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CONTENTS

HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 Speech on the Symposium of Commemorating the 40th Anniversary of Sino-Japanese Treaty of Peace and Friendship
- 4 Vice President Liu Hongcai Visits Timor Leste, Indonesia and the Republic of Korea

CHINA AND THE WORLD

- 10 Strengthen Youth Exchanges in the New Era to Promote China-Japan Relations
- 13 To Build a Community of Shared Future for Mankind to Overcome the Kindleberger Trap
- 18 The Belt and Road Initiative and Globalization

FRIENDLY EXCHANGES

- 21 International Public Welfare Activities on the Move
- 27 Delegation of Broad National Alliance for Independence, Peace and Democracy of Japan Visits China

SIRONET

- 30 It's Better to Teach a Man Fishing than to Give him a Fish
- 35 Connect the World with Acupuncture for the Wellbeing of the People
- 41 All-China Journalists Association Actively Builds New Platforms for Exchanges and Cooperation among Journalists along the Belt and Road
- 45 The Songs of Nongping Elementary School

CHINA IN FOREIGNERS' EYES

- 49 China's New Silk Road: Linking Commerce, Cultures, Civilizations
- 52 China in a New Era after the 19th CPC National Congress: from A Rising Power to A World Leader
- 55 Boost Mutual Understanding via Active People-to-people Exchanges

QUARTERLY UPDATES

- 57 Latest News of Member Organizations of China NGO Network for International Exchanges in International Exchanges

Speech on the Symposium of Commemorating the 40th Anniversary of Sino-Japanese Treaty of Peace and Friendship

Liu Hongcai, Vice President of Chinese Association for International Understanding

Editor's note: on February 6th, 2018, the Symposium of Commemorating the 40th Anniversary of Sino-Japanese Treaty of Peace and Friendship organized by Chinese Association for International Understanding was staged at Wanshou Hotel, Beijing. Liu Hongcai, Vice President of Chinese Association for International Understanding and former Vice Minister of International Department of Central Committee of CPC attended and addressed the meeting. More than 30 representatives, respectively from Chinese social organizations and institutions such as All-China Youth Federation, All-China Women's Federation, Chinese Association for Japanese Studies, People's China, visiting representatives of Broad National Coalition of Liberty, Peace and Democracy, as well as from the Beijing branch of Japanese non-governmental organizations and institutions such as Council of Local Authorities for International Relations, Beijing. Representatives from both China and Japan made heated discussion and actively contributed to themes such as giving full play to the role of non-governmental organizations, enhancing bilateral communication and improving bilateral relations. The following is the address delivered by Liu Hongcai on the symposium.

Respected Yoshida Shin,

Representative of conveners of Broad National Coalition of Liberty, Peace and Democracy,

Dear Council members, friends,

Good morning!

First, I'd like to, on behalf of Chinese Association for International Understanding, extend our warm welcome to all the representatives from



social organizations of both Japan and China for attending our symposium.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the signing of Sino-Japanese Treaty of Peace and Friendship. Forty years ago, with the signing of the Treaty, China and Japan confirmed the framework of bilateral relations in the form of law. The normalization of diplomatic ties between China and Japan and the signing of the Treaty owe to the concerted efforts of the people, NGOs and statesmen of the elderly generation of both countries. The staging of the symposium today is aimed at reviewing the past, looking forward to the future, upholding the spirit of the Treaty and enhancing the development of China-Japan relations in the new era.

We are delighted to see that with joint efforts of both sides, the momentum of improvement of China-Japan relations was further entrenched last year. When attending the Annual APEC Economic Leaders' Meetings in Da Nang, Vietnam, Chinese President Xi Jinping and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe met each other, reiterated and confirmed the principles and directions of developing bilateral relations. Political parties, parliaments and civil organizations actively responded to the leaders' call, and the economic community of Japan sent a large delegation to China. Objective and positive reports on China from the Japanese media also increased. Last year, tourists between China and Japan reached nearly 10 million, among whom 7 million Chinese tourists visited Japan, and the expectation of improvement of bilateral relations among both peoples was on the rise. Recently, Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono visited China. Both sides agreed to, taking the opportunity of the 40th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty, strengthen communication at all levels, conduct various kinds of exchanges, so as to lay a solid

public and social foundation for getting bilateral relations back on track. These active changes are in accordance with the willingness of people of both countries and social organizations working at the field of friendship among the people of both countries. We should treasure and take part in these active changes.

Dear friends,

Last October, President Xi Jinping pointed out at the 19th CPC National Congress that China adheres to the fundamental national policy of opening up and pursues development with its doors widely open. China will actively promote international cooperation through the Belt and Road Initiative, thus building a new platform for international cooperation. China proposes forging a new form of international relations featuring mutual respect, fairness, justice, and win-win cooperation, and calls on the people of all countries to work together to build a community with a shared future for mankind, to build an open, inclusive, clean, and beautiful world that enjoys lasting peace, universal security and common prosperity.

It is the common aspiration of people of all countries to build a better world and enjoy a happy life. Facing the new grand topic of building a community with a shared future for mankind, we should, as always, make our due contribution to peace and common development of the world as well as mutual learning among civilizations. It embodies the persevere pursuit of Chinese people for peace, friendship and cooperation. Adhering to the philosophy of "All under heaven are of one family", we are willing to join hands with all friends to make greater contribution to building a community with a shared future for mankind and creating a better future for mankind.

Dear friends,

Promoting peace, friendship and cooperation are the basic principles of Sino-Japanese Treaty of Peace and Friendship. China and Japan are important economies of Asia and the world, thus shouldering great responsibilities for the development of Asia and the world. Non-governmental organizations of both countries should carry forward their fine traditions, think thoroughly the development of China-Japan relations in the new era, thus benefiting people of both countries as well as the whole world. The following are my suggestions.

First, respect the Treaty and jointly secure the political foundation of China-Japan relations. Non-governmental organizations of both sides should remain true to their original aspiration, review the spirit of the treaty, accurately grasp the future development trend of bilateral relations, strictly observe four political documents and four-point principle consensus between China and Japan. They should also learn from history and look forward to the future so as to secure the political foundation of bilateral relations; enhance official exchanges with their work, so as to drive bilateral relations steadily towards the right direction.

Second, offer social wisdom and jointly promote building a community with a shared future for mankind. Facing complicated world economic situation and global issues, social organizations should and could play a more and more important role in terms of global governance and maintaining international order. The rapid development of Japan after World War II and the 40-year reform and opening up of China

has helped both sides accumulate solutions and experience of resolving problems. We should, in the process of exchanges and mutual learning, look for ideas, explore potential, build consensus, enhance understanding and strengthen cooperation, so as to make our due contribution to building a community with a shared future for mankind with our abundant social wisdom.

Third, strengthen connectivity between people and jointly strive for building the Belt and Road. Social organizations of both countries should carry forward the Silk Road Spirit, namely peace and cooperation, openness and inclusiveness, mutual learning and mutual benefit, so as to actively study and participate in the Belt and Road initiative. Social organizations such as Chinese Association for International Understanding established the “Silk Road NGO Cooperation Network”. Social organizations from both China and Japan, especially these presented here today, are welcomed to take part in the Network and encouraged to develop all kinds of exchanges and cooperation over the Belt and Road Initiative so as to deepen win-win cooperation between China and Japan.

In the end, may social organizations of both China and Japan, take the opportunity of the 40th Anniversary of Sino-Japanese Treaty of Peace and Friendship, exert joint efforts to make active contribution to further promoting people-to-people exchanges and friendship between the two countries.

Thank you!

(Translated by Ma Jiatai)

Vice President Liu Hongcai Visits Timor Leste, Indonesia and the Republic of Korea

Zuo Hongsheng

As early as in the Han Dynasty, Chinese people started to travel all the way to Southeast Asia. Chinese merchants used to sail southwards in winter following the northwest monsoon, going all the way to today's Indonesian archipelago and make homebound trips the next year following the southeast monsoon. At the beginning of the 15th century, these voyages reached a crescendo, with countless Chinese ships sailing around Java, Sumatra, Malacca and Luzon. The vast ocean has never stopped the exchanges among people of different countries. Rather, it provides a bond connecting them.

At the invitation of East Timor Alumni Association of Students

Studying in China, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Indonesia and Initiatives of Change-Korea, Deputy Director-General of the CPPCC and CAFIU Vice President Liu Hongcai headed a 6-member CAFIU delegation to the above three countries from March 21 to 30. During the visit, the delegation met with senior leaders of the political parties,





and representatives of think tanks and NGOs in the three countries. The delegation gave presentations about the spirits of the 19th CPC National Congress, the “Two Sessions”, and the Belt and Road Initiative. The visit has played a positive role in helping promote people-to-people connectivity between China and countries along the Belt and Road, solidifying the foundation for the sound development of state-to-state ties.

Timor Leste: A Young Country Deep in the South Pacific

Timor Leste is familiar to many Chinese people. At the opening ceremony of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, the country’s one-member

delegation entered the stadium, attracting a lot of attention on the world stage. The country is an important one along the Maritime Silk Road and one of the least developed countries in Asia. The first stop of the visit was the country’s capital Dili. Due to the flight adjustment, it took almost one day to arrive in Dili. No skyscraper was seen along the road leading to the hotel. Instead, ramshackle cottages jumped into our sights from time to time, leaving a quite unforgettable memory.

During the visit, the delegation was warmly welcomed by people from all walks of life. National Security Advisor and former President Jose

Ramos-Horta said with deep emotion that he would never forget China’s substantial support and selfless help extended to Timor Leste’s national independence and economic development for a long time. He added that people of his country are fond of China, and ruling and opposition parties adhere to the policy of promoting friendly relations with China, which has laid a solid foundation for further development of bilateral ties. Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Adaljuza Magno told the delegation that she and her family are deeply bonded with China, as she had visited China twice and her sister was studying in China. She said as China’s development provides more opportunities to the



rest of the world, her country would like to get aboard the express train of China's development by forging close exchanges and cooperation in various fields under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative so as to bring more benefits to the people of both countries.

At the roundtable discussion with the NGO "Mirror of the People", its President spoke at great lengths about the history of the friendly exchanges between the people of the two countries. We were quite touched by his opening remarks, given the fact that this country has no written history recorded in its own language. At the roundtable discussion with East Timor Alumni Association of Students Studying in China, its acting President Egidio Da Costa said promoting people-to-people exchanges is one of the most important ways to advance the building of the 21st Maritime Silk Road, and members of his organization stand

ready to act as messengers of the two countries to promote the people-to-people exchanges and cooperation between the two countries so as to help build the social support for the bilateral ties between our two countries. Former Ambassador to China Vicky Tchong expressed her wish that more young people of Timor Leste could have the opportunities to study in China and contribute to the national and social development of her country after returning home.

The delegation also visited a local household, a six-member family meeting the average living standards in the village. The self-constructed cottage with brick-wood structure and tin roof was very cramped. The only electrical appliance we found there was an old-fashioned refrigerator. The owner of the house, a shy old lady, showed us around her home. The slight woman of loose-fitting and yellowing dressing told us that with

a monthly expenditure of around 60 to 100 US dollars her family can roughly make ends meet. She added that her family can ensure 3 meals per day most of the time, while occasionally afford just 2 meals. Most of the income came from her son-in-law's salary of working in a church and small profits of the grocery store she was running from home. They were quite delighted as the delegation gave her daughter and 19-month-old grandson candies and cookies we had bought in China.

Indonesia: A Major ASEAN Country with Diverse Culture

The delegation then left Dili for Indonesia. Entering the country in Bali, we visited Yogyakarta and Jakarta, impressed by the diverse culture and customs in the Muslim country. Most people in Irian Jaya Province and East Nusa Tenggara Province believe in Catholics; Bali is the

only predominately Hindu place in the country; while Yogyakarta is famous for the Borobudur, a grand Buddhist monument known as one of the four miracles of ancient Oriental civilizations.

In Yogyakarta, leaders of the local Chinese community chose the former site of the Chinese Business Chamber as the venue for our meeting. The two-storey building is well-designed with wooden window panes decorated by iron patterns at the top and traditional dark-green floral designs at the roof, showing good lighting and ventilation. The simple building bore witness to the vicissitudes of life of Chinese communities in the city. We guess that's why the leaders of local Chinese community held the meeting with us there. They told us that most Chinese-run schools, newspapers and groups had been dissolved due to domestic politics in Indonesia and the activities of Yogyakarta Chinese Business Chamber did



not resume until the end of the 1990s. Later they showed us around a nearby Chinese-run temple, in which the statues of the Confucius, the Lao Tzu and the Buddha were worshipped like in many similar temples across the Southeast Asia. They told us that Confucianism is one of the six legitimate religions recognized by the Indonesian government. Since most traditional Chinese festivals are also religious festivals of Confucianism, local Chinese would come to the temple to celebrate the festivals and sometimes local Indonesians are invited to join them in the celebration. The temple provides a platform for people of different ethnic backgrounds to deepen understanding and reach out to one another.

It was in Indonesia that President Xi Jinping put forward the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road for the first time. In recent years, China and Indonesia align their respective development strategies and deepen pragmatic cooperation in various fields, yielding fruitful results. However, Indonesian people's attitudes towards China are somewhat complicated due to historical reasons. In Jakarta, the delegation had an in-depth exchange of views with Indonesian NGOs and think tanks. CSIS Co-founder Jusuf Wanandi said, against the backdrop of sound momentum in bilateral ties and cooperation in various fields, it is all the more important to enhance mutual understanding of the two peoples so as to offset the negative attitudes and media reports. As we have already seen some positive signs of improvement in this regard, it will take some time to have a complete turnaround.

Republic of Korea: An Important Neighbor of China

As the delegation concluded its trip in Indonesia and prepared to board the plane bound for Seoul on the evening of March 27, we noticed that some foreign media were speculating that an important diplomatic mission was taking place in Beijing.

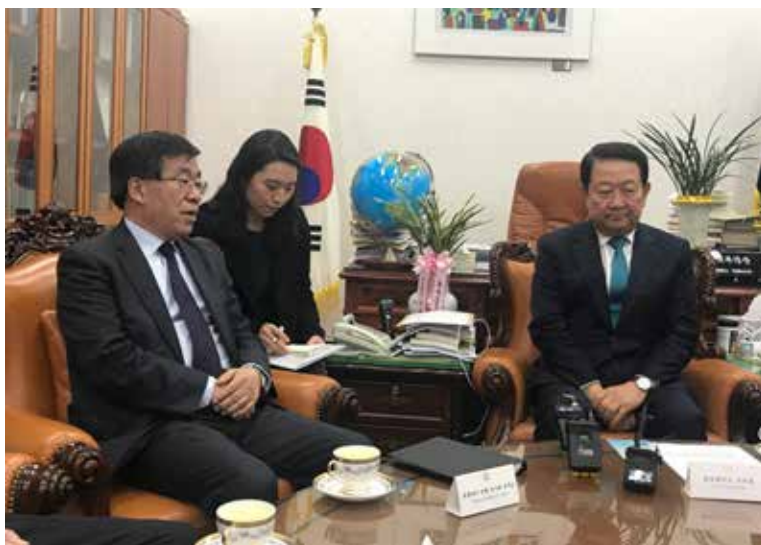
The plane landed at Incheon International Airport on the morning of March 28. It was a bit colder than in Beijing during the early spring. The first green shoots were emerging on the grassy slope along the expressway. But we were too preoccupied to enjoy the scenery, as we found that Kim Jung-un had just concluded a visit to China upon switching on our mobile phones. Major Korean newspapers including Chosun Ilbo, Dong-a Ilbo and Joong-Ang Libo run extensive reports about the visit, believing the summit between Chinese and DPRK leaders would be positive to the easing of tensions on the Korean Peninsula and even the whole area. In the afternoon Liu Hongcai met with National Security Chief Chung Eui-yong. The two sides had a frank exchange of views on the Peninsula issue.

In the visit, we found that the ROK side paid high attention to Mr. Kim's visit and the Korean nuclear issue. Deputy Speaker of National Assembly Park Joo-sun said that China and the ROK are important close neighbors. Since the two countries established diplomatic ties 26 years ago, the friendly cooperation in various areas between the two countries have been developing rapidly with the joint efforts. Maintaining the peace and

stability and realizing the denuclearization of the Peninsula is the common goal of our two countries. The ROK side thanked China for its efforts in promoting the six-party talks and implementing the Security Council sanctions against the DPRK. The ROK stands ready to enhance cooperation with China in jointly maintaining peace and stability of the region. In our discussions with Initiatives of Change-Korea, Korea-China Friendship Association and the Asan

Institute for Policy Studies, the ROK side agreed that people-to-people exchanges are an integral part of the bilateral ties, and it is especially important for both sides to further promote youth exchanges. Liu Hongcai had in-depth exchanges of views with the ROK side on China-Korea relations, people-to-people exchanges and the situation on the Korean Peninsula.

(Translated by Wang Bo)



Strengthen Youth Exchanges in the New Era to Promote China-Japan Relations

——Speech at the seminar commemorating the 40th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Peace and Friendship between the People's Republic of China and Japan

Mr. Wan Xuejun, Assistant Chairman of All-China Youth Federation (ACYF)

Distinguished Vice-President Liu Hongcai,
Distinguished Mr. Yoshida Shin,
Distinguished guests from China and Japan,
Dear friends,
Good morning.

Many thanks to Chinese Association for International Understanding (CAFIU) for inviting me to attend the seminar.

I want to talk about youth exchanges which is of vital importance to the future of China-Japan relations. The signing of the Treaty of Peace and Friendship is a milestone in the history of China-Japan relations, which catalyzed rapid development of youth exchanges between our two countries. The Grand Gathering of Chinese and Japanese Youth in 1984 during which



3,000 Japanese young people visited China, was a landmark event in China-Japan relations. Participating in that grand gathering were many big figures that had played key roles in our bilateral relations, including former prime minister Kan Naoto and Yoshihiko Noda, and Vice-President Mr. Liu Hongcai which is present

today. In the past 40 years, under the support of various sectors of society in China and Japan, we have seen a multi-filed, multi-channel and multi-level pattern of youth exchanges between the two countries which has played a unique role in promoting the growth of China-Japan relations. In July and November last year, Chinese President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Li Keqiang met, respectively, with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and achieved important consensus in strengthening youth exchanges. The great importance that leaders from the two countries attached has rendered strong political support to China-Japan youth exchanges and at the same time, means heavy responsibility to us.

Looking ahead, young people of China and Japan in the new era shall shoulder important responsibility of building their respective country and promoting regional peace and development. Therefore, youth exchanges will undertake a greater historical mission. In my observation, youth exchanges of China and Japan need to focus on the following three aspects.

Firstly, young people should make more efforts in enhancing mutual trust and understanding and provide more positive energy for the growth of China-Japan relations. China and Japan are now the second and third largest economies in the world. Bilateral relations between the two countries can have important impact on the peace and development of the region, and even around the globe. Ups and downs of political relations of China and Japan in recent years resulted in a low point of national sentiment towards each other. As an important foundation of China-Japan

relations, youth exchanges have always played a leading role in unleashing grassroots vitality and enhancing people-to-people connectivity. Young people in the new era should learn carefully the four political documents between the two countries and keep firmly in mind the strategic consensus which reaffirms that China and Japan are cooperation partners that pose no threat to each other. Young people of China and Japan should take a long-term perspective, learn from history and create a bright future together. Through in-depth exchange of views, young people can help enhance the mutual understanding and good feelings between the two peoples and facilitate the growth of China-Japan relations.

Secondly, young people should stick to the spirit of cooperation and nurture new area of growth in promoting win-win cooperation and common development of youths between China and Japan. If we regard good political foundation as the prerequisite of sound development of China-Japan relations, practical cooperation in economic and trade and other fields is the facilitator of our bilateral relations. Young people of our two countries should cherish the peaceful and stable domestic environment that the two countries enjoy as well as the controllable regional situation at present. Within the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative, young people should strengthen cooperation in innovation and entrepreneurship, energy conservation and environmental protection, disaster prevention and relief, cultural and sports exchanges as well as youth exchanges so that together we can nurture new driver for practical cooperation, achieve more practical outcomes and bring China-Japan cooperation to a higher level.

Thirdly, young people should strengthen cultural and people-to-people exchanges and cooperation and contribute their wisdom and solution to the improvement of national sentiment between China and Japan. The foundation of China-Japan friendship lies in the people and the future lies in the young people. The future of China-Japan relations hinges on youth exchanges. Strengthened youth exchanges can help enhance mutual understanding and friendship between the two peoples and consolidate social and public opinion foundations of China-Japan friendship. We should take the opportunities of the 40th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Peace and Friendship and the 40th anniversary of China's Reform and Opening up, and make full use of such platforms as the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics to promote youth exchanges and cooperation, enhance mutual understanding and trust and contribute youth wisdom and solution in improving national sentiment between our two countries.

As Chinese President Xi Jinping stated, socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era. So did China-Japan relations. Domestically, China will, in the next two years, accomplish the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects and embark on the new 30-year journey of building China into a modern socialist country.

Internationally, China advocates the building of a new type of international relations and a community with a shared future for mankind. Both present huge opportunities to Japan. China and Japan should conform to the trend of the times featuring peace, development and win-win cooperation, bring the dreams of the two peoples more closely connected, create more opportunities for each other through self-development and gradually lift sensitive factors in the bilateral relations by strengthening proactive interactions between the peoples, hence we can create favorable conditions to bring new opportunities for the growth of China-Japan relations. I believe that youth exchanges between China and Japan which enjoy a good history tradition will make new and greater contribution to the enhancement of understanding and trust between the two peoples and the improvement of China-Japan relations.

Thank you!

(Translated by Wang Zhiyun)

To Build a Community of Shared Future for Mankind to Overcome the Kindleberger Trap

Liang Yabin, Associate Professor of the Institute for International Strategy Studies of the Central Party School of the Communist Party of China

“Kindleberger Trap” is a concept proposed by American Professor Joseph Nye of Harvard. According to him, in formulating their China policy, President Donald Trump and his cabinet need to guard against the familiar Thucydides trap as well as the Kindleberger Trap –that is, when the opponent shows their weakness instead of muscles.

After World War I, the United Kingdom severely suffered and showed signs of recessions in politics, economy, military, financing, trade and other areas. It was unable to maintain the international political and economic systems under the reign of the British Empire. Meanwhile, although the rising United States had the material capacity to lead the world, it was not ready in people’s will and institutional framework to succeed the United Kingdom to be a new hegemony. In 1919 the US Congress refused to ratify the Treaty of Versailles and the US retreated



to isolationism. Ten years later, the capitalist world was hit by an unprecedented economic crisis, sweeping across all major countries. Rising trade wars and exchange rate wars destroyed the international economic system, pushed the world into the “Great Recession”, damaged the international political system, and resulted in a devastating genocide and World War II. Professor Charles Kindleberger, a famous economist and

historian has conducted in-depth study on this period of history. In his famous book *The World in Depression: 1929-1939*, he pointed out that the running of world economic system can't depend entirely on the spontaneous market forces, or count on national consciousness to voluntarily provide necessities to ensure a steady economic system. So there must be a country which plays a leading role to provide the necessities to stabilize the system. Countries that care about the "public interest" and are willing to bear the "public cost" are the leaders of the global economic system as well as political system. In practice and academic studies, the concept of public cost gradually develops into public goods, including an open and free trading system, stable and efficient financial market, reputable international currency, freedom of navigation and the prevention of regional conflicts and war. So, the "Kindleberger trap" means that no country has the capacity, or willingness despite its capacity to lead the world and bear the cost of "public goods".

Professor Joseph Nye doubted whether China would contribute its own strength to provide global public goods with growing comprehensive strength, suggesting that the new administration should let China shoulder more global responsibilities, so as to avoid the dilemma where US shoulders too much responsibility. We need further analysis and discussion. Indeed, with the election of Mr. Trump, the global economic governance system is entering a dangerous "Kindleberger trap".

First, since the Great Discovery of Geography, the growing and deepening production and consumption have linked the world together where interdependence became reality. In the process, even though it was all about colonization, plundering and killing, it also brought about the opening of the market and the improvement of efficiency. Globalization has brought about the opening of production and markets. Through the international division of labor, the flow of goods, services, production factors and information across borders has increased the allocation efficiency of resources in the global market, greatly reduced the production costs and transaction costs, and pushed the economies more interdependent on each other. At the same time, globalization has made technology diffusion a reality, with accelerated speed. All these have greatly improved the ability and speed of the human society to create wealth, which is a key factor for human beings to enter and enjoy the modern society. Since the beginning of the 21st century, the flow of capital, goods, technology and labor force in the global scope has further deepened the interdependence among countries, resulting in a situation of mutual loss and prosperity. The interests of the international society are also transformed from traditional exclusive zero-sum relations into altruistic non-zero-sum relations. The global financial crisis that erupted in 2008 has fully demonstrated that neither developed nor developing countries are immune. At the same time, the humanitarian disasters caused by regional conflicts, the

proliferation of weapons, piracy, illegal immigration, terrorism and extremist religious ideas have made it impossible for any country to remain isolated. Therefore, the global demand for public goods is even stronger than any time in history.

But one drawback of globalization is that not all countries or ethnic groups benefit or benefit all the time. Therefore, the logic that helps the overall progress of mankind is not the only choice, and there is also the possibility of rational failure or regression. After the end of the Cold War, the United States became the only superpower and has a natural responsibility to provide "public goods" for world order. However, over time, the United States has become more and more incompetent in performing this role, and its willingness declines faster than its capacity. Both Mr. Trump's campaign and his years in office have shown a strong sense of "America first", giving full expression of the unwillingness of the US to share international public costs. The withdrawal of America from the Paris Agreement makes it even clearer that the US has refused to shoulder the leadership responsibility of global climate governance.

Second, the United States has failed to take the responsibility as the world leader. Although it is known as the founder of "hegemony stability theory", it is not willing to use the term "hegemony" because it means "to do anything at will". Instead, it prefers to use "leadership", which is "based on moral edification and

position". Undoubtedly, the United States has become the most powerful nation in the world after World War II, and established the Bretton Woods system in the western world, a capitalist system with the United States playing the leading role. The implementation of the Marshall Plan and aid programs of the United Nations, IMF and WTO and the establishment of international organizations have played a key role in the post-war recovery of the world economy and the stabilization of the world order. It is also one of the major factors contributing to more than 60 years of world peace for mankind. The continuous development and progress in the international system, mechanism and international law have gradually shaped the behavior and values of state exchanges, improved the security dilemma, and provided a civilized and peaceful dispute settlement mechanism.

However, as a world leader, a country needs to have sufficient capacity to maintain and dominate the rules of relation between states, as well as sufficient will and the right means to do so. With the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War, the United States became the only superpower, but it is increasingly unilateralist and hegemonic. In 2003, for example, the war in Iraq, has no *Jus Ad Bellum* - without authorization of the UN - no *Just In Bello* – cases of torture – and no *Just Post Bellum* – the birth of a stable and democratic Iraq. Instead, in the Middle East a terrorist regime "Islamic State" with extreme hatred of all secular affairs came into being. Many of the serious global challenges, such as the

Syrian refugees, international terrorism and the Korean nuclear crisis, are closely related to the misguided policy implementation of the US. The Obama administration's "Asia-Pacific rebalance" and the supporting TPP are all committed to creating a world that isolates China, rather than a world of cooperation and win-win progress. Although Mr. Trump vetoed TPP, his logic is not to deny the Obama administration's pursuit for unsteady globalization, but his failure to do it better. So when the Trump administration came into power, it immediately took a step forward with "America first" unilateralism. President Trump and his team have shown an increasing tendency of anti-globalization and isolationism that has huge negative impact on the future development of the world. In a sense, the United States is no longer a solution to the problem of the world, but the problem itself. Therefore, the "Kindleberger trap" feared by professor Joseph Nye, should not be worries about "whether China is willing to be committed to providing global public goods", but whether the United States has the will and the right means to do so.

Third, China has been a participant, builder, contributor and beneficiary of the existing international system. To be fair, China's strength is still far behind the United States, and the gap is even deeper than that between Germany and the UK in history. So China is far from building its own hegemony. However, as a responsible and equal member of the human world, China is still willing to contribute to world peace, order and stability and provide public goods matching

its own strength. Politically, China is a founding member of the United Nations and one of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, which has the greatest responsibility for safeguarding world peace. In the anti-fascist war of the world, the Chinese people have made a lot of sacrifices, so we cherish peace and are willing to support the United Nations in maintaining world peace. Since the restoration of the lawful seat in the United Nations in 1971, China has conducted fruitful strategic communication and practical cooperation with the United Nations at all levels, and China's support for the cause of the United Nations has also been strengthened. In contrast to the United States, which has long defaulted on the UN's dues, China has paid its dues on time and is now the third largest contributor of UN dues after the United States and Japan, second only to the United States in peacekeeping funds. As a representative of the vast developing countries, China has in fact become a mainstay in the maintenance of the world order represented by the United Nations.

At the same time, China's spectacular reform and opening up is a process of continuous integration into the global system. China has seized on the theme of "peace and development", taken full advantage of the opportunities and challenges brought by globalization, actively participated in international competition and given full play to its comparative advantages. Over the past 30 years, both in terms of economic development and improving people's living standards, we have achieved remarkable results. In recent

years, the Chinese government has proposed the Belt and Road Initiative and the establishment of the BRICS development bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. In essence, the Chinese government shares China's prosperity and development path with the world, especially the successful experience of China's reform and opening up. The supporting infrastructure investment and construction is focused on long-term cooperation rather than short-term interests. During the G20 summit in Hangzhou, the Chinese government, in particular, advocates to formulate a more coordinated international economic policy, working together to "build a world economy of innovation, dynamics, connection and inclusiveness". These are the public goods China provides to the world. "China's actions are not aimed at overthrowing the existing free world order, but to strengthen its own influence on the international order," he admitted. And his concerns -- if China were to be suppressed and isolated by Trump's policies, it could be a destructive free beneficiary -- are not entirely unreasonable. Although the Chinese government has repeatedly advocated to build a "community of shared destiny", if the new US administration was determined to choose another path, China does not have the ability to build a new global order and act as the "leader". In other words, the "Kindleberger trap" is possible, but the only variable that can lead to this outcome is the United States, not China.

So for now, China has neither the capacity nor the will to change the existing international system.

President Xi Jinping pointed out, "The world is more interconnected and interdependent than ever before. Human beings live in the same Global Village and the same time and space where history and reality meet. They are becoming more and more interdependent. As for the question of the "Kindleberger trap" caused by relative decline of the United States, another American political scientist, Professor Robert Keohane of Princeton University, has already given the answer to the question: the key to maintaining the existing system is to create a mechanism that welcomes both the allies and third world countries. Therefore, the key is to promote the establishment of a Community of Shared Future for Mankind. Today, human beings are in an era of great development, big changes and critical adjustment, facing more complicated problems that can not be solved by the power of one country alone or a few countries. Countries need to work together for the maintenance of world peace and common development. Only when countries share the common destiny of the world, write common international rules, enjoy common governance of global affairs, share the achievements of common development, and promote to build a community of shared future, can we overcome the "Kindleberger trap".

(Translated by Ma Jingjing)

The Belt and Road Initiative and Globalization

Mr. Ke Yinbin, Secretary General, Expert Committee of Touchroad Djibouti Special Economic Zone

As a new type of initiative for globalization, the nature of the Belt and Road is to address worldwide problems triggered by Western-led globalization, promote common development and realize a new form of inclusive globalization through a new model of international cooperation and global governance, so as to build a community with a shared future for mankind.

Globalization Triggering Global Problems

Globalization is a process of modernization expanding worldwide. Rooted in the traditional notion of modernization, globalization has scored remarkable feat in social development, yet also resulted in a multitude of intractable worldwide problems.

Traditional modernization is a summary of the modern development in European and American countries. Its logic is: nation states-orientation, maximizing its national interest while ignoring or undercutting the interest of other countries;



seeking economic growth as priority without considering some resources are unrenewable; gaining national interest through competition, wars and colonialism, even international cooperation is oriented towards national interest or conducted among military alliances.

Since World War II, European and American countries in particular have imposed traditional modernization as an ideology on developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America, telling people that life would be better as long as they were committed to this path. This dragged

the whole world into the wave of modernization.

History over the last 50 years proved that traditional modernization and ensuing globalization brought social progress on the whole, but also led to more difficult global issues. There are three major problems related to modernization: widening gap between developed and developing countries and ensuing populism and terrorism; depleting unrenewable resources which hardly satisfy the demand for modernization in a country with over one billion population; increasing and worsening ecological and environmental crisis that threatens the fate of mankind.

Innovation Required to Solve Global Issues

Major countries are working hard to solve global issues. The US and the UK, realizing internal problems while ignoring their correlation with global issues, adopted strategies like America First, Brexit and Anti-globalization. The logic is the same as traditional modernization that prioritizes national interest and competition, which hardly solves global issues effectively.

China's Belt and Road Initiative, aiming to build a community with a shared future for mankind and uphold the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, will explore a new model for international cooperation and global governance. Reflecting a new logic of common modernization that goes beyond the traditional modernization, it is a significant innovation in human history.

As a China-led initiative for common development through international cooperation and an innovation toward common modernization, the Belt and Road has the following features:

Making international entities the major players, encompassing countries, businesses and NGOs at different levels, instead of a single country, enterprise or NGO;

Aiming at common interests and improving connectivity through international cooperation, so as to form a new type of inclusive globalization;

Enhancing and reforming the mechanism and system of global governance for the purpose of common interest based on the demand of connectivity, so as to forge a global order.

The process toward inclusive globalization and rational global order is to build a community with a shared future for mankind. This is an utter departure from colonialism, imperialism and hegemonism, as well as State-centrism and Western-centrism.

The Belt and Road Initiative Ushering in Inclusive Globalization

Globalization refers to the process and trend of enhanced exchanges, connections, flux and interconnectivity that goes beyond nations and regions. It leads to a fundamental shift from nation-orientation to global-orientation in the relations and organization of human society, and people's way of life.

As the cornerstone of globalization, economic globalization is the transnational flow of products, technologies, services, capital, market information and ideas. Modernization will take place when the flow is between developed and developing countries.

Scholars hold different views on globalization, yet few would relate it to modernization. We believe that there are both traditional and new types of globalization, which are based on the logic of traditional modernization and common modernization respectively. The latter can be called inclusive globalization.

Such inclusiveness is reflected in the following aspects:

Political inclusiveness: Globalization participants should respect each other's ideology and basic political system. Global issues should be resolved through dialogue and consultation, instead of the stronger party imposing its ideology and political system on others.

Economic inclusiveness: Participants need to prioritize common interest rather than pursuing the interest of their nation and clique. Stay committed to common development, so that all participants rather than a few countries and groups could benefit. This requires the stronger party to take more duties and obligations.

Social and cultural inclusiveness: Participants recognize and respect social and cultural diversity,

seek common ground while reserving differences, and learn from each other. Cultures should not be labeled as superior or inferior, or advanced or backward. One should not impose his so-called superior culture on others.

Ecological inclusiveness: Uphold ecological modernization and sustainable development, so as to balance human society and ecological environment. We must refrain from focusing only on economic growth at the expense of depleting unrenewable resources and undermining ecological environment.

In pursuing common modernization in the Belt and Road Initiative, the goal of the international common community is to realize common interest and improve inter-connectivity through international cooperation. A new type of inclusive globalization will take shape. The formulation of international common community reflects political, social and cultural inclusiveness, and the goal of common interest determines the possibility of economic and ecological inclusiveness. Building inter-connectivity through international cooperation will realize economic and ecological inclusiveness.

International common community of different types, fields and levels are the bedrock and substance of building a community with a shared future for mankind.

(Translated by Yang Le)

International Public Welfare Activities on the Move

——Sidelights of Visits to Myanmar and Cambodia by the Working Group of China Foundation for Peace and Development

Zhong Peilin

On January 29th, as Chinese New Year draws near, a working group led by Ms. Yu Xiaoxuan, Executive Vice Secretary General of the China Foundation for Peace and Development (CFPD) is visiting Myanmar and Cambodia on a good day with fresh air in Beijing, with the aim of reviewing the progress of projects there sponsored by CFPD, obtaining feedback on the use of completed projects sponsored by CFPD, and attending the inaugural and completion ceremonies of some projects. More importantly, the working group is going to engage government departments and NGOs of the two countries extensively, to explore possibilities of cooperation for more public welfare projects overseas.

Working Group: No Problem. See You Tomorrow

Our first stop is Myanmar, after we have traveled all the way from freezing Beijing to hot Southeast Asia. In my college days, our Burmese lecturer used to cook mohinka for us. Now the opportunity to visit Myanmar has finally come. I am full of excitement and expectations.

Outside the airport, our cooperation partner, Dr. Nay Lin, Chairman of Alinyaung Foundation of Myanmar, was already expecting us. The old gentleman, wearing traditional Longyi and gold-rimmed spectacles, rubber slippers and diamond rings typical of Southeast Asians, looked serious and amicable. He was a Member of Parliament

of the Union Solidarity and Development Party of Myanmar and a renowned ophthalmologist in Myanmar. Now he is dedicated to charitable work.

It was already 2 am by the time the working group arrived at the hotel. Dr. Nay Lin asked us worryingly, “I have tomorrow’s program all set up, and we are supposed to gather at 6:40 am. The journey is long and the schedule is packed. Hilly roads are tough to travel. But your flight was delayed today. Should I reschedule?”

“No problem at all. See you tomorrow at the scheduled time”, replied Executive Vice Secretary General Ms. Yu.

People in Myanmar: Gifts from Chinese Friends

Our vehicle is a vintage Honda right-hand drive SUV. When the vehicle drove out of Yangon, there was still a long way to reach the destination. We all wanted to catch some sleep in the vehicle, but the roads were bumpy and tortuous. We could not even buckle the seat belt, despite much effort.



Over two hours’ of bumpy ride took us finally to “Friends on the Silk Road” Yae Toe Primary School, one of the first batches of village primary schools sponsored by CFPD. Completed and delivered in August 2017, the new one-storey school building has four big classrooms which can accommodate 200 students. The new school building is spacious and bright, in stark contrast with the old thatched-roof school building, now used as a warehouse. This time when we came for feedback, local children were quite at ease with Chinese people around. A female teacher in Yae Toe Primary School said to us in not-so-fluent English, “Since the new school was built, I have been happier working here. I often tell the kids that they should be grateful for the gift from our good Chinese friends.”

The working group talked to local teachers and students, asking about their impressions and needs, and taking detailed notes and pictures of all parts of the project. An hour later, we bid goodbye to the teachers, students and villagers, and embarked on the trip to the next project, the site of the inaugural ceremony of nine school projects of “Friends on the Silk Road”.

Cooperation Partners in Myanmar: Draw Experience from Chinese Colleagues

The moment we disembarked, we heard warm drum-beating and saw children holding flowers and hand-painted national flags of China to



welcome us. The inaugural ceremony was held in an amicable, joyful and warm atmosphere, as always. Over 500 people attended the event spontaneously. What touched us most is that apart from local project management personnel in the township, dozens of people from the project management committees of another two townships have also come to meet us and informed us of project implementation after over 2 hours' drive. They repeatedly said, "We have driven over 2 hours along winding mountain roads to come and say thank you to the Chinese on behalf of the whole residents of the townships. We will definitely treasure the gift from our Chinese friends, a token of goodwill and friendship of the Chinese people. If it is possible, we very much look forward to your visit to our townships next time."

On hearing this, we could not help but give a thumbs-up to Dr. Nay Lin. It is worth noting that the project management committee is an

innovative model of cooperation between China and Myanmar, intended to engage project stakeholders as extensively as possible in decision-making to enhance transparency and social impact. Dr. Nay Lin was not fully on board with this model initially, insisting that we did not trust him and should fully authorize him to do it as a way of friendly cooperation. Later he decided to give it a try after our repeated and patient explanations. Facts have shown that this model is highly effective, as villager representatives have become owners of the project and naturally value project funds. They duly discharge responsibilities and offer advice. They are not only supervisors but also project promoters, seeking advice from villagers. This model of extensive participation has deepened mutual understanding and cemented friendship. Dr. Nay Lin has also seen the benefits, and come to understand and supported this idea.

NGOs in Myanmar: Not All about the West is Good

Metta Development Foundation, one of the most locally well-known foundations in Myanmar, is located in a flat in Yangon, with spacious and bright rooms and delicate decorations. It is run with modern management philosophy and model. With an annual budget of over 8 million dollars, it has over 1,000 staff all over Myanmar working

on a large number of community development and skill training programs, particularly in North Myanmar, playing an important role in assisting local governments in enhancing local development and humanitarian relief capabilities.

Though engaging each other formally for the first time, we both exchanged ideas in a frank, pragmatic and cordial manner as we both work for public welfare and support development of China-Myanmar relations. What impress me most during the meeting are the words of Mr. Sai Sam Kham , President of the Metta Development Foundation. He says that NGOs in Myanmar get most of their funds from the West, but “not all about the West is good”. NGO cooperation between China and Myanmar is still in its infancy. Most NGOs in Myanmar wish to understand more about China and draw upon China’s development experience through people-to-people exchanges, as experience in neighboring countries is most instructive for Myanmar. This is also the most promising area with the most potential in bilateral

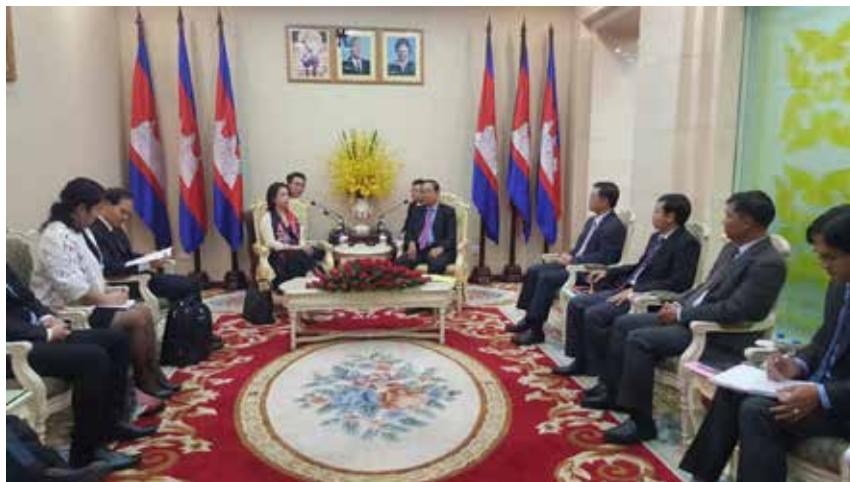
relations.

Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia: CFPD Projects are Templates for China-Cambodia People-to-People Cooperation

China and Cambodia enjoy a time-honored friendship. Xi Jinping, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China has pointed out that China and Cambodia are good neighbors, friends, partners, and more importantly, good brothers. China-Cambodia relations serve as a template for friendly co-existence and close cooperation between countries.

The warmth of Cambodian friends surrounded us the minute we got off the plane. The next day, we were surprised to be awarded the Royal Order of Monisaraphon, the highest order conferred to Cambodian and foreign people or institutions for their contributions in the education sector, by H.E. Bin Chhin, Deputy Prime Minister of Cambodia,

in honor of CFPD’s prominent contributions to the development of the education sector in Cambodia. H.E. Bin Chhin highlighted that we have seen closer people-to-people exchanges and cooperation between



China and Cambodia, and CFPD, sponsoring as many as 13 schools completed or under construction, has taken an active part in improving education for public welfare, becoming the most important foreign sponsor in the education sector in Cambodia. He also pointed out that CFPD provides aid for the development of China-Cambodia Friendship Center Hospital and small irrigation facilities, as well as voluntary medical consultations and expert training programs, with no strings attached, thus serving as a template for mutual political trust and friendly people-to-people cooperation between Cambodia and China. By conferring this Royal Order, the Government of Kingdom of Cambodia wishes to extend gratitude to the Chinese people and look forward to welcoming more Chinese NGOs in Cambodia for project implementation.

Partners in Cambodia: Make Every Penny Count for Chinese Brothers

Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport of the Kingdom of Cambodia is an important cooperation partner of CFPD. Over the past four years, we have cooperated in many projects. Mutual trust and deep friendship have been forged between Mr. Vorng Phirun, point of contact of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport and the CFPD project team in concrete work, including joint visits to the local regions and hosting events together. He has changed from a “business is business” type of person to one who thinks for our sake, pays serious attention to details and quality,

and tries his best to make every penny count. He has also learned how to use wechat and is always online for close communication with CFPD.

During the bidding process for construction of the teaching building of Angkor Secondary School “Friends on the Silk Road”, he spared no effort in informing as many businesses as he can. Over 60 businesses have participated in the bidding and the project is completed at relatively low cost. After obtaining approval from CFPD, he used the surplus funds to improve facilities and enhance project performance. While checking and obtaining feedback at the schools, we found out that besides the school building sponsored by CFPD, there was another building sponsored by Japanese organizations. But the structures and materials of the two buildings are different. We were told by the school functionaries that the Japanese people funded and took charge of the construction of the school building, which was completed before ours. Mr. Vorng Phirun put forward CFPD’s project plan after taking into account the performance of Japanese-sponsored school building. The school building sponsored by CFPD has more void above, with transoms and traditional wooden window installed. Though not as “fancy” as the glass doors and windows installed by the Japanese, our installations can achieve better ventilation and heat radiation. As the school cannot afford costly electricity bills for using air-conditioning, the building sponsored by CFPD is more convenient to use for the local

people.

A journey of eight days has inspired everyone of the working group for work and for life. When it is time to say goodbye, what flashes in my mind are the warm and cordial welcome and the joyous singing of children. I can never forget the scene in which an old lady in Myanmar holds my hand and an umbrella for me in rain. The work has made us realize that the initiative of building a community

with a shared future for mankind put forth by the CPC Central Committee is a grand vision and glorious mission. It is full of vitality and reflects the shared aspirations of peoples across the world. We are willing to be the pioneers in this endeavor and convey the goodwill of the Chinese people to the world with our utmost sincerity.

(Translated by Jin Yan)



Delegation of Broad National Alliance for Independence, Peace and Democracy of Japan Visits China

Wang Bo

At the invitation of the Chinese Association for International Understanding (CAFIU), the delegation of Broad National Alliance for Independence, Peace and Democracy of

Japan headed by Yoshida Shin visited China from February 4 to 7. During the visit, CAFIU Vice President Liu Hongcai met with the delegation, speaking positively of the efforts



made by delegation members to deepen mutual understanding, enhance people-to-people relations and promote the sound and stable development of the bilateral ties between China and Japan. The delegation attended the Seminar Celebrating the Signing of the 40th Anniversary of China-Japan Treaty of Peace and Friendship hosted by the CAFIU, exchanging views with other attendees over how to promote the development of China-Japan relations under the new circumstances. The delegation also visited the Great Hall of the People, the site of the Parliament in the Republican period, the Forbidden City, and the Marco Polo Bridge, deepening their insights into the struggles of the Chinese people over the 100 years and China's historic achievements.

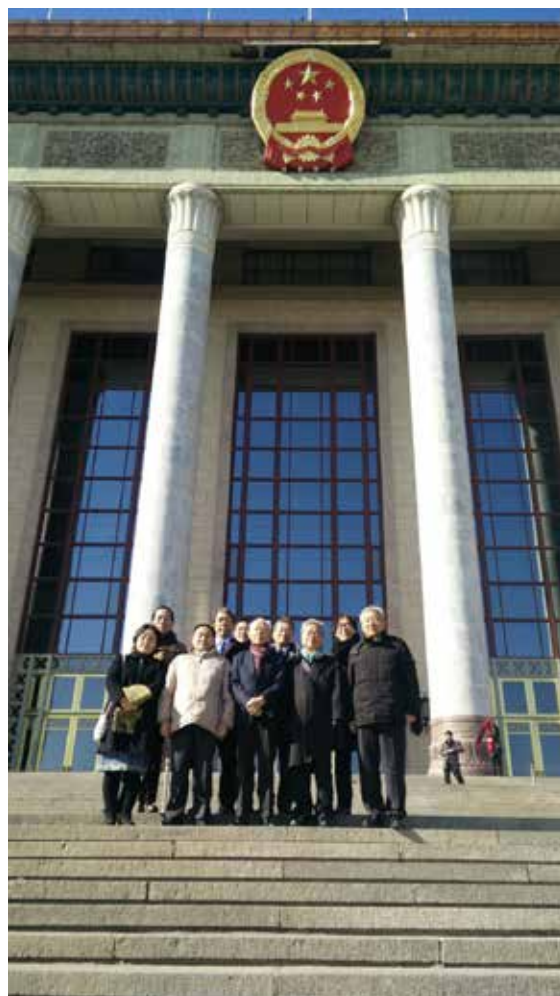
When meeting with the delegation, Liu Hongcai said that this year is an important historic junction in China-Japan relations, as it marks the 40th anniversary of the signing of the 40th Anniversary of China-Japan Treaty of Peace and Friendship. NGOs of the two countries made great contribution to the normalization of China-Japan diplomatic relations and the signing of the Treaty. In the new era, the positive role of people-to-people exchanges between China and Japan should be further promoted so as to facilitate the friendship between the two peoples through the friendly exchanges among NGOs of the two countries. Yoshida Shin said that Broad National Alliance for Independence, Peace and Democracy of Japan and I have been conducting

in-depth exchanges and cooperation with many organizations from China and believe further deepening friendly exchanges is our mission. The improvement of bilateral ties will not only benefit the two countries and two peoples, but also will facilitate the peace and stability of Asia and the world at large. We will stand ready to expand exchanges and cooperation with Chinese organizations to carry out events of various forms, enhance mutual learning and mutual trust, and bring more young people to the cause of promoting Japan-China friendship.

On February 6, a seminar celebrating the 40th anniversary of the signing of the China-Japan Treaty of Peace and Friendship was held in Wanshou Hotel. Liu Hongcai attended the seminar and made a keynote speech. Secretary-General Zhu Rui chaired the seminar, which was attended by the delegation and over 30 representatives from Chinese organizations such as All China Youth Federation, All China Women's Federation, All-China Federation of Trade Unions, People's China, and China-Japan Friendship Association, and representatives from Japanese organizations in Beijing. Liu said in his keynote speech that with the joint efforts, China-Japan relations have shown signs of further improvement last year. Nowadays, as NGOs are playing an increasingly important role in participating in global governance and safeguarding international order, NGOs of both China and Japan should take actions to make positive contribution to the

continued people-to-people exchanges. NGOs of our two countries should pool their wisdom, explore their potential, forge consensus, promote understanding, and strengthen cooperation through mutual learning, making due contribution to the building of a community with a shared future for mankind. Secretary-General Zhu Rui pointed out that China and Japan should take the anniversary as an opportunity to strengthen exchanges and cooperation and help move the bilateral ties in the right direction. The attendees from both countries shared their views on how to promote people-to-people exchanges between the two nations. Yoshida Shin said that the two countries should expand people-to-people exchanges and the exchanges and cooperation among NGOs. Kitamura Tomoo, Director of Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR), Beijing, and Koichiro Takahashi, Representative of the Japan Foundation Beijing Cultural Center, said that the 40th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty is an important juncture and a good opportunity to improve the bilateral ties. People from different circles of the two countries should take this opportunity to conduct colorful activities in order to provide platforms for the two peoples to get to know each other. The attendees agreed that NGOs of the two countries can enhance mutual understanding, trust and respect between the two peoples through cultural exchanges of various forms, which can be turned into the bonds of friendship and people-to-people connectivity.

The delegation said that the seminar provided them with an opportunity to exchange views with Chinese people from different sectors to learn that NGOs of both countries have high expectations on enhancing mutual understanding through people-to-people exchanges, which motivated them to work even harder in promoting the friendship between the two peoples in the future.



It's Better to Teach a Man Fishing than to Give him a Fish

——An introduction to the international work of China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation

Chen Fu, the International Department, China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation



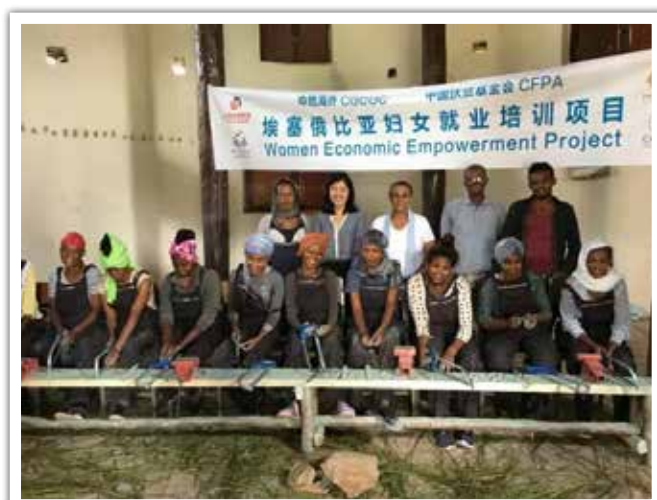
▲I'll make more money with my skills, not only for food for my family, but also for the college tuition fee of my daughter! -- Helen

Helen, 23, is a smart and strong single mother from Ethiopia. She and her daughter moved to Axum from the countryside, settling in a rented

house less than 5 square meters. She wove straw baskets for a living. Her monthly income was only 300 birr (about 80 RMB), of which 120 birr was to pay the rent and the rest barely enough for food.

Axum is an ancient stone city with a history of thousands of years, peaceful and beautiful. Due to the hardships of life, however, Helen was in no mood to appreciate the scenery. Axum is famous for its time-honored stonework, and the local stone houses and stone churches have attracted many tourists. Stonework is the best-selling souvenir for sure. Helen had always wanted to learn stone carving so that she could earn more money to support her daughter's further education.

Helen applied for the project sponsored by the CGCOC Group, which was jointly set up by the China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation (CFPA),



▲ *Launching ceremony of the Women Economic Empowerment Project. Representatives from China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation (CFPA), Center for Accelerated Women's Economic Empowerment (CAWEE), Ministry of SME cooperation, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs and the Municipal Tourism Bureau attended the event.*



▲ *A teacher's work. The stone cross pendant, priced at 50 birr (2 dollars), is a very popular and best-selling ornament for the local, also a favorite souvenir for overseas tourists.*

Office of the First Lady of Ethiopia and Center for Accelerated Women's Economic Empowerment (CAWEE) in July 2017. The project aims to train 100 impoverished women within 2 years to grasp the traditional craftsmanship like stone carving and straw weaving, etc, which will improve their ability and offer them more opportunities to make a living.

In Ethiopian rural areas, women and girls still suffer from outdated customs and injustice and have no voice for themselves. The CGCOC Group and CFPA helped them not only because women are vulnerable groups but that they nurture the

young generation. When women have more income, they can care for their children's health and education with better planning.

The project is based in the city of Axum. Axum is located in Northern Ethiopia, the Tigray Region. Stone in Axum symbolizes holiness, belief and happiness, which means a lot to the Christians, so they all wear crosses made of stone. Nonetheless, stone carving as a traditional craft is on the wane, and fewer and fewer young people have the patience to learn this handicraft that takes time and energy. Such women empowerment project not only will provide technique training for them

to make a living but can protect and pass down this tradition to next generations.

The training project has hired experienced craftsmen to teach the trainees how to design products and carve stones. It is distinctive for that only products with acceptable quality and appearance can enter the market. Common training projects often focus only on the products, but do not consider how to help increase income for the trainees. The Women Economic Empowerment Project helps integrate Ethiopian women with domestic and overseas markets via multiple ways to realize their sustainable livelihood. Besides, training in health, hygiene,

birth control, finance and management will be included to enhance women's ability of self-sufficiency. Women who have received training are encouraged to help other women in the neighboring communities.

The training project was launched in August 2017. Helen was selected to be one of the trainees. She couldn't be happier. She cherished this hard-won opportunity and was willing to learn from scratch. After one-week training, Helen could make a tiny stone necklace and she wore it on her neck for memory. Helen said that this marked a turning point of her life, and she hoped to master this skill soon. Even though her daughter is very young,



▲ Trainees are practicing cutting stones. They take off dust masks while photographing.

she still could feel her mother's courage and optimism despite the hardships of life. She looked forward to having a sustained income so that she could save more money to support her daughter through college in the future.

As the saying goes, it's better to teach a man fishing than to give him a fish. The project offers hope for women like Helen so that they can have a bright future. The training class is just a starting point and it is hoped that more Ethiopian women will gain skills and knowledge, more importantly, development and happiness.

Appendix:

An introduction to the Women Economic Empowerment Project

This project focuses on the U.N. Sustainable Development Goal 1 and Goal 8, namely, no poverty, and decent work and economic growth. The CGCOC Group sponsors the event with 700,000 RMB to train 100 Ethiopian women in weaving and stone carving skills for a living, which can create employment or entrepreneurial opportunities. In 2017, the project has spent 350,000 training 50 women in Tigray Region. Products made by them have sold on the markets, which prove an effective success. The Chinese embassy in Ethiopia has already purchased the products as souvenirs for visitors.

An introduction to International Work of China Foundation For Poverty Alleviation

In response to the call of “the Belt and Road Initiative” and “building a community with a shared future for mankind”, in 2017, the China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation launched international development aid and advocacy programs under the support of the Poverty Relief Office under the State Council, the Ministry of Commerce, International Department of Central Committee of CPC, the Ministry of Civil Affairs, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. These projects have achieved good results and influence at home and abroad.

In 2017, the International Development Aid Program of China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation (CFPA) was carried out in six countries including Myanmar, Nepal, Ethiopia, Sudan, Cambodia and North Korea. A total of 20.29 million RMB was invested, benefiting a total of 91,117 people. Specifically speaking, 3.78 million RMB was invested in Myanmar, benefiting 3,175 primary and secondary school students; 2.36 million RMB in Nepal, benefiting 52,358 people; 4.89 million RMB in Ethiopia, benefiting 8,174 people; 2.85 million RMB in Sudan, benefiting 5,286 people; 210,000 RMB was for flood relief in North Korea, benefiting 3,124 people; the expenditure on Cambodian food supply project was 6.18 million RMB, benefiting 17,000 students; 810,000 RMB was invested in the international volunteer projects, 10 volunteers dispatched, benefiting 2,000 local people in Myanmar and Nepal. The

CFPA International Advocacy Program has also achieved good results. Furthermore, the CFPA was highly engaged in the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, the side event of UN Human Rights Council and the Fourth World Internet Conference.

Poverty Alleviation has invested a total of 132 million RMB, benefiting more than 300,000 disaster-hit or impoverished people in 19 countries and regions.

(Translated by Zhu Keman)

By the end of 2017, the China Foundation for



▲ Launching ceremony of the Women Economic Empowerment Project.



▲ Handicrafts with Chinese elements wove by trainees of the Women Economic Empowerment Project

Connect the World with Acupuncture for the Wellbeing of the People

——Notes on the Popularization of Acupuncture-Moxibustion and Traditional Chinese Medicine along the Belt and Road Hosted by the World Federation of Acupuncture-Moxibustion Societies

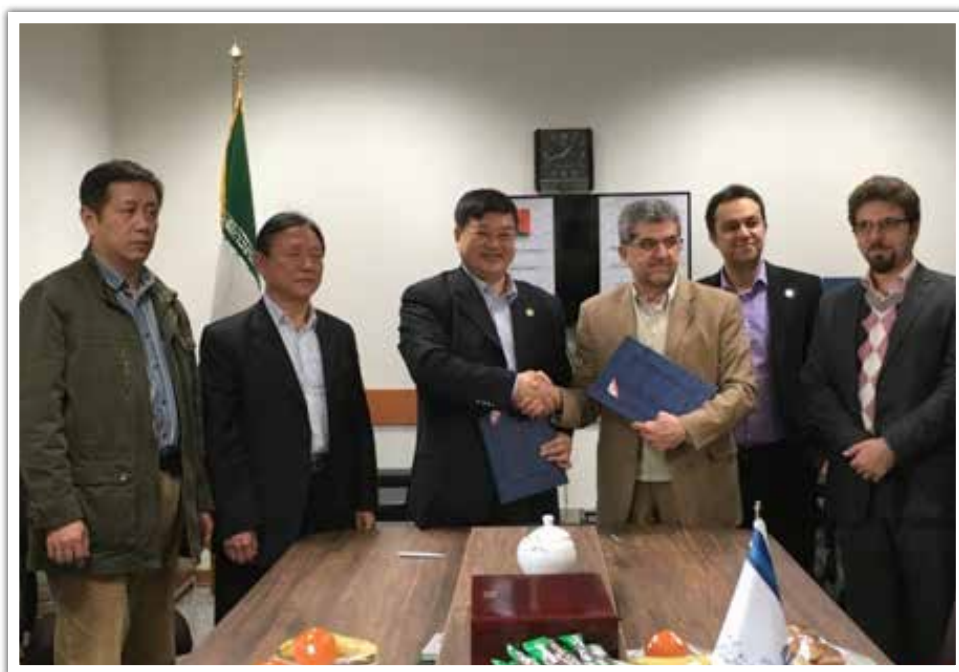
Yang Yuyang and Liu Jingyuan

Founded in November 1987, the World Federation of Acupuncture-Moxibustion Societies (WFAS) is headquartered in Beijing, China. It is an NGO which has official working relations with the World Health Organization, and has renewed the working relations 7 times consecutively since 1998. In 2010, WFAS was admitted as an A-liaison organization by ISO/TC249. In 2017, it became a group member of the China NGO Network for International Exchanges.

Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) is a unique health resource with huge potential for economic benefits and original scientific research. It is also an exquisite cultural and ecological resource. TCM acupuncture and moxibustion was enlisted into the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO in 2010.

With the aim of inheriting, developing and

leveraging the precious heritage of TCM, WFAS makes full use of international organizations as platforms for bringing acupuncture to the world for the welfare of the people, and hosts a series of events on acupuncture and moxibustion among the Belt and Road countries. Various forms of activities, including high-level meetings, academic exchanges, education and training programs, free medical consultations, lectures, exhibitions and displays are organized to promote innovative development of TCM overseas, explore approaches to multi-level TCM exchanges and cooperation between China and countries along the Belt and Road, facilitate implementation of livelihood projects, and popularize the TCM culture. Endeavors are made to deepen exchanges and cooperation between China and countries along the Belt and Road on such areas as politics, economics and trade, energy, investment, science



▲ In February 2016, the WFAS delegation exchanged views with Mahmood Khodadoost, Deputy Minister of Health and Medical Education of Iran, Hossein Rezayideh, Dean of School of Traditional Medicine, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, and other experts. A memorandum of understanding was signed after the meeting.

and technology, and make TCM acupuncture and moxibustion a shining visiting card for people-to-people connectivity between China and the world through these events.

1. High-level meetings take the lead in cooperation for enhanced connectivity

WFAS has engaged itself extensively in livelihood activities and projects for people's health and welfare, which are welcomed and supported by Chinese and foreign governments. Through these activities, WFAS has signed cooperation agreements with local ministries of health, traditional medicine regulatory authorities, universities and acupuncture industry associations among others, laying the basis and setting the framework for cooperation. The series of events on TCM acupuncture and moxibustion along

the Belt and Road countries have become an important channel for dialogues between health and traditional medicine departments of China and other countries, and exchanges on medical service, education, scientific research, industrial and talent development for enhanced cooperation between China and other countries in the area of TCM acupuncture and moxibustion.

In February 2016, a WFAS delegation was invited to visit Iran and attend the International Forum on Traditional and Integrative Medicine hosted by the Department of Health, Ministry of Health and Medical Education of Iran. At the forum, Chinese and Iranian experts conducted discussions on traditional and integrative medicine, scientific research and education among other topics. After the event, an MOU was inked between the

WFAS and the Ministry of Health and Medical Education of Iran, with the aim of promoting the development of traditional medicine, medical research, education and training in Iran.

In April 2017, a WFAS delegation paid a visit to Mauritius, during which WFAS, China Academy of Chinese Medical Science and the Ministry of Health of Mauritius signed a letter of intent for building a TCM center in Mauritius. Around the same time, at the invitation of the Ministry of Health of Mauritius, some Chinese experts visited Victoria Hospital, the largest public hospital in Mauritius, and held discussions with scores of Western Medicine practitioners, and a symposium on TCM acupuncture and moxibustion was held.

2. Academic exchanges boost development of disciplines

From 2015 to 2017, WFAS held seminars, exchanges between Chinese and Western Medicines, and TCM acupuncture and moxibustion skill demonstrations in countries including Russia, Norway, Sweden, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, South Africa, Mauritius and Turkey. Cooperation agreements on academic exchanges and scientific research on traditional medicine were signed between WFAS and Istituto Paracelso of Italy, University of Christinania of Norway, Gazi University of Turkey and Ankara Akupunktur ve Tamamlayıcı Tıp Derneği.

During the events on TCM acupuncture and moxibustion along the Belt and Road, WFAS showcased the latest clinical research results on acupuncture, proving its validity. Competent cooperation partners are encouraged to participate in the International Acupuncture-Moxibustion



▲ On April 28th 2017, accompanied by Mr. Li Li, then Chinese Ambassador to Mauritius, the WFAS delegation paid a courtesy call on H.E. Ameenah Gurib-Fakim, President of Mauritius.

Cases Registry Platform and Acupuncture-Moxibustion Clinical Trial Registry, collating acupuncture-moxibustion cases and research into a big database, thus providing digital support for the development of big science, evidence-based medical research and international standard-setting of acupuncture-moxibustion.

3. Education and training nurture talented people

We have seen enhanced awareness of TCM acupuncture and moxibustion worldwide and an ever-increasing demand for high-quality TCM acupuncture and moxibustion training from practitioners overseas. WFAS hosts education and training sessions and tests in countries along the Belt and Road while organizing events on TCM acupuncture and moxibustion. These activities follow the business model of trade in TCM services, and meet the needs of foreign practitioners to learn authentic theories and skills

of TCM acupuncture and moxibustion. Top-notch talents can thus be nurtured to ensure the efficacy and safety of TCM acupuncture and moxibustion practice.

Through the exchanges, WFAS has reached agreements on training and tests of TCM acupuncture-moxibustion with Irkutsk State Medical University of Russia and Irkutsk State Medical Academy of Postgraduate Education of Russia, Centre of Oriental medicine of Ministry of Health, Buryat Republic of Russia, Singapore Chinese Physicians' Association, Acupuncture-Moxibustion Research Center of Esmaeili Academy of Science of Iran, Shenzhou Open University of Traditional Chinese Medicine of the Netherlands, Norwegian Acupuncture Association, Chinese Medical Center of Sweden, Association of Hungarian Medical Society and South African Medical Acupuncture Society. Partners of Singapore and Iran send trainees to WFAS



▲ In October 2016, WFAS held the 2nd Lake Baikal International Traditional Medicine Seminar in Ulan-Ude, capital of Buryat Republic of Russia. On the sidelines of the seminar, the WFAS delegation held a roundtable meeting with officials of the Ministry of Health of Buryat Republic, and reached agreement on jointly building a TCM acupuncture-moxibustion education center in the Baikal region.



▲ Opening ceremony of the WFAS events on TCM acupuncture-moxibustion along the Belt and Road in Warsaw

annually. Partners of Hungary and Sweden have set joint education bases. Joint education base in the Baikal region and projects in cooperation with other countries are in the making.

4. Activities benefiting the people advance people-to-people connectivity

Everywhere WFAS goes along the Belt and Road, public activities will be organized. In cooperation with group members, medical institutions, universities, research institutions, Confucius Institutes and chambers of commerce at home and abroad, WFAS has held various activities including fitness lectures, health consultations, free medical consultations by experts and cultural exhibitions, enabling people from other countries to get a first-hand experience of TCM acupuncture-moxibustion, and immerse themselves in health benefits, culture and science of TCM acupuncture-moxibustion.

In October 2017, the Exhibition on TCM Acupuncture-Moxibustion, Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity was held in Warsaw, Poland and Saint Petersburg, Russia. The exhibition showcased a panoramic view of

the traditional culture of TCM acupuncture-moxibustion, including its early history, meridians and acupuncture points, diagnostic technologies, health and fitness benefits and modern development. Local people could experience the profundity of TCM culture at close range. A cooperation agreement was signed between WFAS, China Academy of Chinese Medical Science and Confucius Institute in Krakow, to enhance exchanges, education and training on TCM culture in Central and Eastern Europe.

Through the events, WFAS examines and selects cooperation partners, and TCM acupuncture-moxibustion cooperation centers are established in countries with favorable conditions, providing sustainable and quality TCM acupuncture-moxibustion services to the local people, nurturing high-quality professionals, and making endeavors to build TCM acupuncture-moxibustion standardization system and international multi-center research models. In doing so, TCM acupuncture-moxibustion could benefit people and constitute an important element in building a community with a shared future for mankind.

Letters of intent have been signed between WFAS and seven countries for building TCM centers, education centers and rehabilitation centers, among which three centers have been put into use.

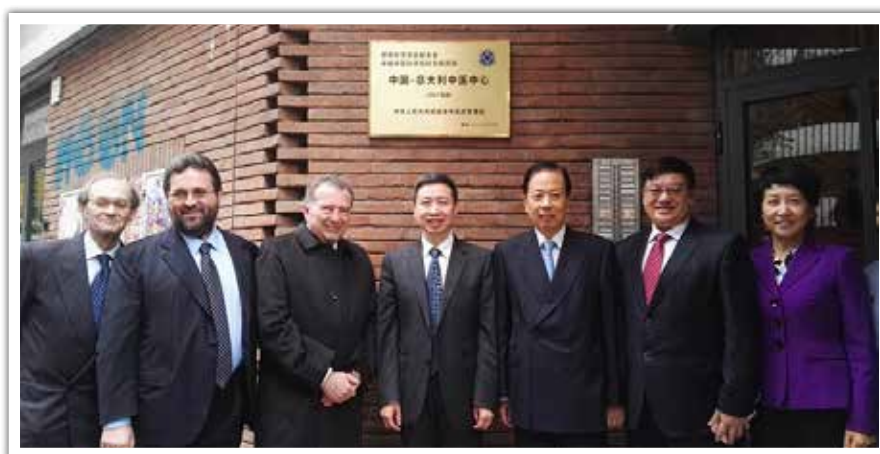
In November 2017, the China-Italy TCM Center was inaugurated in Rome. The Center plans to send trainee physicians to WFAS headquarter in 2018, and invite Chinese experts to Italy for medical practice and teaching. WFAS has set up a WFAS TCM Acupuncture-Moxibustion Heritage Base in Budapest, Hungary, and a China-Sweden Joint Base for TCM Acupuncture-Moxibustion Education along the Belt and Road in Stockholm, Sweden. In order to improve the skills of local physicians, WFAS supported the establishment of International Acupuncturist Examination Board in Sweden. The first batch of twenty practitioners in Sweden took the International Acupuncturist Proficiency Examination organized by WFAS.

Chinese President Xi Jinping has highlighted that traditional medicine, as an important embodiment of exquisite traditional culture, plays an

important role in promoting exchanges between civilizations and keeping people healthy. TCM is an outstanding example as it has been widely recognized by people in many countries for its unique strengths in disease prevention, treatment and rehabilitation. Tapping the resources of the treasure house of TCM acupuncture-moxibustion and bringing sustainable and tangible health benefits to people is WFAS's goal and purpose. The year 2018 will see more WFAS events on TCM acupuncture-moxibustion along the Belt and Road.

“Connect the World with Acupuncture for the Wellbeing of the People”. WFAS is willing to work with NGOs at home and abroad, and take an active part in the Silk Road NGO Cooperation Network, contributing our due share to enhancing people's wellbeing along the Belt and Road and building a community with a shared future for mankind.

(Translated by Jin Yan)



▲ WFAS, Institute of Acupuncture and Moxibustion of China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences, Sapienza University of Rome and Paracelsus Institute of Italy signed an MOU to build the China-Italy TCM Center. After seven months of preparations, the China-Italy TCM Center was inaugurated in November 2017.

All-China Journalists Association Actively Builds New Platforms for Exchanges and Cooperation among Journalists along the Belt and Road

Chen Tao

All-China Journalists Association (ACJA), in response to the Belt and Road Initiative put forth by Chinese President Xi Jinping, has taken multiple measures since 2017 to actively build new platforms for exchanges and cooperation among journalists along the Belt and Road, in a bid to further exchanges and cooperation and share new opportunities for development among

news media and media people in the Belt and Road countries.

I. Organizing the Belt and Road Journalists Forum

ACJA has noticed that media and journalists of many countries have paid considerable attention to the Belt and Road Initiative but lack the access

to complete and accurate information, and that journalist associations of many countries hope to see the building of a mutually beneficial and equal platform for media cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative, takes the lead in organizing the Belt and Road Journalists Forum, the aim of which is to create a new





platform for exchanges and concrete cooperation among journalist associations of countries along the Belt and Road.

During the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China in 2017, ACJA invited 38 leaders of journalist organizations from 28 countries to visit China, and hosted the first Belt and Road Journalists Forum at the Press Center of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, during which the Initiative for Cooperation among Journalist Organizations along the Belt and Road was released.

1. Wide participation and broad representation. Delegates came from influential media organizations such as Belarusian Association of Journalists, Journalist Union of Bulgaria, Indonesian Journalist Union, Islamic Republic News Agency of Iran, Chinese Media Center of Israel, Jerusalem Press Club of Israel,

Jordan Press Association, Kazakhstan Union of Journalists, Kenya Union of Journalists, Lao Journalist Association, Association of Journalists of Macedonia, Mexico Union of Journalists, Mongolian Union of Journalists, Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, Nepal Journalist Association, Nigeria Union of Journalists, Pakistan Union of Journalists, Peru Union of Journalists, Association of Polish Journalists, Russian Union of Journalists, Journalists Association of Serbia, South African National Editor's Forum, Union of Journalists of Sudan, Media Council of Tanzania, Thai Journalists Association, Association of Television Broadcasters of Turkey, Turkish Union of Journalists, Association of Journalists of Ukraine and Vietnam Journalists Association.

2. Positive comment and strong support. Leaders of journalist organizations spoke highly of and strongly supported the Forum. Ángel Sanchez

Dueñas, President of the Peru Union of Journalists said that this mechanism opened a new channel for stepping up exchanges and cooperation among media organizations of countries along the Belt and Road. He strongly supported the Belt and Road Initiative, and hoped that journalists of all countries would work together, expand coverage and conduct in-depth analyses of the social and cultural development of countries along the Belt and Road, and convey the results of cooperation to the audience timely and accurately. Mongkol Bangprapa, Vice President of the Thai Journalists Association fully supported the initiative of building this forum, believing that the forum could enable journalist organizations of all countries to share news and research results, from which all would benefit. Timur Shafir, head of the international department of the Russian Union of Journalists supported and actively participated in the forum. He hoped that such activities as enhanced cooperation among journalists, training for journalists, and mutual visits could take pragmatic cooperation among journalists to new heights. Vice President of the Association of Television Broadcasters of Turkey said that the rapid development of internet and social media opened up a whole new era for the global media industry, and media organizations should keep up with the times and help journalists in their own countries brush up their credentials in the new media. He also said that the mechanism for cooperation among journalist associations initiated by ACJA was of great significance as media in Asian countries had yet to achieve adequate exchanges and cooperation.

3. Pooling wisdom and placing high hopes. Delegates put forward their suggestions for and expectations of enhanced cooperation among journalist organizations along the Belt and Road. Ho Quang Loi, Executive Vice President of Vietnam Journalists Association suggested that journalist organizations of countries along the Belt and Road cooperate in the same direction and build information-sharing and exchange mechanisms. He also suggested that media focus on coverage of the Belt and Road Initiative to enhance consensus, and media study tours could be organized for better understanding of the Belt and Road Initiative and concrete actions. President of Lao Journalist Association suggested that journalists step up mutual visits to boost understanding and friendship between media of different countries, more news products should be exchanged to expand information dissemination, and training should be provided to journalists to improve their professional skills. Secretary General of Mexico Union of Journalists hoped to see overall development of exchanges and cooperation among journalist organizations along the Belt and Road as early as possible, and to contribute more to the protection of the rights of journalists and their professional training. President of Association of Journalists of Sudan suggested the forum expand its circle of friends and professional training be conducted as soon as possible.

II. Organizing Exchanges and Interviews Themed on the Belt and Road

In May and August 2017, a series of exchanges

and interviews themed on the Belt and Road were conducted in the Middle East (including Israel, Turkey and Morocco) and European countries (including Macedonia, Serbia and Germany).

1. Rich activities. First, conducting delegation visits. Headed by the Secretary of the Secretariat of ACJA, the delegation of leaders of central and local mainstream media and journalist organizations called on government authorities, press, journalist organizations and research institutions in relevant countries, held high-level discussions with leaders of certain institutions, experts and scholars, and visited flagship projects for the Belt and Road cooperation. Second, doing interviews. Media persons, journalists and correspondents of central media formed joint interview groups, and integrated traditional media with new media in reporting cooperation projects and media cooperation along the Belt and Road. Feature stories were published after they returned to China.

2. Various forms of report. Interviews and reports were presented via audio and visual news programs, short videos of new media and feature programs. Correspondents conducted dialogues with typical characters, and rich content was presented via converged media. By editing news materials (audio, visual, picture and story), short videos were made for second-time information transmission. News materials were edited into

feature programs and broadcasted on the Internet, mobile devices, radio and television.

3. Fruitful outcomes. Exchanges and interviews themed on the Belt and Road have expanded the coverage of interviews and media reports, and spread the idea of the Belt and Road cooperation and its influence, contributing to the development of cooperation projects. 36 interviews and over 80 reports were conducted in the two major activities and were warmly received by participating media and interviewees. Many reporters involved in the activities said that jointly interviewing and reporting on the Belt and Road Initiative was a rare experience and opportunity in their career, and hoped that ACJA could provide more such opportunities for correspondents.

Building upon the experience of organizing the Belt and Road Journalists Forum and thematic exchanges and interviews, we will continue to conduct such activities as exchanges and discussions, joint interviews, study workshops and award events, improve mechanisms for exchanges and cooperation among journalists, in a bid to make media of countries along the Belt and Road report objectively and promote people-to-people connectivity.

(Translated by Yang Yan)

Editor's note: China Foundation for Peace and Development (CFPD) has launched its education projects in Laos since 2012. By far, seven schools have been constructed with the assistance of CFPD, benefiting about 2000 students, which has effectively improved local education quality and is welcomed by the Lao government and people. Among all the constructed schools, Sino-Lao Nongping Elementary School has already offered Chinese classes in different grades taught by volunteer teachers from Confucius Institute Headquarter.

The Songs of Nongping Elementary School

Zhang Ning

Many people may not know that there is a place filled with happiness and laughter, which is called “Nongping Elementary School”. Such a modest name gives people the impression that the school

is just an ordinary village elementary school. But the fact is not so. This school has been witnessing the growth of friendship between China and Laos and the integration of the two different cultures.



Nongping Elementary School is located at Nongping, Chanthabuly District, Vientiane-the capital city of Laos. Crossing the school gate, one can have a view of the beautiful two-story teaching building and the neat campus. Vermilion tiles and beige walls together form a delightful contrast, which seems to have a sense of Chinese style yet also seems to be a perfect combination of the traditional architecture characters of both China and Laos. There is a monument erected

near the school gate. Every morning teachers and students of the school will pay particular attention to keep the monument clean. They carefully wipe away the dust on the monument, so that every character on the monument can shine in the sunlight. The words on the monument read, “Sino-Laos Nongping Elementary School Constructed by China Foundation for Peace and Development and Lao Committee for Peace and Solidarity, 31st May 2015.”

If this place is said to be a joyful campus bathed in sunshine, the bright and warm sunshine comes from the long-standing support and help provided by CFPD. In the hearts of all the teachers and students of the school, the word “China” does not merely mean a country; rather, it refers to a close affinity like the ties of blood. They know that without China, without CFPD, they would never have such a good studying and living environment. So every time when there are Chinese visitors to the school, the students will warmly greet and chat with the Chinese. In their hearts, the seed of Sino-Laos friendship has already rooted.

As a Chinese teacher who has lived here for two years, if I’m asked “what kind of school do you think it is”, I believe the first word that appears in my mind will be “delight”. The feeling of pure



and precious delight originates from the mutual-learning relationship between the teacher and the students and also from the profound and interesting Chinese culture. Year in and year out, day by day, many interesting stories have taken place in this school which is bound to be extraordinary. Here, what I’m going to share is a story about songs, a story named “I want to sing myself to you”.

The Lao people are good at singing and dancing and are multi-talented. Music forms an inseparable part of their daily lives. No matter it is at a small gathering on weekends or in the temple when people are paying respect to the Buddha during festivals, there are always songs and dances. I believe that every Chinese teacher who has been to Laos must have a deep impression of the local students’ sense of rhythm and their ability to learn music. The students from Nongping, of course, are no exception. At the very beginning, the students would mispronounce the word “two” (两只 Liang zhi)”- as “teacher” (老师 Lao shi)”- in the song ”Two Tigers”(两只老虎), but later on, they could sing “Beijing Welcomes you” (北京欢迎你) in a completely accurate way. The progress they made is great. But their learning process has not always been easy.

When I first came to this school, I found a problem in my class. The students would always unconsciously tap their desk, producing a rhythmic melody. Some naughty kids, while making the beat, would even sing Lao songs together which can not be understood by Chinese teachers. At first, I thought such behavior was the students’ way to show disrespect to the teacher and interrupt the class discipline. So I was very angry about this and tried to stop it. But despite



my efforts to stop them, they continued to do so. I then got frustrated and thought that the students did not like my Chinese class.

Later on, after I had known the students better, I suddenly realized that what they did previously was not intended to disrupt class discipline. They just wanted to share local Lao songs with their Chinese teacher. To them, singing is the most joyful thing and can help them forget all the troubles and feel the rapport established between friends. So they hoped that their Chinese teacher could also understand Lao songs. In this way, I began to get closer to these little angels who love singing and started teaching them Chinese songs. Although songs-teaching always took place during the first few minutes of the class, these few minutes generated lots of good memories.

“Two Tigers”(两只老虎) is the first song learned by these kids from Nongping. Some kids from the primary grades still mispronounced the word “two”(两只 Liang zhi)” as “teacher”(老师 Lao shi)”, which I felt so funny since I was pictured by the students as a snarling tiger. But it’s beyond doubt that “Two Tigers” was the first “school song” of Nongping Elementary School. Every time when Chinese people visited the school, kids there loved to sing this “pop song” of their school in a cute way. As time passed by, those kindergarten kids who did not have Chinese class

are able to hum this song along with the elderly kids in the elementary school. The serious look on their face while they were singing was really the cutest.

Later on, the teaching of the song formally entered the right track. As the students' learning ability improved, the students learned and memorized more songs:

They learned to sing “Find a Friend”(找朋友). The students would remember their Chinese teacher told them on class “what is friend” and to make the “hug” move when they sing the line- “find a good friend”. They would also remember the “salute” from China- the nation of ceremonies, “shaking hands” and saying “goodbye” while parting from each other.

They learned to sing “Happy New Year”(新年好). And thus the kids gained an understanding of Chinese New Year. They drew with their little hands red lanterns, white dumplings, exquisite Chinese knots and a full table of Chinese New Year’s Eve dinner. They also once made red envelopes by wrapping small change in red papers. They sent the red envelope as New Year’s gift to their teacher on the Chinese New Year and chanted “Teacher, happy New Year!” while enjoying the surprise look on their teacher’s face. Most of the time, they just sang this song of happiness and joy, and as their cheerful voice flew out of the window, their memories about Chinese New Year were recalled and their imagination about Chinese New Year ran wild.

They also learned to sing “Mo Li Hua” / “Jasmine Flower”(茉莉花). In Laos, they also have this kind of cute and white flower called “duo mo li”. At first, I thought these mischievous and lively children could hardly appreciate the elegance and grace of this song. However, it turned out that they

were able to understand this fresh Chinese flavour existed in the intonation of the tune. Whenever they sang “Mo Li Hua”, the girls seemed to have just become the elegant white flowers in the song, and the boys become quiet and gentle.

At that time, they also learnt “Beijing Welcomes You”(北京欢迎你). This song which perfectly combined the strength of the Olympic Games and the Chinese culture was well performed by the students, and their singing also conveyed their positive and upward spirits. Shortly after the students had learned that song, in a drawing contest themed “China in My Eyes”, some students even drew the grand Temple of Heaven, Tian’anmen Square and the Summer Palace in their paintings. Some students painted the Monkey King wielding his Jingu Bang, the beautiful Chang’e holding a rabbit, and the panda with Chinese kung fu. Other students designed their own Chinese opera mask including the beautiful Consort Yu, Zhang Fei with round eyes and well-formed forehead and many other features.

The song that impressed me most is “Comrades: Almost a Love Story”(甜 蜜 蜜). In many people’s understanding, this is not a song suitable for teaching children. However, when I learned about how much the Southeast Asian people love Teresa Teng and found that many local people could hum the tune of the song, I decided to teach the students the correct pronunciation of this song word by word. The fact showed that my efforts paid. The students had already been familiar with the tune of the song, and after they mastered the accurate pronunciation of each word, they could sing out every word clearly and correctly. They sang on campus, sang after school, sang to classmates and teachers, sang to family and friends, and sang to more Lao people. Gradually this song took the place of “Two Tigers”

and became the “top pop song” of Nongping Elementary School. This classic song of Teresa Teng no longer had to be sung as “xian mimi...”. Someday, when these students hear this familiar melody again, they can square their shoulders and proudly and accurately sing out each character, word, and sentence, winning genuine praise and admiration from others.

A Chinese teacher who has fulfilled his term of service received on his birthday a voice message recorded by students from Nongping Elementary School. When the Chinese teacher who was already back in China heard the students’ voice singing accurately “Happy birthday to you~ Happy birthday to you~ Happy birthday to you~ Happy birthday to the teacher...”, he almost cried. He then wrote in his diary these following lines:

“There is a beautiful garden called Nongping, in which countless seeds grow into buds and then flowers. This garden watches the flowers grow, emit fragrance, and spread the fragrance farther into the distance. The fragrance originates from the Sino-Lao friendship, from the hard work of the Chinese volunteers teachers and most importantly from CFPD which has built this bright and spacious big garden for these kids. Thanks to all these that have let the children grow up healthily and given me unforgettable memories.”

Yes, if someday you happen to visit Nongping Elementary School, you surely will hear the above songs. I hope you will not consider it abrupt and unexpected, as these children just want to show their welcome and love for China in Chinese songs and sing by themselves.

(Translated by Wu Lin)

China's New Silk Road: Linking Commerce, Cultures, Civilizations

Mr. Jose de Venecia, Former Philippine Speaker
Chairman, International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP);
Co-Chairman, International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP)

From their beginnings—in the glory days of the Han Dynasty in the East and the Roman Empire in the West—the linkages between our countries and even those of parts of Africa had ranged beyond the exchange of material goods.

COMMERCE, CULTURE, CIVILIZATION

From the beginning, East-West trade transcended the limits of commerce. From the beginning, it was also East-West cultural exchange; and the two-way technology transfer stimulated by that trade has been substantial enough to influence the course of either civilization.

Even long-distance travel on the ‘Silk Road’ had its beneficial effects. Notably, the Venetian Marco Polo’s account of his Silk Road travels inspired the Genoese Christopher Columbus’s voyages to the Americas’ ‘New World.’ Marco Polo started out overland, crossing the Central Asian desert to the court of Kublai Khan, stayed a dozen years,



and returned to Venice by sea on the maritime route of the Silk Road. Polo’s voyage took him down the South China coast to Sumatra, southeast India and today’s Sri Lanka. From there, he crossed the Indian Ocean to the Black Sea, reaching Constantinople and finally, Venice after two years at sea.

REBUILDING THE SILK ROAD

The value of rebuilding the Silk Road—in both its overland and maritime linkages—is obvious; and it will redound to all those nations gathered here which are taking part in it.

Consider how already the Central Asian states are awakening to the possibilities of modernization—as Silk Road arteries begin to link them, westward, all the way to London and eastward to Beijing.

Similarly modern infrastructure is bringing together Kunming in Yunnan with Phnom Penh and Singapore in the beginnings of a Southeast Asian “Growth Triangle.” And the long-distance trains are moving great cargoes between Asia and Europe and back.

In 2005, the Philippines, China and Vietnam went so far as to venture on a three-way joint seismic survey, which we helped initiate, of disputed areas in the Spratlys chain—to assess the area’s potential for hydrocarbons exploration. Scientists of the three nations pronounced the prospects “promising”, and it is obvious as members of the ASEAN family that today, with China, we must find ways and means to jointly develop the area’s hydrocarbons potential to help lessen our common dependence on distant petroleum sources in the Middle East.

FOREIGN-POLICY IMPERATIVES

Even in foreign policy, we’re beginning to realize our need to come to terms with newly-rising neighbor-powers. We’re beginning to realize our need to chart for ourselves strategies to keep our nation-states viable in an increasingly contentious Asia Pacific.

For the East Asian middle powers, the imperative is to keep the strategic balance—and not to be drawn irrevocably into any one great power’s sphere of influence.

It is our fondest hope in Asia and in the spirit of China’s historic Silk Road, that in the vast Pacific, there is and there should be much, much room for China and the United States to share and there is no reason whatsoever for them to be jostling for space; and then for India and Pakistan in south Asia, with their already ample land areas, to demilitarize at least in and around the disputed area of Kashmir, and perhaps jointly or alternately, or under U.N. aegis, administer Kashmir; and in the North Pacific, for China and Japan, as Asian brothers to solve their almost ridiculous but dangerous conflict over very tiny islets in the Senkaku Straits or the Diaoyus, which both can share by agreement for fisheries and possible hydrocarbons.

Today a much graver crisis is mounting but common sense tells us we must find a simple practical solution for Pyongyang and Seoul, the U.S. and China in the Korean Peninsula, and then, if so, it is not impossible for North Korea (Democratic Peoples’ Republic of Korea, DPRK) to be invited into a Korean Confederation as a prelude to a reunion of North and South, and even conceivably, for the North, in the interim, to become a member of ASEAN Plus Four.

This arrangement will also enjoy Russian support. For Russia occupies the largest land mass in continental Asia with extensive links in Central Asia, also traversed from time immemorial by horses, camels and caravans of the Silk Road.

Yes, a durable peace is not impossible for Asia's troubled areas. Indeed it is most desirable if we discard enmity and exaggerated pride, and if we respond to the Sermon on the Mount and the hallowed spirit of the storied Silk Road, we could all together embark on a journey that today could lead towards a thousand years of peace and prosperity for our nations and for our peoples.

For the revival of the Silk Road is a vision that reflects the shift of the center of gravity from West to East, a global rebalancing whose time has come. It should help bind peoples and countries to a common future and rekindle the grandeur and glory of the old and new Asian civilization and serve as harbinger of real and expanding growth in the 21st Century.

GLOBAL POTENTIAL OF EXPANDED ROUTE

In order to expand, deepen and strengthen the cultural, geo-political, geo-economic, trade, and people-to-people linkages of the historic Silk Road, we propose consideration of the development of a "third route," to complement and extend China's "Belt and Road" Initiative.

For from Hainan island off Guangdong province in southern China, the route could also pass through the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia and the small island nation of Timor Leste. From there, it could traverse Darwin in northern Australia, the Gold Coast and then on to Sydney, and New Zealand. Then, across the south Pacific, it would enter Latin America: Chile, Argentina, Brazil, and the tourism-rich Caribbean islands, then Mexico, all the way to the U.S. as in the old days of the 250-years Galleon Trade from Manila to Acapulco, Mexico.

It is not far fetch: for there are already large Chinese investments in South America.

Yes, the proposed 21st Century "third route", hopefully an enlargement of the Silk Route would make China's celebrated 'Belt and Road initiative' almost globally inclusive and create a linkage with two more continents -- Australia and Latin America -- in a new circumnavigation, in a revivable of the Age of Exploration, and a new aura and new spirit in the Age of Globalization.



China in a New Era after the 19th CPC National Congress: from A Rising Power to A World Leader

Jean-Pierre Raffarin, former French Prime Minister

I. China decides to shoulder the leadership responsibility instead of adopting a low profile and being reserved.

In December 2017, representatives of nearly 300 political parties from all over the world attended the CPC in Dialogue with World Political Parties High-Level Meeting. This meeting and the 19th CPC National Congress convened in autumn 2017, are both of far-reaching global significance.

For a long period in the past, China has adopted a “low-key” profile. The year 2018 marks the 40th anniversary of China’s reform and opening up. 40 years ago, Mr. Deng Xiaoping set the development route of peaceful rise for China and two priority policies, namely “reform” and “opening up”, pushing China back to the front rank of the world. During this period, China at first adopted a modest and reserved attitude, actively seeking opportunities for drawing upon the experience of cooperation partners. Then, guided by the Chinese traditional thought of “Yin-Yang”, China has cautiously and mildly displayed its development achievements. When China wants



to show its muscle, it releases its total GDP. When it wants to emphasize its status of an emerging country, it releases the GDP per capita. However, in the recent five years, when the outside world sees China as a threat for its development, achievements, strength and vitality, China no longer keeps its low profile.

II. China is present everywhere.

The strategy of “moderation and composure” is going to an end and it’s time for China to shoulder its due responsibilities. China has successfully staged the G20 Hangzhou Summit, strived to further expand its contribution to the Olympic

Games, offered great financial support to the UN, participated in peace-keeping operations, jointly established cooperation mechanisms with BRICS countries, and succeeded in the application for world cultural heritage in UNESCO. Abandoning the modest and reserved profile, China has carried out dialogues with Iran and Saudi Arabia simultaneously, and even expressed its attitude sharply on North Korea's assertion and provocation.

All these cases demonstrate that China has returned to the front rank of the global political stage. Under such circumstances, it's no longer appropriate for China to continue to be a co-star. At a time when the world economic development strongly depends on the contribution of China, all countries actively seek to lure Chinese investment, Chinese enterprises start to lead the world, and China occupies a major role in global innovation, keeping silent is no longer a choice for China.

China has to shoulder responsibilities. China has to make its own voice heard.

The Communist Party of China staged the CPC in Dialogue with World Political Parties High-Level Meeting and invited representatives of nearly 300 political parties or political organizations from the globe. This demonstrates the willingness of China to confirm its status and shoulder its responsibilities—not only shoulder the responsibilities of leadership, but also the responsibilities as a great power.

III. In my opinion, China will build its leadership role around four threads

A vision: create a community of shared future for mankind

China offers the world a development vision. By giving publicity to the important vision of creating a community of shared future for mankind, China displays its peaceful stance and advocates multilateralism to enhance world peace. Peace is the precondition for carrying out international cooperation. President Xi Jinping emphasizes the necessity of uniting the world. He argues that the world is a big family and the earth is our common homeland. This perspective is in line with the spirit of Paris Accord. President Xi Jinping also reiterates the relationship between peace and development.

One program: the Belt and Road Initiative

This is a program that will permeate the whole century; a Chinese program that will promote the development of China and contribute to the rise of the Eurasian continent. Generally speaking, China hopes to “contribute” this program to the whole world. During the High-Level Meeting, party leaders from Latin America and Africa were very enthusiastic about this program and willing to participate in it. The executive institutions of the Belt and Road initiative has got ready: the AIIB and the SRF—the latter is with a fund scale of \$ 55 billion. China will offer financial support for the implementation of concrete projects, with an aim to realize its grand ambition of international cooperation.

An ideology: the return of socialism

If China lacks confidence in its own political

system, all international multilateral activities are impossible. China announced that it does not expect to “input or output the so-called China model”, but it has clearly defined “socialism with Chinese characteristics”. Guided by Marxist and Lenin doctrine, socialism with Chinese characteristics takes the leadership of the Communist Party as its essential feature. This ideological return draws the resonance of many Latin American and African political activists. Those who think China’s development follows the western model are proved untenable.

A diplomacy model: international publicity

Reports on the new leaders of China are often accompanied with large- scale diplomatic activities. All Chinese institutions working in the sector of foreign exchanges have participated in the international elaboration efforts of the 19th CPC National Congress. The second volume of Xi Jinping on the Governance of China is a means of international publicity, and the Chinese people deem this kind of publicity indispensable. Spreading the ideas of national leaders with publications is a rare practice for countries. For translating the ideas of the 19th CPC National Congress into practice, the Communist Party of China will offer opportunities of visiting China to 15,000 people from all parties of the world. China proposes its own initiative and hopes it can be understood and recognized by the world, and all these endeavors will prove to be useful. China pays great attention to its own image and would not like to see initiatives such as the Belt and Road be viewed as a threat, just like what Europe sometimes does. Therefore, to persuade the rest

of the world, China strives to present the world its peaceful past and open-minded present.

The international situation at this period is beneficial for China to play new roles in the world. In a world full of uncertainty and unstable factors, China has established its authority by securing social stability and foreseeable development prospects.

However, the initiative of China must also get support from the civil society. In the west, the revival of Marxism is a concern, especially when China’s leadership is gradually influencing the western society. By excluding the risk of historical drawbacks of Marxism, China will enjoy more extensive and far-reaching influence. From this perspective, with the world’s increasing need for social and economic innovation, the modernization model of China is gradually accepted by the rest of the world.

For China, in the historical circumstances, Europe has possessed many advantages to become one of the best cooperative partners—the most important one is that Europe is located in the central area of the Silk Road, namely the connecting point of Eurasia and Africa. Europe has its own development plan, process and financing means. As it is still in a leading position, Europe does not have to worry too much about its future. A powerful Europe could establish a balanced partnership with China, for China has realized that its development needs other countries. France is a stalwart supporter for Sino-European cooperation.

(Translated by Ma Jiatai)

Boost Mutual Understanding via Active People-to-people Exchanges

February 6, 2018

Kitamura Bensa

Respected friends,

Good morning!

Last year marked the 45th anniversary of normalization of diplomatic relations between China and Japan. And this year we are celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Sino-Japanese Treaty of Peace and Friendship. It is the best opportunity for us to expand and deepen friendly exchanges between China and Japan. This symposium comes at a right time and is of great significance. I'd like to extend my sincere appreciation to the host-Chinese Association for International Understanding.

Council of Local Authorities for International Relations was jointly founded by local governments of Japan in 1998, with an aim to promote the international development of local areas and boost their exchanges with the world. The Beijing branch of Council of Local Authorities for International Relations was established in 1997. As an overseas representative office of Japanese local authorities, the Beijing branch mainly works for supporting and facilitating Japan local governments to carry out exchanges, cooperation and related activities with their Chinese counterparts. Its work mainly includes the following items.



First, implement the JET program. The major content of JET program includes inviting foreign young people to local governments of Japan to carry out international exchanges or teach foreign languages. Since its implementation in 1992, JET program has attracted the participation of more than 300 people. After finishing their service in Japan, these people have made their due contribution to promote exchanges between China and Japan at the grass-root level with what they have learnt in Japan.

Second, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China and the Foreign Affairs Office of different regions of China, the Beijing branch stages Forum on Promoting Sino-Japanese Local Exchanges annually. Last year, the Forum was held in Liaoning province and it was the 16th Forum.

Third, in order to lure visitors for Japan, the Beijing branch actively participates in international tourism expos held in different places of China, implements programs such as “international cooperation expert dispatching”, and sends experts specialized in agriculture or environmental education to local governments of China for one-week technological guidance.

Here follows the status quo and problems with exchanges at local level between Japan and China.

Japan ranks the top among all countries in terms of vitality of exchanges at the local level, and the cooperation and exchanges between Japan and China started from sister cities. Since Kobe twinned with Tianjin in 1973, more than 360 pairs of sister cities have been formed, and they have carried out exchanges in various fields such as culture, art, sports and economy. In 2017, a total of 34 magistrates of provinces, cities and counties and 67 heads of districts, towns and villages of Japan visited China for activities such as friendly exchanges or promoting local specialties.

Due to the influence of the aging population, the central and local governments of Japan have a bigger budget for welfare and their financial situation is under great pressure. As a result, the budget for international exchanges cannot be guaranteed and the number of sister cities between

Japan and China can hardly increase in the future.

In addition, with the rapid social and economic development of China, for local exchanges, the Chinese local governments strongly recommend to call for strengthening economic exchanges, especially exchanges in terms of investment, and it's very difficult for the Japanese side to totally satisfy this expectation.

China and Japan are neighbors and people-to-people exchanges are an important force driving the development of bilateral relations. Just as the Chinese President Xi Jinping said at China Japan Friendship Conference in May 2015-the foundation of friendship between Japan and China lie in the people and strengthening people-to-people exchanges is of great significance for improving and developing bilateral relations. The participation of young people in Sino-Japanese friendship deserves special attention. Young people of both countries should be allowed to boost understanding and mutual trust, build friendship in the process of cooperation and exchanges. Council of Local Authorities for International Relations will actively offer support to above mentioned activities through local exchanges.

(Kitamura Bensa, Director of Council of Local Authorities for International Relations, Beijing)

(Translated by Ma Jiatai)



Editor's Note: *As China's largest network of non-governmental organizations involved in foreign affairs, China NGO Network for International Exchanges has now 265 member organizations. In order to share the latest news of member organizations in foreign exchanges, and promote mutual learning of all organizations in terms of international exchanges, from this issue on, we will collect and publish important work of member organizations in each quarter. Given the constraints in terms of time and people, our job is far from perfect. We expect your contribution to this column to share your good practice in foreign exchanges.*

Latest News of Member Organizations of China NGO Network for International Exchanges in International Exchanges

In January, 13 young volunteers of the eighth group of Chinese Young Volunteers Overseas Service Program arrived in Seychelles and started their one-year voluntary service. The Chinese Young Volunteers Overseas Service Program was jointly organized by the Central Committee of Communist Youth League of China and Ministry of Commerce, and this program has totally dispatched more than 700 excellent volunteers to more than 20 countries for carrying out voluntary service. In 2018, the program will continue to send young volunteers to a number of countries such as Laos, Seychelles and Brunei. The recruitment for the ninth group of

volunteers for Laos has started.

In January, Gansu Provincial NGO Network for International Exchanges, in cooperation with Gansu Provincial UNESCO Association, organized three big events, namely "Gansu Provincial Pre-school Education Study Group Visiting Russia", "Gansu Study Group of Representatives from the Sectors of Education, Science, Culture and Health Care Visiting Russia" and "Gansu People's Chorus in Russia□Dunhuang Theatre Chorus and Performances in Russia", attracting the participation of more than 120 people. These

activities offered excellent opportunities and platforms for participating institutions to entrench cooperation with Russia, strengthen planning and contact, improve commercial environment, and deepen people-to-people exchanges.

On January 10, the Dialogue between Parliament Speakers of North Europe and the Baltic Countries and Chinese Young Entrepreneurs was staged in Beijing. The Dialogue was presided by Wang Hongyan, Vice President of All-China Youth Federation. Centering on the theme of “innovation, entrepreneurship, sustainable development and connectivity”, Finland Parliament Speaker Lohela, Norway Parliament Speaker Tomasson, Iceland Parliament Speaker Sigfusson, Estonia Parliament Speaker Nestor, Latvia Parliament Speaker Murniece, Lithuania Parliament Speaker Pranckietis and Sweden Parliament First Deputy Speaker Fenne made thorough and frank dialogues with more than 30 members of China Youth Entrepreneurs Association.

In January 11, the inaugural meeting of Sichuan Provincial NGO Network for International Exchanges was staged in Chengdu. More than 150 people, mainly heads of member organizations and related departments, took part in the meeting. Zhu Hexin, Deputy Governor of Sichuan Province, Liu Jie, Associate Chairman of Standing Committee of People’s Congress of Sichuan and President of Sichuan Provincial NGO Network for International Exchanges, Wang Yajun, the then Assistant Secretary of International Department of Central Committee of CPC (now Vice President

of International Department of Central Committee of CPC) and adviser of China NGO Network for International Exchanges and head of Beijing NGO Network for International Exchanges attended and addressed the meeting. Sichuan Provincial NGO Network for International Exchanges boasts 67 member organizations, covering social organizations, research institutions and enterprises.

From January 12 to 16, a Chinese delegation headed by Zhu Hongren, Executive Vice President and Director-General of China Enterprise Confederation visited Confederation of Finnish Industries and Latvia Employers’ Federation, and discussed topics on macro economic situation, enterprise operating environment of both countries, the labor market, digital economy, employer organizations and member service of Finland. Confederation of Finnish Industries serves for the interest of enterprises and employers of all sectors. It boasts 25 member associations and 16,000 member enterprises, covering 930,000 employees of Finland. In Latvia, the delegation met with Latvia Prime Minister Kucinskis.

From January 20 to 26, the “2018 Annual Conference on Programs of Education and International Exchanges” organized by Amity Foundation was held in Xiamen, Fujian Province. Education volunteers participating in the meeting shared their service experience in China, and discussed with local partners the management experience on international youth voluntary programs. International youth volunteer program started in the early 2000s and has now established

long-term cooperation relationship with NGOs of more than 20 countries and regions such as the United States, Germany, Australia, the United Kingdom, Japan and South Korea, attracting some 1,500 person*time volunteers visiting China for exchanges.

From January 22 to 27, representatives of the World Federation of Acupuncture-Moxibustion Societies were invited to attend the 142th executive committee meeting of World Health Organization (WHO). The World Federation of Acupuncture-Moxibustion Societies called on WHO to enlist enhancing the development of traditional medicine into 2019-2023 General Program of Work, and accelerate the enactment of normative documents guiding the practice of acupuncture and other forms of traditional medicine, such as ICD-11, acupuncture clinic practice and education guide. This proposal was approved by WHO.

From January 24 to 28, at the invitation of Thailand Journalists Association, All-China Journalists Association sent representatives to attend the ASEAN Journalists Federation Conference in Bangkok as observers. The Thailand Prime Minister Prayuth sent a congratulatory letter to the conference. The conference accepted Cambodia Journalists Club as the eighth member organization of ASEAN Journalists Federation, elected new leadership, revised related articles, signed the Bangkok Declaration and issued the 2018-2020 Action Plan. As the only observer from outside the ASEAN region, All-China Journalists Association made excellent exchanges with the journalist

organizations attending the meeting.

On January 26, China Association for Friendship staged in Beijing the New Spring Reception for foreign ambassadors in China. More than 70 ambassadors from over 40 countries and international organizations participated in the reception. General-Director Chen Zhimin introduced the work on public diplomacy carried out by the Association and extended appreciation to ambassadors for attention and support to the Association.

On January 27, the Second Pak-China Medical Congress & Belt and Road Forum of Medical Associations was held in Beijing. This Congress was sponsored by Chinese Medical Association and organized by Beijing Medical Association. Representatives of World Medical Association, medical science organizations and medical institutions from countries such as Pakistan, the United States, the United Kingdom, Japan, Sri Lanka and Thailand presented the meeting. The Second Pak-China Medical Congress was held in accordance with the content of memorandum of jointly building “China-Pakistan Medical Corridor” between the two countries. In January 2016, the First Pak-China Medical Congress was staged in Karachi, Pakistan.

On January 30, the inauguration ceremony of nine Sino-Myanmar “Silk Road Friend” schools sponsored by China Foundation for Peace and Development was held in a Primary School of Moby Town, Rangoon Division, Myanmar.

More than 300 people presented the inauguration ceremony, composed of Rangoon Division Secretary of Union Solidarity and Development Party Tarvin, President Nay Lin of Myanmar Alinyaung Foundation, representatives of project management committee of nine schools, representatives of teachers, pupils and villagers. When these projects were finished, they will directly serve more than 1,200 pupils from nine nearby villages-improving their education environment and solving the difficulties of school attendance faced by local teenagers. These projects are expected to finish and put into use in September 2018.

On January 31, the Forum on the first anniversary of Law of the People's Republic of China on Administration of Activities of Overseas Non-governmental Organizations in the Mainland of China themed "new start, new opportunities, new development" jointly organized by China Association for Friendship, the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries and Institute for Philanthropy of Tsinghua University was staged in Beijing. Over 100 representatives attended the forum, including 37 representatives from overseas NGOs in China, representatives of five Chinese organizations including China NGO Network for International Exchanges, heads of registration authorities and professional authorities, as well as experts and scholars.

On February 1, World Tourism Cities Federation, Moroccan National Tourism Authority and

Casablanca Municipal Government jointly organized the China-Moroccan Tourism Cooperation Forum. The theme of the forum was Belt and Road and China-Moroccan Tourism Cooperation. More than 100 people took part in the forum, including representatives of renowned Chinese tourism agencies, representatives of African countries and tourism experts. The forum will boost China-Moroccan tourism cooperation, promote tourism cooperation among countries alongside the Belt and Road, upgrade tourism products, enhance people-to-people exchange and strengthen opening up and cooperation on innovation.

On February 6, a Symposium Commemorating the 40th Anniversary of Sino-Japanese Treaty of Peace and Friendship organized by Chinese Association for International Understanding was staged in Beijing. Liu Hongcai, former Vice Minister of International Department of Central Committee of CPC attended and addressed the meeting. Representatives from institutions such as All-China Youth Federation, China-Japan Friendship Association, All-China Women's Federation and China Workers' Center for International Exchanges. More than 30 people presented the symposium, including representatives of Japanese NGOs visiting China, Beijing branch of Japanese non-governmental organizations and institutions.

From February 9 to 25, the 23th Winter Olympic Games was staged in Pyeongchang-gun of South Korea. 113 Chinese volunteers stack out from 1,345 applicants all over the country and went to

Pyeongchang offering voluntary service for Games. In Pyeongchang, they shouldered jobs such as award etiquette service, Olympic Village service, game service, Olympic Family service and media operations. China Volunteer Service Federation allotted “Chinese Volunteers” uniforms and badges for all Chinese volunteers of Pyeongchang Winter Olympic Games.

On February 10, Pawlak, former Poland Prime Minister and Polish Co-Chair of Joint Committee for Advancement of the Belt and Road between Poland and China, and Ludwikowski, Polish Director General of Joint Committee for Advancement of the Belt and Road Between Poland and China met with Yu Jin, Director of China Region Development & Reform Institute and Chinese Director General of Joint Committee for Advancement of the Belt and Road between Poland and China. Both sides discussed issues such as “Belt and Road” related programs and “Visegrad Group + Chinese Think Tanks” cooperation platform. Centering on “Sino-Polish Think Tank 2017 Warsaw Dialogue” and Warsaw Consensus 2017, they probed into cooperation on China-Poland Think Tank Industry Park.

From February 24 to 28, representatives of All-China Environment Federation visited South Africa and presented the Meetings Africa 2018 Expo. The delegation carried out extensive exchanges with National Conference Bureau of South Africa and other institutions and enterprises, learned about major practice and plan of African exhibition industry in environmental protection and

promoting sustainable development, introduced major achievements of All-China Environment Federation in promoting environmental protection and participating in international environmental affairs, as well as programs on strengthening cooperation with Africa on promoting “green” “Belt and Road” construction.

In March, the Red Cross Society of China started the dispatching of the second medical team aiding Pakistan. The Society plans to send 9 people to Pakistan to continue the job on pre-hospital care, medical care and training. In May 2017, the construction of China-Pakistan Fraternity Emergency Care Center sponsored by Red Cross Society of China was finished in Gwadar Port. In September 2017, the Red Cross Society of China purchased medical equipment and ambulances for the Center and in cooperation with National Health and Family Planning Commission of China, the society sent the first 13-member overseas medical aid team to Pakistan for medical service, with a service term of two years.

In March, Traversing the Poles of Earth & Scientific Expedition on Global Climate Change program planned and participated by the Great Wall Society of China was launched. In order to secure the successful implementation of the program, responsible persons of international department of the Society paid an official visit to Embassy of Nepal in China. Nepal ambassador expressed his support to this program and willingness of building bridges of exchanges and cooperation between NGOs of two countries and the Nepal Embassy

will offer facilitation in terms of visa, customs and government related affairs.

From March 4 to 11, a three-member Chinese delegation of news workers headed by Xue Ying, executive director of Center of Global Issues of Xinhua News Agency, dispatched by All-China Journalists Association presented the World Journalists Conference in South Korea. In accordance with the arrangements of the conference, centering around the theme “the role of media in promoting denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and world peace”, delegation member delivered keynote speech in the conference.

On March 6, the graduation ceremony of Ethiopia women vocational training program organized by China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation was staged. This program was sponsored by CGCOC Group and jointly organized by China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation, the Office of the First Lady of Ethiopia and Center of Women Economic Empowerment of Ethiopia. It plans to offer training on traditional handicraft skills to 100 Ethiopian women within two years. A number of officials presented the ceremony, including officials from the Office of the First Lady of Ethiopia, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Ministry of Culture and Tourism and Deputy Mayor of Lalibela. Media such as Xinhua News Agency and Ethiopia National Television covered the ceremony on spot.

On March 7, during the 37th session of United Nations Human Rights Council, China Society for Human Rights Studies staged the side expo themed

“Tibetan culture preservation and development” at Palace of Nations in Geneva, displaying efforts and achievements of Tibet in protecting and developing traditional culture. More than 60 people, mainly officials from national governments of different countries, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, as well as experts and scholars, journalists presented the expo. This is the first time for Chinese non-governmental organizations to stage themed side expo on Tibet at Palace of Nations in Geneva.

On March 8, a delegation headed by Tan Jian, Deputy Director of Department of Legal Affairs, China Chamber of International Commerce presented the public hearing of investigation according to United States Special 301 Clause in Washington D.C., and expressed stance and opinion on behalf of commercial and industry circle of China. The public hearing was organized by Office of United States Trade Representative and ten governmental departments, including the State Department and Labor Department of United States. Besides the Chinese side, representatives of 21 other countries, associations and chambers made statements in court.

On March 11, under the support of Beijing NGOs Network for International Exchanges, a study tour delegation of the 29th “five star award” winners, mainly freshmen of The University of Kitakyushu of Japan arrived in China for a visit. During their visit in China, the delegation traveled Beijing, Changchun, Hangzhou and Shanghai, seeing and feeling the new-era China.

The study tour delegation was organized by Japan Association of Chinese Language Teaching, in an aim to strengthen people-to-people exchanges and friendship between the youth of two countries. So far, more than 500 Japanese university students have participated in the study tour.

From March 11 to 13, China Ecological Civilization Research and Promotion Association, in cooperation with China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center, China Environmental Protection Foundation, All-China Environment Federation, local environmental organizations and environmental enterprises carried out ecological and environmental organizations exchanges events in Laos. The delegations respectively exchanged views with representatives of nine local environmental non-government organizations include Laos Rural Research and Development Promotion Association, Laos Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, the Laos-China Economic and Trade Promotion Association, and Chinese enterprises in Laos.

On March 15, after discussion, the secretariat of the Silk Road NGO Cooperation Network (SIRONET) decided to accept 19 organizations as member organizations of the Network, including Association of Arab-China Cooperation and Development (Lebanon), Bangladesh-China Association for People's Friendship, Hong Kong

Volunteer Association, Beijing Association for Science and Technology, Sichuan Association of Ecological and Cultural Development for Panda. SIRONET was founded in November 21, 2017 and has now 294 Chinese and foreign member organizations from more than 60 countries.

On March 19, the Symposium on Developing New Approaches in Social Governance in New Era & Kick off Meeting for NGOs Participating in Public Service and Social Governance hosted by China NGO Network for International Exchanges was staged in Beijing. Long Yongtu, former Chief Negotiator and Vice Minister of Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation delivered a keynote speech on the symposium. Chang Hexi, Party Secretary of China International Center for Economic and Technical Exchanges and Chris Wood, Envoy and Deputy Head of Delegation of The European Union to China addressed the symposium. 73 guests presented the meeting-coming from government departments, social organizations, international institutions, research institutes, enterprises and media.

(Translated by Ma Jiatai)