Chinese Embassy in India and Confederation of Young Leaders (CYL) jointly organized China-India Youth Dialogue 2018.

Ambassador Luo Zhaohui and his wife Dr. Jiang Yili hosted a welcoming event for the visiting 187-member Chinese Youth Delegation.

Ambassador Luo Zhaohui met with H.E. Xie Zhenhua, Chinese Special Representative for Climate Change Affairs, who is attending the 27th BASIC Ministerial Meeting on Climate Change.

Ambassador Luo Zhaohui met with Mr. Fang Ning, former Vice Chairman of Counsellors’ Office of the State Council.

Ambassador Luo Zhaohui met with Mr. Hu Wei, Vice Minister of General Administration of Customs of China.

Ambassador Luo Zhaohui met with Mr. Duan Lin, Chairman of Dali University Committee.
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CHINA, INDIA AGREE TO BRING TIES TO HIGHER LEVEL

Buenos Aires Nov. 30 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping met with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi here Friday on the sidelines of the Group of 20 (G20) summit and they agreed to increase mutual trust and bring the bilateral ties to a higher level.

Noting that Friday’s meeting is the fourth between the two leaders this year, Xi said that the various important consensuses between him and Modi are being earnestly implemented and the bilateral ties have witnessed stable development.

The China-India relations have seen an increasingly positive momentum, which not only brings strong growth impetus for the two countries, but also injects stability and certainty into the profoundly dynamic international situation, said Xi.

Xi said he is willing to maintain close communication with Modi and jointly lead the China-India relations to faster, better, and steadier
The two sides should utilize their dialogue mechanisms on political and diplomatic affairs, border issues, security, economy and trade, and cultural exchanges to strengthen communication and increase mutual trust, said Xi.

The two sides should deepen their practical cooperation, expand bilateral trade, and enhance cooperation on investment, healthcare, poverty reduction, environmental protection and disaster prevention and relief, said Xi, who also called for broader cultural exchanges between the two countries.

The two sides should explore ways to carry out cooperation with third parties in a broader scope and strengthen coordination and cooperation in multilateral organizations such as the United Nations, BRICS and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, said Xi.

Noting that the global economy is facing growing risks, Xi said that China and India should increase coordination and cooperation and join hands for proper responses to such risks.

The two sides should adhere to innovation-led growth and deepen reform so as to keep a steady and rather fast economic growth, said Xi.

Xi also urged efforts to promote South-South cooperation, and highlighted the need to adhere to the core values and principles of the World Trade Organization, and to safeguard the development space and rights for developing countries.

The two sides should work together to build an open world economy, and make economic globalization more open, inclusive, balanced and beneficial to all, said Xi.

President Xi attaches great importance to the India-China ties and gives a vigorous boost to the relations, said Modi.

India appreciates China’s timely offer of hydrologic data, which is of great importance for flood management in India, said Modi.

The Indian side is willing to increase mutual trust with China, and make good use of the meeting mechanism of the special representatives of China and India on the boundary issue and maintain peace and stability in the border areas, said Modi.

The Indian side is also willing to push forward various dialogues with China and deepen communication and cooperation on trade, medicine, telecommunication, tourism, law enforcement as well as in multilateral affairs, said Modi.

Modi said he is ready to work with Xi to bring the India-China ties to a new level.

XI, PUTIN, MODI AGREE TO INCREASE TRILATERAL COOPERATION

Buenos Aires, Nov. 30 (Xinhua) — Leaders of China, Russia and India had an in-depth exchange of views on cooperation among their countries under new circumstances at an informal meeting held here Friday on the sidelines of the Group of 20 (G20) summit.

Chinese President Xi Jinping, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi agreed to strengthen coordination, build consensus and increase cooperation among their countries to jointly promote world peace, stability and development.

Xi pointed out that China, Russia and India are all major countries of important influence, and they are each other’s important strategic cooperation partners.

The three countries have extensive common interest and similar development goals, and bear great responsibility for the future of the region and the world as a whole, Xi said.

Common development and close cooperation among China, Russia and India under current circumstances have become an increasingly important force for stability and certainty in the transformation of the world landscape, Xi said.

In the past over 10 years, Xi said, the three countries have actively conducted trilateral dialogue and cooperation in the spirit of openness, unity, mutual understanding and trust, and have made important progress.
He called on the countries to further advance trilateral cooperation in the face of fresh challenges.

He suggested that China, Russia and India advocate a new type of international relations, keep consolidating political mutual trust, establish partnerships instead of alliances, and strive for a virtuous cycle in major-country relations and win-win cooperation.

He also called on the three countries to strengthen coordination and cooperation in important multilateral mechanisms including the Group of 20, BRICS and Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

China, Russia and India should advance liberalization and facilitation of trade and investment, promote an open world economy, take a clear-cut stand against protectionism and unilateralism, and jointly safeguard the multilateral trading system as well as the common interest of emerging economies and developing countries, he said.

The three countries, he added, should actively champion a vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, strengthen regional and global counterterrorism cooperation, promote political settlement of hotspot issues, and play an even bigger part in safeguarding peace and security in the region and the world.

For his part, Putin said Russia, China and India are friendly countries to each other and have developed sound relations based on equality and mutual respect.

Under the current circumstances, it serves the interest of all three countries and bears positive significance on the world that Russia, China and India strengthen cooperation, he said.

He called on the three countries to dedicate themselves to building a fairer and more just international system, promoting world peace and stability, strengthening cooperation
in economy and finance and on issues on the G20 agenda, and boosting the synergy between the Eurasian Economic Union and the Belt and Road Initiative.

In his remarks, Modi said it is very necessary for the three countries to compare notes on major issues faced by today’s world.

There are increasing uncertainties on the international horizon, with rising unilateralism and cliquism posing challenges to multilateralism, he said.

Modi said developed countries have failed to meet their assistance commitments to developing countries, and that there is a long way to go before the realization of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

India, China and Russia, as major countries in the world, have the responsibility to maintain close communication, and actively play their parts in safeguarding international and regional stability, promoting economic prosperity, sharing development experience and jointly meeting new challenges, so as to safeguard multilateralism and maintain the multilateral system, he added.

The three leaders agreed to further strengthen the cooperation mechanism among their countries.

BRICS LEADERS DECLARE COMMON STAND ON WTO REFORM ON SIDELINES OF G20

Chinese President Xi Jinping (2nd R), South African President Cyril Ramaphosa (3rd R), Brazilian President Michel Temer (1st L), Russian President Vladimir Putin (2nd L) and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi attend the informal meeting of the emerging economies’ bloc BRICS in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Nov. 30, 2018. (Xinhua/Yao Dawei)
Buenos Aires, Nov. 30 (Xinhua) -- Leaders of the emerging economies’ bloc BRICS declared their common stand on the reform of the World Trade Organization (WTO) here on Friday.

A communique was issued after Brazilian President Michel Temer, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chinese President Xi Jinping and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa held an informal meeting on the sidelines of the Group of 20 (G20) summit.

BRICS countries pledged to support the improvement of the WTO, increase its relevance and validity and safeguard the core values and basic principles of the WTO, and agreed that the WTO should embody the interests of all members, developing economies in particular.

They stressed the importance of the dispute settlement mechanism in the smooth operation of the WTO, calling for starting, as soon as possible, the selection process to fill the vacancies in the Appellate Body, so as to maintain the stable and valid operation of the dispute settlement system.

BRICS countries, according to the document, vowed to strengthen communication and cooperation and work with other members to ensure the WTO keep abreast of the times, advance inclusive growth and the participation of various countries in international trade, and play a significant part in global governance.

In the meantime, BRICS countries reiterated their commitment to world peace and stability and support for the central role played by the United Nations.

They pledged joint efforts to strengthen multilateralism, strive for an international order that is fair, just, equal, democratic and representative and implement the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change.

BRICS countries reiterated that they would strengthen their strategic partnership and implement the achievements in their cooperation such as the Partnership on New Industrial Revolution, the document read.

The common stand demonstrated the constructive and responsible role played by BRICS countries in international affairs.

It also showed the aspiration of emerging market economies and developing countries to strengthen unity and cooperation and safeguard common interests.

Buenos Aires, Dec. 2 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping and his U.S. counterpart Donald Trump held a “highly successful meeting” here Saturday, reaching important consensus and agreeing not to impose new additional tariffs.

The two heads of state had an in-depth exchange of views on China-U.S. relations and international issues of common concern in a friendly and candid atmosphere at a working dinner after the conclusion of the 13th summit of the Group of 20 in Argentina.

Sound China-U.S. relations, Xi said, are in line with the fundamental interests of the two peoples and the broad-based expectations of the international community.

He called on both China and the United States to handle the development of bilateral relations from an overall perspective and push
for long-term, healthy and stable development of bilateral ties.

Trump said that he agrees with Xi on his evaluation of U.S.-China relations.

U.S.-China relations are very special and important, Trump said, adding that it is in the interest of the two countries as well as the world that the United States and China, both countries of significant influence, maintain a good cooperative relationship.

The U.S. side, he added, is ready to increase cooperation with China through consultations and actively seek mutually beneficial solutions to their problems.

The two leaders agreed to expand cooperation based on reciprocity and mutual benefit and manage differences based on mutual respect, so as to jointly advance China-U.S. relations with coordination, cooperation and stability as the defining features.

They also agreed to maintain close exchanges in various forms to jointly chart the course for the development of China-U.S. relations, and pledged to hold further exchanges of visits at an appropriate time.

It was the first meeting between Xi and Trump since the U.S. president paid a state visit to China in November last year. The world, Xi said, has witnessed a lot of changes since then.
As two major countries with great influence, China and the United States shoulder important responsibilities in promoting world peace and prosperity, Xi told Trump.

Cooperation is the best choice for China and the United States, he said.

On economic and trade issues, Xi said that it is very normal that the two countries have some disagreements in the fields of economy and trade, adding that the key is to manage their differences properly and work out a solution acceptable to both sides in the spirit of mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit.

They agreed not to impose new additional tariffs, and instructed the economic teams of both sides to step up negotiations toward the removal of all additional tariffs and reach a concrete deal that is mutually beneficial and win-win.

Xi also reiterated China’s stance on the Taiwan issue and the U.S. side pledged to continue to adhere to the one-China policy.

The two leaders also exchanged views on the Korean Peninsula situation and other major international and regional issues.

The meeting lasted for two and a half hours, much longer than planned, said Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi at a briefing on the closely-watched Xi-Trump meeting.

“The meeting was very successful and produced important consensus. It provides direction for China-U.S. relations in the time to come,” Wang said.

In a White House press release, Trump was quoted as saying that this was an amazing and productive meeting with unlimited possibilities for both the United States and China.

“It is my great honor to be working with President Xi,” Trump said.
Experts said that the important meeting sends a positive signal in the development of China-U.S. relations, one of the most important bilateral ties in the world.

It suggests that cooperation is the key to the solution of problems, said Zhu Feng, a professor with the School of International Studies at Peking University, adding that given the differences between China and the United States in institutions, industrial policies and markets, Xi and Trump have demonstrated strategic courage and resolution at the dinner table.

Berthold Kuhn, a China expert with the Free University of Berlin, noted that the meeting was “a first step” toward the settlement of China-U.S. trade disputes and more time is still needed for negotiation.

“I am ... slightly optimistic,” he said.

**XI, PUTIN MEET ON G20 SIDELINES**

Buenos Aires, Nov. 30 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping met with his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin, here on Friday on the sidelines of the 13th Group of 20 (G20) summit.

Xi said the development of China-Russia relations enjoys strong internal dynamism and a bright prospect as it goes with the trend of the times and the aspirations of both...
peoples.

Hailing the new achievements in bilateral cooperation in various fields this year, Xi said China and Russia will hold grand and colorful activities to celebrate the 70th anniversary of their diplomatic relations next year and strive for more visible results in bilateral practical cooperation.

Xi stressed the important guiding role the two countries’ heads of state play in advancing the bilateral relationship, suggesting that the two sides keep the tradition of annual presidential mutual visits.

China and Russia, he said, should work together to strengthen the alignment of the Belt and Road Initiative and the Eurasian Economic Union, and deepen cooperation in trade, finance, energy, technology and other sectors as well as at sub-national levels.

Xi urged the two countries to step up coordination in multilateral mechanisms including the G20 and BRICS, and unite all parties concerned in upholding multilateralism, safeguarding the core values and basic rules of the World Trade Organization, supporting trade liberalization and facilitation, and opposing protectionism and unilateralism.

Putin, for his part, said it is of great significance to maintain close high-level exchanges between the two countries.

He spoke highly of the fruitful bilateral cooperation in various fields, citing fast-growing trade, steady progress in such areas as manufacturing, high technology and agriculture, smooth implementation of large-scale projects, and effective coordination on international and regional affairs.

Russia is committed to deepening practical cooperation and coordination with China to safeguard global peace and security and build an open world economy, Putin said.

The two presidents also exchanged views on some major international and regional affairs in today’s world.

CHINA, ARGENTINA EYE NEW ERA OF PARTNERSHIP

Buenos Aires, Dec. 2 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping met with his Argentine counterpart Mauricio Macri here Sunday, and the two leaders agreed to jointly open up a new era of the comprehensive strategic partnership between their countries.

Xi arrived here Thursday to attend the 13th Group of 20 (G20) summit and pay a state visit to the South American country.

Xi said that he and Macri, meeting five times in less than three years, created a record in the history of bilateral ties, and that China-Argentina relations are witnessing unprecedented breadth and depth.

Xi said that he and Macri, meeting five times in less than three years, created a record in the history of bilateral ties, and that China-Argentina relations are witnessing unprecedented breadth and depth.

Under the current complicated and rapidly-changing international circumstances, the two countries should chart the course of their relations with a broader vision, and work together to open up a new era of their comprehensive strategic partnership and make new contributions to peace, stability and prosperity in both countries and the world at large, he added.

The two sides should support each other on issues concerning their core interests and on their independent choices of development paths, said Xi.

China has taken concrete actions this year to support Argentina maintaining financial stability and has faith in Argentina’s growth prospects, he added.

He suggested that the two sides strength communication and cooperation within the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative and synergize their development plans.

The two sides should also strengthen cooperation in such areas as infrastructure, agriculture, energy and finance and enhance people-to-people exchanges, Xi said.

Both China and Argentina are major developing countries and emerging-market economies, and they should work jointly to support multilateralism and an open, inclusive global economy, he added.

China, he said, is ready to work with Argentina to strengthen coordination within multilateral frameworks, deepen South-South cooperation, enable more developing countries to enjoy the benefits of economic globalization, and build a community with a shared future for mankind.

Despite the current challenges facing Latin America, China is full of confidence in the growth prospects of the region and will work with partners in the region, including
Argentina, to foster a China-Latin America relationship for the new era featuring equality, mutual benefit, innovation, openness and tangible benefits for the people, said Xi.

Xi also congratulated Macri on the successful G20 summit, saying that the event was of great significance as it sent a strong signal on upholding multilateralism.

The consensus reached at the convention is conducive to efforts in safeguarding the multilateral trading system and building an open global economy, and also helps inject confidence and vitality into the global market, said Xi.

Macri warmly welcomed Xi for his visit to Argentina and thanked China for its long-term assistance and support to his country.

He congratulated China, upon the 40th anniversary of its reform and opening-up, on its enormous achievements in social and economic development, poverty alleviation and other fields.

Calling China a major engine driving the world economy, Macri said China’s development and the realization of the Chinese Dream bear major significance to the development of Argentina and Latin America, and carry profound meaning to world peace, stability and prosperity.

Argentina is firmly committed to deepening its comprehensive strategic partnership with China and strengthening cooperation within the Belt and Road framework, Macri said.

In recent years, Argentina and China have enhanced mutual trust, with frequent exchanges in various fields, Macri said, stressing that bilateral cooperation has entered a new stage of mutual benefits and win-win results.

Recalling Argentina’s successful participation in the first China International Import Expo in Shanghai, the president said his country looks forward to further exploring the Chinese market.

Argentina, he said, hopes to take
Chinese President Xi Jinping (R) meets with his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Dec. 1, 2018. (Xinhua/Li Xueren)

Buenos Aires, Dec. 1 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping and his French counterpart, Emmanuel Macron, on Saturday agreed to bring the bilateral ties to a higher level and renewed their pledges to safeguard multilateralism.

The two leaders met here on the sidelines of Group of 20 summit, which started Friday and is scheduled to conclude later Saturday.
CHINA, JAPAN AGREE TO ACCELERATE NEGOTIATIONS ON REGIONAL FREE TRADE DEALS

Buenos Aires, Nov. 30 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping met here Friday with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on the sidelines of the Group of 20 (G20) summit and they agreed to step up negotiations on two regional free trade deals.

Noting that Abe paid a successful visit to China earlier this year, Xi said that the consensus reached during the visit is being implemented and that China-Japan relations have taken on a new look.

The two sides should set the right direction and open up new prospects for the China-Japan relationship on
the basis of the four political documents undergirding their ties, said Xi.

The development of China-Japan relations now enjoys more favorable conditions than in the past, and there is great potential for their practical cooperation on trade and economy, said Xi.

China welcomes Japan to continue to take part in China's reform and opening-up process and seize new opportunities arising from China’s growth, said Xi, adding that the two sides should give full play to their economic complementarity and increase the scope and depth of bilateral cooperation.

Xi said the two sides should work together to complete as early as possible the negotiations over the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and the trilateral free trade agreement (FTA) among China, Japan and South Korea.

Xi said the two sides should work together to complete as early as possible the negotiations over the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and the trilateral free trade agreement (FTA) among China, Japan and South Korea.

The Chinese president suggested the two sides constantly increase strategic mutual trust based on the principled consensus he and Abe reached on building constructive bilateral security relations.

The two sides should also properly handle various major sensitive issues so as to prevent them from disturbing the growth of bilateral relations, said Xi, adding that China supports Japan in hosting a successful G20 summit next year.

Abe said he was glad to see the two sides reach important consensus on bilateral relations in the new phase during his October visit to China, and that the Japanese side will continue to work with China to promote Asia's development.

Japan, he added, is willing to join hands with China to increase high-level communication, deepen trade and investment cooperation, expand third-market cooperation, and strengthen people-to-people exchanges, especially between the two countries' young generations.

Japan values China's important role on the world stage and hopes to enhance communication and coordination with China on multilateral affairs, said Abe.

Japan advocates safeguarding free trade and the multilateral trading system with the World Trade Organization as its core, said Abe, pledging to accelerate negotiations over the RCEP and the China-Japan-South Korea FTA.

He added that his country looks forward to strengthening cooperation with China during Japan's presidency of the G20.

**XI BACKS ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION, SOCIAL REFORM IN SAUDI ARABIA**

Buenos Aires, Nov. 30 (Xinhua) — China firmly supports Saudi Arabia in its drive for economic diversification and social reform, and the two sides should boost their cooperation in various fields, President Xi Jinping said in a meeting with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman here on Friday.

Xi said in the meeting on the sidelines of the Group of 20 (G20) summit in Buenos Aires that China approaches its relations with Saudi Arabia from a long-term perspective and attaches strategic importance to the relations.

Stability and development in Saudi Arabia is the cornerstone of prosperity and progress in the Middle East and the Gulf region, Xi said.

He called on the two nations to work together to better synergize the Belt and Road Initiative with the Saudi Vision 2030.

Launched in April 2016 by the crown prince, the Vision 2030 aims to diversify Saudi Arabia’s economy beyond the energy sector.

Xi said he is happy that the consensus on bilateral ties has been gradually implemented, recalling the
establishment of a comprehensive strategic partnership and the exchange of visits by him and King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud in recent years.

The crown prince, for his part, voiced strong support for China and for cooperation within the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative. He also pointed out that China has become the top trading partner of his country.

Saudi Arabia expects China to play a bigger role on the global stage and would like to facilitate more exchanges between China and Arab countries as well as the Islamic world, the crown prince said.

**XI CALLS ON CHINA, TURKEY TO SHARE DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Buenos Aires, Nov. 30 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping called on China and Turkey to strengthen cooperation and share development opportunities when meeting with his Turkish counterpart, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, here on Friday.

The two leaders held talks on the
sidelines of the Group of 20 (G20) summit in the Argentine capital.

Pointing out that both China and Turkey are emerging market economies, Xi urged the two countries to strengthen coordination and cooperation, share development opportunities and meet challenges and risks together.

Xi said he and the Turkish president have kept close communication in recent years and jointly led the strategic cooperation between their countries to a higher level.

He called on the relevant departments of the two countries to cooperate closely to fully implement the consensus achieved by him and the Turkish president and strive for tangible results.

Xi said China supports the efforts by Turkey to maintain its steady development. The Chinese side is willing to strengthen coordination and cooperation with Turkey to jointly oppose protectionism and unilateralism and safeguard the common interest of emerging market economies.

Erdogan said he is pleased that Turkey-China relations have kept developing and deepening.

The Turkish side looks forward to carrying out closer high-level exchanges with China, speaks highly of the Belt and Road Initiative, and is ready to deepen cooperation with China in areas such as trade and economy, investment, aviation and tourism within the Belt and Road framework, he said.

The Turkish side is ready to strengthen communication and cooperation with China in international and regional affairs, he added.
XI HIGHLIGHTS MULTILATERALISM AT MEETING WITH UN CHIEF

Buenos Aires, Nov. 30 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping said here on Friday that his country has always believed that multilateralism is the only path that best suits the interests of the people of all countries.

Xi made the remarks when meeting with United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on the sidelines of the Group of 20 (G20) summit in Argentine capital Buenos Aires.

There is no better choice for world countries other than strengthening multilateral cooperation in the face of one global challenge after another, Xi said.

The Chinese president said he has been pondering on how world countries can achieve joint consultation and shared benefits, harmony in diversity and cooperation for win-win results in the face of a
variety of interests and concerns, which led to his proposals of building a community with a shared future for mankind and the Belt and Road Initiative.

No matter how the situation changes, Xi said, China will uphold multilateralism and support the UN to play an even bigger role, Xi said.

Xi said he believes that most of the countries in the world will stand on the side of multilateralism.

He pointed out that strengthening cooperation with the UN has been a consistent diplomatic priority of China.

China will actively participate in the 24th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change scheduled for December in Poland and strive for a comprehensive and balanced result, Xi said.

Guterres called on the international community to be firmly committed to advancing multilateralism and let multilateralism play its part.

He noted that China has always upheld multilateralism, supported international cooperation in tackling climate change and other areas and played an exemplary role in implementing the Paris Agreement, and that the UN highly appreciates the efforts by the Chinese side.

China has proved to be an important pillar for multilateralism, the UN chief said.

The UN expects China to play a bigger role in promoting global trade, tackling climate change and realizing the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, he said.

### XI PLEDGES JOINT EFFORTS WITH GERMANY TO SAFEGUARD MULTILATERALISM, OPEN ECONOMY

Buenos Aires, Dec. 1 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping said Saturday that China is ready to make joint efforts with Germany to safeguard multilateralism and an open world economy.

Xi made the remarks when meeting with German Chancellor Angela Merkel on the sidelines of the 13th summit of the Group of 20 (G20) in the Argentine capital, Buenos Aires.

He pointed out that the development of China-Germany relations has maintained sound momentum and the two sides have carried out frequent high-level exchanges.

As all-round strategic partners, China and Germany have seen ever closer cooperation in multilateral institutions and in global affairs, Xi said.

He said China is ready to maintain close cooperation with the German side to make contributions to promoting world peace and stability.

Xi stressed that China and Germany should stick to mutually beneficial and win-win results.

China has unswervingly expanded opening-up and announced since the beginning of the year a series of new measures in opening up its market, Xi said.

Xi said he has noticed that many German companies are among the first to benefit from the new opening-up policies in their respective areas.

He called on the two sides to tap their advantages and push for higher quality and higher level of China-Germany cooperation.

China, Xi said, sees Germany as its important partner in Belt and Road construction and is ready to work with the German side to boost connectivity between Asia and Europe.

As the world’s major economies and important trading nations, China and Germany should continue to jointly safeguard free trade and oppose protectionism, Xi said.

China is ready to work with Germany to safeguard the international system with the United Nations at the center and tackle various global challenges, he added.
Chinese President Xi Jinping (R) meets with German Chancellor Angela Merkel in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Dec. 1, 2018. (Xinhua/Li Tao)

Merkel, for her part, hailed the sound development of the Germany-China ties, saying that the two countries have maintained high-level exchanges and seen smooth advancement of communication and cooperation in various fields.

Merkel said she is delighted to see that German enterprises are benefiting from China’s further opening-up.

Germany is willing to deepen practical cooperation with China in various fields and expand third-party market cooperation in infrastructure construction, skills training and other areas, she said.

The German port of Duisburg is participating more in projects of the Belt and Road Initiative, Merkel said.

Germany appreciates China’s commitment to multilateral cooperation and resolves to uphold the Paris Agreement on climate change, she said.

Faced with complicated and ever-changing international situation, Germany and China should carry out closer communication and coordination, Merkel said, adding that her country supports Europe and China to strengthen cooperation and is willing to play a greater role in this respect.
FULL TEXT OF XI’S REMARKS AT SESSION I OF G20 SUMMIT IN BUENOS AIRES

Look Beyond the Horizon and Steer the World Economy in the Right Direction

Remarks by H.E. Xi Jinping
President of the People’s Republic of China
at Session I of the G20 Summit, Buenos Aires, 30 November 2018
Buenos Aires, Nov. 30 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping delivered a speech titled “Look Beyond the Horizon and Steer the World Economy in the Right Direction” here Friday at the first session of the 13th summit of the Group of 20 (G20).

The following is the full text of the speech:

President Mauricio Macri,
Dear Colleagues,

It’s been ten years since the global financial crisis broke out and the first G20 Summit was convened. Today, the global economy, while maintaining growth on the whole, is still not free from the underlying impacts of the crisis. Old growth drivers are yet to be replaced by new ones. Various risks are rapidly building up. The new round of technological revolution and industrial transformation are triggering profound changes, the wealth gap keeps widening, and social contradictions are growing. The world economy is facing another historical choice.

An ancient Chinese philosopher observed that “Reviewing the past enables us to learn about the law governing the evolution of history.” We G20 members must closely follow the underlying historical trend so as to chart the course for the future. In mankind’s relentless quest for development and progress, the trend toward openness and integration among countries is unstoppable despite ups and downs in the global economy. The ever growing and expanding industrial chain, value chain and supply chain have boosted the flow of production factors across the world and led several billion people out of poverty and toward prosperity. Greater coordination and complementarity among countries meet the need of productivity growth. They will also shape the future of relations of production. In this process, countries are increasingly becoming a community with shared interests, shared responsibilities and a shared future. Going forward, win-win cooperation is the only choice for us, be it in good times or bad. This is dictated by the law of economics, and it is in keeping with the development of human history. Facing various challenges, we must have a stronger sense of urgency, be rational in approach and look beyond the horizon. We must fulfill our responsibility and steer the global economy in the right direction.

The G20 was born out of the international community’s need to maintain stable growth of the global economy. Over the past decade, we have braced difficulties together, navigated the global economy out of recession and brought it back to the track of recovery and growth. Ten years later, let us work with the same courage and strategic vision and ensure that the global economy grows on the right track.

First, we should stay committed to openness and cooperation and uphold the multilateral trading system. Five years ago when I
attended the G20 Summit for the first time, I called for joint efforts to uphold and build an open world economy. Five years on, this has obviously become an even more urgent task for us. The number of new trade restrictive measures applied on a monthly basis among G20 members has doubled compared with six months ago. In 2018, the growth of trade in goods may decline by 0.3 percent globally. We should firmly uphold free trade and the rules-based multilateral trading system. China supports necessary reform of the World Trade Organization, and believes that it is critical to uphold the WTO’s core values and fundamental principles such as openness, inclusiveness and non-discrimination and ensure the development interests and policy space of developing countries. We need to conduct extensive consultation to achieve gradual progress instead of imposing one’s position on others.

Second, we should forge strong partnership and step up macro policy coordination. Partnership is the most valuable asset of the G20. We G20 members should work together to surmount whatever difficulty that lies ahead. We should employ the three tools of fiscal and monetary policies and structural reform in a holistic way to ensure strong, balanced, sustainable and inclusive growth of the global economy. Strengthening policy coordination, which is essential for global growth, is also the due responsibility of major economies. Developed economies, when adopting monetary and fiscal policies, should give more consideration to and work to minimize the impact such policies may exert on emerging markets and developing economies. The IMF’s 15th General Quota Review should be concluded on schedule. The international monetary system should become more diversified, and the global financial safety net should continue to be strengthened.

Third, we should stay committed to innovation and create new momentum for growth. The global economy is embracing the trend of digital transformation, and the new round of industrial revolution will reshape human society in profound ways. We should encourage innovation and leverage the role of the digital economy in growing the real economy. We need to watch out for risks and challenges brought by the application of new technologies, and strengthen the legal and regulatory framework. And we need to do more to boost education and vocational training. We should give priority to achieving development through fully tapping our innovation potential. At the same time, we also need to keep our doors open and encourage the spread of new technologies and knowledge so that innovation will benefit more countries and peoples. To better adapt to and guide technological innovation, I propose that the G20 carry out an in-depth study on the application and impact of new technologies on a priority basis to explore new thinking and new ways of cooperation in this area.

Fourth, we should stay committed to win-win cooperation to promote inclusive global development. Development holds the key to many problems facing the world today. Development also provides a strong guarantee for greater equity and justice. We need to continue to follow a people-centered development philosophy and endeavor to deliver a sense of fulfillment, happiness and security to our people. We need to continue to prioritize development in global macro-policy coordination, implement in real earnest the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and give strong support to work in this area under the UN framework. We should protect the development interests and space of developing countries so as to ensure global growth that is truly equitable. We should continue to support Africa’s development by helping Africa with its infrastructure and connectivity building and new industrialization.

Dear Colleagues,

This year marks the 40th anniversary of China’s reform and opening-up. During the past 40 years, with the support of the international community, we in China have forged ahead with perseverance and made historic achievements in development. In the years since the global financial crisis, China has contributed over 30 percent of global growth. China is firm in its resolve to eradicate poverty. Our goal is to eliminate absolute poverty as currently defined by 2020, and we have every confidence to meet this target. China owes its progress to reform and opening-up, and will continue to advance on this path. Earlier this month, the first China International Import Expo (CIIE) was successfully held, which was warmly received by the international community. China will continue to deepen market-oriented reform, protect property rights and IPR, encourage fair competition and do more to expand imports. The CIIE will be held annually as a way to further open China’s market. In the latest World Bank Doing Business report, China moved up 32 places in the ease of doing business ranking from last year. China will continue to improve its business environment, and hopes that all countries will work together for a free, open, inclusive and orderly international economic environment.

Thank you.
CHINA, PORTUGAL AGREE TO SEEK MORE COOPERATION PROGRESS

Lisbon, Dec. 4 (Xinhua) — Visiting Chinese President Xi Jinping held talks here on Tuesday with Portuguese President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa.

They agreed to take the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties next year as a new historical starting point, to promote the friendly cooperation to score more progress and open up a new chapter in the development of China-Portugal relations.

Xi said the two countries enjoy a long history of friendly exchanges, adding that since the establishment of diplomatic ties 39 years ago, China and Portugal have always witnessed win-win cooperation with mutual understanding, respect and trust. The
bilateral ties stood the test of changes in the international landscape and have been developing in a healthy and stable way.

Noting an ancient Chinese saying “A partnership forged with the right approach defies geographical distance; it is thicker than glue and stronger than metal and stone,” Xi said China and Portugal are such kind of good friends and partners who are getting along with each other.

Xi said that the Chinese side appreciates Portugal’s adherence to the one-China policy, and will continue to work with Portugal to share mutual understanding and support on issues involving each other’s core interests and major concerns.

Xi called on the two sides to advance high-level exchanges, strengthen exchanges between the two governments, legislative bodies, political parties, local areas and non-governmental bodies, and deepen political mutual trust, in efforts to cement political foundation for friendship.

The two sides should take the opportunity of signing a memorandum of understanding on the cooperation over the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), to comprehensively forge ahead cooperation within the framework of the BRI and facilitate connectivity, said Xi.

The Chinese president also expected the two countries to expand pragmatic cooperation, enlarge and strengthen existing projects, enhance bilateral trade and create more cooperation aspects for further growth.

The two sides should strengthen cultural exchanges, accelerate the preparation for the Chinese cultural center in Lisbon, and deepen exchanges in education, broadcasting, film and television, he said.
The two sides should strengthen multilateral coordination, cement communication and collaboration on major international and regional issues, and jointly safeguard multilateralism and free trade, said Xi.

Noting that China and the European Union (EU) are comprehensive strategic partners, Xi said that China firmly supports the integration process in Europe and hoped that Portugal continues to play an active role within the EU to ensure the development of China-EU ties to be on a correct direction.

Rebelo de Sousa expressed a warm welcome to his Chinese counterpart, saying the fact that Portugal and China share mutual understanding and a long history of exchanges offers a solid foundation for the development of bilateral relations.

As next year marks the 40th anniversary of the establishment of bilateral diplomatic relations, Portugal is looking forward to deepening exchanges and cooperation with China in such areas as economy, trade, finance, and culture, said Rebelo de Sousa, adding that more China’s investments are welcome in Portugal.

The Portuguese president said that Portugal supports the BRI and is willing to become the hub in Europe of the overland and the maritime silk roads.

Portugal and China have similar positions on many international issues, as both countries support multilateralism while opposing unilateralism, and support free trade while opposing protectionism, said Rebelo de Sousa, expecting the two countries to push forward coordination in multilateral organizations.

Portugal supports closer Europe-China ties, and will make efforts to press ahead cooperation between Portuguese-speaking countries and China, said the Portuguese president.

The two leaders met with the press after the talks. Before the talks, Rebelo de Sousa hosted a grand ceremony for President Xi.

Xi also laid a wreath at the tomb of famous Portuguese poet Luis de Camoes inside the Jeronimos Monastery in Lisbon.

On Tuesday evening, Xi and his wife Peng Liyuan, together with the Portuguese president, also visited a cultural relics exhibition of “The Forbidden City and the Maritime Silk Road,” which was temporarily showcased in a Portuguese museum.

**XI REITERATES CHINA’S ADHERENCE TO MULTILATERALISM, OPENING-UP**

Beijing, Dec. 12 (Xinhua) — President Xi Jinping reiterated on Wednesday that China will adhere to the path of multilateralism and open its door wider to the world.

Xi made the remarks when meeting with foreign delegates attending the just concluded 2018 Imperial Springs International Forum held in Guangzhou, south China’s Guangdong Province.

He briefed the delegates on achievements of China’s reform and opening-up during the past 40 years and important measures of a new round of opening-up at a higher level, expounded on China’s relations with the world, and listened to the delegates’ remarks.

Xi said this year’s Imperial Springs International Forum coincides with the 40th anniversary of China’s reform and opening-up.

The forum, held on Dec. 10 in southern China’s Guangzhou, gathered some 200 former world leaders, renowned scholars and business elites to discuss the theme of advancing reform and opening-up, promoting win-win cooperation.

“*The past 40 years have witnessed tremendous achievements in China’s development and remarkable improvement of people’s livelihood, from shortage to abundance, from poverty to moderate prosperity,*” Xi said.

China’s reform and opening-up drive is people-oriented, Xi stressed, adding that a distinctive feature of the country’s economy in the new era is the shift from rapid growth to high-quality development, from quantitative expansion to qualitative growth.
Chinese President Xi Jinping (C, front row) poses for a group photo with foreign delegates attending the just concluded 2018 Imperial Springs International Forum held in Guangzhou, ahead of a meeting with them at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, Dec. 12, 2018. (Xinhua/Wang Ye)

“For more balanced and full development, we must further deepen reform and expand opening-up,” said the Chinese president.

During the Boao Forum for Asia annual conference in April, Xi announced a series of measures to expand the country’s opening-up, including substantially easing market access, creating a more attractive investment environment, strengthening intellectual property protection and actively expanding imports.

At the opening ceremony of the first China International Import Expo in Shanghai, Xi announced new measures to further expand opening-up.

“China will adhere to the path of multilateralism, and open the door wider to the world,” Xi said.

Saying China’s economy has maintained overall stability and steady progress, Xi noted that the goal of “making people well-off” pushes the important potential for the country to achieve further growth.

With the increasing income, Chinese people’s pursuit of a high-quality life will bring about greater consumer demand, Xi said. “We are firmly confident in the long-term positive fundamentals of China’s economic development, as well as in the mid- to high-speed economic growth bringing the economy to a medium-to-high level.”

Noting that China’s role as an active defender and contributor to international rules has been acknowledged by the international community, Xi said China’s reform and opening-up is all-round, and the country’s development is an opportunity for the whole world.

“The practice of China’s reform and opening-up has fully proven that only by win-win cooperation can a country achieve long-term development,” he said.

Xi stressed that the Belt and Road Initiative, which originates from China and belongs to the world, is aimed at building a new platform for win-win cooperation for the international community.
He reiterates the principle of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits in promoting cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative.

“China’s overseas investment and cooperation in capacity building and infrastructure construction have driven industrialization of the countries concerned and promoted local people’s livelihood and economic and social development,” said Xi.

Xi said the Chinese side sincerely hopes that all countries will join the Belt and Road partnership and deliver more benefits for all people.

He said China’s efforts to promote and build a new type of international relations and a community with a shared future for humanity are also aimed at achieving win-win cooperation among all countries.

Noting that China’s reform and opening-up has left a glorious chapter in history, Xi said the policy will also enable China to score new achievements in the next 40 years that will deeply impress the world.

The foreign delegates, including former Latvian President Vaira Vike-Freiberga, said that China’s reform and opening-up have brought about tremendous changes in China and had a major positive impact on the world.

They advocated developing inter-state ties on the basis of enhancing mutual trust and win-win cooperation, urging all sides to maintain world peace, promote common growth and oppose unilateralism, isolationism and protectionism.

The foreign delegates also praised the Belt and Road Initiative, saying it yielded tangible benefits for many countries.

**XI HOLDS TALKS WITH ECUADORIAN PRESIDENT, EYEING STEADY DEVELOPMENT OF BILATERAL TIES**

Beijing, Dec. 12 (Xinhua) — President Xi Jinping on Wednesday held talks with Ecuadorean President Lenin Moreno at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, calling for the healthy and steady development of the bilateral ties.

Recalling his state visit to the South American country in 2016, Xi said the healthy and steady development of China-Ecuador ties goes with not only the fundamental interests of the two countries and peoples but also the trend of peace, development and win-win cooperation.

During the 2016 visit, the two countries established a comprehensive strategic partnership, ushering in a new chapter for the bilateral relationship, Xi said.

Xi said he appreciates President Moreno’s commitment to deepening the friendly cooperation between the two countries since Moreno took office last year.

Xi stressed that the two sides should increase interactions to intensify their strategic communication and coordination and exchange experience on governance, so as to enhance mutual understanding and support for each other’s path of development and continue backing each other firmly on issues involving their core interests and major concerns.

Noting that Ecuador’s participation in the construction of the Belt and Road is welcomed by the Chinese side, Xi expects the two sides to jointly promote cooperation in areas such as infrastructure, production capacity, agriculture, information technology, new energy and environmental protection.

“China welcomes Ecuador to actively explore the Chinese market and share opportunities brought by China’s development,” Xi said.

China’s financing cooperation with Ecuador is conducted on the basis of equality, mutual benefit and business principles, without attaching any political condition, said Xi.

Noting that the Chinese government requires Chinese enterprises in Ecuador to abide by
local laws and regulations and run business fairly in the market, Xi expects the Ecuador side to create a good investment environment and protect their legitimate rights and interests.

He called for closer people-to-people and technology exchanges, urging both sides to carry out law enforcement cooperation to guarantee normal exchanges of personnel, economy and trade.

Xi also said China will continue to support Ecuador's post-earthquake reconstruction and its disaster prevention work.

China and Ecuador have same or similar positions on major international and regional issues, said Xi, calling on the two sides to collaborate closely to safeguard multilateralism, promote reform of the global governance system and defend the legitimate rights and interests of developing countries.

Moreno expressed gratitude for China's assistance on Ecuador's economic and social development, especially for the help offered after Ecuador was hit by an earthquake in 2016.

Moreno said Ecuador is ready to actively take part in the Belt and Road Initiative and expand bilateral cooperation in various fields.

He welcomed and appreciated China's financing cooperation with Ecuador and expects to expand exports to China. Moreno also expressed the will to enhance coordination and collaboration with China in multilateral affairs such as UN Sustainable Development Goals.

After the talks, the two leaders witnessed the signing of several cooperation documents, including a memorandum of understanding on jointly promoting the construction of the Belt and Road.
CHINA, GERMANY AGREE TO FURTHER INTENSIFY BILATERAL TIES

Beijing, Dec. 10 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping and visiting German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier agreed Monday to further intensify the all-round strategic partnership between the two countries, to make bilateral cooperation yield more fruits that benefit both nations, both peoples, and the world peace and prosperity.

Noting that the world is undergoing complicated and profound changes, Xi said China and Germany share the same or similar views on many issues.

The two nations need to continue enhancing bilateral and multilateral cooperation to benefit both peoples as well as bring more stability to the world, said Xi.

He made several proposals for future China-Germany cooperation.

Mutual understanding and trust are the basis of deepening bilateral ties, said Xi.

It is the mainstream view of both governments and all circles in both countries to have win-win cooperation, he said.

Xi called on both nations to
summarize the successful experiences of bilateral cooperation and continue to surpass ideological differences and respect each other’s development paths.

China stands ready to maintain close high-level exchanges and make the best of various dialogue mechanisms to enhance policy communication, he said.

The two nations need to stick to openness and innovative cooperation to maintain the vitality of bilateral ties, said Xi.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of China’s reform and opening-up policy.

German enterprises have grasped the opportunities of China’s new round of reform and opening-up, said Xi.

China is willing to continue to share its dividend of development and at the same time hopes Germany will remain open to Chinese investment, said the president.

On expanding cooperation, Xi said the Belt and Road construction could provide a major platform.

China would like to discuss trilateral cooperation with Europe and Germany and promote the synergy of the Belt and Road Initiative with the EU-proposed connectivity plan, said Xi, adding that China will further cooperate on the China Railway Express with Germany and countries along the route.

He also encouraged both sides to promote people-to-people exchanges and provide more platforms for exchanges in areas including culture, education, youth, and sports.

Xi called on both nations to forge ahead with global governance, jointly build an open world economy, uphold the multilateral free trade system, implement the Paris Agreement on climate change, promote the robust, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth of the world economy and jointly safeguard multilateralism with the United Nations as the core.

He suggests China and Europe coordinate and support each other to safeguard the international order and promote global governance, adding that he hopes Germany can continue to play an active role to this end.

Steinmeier, who is on his first state visit to China as president, said that his visit to various parts of China has made him admire more the achievements China has made in the past four decades of reform and opening-up, especially the success of getting several hundreds of millions of people out of poverty.

The economic and social development of the areas in the southwestern Chinese province of Sichuan which were hit by an 8.0-magnitude earthquake 10 years ago was very impressive, said Steinmeier.

He said Germany is satisfied with the development of Germany-China relations and willing to enhance dialogue and mutual understanding, expand consensus, narrow differences, intensify coordination in international affairs and uphold free trade.

Germany opposes protectionism in any form, said Steinmeier, adding that the country will continue to promote cooperation between Europe and China and boost connectivity between Eurasia and China.

Before the talks, Xi held a welcoming ceremony for Steinmeier.

Steinmeier’s state visit to China lasts from Dec. 5 to 10. Prior to Beijing, he went to the southern city of Guangzhou and southwestern city of Chengdu.

CHINESE PRESIDENT MEETS DPRK FOREIGN MINISTER

Beijing, Dec. 7 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping met with Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) in Beijing on Friday, calling for more efforts to advance the long-term, healthy and steady development of bilateral relations.

Xi asked Ri to convey his cordial greetings to Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers’ Party of Korea (WPK) and chairman of the State Affairs Commission of DPRK.

Xi said that during Kim’s three visits to China this year, the two leaders had a thorough and in-depth
exchange of views over major issues including deepening China-DPRK friendly cooperation as well as promoting regional peace, stability and development.

“I’m happy to witness the effective implementation of the important consensus reached by the two sides,” Xi added.

The year of 2019 marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic ties between China and the DPRK. “The Communist Party of China (CPC) and the Chinese government highly value China-DPRK relations, and this is a principle that China unswervingly adheres to,” Xi said.

“Currently, the relations between the two countries have ushered in a new chapter,” he said.

Talking about celebration activities for the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries, he called on the two sides to take the occasion to promote the long-term, healthy and steady development of bilateral relations.

The Chinese side supports the DPRK people to explore a development path suited to its national conditions under the leadership of Kim, and hopes that the DPRK will have a promising future in all its endeavors, the president said.

Xi pointed out that since the beginning of the year, the situation on the Korean Peninsula has taken on positive changes, as evidenced by the fact that the Korean Peninsula issue has come back to the right track of political settlement.

He expressed the hope that the
DPRK and the United States meet each other halfway, and accommodate legitimate concerns of the other side, so as to ensure continuous and positive progress in the peace talks over the peninsula issue.

“China will, as always, support the amelioration of inter-Korean relations and facilitate reconciliation and cooperation between the two sides,” Xi said.

The president urged diplomatic services of China and the DPRK to strengthen communication and make concerted efforts to advance China-DPRK relations and the political settlement of the Korean Peninsula issue.

For his part, Ri conveyed Kim’s cordial greetings and best wishes to Xi.

A series of important consensus reached between the two countries’ leaders during Kim’s visits to China this year serves as guidance for elevating the traditional friendly relations to a new level, Ri said.

Ri said the DPRK is willing to work with China to hold well celebration activities marking the 70th anniversary of DPRK-China diplomatic relations next year, consolidate the traditional friendship with China and enhance bilateral cooperation.

He also said the DPRK is committed to denuclearization on the Peninsula, and is ready to keep close communication and coordination with China over peace and stability on the Peninsula and in the region.

CHINA, PANAMA AGREE TO FURTHER PROMOTE TIES

Chinese President Xi Jinping (L) holds talks with his Panamanian counterpart Juan Carlos Varela in Panama City, Panama, on Dec. 3, 2018. (Xinhua/Li Xueren)
Panama City, Dec. 3 (Xinhua) — Visiting Chinese President Xi Jinping on Monday reached extensive consensus with his Panamanian counterpart, Juan Carlos Varela, on further promoting bilateral relations.

Xi arrived here on Sunday for a state visit to Panama, the first of its kind since China and the Central American country established diplomatic relations in June 2017.

During their talks on Monday, the two leaders applauded the momentum of development of bilateral relations and cooperation results in the past 18 months.

Xi hailed the strong start of bilateral relations highlighted by the exchange of visits of the two presidents and the deepening of mutual political trust.

He also lauded the rapid development of bilateral cooperation in various fields and the achievements made so far led by the joint construction of the Belt and Road.

Facts have proven and will continue to prove that the establishment of diplomatic relations is an absolutely correct decision and will benefit the two peoples, Xi said.

Cementing and developing the China-Panama friendly relations is China’s unwavering diplomatic principle regardless of the changes in international situations, the Chinese president stressed.

China supports Panama’s efforts in safeguarding its security and stability, improving its people’s livelihood and increasing its international influence, and in playing a bigger role in promoting regional economic integrity and connectivity, Xi said.

Xi said that both he and Varela agree that development should be people-centered, and that the evaluation of its results should be based on how much happiness is brought to the people.

China is willing to work with Panama to maintain close high-level exchanges, and strengthen exchanges
and cooperation between their governmental departments, legislative bodies and political parties, Xi said.

China highly appreciates Panama’s firm support on issues concerning China’s major core interests, such as the Taiwan issue, he noted.

China always sticks to the principle of non-interference, Xi said, adding that China recognizes the role of the Panama Canal in the global economy, respects Panama’s sovereignty over the canal, acknowledges the canal as an international transit waterway with permanent neutrality, and supports Panama in playing a bigger role in international and regional affairs.

The National Logistics Strategy of Panama 2030 and the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative are highly compatible, Xi said, calling on the two sides to synergize their respective development strategies, boost cooperation in such areas as finance, tourism, logistics and infrastructure construction, effectively implement key railway, education and health care projects, and promote connectivity.

Noting that China is the second biggest user of the Panama Canal, Xi said the two countries can further optimize consolidated shipment, so that the canal can be of greater effectiveness in China’s deeper engagement in global trade.

China is willing to hold free trade agreement negotiations with Panama on the basis of mutual respect, equality and mutual benefits, he said, adding that China welcomes more Panamanian imports such as marine food products, meat and pineapples.

China also encourages more of its financial institutions to operate in Panama, including the setup of RMB clearing centers, he said.

The Chinese leader also called for closer people-to-people and sub-national exchanges and easier two-way flow of people, so as to consolidate the public support for bilateral relations.

He also called on the two sides to enhance communication in international affairs, deepen coordination and collaboration in such multilateral mechanisms as the United Nations, the World Trade Organization and the Forum of China and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, and jointly tackle the challenges posed by protectionism and unilateralism.

For his part, Varela warmly welcomed Xi’s historic visit to Panama, saying it will forge closer friendship between the two peoples.

Varela hailed the significant progress in bilateral relations since the establishment of diplomatic ties, and said he is glad that the consensus reached by him and Xi has been well implemented, with cooperation and exchanges in infrastructure, people-to-people and other fields being pushed forward in an active manner.

Varela thanked China for its support in his country’s social and economic development, saying that Panama will firmly stick to the one-China policy.

The Panamanian president also said that he shares Xi’s vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind, and that Panama supports the joint building of the Belt and Road and looks forward to deepening bilateral cooperation in investment, port, shipping and free trade zones.

Varela said that his country welcomes the investment of Chinese enterprises and is willing to negotiate and sign a free trade agreement with China at an early date, so as to lift bilateral trade to higher levels.

Panama is willing to fully leverage its advantages in geographic location and logistics, and become China’s link with and gateway to Central and Latin America, said Varela.

The president said he believes that Panama-China cooperation will not only benefit both nations as well as the region, but also contribute to world peace and prosperity.

In a joint press communiqué issued Monday, the two sides affirmed that both governments are dedicated to continuously developing a relationship that is comprehensive, win-win and beneficial to both regions where the two countries respectively located.

The two sides signed a number of cooperation documents covering e-commerce, trade in services, maritime affairs and some other areas, according to the joint press communiqué.

Xi’s state visit to Panama marks the very first time for a president of the People’s Republic of China to visit the Central America country. He arrived in Panama City after wrapping up a trip to Argentina, where he attended the 13th Group of 20 summit and paid a state visit.

His ongoing four-nation trip has also taken him to Spain, and will conclude with a state visit to Portugal.
Beijing, Dec. 13, Xinhua—Chinese Premier Li Keqiang on Thursday met with Ecuadorian President Lenin Moreno at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, calling for closer cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative.

Since the establishment of diplomatic ties 38 years ago, China and Ecuador have achieved deep mutual political trust and fruitful results from cooperation, Li said.

The Chinese side will join hands with Ecuador to elevate the comprehensive strategic partnership to a new level, Li told Moreno.

Saying the Chinese and Ecuadorian economies are highly complementary to each other and enjoy huge potential for further cooperation, Li called for alignment of the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative with Ecuador’s development strategy.

“We should make the best of the existing mechanisms, boost cooperation in key areas, push forward economic and trade exchanges based on market...
principles and international rules, advance a trade balance, and promote people-to-people exchanges,” Li said.

He expressed the hope that Ecuador can provide Chinese enterprises with a better environment to operate businesses, so as to achieve win-win results.

Moreno said the two countries had respected and supported each other, and the Ecuadorian side is pleased to see China’s tremendous achievements.

He stressed that his country firmly supports the one-China principle and appreciates China’s assistance in its domestic social and economic development.

Ecuador is willing to participate in the BRI construction and intensify cooperation, said Moreno, adding that Chinese enterprises are welcome to invest in Ecuador with legal support and in a good business environment.

**Chinese Premier Li Keqiang holds talks with Ecuadorian President Lenin Moreno at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on December 13, 2018.**

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**CHINA, GERMANY PLEDGE TO JOINTLY PROTECT FREE TRADE, WORLD ORDER**

Beijing Dec. 10 (Xinhua) — China and Germany on Monday agreed to join hands to safeguard free trade and the international order.

The agreement was made between Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier, who is about to wrap up his 6-day visit to China starting from Dec. 5.

“China and Germany, as major world economies, are important cooperation partners to each other,” Li said.

At present, the results of the fifth round of China-Germany intergovernmental consultations, held in Germany this July, are being
implimented step by step.

“China will seize the opportunities and develop ties with Germany on the basis of mutual respect and equal-footed cooperation, so as to achieve mutually beneficial and win-win outcomes,” Li said.

The Chinese premier noted that with continued efforts in opening-up and implementation of new measures, German enterprises in the areas of automobile, chemical industry and finance have become the first batch of beneficiaries.

China welcomes more German enterprises to expand investment in China and also hopes Germany will provide a fair business environment for Chinese investors and businessmen, Li added.

He also voiced his expectation of more people-to-people exchanges, which will help consolidate public support of China-Germany ties.

Stressing the importance of protecting multilateralism and the rule-based international order, Li called on both sides to stimulate vitality of global development and jointly push forward the world’s economic and social progress.

For his part, Steinmeier said he has felt the tremendous vitality of China’s economic development, as well as the increasingly closer people-to-people exchanges between Germany and China.
In the past few decades, as relations with China grew ever faster, Germany benefited from China’s reform and opening-up, Steinmeier said, adding that his country stands ready to further expand trade and investment in China, boost bilateral dialogue, and jointly safeguard free trade and the existing international order.

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang meets with German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier in Beijing, capital of China, Dec. 10, 2018. (Xinhua/Liu Weibing)

SPEECH BY H.E. WANG YI AT THE OPENING OF SYMPOSIUM ON THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AND CHINA’S FOREIGN RELATIONS IN 2018

Academic Experts,
Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to join you again at this annual symposium on the international situation and China’s foreign relations. Thanks to your active participation and strong support, the symposium has become increasingly effective in contributing many valuable suggestions to China’s foreign policy, for which I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to you all.

The world in the outgoing 2018 has been marked by uncertainty, a defining feature of the international landscape. The shift in the balance of power accelerated, unilateralism and protectionism further developed, and the international system came under
serious strain. Major-country competition intensified. Even as traditional hotspots remain unresolved, non-traditional security issues such as climate change and refugees cropped up. With his keen understanding of the evolution of history and firm grasp of the trend of the times, General Secretary Xi Jinping made this key judgment about the current international situation: “Our world is experiencing profound changes unseen in a century.”

Amid these once-in-a-century changes, China has naturally encountered new challenges and risks. Yet the Chinese diplomacy, like a giant vessel navigating the sea, has neither lost direction in the mist, nor been deterred by winds and storms. Instead, it has kept cleaving waves and forging ahead, resolute and steadfast, toward its intended destination.

This steadfastness and confidence comes from the strong leadership of the Communist Party.

In June this year, the Central Conference on Work Relating to Foreign Affairs was successfully convened. The most important outcome of this milestone conference is the establishment of Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy as the fundamental guideline for China’s foreign relations. Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy charts the way forward for our major-country diplomacy in the new era and provides us with powerful inspiration for tackling challenges in this fast-changing world.

Over the past year, following the leadership of the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core and under the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy, we in the foreign service have worked proactively with a clear focus and a cool head to fully implement the guiding principles and strategic decisions of the 19th Party Congress. We opened new prospects, broke new grounds and achieved new progress. I would like to recapitulate China’s foreign policy in 2018 with the following words and phrases:

The first keyword is openness. Contributing to China’s wider opening-up has been an overarching theme of China’s diplomacy in 2018. This year marks the 40th anniversary of reform and opening-up. China is determined to further open up while deepening reforms.

Facing the headwinds of protectionism, unilateralism and acts of bullyism, China has remained a staunch supporter for globalization,
for multilateralism, and for the free trade system. From hosting multilateral events to attending international conferences in 2018, China conveyed a clear, consistent message of its commitment to wider opening-up by outlining new policies and concrete measures, thus standing firm on the right side of history.

The Boao Forum for Asia held early this year sounded the clarion call for China’s new round of opening-up. In his keynote speech at the opening ceremony of the annual conference, President Xi Jinping stated loud and clear that China’s door of opening-up will not close but open even wider. He went on to announce a series of major steps of opening-up, including significantly widening market access, fostering a more attractive investment environment, strengthening the protection of intellectual property and proactively expanding imports. The resounding message in President Xi’s speech, consistent with what he laid out in Davos and Geneva last year, speaks to China’s determination to deepen reform and expand opening-up in the new era.

In November, China successfully hosted the first China International Import Expo (CIIE). As the world’s first national-level expo devoted to imports, the CIIE is no less than a pioneering undertaking in the history of global trade. As many as 172 countries, regions and international organizations participated, including the 3,600-strong overseas companies setting up booths and the over 400,000 buyers from home and abroad. In just a few days’ time, various deals worth nearly US$60 billion were sealed. At the opening of the CIIE, President Xi Jinping further announced major steps of opening-up in five respects, including stimulating the potential for increased imports, broadening market access, fostering a world-class business environment, exploring new horizons of opening-up, and promoting international cooperation at multilateral and bilateral levels. The CIIE is another concrete action by China to demonstrate its firm support for an open world economy and its sincere desire to open its market for shared development opportunities.

The second keyword is cooperation. Win-win cooperation is the brightest highlight of China’s foreign policy in 2018. The joint undertaking of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) entered a new phase this year. The symposium marking the fifth anniversary of the BRI was held. General Secretary Xi Jinping, the chief architect of the BRI, attended and addressed the symposium. He pointed out that after five years of efforts in laying the groundwork and establishing the comprehensive framework, the BRI was entering the phase of solid progress and sustained growth poised to achieve higher quality development. The General Secretary set the bar higher for the BRI development and pointed the way forward. Following the guiding principles in his remarks, we have worked to deepen and enrich the cooperation under the BRI. Over the past year, more friends have joined in the initiative: another 50-plus countries and international organizations signed the cooperation documents, raising the total number of such documents to over 140. The BRI spirit was incorporated into the outcome documents of important international institutions including the United Nations, the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the Asia-Europe Meeting, and is increasingly becoming a consensus for international cooperation. Notable progress has been made on a large number of priority projects covering connectivity building and industrial park cooperation, including the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, China-Myanmar Economic Corridor, China-Laos Railway, China-Europe Railway Express, the Piraeus Port and the Hambantota Port. Third-party cooperation under the BRI framework is also well underway in Europe, Asia and Africa.

In a word, the BRI proposed by President Xi Jinping has become the most popular public good and the biggest cooperation platform in today’s world. To date, trade between China and the BRI partner countries has exceeded US$6 trillion. The more than US$80 billion of Chinese investment in these countries has created 240,000 local jobs.

Why has the BRI been so popular and won so much support? It is because we have followed the principle of consultation and cooperation for shared benefits rather than dominance by a single party. It is because we have kept the BRI open, transparent and inclusive rather than building an exclusive circle. It is because we believe the BRI must be green, environment friendly and sustainable in pursuit of high quality. And it is because we have worked to see that BRI-related undertakings follow the rules, international law and the laws of all countries concerned.

Facts have shown that the BRI has brought tangible benefits to the people of all participating countries and made important contributions to global cooperation and common development. The BRI is bound to gain greater support from the international community and embrace even brighter and broader
South-South cooperation was elevated to a new level. 2018 could be called the year of South-South cooperation in China’s foreign relations. Under the China CELAC Forum, the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum and the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), we held collective dialogues with almost all other developing countries across the different continents.

The successful FOCAC Beijing Summit last September is a historic gathering of the big family of China and African countries. Attended by 40 Presidents, 10 Prime Ministers, one Vice President and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, the event set a new record in FOCAC history, and indeed, in all the diplomatic activities China ever hosted.

At this summit, China and Africa introduced over 100 cooperation measures under eight major initiatives, and sent a strong message of China-Africa solidarity and collaboration for a shared future. President Xi outlined China’s “five-no” principle in developing relations with Africa: “no interference in African countries’ pursuit of development paths that fit their national conditions; no interference in African countries’ internal affairs; no imposition of our will on African countries; no attachment of political strings to assistance to Africa; and no seeking of selfish political gains in investment and financing cooperation with Africa.” This principle embodies the self-imposed discipline by China in its cooperation with Africa. It also represents the ethical norms that should guide international development cooperation.

During the summit, many African leaders spoke up against the suspicions and accusations about China-Africa cooperation. The view they share is that China is the most trustworthy partner for the African continent in its pursuit of progress and prosperity.

The Ministerial Meeting of the China CELAC Forum issued the Special Declaration under the Belt and Road Initiative and the China and CELAC Joint Plan of Action for Cooperation on Priority Areas (2019-2021). The Ministerial Meeting of the China Arab States Cooperation Forum issued the Declaration of Action on China Arab States Cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative and reached more than 100 cooperation agreements in nearly 20 areas across the economic, trade, industrial, energy and cultural fields.

Moreover, in his first overseas trip this year, President Xi Jinping visited the UAE, Senegal, Rwanda, South Africa and Mauritius to strengthen China’s unity and cooperation with countries in the Middle East and Africa. His trip to Argentina and Panama at the end of the year led the way for China’s relations with Latin American countries in the new era. President Xi also attended the BRICS Johannesburg Summit where he joined the leaders from other BRICS countries in planning the future of BRICS cooperation. In Papua New Guinea, President Xi met with the leaders of the Pacific island states having diplomatic ties with China and opened a new chapter in the history of the relations between the two sides.

All these actions in the past year have given a strong boost to China’s unity and cooperation with other developing countries and fostered a sound momentum toward common progress and shared prosperity.

The third key phrase is steady progress, which is the goal of China’s foreign policy in 2018. With a cool head and a proactive approach amid regional and global complexities, we have maintained overall stability of our relations with the major countries, and achieved all-round improvement and growth of our relations with neighboring countries.

On relations with major countries, the China-US relationship, in particular, captures global attention as it concerns the interests of all. Facing the negative moves from the US side, including the trade frictions it provoked, China has worked firmly and resolutely to defend its national interests, dignity and right to development, safeguard the rules-based multilateral trading system and seek solutions through dialogues based on mutual respect, equality and good faith. In their recent meeting during the G20 Summit, President Xi Jinping and President Donald Trump had an in-depth strategic discussion. They agreed to pursue a China-US relationship defined by coordination, cooperation and stability, and charted the way for addressing the existing

In Papua New Guinea, President Xi met with the leaders of the Pacific island states having diplomatic ties with China and opened a new chapter in the history of the relations between the two sides.
issues between the two countries and promoting the healthy growth of China-US relations. The two sides had constructive talks on trade and economic issues, which prevented the further escalation of their trade frictions and put these disputes back on the track of resolution through dialogue and consultation. The two sides expressed commitment to the common goal of win-win cooperation and thus anchored expectations around the world.

Having said that, as two big countries different in social system, history, culture and stage of development, China and the United States do have some disagreements, which is only natural. And the existing problems between the two countries cannot be resolved overnight. However, their interwoven ties and intertwined interests also determine that China and the United States cannot be decoupled or completely isolated from each other. As we mark the 40th anniversary of the joint communiqué on establishing China-US diplomatic relations and the 40th anniversary of China’s reform and opening-up, we recognize that both historical events have impacted our world today in a profound way: China achieved far more progress via reform and opening-up than the world had expected, and China-US relations achieved far more growth than erstwhile predictions.

Ancient Chinese philosopher Confucius observed that “when reaching the age of forty, one should have no more doubts.” If the past four momentous decades of China-US engagement were any guide, it boils down to the conclusion that our two countries stand to gain from cooperation and lose from confrontation. Cooperation benefits both sides and the whole world, while confrontation makes no one a winner and will only negatively impact the whole world.

Today, people of vision from both sides must see through the mist and reconfirm this valuable consensus, expel various disturbances and show the wisdom of “having no more doubts”. China intends to stay on the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics, keep to peaceful development, and pursue win-win cooperation with all countries. We hope the United States will abandon the zero-sum mentality, see China’s development in a more positive light, and broaden the room for mutual benefit. There is no need to create rivals, and still less, to effectuate a self-fulfilling prophecy.

China-Russia relations continued to grow at a high level. The two Presidents met several times and exchanged visits. President Xi Jinping visited Russia for the East Economic Forum and President Vladimir Putin paid a state visit to China. The deep trust between the two Presidents and their strategic guidance have made China-Russia relations rock solid and provided a strong driving force for the growing cooperation and deepening international strategic coordination between the two countries. This serves the interests of both peoples, and provides an anchor of stability for the strategic balance in the world.

China and Europe forged closer ties. President Xi Jinping visited Spain and Portugal; Premier Li Keqiang attended the China-EU Summit and the China-CEEC Heads of Government Summit; leaders of major European countries including the UK, France and Germany visited China. Keeping to the overall direction of all-round cooperation, China and Europe sent a joint message of supporting multilateralism and free trade and tackling global challenges together, and brought the negotiation of the China-EU investment treaty into a new stage. The growth of the China-Europe relationship shows that major countries can enjoy harmony in diversity, expand their common ground while properly managing their differences, and gain from each other’s comparative strengths.

Encouraging progress was made in China’s neighborhood diplomacy, and there emerged an overall sound momentum in our neighborhood. In South Asia, China and India are each other’s important neighbors and they are the world’s two largest developing countries. China-India relations were beset by the boundary question and other historical baggage in recent years. Last April, President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a significant political decision: holding an informal summit in Wuhan for deep strategic communication. As a new form of China-India high-level engagement, the summit increased the trust and understanding between the two countries, and led China-India relations onto a track of healthy and steady growth. The landmark Wuhan summit will leave a deep imprint in China-India relations. Friendly exchanges and win-win cooperation between China and India will positively affect the evolution of the global landscape and the human society. President Xi Jinping emphasized that the Chinese “dragon” and the Indian “elephant” should join each other in a duet, not a duel. And Prime Minister Modi responded by saying that when India and China work together, 1+1 is not two, but 11. China will continue to work with India to explore a path for two big neighbors to live side by side...
for win-win outcomes and contribute our due share to the progress and prosperity of Asia and the world beyond.

In Northeast Asia, on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Sino-Japanese Treaty of Peace and Friendship this year, China responded positively to the desire of the Japanese side for improved relations with China. The two countries conducted a series of high-level exchanges and brought their relationship back to the right track. We hope the Japanese side will fully implement the consensus that China and Japan are each other’s partners, not threats, so that China-Japan relationship can shift from competition to coordination, and make fresh progress. This year, General Secretary Xi Jinping and Chairman Kim Jong Un met three times. They reached important consensus on developing China-DPRK relations in the new era, revitalizing the traditional friendship between the two countries. China-ROK relations continued to grow steadily and China-Japan-ROK cooperation was rebooted. In a word, new prospects were opened in Northeast Asian cooperation.

In Southeast Asia, President Xi Jinping paid successful visits to Brunei Darussalam and the Philippines, and Premier Li Keqiang attended the summits on East Asian cooperation and visited Singapore.

The fourth key phrase is standing at the forefront of our times. This reflects China’s concern for the common good of humanity in 2018. The international system has reached a crucial moment of transformation, and the world economy has arrived at a crossroads. In the face of disagreement, disillusionment and disquiet among countries, China, following the trend of the times, is working actively to forge a new type of international relations and a community with a shared future for mankind and endeavoring to make the global governance system more just and equitable. In a highly uncertain world, China has become an important source of stability.

We have looked beyond the changing landscape and made active efforts to foster a community with a shared future for mankind. This vision put forth by President Xi Jinping has won broad support from the international community. Over the past year, this vision has guided our cooperation with the rest of the world on building the Belt and Road, backed by concrete projects. The vision has been incorporated in the outcome documents of the FOCAC Beijing Summit, the SCO Qingdao Summit, the Ministerial Conference of the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum as well as a number of high-level bilateral and multinational engagements, pooling great strengths toward making this envisioned community a reality.

We have remained steady in a volatile world and taken solid steps toward building a new type of international relations. Over the past year, we have enhanced friendship and interactions with other countries on the basis of mutual respect, fairness, justice and win-win cooperation, and worked to develop a new path of state-to-state relations featuring dialogue instead of confrontation, partnership instead of alliance. We have also encouraged the development of major-country relations based on no conflict or confrontation, mutual respect and win-win cooperation. These efforts have made a positive contribution in a world fraught with uncertainties.

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) is a good example of the new type of international relations advocated by China. The SCO’s “Shanghai Spirit” represents a new model of state-to-state relations emphasizing partnership rather than alliance. The Qingdao Summit held last June, the first since the SCO had admitted new members, set a new record in terms of scale, outcome and level of participation since the Organization’s founding in China. In Qingdao,
President Xi Jinping set forth China’s approach to development, security, cooperation, civilizational exchange and global governance, and elaborated on the new type of international relations proposed by China, thus bringing the “Shanghai Spirit” fully up to date. At the Summit, China worked closely with other member states to speak with one voice on the major international and regional issues of the day and to make the SCO an anchor of stability in the world and an indispensable and positive force for global governance.

We have remained clear-eyed and made proactive efforts to shape the course of global governance reform. At the G20 Summit, the APEC Economic Leaders’ Meeting and the BRICS Summit, President Xi Jinping sent a clear message against protectionism and unilateralism. He reiterated China’s firm support for the international order and system centered around the purposes of the UN Charter, the rules-based multilateral system of free trade, and the Paris Agreement and international climate action. He also encouraged more inclusiveness and win-win results in multilateral discussions. On WTO reform, one of the focal issues of global governance, China supports necessary improvement and reform to the WTO. At the same time, we believe its core values and basic principles must be upheld, and the developmental rights and interests and policy space of the developing countries must be protected.

The fifth keyword is mission. A strong sense of mission is the driving force of China’s foreign policy in 2018. This year has seen a major turnaround of the situation on the Korean Peninsula, as the US-DPRK summit in Singapore broke the impasse of the nuclear issue and three DPRK-ROK summits brought a thaw to the inter-Korea relations. The turnaround, which is the result of the concerted efforts of the relevant parties, is what China has been calling for. For decades, China has played an irreplaceable, constructive role in advancing the denuclearization process and safeguarding peace and stability on the Peninsula. Under the new circumstances, we, committed to preserving the hard-won momentum of de-escalation, encourage the North and the South to seize the current opportunity to improve relations, and support the US and the DPRK in working together to kick off the process of settling the issue. After careful thinking, we crafted a fundamental solution to the nuclear issue that can help ensure the long-term stability and security of the Peninsula and address the legitimate concerns of all the parties. This is the dual-track approach that we proposed and encouraged, which seeks to promote synchronized progress of both denuclearizing the Peninsula and establishing a peace mechanism. Only if progress is made on both tracks at the same time, can the issue be fully resolved and there be any hope of lasting peace.

On the Iranian nuclear issue, China stands firmly by international law and the greater good. We believe the multi-party agreement through consensus and endorsed by the UN Security Council should be honored. We will work with the parties to uphold the effectiveness of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) and send a clear, united message of preserving the JCPOA and opposing unilateral sanctions.

The issue of Myanmar both concerns China’s vital interests and affects regional peace and stability. As a major and responsible country, China has suggested a three-phase process to resolve the Rakhine situation, held two informal trilateral meetings with Myanmar and Bangladesh, and facilitated a general agreement between them on the return of displaced persons. We hope Myanmar and Bangladesh will start the return of the first group of displaced persons as soon as possible, and make a good start in settling this complex issue left from history.

Chinese diplomats have engaged in shuttle diplomacy to advance the political settlement of such issues as Afghanistan, northern Myanmar, Syria and Palestine. Recently China’s 8,000-member peacekeeping standby force has passed the performance assessment conducted by the UN and is ready to deploy wherever needed. In a word, China will continue to work with all interested parties and meet its responsibility for world peace and international justice.

The sixth keyword is steadfastness. Safeguarding national interests in a steadfast way is the abiding mission of China’s foreign policy in 2018. We are resolved to uphold our country’s sovereignty and security which are China’s core interests. This year, China established or restored diplomatic relations with the Dominican Republic, Burkina Faso and El Salvador on the basis of equality and voluntarism, bringing the total number of countries having diplomatic relations with China to 178 and cementing the international support for the one-China principle. We firmly opposed foreign intervention in Hong Kong and Macao affairs, vigorously engaged in diplomacy on issues relating to Tibet and Xinjiang, strengthened international counter-terrorism, law enforcement and security...
cooperation, and properly handled the violent terrorist attack on China's consulate general in Karachi. With these efforts, we firmly safeguarded our country's national security.

In order to fulfill our central task of serving national economic and social development and to meet the new requirements of high-quality development, we have fully leveraged our diplomatic and consular assets across the globe to facilitate more sub-national cooperation and the implementation of the Belt and Road Initiative. This year, events were held at the Foreign Ministry to present Hainan, Henan, Hubei, Shandong and Heilongjiang provinces and the Xiongan New Area of Hebei Province. Through such thematic events, 16 Chinese provinces have shown the world what they have to offer. The Foreign Ministry has also stepped up support for Jinping and Malipo, two counties in Yunnan Province paired up with the Foreign Ministry in their poverty reduction efforts. The diplomatic service must be firmly in play in the nationwide battle against poverty.

Serving the interests of the people is our bounden duty in the foreign service. We must strive to meet the people's aspiration for a better life. The people's contentment and satisfaction is all that matters in measuring whether we have done a good job. That's why we are putting procedures in place to ensure the safety of Chinese citizens traveling overseas. We are also working on legislation concerning consular protection and assistance, and stepping up preventive consular protection for the most vulnerable Chinese abroad, including tourists, students and employees of overseas companies. By launching the “Foreign Ministry 12308” smartphone app and significantly lowering the fees of consular legalization of documents for Chinese citizens, we have made consular services more accessible to our people. These practical steps have been welcomed by the Chinese public and media.

The safety and well-being of every fellow countryman and woman abroad is foremost on our mind. We will never sit idle when our citizens’ rights and interests are infringed upon and subjected to bullying. We will do everything we can to defend their lawful rights and to ensure that the world is a fair and just place for all.

Academic experts and friends,

In 2019, we will celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. It is a critical juncture in our journey toward the great renewal of the Chinese nation and a crucial year for meeting the first centenary goal, namely ushering in a moderately prosperous society in all respects. Looking to the future, peace and cooperation remains a surging trend of the world, and China’s development and rejuvenation is unstoppable. We have great confidence in and high hopes about China’s future. We are also conscious that as the global situation and major-country relations continue to evolve, various risks and challenges will surely emerge in the new historical context. We will rally closely around the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core, thoroughly review China's international experiences in the last seven decades, and focus our efforts on facilitating the central tasks of the CPC and the country. To help usher in a moderately prosperous society in all respects and to subsequently build a great modern socialist country, we will strive to create a more enabling external environment, expand the space of cooperation, and inject stronger impetus to China's development. We will continue to advocate the vision of a community with a shared future for mankind. We will stand firmly for the existing international order, participate constructively in the settlement of hot-spot issues, and deepen international exchanges on all fronts. These efforts will mark a new phase of our major-country diplomacy with Chinese features.

First, we will spare no effort to ensure the success of the second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation (BRF). The BRF will be the most important international event hosted by China in 2019 and a crucial moment marking a new phase in building the Belt and Road. We will make solid preparations and consult all the partner countries. With a focus on project implementation, policy coordination and mechanism improvement, we will build more consensus, chart a clearer course and strive for more outcomes. As General Secretary Xi Jinping has instructed, we will seek higher quality, standards and performance of Belt and Road cooperation. After painting the broad strokes of the Belt and Road Initiative, now is the time to refine the details.

We will also organize the second China International Import Expo (CIIE) successfully. The CIIE and BRF are inter-related and mutually reinforcing. The former represents greater opening up of China, while the latter expands connections with the world. They are China’s important, practical contribution to the building of an open world economy. We will work with all other countries to expand common interests and share opportunities.
through openness and cooperation.

Second, we will make multi-pronged efforts to advance friendship and cooperation with all countries.

With Russia, we will celebrate the 70th anniversary of our diplomatic relations. We will strengthen high-level interactions, follow the strategic guidance of our Presidents, and deepen practical cooperation in all fields to take the China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination to a new height.

We are ready to translate the important consensus reached between the Presidents of China and the United States into concrete outcomes through equal and good-faith consultations. In the 40th anniversary year of our diplomatic relations, we will advance China-US relations defined by coordination, cooperation and stability, and strive for no conflict or confrontation, mutual respect and win-win cooperation.

We will work with Europe to uphold multilateralism, improve global governance and safeguard international rules and order.

We will strengthen political trust with neighboring countries and expand our cooperation and shared interests. We will contribute to the success of the SCO Kyrgyzstan Summit, the CICA Tajikistan Summit and the leaders’ meetings on East Asian cooperation with our active participation, and encourage an early conclusion of the RCEP negotiations.

We will follow a principled approach in pursuing shared interests and the principles of sincerity, real results, amity and good faith in delivering on the agreed outcomes of the FOCAC Beijing Summit, the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum and the China-CELAC Forum, which are all important building blocks of a future shared by China and other developing countries.

Third, we will actively safeguard peace and stability in our region and beyond. We will approach hot-spot issues in a Chinese way and play a unique role by proposing solutions to international and regional flashpoints. On the Korean Peninsula issue, we will fully honor our international obligations under relevant Security Council resolutions and, at the same time, encourage the US, the DPRK and the other parties concerned to move forward through a dual-track approach, so that both the complete denuclearization of the Peninsula and a permanent peace mechanism will be achieved as soon as possible.

We will also join hands with the rest of the international community to uphold the JCPOA, actively mediate in the Rakhine situation, and work for the settlement of Afghanistan, Syria, Palestine and other issues.

Fourth, we will take an active part in shaping global governance. We will stay committed to a global governance philosophy featuring consultation and cooperation for shared benefits, firmly uphold rules-based multilateralism and the international system centered around the UN, and support the UN system as a key platform of global governance. We support necessary reforms to improve the WTO while preserving its core values and fundamental principles. We are also supportive of international collaboration to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and an early entry into force and implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Fifth, we will make more active efforts to serve our domestic agenda of reform and development. As we celebrate the 70th birthday of New China in 2019, we will work actively to present the great achievements of socialism with Chinese characteristics and demonstrate the bright prospects of China’s national rejuvenation. This will help enhance the world’s understanding of and confidence in China. We will use our diplomatic resources to serve China’s development by supporting the efforts to diversify overseas markets and cooperation partners. We will stay up to date, continue to provide an effective platform for Chinese provinces to engage the world and contribute our share to winning the nationwide battle against poverty. We will continue to support the anti-corruption authorities on fugitive repatriation and the return of their criminal proceeds, so as to deny any hideout to offenders. We will remain committed to the mission of serving the people, work for the early adoption of legislation on consular protection, and continue to facilitate the mobility of Chinese and foreign nationals.

Academic Experts and Friends,

China’s major-country diplomacy is forging ahead. I hope you will deepen your research on the major subjects of foreign relations, such as building a community with a shared future for mankind, fostering a new type of international relations, and improving China’s global partnerships. I encourage you to grasp the underlying, cross-cutting trends in the evolving international system and help develop theories for China’s major-country diplomacy. I am sure you will give us stronger intellectual support by devising solutions to real issues in our diplomatic work.

Thank you.
WANG YI TALKS ABOUT CHINA-INDIA RELATIONS: EXPLORE THE PATH OF CO-EXISTENCE AND WIN-WIN RESULTS FOR MAJOR NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES


Wang Yi expressed that China and India are important neighboring countries to each other and also the two largest developing countries. President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a meeting in Wuhan this June. They conducted in-depth strategic communication, which created a new model of China-India high-level exchanges, enhanced mutual trust and recognition, and led China-India relations to achieve sound and stable development. As a landmark event, the meeting in Wuhan will leave indelible imprints in the history of China-India relations. Friendly exchanges and mutually beneficial cooperation between China and India will affect the evolution of international landscape and the direction of human progress. President Xi Jinping stressed that the Chinese “dragon” and the Indian “elephant” should dance together rather than fighting with each other. Prime Minister Narendra Modi responded that for India-China cooperation, one plus one will equal not two, but eleven. We are willing to, together with the Indian side, meet each other halfway, and constantly explore the path of co-existence and win-win results for major neighboring countries, in a bid to make due contributions to the revitalization and development of Asia and the world.
WANG YI AND AJIT DOVAL HOLD THE 21ST MEETING OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVES OF CHINA AND INDIA ON THE BOUNDARY QUESTION

On November 24, 2018, Special Representative of the Chinese side, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi held the 21st Meeting of the Special Representatives of China and India on the Boundary Question with Special Representative of the Indian side and National Security Adviser Ajit Doval in Chengdu, Sichuan Province.

Wang Yi expressed that both China and India are great countries with ancient civilizations and also the two largest developing countries and the most vigorous emerging economies in today’s world. We share extensive common interests and broad space for cooperation. The cooperation between China and India will speed up the development process of the two countries, and make new important contributions to the world peace and the human progress.

Wang Yi said that President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi have met for three times since the beginning of this year, among which the meeting in Wuhan was of milestone significance in particular. Their meetings have provided strategic guidance for the development of China-India relations. Bilateral relations are showing the momentum of all-round improvement and development. It is necessary for the Special Representatives’ meeting mechanism to keep pace with this positive trend, take on a new look, embody new accomplishments, and create more favorable conditions and environment for bilateral relations by advancing the boundary negotiations in a constructive manner.

Ajit Doval noted that under the guidance of the vision and determination of the leaders of India and China, India-China relations have achieved a new transition as well as positive and sound development. I totally agree on State Councilor Wang Yi’s exposition on the importance of bilateral relations just now, and stand ready to, through the Special Representatives’ meeting mechanism, implement the important consensus of the meeting in Wuhan between the leaders of the two countries, strengthen strategic communication and increase political mutual trust, in a bid to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question, thus sending a positive message to the outside that India and China, the two countries with ancient civilizations, have the wisdom and capacity to peacefully resolve the question through dialogue and consultation.

Ajit Doval also sent condolences to the Chinese Consulate-General in Karachi for the attack it suffered and strongly condemned this act of terrorism. Wang Yi emphasized that this attack against diplomatic agencies was extremely bad in nature, which would never be tolerated. Terrorism is a common threat facing all countries in the world, and the international community should join hands to advance counter-terrorism cooperation.
On November 24, 2018, the 21st Meeting of the Special Representatives of China and India on the Boundary Question was held at Chengdu, Sichuan Province. Special Representative of the Chinese side, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi exchanged in-depth views with Special Representative of the Indian side and National Security Advisor Ajit Doval on boundary question, bilateral relations and international and regional issues of common concern, achieving important consensus. With a positive tone, the meeting is full of constructiveness and forward-looking significance.

First, both sides reviewed the important achievements of the negotiations since the establishment of the special representatives meeting mechanism, and believed that these achievements have laid an important foundation for the two sides to continuously push forward negotiation progress.

Second, both sides expressed that they will continuously promote the process of special representatives negotiations under the political guidance of both leaders and proceeding from the general situation of bilateral relations and the well-
being of the two peoples, as well as in line with the important consensus reached by President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi on properly resolving boundary question and developing China-India relations, so as to reach fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solutions to the boundary question at an early date. Both sides will jointly safeguard peace and tranquility in the border areas of the two countries before a final settlement of the boundary question.

Third, both sides conducted in-depth communication on further enhancing the building of trust measures in the border areas, properly controlling disputes and settling framework of the boundary question. The two sides reached important consensus, and put forward a series of positive and constructive proposals of each side.

Fourth, both sides agreed to practically implement the important consensus of the leaders of the two countries to all levels of the two sides, including front-line troops, and further improve the construction of trust measures in border areas, and continue to strengthen communication and coordination of the two countries’ departments involved in boundary question.

Fifth, both sides agreed to gradually expand border trade and people-to-people exchanges, and elevate the public opinion foundation of border areas’ friendly cooperation, so as to create a sound atmosphere for boundary negotiations and the development of bilateral relations.

Sixth, both sides agreed to authorize the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on China-India Border Affairs to take the above consensus and proposals as the foundation to launch consultations on early harvest, in a bid to achieve concrete results as soon as possible.

On bilateral relations, both sides agreed that since the informal meeting of the two leaders in Wuhan, China-India relations have made comprehensive and positive progress and entered a new stage of development. Under the current international situation, the strategic significance of China-India relations is even more prominent. Both sides will, in accordance with the important consensus reached by the two leaders, continuously enhance strategic communication, increase political mutual trust, and expand exchanges and cooperation in various fields, so as to promote the closer development partnership between China and India to a new stage.
On December 4, 2018, Vice Foreign Minister Kong Xuanyou held working consultation with Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale of India in New Delhi. Both sides spoke positively of the development momentum of China-India relations in 2018, and exchanged in-depth views on China-India exchanges in various fields in the next phase as well as international and regional issues of mutual concern.

CHINA-INDIA ANTI-TERRORISM JOINT TRAINING KICKS OFF

Chengdu, Dec. 12 (Xinhua) — The opening ceremony of a joint anti-terrorism training drill between Chinese and Indian armies was held on Tuesday in Chengdu, capital of southwest China’s Sichuan Province.

The joint training aims to strengthen understanding and mutual trust between the two armies, exchange training experience and build up anti-terrorism capacity,
Kuang Dewang, a senior representative of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army, said at the ceremony.

Kuang said the training did not target any third party.

Codenamed “Hand-in-Hand 2018,” the 14-day event is the seventh joint anti-terrorism training between the Chinese and Indian military forces since 2007.
NEW DELHI, Nov. 17 (Xinhua) — The China-India Youth Dialogue 2018 was held in the Indian capital in an effort to promote the people-to-people and cultural exchanges and relations between the two countries.

In a speech delivered at the event on Friday, Chinese Ambassador to India Luo Zhaohui said China-India ties have entered the fast track of development after an informal summit in central China’s Wuhan in April this year.

“The sound bilateral relations and friendly cooperation have provided solid basis and opportunities for youth exchanges,” he said.

The Chinese envoy called for more bilateral exchanges in various fields, such as sports, cinema, education, engineering, among others and he also called for expanding the scope of exchanges among the youth.

“We encourage more Indian students to study in China and more Chinese students to study in India,” he said.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi sent a congratulatory message to the event.

In his message, Modi said, “The dialogue will provide a platform for the youth of both the nations to build a ‘Great Wall of Trust and Cooperation’ between the two countries.”

Jointly organized by the Chinese Embassy and the Confederation of Young Leaders, the event offered a platform to exchange views, learn from each other, enhance mutual understanding and friendship and was attended by more than 150 participants from both sides.
ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS ACTIVITY HELD IN HUZhou, EAST CHina’S ZHEJIANG

Children of a local kindergarten take part in an eco fashion show during an environmental awareness activity in Qingcaowu Village of Lijiaxiang Township in Changxing County, Huzhou, east China’s Zhejiang Province, Dec. 12, 2018. (Xinhua/Xu Yu)
SNOW SCULPTURE COMPETITION KICKS OFF IN CHINA’S HEILONGJIANG

Contestants carve snow sculptures during a snow sculpture competition at Sun Island International Snow Sculpture Art Expo park in Harbin, capital of northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province, Dec. 14, 2018. A total of 20 teams took part in the four-day event kicked off on Friday. (Xinhua/Wang Jianwei)
VEGETABLE GROWING BOOSTS VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT, INCREASES FARMERS’ INCOMES IN HEBEI

Aerial photo taken on Nov. 27, 2018 shows farmers loading Chinese cabbages onto a vehicle in Daxianggezhuang Township of Laoting County, north China’s Hebei Province. Laoting County has relied on vegetable growing to boost village development and increase farmers’ incomes, planting more than 33,533 hectares of vegetables and realizing annual output of 3.2 million tonnes. (Xinhua/Yang Shiyao)

Women work in a greenhouse in Laoting Town of Laoting County, north China’s Hebei Province, on Dec. 12, 2018. Laoting County has relied on vegetable growing to boost village development and increase farmers’ incomes, planting more than 33,533 hectares of vegetables and realizing annual output of 3.2 million tonnes. (Xinhua/Zhang Fengguo)
SNOW SCENERY OF HUANGSHAN IN EAST CHINA’S ANHUI

Photo taken on Dec. 12, 2018 shows the Huangshan Mountain Scenic Area after snow in Huangshan, east China’s Anhui Province. Huangshan Mountain, also known as the Yellow Mountain, is a UNESCO world heritage site covering an area of 1,200 square kilometers and famous for its peculiarly-shaped rocks, cloud-shrouded peaks, pines and hot springs. (Xinhua/Shi Guangde)
XIZANG SPECIAL PAGE PUBLISHED IN INDIAN MEDIA

On December 3rd, Chinese embassy published TIBET, CHINA TODAY Special Page in India mainstream media the Indian Express and the Financial Express, introducing Xizang’s cultural legacies development with times.

This special page uses vivid examples to introduce the great strides of the autonomous region in protecting and inheriting its cultural legacies by integrating the time-honoured culture into modern life.
CHINA’S TIBETAN MEDICINAL BATHING LISTED AS INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) inscribed on Wednesday China’s Lum medicinal bathing of Sowa Rigpa on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

The decision was announced during the 13th session of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage held from Monday to Saturday in Port Louis, Mauritius.

The Lum medicinal bathing of Sowa Rigpa is the knowledge and practices concerning life, health and illness prevention and treatment among the Tibetan people in China. In Tibetan, “Lum” indicates the traditional knowledge and practices of bathing in natural hot springs, herbal water or steam to adjust the balance of mind and body, to ensure health and treat illnesses. Sowa Rigpa, the Tibetan name of the medicinal practice, literally meaning the knowledge of recuperating, was originated on the Qinghai-Xizang Plateau with an average altitude of 4,000 meters above the sea level. The traditional Tibetan medicine prescriptions of treating illness with herbs and minerals date back 2,500 years. [Photo/Xinhua]
practices concerning life, health and illness prevention and treatment among the Tibetan people in China.

Speaking after the decision to inscribe this intangible cultural heritage on the list, Chinese Vice Minister of Culture and Tourism Zhang Xu said that Lum medicinal bathing of Sowa Rigpa has an important bearing on the everyday life of people of the Tibetan ethnic group.

"This heritage not only embodies the folk experience in disease prevention and treatment, it also represents an inheritance and development of the traditional Tibetan medicine theories in modern health practices," Zhang said.

In Tibetan, "Lum" indicates the traditional knowledge and practices of bathing in natural hot springs, herbal water or steam to adjust the balance of mind and body, to ensure health and treat illnesses.

The Lum Medicinal Bathing of Sowa Rigpa (Tibetan Medicine) has been developed by the Tibetan people with a life view based on Jungwa-nga (five elements) that includes Earth, Water, Fire, Wind and Space, and a view about health and illness.

The knowledge and practices are widely distributed in areas inhabited by Tibetans in China’s Xizang Autonomous Region as well as provinces including Qinghai,
Researchers Release Database on Tibetan Folk Epic

Researchers in northwest China’s Qinghai Province have launched a database on folk singing of a 1,000-year-old Tibetan song cycle — the “Epic of King Gesar.”

The online collection presents 1,600 minutes of folk singer audio, 2.76 million words of text, folk singer introductions as well as research findings, according to the Qinghai Provincial Research Institute on the “Epic of King Gesar.”

It also includes videos on related forums, 5,500 photos of Thangka paintings, sculptures and murals, as well as Tibetan Opera related to the epic.

People can log-in to the database through computers or mobile phones.

The epic is believed to be the one of the world’s longest. It tells how an 11th century Tibetan demigod king conquered his enemies and helped the common people.

It has been passed down orally by singers, often illiterate herdiers or peasants from places including Xizang Autonomous Region, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region or Qinghai Province.

The epic was listed as a World Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2009.

“Currently digital sorting and storing has become the most important way to preserve this epic,” said Shangcham Tsering, associate researcher with the institute.

Shangcham Tsering said that they would upload more content to the database to provide help for academic research and public understanding of this epic.

Humans Arrived in Qinghai-Xizang Plateau 40,000 Years Ago: Study

The Ancient Vertebrates and Humans Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Sciences has found that ancient humans set foot on the Qinghai-Xizang plateau, known as “Roof of the World” as early as 40,000 to 30,000 years ago.

This important discovery and
conclusion by Chinese scientists was first published online in the American journal Science in the early morning hours of November 30th (Beijing time). The discovery has pushed the first traces of humans on the Qinghai-Xizang Plateau to about 40,000 years ago, and has provided the earliest record of humans conquering a high-altitude and extreme environment.

According to a press conference hosted by the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the National Cultural Heritage Administration, after years of investigation, excavation, and research, ruins of human remains of the Paleolithic-age were found in the Qiangtang Plateau in northern Xizang. The ruins, at an altitude of 4600 meters, are of a big scale, have well-preserved layers, and have dense distribution of stoneware, hinting at the oldest signs of human activity in this highest-altitude landscape.

MIGRANT BIRDS’ WINTER TIME IN LHASA

On November 16th, black-necked cranes have reached Lhasa valley for the winter. The black-necked cranes are unique to the plateau and a kind of first-level protected species in China.

Lhasa, capital of southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region is already in deep winter at this time and is less green, but the lively creatures in the meadows and valleys have added life to the area.

We drove from Lhasa to the nearby Kazi Township in Lhünzhub County to see how black-necked cranes spend their winter migration.

Lhünzhub County has the most concentrated habitat for black-necked cranes in Tibet. Known as “lucky birds” to Tibetans, the black-necked cranes reproduce in northern Tibet in spring, and at start of winter, the birds travel south on a fixed route and spend their winter in the Lhasa Valley and the Nyang Qu River region.
Black-necked cranes are China’s first-level protected species. As an indicator for the ecology of the plateau, the birds primarily live on plateau meadows, river valleys, and swamp from 2500 to 5000 meters altitude.

The ride from the city to the countryside took more than two hours and wasn’t easy. Before we reached destination, we already had one punctured tire, but this didn’t stop us from continuing our journey. We were driven by an ecology specialist named Dongrub Tsering, who is almost 50-years-old, and whose career of protecting black-necked cranes in Lhünzhub County has spanned for over 10 years.

He said he has not seen as many black-necked cranes in his hometown when he was growing up, and occasionally, the birds would be hunted. Nowadays, the cranes could be seen grazing in groups in the meadows.

The cranes often graze at a wetland near Tsering’s home. On this trip, he packed a small bag of wheat to feed the birds. He said, “there’s more black-necked cranes this year, and the county has given every ecology specialist an extra 1000 jin of wheat.

We travelled and then came across a group of cranes, about 10 or so in number. Compared to vehicles, the cranes are more spooked by humans, so Tsering parked his car closer to the cranes, a safer distance for them.

When we were two or three hundred meters away from the cranes, Tsering got out of the car and scattered the wheat. We squatted nearby and used a long-distance lens to observe these birds. They have tall necks, long legs, a white back, and black wings. These elegant “lucky birds” looked very leisurely as they

Tibet is the world’s largest area for winter migration and reproduction of black-necked cranes.
Black-necked cranes reach Lhasa Valley for the winter.

Dongrub Tsering, an ecology specialist, feeding the wintering black-necked cranes in Lhünzhub County.
grazed, stretched their necks, pecked their feathers, and ambled around.

Before we observed them for long, the black-necked cranes seemed to become wary of humans. At first, they stretched out their necks, then they rustled and flew away.

After the feeding, we followed Tsering to look for a new group of cranes, however, our car was stuck in the mud. After we tried to push but failed, he took out a screwjack to elevate the car, added a rock as a cushion, and finally, we all helped to push the car out of the mud.

During our search for more birds, villagers in the area could be seen watering the fields. Not far from the fields were black-necked cranes grazing, playing, or resting. Tsering said that after all these years, the villagers and the cranes had an understanding not to disturb each other. He also said there was a subtle harmony between the locals and the birds, even if outsiders pretended to be locals, the birds would know they weren’t.

The locals’ familiarity with the black-necked cranes has helped Tsering understand the cranes very well and become more sensitive to the cranes’ existence. During our search, he’d often stop and observe, at first, the meadows seemed empty, but soon, the cranes could be heard calling from afar.

When we followed the source of the sound, we could see almost 100 cranes resting in the area, an exciting discovery. On this trip, we actually saw quite a few gatherings of cranes of more than 100 in number, as well as a few cranes grazing with their young. In these cranes’ families, there is often just one young crane. Luckily, we were able to photograph a few “family of four” black-necked cranes.

As our journey ended, it was already after dusk. Groups of black-necked cranes returned to their nests.

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BOOK REVIEW

Xi Jinping - The Governance of China-II

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>
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<th>ARRIVAL TIME</th>
<th>FLIGHT DATES</th>
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<tr>
<td>New Delhi-Guangzhou</td>
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### Schedule of China Southern Airlines Flights (Summer Season)

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### China Eastern Time Table

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<td>MU563</td>
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<td></td>
<td>MU556</td>
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## Schedule of Air China Flights Between India and China

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## Address and Contact Numbers of Chinese Airlines

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<tr>
<th>Airlines</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Air China</strong></td>
<td>Ground Floor, E-9 Connaught House, Connaught Place, New Delhi 110001</td>
<td>Tel: 011-43508888 Fax: 011-43508999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unit No. 9/2, Queen’s Road, Bangalore 560001</td>
<td>Tel: 080-43587900 Fax: 080-43587999</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ground Floor, C&amp;B Square,127 Andheri-Kurla Road, Andheri (east), Mumbai 400069</td>
<td>Tel: 022-61175555 Fax: 022-61175566</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>China Eastern Airlines</strong></td>
<td>Thapar House, 124, Janpath, New Delhi 110001</td>
<td>Tel: 011-43513166 Fax: 011-43513155</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>228A, Land Mark Building, A.J.C. Bose Road, Kolkata 700020</td>
<td>Tel: 033-40448887/88 Fax: 033-22875173</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>China Southern Airlines</strong></td>
<td>118, New Delhi House, 27, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi 110001</td>
<td>Tel: 011-43596075/77/78 Fax:011-23737453</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cathy Pacific</strong></td>
<td>G123, Tolstoy House, Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi</td>
<td>Tel:011-23321286/3332 Fax:011-23721550</td>
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Early winter scenery of Wuyuan County, Jiangxi Province.