the BRICS Business Council, representatives from business circle and NDB President attended the dialogue.

In the end, representatives of the Business Council of all BRICS countries presented the BRICS Business Council Annual Report to respective leaders.

After the dialogue, leaders of BRICS countries witnessed the signing of four cooperation documents, namely BRICS Action Agenda on Economic and Trade Cooperation, BRICS Action Plan for Innovation Cooperation, Strategic Framework of BRICS Customs Cooperation, and Memorandum of Understanding between the BRICS Business Council and the New Development Bank on Strategic Cooperation.

About 300 people, including members of the BRICS Business Council, representatives from business circle and NDB President attended the dialogue.

On the same day, leaders of BRICS countries jointly attended the opening ceremony of the BRICS Cultural Festival and Photo Exhibition. Xi Jinping and the leaders of other BRICS countries pressed the seal on respective seal pillars, and the images of BRICS countries' Chinese seal-cutting names were simultaneously displayed on the screen in front of them. All leaders jointly initiated the opening ceremony of the BRICS Cultural Festival. Later on, leaders of the five countries visited the BRICS Cultural Festival and Photo Exhibition, and watched the trailer of "Where Has Time Gone", the first film co-produced by BRICS countries.

Wang Huning, Li Zhanshu, Yang Jiechi and others attended above activities.
XI JINPING AND PENG LIYUAN WELCOME LEADERS AND THEIR SPOUSES, GUESTS FROM BRICS AND COUNTRIES INVITED BY DIALOGUE BETWEEN EMERGING MARKET ECONOMIES AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

On September 4, 2017, President Xi Jinping and his wife Mme. Peng Liyuan held a banquet at the Xiamen International Convention Center, welcoming leaders and their spouses, guests from BRICS and countries invited by the Dialogue between Emerging Market Economies and Developing Countries.

Xiamen embraces sea breeze and pleasant shade of emerald trees in early September. National flags are fluttering in the wind and flowers are blossoming eagerly to wait for the arrival of friends and distinguished guests coming from afar in front of the Xiamen International Convention Center, which is located along the coast of East China Sea.

At around 6:25 p.m., leaders and their spouses from BRICS and countries invited by the Dialogue between Emerging Market Economies and Developing Countries arrived on the scene one after another. Xi Jinping and Mme.
Peng Liyuan shook hands with the guests one by one and exchanged greetings. Xi Jinping and Mme. Peng Liyuan posed for a group photo with leaders and their spouses in front of the colossal ink painting “World Cultural Heritage Gulangyu”.

In the banquet hall were bright lights and houseful of guests of exalted ranks. In the cheerful music of welcoming guests, Xi Jinping and Mme. Peng Liyuan walked into the banquet hall together with distinguished guests.

Xi Jinping delivered a speech to warmly welcome the arrival of all the leaders and guests on behalf of the Chinese government and Chinese people. Xi Jinping pointed out that Xiamen is a modern and international metropolis, with prosperous economy, people living in peaceful and happy life and with close foreign exchanges. It is a window for China’s opening up and a land of innovation and development. Today, leaders of BRICS invited for the Dialogue between BRICS countries, emerging market economies and developing countries gathered in Xiamen for joint discussion on cooperation, leaving the city of glamour with new stories.

Xi Jinping pointed out that the emerging market economies and developing countries own great, diligent and intelligent people, have a good vision of getting rid of poverty and backwardness and living a happy life, and possess the relentless pursuit for justice, fairness, peace and development. Although we are thousands miles apart, the common dream and pursuit will make us good friends and partners. For emerging market economies and developing countries, as long as we share the same aspiration, work in concerted efforts, help and defense for each other and walk hand in hand, a development miracle of “turning soil to gold” will be achieved, and our peoples will enjoy a good living with ample food and clothing.

Xi Jinping stressed that today, the BRICS Xiamen Summit successfully convened in Xiamen, yielding fruitful achievements. Tomorrow, we will also hold a Dialogue between emerging market economies and developing countries to discuss on the plans of international development and cooperation. It is hoped that the Xiamen Summit could open a new door for cooperation and
enthusiastic love to the motherland. The dance “Huian Women’s style” showed the scene filled with great fun and joy of harvest in the fishing village of Fujian Province and China’s intangible cultural heritage-foot-pressing drum created the cheerful unique rhythms and vocals. “Birds Flying Back to Nests” of Nanyin (Chord of Quanzhou, a kind of ancient Chinese music), depicted the scene of birds flying and frolicking, which symbolizes auspiciousness, blessing, happiness and well-being. The dance showing the traditional wedding of the She ethnic minority was cheerful and warm. Under the moonlight, the children whispered to sing the nursery rhymes “Moon and Moonlight” of southern Fujian to lit the red lanterns of blessing. The aria “No One Sleeps Tonight” expressed people’s longing and hope for happiness. The performance party ended in the beautiful melody of the song “Sailing to the Future”, which can well demonstrate our wish: let us join our hands together in Xiamen to usher in a new “Golden Decade” of BRICS cooperation. The performance party is composed of five chapters, namely “Sea Wind”, “Sea Sky”, “Sea Rhyme”, “Sea Tide” and “Sea Dream”. The ingenious idea, dreamy light and shadow, and wonderful performance made it an audiovisual feast, and gained constant influxes of applause in the course.

Wang Huning, Li Zhanshu, Yang Jiechi and others attended above activities.

On September 5, 2017, President Xi Jinping chaired the Dialogue of Emerging Market and Developing Countries at Xiamen International Conference Center and delivered an important speech, stressing that all parties need to work more closely to build an open world economy, implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, seize the historic opportunities of world economic restructuring, build extensive development partnerships, and blaze a new path to development that is fair, open, comprehensive and innovative, so as to make greater contribution to world economic growth.

Leaders of BRICS countries including President Michel Temer of Brazil, President Vladimir Putin of Russia, Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India and President Jacob Zuma of South Africa as well as state leaders of countries invited for the Dialogue including President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi of Egypt, President
At around 10:10 a.m., Xi Jinping announced the opening of the meeting.

Later on, Xi Jinping delivered an important speech under the theme of Strengthening Mutually-Beneficial Cooperation for Common Development and taking the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as the mainline, leaders of all countries exchanged in-depth views on implementing the Agenda for Sustainable Development and building extensive development partnerships, and jointly discussed the major plans for international development cooperation and South-South cooperation, reaching important consensus.

Xi Jinping pointed out that since we entered the 21st century, the collective rise of emerging market and developing countries has become an irreversible trend of our times. Given the new circumstances, emerging market and developing countries need to pull together and work hand in hand more confidently to foster a favorable environment for greater development, and make bigger contribution to global growth.

First, we need to work more closely to build an open world economy. We need to support the multilateral trading regime and rebalance economic globalization to make it more inclusive and equitable. We need to strengthen coordination...
on positions, work toward a positive outcome at the upcoming 11th WTO Ministerial Conference, make progress on the remaining items of the Doha Development Round, and provide direction to the multilateral trading regime. We need to promote greater representation and voice of emerging market and developing countries in global economic governance, and foster an international economic order that is fairer and more equitable.

Second, we need to work more closely to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We need to implement our national development strategies in the context of the Sustainable Development Agenda and in light of our respective national conditions. This will help us find a path of sustainable development featuring coordinated economic, social and ecological progress. We need to better leverage the role of the United Nations, and accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Agenda. We need to urge developed countries to honor their commitments, to observe such principles as common but differentiated responsibilities, and to increase support to developing countries. As the United Nations is considering reform of its development system, we need to ensure that the reform will focus on development and bring more input to truly serve the need of developing countries.

Third, we need to work more closely to seize the historic opportunities of world economic restructuring. We must take bold steps of innovation and reform, press ahead with economic structural adjustment, and invigorate domestic drivers for growth. At the same time, we must formulate our social policy in a way that meets people’s basic needs and work all out to ensure a better life for our people. We need to enhance the alignment of our development strategies, and strengthen cooperation in best practices sharing and capacity-building as a way to support each other’s pursuit of economic development.

Fourth, we need to work more closely to build extensive development partnerships. As a Chinese saying goes, "A single flower does not herald spring; a single wild goose cannot make a formation." By deepening practical cooperation and tapping into complementarity, we can multiply the impact. We need to make good use of BRICS, G77 and other similar mechanisms, broaden South-South cooperation on a larger scale, and jointly address global challenges. We also need to forge chains of interconnected development and seek strength through unity. The purpose of holding the Dialogue of emerging market and developing countries by China is to foster a network of partnerships and to build a community of common development and shared future.

Xi Jinping noted that China attaches great importance to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and has attained early harvests on economic, social, environmental and many other fronts. In order to promote international development cooperation, China will actively help...
Let us work together to blaze a new path to development that is fair, open, comprehensive and innovative.

Afterwards, leaders of other BRICS countries and leaders of countries invited for the Dialogue delivered speeches respectively. Commending the Dialogue of Emerging Market and Developing Countries held by China as the rotating presidency of BRICS, all leaders supported to build extensive development partnerships, and hoped to continue to conduct this kind of dialogue, in a bid to advance South-South cooperation and international development cooperation. All parties highly spoke of the positive significance of the joint construction of the Belt and Road Initiative to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

At last, Xi Jinping made a summary of the meeting. He pointed out that the meeting today is fairly successful, during which leaders of all countries reached important consensus. All parties unanimously stressed that it is of great significance to strengthen unity and cooperation among emerging market and developing countries given the new situation. All parties agreed to hold high the banner of development, comprehensively implement the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, support the UN’s central role, and create a sound development environment. All parties agreed to deepen South-South cooperation and build more extensive development partnerships.

After the Dialogue, the Chinese side issued the Presidential Statement, introducing the principles and consensus reached at the meeting, showing the confidence and determination of all parties to implement the Agenda for Sustainable Development, and sending positive signals of unity and cooperation among emerging market and developing countries.

Before the Dialogue, Xi Jinping took a group photo with leaders of all countries present.

Wang Huning, Li Zhanshu, Yang Jiechi and others attended the Dialogue.

XI JINPING MEETS WITH CHINESE AND FOREIGN JOURNALISTS

On September 5, 2017, President Xi Jinping met with Chinese and foreign journalists at Xiamen International Conference Center, briefing on the ninth BRICS Xiamen Summit and the Dialogue of Emerging Market and Developing Countries.

Xi Jinping pointed out that the BRICS Xiamen Summit successfully concluded yesterday. The summit adopted BRICS Leaders Xiamen Declaration, reiterated the BRICS spirit of openness, inclusiveness, and win-win cooperation, comprehensively summed up the successful experience gained from the first decade of BRICS cooperation, and mapped out new blueprints for strengthening BRICS partnership and deepening practical cooperation in various fields. Leaders of the five countries believed that BRICS countries should deepen communication and coordination in major issues, safeguard the basic norms governing international relations, cooperate to cope with various global challenges, and speed up the reform on global economic governance. BRICS countries should strengthen macro policy coordination, integrate development strategies, deepen political security
cooperation, enhance strategic mutual trust, and make people-to-people and cultural exchanges activities take place regularly and be institutionalized to deepen understanding and friendship among peoples of the five countries. BRICS countries should keep pace with the times and enhance BRICS mechanism construction to provide solid guarantee for in-depth and practical cooperation in various fields. Leaders of all countries determined to take the Xiamen Summit as a new beginning to jointly forge a closer, more extensive and comprehensive strategic partnership to usher in the second “golden decade” of BRICS cooperation.

Xi Jinping pointed out that during the summit, China held the Dialogue of Emerging Market and Developing Countries. Leaders of BRICS countries, Egypt, Mexico, Thailand, Tajikistan and Guinea discussed together the undertakings of international development cooperation, agreed to establish extensive development partnerships and speed up the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and send out a strong signal of deepening South-South cooperation and global development cooperation. Leaders of all countries agreed to forge the “BRICS Plus” cooperation pattern, jointly walk out a sustainable development road featuring innovation, coordination, green, openness and sharing, and inject more positive energy into the world economic growth and common development of various countries.

Xi Jinping noted that South Africa will take over BRICS presidency and hold the tenth BRICS Summit in Johannesburg next year. The Chinese side is willing to, together with all parties, spare no efforts in supporting South Africa to hold the summit, and jointly push forward BRICS cooperation for continuous development. It is believed that through the joint efforts of various countries and all circles, the prospect of BRICS cooperation will surely be brighter, and the future of BRICS countries will surely be better.

Wang Huning, Li Zhanshu, Yang Jiechi and others attended the press conference.
On September 3, 2017, President Xi Jinping met with President Vladimir Putin of Russia in Xiamen.

Xi Jinping welcomed Vladimir Putin to attend the ninth BRICS Xiamen Summit and the Dialogue between Emerging Market Economies and Developing Countries in China. Xi Jinping stressed that during my visit to Russia this July, Mr. President and I reached important consensus on deepening China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination. All departments of both countries are comprehensively implementing the consensus reached by the two heads of state and pushing forward cooperation in various fields for new outcomes. Both sides should consolidate the already established high-level political mutual trust, firmly increase mutual support, and enhance strategic coordination. Both sides should make use of bilateral cooperation mechanisms, implement cooperation projects in such major fields as energy, aviation and aerospace, and nuclear power, actively advance the docking cooperation between the "Belt and Road" construction and the Eurasian Economic Union, speed up and carry out the alignment in connectivity and other projects, so as to promote common development in neighboring regions of the two countries. Both sides should intensify people-to-people and cultural and local exchanges, strengthen mutual understanding and friendship between the two peoples, enhance exchanges and cooperation between the two militaries, and intensify coordination and cooperation in international multilateral occasions. The Chinese side is willing to make
Vladimir Putin expressed that Russia-China relations continue to show a positive development momentum. The two countries maintain close high-level exchanges, and it is fairly important to enhance bilateral comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination and deepen bilateral communication and coordination in major international and regional issues. The Russian side stands ready to, together with China, deepen cooperation in such fields as investment, energy, agriculture, infrastructure, aviation and aerospace, strengthen exchanges in culture, education, sports, media, tourism and locality, and intensify joint efforts with Russia to elevate bilateral relations to new and higher levels, assist respective development and renewal, and jointly safeguard regional and world peace and stability.

Xi Jinping pointed out that under the current circumstance, strengthening BRICS cooperation and making it play a greater role in international affairs not only conform to the common interests of the BRICS countries but also are the expectation of the international community, particularly the emerging market economies and developing countries. We should consolidate unity and cooperation, send out positive signals, and focus on the overall situation of cooperation to plan the direction and emphasis of BRICS cooperation. We should strengthen coordination and cooperation, elevate the influence in international affairs, and improve mechanism construction, so as to push for the stable and continuous development of BRICS cooperation. The Chinese side is willing to, together with BRICS countries including Russia, push forward the Xiamen Summit for fruitful outcomes, well carry out the follow-up implementation of the outcomes, and spare no efforts to push forward the in-depth and practical development of BRICS cooperation, in a bid to usher in the second "golden decade" of BRICS cooperation.

Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin also exchanged in-depth views on international and regional issues of common concern, agreeing to stick to the goal of denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, intensify communication and coordination, and properly handle the latest situation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's nuclear test once again.

After the meeting, the two heads of state jointly visited the exhibition on intangible cultural heritage originated from southern Fujian.

Wang Huning, Li Zhanshu, Yang Jiechi and others attended above activities.
XI JINPING HOLDS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT EMOMALI RAHMON OF TAJIKISTAN

- The Two Heads of State Agree to Establish China-Tajikistan Comprehensive Strategic Partnership

On August 31, 2017, President Xi Jinping held talks at the Great Hall of the People with President Emomali Rahmon of Tajikistan, who was in China for the state visit and the Dialogue between Emerging Market Economies and Developing Countries. The two heads of state agreed to establish China-Tajikistan comprehensive strategic partnership to push bilateral relations for greater development at a new historical starting point.

Xi Jinping pointed out that China
and Tajikistan are intimate and friendly neighboring countries as well as strategic partners with high mutual trust. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations 25 years ago, both countries have always respected, understood and supported each other, making the development of bilateral relations achieve fruitful results. Bilateral high-level exchanges, political mutual trust and practical cooperation have reached an unprecedented high level since the establishment of strategic partnership between both countries in 2013. China is willing to, together with Tajikistan, take the advancement of bilateral relations to a comprehensive strategic partnership as an opportunity, so as to boost bilateral relations for in-depth development.

Xi Jinping stressed that China highly admires Tajikistan for actively supporting the "Belt and Road" initiative from the very beginning. Both sides should promote the in-depth docking of the "Belt and Road" construction with Tajikistan’s national development strategy for the period up to 2030, well implement the planning outline of bilateral cooperation, and enhance cooperation in transportation, energy, ports and network infrastructure construction to build an all-round connectivity pattern. The two sides need to forge new cooperative growth points, enhance agricultural cooperation, deepen production capacity cooperation and support scientific and technical innovation and communication. Both sides should strengthen economic and trade cooperation. China supports Tajikistan to build cooperative links with Chinese financial institutions, the Silk Road Fund and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, and is ready to work with Tajikistan to promote trade and investment facilitation. As countries with ancient civilizations along the Silk Road, China and Tajikistan should strengthen exchanges and cooperation in culture, education and youth, and consolidate the public opinion foundation of bilateral friendship.

Xi Jinping pointed out that the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) has played an important role in safeguarding regional stability and prosperity since its establishment 16 years ago. As rotating presidency of the SCO, China stands ready to closely coordinate with Tajikistan to jointly elevate SCO’s cooperation in politics, security, economy, people-to-people and cultural exchanges, external exchanges and mechanism construction to new stages. In the next stage, the SCO members should intensify security cooperation, promote connectivity and trade facilitation progress, gradually foster an integrated development pattern in the region, boost people-to-people and cultural exchanges and deepen mutual understanding and friendship among people of all countries.

Emomali Rahmon expressed that China is a good neighbor, good partner and good brother of Tajikistan. Bilateral relations have achieved long-term development and both sides have established close relations in all areas including politics, economy, and people-to-people and cultural exchanges since the establishment of diplomatic relations 25 years ago. Both countries have developed fruitful economic and trade investment cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. Tajikistan actively supports cooperation in the Silk Road Economic Belt construction, and is willing to work with China to deeply tap bilateral cooperative potential, and expand cooperation in such fields as finance, agriculture, water conservancy, production capacity, energy, mining, scientific and technological parks and transportation connectivity. Tajikistan attaches importance to cementing communication in education, culture, youth and local affairs with China, and is ready to enhance coordination on regional and international issues as well as cooperation in law enforcement and security between the two countries. Tajikistan will give full support to China to well perform its duty as the rotating presidency of the SCO.

After the talks, the two heads of state jointly signed and issued the Joint Statement on Establishing Comprehensive Strategic Partnership Between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Tajikistan, and witnessed the signing of more than ten cooperation documents, including the China-Tajikistan Cooperation Action Plan, and agreements on science, technology, agriculture, energy, infrastructure, human resources, locality and media.

Before the talks, Xi Jinping held a welcoming ceremony for Emomali Rahmon at the square outside the East Gate of the Great Hall of the People. Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and Director of the Policy Research Office of the CPC Central Committee Wang Huning, Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, Member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee and Director of the General Office of the CPC Central Committee Li Zhanshu, Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of National People's Congress Qiangba Puncog, State Councilor Yang Jiechi, Vice Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Lin Wenyi and others were present.
On September 1, 2017, President Xi Jinping held talks at the Great Hall of the People with President Michel Temer of Brazil, who was in China for a state visit, as well as the BRICS Xiamen Summit and the Dialogue between Emerging Market Economies and Developing Countries. The two heads of state agreed to deepen the traditional friendship between China and Brazil and advance China-Brazil comprehensive strategic partnership for new and greater development.

Xi Jinping pointed out that as the largest developing respectively in eastern and western hemispheres, China and Brazil are important emerging market economies. China-Brazil relations represent the relationship between major developing countries featuring maturity and soundness. Over the past year, cooperation between China and Brazil has achieved steady progress, with the "troika" of trade, investment, and finance achieving good development. Bilateral cooperation mechanisms have been operated smoothly and the two sides
have maintained productive communication and coordination in BRICS cooperation and major global hot issues.

Xi Jinping emphasized that China has been viewing and developing its relationship with Brazil from a strategic and overall perspective all the time. China appreciates Brazil for its consistent adherence to the one-China policy and stands ready to work with Brazil to continuously render mutual understanding and support on issues involving each other’s core interests and major concerns. The two sides should give play to such mechanisms as the Brazil-China High-level Coordination and Cooperation Committee, promote exchanges and cooperation in various fields in a coordinated manner, actively probe into the docking of the "Belt and Road" initiative with the Investment Partnerships Program and the Advance Plan of Brazil, and promote regional connectivity and interconnected development. Both sides should put forward unimpeded trade, promote the sustained and stable growth of bilateral trade, deepen innovation cooperation in such fields as infrastructure construction, manufacturing, agriculture, mining industry, energy, production capacity, and science and technology, and expand exchanges and cooperation in culture, media, tourism, sports, and other fields. Both sides should also further intensify cooperation within such multilateral frameworks as the UN, the G20, the BASIC countries and the World Trade Organization (WTO), and conduct coordination and collaboration on major international issues such as global economic governance and sustainable development.

Xi Jinping pointed out that over the past decade, the BRICS countries have opened up a new path featuring equality, mutual benefit, and win-win cooperation, and achieved a batch of tangible results. China is willing to work with Brazil to promote the "three-wheel drive" of economic cooperation, political security and people-to-people and cultural exchanges among the BRICS countries, thus initiating the second "golden decade" of BRICS cooperation.

Xi Jinping stressed that China firmly supports the Latin America to unite for self-development and revitalization, and is committed to constructing a community of common destiny for China and Latin America of joint development. Taking an active and open attitude towards cooperation with the South American Common Market, China is willing to improve the level of cooperation between China and the South American Common Market.

Michel Temer expressed that Brazil and China enjoy close friendship. Brazil attaches great importance to developing bilateral comprehensive strategic partnership as Brazil is a reliable partner of China. Brazil is willing to, while pursuing development in its national reform, strengthen mutually beneficial cooperation with China in such sectors as trade, investment, finance, and agriculture in an all-round manner, and expand exchanges with China in people-to-people and cultural engagement, tourism and sports, so as to enhance the understanding and friendship between the two peoples. Both Brazil and China share similar stances under such multilateral frameworks as the UN, the G20 and the WTO, and keep close communication and coordination in global issues such as climate change and development. Brazil will provide China with full support in holding the BRICS Xiamen Summit successfully, and stands ready to work with China to enhance solidarity and cooperation among the BRICS countries and other developing countries.

After the talks, the two heads of state jointly witnessed the signing of more than 10 bilateral cooperation documents in production capacity, e-commerce, quality inspection, electricity, tourism, health, financing, culture, sports, and other fields.

Before the talks, Xi Jinping held a welcome ceremony for Michel Temer at the square outside the East Gate of the Great Hall of the People. Wang Huning, Li Zhanshu, Vice-Chairmen of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress Wang Chen, Yang Jiechi, and Vice-Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference Zhang Qingshui attended the ceremony.
momentum with bilateral relations at the best level in history. China stands ready to reinforce coordination and cooperation with South Africa to constantly enrich the connotation of bilateral comprehensive strategic partnership with more cooperation achievements, so as to realize common development and progress.

Xi Jinping stressed that at present, China-South Africa overall friendly cooperation has achieved positive progress, with practical cooperation being advanced smoothly. In the next step, China is willing to, together with South Africa, actively implement the initiative of jointly constructing the “Belt and Road” and the outcomes of the Johannesburg Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) and comprehensively deepen bilateral cooperation in various fields in a bid to elevate China-South Africa relation to new highs. Both sides should continuously understand and support each other on issues concerning respective core interests and major concerns and cement bilateral high-level political mutual trust. Major bilateral cooperation consensus should be earnestly implemented and cooperation in maritime economy, production capacity and other aspects should be advanced with coordination. The two countries should enhance exchanges and cooperation in culture, science and technology, health, tourism, youth, women, media and other sectors, well host people-to-people and cultural exchanges and celebration activities marking the 20th anniversary of the establishment of China-South Africa diplomatic relations next year, and strengthen coordination and collaboration in international and regional organizations such as BRICS, the G20, the UN and African Union. China supports African countries’ efforts in enhancing their capacity building in peacekeeping. China and South Africa have always maintained close communication and cooperation under the BRICS framework, and China will closely collaborate with South Africa at the time when South Africa takes over the presidency of BRICS next year.

Xi Jinping stressed that China
and Africa are a community of shared future featuring common interests and challenges as well as a community of common interests with win-win cooperation. No matter how the international situation changes, China will be committed to realizing win-win cooperation with Africa, and China's resolution for common development and China's support to the cause of peace and development in Africa remain firm and unshakable. China stands ready to make concerted efforts with African countries in better combining the implementation of the joint construction of the “Belt and Road” initiative and China-Africa Ten Major Cooperation Plans set forth at the FOCAC Johannesburg Summit together with Africa’s 2063 Agenda so as to promote the common development of China and South Africa.

Jacob Zuma expressed gratitude to China for the outstanding preparation for the BRICS Summit. South Africa-China comprehensive strategic partnership is robust and vigorous. The framework of bilateral cooperation has been implemented smoothly, with bilateral cooperation mechanism yielding significant achievements and bilateral exchanges and cooperation in economy, trade, investment, infrastructure, people-to-people and cultural engagement and other sectors achieving positive outcomes. South Africa and China have always kept close communication and coordination in multilateral affairs. The country stands ready to take the implementation of the outcomes of the FOCAC Johannesburg Summit as an opportunity to deepen mutually beneficial cooperation between South Africa and China as well as between African countries and China. South Africa is willing to support each other with China in well hosting the BRICS Summit this year and next year.

Wang Huning, Li Zhanshu, Yang Jiechi and others attended the meeting.

**XI JINPING HOLDS TALKS WITH SULTAN HAJI HASSANAL BOLKIAH OF BRUNEI**

- The Two Heads of State Jointly Map out Future Cooperation Between the Two Countries and Promote China-Brunei Relations for Greater Development in the New Era

On September 13, 2017, President Xi Jinping held talks at the Great Hall of the People with Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah of Brunei. The two heads of state agreed to jointly well map out the future cooperation between the two countries and promote China-Brunei relations for greater development in the new era, so as to better benefit the two peoples.

Xi Jinping pointed out that China and Brunei are neighboring countries across the sea and friends and partners with mutual trust. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations, the two countries has transcended the differences in national conditions and social systems, established strategic cooperative relations, constantly deepened political mutual trust and made prominent achievements from mutually beneficial cooperation. 2017 marks the start of the second 25 years of China-Brunei diplomatic relations with bilateral relations on a crucial stage inheriting the past and ushering in the future. China is ready to, together with Brunei, view bilateral relations from a strategic and long-term perspective, enhance experience exchanges in state governance and administration, reinforce development strategy integration and make practical cooperation in various fields bigger and stronger, in a bid to further promote respective domestic development.

Xi Jinping stressed that both sides should maintain high-level exchanges, constantly deepen political mutual trust and continuously understand and support each other on issues concerning respective core interests and major concerns. China appreciates Brunei for actively responding to the Belt and Road Initiative and stands ready to make concerted efforts with Brunei, take the joint construction of the “Belt and Road” as an opportunity and follow the principle of wide consultation, joint construction and shared benefits to reinforce cooperation in infrastructure construction, energy, halal food, agriculture, fishery, digital
economy and other fields. The two countries need to cement defense and law-enforcement cooperation to elevate mutual trust and cooperation between the two militaries to a new level. China and Brunei should enhance exchanges and cooperation in culture, education, sports, public health, tourism, media, local contacts and other areas and consolidate the public opinion foundation for bilateral friendship. Both sides should reinforce cooperation in regional and international affairs and intensify communication and coordination under such frameworks as the UN and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation.

Xi Jinping pointed out that China appreciates Brunei for actively promoting the development of relations between China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and is ready to enhance integration between the Belt and Road Initiative and the development strategies of ASEAN, promote the improvement and upgrade of bilateral relations and boost the construction of ASEAN community. At present, the situation in the South China Sea is stabilizing and easing, displaying a positive development momentum. China stands ready to work together with all relevant parties to make the South China Sea a sea of peace, friendship and cooperation.

Haji Hassanal Bolkiah expressed that Brunei congratulates China on the tremendous achievements scored in national construction, supports the Belt and Road Initiative proposed by China and believes that the Chinese dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation will surely be realized. Brunei-China relations enjoy sound development momentum since the establishment of diplomatic relations with fruitful outcomes yielded from cooperation in various fields. Brunei will continuously adhere to the one-China policy. The Bruneian side is carrying forward “Wawasan 2035”, and welcomes Chinese enterprises to participate in the process and actively invest and establish business in Brunei. Brunei is willing to cement practical cooperation with China in agriculture, fishery, energy, infrastructure construction, halal food, digital economy and other areas. The country is ready to, together with China, maintain high-level exchanges, further expand people-to-people and cultural
“Belt and Road” construction, infrastructure construction, public health and other fields.

Before the talks, Xi Jinping held a welcome ceremony for Haji Hassanal Bolkiah at the square outside the East Gate of the Great Hall of the People.

After their talks, the two heads of state jointly witnessed the signing of cooperation documents covering the areas of exchanges, jointly safeguard peace and stability in the South China Sea and push forward ASEAN-China relations for constant development.

Before the talks, Xi Jinping held a welcome ceremony for Haji Hassanal Bolkiah at the square outside the East Gate of the Great Hall of the People.

On the afternoon of September 7, 2017, Premier Li Keqiang met at Ziguangge of Zhongnanhai with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Krishna Bahadur Mahara of Nepal.

Li Keqiang expressed that China and Nepal are friendly neighboring countries connected by mountains and rivers, and enjoy a long-standing friendship. China hopes for unity among all factions in Nepal and smooth progress in their political agenda to usher in a new phase of
China-India Relations

As an opportunity to enhance connectivity, expand trade and investment, boost China-Nepal joint feasibility research on free trade agreement and the construction of cross-border economic cooperative zone, carry out production capacity cooperation in such areas as energy and infrastructure, and enhance cooperation in post-disaster reconstruction and tourism. China is ready to provide support within its due capacity to Nepal's economic and social development.

Li Keqiang pointed out that China is willing to take the joint construction of the "Belt and Road" as an opportunity to enhance connectivity, expand trade and investment, boost China-Nepal joint feasibility research on free trade agreement and the construction of cross-border economic cooperative zone, carry out production capacity cooperation in such areas as energy and infrastructure, and enhance cooperation in post-disaster reconstruction and tourism. China is ready to provide support within its due capacity to Nepal's economic and social development.

Krishna Bahadur Mahara said that Nepal-China relations are a example in following the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. Nepal will continue to adhere to the one-China policy, hopes to maintain high-level exchanges and deepen practical cooperation so as to achieve mutual benefit and win-win results and join hands to constantly push bilateral friendly cooperative relations for development.

XI JINPING MEETS WITH PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI OF INDIA
On September 5, 2017, President Xi Jinping met in Xiamen with Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India, who was in China for the ninth BRICS Summit and the Dialogue of Emerging Market and Developing Countries.

Xi Jinping stressed that as each other's important neighboring countries, China and India are two largest developing countries and emerging market economies. The sound and stable China-India relations conform to the fundamental interests of both peoples and are common expectation of the region and the international community. In recent years, both leaders have reached extensive consensus on developing China-India relations, agreed to build a closer development partnership, and made clear the long-term goal of bilateral relations. Relations between both countries have continuously achieved long-term development on the basis of sticking to this position. On the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence jointly initiated by both sides, China is willing to, together with India, improve political mutual trust, promote mutually beneficial cooperation, and push China-Indian relations for development along the right track.

Xi Jinping pointed out that both countries should insist on basic judgment of seeing each other as development opportunities but not threats. It is hoped that India could view China's development in a correct and rational manner. The two countries need to show the world that the only correct choice between China and India is to live together in peace and enjoy win-win cooperation. The two sides should maintain mutual respect, seek common ground while shelving differences, and safeguard peace and tranquility in border areas. China and India have great cooperative potential in economic and social development. Both sides should enhance synergy in development strategies, expand cooperation in infrastructure construction, connectivity and other fields, and strengthen people-to-people and cultural exchanges as well as communication and coordination in international affairs, in a bid to
promote international order toward a more just and reasonable direction. China is ready to work with BRICS countries to well implement the results of the Xiamen Summit, and jointly open up a new situation of BRICS cooperation.

Narendra Modi congratulated on a complete success of the BRICS Xiamen Summit, and said that the meetings are very important to enhance BRICS cooperation under the current situation. India stands ready to make joint efforts with China to ensure a stable development of bilateral relations. He hoped both leaders to maintain close communication and play leading roles in the development of bilateral relations. Both sides should not regard each other as opponents, but make cooperation become a mainstream of bilateral relations. The two sides need to enhance political mutual trust, expand practical cooperation, deepen people-to-people and cultural exchanges and make joint efforts to safeguard peace and tranquility in border areas. India is willing to strengthen communication and coordination in international affairs with China.

Yang Jiechi and others attended the meeting.

WANG YI: MAKE SURE CHINA-INDIA RELATIONS NOT DERAIL, CONFRONT OR GO OUT OF CONTROL, AND PROMOTE HIMALAYAN REGION TO BE NEW HIGHLAND FOR ASIA’S DEVELOPMENT

On September 7, 2017, Foreign Minister Wang Yi and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Krishna Bahadur Mahara of Nepal jointly met the press in Beijing after their talks.

In responding questions concerning Nepal-China and China-India relations from the journalist, Wang Yi said that in the previous period, for clear reasons, China-India relations were affected and undermined indeed. President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi successfully held the bilateral meeting in Xiamen recently. Both sides should earnestly implement the consensus of the two leaders and guarantee the healthy and stable development of China-India relations.

Firstly, China-India relations should not be derailed. The
make sure differences between the two countries not go out of control. The two countries need to remain committed to the five principles of peaceful coexistence and work together to properly handle disputes and issues. Both China and India should learn a lesson from the past events and maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas.

Wang Yi said that being located between the two major countries of China and India, Nepal is able to serve as the bridge and tie linking the two major emerging economies. As the development of China and India represents the future of the world. The harmonious relations and win-win cooperation between the two countries are the inevitable option as well as the correct direction of China-India relations.

Secondly, China-India relations should be no confrontation. Both sides should enhance strategic mutual trust and really view each other as cooperative partners rather than be driven by an old-fashioned mindset and regard each other as rivals or threats.

Thirdly, both sides should common neighbors of Nepal, China and India should have great mind and sense of responsibility of a major country, respect Nepal's legitimate rights and interests, support the independence of Nepal and help to advance Nepal's development. It is believed that Nepal could develop its relations with the two major adjacent countries in parallel without conflicts. China expects to create conditions step by step to explore on the construction of China-India Economic Corridor and jointly promote the Himalayan region to become a new highland for Asia's development.

**STAY TRUE TO THE MISSION AND KEEP MOVING FORWARD**

BRICS cooperation started in 2006. The 10 years that followed has been a decade of hard work and great achievements. We have stood together in face of challenges to achieve mutually beneficial cooperation. Together, we have contributed more than 45% of world economic growth, achieved a miracle of economic development and surely stood out as the major engine for recovery and growth of the world economy.

Looking back at the world economy for the past hundreds of years, mankind has evolved from closed to open, individual to collective, competition to cooperation in the process of economic globalization. In the past 20 years, developing countries have actively participated in economic globalization and integrated themselves into the Global Value Chains, which have contributed greatly to building world economic new order and establishing a new global governance structure.

World economic growth remains sluggish, trade growth has been lower than economic growth for many years and international investment will need more time to reach the peak level of 2008. Economic globalization is suffering setbacks while protectionism is coming back. Traditional and non-traditional threats are entwined, raising the uncertainties in the world economy significantly.

In such a complex and fluid environment, BRICS countries should jointly tackle challenges and push forward economic globalization. We should deepen practical cooperation in such fields as trade and investment, money and finance, and infrastructure construction. We should also strengthen macroeconomic policy coordination and our development strategies synergy, setting a new course for collective cooperation and growth among BRICS countries.

Just as President Xi Jinping said in the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, “So long as we press ahead with a common vision without backpedaling or standing still, we will achieve greater connectivity and benefit from each other’s development.” We should stay true to our mission, hold the spirit of open, inclusive, balanced and beneficial to all in pushing forward economic globalization and strengthen the BRICS cooperation mechanism. Together, we can build a brighter future for all.
REMARKS BY AMBASSADOR LUO ZHAOHUI ON THE LAUNCHING CEREMONY OF THE BOOK TITLED CHINA’S AGRICULTURE AND POLITICAL ECONOMY

August 23rd, 2017

Mr. Rahul Sarin, Mr. George Chiu, Dear friends, ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon! Namaste! Welcome to the Chinese Embassy. It is my great pleasure to hold a book launch ceremony for Mr. Sarin who is the author of China’s Agriculture and Political Economy.

The 9th BRICS Summit will be held in Xiamen early next month. As all the BRICS countries are emerging powers as well as agricultural countries, development and poverty reduction including agriculture have always been a focus of BRICS cooperation.

As an old Chinese saying goes, ‘people are fundamental for states, so as food for people.’ Agriculture is the basis of human survival and the origin of civilization and progress. According to the concept of modern economics, agriculture is defined as the primary industry. The book of China’s Agriculture and Political Economy introduces the history of agricultural development and its related policy evolution since the founding of the People’s Republic of China, with an analysis of challenges to the development of agriculture at a time when China’s economy has
entered into the new normal. Notwithstanding that the author has his own interpretation to China's history and politics, this book serves as a window to learn China from an agricultural perspective. I would like to congratulate Mr. Sarin on publishing of this book and thank him for his contribution to enhancing our mutual understanding.

As mentioned in the book, "with only 7% of the world's arable land, China feeds almost 20% of the world's population." This is the key to understanding China's agriculture. Since the reform and opening up, the Chinese government has always made development of agriculture, benefit of rural areas and prosperity of farmers a top priority for the country. The annual first document of the central government has been focused on "three agricultural issues" which includes agriculture, rural development and farmers for over a decade. In 2006, China abolished the agricultural tax throughout the country, which China had been collected for two thousand years. We promote agriculture by applying scientific and technological innovation. Mr. Yuan Longping's hybrid rice technology has set a world record with a yield of over 1000 kilograms per mu. Over the past 60 years, China's grain output has increased from 100 million tons to 610 million tons, and the per capita net income of farmers has increased from 44 yuan to more than 10,000 yuan.

India is also a big agricultural country with the largest amount of arable land in Asia as well as superior natural conditions. From the 1960s to 1980s, India carried out agricultural development strategy such as "green revolution", "white revolution" and "blue revolution", from which India accumulated lots of successful experience. India has fed 18% of the world's population with 12% of the world's arable land. Its agricultural output such as wheat, rice and milk is among the highest in the world. The achievements of India's agricultural development are benefiting not only India itself but also the rest of developing countries.

As the most populous and the largest developing countries, China and India are facing similar challenges and great potential for cooperation. It is in the interests of both sides to strengthen exchanges and cooperation in agriculture. In history, China's peach, plum and tea were introduced to India. In the 1970s, India's Murrah buffalo was brought into China, which made significant contribution to China's buffalo improvement. I hope that China's hybrid rice technology can be promoted in India, which will add luster to the agricultural cooperation between our two countries and benefit the two peoples. I also hope that Mr. Sarin and other Indian friends will continue to contribute to the agricultural cooperation between China and India.

The mutual trust builds on exchanges, and the exchanges are rooted in deep and all-round research in the field. Mr. Sarin has set a good example for us. Once again, I would like to take this opportunity to express my respect and appreciation to Mr. Sarin.

Thank you.

**BRICS SUMMIT IN XIAMEN BRINGS CHINA, INDIA CLOSER**

Xiamen, China, Sept. 4 (Xinhua) - The 9th BRICS Summit opened here Sunday, bringing together representatives from Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa and beyond in this picturesque coastal city to strengthen South-South cooperation and give a greater voice to the world's emerging economies.

Even the intermittent rain did not dampen the positive mood at the summit, which runs from Sunday to Tuesday. In particular, the summit is indirectly serving as a venue to help mend ties between China and its neighbor, India, after the recent border standoff between the two countries.

**UPBEAT MOOD**

"I think the trend is good, everybody is optimistic," said Atul Dalakoti, executive director of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, who spoke to Xinhua right after attending the opening ceremony of the BRICS Business Forum on Sunday afternoon.

The Indian businessman commented on Chinese President Xi Jinping's remarks in his speech at the opening ceremony that "new growth drivers are yet to emerge" by saying, "we need to think outside the box and look at new engines of growth so that
we can push the economic development."

"I sense more internal optimism and external confidence," Robert Lawrence Kuhn, a prolific China expert and observer, weighed in by email Sunday night.

The chairman of the Kuhn Foundation believed that the "optimism" and "confidence" are driven by two factors: the improving economic situation of several of the BRICS members and China hosting the summit, "which increases the visibility, publicity and international interest."

Although he admitted that fundamental differences exist among the BRICS countries, the American expert said that "what unites them is stronger than what divides them," adding that he believed BRICS is playing a role in resolving the differences.

Swaran Singh from the School of International Studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University remarked on the recent friction between China and India and how that did not get in the way of the friendly and cooperative summit atmosphere.

"Even China-India differences have been carefully kept aside and not allowed to intervene in their multilateral cooperation," he said in an email interview with Xinhua, calling the resolve of the Dong Lang military standoff "a sign of their (China and India's) diplomatic maturity as major powers."

**CHINA & INDIA AS BRICS BUDDIES**

As the second-largest BRICS economy after China, India is very active in helping enhance capacity- and skill-building among developing nations, for example in Africa, Singh said, noting that it has been a big investor in recent years. BRICS is an ideal opportunity for India to contribute to global governance structures and help empower other developing nations, the professor said.

Singh believed that BRICS is clearly having a positive effect on economic engagement between China and India. Last year, bilateral trade volume exceeded 70 billion U.S. dollars, and China has become India's largest trading partner.

Although the two countries' trade shows a deficit in China's favor, he was confident that BRICS would be able to address such challenges. He also noted that recently there has been an enormous increase in China's promised investments in India.

For his part, Dalakoti pointed out the rapid growth of China-India trade over the past 15 years. He saw BRICS as having a "very, very positive" theme of people from five continents trying to work together and as China and India being equally important members within the bloc.

**SHARING KNOWLEDGE**

Many summit participants regarded China as an example to follow for other developing nations, for instance where poverty alleviation, renewable energy and the environment were concerned.

"China has in the past 30 years taken at least 500 million people out of poverty, I think we need to do that in India also and then in Africa, so there's a huge potential for growth," Dalakoti said.

Dalakoti, who is also in the Energy and Green Economy Working Group, mentioned India's efforts in promoting clean energy and combating pollution. "India has set up very good targets and met the targets in advance, and now we are looking at setting up 100 smart cities," he said. In that regard, China and India have common goals. "So I think there is a lot we can do, and we can learn from the experience of the Chinese," he said.

In an interview with Xinhua on the sidelines of the summit, the BRICS' New Development Bank (NDB) chief K.V. Kamath also suggested other BRICS countries
should learn from China's past success stories.

"In China's case, what the NDB has learned is success with renewables, which we then try to see whether we could take it to other countries," he said. He called this an example of "shared knowledge from our member countries."

**BRICS GOING FORWARD**

The BRICS nations originally enjoyed a reputation for rapid economic growth, but some critics have argued that BRICS is losing its steam. That idea, however, doesn't seem to be very convincing to some.

Singh suggested that BRICS still very much remains a good alternative to existing institutions as it offers a new model of financial governance and is even helping transform conventional Bretton Woods financial institutions. He said the NDB and Contingency Reserve Arrangement are proof of what BRICS can and is doing with their rapid decision-making, financial support in local currencies, and no-strings attached policy.

The BRICS example has already led to some reforms in World Bank and International Monetary Fund voting rights and has encouraged BRICS enterprises to evolve their own genre of financing, investments, technology transfers and market management distinct from Western multinational corporations' patron-client culture, Singh said.

"BRICS is surely seen today as the only grouping, along with the G20, that can redeem the global economy from its continued slowdown," the professor added.

Dalakoti believed that BRICS could help raise awareness of the importance of globalization, especially as some countries are reverting to isolationist and protectionist policies.

"We all need globalization, we all need to work together, we all need a lot of investments in our countries," he said, "So I think the whole theme of globalization is the bedrock of what we are talking about at BRICS today."

**CHINA-INDIA COOPERATION HELPS PROMOTE OPEN GLOBAL TRADE, COUNTER PROTECTIONISM**

For China and India -- the world's two biggest markets, their strengthening of trade cooperation and advocacy of open trade policy will definitely contribute to promoting open global trade and containing protectionism.

Firstly, India's open foreign economic policy is an important force for the current world where protectionism is on the rise.

The South Asian nation has adopted a positive and open foreign economic policy and has been an important supporter for the open foreign trade policy.
Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has implemented an active foreign policy, has reformed foreign investment policy and encourages domestic enterprises to go on the international market.

India has been actively attracting foreign investment, has created a favorable investment climate and has been the largest destination for foreign direct investment in the world for the past two years.

Luo Zhaohui, Chinese Ambassador to India, has said, "India's current reform and opening policies are very attractive, which puts forward a 'made in India' strategic planning, proposes the road of 'eastward strategy' and so on."

The country "has also put forward a lot of inter-connectivity initiatives, and vigorously promotes multi-sector technical and economic cooperation agreements of the Bay of Bengal rim. In terms of inter-connectivity and the Belt and Road Initiative, we two big neighboring countries should be natural partners," he said.

Proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2013, the Belt and Road Initiative aims to build trade and infrastructure networks connecting Asia with Europe and Africa on and beyond the ancient Silk Road routes. It comprises the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road.

Secondly, China-India cooperation can effectively improve openness of the world economy, and counter trade protectionism which is now largely led by the United States under the Donald Trump administration.

The two developing countries share common views and stands on many international affairs. For example, India has cleared its commitment to developing green economy and is a champion of the Paris Climate Agreement.

After the United States formally withdrew from the agreement, Indian prime minister has made clear his commitment to developing green energy, and promised that India's efforts of tackling climate change will not be limited to the Paris Climate Agreement.

According to Prasoon Sharma, a researcher at a global think tank in India, China and India have the largest markets and manufacturing sectors of the world, and if the two countries join hands, they will drive economic growth of the world, promote trade balance across the globe and bring peace and happiness to the peoples of the world.

Moreover, the two countries have great potential in finance, which is regarded as the original intention and cooperation content of the BRICS countries -- Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

Currently, the two countries focus on such financial cooperation as emergency reserve planning, green finance and currency swaps, which is greatly in the interest of open global trade and containment of protectionism.

INTERVIEW: INDIAN SCHOLAR BELIEVES INDIA, CHINA CAN COOPERATE IN VARIOUS FIELDS

An Indian scholar called the domains in which India and China can collaborate and cooperate "limitless."

In a recent interview with Xinhua, Varaprasad S. Dolla, a professor from Jawaharlal Nehru University, said, "The domains where both India and China can collaborate and cooperate are limitless provided that both of them are willing to take up this issue of collaboration, which of course they have been doing."

"If you take up the matter of bilateral trade or the economic ties that we have been forging in the last 15-20 years, it is amazing and we have seen an enormous growth," said Varaprasad.

"In fact, bilateral trade (grew) from a mere few hundred million U.S. dollars way back in the 1990s to above 70 billion U.S. dollars, then of course, it is declining because of various reasons partly due to domestic context and partly because of the global context," he said.
The expert then cited some examples of domains in which the two countries could work together.

"Definitely the science and technology domain can have more partnerships; we can have more research institutes coming together," he said.

Other examples are people-to-people and cultural exchanges, and collaboration within educational and industrial development contexts, the scholar said.

"Because China, given its own experience of emerging as a major industrial hub -- the factory of the world -- can actually share some of its experiences with India as India is now contemplating 'Make in India' as a major goal," the scholar said.

"We can actually learn some lessons from Chinese experience, both in terms of the good experiences, the best practices as well as the challenges that China encountered in the process," said the expert. "So skill development is one of the areas where China and India can collaborate."

Varaprasad spoke highly of the contributions of so-called "township and village" enterprises in China to global economic growth and also its exports.

"In fact, about 30 percent of exports comes from township and village enterprises which are like our Indian small and medium enterprises," said Varaprasad. "Imagine if Indian small and medium enterprises learn some lessons from the Chinese township and village enterprises, we will have better opportunities."

Another area in which the two countries enjoy cooperation potential is agriculture, said Varaprasad.

"Agriculture production in China has been more or less quite stable, but we (Indians) have been facing a lot of grave crises. Therefore we need to see how the Chinese have been able to address the agriculture growth and then see whether we can pick up some lessons."

The scholar went on to say that the two countries could collaborate in many areas in which they specialize and move forward in the years to come.
CASHLESS TREND TAKES HOLD IN CHINA

A passenger pays for bus ticket by quick response (QR) code in Beibei District, southwest China's Chongqing Municipality, on Aug. 3, 2017. Mobile payments started operation in some bus lines in Chongqing since August this year. (Xinhua/ Q in Tingfu)

A staff worker tests AlipayHK at a store in Hong Kong, south China, on May 23, 2017. Alipay, the online and mobile payment platform operated by Ant financial services group, announced on Wednesday that it would launch AlipayHK, a version dedicated to local-currency payments in Hong Kong. Both iOS and Android users can download AlipayHK from app store on May 25. AlipayHK is the first version of the Alipay app to handle non-renminbi transactions. (Xinhua/ Q in Qing)
OLD MEETS NEW ON BEIJING’S HISTORIC AXIS


The National Stadium, or the Bird’s Nest, and Beijing National Aquatics Center, or Water Cube, are more spectacular at night in Beijing. (Xinhua/Yin Gang)
A ceremony is held to present flowers to the people’s heroes at the Tian’anmen Square in Beijing, capital of China, Sept. 30, 2016, to honor and remember deceased national heroes on the Martyrs’ Day. China’s legislature approved Sept. 30 as the Martyrs’ Day in 2014, to commemorate those who lost their lives fighting for national causes. (Xinhua/Wang Ye)

Children practise roller-skating on a square in front of Zhengyangmen (the Front Gate) in Beijing, capital of China, June 11, 2011. (Xinhua/ Hu Qingming)
BOOMING CHILDREN’S EDUCATION MARKET IN CHINA

Children attend a robot class in Xinle Youth Center in Hebei Province. (Xinhua/ Jia Minjie)

Children attend a dance class in a youth activity center in Hebei Province. (Xinhua/ Li Xiaoguo)
A child practices ice hockey under the instruction of the coach in a sports center in Heilongjiang Province. (Xinhua/ Wang Kai)

Students uses controlled robots to puncture balloons at a science promotion event in Beijing, on May 20, 2017. (Xinhua/ Jin Liwang)
A ceremony was held last Friday to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the High-level Tibetan Buddhism College of China in Beijing, capital of China.

Zhang Yijiong, Executive Vice Minister of the United Front Work Department of CPC (the Communist Party of China) Central Committee, was present and gave a speech at the ceremony.

Zhang Yijiong said the past 30 years has seen the college create a new model to train a number of monks by combining together traditional monastery teaching method with modern academy education, contributing a lot to the inheritance and development of Tibetan Buddhism.

The ceremony was presided over by Wang Zuoan, director of the State Administration for Religious Affairs of the People’s Republic of China (PRC), and attended by more than 180 representatives from Buddhism colleges in Tibet and Tibetan-inhabited areas in Qinghai, Gansu, Sichuan and Yunan Province.

Proposed by the 10th Panchen Lama and Zhao Puchu, the then director of the Buddhist Association of China, the High-level Tibetan Buddhism College of China was founded in Beijing on September 1, 1987.

In 2004, it established the advanced title ranking system of Tibetan Buddhism and there are currently 148 monks who have earned advanced titles and 100 monks have become teaching masters or hold a post in Buddhist monasteries and organizations.
HOH XIL LAUNCHES ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION REFORM

The inclusion of Hoh Xil, which is on the world’s largest and highest plateau, as a UNESCO World Heritage Site marks a new beginning for the area’s conservation, says Buzhou, director of the Hoh Xil National Nature Reserve administration.

“We must improve our ideas and methods to meet the higher standards set by the World Heritage Convention,” Buzhou says.

Hoh Xil, which is located on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau in the northwestern part of Qinghai province, is famous for its natural beauty and biodiversity.

The nature reserve, comprising a core zone and buffer areas, covers 45,000 square kilometers and is situated more than 4,500 meters above sea level.

It’s China’s most biologically diverse nature reserve. As UNESCO notes, the geographical and climatic conditions have nurtured a unique mix of species. More than one-third of the plant varieties, and all the herbivorous mammals are endemic to the plateau.

Seven species are under national first-level protection. The Tibetan antelope is best-known and most representative of the endangered species.

Its numbers had plunged to fewer than 20,000 by the end of the 1990s due to poaching. However, thanks to years of protection efforts, the population has recovered to more than 60,000, the administration’s statistics show.

Hoh Xil was listed as a provincial-level reserve in 1996. The next year, it was elevated to the national level, and a special organization was founded to protect it soon afterward.

The Hoh Xil nature reserve is included in a larger protected area
that's the source of the three rivers (Sanjiangyuan) the Yangtze, the Yellow and the Lancang. When the Sanjiangyuan National Nature Reserve was established in 2016 as China's first national park to pilot ecological-protection reform, the Hoh Xil administration became a subordinate organization affiliated with the national park's management bureau.

The administration, which has more than 80 staff members, now has five protection stations and a research station in different parts of Hoh Xil.

But Buzhou says the size of the area and the harsh climate present huge challenges for the administration, which is short of hands.

"It is very hard for anyone to carry out the wide range of tasks we have to do in such a harsh environment, let alone our staff, whose average age is 45 and more than a third of whom are not suitable for work at high altitudes due to health problems," he explains.

His organization is in desperate need of younger professional and technical personnel, he says.

Volunteers have been providing more manpower. More than 500 volunteers from various professions and different parts of the country have participated in protection and research over the years, Buzhou says.

Many nomads living along the edges of the reserve also participate in protection. In Zhiduo county, hundreds of local herdsmen have been recruited as grassland rangers to protect the part of Hoh Xil that is located in the county. More than 200 residents in Masai village, which has a population of 1,600, have become grassland rangers after a careful selection process.

"Our job is to stop poaching, and observe and record the wildlife that we see," says 52-year-old herdsman Songbao, who has been a ranger for five years.

The rangers are organized into groups, and they set out regularly on horses, yaks, motorbikes or cars, depending on geographic conditions.

Their work takes them into the wild for two to seven days at a time, depending on the distance. The rangers, who receive annual training, are paid 1,800 yuan ($260) a month.

Songbao says local residents' environmental awareness is being continually enhanced.

"Generations of us have lived on this land. We are willing to do the protection work, even if we don't get paid," he says.

Since Sanjiangyuan became a
For example, in Zhiduo, several government departments engaged in environmental protection, such as the land and resources bureau and the water resources bureau, have been integrated into the same organization, supervised by Sanjiangyuan's management bureau.

The reform has been helpful because it has clarified the responsibilities of the different bureaus, says Cairen, deputy director of the new organization.

With its rapid economic development, China has become the world’s second largest country in terms of economic aggregate. However, China, with a sprawling population of 1.35 billion and a land mass of 9.6 million square kilometers, is experiencing economic development that is far from balanced.

To comprehensively and accurately understand it is a daunting task, especially from non-Chinese perspectives. This book, through extensive introduction, provides international comparisons and in-depth analyses to help readers both abroad and at home to comprehensively and accurately understand Chinese economy.

We hope you will find this book useful.

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