Chinese Embassy in India and Institute of Chinese Studies co-hosted the Seminar “Wuhan Summit: Sino-India Relations and Its Way Forward”.

Ambassador Luo Zhaohui and his wife Counselor Jiang Yili met with Mr. O. P. Kohli, Governor of Gujarat.

Ambassador Luo Zhaohui attended the Donation Ceremony by the Chinese Government to Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization.

Ambassador Luo Zhaohui attended the 17th Chinese Bridge Proficiency Competition.
### Informal Wuhan Summit

1. Xi Jinping Meets with Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India  
2. Xi Jinping Holds Informal Meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India in Wuhan  
3. China, India Reach Broad Consensus in Informal Summit  
4. Commentary: Xi-Modi Gathering to Guide China-India Cooperation  
5. Xi-Modi Informal Meeting Underscores Mutual Trust, Cooperation  
6. Wang Qishan Meets with External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj of India  
7. Yang Jiechi Holds Talks with National Security Adviser Ajiit Doval of India  
8. Wang Yi Holds Talks with External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj of India  
9. Wang Yi: Take Leaders’ Informal Meeting as Opportunity to Promote Better and Faster Development of China-India Relations  
10. Wang Yi: Leaders of China and India Will Conduct Overall, Long-term and Strategic Communication  
11. Vice Foreign Minister Kong Xuanyou Holds Media Briefing on China-India Leaders’ Informal Meeting  
12. Vice Foreign Minister Kong Xuanyou Holds Consultation with Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale of India  
13. Co-writing the New Chapter of Dragon-Elephant Tango  
14. China-India Cooperation Outweighs our Differences  
15. Ambassador Luo Zhaohui Greets Followers on Twitter  
16. Xi-Modi Meeting a New Milestone, Experts Say  
17. Indian Media Positive on Xi-Modi ‘Heart-to-heart Summit’

### BOAO Forum for Asia 2018

1. Xi Jinping Attends Opening Ceremony of BFA Annual Conference 2018  
2. Xi’s Speech Wins High Appreciation from World Leaders at Boao  
3. Xi’s Boao Forum Speech Makes this Hainan Folk Song a Hit  
4. New Chapter for “Xiplomacy”  
5. BFA Annual Conference Concludes with Globalization Consensus

### External Affairs

1. Xi Jinping Holds Talks with Kim Jong-un  
2. Xi Jinping Holds Talks with President Emmerson Mnangagwa of Zimbabwe  
3. Xi Jinping Holds Talks with President Alexander Van der Bellen of Austria  
4. Xi Jinping Meets with WEF Chairman Klaus Schwab  
5. Xi Jinping Holds Group Meeting with Heads of Foreign Delegations of the Meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the SCO Member States  
6. Li Keqiang Holds Talks with Prime Minister Ukhnaagiin Khürelsükh of Mongolia  
7. Li Keqiang Holds Talks with Prime Minister Mark Rutte of the Netherlands  
8. Wang Yi Presides Over the Meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the SCO  
9. Joint Communiqué on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations Between The People’s Republic of China and The Dominican Republic

### Culture & Life

1. Aerial Photos Show Cherry Blossoms at East Lake in Wuhan  
2. Scenery of Three Gorges in Moonlight in China’s Hubei

### Xizang Today

1. Freedom of Religious Belief in Xizang is Guaranteed: Expert  
2. Xizang Antelope Well Protected in China  
3. Xizang in Eyes of a Tibetan  
4. 24-hour Self-help Library Available in Lhasa  
6. Flights Between China and India
7. CRI-CIBN
Informal Wuhan Summit

XI JINPing meets with Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India
On April 27, 2018, President Xi Jinping met in Wuhan with Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India, who was in China for an informal meeting. President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi also jointly visited an exhibition of fine cultural relics at Hubei Provincial Museum.

Xi Jinping welcomed Narendra Modi to visit Wuhan. Xi Jinping pointed out that in the past 3 years, I have achieved mutual visits with Mr. Prime Minister, and we have met many times on multilateral occasions, established sound working relations, and reached much important consensus, which have sent positive signals of China-India friendship to the outside world and demonstrated the strong willingness of developing mutually beneficial cooperation and achieving common development of China and India, the two major emerging economies. The great cooperation conducted by our two great countries could produce global influence. It is hoped that my meeting here with Mr. Prime Minister will open new chapters of China-India relations.

Xi Jinping stressed that we should grasp the general picture of bilateral relations from a strategic perspective to ensure that bilateral relations always proceed in the right direction. We should constantly strengthen the friendly relations between the two countries to make the relations always flow forward like the Yangtze and Ganges rivers. China stands ready to work with India to establish a closer partnership of development, in a bid to promote all-round progress in exchanges and cooperation between the two countries in various areas.

Narendra Modi thanked President Xi Jinping for inviting him to Wuhan to hold this informal meeting, which is of historic significance. The maintenance of frequent high-level exchanges and strategic communication between India and China is conducive to enhancing mutual understanding and deepening cooperation and conforms to the common interests of development and prosperity of both countries and the region. The Indian side is willing to make joint efforts with China in this regard.

While visiting the exhibition of fine cultural relics, Xi Jinping pointed out that Jingchu Culture is an important part of the long-standing Chinese civilization and has a pivotal position in the development history of Chinese civilization. China and India are countries with a splendid history and culture, and the cultures of both countries share many similarities. China and India should conduct exchanges in wider areas and at deeper levels, jointly devote to the revival of Eastern civilizations and jointly advocate respect for diversity of civilizations, in a bid to push for harmonious coexistence of different civilizations.

Narendra Modi expressed that India and China are both countries with ancient civilizations, and share many similarities in the historical development of their civilizations. Cultural exchanges between the two countries enjoy a long-standing history. The two sides should increase mutual understanding, give play to the wisdom of the two countries and work together to deal with global issues and challenges.

Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), Member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee and Director of the General Office of the CPC Central Committee Ding Xuexiang, Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee Yang Jiechi, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi and others attended the above activities.
On April 27 and 28, 2018, President Xi Jinping held an informal meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India at the East Lake Hotel in Wuhan.

The East Lake in April is surrounded by rolling mountains and faint haze. Leaders of the two countries exchanged comprehensive and in-depth views on China-India relations and major international issues of common concern in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

Xi Jinping pointed out that in the past three years, Mr. Prime Minister and I have achieved mutual visits, met with each other several times on multilateral occasions, and reached a lot of important consensus, jointly leading China-India relations to maintain a sound momentum of development. The two sides have established a closer development partnership and made positive progress in communication and cooperation across all fields. Bilateral relations are moving forward at a higher level.

Xi Jinping stressed that at present, the international situation is in a critical period of change and adjustment, and countries around the world are now more inter-connected and rely on each other. The general trend of peace and development is irreversible. As the two largest developing countries and emerging market economies each with a population of over 1 billion, China and India are both important engines
of world economic growth and backbone forces for promoting multipolarization and economic globalization. A sound relationship between China and India is an important and positive factor for maintaining world stability, and is of great significance to promoting the development and progress of all human beings. Socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era, and Mr. Prime Minister has also proposed the goal of building a "New India." On the road of development and revitalization, China and India are facing similar tasks. We should firmly focus on development, and deepen mutually beneficial cooperation, so as to jointly realize national rejuvenation, create an Asia featuring stability, development and prosperity in the 21st century and make positive contributions to the world peace and development.

Xi Jinping pointed out that the stability and development of China-India relations are based on mutual trust. The two sides should grasp the China-India relations from a strategic perspective and continuously increase mutual understanding and trust so as to promote all sectors and people of the two countries to deepen mutual understanding and foster friendly feelings. Both sides should well grasp three key points: first, China and India should be good neighbors and good friends. The two countries should regard each other as an active factor in the comparison and change of global power and take each side as a cooperative partner for realizing own dream of development. Second, China and India are getting stronger and stronger, and this represents an irresistible trend and offers important opportunities to each other. Third, both China and India pursue independent foreign policies, and the two sides should correctly analyze and view each other's intentions with a positive, open and inclusive attitude. China and India have many similar ideas in international affairs. When dealing with relationship between major countries, China insists on strategic autonomy, non-conflict and non-confrontation and upholds
promoting the construction of a new type of international relations featuring mutual respect, fairness and justice and win-win cooperation, which are in the same vein with the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence jointly advocated by China and India in the 1950s.

Xi Jinping emphasized that in the next stage, China and India should work together to well plan for all-round cooperation between the two countries, carry out closer strategic communication and conduct timely consultation on major issues of common concern between both sides, so as to firmly grasp the general direction of the development of bilateral relations and ensure the effective operation of dialogue mechanism. The two countries need to carry out more in-depth practical cooperation and promote more extensive people-to-people and cultural exchanges, and well deal with differences in a more mature manner. Both countries should strengthen coordination and cooperation in international and regional affairs, and promote regional economic integration and the construction of connectivity. The two sides should uphold the global governance concept of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, promote the construction of an open world economy, support the multilateral trading system, and conduct more positive international cooperation to jointly cope with global challenges. China is willing to make joint efforts with India to create an Asia featuring stability, development and prosperity in the 21st century and promote the development of the international order in a more fair and reasonable direction.

Narendra Modi thanked President Xi Jinping for inviting him to Wuhan, and expressed that in the past two days, he had candid and in-depth exchanges with President Xi Jinping and also learnt about the long-standing and profound Jing-Chu culture, from which he further felt that President Xi Jinping has attached great importance to and has guided personally the development of India-China relations. Both India and China are countries with ancient civilizations, and are important neighbors to each other. The two sides should strengthen dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, live in harmony and maintain everlasting friendship from generation to generation. Narendra Modi paid high attention to the announcement at the 19th National Congress of the
Communist Party of China (CPC) that the construction of socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era, while India also has its own goal of "New India". He totally agreed with what President Xi Jinping has pointed out that as the two largest developing countries and two huge emerging market economies with a combined population of 2.6 billion, India and China are stabilizing factors of the world, and their development has important influence on the world and has positive significance to the vast developing countries. In the 21st century, India and China should join hands to make greater contributions to peace, stability and prosperity in Asia and the world. Narendra Modi agreed that India and China should maintain high-level strategic communication. The two countries have common idea, common resolution and common vision for the development of India-China relations. The two sides should strengthen contacts and cooperation, enhance mutual understanding and mutual trust, properly handle and control differences, and facilitate non-governmental friendship so as to elevate bilateral relations to a new level. India firmly pursues an independent foreign policy, supports the globalization, and supports safeguarding the multilateral system as well as the democratization of international relations. India is willing to join hands with China to promote the common interests of the vast developing countries.

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 Ding Xuexiang, Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the CPC Central Committee Yang Jiechi, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi as well as others attended the above activities.

**CHINA, INDIA REACH BROAD CONSENSUS IN INFORMAL SUMMIT**
Chinese President Xi Jinping and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi reached broad consensus on the overarching, long-term and strategic issues of global and bilateral importance after an informal summit in central China's Wuhan from April 27 to 28.

According to a press release issued on Saturday following the summit, the two leaders had in-depth discussions in a friendly atmosphere. They also reached consensus on their respective visions for national development as well as domestic and foreign policies.

Both sides share the view that the international landscape is undergoing profound changes, the relative power of countries is heading towards greater balance, and peace and development represent an irreversible trend. One the other hand, the world is faced with rising instability and uncertainty. China and India, as celebrated civilizations, the two biggest developing countries and two emerging economies each with a population of over one billion, are important countries with strategic autonomy. A peaceful, stable and balanced relationship between China and India is an important positive factor for the stability of the world. The two countries will work together to enhance stable and balanced development of major-country relations, advance stability, development and prosperity of Asia in the 21st century, promote the rejuvenation of the oriental civilization and make a positive contribution to global peace and development.

Both sides take the view that China and India are neighbors, friends and partners. The development of both China and India is a prevailing trend of history and offers important opportunities to each other. Both China and India stand for an independent policy of peaceful development. Both sides agree that the two countries will continuously enhance mutual trust, carry forward the fine norms enshrined in the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence, a stellar example of joint initiatives by the two countries, and blaze a broad path of friendly cooperation between two great neighboring countries, a path that can best meet the needs of the times.

Both sides agree to advance all-round cooperation and strengthen the China-India Closer Developmental Partnership in an equal-footed, mutually beneficial and sustainable manner to support their national modernization. Guided by the leaders of the two countries, they will strengthen dialogue in political, security and other areas to have full and timely communication on major issues of mutual interest to enhance understanding and expand consensus so that the China-India relationship will always keep to the right direction. They will tap into the full potential of business and investment cooperation, set new targets, harness positive forces, and explore new ways of cooperation to achieve win-win results. Building on the profound cultures of the two great oriental civilizations and harnessing the rich human resources of their combined population of 2.6 billion, the two sides will work to create a new boom in cultural exchanges by promoting people-to-people links and unleashing the vitality of the two emerging economies. For this to happen, the two sides agree to establish a high-level cultural and people-to-people exchange mechanism.

Both sides agree to properly manage and control their differences. Both sides have the maturity and wisdom to handle their differences through peaceful discussion and by respecting each other's concerns and aspirations. They agree to use the Special Representatives' Meeting on the Boundary Question to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement. The two militaries will strengthen confidence-building measures and enhance communication and cooperation to uphold border peace and tranquility.

Both sides agree to promote more active regional and international cooperation. They agree to join hands in offering innovative and sustainable solutions to global challenges such as epidemics, natural disasters, climate change and terrorism. As two major countries in Asia, China and India will use their political influence and economic power to reinvigorate regional economic development. The two countries will work together to make international relations more democratic, increase the representation and say of developing countries and emerging markets, support the multilateral trading regime, oppose protectionism and work for an open, inclusive, balanced and win-win economic globalization that benefits all.

Both sides agree to instruct their competent departments to work out specific plans and measures to implement the above consensus, and, building on the informal summit, endeavor to open new prospects in China-India relations.

Both sides agree that the leaders of the two countries will continue to maintain strategic communication in various forms.
Beijing, April 26 (Xinhua) -- Chinese President Xi Jinping is going to sit down in an informal meeting with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the central Chinese city of Wuhan over the next two days.

The tete-a-tete between the two leaders is going to set a stage for Beijing and New Delhi to further exchange views over long-term and strategic issues and to initiate fresh momentum for future bilateral cooperation.

China is the largest trading partner of India. Both are huge developing countries and the world's major emerging economies which offer huge opportunities for each other's trade market.

In 2017, the bilateral trade volume between China and India rose by 20.3 percent and hit a record high of 84.44 billion U.S. dollars, according to statistics of China's Ministry of Commerce.

This has demonstrated that the bilateral trade ties have huge potentials for further development. And it is necessary for China and India to build closer partnership based on the principles of peaceful coexistence and win-win cooperation to create a better environment for trade and economic activities.

In recent years, the cultural and people-to-people exchanges between China and India have been enhanced as well. The India-originated Yoga and Indian films have gained large popularity across China. Last year,
visits that have been made between peoples of China and India surpassed 1 million, with 42 flights coming back and forth between the two countries every week.

But still, for the two big countries with a total population of over 2.6 billion, there is huge potential to be tapped in this area.

On the world stage, the two countries have more than enough reasons to work more closely.

Across the globe, economic nationalism and trade protectionism is on the rise, while the combat against non-traditional security threats such as climate change, trans-national crimes and terrorism have become increasingly demanding. No nation can face these challenges alone.

On global trade issues, both Xi and Modi have warned on different occasions of the dire threats of rising trade barriers to the world economy. China and India should firmly stick to the spirit of free trade so as to help maintain the current global free trading system with the World Trade Organization at the center.

Such multilateral frameworks as BRICS and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization are also important platforms where the two countries can help improve the global governance system.

India is welcomed to play a more constructive role in these two mechanisms, and together with other members of these groupings, China and India can help make more and better contributions to Asia and beyond.

**XI-MODI INFORMAL MEETING UNDERSCORES MUTUAL TRUST, COOPERATION**

Wuhan, April 28 (Xinhua) -- Chinese President Xi Jinping has said that mutual trust is the basis for the stable development of Sino-Indian relations.

Xi made the remarks when holding an informal meeting with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday and Saturday in the central Chinese city of Wuhan.

Hailing the sound development of bilateral ties, Xi said that the two countries have forged a closer development partnership and made progress on exchanges and cooperation in various fields.

"We have paid reciprocal visits, met on multiple occasions, and reached many important consensuses over the past three years, which acted as a guidance to the positive development momentum of bilateral ties," Xi said.
China and India, as the two biggest developing countries and two emerging economies each with a population of over 1 billion, are both important engines of global economic growth, as well as backbone forces for promoting multipolarization and economic globalization, Xi said.

The international situation is undergoing a critical period of changes and adjustment, and countries around the world are now more inter-connected and rely on each other, said Xi, noting that "the trend of peace and development is irreversible."

A sound China-India relationship is an important, positive factor for safeguarding world stability, and means a lot to the development and progress of all human beings, Xi said.

China and India face similar tasks in their pursuit of development and rejuvenation, as socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era, and the goal of building a "new India" has been proposed, Xi said.

He called on the two sides to focus on development and deepen mutually beneficial cooperation, so as to achieve national rejuvenation, create an Asia featuring stability, development and prosperity in the 21st century, and make a positive contribution to global peace and development.

Xi said that both sides should develop Sino-Indian ties from a strategic perspective, constantly enhance mutual understanding and trust, and promote all sectors and people of the two countries to deepen mutual understanding and cultivate friendly feelings.

"China and India should be good neighbors and friends," Xi said. "The two countries should regard each other as a positive factor in the balance of global power and take each other as partners for realizing the dream of development."

China and India are getting stronger and stronger, and this represents an irresistible trend and offers important opportunities to each other, Xi said.

Both China and India stand for an independent foreign policy, he said, calling on the two sides to correctly analyze and view each other's intentions with a positive, open and inclusive attitude.

"China and India have many similar ideas in international affairs," said Xi.

He said, in developing relations between major countries, China upholds strategic autonomy as well as non-conflict and non-confrontation, and insists on building a new-type of international relations featuring mutual respect, fairness and justice, and win-win cooperation, which are in line with the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence jointly advocated by China and India in the 1950s.

Xi stressed that in the next stage, China and India should jointly plan for all-round cooperation, carry out closer strategic communication, and timely conduct consultation on major issues of common concern, so as to take a firm hold of the general direction of bilateral relations and ensure the effective operation of their dialogue mechanism.

He said that the two sides should carry out more in-depth pragmatic cooperation and more extensive cultural and people-to-people exchanges, and handle their differences in a more mature manner.

He suggested both sides strengthen coordination and cooperation in international and regional affairs, and jointly promote regional economic integration and interconnectivity.

"The two sides should uphold the global governance concept of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefit to promote the construction of an open world economy, support the multilateral trading system, actively carry out international cooperation and jointly cope with global challenges," Xi said.

China is ready to make joint efforts with India to create a stable and prosperous Asia in the 21st century and promote the development of the international order in a more just and reasonable direction, Xi said.

Modi thanked President Xi for his invitation, saying he had a candid and in-depth exchanges with President Xi and learnt about the profound Jing-Chu local culture during his visit.

Modi said he felt that President Xi has attached great importance to and has guided the development of India-China relations.

India and China are countries with ancient civilizations and important neighbors, he said, calling on the two sides to strengthen dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, and maintain peaceful co-existence and ever-lasting friendship.

Modi said he paid high attention to the announcement at the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC).
that socialism with Chinese characteristics had entered a new era, while India has its own goal of a "new India."

He agreed with Xi that as two largest developing countries with a combined population of 2.6 billion and two large emerging economies, India and China are stabilizing factors of the world.

He said the development of India and China has important influence on the world, and has positive significance to the vast developing countries.

India and China should make joint efforts in making greater contribution to peace, stability and prosperity of Asia and the world in the 21st century, Modi said, agreeing to maintain high-level strategic communication with China.

The two countries have common concept, a common resolve and common visions in developing bilateral ties, he said.

Modi suggested that the two sides should strengthen contacts and cooperation, enhance mutual understanding and trust, properly handle and control their differences and boost people-to-people friendship, so as to upgrade bilateral relations to a new level.

India firmly pursues an independent foreign policy and supports the globalization, multilateral system and democratic international relations, he said.

Modi said India was ready to work with China to promote the common interests of all developing countries.

WANG QISHAN MEETS WITH EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER SUSHMA SWARAJ OF INDIA

Informal Wuhan Summit
On April 23, 2018, Vice President Wang Qishan met in Zhongnanhai with External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj of India.

Wang Qishan expressed that President Xi Jinping will hold an informal meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It is believed that the two leaders will reach more strategic consensus on bilateral relations and major issues of common concern. Under the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, China continues to give top priority to development, and has been advancing the five-sphere integrated plan. President Xi Jinping announced several major measures at the Boao Forum for Asia, aiming to promote cooperation and development, and safeguard peace and stability so as to build a community with a shared future for mankind. China expects India to play a greater role within the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and jointly maintain multilateral trade system. It is hoped that the two countries will march toward the goal of building closer development partnership.

Sushma Swaraj expressed that India has always attached great importance to its relations with China and stands ready to, together with China, maintain high-level exchanges, increase strategic mutual trust, and well implement the consensus of the meeting between the leaders of the two countries.

YANG JIECHI HOLDS TALKS WITH NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER AJIT DOVAL OF INDIA

On April 13, 2018, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and Director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the CPC Central Committee Yang Jiechi held talks in Shanghai with National Security Adviser Ajit Doval of India.

Both sides agreed that bilateral relations have once again gained new progress after the meeting between President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Xiamen last September. Promoting bilateral relations in a comprehensive and in-depth manner is the expectation of the two peoples, conforms to the fundamental interests of the two sides, and is also conducive to the stability, development and prosperity of Asia and the world. Both sides should continuously follow the spirit of the consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries, firmly grasp the right direction of bilateral relations, accumulate more positive energy, as well as expand new cooperation, in a bid to open up a bright future for bilateral relations.

WANG YI HOLDS TALKS WITH EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER SUSHMA SWARAJ OF INDIA

On April 22, 2018, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi held talks in Beijing with External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj of India.

Wang Yi expressed that under the care and guidance of leaders of both countries, China-India relations have maintained a positive development momentum since the beginning of this year. President Xi Jinping is about to hold an informal meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Both sides should be active in preparations to ensure a complete success of the meeting, and take it as an opportunity to enhance strategic mutual trust, deepen practical cooperation and properly handle differences, so as to achieve common development and
contribute to promoting peaceful development in the region and the world.

Sushma Swaraj noted that the holding of the informal meeting between leaders of India and China embodies the common and strong willingness of both sides to strengthen strategic communication. India is ready to, together with China, advance the meeting to deepen leaders’ friendship, enhance mutual trust between the two countries and elevate India-China strategic cooperative partnership to new highs.

Both sides also exchanged views on the current international and regional situation.

WANG YI: TAKE LEADERS’ INFORMAL MEETING AS OPPORTUNITY TO PROMOTE BETTER AND FASTER DEVELOPMENT OF CHINA-INDIA RELATIONS

On April 22, 2018, when jointly meeting the press with visiting Minister of External Affairs Sushma Swaraj of India in Beijing, State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi expressed that China and India should take the upcoming informal meeting between President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi as an opportunity to promote better and faster development of bilateral relations.

Wang Yi pointed out that for some time in the past, the relevant departments of China and India have worked together and made considerable preparations for the informal meeting of the leaders,
Wang Yi pointed out that the world landscape has been undergoing profound evolution. China and India have developed rapidly at the same time, which will promote the balance of international powers in a more balanced direction as well as a more robust momentum of peace. Both as ancient civilizations, China and India are important neighboring countries to each other and major developing countries with more than 1 billion people. The development of the two countries is not only the prosperity and progress for the one third of the world population, but also the great process that has never been seen in the history of human civilization. The two countries are natural cooperative partners that share far more common interests than differences. Everlasting friendship, mutually beneficial cooperation and common development are inevitable choices for the two countries.

Wang Yi expressed that socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era, and India is at a crucial stage of development and rejuvenation. Against such a background, President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi decided to hold this informal meeting. It will deepen mutual trust between the leaders of the two countries, make strategic judgment on the world landscape and China-India relations, guide bilateral relations to grasp the general direction, set new goals and break new ground. It will not only benefit the two countries and the two peoples, but also exert significant and positive influence on regional and world peace and development.
Narendra Modi will hold an informal meeting in Wuhan, Hubei Province from April 27 to 28. Both countries and the international community pay high attention to it and show positive response to it. China and India are the two largest developing countries and emerging market economies in the world, and the only two major countries with one-billion-plus population. Against the backdrop that the current world landscape has been undergoing profound evolutions, with the world multi-polarization and economic globalization enjoying in-depth development, the balance of international powers becoming more balanced and the general trend of peaceful development showing a more robust momentum, China and India, as two staunch forces to promote world multi-polarization and economic globalization, are the important pillars to advance the peace, stability and prosperity of the region and the world. The strategic and global significance of bilateral relations has become more prominent.

Kong Xuanyou expressed that at present, both China and India are at an important stage of accelerating development, and share similar national conditions as well as embrace similar dreams. The two ancient civilizations are brimming with robust vitality, as well as have shown bright, brilliant and promising prospects. In recent years, under the strategic guidance of the leaders of the two countries, China-India relations have maintained the development momentum, with institutional exchanges being conducted in succession and new progress being achieved from cooperation in various areas. Meanwhile, with the changes of the international situation and respective development of China and India, bilateral relations need further development and also face the opportunity for further improvement.

Kong Xuanyou introduced the reason why Wuhan is chosen as the destination for this informal meeting. As the biggest city in Central China, Wuhan enjoys profound historical background, and has increasingly
intensified exchanges and constantly expanded economic and trade cooperation with India's local states. At the same time, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has visited Chinese cities such as Beijing, Guangzhou, Xi'an, Hangzhou and Xiamen, which means he has been to Eastern, Southern, Western and Northern China except Central China. It is believed that the visit to Wuhan will become a brand new experience of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and further increase his understanding of China.

Kong Xuanyou emphasized that during this informal meeting, the leaders of the two countries will have strategic communication on the most profound and unprecedented changes the world has seen in a century and exchange in-depth views on the overall, long-term and strategic issues of China-India relations in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. It will certainly deepen mutual trust between the two countries, grasp the general direction and set new goals for the development of bilateral relations, and guide bilateral cooperation to break new ground. It will not only benefit the two countries and the two peoples, but also exert significant and positive influence on regional and world peace and development.

Kong Xuanyou expressed that for some period of time in the past, relevant departments of China and India have had intensive interactions on preparations for this meeting and jointly promoted bilateral relations for a sound development momentum. It can be said that the leading and driving role of the informal meeting in China-India relations has become evident. Both sides agreed to, after the meeting, take the implementation of the important consensus of the leaders' informal meeting as the mainline, maintain high-level exchanges and institutional communication, deepen bilateral cooperation, properly deal with differences and strengthen multilateral coordination, in a bid to promote bilateral relations for better and more rapid development at a new starting point.
VICE FOREIGN MINISTER KONG XUANYOU HOLDS CONSULTATION WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY VIJAY GOKHALE OF INDIA

On April 6, 2018, Vice Foreign Minister Kong Xuanyou held consultation with Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale of India in New Delhi.

Speaking highly of the current development momentum of China-India relations, both sides agreed to maintain high-level exchanges, carry out mechanism communication, expand practical cooperation and properly handle differences. Both sides also exchanged views on international and regional issues of common concern.

During his stay in India, Vice Foreign Minister Kong Xuanyou paid a courtesy call on National Security Adviser Ajit Doval of India.
I just came back from Wuhan on May 1. Before going to Wuhan, I was in Beijing participating in the Foreign Ministers’ bilateral meeting on 22 April where State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi held talks with Mdm. Sushma Swaraj, External Affairs Minister at the sidelines of the SCO Foreign Ministers’ Meeting. She also called on Vice President Wang Qishan. The two sides focused on the last-minute preparation of the Wuhan Summit. After that meeting, I flew to Wuhan.

On 27- and 28- April, Wuhan was in the limelight of the world.

The informal summit between President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Modi discussed the landscape of how the dragon and elephant would dance together and the whole picture of the world situation. It is of great significance, fruitful and a milestone in the history of bilateral relations. I want to use five words to outline the outcomes, friendship, cooperation, development, coordination and management.

1. Enhance chemistry and friendship between two leaders

This was the 13- get-together of the two leaders, creating a new model of engagement. Our two peoples enjoyed a long history of friendly exchanges through the ancient silk road, leaving a number of touching stories such as Xuanzang’s journey to learn Buddhism in India and Bodhidharma’s preaching in China. In 1942, Chiang kai-shek, then leader of the nationalist government of China, visited India to coordinate
with India for the anti-Fascism fight. In general, the two countries had more people-to-people exchanges than official exchanges. After the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and India in 1950, Chairman Mao Zedong and Premier Zhou Enlai maintained close contacts with Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. The two sides jointly initiated the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. The leaders’ strategic guidance and top-level design to the bilateral relations are of great importance.

PM Modi’s visit to Wuhan received warm hospitality from the host. The protocol arrangements were to make the guest relaxed, comfortable and feel at home. President Xi told Prime Minister Modi that he was happy to fulfill his sincere promise to host Modi in Wuhan. He also told the guest that he had only received foreign leader twice outside Beijing over the past five years of tenure and both were for Modiji. The First was in Xi’an in 2015. Wuhan is the second. Modiji was deeply touched.

The two leaders spent 9 hours together in 7 events including 4 one-on-one meetings, walking and tea-tasting along the lakeside, boat ride, and museum tour. The first event of the two leaders was to visit Bianzhong, an antique of musical instrument which was unearthed in Sui County in Hubei Province. The talks started from friendly recalling of home diplomacy and long time interaction between the two leaders. Their respective political experiences were also discussed. Then President Xi mentioned civilizations of the Yellow River and the Yangtze River in China. Prime Minister Modi touched upon civilizations of the Indus River and the Ganges River, and recalled his visit to the Three Gorges Dam when he was Chief Minister of Gujarat. Prime Minister Modi also recalled President Xi’s visit to Gujarat when he was presented a vegetarian birthday cake by President Xi.

2. Strengthen mutual trust and bilateral cooperation

The two leaders agreed to continue to maintain strategic communication in different forms such as phone conversation, writing letters, meetings etc.

They discussed about strategic autonomy, concerted efforts to realize Asian Century and reaffirmed that China and India are good neighbors, good friends and good partners.

The two sides agreed to promote trade and reduce trade deficit. They agreed to promote exchanges in the fields of movie, sports, tourism, youth and local contacts. During the meeting, President Xi mentioned that he had watched Bollywood movies such as “Dangal”. The two sides agreed to establish high-level people-to-people exchange mechanism.

Modiji used the word of STRENGTH to identify priorities of bilateral cooperation, namely S for Spirituality, T for Tradition, Trade and Technology, R for Relationship, E for Entertainment such as Movies, Art, Dance, N for Nature conservation, G for Games, T for Tourism and H for Health care and Healing.

3. Deepen synergy between China and India’s developmental strategy

The two leaders exchanged in-depth views on governance. President Xi introduced China’s “Two Centenary Goals”, “Made in China 2025”, employment, urbanization, environment protection, particularly anti-corruption and poverty alleviation. Prime Minister Modi also introduced achievements and experience of his administration, talked about the economic reform measures and hoped that the two sides could share experience with each other.

Through the summit, the two leaders further deepened their understanding of each others’ development strategies and reform measures, and they shared similar views on the historical position, development stage and development goals of the two countries. The two sides viewed each others’ developmental intentions in a positive way and decided to build a Closer Developmental Partnership in an equal, mutually beneficial and sustainable manner. They were also committed to support the modernization of China and India.

4. Reinforce coordination on international and regional issues

The two sides agreed to carry out “China India plus” cooperation in Afghanistan and speed up the economic cooperation under the BCIM framework. The two leaders also exchanged views on development on the Korean Peninsula, respective relations with the United States and Russia, and how to coordinate in the WTO to jointly deal trade frictions with the third party.

Prime Minister Modi briefed President Xi on India’s “neighborhood first” policy and concept of “the world as one”, which coincide with President Xi’s idea of “neighborhood diplomacy as high priority”, and “to build a community
of shared future for mankind”. They believed that China-India relations have influence far beyond the relationship itself and have global significance. As two largest developing countries and emerging market economies each with a population of over one billion, China and India are important engines of world economic growth and backbones of the world’s multipolarization and economic globalization.

The two leaders shared the similar views on globalization and agreed that China and India should join hands to tackle global challenges such as climate change, natural disasters and terrorism, increase the representation and say of developing countries and emerging markets economies, promote a more just and equitable world order, in a bid to forge global economic integration, free trade and multilateralism.

5. Manage differences through friendly negotiations.

State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi has taken up the post of the Special Representative of China-India Boundary Question. The two leaders were committed to finding solutions with regard to border disputes through the Special Representatives’ Meeting while adopting confidence building measures to maintain the peace and tranquility along the border areas.

Friends,

I would like to further introduce the background of the informal summit. During the SCO Astana Summit last June, Prime Minister Modi proposed to hold an informal summit with President Xi. After the Donglang standoff, President Xi reciprocated a positive confirmation to Modiji during the BRICS Summit in Xiamen last September.

After the Xiamen Summit, both sides have been working very hard to prepare for the informal summit. Our Special Representatives of Boundary Question and Foreign Ministers exchanged visits in a short span of time. The Chinese Vice Foreign Minister and the Indian Foreign Secretary exchanged visits as well. The Chinese Commerce Minister was in New Delhi in March. The Kailash-Mansorova Yatra, the trans-border river issue have been resolved. Particularly, upon the closing of China’s Two Sessions on 20 March, President Xi received a phone call
from Prime Minister Modi on his re-election. All the events served as warm-ups and preparations for the informal summit.

I also want to share with you the background of Wuhan Summit in a bigger picture.

From the global perspective, in recent years, the developing countries represented by China and India have emerged as a group, contributing to the evolving international structure of “the rise of the east and the decline of the west”. At the backdrop of the inverse of globalization and rising protectionism, China and India as two of the biggest developing country and the important emerging market countries, are faced with the pressure of established powers. The two countries also need to explore the way to get along with each other as neighboring emerging powers.

From the respective development of China and India, our combined population and GDP account for 40% and 20% of the world’s total. Both countries are at the critical stage of economic development, deepening reform, and advancing modernization. Socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era. The Chinese people are pursuing the Chinese dream. In the meantime, India puts forward a vision of “New India”. We should integrate the developmental strategies and share governing experiences.

From the bilateral perspective, the two leaders met 12 times on different occasions and the bilateral relations have maintained good momentum. China is India’s largest trading partner. Last year, the bilateral trade volume reached 84.4 billion US dollars. More than 800 Chinese companies are investing and starting business in India, creating over one lakh employment opportunities for India. Practicing yoga, watching Bollywood movies and tasting Darjeeling tea have become fashionable among the Chinese youth. We certainly have some disputes such as boundary and Dalai Lama issues, but we’ve been committed to managing disputes.

How to coexist with each other, how to look at respective development and how to judge intentions of China and India, are key issues that urgently call for the strategic guidance from the leaders.

Friends,

What is the way forward after Wuhan Summit? I want to sum up with implementation, transmission and action.

Strategic communications, meetings, heart-to-heart dialogues are important. The equal importance is to implement the consensus, transmit personal friendship between the two leaders down to the people, and take more concrete actions.

First, we should fully implement the consensus reached by the two leaders. Wuhan Summit was not a talk shop and we have a lot of follow-ups to accomplish in the future. The two leaders agreed to instruct their competent departments to work out specific plans and measures to implement the consensus. Both sides should firmly keep the direction of bilateral relations, ensure the effective operation of the dialogue mechanisms, carry out more in-depth practical cooperation and promote broader cultural and people-to-people exchanges. Both sides should strengthen coordination and cooperation in the regional and international affairs, promote regional economic integration and connectivity and support the multilateral trading regime. Both sides should also manage differences in a more mature manner.

Second, we should address the concrete issues. China does not seek the imbalance of trade with India. Although the trade deficit is largely caused by trade structure and market factors, both sides can actively study the solution. We will speed up the cooperation of Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar Framework, identify the project in Afghanistan that China and India can cooperate on and establish a high-level cultural and people-to-people exchange mechanism.

Third, we need to accumulate consensus for the following meetings between the two leaders. President Xi and Prime Minister Modi will meet soon during SCO Summit in Qingdao in June. They are likely to meet again during BRICS Summit in South Africa in July and G20 Summit in Argentina in November this year. We need to grasp the opportunity offered by Wuhan Summit, expand the depth and breadth of cooperation and build consensus for leaders’ meetings in the near future.

Although Wuhan Summit has concluded, but its realistic and long-term historical significance will become more apparent as time goes on.

Thank you.
On April 26, 2018, Indian Newspaper The Hindustan Times published the article "China-India cooperation outweights our differences" of Chinese Ambassador to India Luo Zhaohui. The full text is as follows:

President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Modi will have an informal summit in Wuhan city from April 27th to 28th. It is a major topic of our era for China and India to join hands and respond to the evolving international situation.

Global and strategic significance of China-India relations is rising. As the two largest developing countries and major emerging markets, China and India need to explore ways to get along with each other. With backlash against globalization, heart-to-heart talks between Chinese and Indian leaders will promote free trade, strengthen unity among developing countries and uphold world equity and justice.

The realistic and practical significance of China-India relations is more evident. Both countries are at the critical stage of economic development, deepening reform and modernization. Socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era. The 19th National Congress of CPC laid out the grand blueprint for making China a great modern socialist country in every dimension. India put forward 3-year Action Agenda, blueprint for “New India” by 2022 and the 15-year National Development Agenda. The 3-year Action Agenda mentioned China 67 times. Our development goals have overlapping time span and can learn from each other.

Since 18th National Congress of CPC, President Xi and Prime Minister Modi have met 13 times. The “hometown diplomacy” has become a popular topic. When Doklam standoff broke out, the two leaders’ personal input and wisdom of diplomatic teams together ensured its proper resolution. In Xiamen summit, the two leaders agreed to look forward and reached important consensus for holding the informal summit.

China-India relations are stabilizing and improving, laying a solid foundation for the informal summit. More than 30 dialogue mechanisms have covered all fields. Since the end of last year, China and India’s Special Representatives on Boundary Question and Foreign Ministers exchanged visits. China-India Joint Economic Groups, China-India Strategic Economic Dialogue and other dialogue mechanisms have been activated. These efforts contribute to the positive atmosphere and consensus building for the informal summit.

Economic and trade cooperation is surging against all odds. Bilateral trade volume in 2017 is $84.4 billion. China remains India’s largest trading partner. India is China’s largest market for projects contracting and second largest investment destination. Chinese cellphones occupy half Indian market.

Cultural and personnel exchanges are surging. There are 14 pairs of sister city/province. Personnel exchanges in 2017 exceed 1 million. Over 20,000 Indian
students study in China. 42 flights operate between the two countries every week. It’s a fashion for Chinese youth to practice yoga, drink Darjeeling tea and watch Bollywood movies. In my recent visits to Indian states and universities, many people hoped that China could send teachers to teach Chinese here. Chinese language education has promising prospects in India.

Reality is rooted in history. History is full of touching stories about eminent monks like Xuanzang and Bodhi dharma traveling over mountains and oceans between China and India on lonely trips along ancient Silk Road. In the 1950s, China and India co-proposed Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence (Panchshel), making new contribution to modern international relations. President Xi and PM Modi’s discussions on world trend and guidance on the dance between dragon and elephant will make history and contribute to the process of building a new type of international relations and community with a shared future for mankind.

No doubt that there are many facets to the complex China-India relations. It’s natural for neighbors to have differences. When differences can’t be solved for now, we should properly manage them and focus on cooperation. Our consensus and cooperation far outweigh differences and competition.

For China-India relations, we should bear in mind long term vision, hold reasonably optimistic expectations and give full play to five magic tools, i.e. the “Navigator” of leaders’ strategic guidance, the “Accelerator” of practical cooperation, the “Booster” of people to people exchanges, the “Enhancer” of multilateral cooperation, and the “Stabilizer” of difference control. The ship of China-India friendship is ready for sailing. Let us together look forward to a successful informal summit between the two leaders in Wuhan.

**AMBASSADOR LUO ZHAOHUI GREETS FOLLOWERS ON TWITTER**

Looking forward to witnessing the upcoming historic informal summit between Chinese and Indian leaders. Truly an honor. Happy to share with you my views and experiences about #China-India# relations

H.E. Ambassador Luo Zhaohui greets Twitter followers through a video at his official twitter account LuoZhaohui@China_Amb_India. Visit and share his unique perspective on China-India relations and more.
XI-MODI MEETING A NEW MILESTONE, EXPERTS SAY

Chinese President Xi Jinping and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi held an informal meeting Friday and Saturday in the central Chinese city of Wuhan, underscoring mutual trust and cooperation.

The Xi-Modi meeting has become a new milestone in the development of China-India bilateral relations, said Russian expert Boris Volkhonsky, associate professor of the Institute of Asian and African Studies, Moscow State University.

"The meeting is of great symbolic significance ... It will undoubtedly give impetus and new dynamics to China-India relations," Volkhonsky told Xinhua.

Volkhonsky said addressing global development issues without the participation of China and India is simply impossible. Building trust between the two largest countries in the region would contribute to global peace and stability, he added.

The historic "informal" summit between Xi and Modi would lead to consensus on many long-pending issues between India and China, and it would usher in a new world order of "equals," said Prof. Manoranjan Mohanty, former chairperson of India's premier Institute of Chinese Studies.

This was a milestone like former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's visit in 1988, Mohanty told Xinhua.

Being billed as an informal summit which did not focus on specific issues, the meeting could be an occasion for a frank exchange of views, said Mohanty, who is the incumbent chairperson of the Bhubaneswar-based Development Research Institute.

The important thing was to recognize that it's a new framework for the relationship that the two countries want to develop, in which three things have become important and apparent, said the Indian analyst on China.

First, respecting each other as equals; second, it is a comprehensive framework, not issue-bound; third, it is not about gains in a power-relationship in a particular sphere, but about 2,000 years of history and the future, Mohanty said.

So this is a new framework that has emerged in the two countries' understanding of each other, the expert said.

"The bilateral tete-a-tete may well prove a game-changer," said Alka Acharya, who teaches at the Center for East Asian Studies at Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru University. Acharya, along with many of the Indian media and strategists, was upbeat about the Xi-Modi meeting.

Not that one informal summit between the two leaders would solve the major bilateral problems between India and China, she was quoted as saying by "The Daily Star," the largest English-language newspaper in Bangladesh.

Given their divergences on a host of issues, the fact that Modi and Xi were meeting again is viewed in New Delhi and Beijing as an indication that bilateral ties are resilient, the daily said in an opinion piece published before Xi and Modi met.

INDIAN MEDIA POSITIVE ON XI-MODI 'HEART-TO-HEART SUMMIT'

New Delhi -- The Indian media on Saturday presented a positive and encouraging coverage of the two-day informal meeting between President Xi Jinping and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, that began in China's Central Wuhan City Friday.

Most of the dailies carried front-page reports with photographs of Xi and Modi shaking hands, highlighting the first-of-its-kind meeting.

India's most circulated English daily The Times of India said in its headline: "Modi and Xi set tone by focusing on positives, plan more informal summits", and quoted the Chinese president as calling for
continuous strengthening of friendly relations between the two countries so that their friendship will continue to flow forward like the Yangtze and Ganges rivers.

"The meeting lasted more than two hours instead of the scheduled 30 minutes as Xi and Modi exhibited a desire to impart a new pace to ties and preventing disputes from holding relations to ransom," it reported.

Another national daily, The Hindu, reported Modi as hoping to hold such a meeting in India in 2019.

The people of India feel proud that President Xi has received the Indian prime minister twice out of the capital, the report quoted Modi as telling Xi.

One of the oldest English dailies of India, The Statesman, described the meeting as a "heart-to-heart summit". In a report titled "Modi, Xi hold informal summit to solidify India-China ties", it said "it is being seen as an effort by both India and China to rebuild trust and improve ties."

The Indian Express said there is vast space for the two countries to take their ties to a new level.

Socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era, while India is at a critical period of its development and rejuvenation, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said in Beijing on April 22, after talks with visiting Indian External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj.

Xi and Modi decided to hold their informal meeting against this background, and it will help deepen trust between the two leaders and guide the two countries to set new goals and open up new prospects for bilateral ties, Wang said.

On the morning of April 10, 2018, the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) Annual Conference 2018 was opened in Boao, Hainan Province. President Xi Jinping attended the opening ceremony and delivered a keynote speech themed with "Openness for Greater Prosperity, Innovation for a Better Future", stressing that all countries should conform to the trend of the times, dedicate to openness and win-win outcomes, brave to change and break new ground and keep striving for a community with a shared future for mankind; China will remain unchanged its adherence to the reform and opening up, continue to launch new major measures to pursue further opening, and work with countries in Asia and the rest of the world to jointly create a better tomorrow for Asia and the world.

Boao in April greets all people with gentle breeze, warm sunshine, blue ocean and green mountains. Distinguished guests from various countries gathered here in the main venue of the BFA International Conference Center. At about 9:30 a.m., Xi Jinping and his wife Mme. Peng Liyuan walked into the venue together with couples of foreign leaders including President Alexander Van der Bellen of Austria; President Rodrigo Duterte of the Philippines; Prime Minister Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh of Mongolia; Prime Minister Mark Rutte of the Netherlands; Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi of Pakistan; Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong of Singapore; Secretary-General of the United Nations Antonio Guterres and Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund Christine Lagarde, receiving a standing ovation and warm welcome from the whole audience.

Xi Jinping walked onto the podium and delivered a keynote speech amid warm applause. He pointed out that the BFA has made positive contributions to building consensus in Asia, encouraging cooperation, promoting economic globalization and advancing the building of a community with a shared future for mankind since its inception. The theme of this year's conference is "An Open and
Innovative Asia for A World of Greater Prosperity", which is in line with the trend of the times and reflects the expectations of all parties.

Xi Jinping stressed that this year marks the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening up. Over the past four decades, with united and determined efforts, the Chinese people have added a glorious chapter to the development epic of the country and the nation. Over the last four decades, the Chinese people have significantly unleashed and enhanced productivity in China through hard work with an unyielding spirit, bringing enormous changes to the country. Over the last four decades, the Chinese people have moved forward through determined exploration with a pioneering spirit. The Chinese people have both a keen awareness of national realities and global vision. We champion independence and self-reliance while embracing openness and win-win cooperation. We uphold the socialist system while sticking to the direction of reform to develop the socialist market economy. As we "cross the river by feeling the stones", we have also strengthened top-level planning, successfully blazing a path of socialism with Chinese characteristics. Over the last four decades, the Chinese people have kept forging ahead through keeping pace with the progress of the times. Ours is a truth-seeking nation with an open mind, and a nation that has courageously engaged in self-revolution and self-reform. Ours is an enterprising and pioneering nation. Such are the great strengths of the guiding vision, institutional guarantee and 1.3 billion Chinese people driving history forward. Over the last four decades, the Chinese people have always embraced the world with open arms, made opening up a fundamental national policy, pursued development with an open door and accomplished a great transition from seclusion and semi-seclusion to all-around openness. China has become a key anchor and driver for the world economy and a positive force in advancing the noble cause of global peace and development.

Xi Jinping pointed out that for any country or nation to achieve rejuvenation, they must follow the logic of the history and the trend of the times in their pursuit of progress and development. We live at a time with an overwhelming trend toward peace and cooperation, openness and connectivity, as well as reform and innovation. People around the world should work together toward a community with a shared future for mankind and make Asia and the world peaceful, tranquil, prosperous, open and beautiful.

Xi Jinping stressed that with the future in mind, we need to treat each other with respect and as equals, follow a new approach to state-to-state relations featuring dialogue rather than confrontation, and partnership instead of alliance to work together for enduring peace; We need to promote dialogue and share responsibility to lead us to universal and common security; We need to engage in cooperation for win-win results, build an open global economy, uphold the multilateral trading system to make economic globalization more open, inclusive, balanced and beneficial to all; We need to uphold inclusiveness and seek harmony without uniformity, promote mutual learning among civilizations as it will help us build bridges of friendship, drive social
progress, and safeguard peace for the region and beyond; We need to treat nature with respect and treasure our planet, pursue progress along the path of sustainable development featuring increased production, higher living standards and healthy ecosystems so that our future generations can enjoy blue skies, clear water and lush mountains.

Xi Jinping stressed that socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era, marking a new chapter in China's rejuvenation and its effort for shared prosperity with the rest of the world. In this new era, the Chinese nation will continue to improve itself through reform, stay committed to advancing reform in all respects; The Chinese people will continue to take bold steps in innovation to boost development, and follow the people-centered development philosophy to continuously promote to give our people a greater sense of fulfillment, happiness, and security; The Chinese people will continue to increase openness and expand cooperation.

stay committed to the strategy of opening up for win-win results; The Chinese people will continue to work together with the rest of the world and make greater contribution to humanity. China will stick to the path of peaceful development and firmly support multilateralism.

Xi Jinping pointed out that what has happened proves that opening up was key to China's economic growth over the past 40 years and in the same vein, high-quality development of China's economy in the future can only be achieved with greater openness. China's door of opening up will not be closed and will only open even wider. It is a strategic decision made by China based on its need for development as well as a concrete action taken by China to move economic globalization forward in a way that benefits people across the world.

Xi Jinping announced that China will adopt a series of new major measures to pursue further opening. First, we will significantly broaden market access. We will ensure the implementation of measures to raise foreign equity caps in the banking, securities and insurance industries. At the same time, we will make more moves toward further opening, including accelerating the opening up of the insurance industry, easing restrictions on the establishment of foreign financial institutions in China and expanding their business scope, and opening up more areas of cooperation between Chinese and foreign financial markets. We will ease as soon as possible foreign equity restrictions in automobiles.

Second, we will create a more attractive investment environment. We will enhance alignment with international economic and trading rules, increase transparency, strengthen property rights protection, uphold the rule of law, encourage competition and oppose monopoly. In the first six months of this year, we will finish the revision of the negative list on foreign
investment and implement across the board the management system based on pre-establishment national treatment and negative list.

Third, we will strengthen protection of intellectual property rights (IPR). We are re-instituting the State Intellectual Property Office to strengthen the ranks of its officers, step up law enforcement, and significantly raise the cost for offenders. Protect the lawful IPR owned by foreign enterprises in China. We hope foreign governments will also improve protection of Chinese IPR.

Fourth, we will take the initiative to expand imports. China does not seek trade surplus; we have a genuine desire to increase imports and achieve greater balance of international payments under the current account. This year, we will significantly lower the import tariffs for automobiles and reduce import tariffs for some other products. We will seek faster progress toward joining the World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement. We hope developed countries will stop imposing restrictions on normal and reasonable trade of high-tech products and relax export controls on such trade with China. This November, we will hold the first China International Import Expo in Shanghai. Friends from around the world are welcome to participate in the Expo.

Xi Jinping pointed out that with regard to all those major initiatives of opening up that I have just announced, we have every intention to translate them into reality, sooner rather than later. We want the outcomes of our opening up efforts to deliver benefits as soon as possible to all enterprises and people in China and around the world. I am confident that with these efforts, China will enter a new phase of opening up.

Xi Jinping stressed that the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) may be China’s idea, but its opportunities and outcomes are going to benefit the world. As long as the parties embrace the principle of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, we can surely make the BRI the broadest platform for international cooperation in keeping with the trend of economic globalization. Let us dedicate ourselves to openness and win-win outcomes, be brave to change and break new ground, and keep striving for a community with a shared future for mankind and a better tomorrow for Asia and the world.

During the speech, the attendees burst into warm applause many times.

At the opening ceremony, Director-General of BFA Yasuo Fukuda delivered a welcoming speech, and attending foreign political heavyweights and entrepreneur representatives also respectively delivered speeches. They said that China’s reform and opening up has scored remarkable and great achievements, which not only promotes the rapid development of China’s own economy and society, but also brings great opportunities for the development of various countries in the world. A series of policies and measures to pursue further opening launched by China exhilarate the world, demonstrating that China will continue to firmly push forward reform and opening up in the future. This is a boon to the people of China and the rest of the world and will vigorously promote the common development and prosperity of the world.

Prior to the opening ceremony, Xi Jinping respectively posed for group photos with representatives from Media Leaders Summit for Asia, representatives of Chinese and foreign entrepreneurs, representatives from Hong Kong, Macao, overseas Chinese communities as well as representatives of Cross-Straits Common Market Foundation. Afterwards, Xi Jinping and Peng Liyuan went to the welcome hall to greet couples of foreign leaders and posed for group photos.

After the opening ceremony, Xi Jinping and Peng Liyuan held a welcoming banquet for attending distinguished guests.

Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), Member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee and Director of the General Office of the CPC Central Committee Ding Xuexiang; Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Vice Premier Liu He; Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee Yang Jiechi; Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, Member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee and Head of the Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee Huang Kunming; State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi; Vice Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference He Lifeng as well as others attended the above activities.

The BFA Annual Conference 2018 was held from April 8 to 11, with the theme of “An Open and Innovative Asia for a World of Greater Prosperity”. More than 2,000 people including leaders from several countries and regions, principals of international organizations, people from political and business circles, experts and scholars attended the BFA.
Boao, China, April 10 (Xinhua) -- Chinese President Xi Jinping pledged to expand opening-up and promote global prosperity in a keynote speech on Tuesday at this year's Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) annual conference, winning praise from world leaders in attendance.

The four-day annual meeting, which opened on Sunday in Boao, a resort in China's southern island province of Hainan, is themed "An Open and Innovative Asia for a World of Greater Prosperity."

As this year marks the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening-up, Xi stressed that "China's reform and opening-up meets its people's aspiration for development, innovation and a better life. It also meets the global trend toward development, cooperation and peace."

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said the past four decades saw changes not only in China but also in its active relations with the world.

The Belt and Road Initiative, he said, "can contribute significantly to a more fair, peaceful and prosperous world."

He also said that he agreed with Xi on the irreversible trend of globalization, saying "our destination must be a fair globalization that leaves no one behind as the best way to peaceful and sustainable development for peoples, communities and countries."

"But one thing must be very clear: we won't make globalization fair by isolationism, protectionism or exclusion," he added.

Proposed by Xi in 2013, the Belt and Road Initiative aims to achieve policy, infrastructure, trade, financial and people-to-people connectivity along and beyond the ancient Silk Road trade routes, thus building a platform for international cooperation to create new drivers of growth.
Austrian President Alexander Van der Bellen said the past 40 years witnessed "the success of the Chinese policy of economic reform and opening-up," adding that "my talks with the leadership, the government and circles of China confirmed my impression that China is committed to continue along this road and this would be in interests of both China and global partners."

Pakistani Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi said "President Xi's historic Belt and Road Initiative has become a global public good, beneficial to all and bringing equality to an unequal world. This strategic initiative is a win-win proposition and brings shared prosperity for all."

Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said he is very glad to hear President Xi to announce further steps to open the financial sector, protecting intellectual property rights and increasing imports, in order for China to go further in the direction.

Lee also said the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the Belt and Road Initiative are "two major efforts by China to contribute to the regional structure and regional prosperity."

Since 2013, more than 80 countries and international organizations have signed cooperation agreements with China.

The Belt and Road Initiative may be China's idea, but its opportunities and outcomes will benefit the world, Xi said in his speech, adding that China has no geopolitical calculations, seeks no exclusionary blocs and imposes no business deals on others.

XI’S BOAO FORUM SPEECH MAKES THIS HAINAN FOLK SONG A HIT

"Long time no see! Although we are with each other right now, I know I cannot wait to see you again," Chinese President Xi Jinping borrowed words from a local folk song to extend his greetings to global guests at the opening ceremony of the 2018 Boao Forum for Asia held on April 10 in Boao, South China's Hainan Province.

"Long Time No See", a love song of the Li ethnic group in Hainan, is regarded as a window to Hainan music. The Li people are adept at singing and dancing. As one of the
original residents on the Hainan Island, they have their own culture, in which music is the most splendid part.

Folk songs are an important tool to pass on the ethnic culture and customs as the Li ethnic group doesn’t have its own written characters. In 2008, the Li folk songs were put onto the national intangible cultural heritage list.

The Li folk songs are very distinctive even regionally. They cover a wide range of themes, including story-telling and feeling expression and they are sung at various occasions, such as at workplaces and at happy ceremonies.

The tunes of the Li songs are also rich. They are graceful and lyrical, resounding and bold, soft and touching, signifying the positive, unsophisticated, straightforward and firm character of the Li people.

One sentence of a song in the Li language normally consists of five words, while those found in the Hainan dialect generally consists of seven words. Furthermore, locally four sentences are referred to as chapters.

NEW CHAPTER FOR “XIPLOMACY”

Boao, Hainan, April 10 (Xinhua) - - This year’s Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) is the first since China’s commitment to building a community with a shared future for humanity was written into the country’s Constitution last month.

The vision, together with China’s proposal of building “a new type of international relations,” represents the country’s efforts to search for the answer to a simple question: What kind of future does humanity wish to create?

In his keynote speech delivered Tuesday at the opening ceremony of the BFA annual conference, Chinese President Xi Jinping further explained the concept of a community with a shared future for humanity, which is characterized by treating each other with respect and as equals, promoting dialogue and sharing responsibility, engaging in cooperation for win-win results, upholding inclusiveness and seeking harmony without uniformity, as well as treating nature with respect and treasuring the planet.

He called for people around the world to work together toward a community with a shared future for humanity and make Asia and the world peaceful, tranquil, prosperous, open and beautiful.

This is Xi’s first home-court
diplomacy since he was unanimously re-elected Chinese president in March.

Apart from the BFA annual conference, three other key global events will be hosted by China this year and are all expected to be attended by Xi.

In June, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) members will meet at the Qingdao summit, the first since the SCO expanded to include India and Pakistan as full members in 2017.

In September, the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation in Beijing will propose feasible ways to encourage more African countries to become involved in the Belt and Road Initiative.

Then in November, the first China International Import Expo will take place in Shanghai, where China would reach out to show its market potential.

These events will demonstrate that China welcomes all countries to participate in and share the new opportunities that come along with its development.

They will also exhibit the "major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics," which embodies championing peace, being non-threatening, standing up for the small and weak, and sharing development opportunities.

Xi is the chief architect of the major-country diplomacy concept and has been personally involved in planning and conducting head-of-state diplomacy.

Over the past five years, Xi has visited 57 countries and received more than 110 foreign heads of state.

Through his travels and diplomatic meetings, Xi has helped deepen the world’s understanding of a rising China, reshaped the Asian country’s new role on the world stage and offered new ways forward in tackling the most pressing global problems.

At a time when the world is undergoing a new round of major development, great change and profound readjustment, Xi said that humanity has a major choice to make between openness and isolation, and between progress and retrogression.

At the BFA annual conference, the president unveiled new measures for expanding reform and opening-up, including significantly broadening
market access, creating a more attractive investment environment, strengthening protection of intellectual property rights, and taking the initiative to expand imports.

The initiatives sent a strong message that China’s door of opening-up will not be closed and will only open even wider, showing its resolve and sincerity to share opportunities with the rest of the world and promote common development.

Xi’s speech has received wide recognition in the international community. The speech added certainty and hope to the world today, and the world needs leadership like China, said International Monetary Fund Managing Director Christine Lagarde.

BFA ANNUAL CONFERENCE CONCLUDES WITH GLOBALIZATION CONSENSUS

Boao Hainan, April 11 (Xinhua) - The Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) annual conference 2018 concluded Wednesday with major achievements made in promoting globalization amid rising uncertainties in the world.

Zhou Wenzhong, secretary-general of the BFA, elaborated on the consensus at a press conference on Wednesday afternoon.

-- A more open and innovation-driven Asia is the ballast stone and inexhaustible source of impetus for world peace, prosperity and development.

In the past four days, more than 2,000 participants and over 1,000 journalists talked about the Belt and Road Initiative, opening-up, innovation and structural reform in 65 panel discussions and put forward proposals.

— Chinese President Xi Jinping’s speech was the keynote of the annual conference.

Xi’s speech was a vivid explanation of the annual
conference’s theme. China’s reform and opening-up achievements in the past four decades have offered Chinese experience and wisdom to Asia’s opening-up and innovation. China’s pledge to adhere to reform and opening-up and expand opening-up is a strong support for globalization and free trade.

— The significance of globalization and free trade to world’s prosperity and development was highlighted.

Participants agreed that globalization is irreversible, and open, free and win-win trade conforms to the common interests of Asia, Europe and other parts of the world. They spoke positively of the Belt and Road Initiative.
XI JINPING HOLDS TALKS WITH KIM JONG-UN

At the invitation of General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and President Xi Jinping, Chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) and Chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) Kim Jong-un paid an unofficial visit to China from March 25 to 28, 2018.

During the visit, Xi Jinping held talks with Kim Jong-un at the Great Hall of the People. General Secretary Xi Jinping and his wife Mme. Peng Liyuan held a welcoming banquet for Chairman Kim Jong-un and his wife Mme. Ri Sol-ju and watched an art performance together.

Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Premier Li Keqiang, Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central
Committee and Member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee Wang Huning and Vice President Wang Qishan respectively attended related activities.

During the talks, Xi Jinping expressed warm welcome on behalf of the CPC Central Committee to Kim Jong-un for his first visit to China. Xi Jinping expressed that you sent me a congratulatory message after the 19th CPC National Congress on my re-election as General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee and the assumption of office as Chairman of the CPC Central Military Commission (CMC), and sent a congratulatory message to me again several days ago at the first moment after my election as Chinese President and Chairman of the CMC of China, for which I am grateful. Xi Jinping said that Kim Jong-un’s visit to China this time, which comes at a special time and of great significance, fully embodies the great importance that Comrade Chairman and the WPK Central Committee have attached to the relations between the two parties and the two countries. China speaks highly of this visit.

Kim Jong-un expressed that major and happy events have taken place consecutively in China recently, as the 19th CPC National Congress was held successfully last year, and the Two Sessions were successfully held not long ago. Comrade Xi Jinping enjoyed the support of the CPC and the people of the whole country, became the core of the leadership and was elected as Chinese President and Chairman of the CMC of China. Kim Jong-un said that according to the DPRK-China friendly tradition, it is his obligation to come to China to congratulate Xi Jinping in person. At present, the Korean Peninsula situation has been developing rapidly and many important changes have taken place. Kim Jong-un said that he should also brief Comrade General Secretary Xi Jinping in person and in time on the situation out of comradeship and moral responsibility.

Xi Jinping pointed out that the China-DPRK traditional friendship, established personally and cultivated meticulously by the elder generations of leaders of both parties and both countries, is the precious wealth of both sides. Looking back into those years, with common ideals and beliefs as well as profound revolutionary friendship, the elder generations of leaders of the two countries trusted and supported each other, writing a fine story in the history of international relations. Several generations of the leaders of China and the DPRK have maintained close exchanges all the time and paid frequent visits to each other like relatives. The two parties and the two countries have supported each other and coordinated with each other during long-term practices, making important contributions to the development of the socialist cause. Both Comrade Chairman and I have personally experienced and witnessed the development of the China-DPRK relationship. Both sides have stated repeatedly that the China-DPRK traditional friendship should be passed on continuously and developed better. This is a strategic choice and also the only right choice both sides have made based on history and reality, the international and regional structure and the general situation of the China-DPRK relations. This should not and will not change because of any single event at a particular time.

Xi Jinping stressed that the CPC and the Chinese government highly value the China-DPRK friendly cooperative relations. It has always been an unswerving policy of the CPC and the Chinese government to well maintain, consolidate and develop the relations with the DPRK. The Chinese side is willing to, together with comrades of the DPRK, remain true to original aspiration, jointly move forward, and promote long-term, sound and stable development of the China-DPRK relations, in a bid to benefit the two countries and the two peoples as well as make new contributions to regional peace, stability and development. Firstly, continue giving play to the leading role of high-level exchanges. High-level exchanges have always played the most important leading and promoting role in the development of the China-DPRK relations. Under the new circumstances, I am willing to keep frequent contacts with Comrade Chairman through various forms including mutual visits, and sending special envoys and letters to each other. Secondly, make full use of the time-tested valuable practices of strategic communication. It is a splendid tradition of the two parties to have frequent and in-depth exchanges of views on major issues. Both sides should give full play to the important role of party-to-party exchanges, promote exchanges and cooperation between the two countries in various areas, and strengthen communication and mutual trust. Thirdly, actively advance peaceful development. At present, socialism with Chinese
characteristics has entered a new era, and the DPRK's socialist construction has also ushered in a new historical period. The Chinese side stands ready to make joint efforts with the DPRK to conform to the trend of the times, hold high the banner of peace, development, cooperation and win-win results, continuously improve the well-beings of the two peoples, and make positive contributions to regional peace, stability and development. Fourthly, cement the public opinion foundation for the China-DPRK friendship. The two sides should, through various ways, enhance exchanges and contacts between the two peoples, consolidate the public opinion foundation for bilateral friendly relations, especially enhance youth exchanges between the two countries, and inherit and carry forward the fine tradition of the China-DPRK friendship.

Kim Jong-un expressed that he is greatly encouraged and inspired by General Secretary Xi Jinping’s important views on DPRK-China friendship and the development of the relations between the two parties and countries. The DPRK-China friendship, which was forged personally and nurtured together by the elder generations of leaders of both countries, is unshakable. It is a strategic choice of the DPRK to pass on and develop friendship with China under the new situation, and it will remain unchanged under any circumstances. Kim Jong-un said that he hopes to meet with Chinese comrades, enhance strategic communication, and deepen traditional friendship during his visit this time. It is hoped to have opportunities to meet with Comrade General Secretary frequently, and keep close communication through such means as sending special envoys and personal letters to each other, so as to promote the guidance of high-level meetings to the relations between the two parties and countries to a new level.

Both sides informed each other of their respective domestic situations. Xi Jinping said that the 19th CPC National Congress has drawn a grand blueprint for building China into a great modern socialist country in all respects, namely, building a moderately prosperous society in all respects by 2020, having basically achieved socialist modernization by 2035 and building China into a great modern socialist country that is prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious, and beautiful by the middle of the century. The CPC will lead the Chinese people of all ethnic
groups to forge ahead with great determination and work hard to continuously strive for the realization of the Chinese Dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. China has noticed that Comrade Chairman has led the WPK and the people of the DPRK in taking a series of active measures and scoring many achievements in developing economy and improving people’s livelihood in recent years. China expects political stability, economic development and people’s happiness in the DPRK, and supports the WPK, led by Comrade Chairman, in leading the people of the DPRK to continuously move forward along the path of socialism, as well as the positive endeavors by comrades of the DPRK in developing economy and improving people’s livelihood.

Kim Jong-un expressed that since the 18th CPC National Congress, the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at the core has, with tremendous political courage and a strong sense of responsibility, put forward new thinking and new ideas, put them into action, and solved many tough problems and major events that were never resolved for a long time. These achievements fully proved that the lines of the CPC are correct lines that conform to the national conditions. In particular, Comrade General Secretary has put forward that the Party should exercise effective self-supervision and practice strict self-governance in every respect, which has greatly strengthened the Party building and realized the overall Party leadership over all work. At present, the WPK has also been intensifying its efforts in fighting against arrogance, bureaucracy and corruption. He sincerely hoped that China will continuously make new great achievements in the course of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects and a great modern socialist country.

The two leaders exchanged in-depth views on the international and the Korean Peninsula situation.

Xi Jinping pointed out that there have been positive changes in the situation of the Korean Peninsula since this year, and the DPRK has made the important efforts to this end. China expresses appreciation in this regard. On the Korean Peninsula issue, China sticks to the goal of denuclearization of the Peninsula, safeguarding peace and stability on the Peninsula and solving problems through dialogue and consultation. China calls on all parties to support the improvement of the relations between the DPRK and the Republic of Korea (ROK), and jointly make concrete efforts to facilitate peace talks. China is willing to continue playing a constructive role in the Peninsula issue and work with all parties, including the DPRK, to jointly promote the situation on the Peninsula toward easing.

Kim Jong-un expressed that the current situation on the Korean Peninsula is starting to get better, as the DPRK has taken the measures proactively to ease tensions and put forward proposals for peace talks. It is the DPRK’s consistent stand to be committed to the realization of denuclearization on the Peninsula, which is in accordance with the will of late President Kim Il-sung and late General Secretary Kim Jong-il. The DPRK is determined to transform the DPRK-ROK relations into a relationship of reconciliation and cooperation and hold summit between the heads of the two sides. The DPRK is willing to have dialogue with the United States (US) and hold a summit between the heads of the two countries. If the ROK and the US respond to the DPRK’s efforts with goodwill, and create an atmosphere of peace and stability while taking periodical and synchronous measures for the realization of peace, the issue of denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula can be resolved. The DPRK hopes to enhance strategic communication with China during the process, and jointly safeguard the momentum of consultation and dialogue as well as peace and stability on the Peninsula.

Prior to the talks, Xi Jinping held a welcoming ceremony for Kim Jong-un at the North Hall of the Great Hall of the People.

After the talks, Xi Jinping and his wife Mme. Peng Liyuan held a welcoming banquet for Kim Jong-un and his wife Mme. Ri Sol-ju. While delivering an address, Xi Jinping expressed that in the beautiful season of spring when everything comes back to life, the unofficial visit of Comrade Kim Jong-un and Mme. Ri Sol-ju to China is of great significance for the two countries to deepen communication, strengthen coordination and promote cooperation, and will push the relations between the two parties and the two countries to new highs in the new historical phase, as well as make important contributions to pushing forward the peace, stability and development in the region. Just now, I had candid and friendly talks with...
Chairman Kim Jong-un. We agreed that inheriting and carrying forward the traditional friendship between China and the DPRK conform to the common interests of both sides, and are the common strategic choices of both sides. No matter how the international and regional situation changes, both sides will firmly grasp the general trend of global development and the overall situation of the China-DPRK relationship, strengthen high-level exchanges, deepen strategic communication, and expand exchanges and cooperation, so as to benefit the people of both countries and the people of all countries.

Kim Jong-un said in his address that under the situation of the Korean Peninsula which is undergoing unprecedented great changes, he pays a swift visit to China out of good wishes for promoting peace and stability on the Peninsula, and carrying on and developing the DPRK-China friendship. He chose China as the destination of his first overseas visit, which shows his will to inherit the tradition of the DPRK-China friendship, and how he values the friendship between the two countries. Kim Jong-un has had successful talks with General Secretary Xi Jinping on developing the relations between the two parties and two countries, respective domestic situations, maintaining of peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and other topics. Kim Jong-un believed that in this fresh spring full of happiness and hopes, his first meeting with General Secretary Xi Jinping will yield abundant fruits of the DPRK-China friendship, and promote peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula.

During the visit, Xi Jinping and his wife Mme. Peng Liyuan also held a luncheon for Kim Jong-un and his wife Mme. Ri Sol-ju in the Yangyuanzhai Room of the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse. Xi Jinping said that the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse has witnessed the development of the traditional friendship between the two countries, and the close relations between leaders of the elder generations of the two parties and two countries have set an example for both sides. China welcomes Chairman Kim Jong-un and Mme. Ri Sol-ju to visit China frequently.

Kim Jong-un expressed that the DPRK-China friendship is especially precious. He would like to join hands with Comrade General Secretary to follow the noble will of leaders of the elder generations, carry on and develop the DPRK-China friendship that remains unchanged despite winds and rains, and elevate it to new highs under new circumstances.

Kim Jong-un also visited an exhibition showcasing the Innovation Achievements of the Chinese Academy of Sciences since the 18th CPC National Congress themed on Taking the Lead and Forging ahead. He showed his admiration for China's accomplishments in the development and innovation of science and technology, and wrote an inscription to mark the visit after the activity.

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 Ding Xuexiang; Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee Yang Jiechi; Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, Member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee and Head of the Commission for Political and Legal Affairs of the CPC Central Committee Guo Shengkun; Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, Member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee and Head of the Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee Huang Kunming; Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Secretary of the CPC Beijing Municipal Committee Cai Qi; State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi and others attended the relevant activities.

Vice Chairman of the WPK Central Committee and Director of the Organization and Guidance Department Choe Ryong-hae; Vice Chairman of the WPK Central Committee and Director of the Propaganda and Agitation Department Pak Kwang-ho; Vice Chairman of the WPK Central Committee and Director of the International Department Ri Su-yong; Vice Chairman of the WPK Central Committee and Director of the United Front Department Kim Yong-chol; DPRK Foreign Minister Ri Yong-ho and others accompanied Kim Jong-un on his visit to China and attended related activities.
On April 3, 2018, President Xi Jinping held talks with President Emmerson Mnangagwa of Zimbabwe at the Great Hall of the People. The two heads of state jointly agreed to elevate position of China-Zimbabwe relations to the comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership to promote bilateral relations for better development.

Xi Jinping pointed out that the Zimbabwean people have embarked on a new journey in building their country since Mr. President took office last November. As a good friend, good partner and good brother of Zimbabwe, we are sincerely glad to see that. For a long time, China and Zimbabwe have witnessed close relations between each other and the two parties. Both
sides have always enjoyed mutual respect and equal treatment, maintained high-level political mutual trust, achieved fruitful results from economic and trade cooperation, and witnessed various highlights of people-to-people and cultural exchanges. The development of China-Zimbabwe relations is facing new opportunities under the new situation. China stands ready to work with Zimbabwe to jointly plan a new blueprint for bilateral cooperation and continue writing a new chapter of China-Zimbabwe relations, so as to better benefit the two countries and their peoples.

Xi Jinping stressed that Mr. President is an old friend of the Chinese people who has been long committed to the cause of China-Zimbabwe friendship. You chose China as the first country outside Africa to visit, fully demonstrating the high importance you attach to China-Zimbabwe relations. China and Zimbabwe have always been "all-weather" friends. No matter how the international landscape changes, the two countries have always stood together through thick and thin and sharing weal and woe. Bilateral friendship will emerge even fresher and remain unshakable and become even firmer as time goes by. Both sides should maintain the momentum of high-level exchanges, cement exchanges at all levels, well carry out top-level design and plan for cooperation in various fields and continue to understand and support each other on issues regarding respective core interests and major concerns. The two sides need to enhance the alignment of development strategies, deepen cooperation within the frameworks of the "Belt and Road" and the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), and continue to orderly promote cooperation in such areas as infrastructure construction, agriculture, investment and financing.

China supports Zimbabwe in exploring a development path in line with its own national conditions. The two countries should enhance people-to-people and cultural cooperation so as to continuously consolidate the public opinion and social foundation of bilateral friendship. China is willing to strengthen coordination and cooperation in regional and international affairs with Zimbabwe. The Chinese side calls on related western countries and organizations to improve relations with Zimbabwe at an early date, and do more practical things for the development of Zimbabwe.

Emmerson Mnangagwa congratulated Xi Jinping once again on his election as Chinese President. Speaking highly of Xi Jinping's foresight and sagacity on state governance and administration, Emmerson Mnangagwa pointed out that Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era is of great enlightenment for Zimbabwe to follow a development path with its own characteristics. He noted that he remembered clearly his study in China in the 1960s, expressing great admiration for the development achievements the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the country have scored in past decades. Zimbabwe-China traditional friendship has endured the test of time and change of situation. The Zimbabwean government and the people will never forget China's long-term support, and thank China for its assistance to improve people's livelihood of the country for many years. Zimbabwe will always adhere to the one-China policy, and stands ready to, together with China, promote the comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership, enhance communication on state governance and administration, expand all-round practical cooperation in such areas as trade, investment, science and technology, telecommunication, infrastructure and enhance people-to-people and cultural exchanges.

Zimbabwe commits itself to deepening Africa-China friendly relations, speaks highly of China's great "Belt and Road" initiative, and supports cooperation under the FOCAC framework and Africa to take an active part in cooperation under the "Belt and Road" construction.

Xi Jinping pointed out that China-Africa friendship is deeply rooted in the hearts of the two peoples and is the precious wealth of both sides. The 19th CPC National Congress has put forward that China will commit to working with all countries to build a new type of international relations and a community with a shared future for mankind, as well as enhance unity and cooperation with developing countries including Africa. No matter how the international landscape may change and to what stage China develops, China will, as always, stand with vast number of developing countries including African countries, and be a sincere friend and a reliable partner of Africa forever.

After the talks, the two heads of state jointly witnessed the signing of bilateral cooperation documents in such areas as economic technology, agriculture, science and technology and human resources development.

Prior to the talks, Xi Jinping held a welcoming ceremony for Emmerson Mnangagwa at the North Hall of the Great Hall of the People. President Xi Jinping's wife, Mme. Peng Liyuan; Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee Yang Jiechi; Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Eligien Imibakhi; State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi; Vice Chairmen of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Wang Zhengwei and He Lifeng as well as others were present.
XI JINPING HOLDS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT ALEXANDER VAN DER BELLEN OF AUSTRIA
– THE TWO HEADS OF STATE JOINTLY AGREE TO ESTABLISH CHINA-AUSTRIA FRIENDLY STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP AND PROMOTE CHINA-AUSTRIA PRACTICAL COOPERATION TO NEW HIGHS
On April 8, 2018, President Xi Jinping held talks at the Great Hall of the People with President Alexander Van der Bellen of Austria. The two heads of state jointly agreed to establish China-Austria friendly strategic partnership and promote China-Austria practical cooperation to new highs. Chancellor Sebastian Kurz of Austria was present.

Xi Jinping welcomed Alexander Van der Bellen to pay a state visit to China for the first time and attend Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference. Xi Jinping pointed out that it is the first time in the history of China-Austria exchanges that Mr. President headed a large high-level delegation composing of Chancellor Sebastian Kurz and several ministers to visit China, fully demonstrating the great importance President himself and the Austrian government attach to developing relations with China. Mr. President will also lay a wreath at the Monument to the People's Heroes, which shows his respect towards and friendship with the Chinese people. Austria is an important cooperative partner of China in Europe. Both countries enjoy a long-standing history and splendid culture, and the two peoples hold friendly feelings towards each other. China appreciates that the new Austrian government led by Chancellor Sebastian Kurz has for the first time written into its ruling programme the contents of actively developing relations with China as well as the "Belt and Road" initiative. China is willing to, together with Austria, jointly tap and release the potential for bilateral cooperation and sow more seeds of friendship and cooperation, so as to better benefit the two peoples.

Xi Jinping stressed that China and Austria enjoy high economic complementarities, many converging points of interests, and broad fields, large space and great potential for cooperation. Both sides should take the establishment of friendly strategic partnership as an opportunity to enhance political guidance and top-level design, maintain the momentum of high-level exchanges, carry out more extensive communication and dialogue in various fields, upgrade the level of bilateral cooperation in such areas as judiciary, security and law enforcement, anti-corruption, fugitive repatriation and asset recovery and strengthen communication on multilateral affairs, in a bid to jointly safeguard world peace and stability. The two countries should expand new dimensions of bilateral practical cooperation and new channels of trade. China appreciates Austria's open attitude towards Chinese investment, and will continue expanding the opening up of the market. China welcomes more Austrian enterprises to invest in China. Both sides need to jointly push forward Asia-Europe connectivity to share huge market opportunities. China welcomes Austria to take an in-depth participation in cooperation between China and Central and Eastern European countries, and stands ready to enhance the alignment of respective development strategies with the Austrian side. China and Austria should continuously strengthen cooperation in joint research on giant pandas, tourism and other people-to-people and cultural areas, in a bid to make bilateral friendship get deeper into the hearts of the people.
Xi Jinping pointed out that this year marks the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the comprehensive strategic partnership between China and the European Union (EU). China-EU relations enjoy an overall sound development momentum. The EU's maintenance of unity, stability, openness and prosperity conforms to China's interests. China's consistent stance of supporting the European integration remains unchanged. It is hoped that Austria will actively play a constructive role in cementing China-EU strategic mutual trust and promoting China-EU all-round cooperation.

Alexander Van der Bellen expressed that he is very pleased to visit China. Since the reform and opening up, China has made unprecedented economic achievements and also provided important opportunities for the cooperation between Austria and China. It is delightful to see the sustained and in-depth development of bilateral relations. Austria is committed to deepening communication and cooperation with China in such areas as economy and trade, investment, scientific research, environmental protection, clean energy, culture and sports. Austria speaks highly of China's positive role in global affairs including countering climate change, and stands ready to cement communication and coordination with China. Austria will take over the rotating presidency of the EU this July, and the country is willing to play a positive role in deepening EU-China cooperation. Sebastian Kurz congratulated China on its proud development achievements. Austria is very glad to be a partner of China. It is unprecedented that President of Austria headed such a large delegation during his visit, which fully shows the enthusiasm of various circles in Austria for developing relations with China. Austria is full of expectation for pushing forward fruitful cooperation with China, and stands ready to facilitate closer Austria-China relations.

After the talks, both sides issued the Joint Declaration on Establishing Friendly Strategic Partnership Between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Austria. The two heads of state jointly witnessed the signing of bilateral cooperation documents in such areas as the "Belt and Road" cooperation, judiciary, innovation, transportation, modern distribution, culture, sports and intellectual property rights.

Prior to the talks, Xi Jinping held a welcoming ceremony for Alexander Van der Bellen at the North Hall of the Great Hall of the People. President Xi Jinping's wife Mme. Peng Liyuan; Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), Member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee and Director of the General Office of the CPC Central Committee Ding Xuexiang; Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Vice Premier Liu He; Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Chen Zhu; State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi; Vice Chairmen of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Chen Xiaoguang and He Lifeng as well as others were present.

**XI JINPING MEETS WITH WEF CHAIRMAN KLAUS SCHWAB**

On April 16, 2018, President Xi Jinping met with Chairman of the World Economic Forum (WEF) Klaus Schwab at the Great Hall of the People.

Xi Jinping pointed out that, at present, the world economy has showed some positive and sound momentum, but many problems facing the world economy have not been fundamentally addressed. The three major fundamental contradictions, namely lack of kinetic energy for global growth, inadequate global economic governance and uneven global development, which as I pointed out in Davos last year, are still prominent. Recently, the de-globalization trend and protectionism sentiment are on the rise, aggravating risks and uncertainties in world economy. The fourth industrial revolution is thriving, yet it also implies many risks and challenges. There are so many problems and challenges in the world, and it is still necessary to respond through equal consultation and enhancement of multilateral cooperation. History has repeatedly proved that isolation can only lead to a dead-end alley, and that the path will become wider and wider only through openness and cooperation. Major countries bear important and special responsibilities...
in this regard. As a responsible major country, China is willing to, together with the international community, conduct cooperation in opening up and pursue win-win results through cooperation, in a bid to play a positive role in bringing bright, stable and beautiful prospects to the world and make more constructive contributions. At the just-concluded Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) Annual Conference several days ago, I announced a series of major measures of China to expand opening up. Words must be followed by actions and actions must be taken with resolve. It is China’s solemn promise to the Chinese people and the people of the world.

Xi Jinping expressed that the cooperation between China and the WEF has almost synchronized with the process of China’s reform and opening up. Both sides should keep up with the times, enhance cooperation, jointly strive to seek new driving forces for the world economic growth, and find out realistic and feasible solutions to address global challenges.

Klaus Schwab expressed that President Xi Jinping’s splendid speech at the WEF Annual Meeting last year was unforgettable and widely applauded by the world today. President Xi Jinping’s speech at the opening ceremony of the BFA Annual Conference 2018 has once again drawn attention of the world and gained extensive praise. The proposals of President Xi Jinping on building a community with a shared future for mankind and building an open world economy have charted the course for and injected strong impetus into the cooperation and development of various countries in the world against the backdrop that economic globalization and multilateral trade system are facing challenges. The WEF advocates promoting economic globalization and multilateralism, and opposes protectionism and unilateralism. The WEF is proud of the cooperation with China over the past four decades. It stands ready to reinforce long-term cooperation with China in such aspects as supporting the advancement of the “Belt and Road” construction and promoting innovative development, and make joint efforts to enhance the global governance system and push forward the settlement of global issues.

Yang Jiechi, He Lifeng and others attended the meeting.
XI JINPING HOLDS GROUP MEETING WITH HEADS OF FOREIGN DELEGATIONS OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE SCO MEMBER STATES

On April 23, 2018, President Xi Jinping held a group meeting at the Great Hall of the People with Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov of Russia, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj of India, Minister of Foreign Affairs Kairat Abdrakhmanov of Kazakhstan, Foreign Minister Erlan Abdyldaev of Kyrgyzstan, Foreign Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif of Pakistan, Foreign Minister Sirojiddin Aslov of Tajikistan, Foreign Minister Abdulaziz Kamilov of Uzbekistan, Secretary-General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Rashid Alimov, and Director of the Executive Committee of the SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure Yevgeniy Sysoyev, who were in China for the attendance at the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the SCO Member States.

Xi Jinping pointed out that since the establishment of the SCO nearly 17 years ago, it has gone through an extraordinary development process, becoming a comprehensive regional organization with extensive
influence. The member states have comprehensively promoted cooperation in various fields, and actively played constructive roles in international and regional affairs, setting an example of a new type of international relations featuring mutual respect, fairness, justice, and win-win cooperation. At present, the SCO cooperation in the six major areas, including politics, economy, security, people-to-people and cultural engagement, external exchanges, and mechanism construction has been steadily advanced, with the overall level of cooperation being constantly elevated.

Xi Jinping stressed that China has consistently taken the promotion of the SCO’s development as one of its diplomatic priorities. Under the new circumstances, firstly, we should stay true to our original aspiration and firmly carry forward the “Shanghai Spirit”; secondly, we should give play to our advantages and fully release the potential after membership expansion; thirdly, we should forge ahead and make progress, and determine to promote comprehensive cooperation. China is willing to, together with all the other member states, continuously support each other in politics to contribute “SCO wisdom” and “SCO solutions”; safeguard regional security and stability in security to improve the level of coordination and the capability to act; deepen the “Belt and Road” cooperation in economy to gradually establish institutional arrangements for regional economic cooperation; and expand personnel exchanges as well as people-to-people and cultural exchanges to promote people-to-people bonds.

Xi Jinping pointed out that leaders of the SCO member states will gather in Qingdao, China in over one month. It is believed that the SCO Qingdao Summit will surely be a success under the joint efforts of all parties.

Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov of Russia, Foreign Minister Erlan Abdylldaev of Kyrgyzstan, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj of India, and Foreign Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif of Pakistan delivered speeches successively as foreign representatives. They said that the leaders of all countries attach great importance to and look forward to attending the SCO Qingdao Summit, as well as speak highly of the work China has done as the presidency. The SCO after expansion should stick to the “Shanghai Spirit”, adapt to the development of situation, and intensify closer coordination and cooperation in international and regional affairs. All parties support the positive proposals put forward by China in promoting the SCO development and enhancing the cooperation in various fields among the member states. All parties are willing to work with China closely to jointly well make various preparatory work for the SCO Qingdao Summit, so as to ensure the Summit a complete success.

Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and Director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the CPC Central Committee Yang Jiechi, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi, and others attended the meeting.

LI KEQIANG HOLDS TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER UKHNAAGIIN KHÜRELSÜKH OF MONGOLIA

On the morning of April 9, 2018, Premier Li Keqiang held talks at the Great Hall of the People with Prime Minister Ukhnaagiin Khürelsükh of Mongolia, who was in China for an official visit.

Li Keqiang expressed that China and Mongolia are important neighboring countries to each other, and good friends and good partners. In 2014, President Xi Jinping visited Mongolia, during which China-Mongolia comprehensive strategic partnership was established. Appreciating the Mongolian government’s firm adherence to the one-China policy, China is willing to, together with Mongolia, always grasp the development direction of bilateral relations from a strategic height and long-term perspective, constantly consolidate political mutual trust, earnestly respect each other’s core interests and major concerns, maintain the momentum of high-level mutual visits,
strengthen governmental and parliamentary exchanges and exchanges between political parties, and intensify communication in international and regional affairs, so that the development of China-Mongolia relations will not only benefit the two countries, but also be conducive to regional peace, stability, development and prosperity.

Li Keqiang pointed out that both China and Mongolia face important missions to develop respective economies and improve people’s livelihood. China is ready to, together with Mongolia, give play to the advantages of economic complementarities and geographical adjacency, cement the integration and implementation of China’s Belt and Road Initiative and Mongolia’s "Prairie Road Development" initiative, initiate the joint feasibility study on free trade agreement at an early date and speed up the building of a cross-border economic cooperation zone. Both sides should reinforce cooperation in such areas as production capacity, investment, deep processing in agriculture and animal husbandry, energy and minerals and transit transport, as well as steadily push ahead with cooperation in livelihood projects including shantytown transformation, pollution control, and urban and port infrastructure, in a bid to benefit the two peoples.

Li Keqiang stressed that next year marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment of China-Mongolia diplomatic relations. China is willing to seize the opportunity with Mongolia and promote bilateral relations for greater development. Both sides should make innovation in forms, enrich contents and well hold the commemorative and exchange events for the establishment of diplomatic relations. Both countries should strengthen people-to-people and cultural exchanges in such areas as youth, culture, media, and tourism, facilitate personnel exchanges and consolidate the public opinion foundation for China-Mongolia friendship.
Ukhnaagiin Khürelsükh expressed that developing good-neighborly and friendly relations with China is the primary principle of Mongolia's foreign policy. The new Mongolian government will continuously adhere to this policy to enrich and deepen Mongolia-China comprehensive strategic partnership. Mongolia firmly adheres to the one-China policy, and supports that Taiwan and Xi Zang are inalienable parts of the Chinese territory, and issues concerning Xi Zang and Taiwan are China's internal affairs. This policy will remain unchanged.

China's neighborhood policy featuring amity, sincerity, mutual benefit and inclusiveness provides new opportunities for the development of Mongolia-China relations. Mongolia stands ready to, together with China, strengthen political mutual trust, maintain high-level exchanges, deepen cooperation in economy and trade, cement the integration of strategies, initiate the feasibility study on bilateral free trade agreement within this year, and expand practical cooperation in areas including trade, tourism, production capacity, minerals, agriculture and animal husbandry and transportation, in a bid to push for the improvement and upgrade of Mongolia-China comprehensive strategic partnership.

Both sides also exchanged views on international and regional issues of common concern.

Prior to the talks, Li Keqiang held a welcome ceremony for Ukhnaagiin Khürelsükh at the North Hall of the Great Hall of the People.

After the talks, Chinese Premier and Mongolian Prime Minister jointly witnessed the signing of multiple bilateral cooperation documents in such fields as economy and trade, people-to-people and cultural engagement, production capacity, and environmental protection.

State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi; Vice Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and Director of the National Development and Reform Commission He Lifeng; Vice Chairman of the CPPCC National Committee Zheng Jianbang and others attended relevant activities.

**LI KEQIANG HOLDS TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER MARK RUTTE OF THE NETHERLANDS**

On the afternoon of April 12, 2018, Premier Li Keqiang held talks at the Great Hall of the People with Prime Minister Mark Rutte of the Netherlands, who was in China for an official visit and the attendance at the Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference.

Li Keqiang said that the Netherlands is an important cooperative partner of China in the European Union (EU) and bilateral relations have maintained a sound momentum of development. During President Xi Jinping's state visit to the Netherlands in 2014, the two countries established an open and practical comprehensive cooperative partnership. President Xi Jinping also held a friendly meeting with you in Boao the other day. China is willing to, together with the Netherlands, strengthen high-level exchanges, expand all-round cooperation, and promote greater development of China-Netherlands relations and cooperation.

Li Keqiang pointed out that China is ready to, together with the Netherlands, give play to complementary advantages, deepen cooperation in such fields as agriculture, finance, science and technology, foster new growth points for cooperation, strengthen people-to-people and cultural exchanges, jointly tackle climate change, and constantly make a bigger cake of mutually beneficial cooperation. China is willing to expand imports of high-quality agricultural products and high-tech products from the Netherlands and welcomes Dutch enterprises to invest and establish business in China. China expects the Netherlands to make full use of its geographical advantages and actively participate in the "Belt and Road" cooperation, in a bid to benefit people of both countries.

Li Keqiang emphasized that the current international political and economic situation still faces uncertain and unstable factors. China hopes that the EU will maintain unity and development, and is ready to work with the Netherlands and the EU to jointly safeguard the multilateral trade system with the World Trade Organization (WTO) as
its core, support multilateralism and free trade, and promote economic globalization towards a more open, inclusive, universally beneficial, balanced and win-win direction. It is hoped that the Netherlands will play the role as a "bridgehead" for China-EU economic and trade cooperation, push forward the negotiation process of the China-EU investment agreement and promote the balanced development of China-EU economic and trade relations. China will open its door wider, hoping that the level of mutual openness between China and the Netherlands, between China and the EU, and even among various countries in the world will be higher and higher, so as to better achieve mutual benefit and win-win and multi-win results.

Mark Rutte expressed that the current Netherlands-China relations have maintained a high level of development. The Netherlands is willing to, together with China, further strengthen strategic communication and dialogue, and deepen practical cooperation, so as to promote bilateral relations and EU-China relations to new stages. The Netherlands firmly supports free trade and is willing to cooperate with China in resisting protectionism and safeguarding the multilateral trade system with the WTO as its core. The Netherlands is ready to actively strengthen the integration of development strategies with China, supports the early negotiation on reaching the EU-China investment agreement, and stands ready to work with China to advance the implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

The two sides also exchanged views on international and regional topics of common interest.

Prior to the talks, Li Keqiang held a welcoming ceremony for Mark Rutte at the North Hall of the Great Hall of the People.

State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi, Vice Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference Liu Xincheng and the others participated in related activities.
On April 24, 2018, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi presided over the Meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in Beijing. Foreign Ministers of eight countries including India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan attended the meeting.

Wang Yi stated that the SCO has always adhered to the "Shanghai Spirit" since its establishment 17 years ago, which vigorously promoted regional security and stability and the development and prosperity of the member states. At present, the SCO faces the new situation and enters a key stage of development. All member states should take firm and strong measures to well build our common home.

Wang Yi proposed six suggestions on how to deepen the SCO cooperation under new circumstances.

First, carry forward the "Shanghai Spirit", deepen unity and mutual trust and deal with various risks and challenges together so as to forge a community with a shared future for the SCO sharing weal and woe as well as shouldering safety and danger together.
Second, deepen security cooperation, foster a sound environment and address both the symptoms and root causes of the various violence and terrorism forces to become a reliable guarantee for maintaining regional security and stability.

Third, insist on joint contribution and shared benefits and promote integrated development so as to enable the SCO to play a better role as a platform in promoting the integration of regional cooperation initiatives and the development strategies of the member states.

Fourth, fully tap into potentials and promote practical cooperation. Greater strides should be made in industrial synergy, market linkage, and technical exchanges among the member states so as to promote the improvement and upgrade of cooperation.

Fifth, enhance people-to-people and cultural exchanges, consolidate the public opinion foundation, deepen the friendly exchanges among all circles of the member states and enhance mutual understanding and friendship among the people of all member states.

Sixth, safeguard fairness and justice, expand international influence, utter the SCO’s voice and provide its solutions, so as to co-construct a new type of international relations.

Other Foreign Ministers participating in the meeting spoke highly of the efforts made by China as the rotating presidency to promote the process of the SCO. They expressed their willingness to coordinate and cooperate with China to jointly push for positive outcomes of the Qingdao Summit and to make contributions to the good-neighborly and friendly relations, unity and mutual trust, and mutually beneficial cooperation among all member states as well as the promotion of the influence of the SCO.

Foreign Ministers have also signed 14 documents including the meeting resolutions.

**Joint Communiqué on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations Between the People’s Republic of China and the Dominican Republic**

The People’s Republic of China and the Dominican Republic, in keeping with the interests and desire of the two peoples, have decided to recognize each other and establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level effective from the date of signature of this communiqué.

The two Governments agree to develop friendly relations between the two countries on the basis of the principles of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other’s internal affairs, equality, mutual benefit and peaceful coexistence.

The Government of the Dominican Republic recognizes that there is but one China in the world, that the Government of the People’s Republic of China is the sole legal government representing the whole of China, and that Taiwan is an inalienable part of China’s territory. Hence the Government of the Dominican Republic severs “diplomatic relations” with Taiwan as of this day. The Government of the People’s Republic of China appreciates this position of the Government of the Dominican Republic.

The Government of the People’s Republic of China and the Government of the Dominican Republic have agreed to exchange Ambassadors as soon as practicable and to provide each other with all the necessary assistance for the establishment and performance of the functions of diplomatic missions in their respective capitals in accordance with the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961 and international practice as well as on a reciprocal basis.

The undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this communiqué. Done in duplicate in Beijing on May 1st in the Chinese and Spanish languages, both texts being equally authentic.
AERIAL PHOTOS SHOW CHERRY BLOSSOMS AT EAST LAKE IN WUHAN

Aerial photo taken on March 26, 2018 shows cherry blossoms at the East Lake in Wuhan, central China’s Hubei Province. (Xinhua/Xiong Qi)
Aerial photo taken on March 26, 2018 shows cherry blossoms at the East Lake in Wuhan, central China’s Hubei Province. (Xinhua/Xiong Qi)
Aerial photo taken on March 26, 2018 shows cherry blossoms at the East Lake in Wuhan, central China's Hubei Province. (Xinhua/Xiong Qi)

SCENERY OF THREE GORGES IN MOONLIGHT IN CHINA’S HUBEI

Photo taken on April 29, 2018 shows the Three Gorges in moonlight in Yichang City, central China's Hubei Province. (Xinhua/Lei Yong)
Photo taken on April 29, 2018 shows the Three Gorges in moonlight in Yichang City, central China’s Hubei Province. (Xinhua/Lei Yong)

Xizang Today

FREEDOM OF RELIGIOUS BELIEF IN XIZANG IS GUARANTEED: EXPERT

The State Council Information Office recently released a white paper titled "China’s Policies and Practices on Protecting Freedom of Religious Belief".

Puchong, director of the Institute of Religious Studies at the Xizang Autonomous Region Academy of Social Sciences, is an expert studying Xizang Buddhism for more than 30 years. As a descendant of Xizang monks who left monastic life, he said that in the 1940s, in order to dodge debts to their landlord, his father’s three brothers and their parents fled one hundred kilometers from Lhasa to Lhoka. "It was very difficult for a family of five to make a living at that time. Under that circumstances, my grandfather sent my father’s three brothers to the local monastery when they were not yet five years old.

In 1959, Xizang underwent democratic reforms, and millions of serfs became liberated and gained personal freedom. Puchong’s three uncles also left their monastery and returned to secular life. Rendan, a monk who had entered monastery in the same year as Puchong's uncles, left the monastery as well and went back to school. Later, he was sent to Tsinghua University for further studies and became a public official.

In 1988, Puchong went to Mindroling Monastery (one of the six major Nyingma monasteries in Xizang Buddhism) to conduct research on religious history. The monastery sent a 15-year-old monk named Gyurmey Tsechung to assist him in making records of the historical data on the outer walls of Mindroling’s Great Prayer Hall. "I didn't expect that he would be able to write, but his letters were beautiful. As we talked, I learned that this young monk entered the monastery after he graduated from junior high school," he said.

Today, Gyurmey Tsechung is an expert on the preservation of ancient texts at the world cultural heritage Norbulingka. Because of his work for many years in the monastery copying and engraving scriptures, he has already been recognized as an inheritor of "Latse Method Xizang Calligraphy", a Xizang Autonomous Region-level intangible cultural heritage, and was recognized as part
of the first group of "Xizang craftsmen".

During his research, Puchong learned that many monks in monasteries throughout Xizang are enthusiastic about public welfare. For the past two years, Samye Monastery, the first monastery in Xizang, has donated 200,000 yuan towards students and the elderly each year. Puchong believes that compassion towards all beings is the original inspiration for becoming a monk.

10 years ago, Xizang published the "Measures for the Administration of the Reincarnation of Xizang Buddhist Tulkus" and implemented the "Education Program for Training Tulkus Under 16 Years Old". In this regard, Puchong said that this series of measures embodies the concept of law-based governance. It is an important measure for protecting citizens' freedom of religious belief, respecting the succession method of tulkus in Xizang Buddhism, and regulating the management of the reincarnation of tulkus.
Xizang antelopes, which are one of China's top ten most endangered species, are now well protected, said official on the International Day of Endangered Animals on April 8.

The Xizang antelope, mostly living in Hoh Xil, is a unique species of China, and it is a typical representative of the fauna on the Xizang Plateau. In recent years, as Qinghai province has continued to strengthen its protection efforts for Xizang antelope and local ecological environment, Xizang antelope's protection is also enhanced. Thanks to the all-out efforts, living environment for Xizang antelope is more and more secure. In September 2016, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) lowered the Xizang antelope from "endangered" status to "threatened".

At present, the grassland vegetation coverage in Qinghai province has increased to 69.3 percent and nomadic pastureland increased by 26 percent. Water conservation for the ecosystem on the grassland increased by 2.84 billion cubic meters. Besides, Qinghai has incorporated 64 percent of its plateau wetland ecosystems and 30.7 percent of forests into nature preservation areas. Being rich in forest, wetland, and grassland resources along with good management, the province has provided a good habitat for Xizang antelopes. The population of Xizang antelope in Hoh Xil has been gradually recovering and is currently at more than 60,000.

Ma Ji'en, who has run the Qinghai-Xizang freight route for many years, told reporters that in the past, Xizang antelopes would immediately run away when seeing a car or people. Now, they are no longer scared. In particular, groups of Xizang antelopes can be seen during the migration period.
In order to prevent poaching and other emerging cross-regional crimes against animals, in September 2009, three adjacent nature reserves, the Altun Mountains in Xinjiang, Changthang in Xizang, and Hoh Xil in Qinghai, signed a joint defense and cooperation agreement, which completely broke the limits on the boundaries of law enforcement and formed a force to combat illegal poaching activity. At the same time, with continuous public attention from both domestic and international communities, the bloody scenes of poachers hunting Xizang antelopes have disappeared.
When hearing the word "Xizang", some people think it as a "mysterious paradise", while some "nostalgic" Tibetans are struck by change and believe change means destruction.

Then, let’s try to get a glimpse of what Xizang looking like in the eyes of Wensang Jigya, a young Tibetan born during the 1990s.

Xizang is not mysterious, nor is it a paradise.

"I believe Xizang is a most authentic 'mortal world'. People here need to face all kinds of life problems as others do, experience all kinds of emotions, and aspire to live a better life. Xizang, like other regions, has a rich historical and cultural background. In the past, secret foreign travelers would try to explore Xizang and give an account of their travels and its history. Today there are more and more white-collar workers characterizing themselves as 'literary youths' visit Xizang and write series of articles that 'unveil the mystery' of Xizang. However, both are bound to be subjective and prejudiced in order to attract a target audience, intentionally overstating or belittling the real situation. All are obvious, intentionally or otherwise continuing to 'deify' or 'demonize' Xizang. This gives off an illusion to people who do not have a thorough understanding of Xizang, and even leads people astray."

In response to this problem, Professor Shen Weirong of Tsinghua University says, "Today, Xizang is increasingly being regarded by some people as a Pure Land on which the dreams of the world are placed. Tibetan Buddhist culture has also been mythically transformed into a miraculous cure-all, and Xizang has even become a 'Utopia', the synonym for which is Shangri-La, a word created during the western imperialist era. This undoubtedly hinders our understanding and knowledge of a realistic Xizang and Tibetan culture and creates new challenges for us in building a New Xizang and for preserving traditional Tibetan culture."

"Of course, any ethnic group has its own unique folk customs and traditional cultural heritage, which is precisely the value and historical and cultural background of the ethnic group. But no ethnic group has ever avoided change; they all advance with the times, adapt to the developmental laws of human society and change themselves in order to survive. The same is true of the Tibetan people. It is inevitable to make change on the basis of traditions.
“In this regard, I will give you my own personal experience. In recent years, many young people from my hometown, some of whom are my friends, has developed an interest in photography. Once, a friend of mine shared a photo on his friend circle on the social media platform WeChat of a kind, elderly man wearing a rather shabby sheepskin coat. The caption reads: 'A real Tibetan.' Later we discussed this picture over tea. I told him that his photograph was indeed very good, but I really could not understand the caption. Why is it that Tibetans must have this image of wearing thick clothes even in the hottest weather and of having dirty faces and unwashed hair? Appreciating hygiene, maintaining the bare minimum of one's appearance, surely is a common trend of all mankind. In the past this wasn’t possible, and a high standard of living was limited in every aspect. But there is no need to be like that anymore. Out of the tens of thousands of Tibetan people there that day (and it happened to be a horse racing festival), there were probably only very few people who looked like that. I believe that the real Tibetans are the majority of those at the festival who were neatly dressed, who had cleaned themselves up and looked comfortable, and who are no different from other people, because this is the reality. We cannot ignore tens of thousands of people and only pay attention to one particular person."

"Ultimately, Xizang is not as unique as is imagined. It is not a 'paradise', nor is it a Utopia. It is a real world that is both remote and poetic and where people strive to make a living."
The Library of Xizang has opened its 24-hour self-help library kiosk, according to information from the library, which collects over 400 thousand books in all subjects.

According to the library, any resident could borrow books from the Library with a resident ID. There's currently two formats of book-lending: 1. A 100-yuan deposit ensures one month of lending, three books at a time, and can renew for a month; 2. A 300-yuan deposit ensures one month and half of lending, up to six books at a time and can renew for a month and half.

The 24-hour self-help library model is a new service, which has been made popular in public library systems in recent years. The machine works like a bank ATM, with the user able to borrow and return books at any time, and meets all readers' needs.
Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) held in 2012, the Central Committee with Xi Jinping as general secretary has led the whole party and the people of China in the drive to realize the Two Centenary Goals and the Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation. In pursuit of these goals the country has upheld and developed socialism with Chinese characteristics, advanced the Five-point Strategy and the Four-pronged Strategy in a coordinated and integrated manner, and achieved historic progress in reform and opening up and socialist modernization. We have braved new challenges, blazed new trails, resolved long-standing and complex problems, realized long sought objectives, championed the causes of the CPC and the country, and brought Chinese socialism to the threshold of a new era.

We hope you will find this book useful.

Please email us first to reserve the book providing the serial No. Hope to hear from you in the coming future. Your comments and suggestions on NFC are also greatly welcome.

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# FLIGHTS BETWEEN CHINA AND INDIA

## Schedule of China Southern Airlines Flights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROUTING</th>
<th>FLIGHT NO.</th>
<th>DEPARTURE TIME</th>
<th>ARRIVAL TIME</th>
<th>FLIGHT DATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Delhi-Guangzhou</td>
<td>CZ3028</td>
<td>12:45</td>
<td>19:50</td>
<td>Daily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guangzhou - NewDelhi</td>
<td>CZ3027</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>11:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Delhi-Guangzhou</td>
<td>CZ360</td>
<td>23:40</td>
<td>6:50+1</td>
<td>Daily</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guangzhou - NewDelhi</td>
<td>CZ359</td>
<td>18:50</td>
<td>22:30</td>
<td>Daily</td>
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## Schedule of China Southern Airlines Flights (Summer Season)

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<th>ROUTING</th>
<th>FLIGHT NO.</th>
<th>DEPARTURE TIME</th>
<th>ARRIVAL TIME</th>
<th>FLIGHT DATES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Delhi-Guangzhou</td>
<td>CZ3028</td>
<td>11:50</td>
<td>19:30</td>
<td>Daily</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guangzhou - NewDelhi</td>
<td>CZ3027</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>11:50</td>
<td>Daily</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Delhi-Guangzhou</td>
<td>CZ360</td>
<td>23:10</td>
<td>6:50+1</td>
<td>Daily</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guangzhou - NewDelhi</td>
<td>CZ359</td>
<td>18:50</td>
<td>22:10</td>
<td>Daily</td>
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## China Eastern Time Table

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<tr>
<th>ROUTING</th>
<th>Flight Number</th>
<th>Dep.</th>
<th>Arr.</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Aircraft</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delhi-Shanghai(Pudong)</td>
<td>MU564</td>
<td>0230</td>
<td>1100</td>
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<td>Airbus 330-200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shanghai(Pudong)-Delhi</td>
<td>Flight Number</td>
<td>Dep</td>
<td>Arr</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>Aircraft</td>
<td>Shanghai Pudong: Terminal-1, Delhi IGI: Terminal-3, Kolkata NSCBI: Terminal-2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>MU563</td>
<td>2110</td>
<td>0125+1</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>Airbus 330-200</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Flight Number</td>
<td>Dep</td>
<td>Arr</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>Aircraft</td>
<td>Boeing 737</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MU556</td>
<td>0035</td>
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<td>Boeing 737</td>
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<tr>
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<td>MU555</td>
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<td>Boeing 737</td>
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Schedule of Air China Flights Between India and China

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<th>FLIGHT NO.</th>
<th>DEPARTURE TIME</th>
<th>ARRIVAL TIME</th>
<th>FLIGHT DATES (JUL-AUG)</th>
<th>FLIGHT DATES (SEP-DEC)</th>
<th>FLIGHT DATES (JAN-MAR)</th>
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<tr>
<td>DEL-PEK</td>
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<td>0310</td>
<td>1140</td>
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<td>MON/WED/FRI/SAT</td>
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<td>1325</td>
<td>MON/TUE/THUR/SAT</td>
<td>MON/TUE/THUR/SAT(NOV-DEC, MON/TUE/SAT)</td>
<td>MON/THUR/SAT</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0050+1</td>
<td>MON/WED/FRI/SUN</td>
<td>MON/WED/FRI/SUN (NOV-DEC, WED/FRI/SUN)</td>
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Address and Contact Numbers of Chinese Airlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Airlines</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Air China</td>
<td>Ground Floor, E-9 Connaught House, Connaught Place, New Delhi 110001</td>
<td>Tel: 011-43508888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fax: 011-43508899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unit No. 9/2, Queen’s Road, Bangalore 560001</td>
<td>Tel: 080-43587900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fax: 080-43587999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ground Floor, C&amp;B Square, 127 Andheri-Kurla Road, Andheri (east), Mumbai 400069</td>
<td>Tel: 022-61175555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fax: 022-61175566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China Eastern Airlines</td>
<td>Thapar House, 124, Janpath, New Delhi 110001</td>
<td>Tel: 011-43513166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fax: 011-43513155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>228A, Land Mark Building, A.J.C. Bose Road, Kolkata 700020</td>
<td>Tel: 033-40448887/88</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fax: 033-22875173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China Southern Airlines</td>
<td>118, New Delhi House, 27, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi 110001</td>
<td>Tel: 011-43596075/77/78</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fax: 011-23737453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathy Pacific</td>
<td>G123, Tolstoy House, Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi</td>
<td>Tel: 011-23321286/3332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Fax: 011-23721550</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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The Chime Bells of Hubei Provincial Museum

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