

INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING

国际交流

1-2  
Vol. 1-2, 2020



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LETTING THE WORLD UNDERSTAND CHINA  
AND LETTING CHINA UNDERSTAND THE WORLD



中国国际交流协会

CHINESE ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING

## INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING

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International Standard Serial  
Number:

ISSN1002-8285

China Standard Serial Number:  
CN11-2491/D

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Letters may be edited for length or content.

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## **Voice of Solidarity: International Civic Community's Support for China's COVID-19 Response Measures**

**[Editor's Note]** The outbreak of the COVID-19 epidemic has been a global concern. In the past few months, many friends abroad have sent letters to the Chinese Association for International Understanding (CAFIU), the China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE), and the Silk Road NGO Cooperation Network (SIRONET) to support China's anti-epidemic measures, positively evaluating the effectiveness of China's epidemic prevention and control measures, and opposing the politicization of the epidemic and stigmatization. Friends appreciate China's extensive sharing of experience and practices in combating the COVID-19 epidemic with other countries. They believe that while China has successfully contained the spread of the epidemic, it has actively provided support and assistance to other countries within its capacity. This fully reflects the spirit of building a community with a shared future for mankind, helping each other in need. In order to better demonstrate the solidarity and support of the international civic community, some excerpts from foreign friends' remarks are as follows:

Former Greek Prime Minister Papandreou: Here, I express my concern and support to the Chinese people. Your collective and individual efforts to fight the COVID-19 epidemic are truly brave. The Chinese government and people have responded quickly and transparently in fighting the epidemic and preventing its further spread, which is very impressive. I believe that China will be able to overcome this difficulty, and that the international community will provide assistance and support to overcome the difficulties together with China. Everyone must join hands. We can and will coordinate our actions to protect the Chinese people and people all over the world. Our hearts are always with the Chinese people who are fighting the epidemic. Go China!

Former New Zealand Prime Minister Jennifer

Shipley: In recent weeks I have seen the Chinese government's hard work to prevent and control the epidemic. The outstanding performance of the Chinese government in fighting the epidemic and protecting its people have won our high respect. I believe that the Chinese government and the Chinese people are capable of handling the current



COVID-19 epidemic. All of us are currently facing the same challenges and we need to be fully prepared. At this moment, we need to fight side by side and bless each other. This time, we are with you. I hope to provide constructive help soon. I wish the Chinese people overcome the epidemic as soon as possible and be safe and happy.

Former Croatian President Stjepan Mesic: When I heard the people in Wuhan shouting "Wuhan, hold on" through the window at night, I was touched by the spirit of the Chinese people again. I have been amazed many times by China's tremendous economic development achievements and profound cultural heritage, but what impressed me most is the kindness, hard work and courage of the Chinese people. China is strong and has many friends. I believe that China will be able to overcome the epidemic, and health and happiness will surely come early.

Former Bulgarian President Rosen Plevneliev: As a sincere friend of China, I express my deep sympathy to the Chinese government and people who are fighting the COVID-19 epidemic. The Chinese government and people have taken firm and comprehensive measures to deal with this huge challenge. China is capable, and courageous in fighting the epidemic. We highly appreciate the tremendous efforts and decisive measures made by the Chinese government to control the epidemic from spreading outside. We believe that the Chinese government can successfully overcome difficulties and restore normal national order. I wish China stronger and more united. I once again express my deep sympathy and condolence to all the families of the deceased, and wish all patients recover to health. Bulgaria is with China!

Former Prime Minister of Egypt and Chairman of the Sharaf Foundation for Sustainable Development Essam Sharaf: China is currently facing the challenge of the COVID-19 epidemic. I consulted experts in medical and health care, and they all expressed that



China has done a great job in medical treatment and crisis management. I hope and believe that the Chinese people will unite around the Communist Party of China and show the power of China to the world with practical actions. The current epidemic has not crushed China, but has made China stronger. I firmly believe that China will be able to overcome the crisis, and that China will become stronger after this crisis. A powerfully returning China will surely realize the dream of world harmony and global development, let us wait and see.

Chairman of the China-Italy Friendship Association and former Speaker of the Italian House of Representatives Irene Piavedi: Currently we are very concerned about the situation of the COVID-19 epidemic. As an old friend of China, I will lead my team and mobilize all relationships to help China cope with this epidemic. In such difficult times, we will work hard to guarantee urgently needed medical supplies and provide assistance within our capacity. In addition, I personally praise the courageous and determined Chinese people for their admirable dedication and cohesion in the face of emergency in Italian television programs and newspapers. At the same time, I express my admiration for the Chinese government's rapid and effective response to the COVID-19 epidemic. I sincerely hope that China will overcome this challenge.

Secretary of the Cabinet Office of the Cambodian Government and Broad Chairman of Civil Society



Alliance Forum in Cambodia Kemreut Viseth: Although the COVID-19 epidemic first occurred in China, it is far more than a problem of China, but a problem of the entire human race, a major issue facing all countries in the world. Many countries have realized this and offered help to China. As a hardcore friend, the Cambodian government and people stand firmly with China and vigorously support and help China to fight the epidemic in its own way, and that Prime Minister Hun Sen led a delegation to China on February 5 fully proved this. The Cambodian government believes that under the leadership of President Xi Jinping and the Chinese government, China will surely win the fight against the epidemic at an early date, and once again demonstrate China's huge development potential and bright prospects to the world.

Former German Minister of Defense and Chairman of Rudolf Schalpin Strategic Consulting Exchange Co., Ltd. Rudolf Scharping: We are closely following the development of the epidemic in China and the health of patients. At the same time, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to China's extensive and strict epidemic prevention measures since January 2020, the close ties between China and international institutions such as the World Health Organization, and the close cooperation between Chinese experts and German counterparts. We try our best to support all the efforts of China to fight the COVID-19 epidemic through various means. Close cooperation and mutual support are the only responsible and appropriate response to the epidemic. I hope Chinese friends believe that most of the German people's response to the epidemic is pragmatic and cautious. I sincerely wish China an early victory over the epidemic.

Director-General of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) Alvaro Bermejo: The Chinese people are facing huge challenges. But reality has proven that the Chinese people will unite as one, and work together to overcome these

challenges. China's successful control of SARS in 2003 is a good proof. China now needs support from all over the world. We will do our best to provide China with urgently needed protective materials that meet standards. The emergent epidemic in China is also ours. The 100,000 N95 masks raised by IPPF have been delivered to Chinese medical personnel. At the same time, we also released a global initiative, calling on global donors to donate masks and other protective equipment to China. The IPPF has always been united with the Chinese people.

UN Humanitarian Affairs Adviser Murat Youze: We must say to all Chinese humanitarian fighters bravely fighting the COVID-19 epidemic that you must be strong, take care of your health, and be careful. You will win the final victory, and we have faith in you.



The Saudi Organizing Committee of the G20 Civil Society Forum: We are very concerned about the latest development of the COVID-19 epidemic and always care about the Chinese people. China and the Chinese people have shown great perseverance and resilience in the fight against the epidemic. They are not afraid of danger and they are united to overcome difficulties together, which impressed the international community deeply. We wish the Chinese people a victory as soon as possible.

Executive Chairman of the World Green Design

Organization (WGDO) August Dahl: The COVID-19 epidemic interrupted the celebration and the family union of the Chinese Spring Festival. We pay attention to the latest development of the epidemic, organize and mobilize the various branches of WGDO and local Chinese groups to help purchase urgently needed medical supplies, and open up procurement channels hoping to contribute to the fighting against the epidemic. Under the strong leadership of the Chinese government, the Chinese people are united and will surely be able to control the epidemic soon. I believe that in this battle against the epidemic, China, which has strong faith and courage, can finally win.

Vice Chairman of the World Tourism Cities Federation and Director of the Los Angeles Tourism Bureau Ernest Wooden: At this worrying and changing time, our hearts are with our friends far away in China, and we deeply sympathize you for what you have experienced and lost. I also wish friends who were in trouble a quick recovery. The global crisis calls for unity and strength, and makes human kindness especially precious. At this moment, we are with you and are your strong backing. On the road to recovery, Los Angeles is walking shoulder to shoulder with you. China is very important to us. We look forward to once again warmly welcoming Chinese friends back to our City of Angels in the near future. (Note: The Los Angeles Tourism Bureau pays great attention to the prevention and control of the epidemic, releases information to colleagues in Los Angeles to explain the situation, and encourages tourism suppliers to facilitate the changes and cancellations of Chinese tourists due to the epidemic. Recently they also composed a song to cheer for Wuhan.)

President of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies (WFNS) Franco Selvadei: We are grateful for China's measures to combat the COVID-19 epidemic. China has so quickly confirmed the type of virus and announced its gene sequence, and has

taken active measures to contain the spread of the epidemic, which is commendable. The WFNS will also join in the research on the virus, and contribute to the fight against the epidemic.

Chairman of the World Resources Institute (WRI) Andrew Steer: The COVID-19 epidemic occurred in China at the beginning of the Year of the Rat. On behalf of all my colleagues in WRI, please allow me to extend my sincere condolences to China, and sincerely wish that people in China and the rest of the world resume healthy lives as soon as possible. I have been following the development of the epidemic situation in China. China has adopted comprehensive prevention and control measures to effectively control the spread of the epidemic, which left a deep impression on me. These decisive and courageous measures, coupled with the courage and self-sacrifice of medical personnel, and the cooperative response of the Chinese people across the country, have enabled China to achieve positive results in epidemic prevention and control. In addition, I have also learned that China is accelerating the "New Infrastructure" process to reduce the negative economic impact of the epidemic, and I hope that this will help China achieve sustainable growth. We are ready to help China as much as we can. Please accept our most sincere blessings.

Executive Director of Mercy Corps International Simon O'Connell: Facing the challenge of the COVID-19 epidemic, we have always stood with our Chinese friends. We very much appreciate the efforts made by the Chinese government and people to contain the spread of the epidemic, and we fully understand the huge price behind these efforts. China's response to the epidemic should be appreciated by the international community. Mercy Corps International is discussing areas for cooperation with Chinese partners, and are maintaining close contact. We firmly believe that under the strong leadership of the Chinese government and by the joint efforts of all Chinese

people, the epidemic situation will be improved. Go China! Go Wuhan!

Chairman of the 48 Group Club in the UK Stephen Perry: President Xi Jinping, the Chinese government and all Chinese people have shown extraordinary courage and determination to commit themselves to the fight against the epidemic. China has taken decisive measures to isolate the affected areas and meticulously treat patients with COVID-19, which set a good example for countries around the world. The Chinese people should be proud of this. Some countries are trying to politicize this COVID-19 epidemic, and they should be ashamed of this. One day, they will pay the price for these behaviors driven by selfish interests and jealousy. Please accept my most sincere blessings.

President of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation in Germany Kurt Beck: The outbreak of the COVID-19 epidemic has posed a huge challenge to global public health. On behalf of the Friedrich Albert Foundation and myself, I would like to extend my sincere condolences to the Chinese people. We look forward to the early victory of the Chinese people in the fight against the epidemic and restoring a healthy life. May the international community work together to overcome the epidemic at an early date and survive this health crisis.

Director of the Affairs Bureau of the National Federation of Independent Peace and Democracy of Japan Masaharu Yamamoto: Greetings should be given on the occasion of the Spring Festival. After hearing about the COVID-19 epidemic, I would like to express my sincere condolences. If necessary, I

would like to assist the Chinese people in purchasing masks in Japan. I wish and believe that the Chinese people will surely overcome the epidemic.

Yohei Ito, Chairman of the Youth Committee of the Japan-China Friendship Association, and Yu Zihao, Chairman of the Youth Committee of the Tokyo Japan-China Friendship Association: We are deeply saddened by the infection caused by this large-scale COVID-19 epidemic, and we are willing to make our best efforts to help China overcome the epidemic as soon as possible. Our Youth Committee

spontaneously donated masks to China and held fundraising activities. The more critical the juncture, the more it is time to test our friendly relationship with Chinese partners. We are willing to work together with China to overcome the difficulties.

Secretary-General of the India China Economic and Cultural Council Saqib: The Chinese government has done a great job in

responding to the epidemic, and its rapid response is unprecedented. The world appreciates the Chinese leaders, government and all personnel. The rest of the world should learn from China. The response of the Chinese government should become a model for disaster management.

Secretary-General of the Tanzania-China Friendship Association Kahama: I express my deep condolences to the Chinese people who lost their lives in the epidemic. The Tanzania-China Friendship Association has always stood with China and is willing to provide material support if necessary. It is believed that under the strong and wise leadership of General Secretary Xi Jinping, China can quickly







find a solution and overcome the epidemic. China has always been at the forefront of social and technological development under the leadership of the Communist Party of China.

Chairman of the Sri Lanka-China Friendship Association Goonatilleke: Chinese leaders attach great importance to protecting people's lives and their response to the epidemic is impressive. I believe that the Communist Party of China, government, army and people will be able to save the Chinese people and the people of the world through this unprecedented fight against the epidemic.

Chairman of the Armenian Political and Economic Strategy Research Center Benjamin Pogsjan: After the arrival of the World Health Organization (WHO) in China, it has maintained close contact with local medical experts and held daily meetings to share information. WHO confirmed that China's research has made an important contribution to raising global awareness of the COVID-19. The cooperation between WHO and China has once again proved the necessity of joint action on global issues which

affects many countries. Only through multilateral cooperation can satisfactory results be obtained.

Head of the Nepal Culture and Education Association Khalis: The Nepalese side highly appreciates the role of the Communist Party of China and the government played in responding to the COVID-19 epidemic and the various measures they have taken. It is believed that the epidemic will be overcome in the near future. Thank China for its contribution to the world.

Chief Executive Officer of the International Ministries Department of the US Baptist Convention Gao Xuelun: On behalf of the US Baptist Convention, I would like to express my deep concern about the outbreak of the COVID-19 in China. The current situation is grim, and the Chinese government has taken many wise and decisive measures to this end. We firmly agree and support the Chinese government's approach to the crisis. We will continue to help China fight the epidemic. May God continue to give resources and wisdom. Please be assured that in such a difficult time, we will continue to pray and support you.

**[Editor's Note]** In the face of the global pandemic of COVID-19, Chinese NGOs have taken actions and issued appeals to call on the civil society to enhance international cooperation and deal with the common challenge. On April 26, the China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE) launched the Joint Action for Defeating the COVID-19 within the Framework of the Silk Road Community Building Initiative, calling on its member organizations and other members of the civil society to participate in the joint action and contribute to global cooperation to defeat the virus to the best of their ability. On April 29, the Secretariat of the Silk Road NGO Cooperation Network (SIRONET) joined hands with more than 300 Chinese and foreign member organizations to release the Joint Action Initiative to Meet Global Challenges and Build a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind to encourage NGOs in countries along the Belt and Road to conduct practical cooperation in the fight against COVID-19. On May 20, Chinese Association for International Understanding (CAFIU) and young men and women from 55 countries released the appeal *Joining Hands to Fight COVID-19, A Great Chapter in Our Youth*, calling on youths all over the world to take on the responsibilities of the era, stand at the forefront of the fight against the pandemic, carry forward the Silk Road spirit of "peace and cooperation, openness and inclusiveness, mutual learning and mutual benefit", push forward further cooperation in an all-round way among all countries and all parties, and pool the strengths to win the global battle against the pandemic.

## **Joining Hands to Fight COVID-19, A Great Chapter in Our Youth**

We, 166 youths from 55 countries, join hands to answer the call of the Chinese Association for International Understanding and relevant civil society organizations, exploring ways to fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

We have witnessed that the spread of COVID-19 worldwide has wreaked havoc on people's lives and health, posed huge challenges to global public health security, and severely hindered the development of many countries. The world is still faced with this serious challenge.

We are gratified to see that international organizations such as the United Nations and the World Health Organization are playing an important leadership role, the leaders of the G20 have made firm commitments, and more than 240 political parties

from over 110 countries have issued a joint appeal ... The international community is further gathering consensus on the need to build a community of shared future for mankind. Actively making coordinated efforts and rendering mutual help and support to one another, countries are striving to forge a common bond as people are all in this together. China has effectively contained the spread of COVID-19 at home, which has bought time, offered experience and provided support to the international community, making important contributions to the global fight against the pandemic.

We agree that no country can respond to the challenges alone in the face of the outbreak. Only when all of us in the international community work in unison can we win this fight against the major

infectious disease. We agree that youths, representing the future of our countries and hope of our nations, play a vital role in safeguarding world peace and development. We should stand at the forefront of the fight against the pandemic. We hereby issue our joint appeal as follows to the youths of all countries:

——Make every effort to protect people's safety and health. We shall put the lives, safety and health of the people above everything else. We must engage in the prevention and control of COVID-19, be exemplary in complying with relevant regulations, and advocate healthy lifestyles and good public health habits so as to contain the further spread of the virus. We must insist on treating people of all countries equally, resolutely resist racial discrimination and human rights violation, protect the legitimate rights and interests of foreign nationals, and extend a helping hand to those in need.

——Always respect science and facts. We believe that the whole society should respect scientific and professional opinions, support science-based approach to tracing the origin of the virus, and adopt scientific prevention and control strategies. We shall objectively evaluate the efforts made and results achieved by countries in fighting the pandemic, and refrain from listening to one-sided stories, distorting facts or playing the blame game. We strongly oppose the politicization of public health issues and stigmatization of any country, region or ethnic group under the excuse of COVID-19.

——Strive to promote economic and social development. We shall take measures to calm the panic, resist fabricating and spreading rumors, and create a stable social environment and clear cyberspace. We shall actively maintain the healthy

and smooth operation of cities, support moderate international exchanges, and help accelerate the restoration of economic activities and daily lives. We shall also analyze the current situation and existing problems so as to contribute ideas to the reopening of the economy, stability of the global market and economic globalization.

——Actively push forward and participate in international cooperation. We shall strive to actively push forward and participate in the cooperation among political parties, governments, peoples,

CSOs and international organizations of different countries over the containment of COVID-19 and the restoration of economic and social vitality. The efforts shall include sharing information of COVID-19 and exchanging experience in containing the pandemic, providing materials, technology, and financial assistance to the best of our ability to countries hit hard by COVID-19, working together to build a tight network of joint

prevention and control, and jointly maintaining the stability of domestic and global industrial chain and supply chain.

Joining hands and continuing to carry forward the Silk Road spirit of "peace and cooperation, openness and inclusiveness, mutual learning and mutual benefit", let us push forward further cooperation in an all-round way among all countries and all parties, and pool the strengths to win the global battle against the pandemic! We firmly believe that in this arduous battle, youngsters from all over the world will take on the responsibility of the era and write a great chapter of youth!

(Translated by Wang Bo)



## **Appeal for Joint Action for Defeating the COVID-19 within the Framework of the Silk Road Community Building Initiative**

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core has attached high importance to epidemic prevention and control and responded swiftly. Under its leadership, the Chinese government and people have taken targeted prevention and control measures in a spirit of solidarity with confidence. A whole-of-society approach has been adopted, inter-agency taskforce put in place, and openness and transparency ensured. As a result, China has seen its epidemic situation brought under control and turning for the better, and its efforts have been widely endorsed and acclaimed by the international community. In the most trying time, China received precious support and assistance from the international community in its fight against COVID-19 which helped Chinese people tide over difficulties.

While domestic epidemic situation is getting stable, we have seen situation overseas deteriorating. No

### **中国民间组织国际交流促进会发起“丝路一家亲”民间抗疫共同行动**

中国社会组织动态 5月6日



中国民间组织国际交流促进会发起“丝路一家亲”民间抗疫共同行动



one country could stand unscathed in the face of a common challenge for the mankind. General Secretary Xi Jinping has said that epidemics respect no borders or ethnicities and are common enemies of the mankind; only through joint efforts can the international community defeat them. While staying vigilant about prevention and control at home, China

also supports the global fight against COVID-19, offers help within its might to countries in need, and safeguards security, rights and interests of Chinese citizens overseas with the purpose of building a community with a shared future for all. In doing so, China is making a positive contribution to strengthening global public health security.

With a view to acting upon General Secretary Xi Jinping's call for enhanced international cooperation in epidemic prevention and control and enabling the Chinese civil society to play a constructive role in the global anti-epidemic effort, the China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE) hereby launches the Appeal for Joint Action for Defeating the COVID-19 within the Framework of the Silk Road Community Building Initiative. The Silk Road Community Building Initiative was adopted at the Thematic Forum on People-to-People Connectivity of the Second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, with the purpose of enhancing people-to-people connectivity through closer people-to-people exchanges and livelihood cooperation between Chinese civil society organizations and their counterparts in the Belt and Road countries. CNIE is launching this Appeal under the Initiative to call upon its member organizations and other members of

the Chinese civil society to pitch in. We call for joint effort from the Chinese civil society organizations in the global fight to contain the spread of the pandemic by offering assistance to the best of your ability to countries in need through experience sharing, donation of anti-epidemic supplies, etc., by providing international humanitarian aid, and by participating in protection of Chinese citizens overseas. When the joint action is completed, CNIE will make an overall assessment and select ten outstanding cases showcasing Chinese civil society organizations' active participation in the global fight against COVID-19, and such programs will be included in the Silk Road Community Building Initiative.

Epidemics know no ethnicities or national boundaries. We look forward to engagement and cooperation with all the civil society organizations, businesses and individuals that are committed to international anti-epidemic cooperation, so that we can pool goodwill, wisdom and strength to deal with our common global challenges and build the bridge for people-to-people connectivity for the building of a community with a shared future for mankind.

(Translated by Jin Yan)



## **Joint Action Initiative to Meet Global Challenges and Build a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind**

We have but one planet in the universe that we call home. Public health security is a common challenge that we all face, and major infectious diseases are common enemies of mankind. It is upon us as nations of the world that we all join hands to create closer international cooperation and stronger solidarity necessary for the fight against the pandemic.

Since the outbreak of COVID-19, major progress has been made in the prevention and control of the pandemic in some countries, China included, which has earned time and valuable experience for other countries to deal with the pandemic. We appreciate the openness, transparency and responsibility of

China and other countries for sharing information, knowledge and experience on the virus, without any reservation and in a swift and timely manner, with the WHO and the rest of the world, and have actively engaged in international cooperation in fighting the pandemic. These actions represent an important contribution to the global efforts to combat the pandemic, and have brought hope and confidence for the world on the final victory over the virus.

As we speak, the COVID-19 pandemic is still spreading rapidly around the world, posing grave challenges for all countries. The virus knows no border and the pandemic knows no race. No country



can afford to stand by and watch or try to face the challenge alone. In the light of this major public health crisis, it is even more imperative and important that we build a community with a shared future for mankind.

Since its establishment in 2017, the Silk Road NGO Cooperation Network (SIRONET) has been committed to giving full play to the unique features and strengths of NGOs, facilitating exchanges and cooperation, and promoting win-win cooperation and common prosperity among countries along the Belt and Road. Since the outbreak of COVID-19, SIRONET members have provided various forms of medical aid to and shared anti-pandemic experience with their partners in the most affected countries.

To further address the current challenges, we propose four initiatives:

First, we call on all countries, especially countries along the Belt and Road to enhance cooperation. Mankind is a community with a shared future. Solidarity and cooperation shall be the most powerful weapon in the fight against COVID-19 that affects the safety of people of all countries. We suggest that the governments of all countries, especially countries along the Belt and Road take resolute and solid actions to effectively carry out joint efforts of prevention and control, actively support international organizations in containing the spread of COVID-19, attach utmost importance to providing medical and psychological help to people affected, and resolutely fighting and marching in step against this pandemic so as to raise the wellbeing of people all over the world.

Second, we call on civil society of all countries, especially countries along the Belt and Road to strengthen international cooperation in fighting the pandemic, share expertise and experience in a timely manner and promote cooperation in the medical field. We call on all countries to give full play to the role of civil society and grassroots organizations and

volunteers, especially in providing material, technical and other support to developing countries and other countries in need. We have launched the Joint Action for Defeating COVID-19 within the framework of the Silk Road Community Building Initiative, and promoted online experience sharing about COVID-19 control. We welcome the participation of NGOs from various countries, especially members of SIRONET.

Third, we firmly oppose the politicalization of public health issues. We call for professional study and analysis on prevention and treatment measures as well as virus tracing in a scientific manner, and firmly resist the stigmatization of other countries by using the pandemic situation as a pretext, and firmly reject comments and practices that discriminate against any country, region or ethnic group. We call on governments of all countries to take active measures to protect the safety and legitimate interests of foreign nationals and students abroad.

Fourth, we call on governments, people and NGOs of countries along the Belt and Road to work together to uphold multilateralism and build a community with a shared future for mankind. On global agenda such as public health, climate change, anti-terrorism and immigration, we should strengthen mutual support and assistance, pool global resources and capacities and push forward a more just and equitable global governance system through international cooperation and coordination in policy and efforts.

We believe that with the joint efforts of governments, people and NGOs around the world, we will surely overcome the pandemic at an early date. We are ready to strengthen cooperation and contribute to the building of a "Healthy Silk Road" for countries along the Belt and Road, promote the building of a global community of health and create a better future for mankind.

(Translated by Zhang Yi)

## **Summary of the Joint Action for Defeating the COVID-19 within the Framework of the Silk Road Community Building Initiative**

Yan Yu

China NGO Network for International Exchanges (referred to as CNIE) launched the Joint Action for Defeating the COVID-19 within the Framework of the Silk Road Community Building Initiative (referred to as Joint Action), so as to promote domestic non-governmental forces to actively carry out international cooperation against the epidemic in March this year.

As COVID-19 outbreak spread around the world, CNIE urged domestic social organizations, enterprises and other non-governmental forces to provide assistance to countries in need to the best of their ability through material donation, experience sharing and volunteer dispatch. Up to now, within the framework of the Joint Action, more than 60 social organizations, enterprises and non-governmental organizations have been coordinated to implement more than 100 international anti-epidemic cooperation projects in more than 60 countries. According to incomplete statistics, the Joint Action has donated 17.06 million masks, 105,300 sets of protective clothing, 200,000 test kits and other

epidemic prevention materials to Cambodia, Italy, Iran, Myanmar, Serbia, Laos and other countries, with a total amount of 192 million RMB yuan. CNIE helped Blue Sky Rescue Team carry out a 15-day sterilization operation and personnel training in Cambodia. CNIE also held a video seminar on “The Role of NGOs-----from International Cooperation against COVID-19 to Public Health Governance System”, and coordinated Silk Road NGO Cooperation Network and its member organizations to hold more than 160 online experience sharing activities. Silk Road NGO Cooperation Network and more than 300 Chinese and foreign member organizations released the Joint Action Initiative to Meet Global Challenges and Build a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind. In addition, Chinese Association for International Understanding organized 166 young people from 55 countries to release the Joint Initiative of Joining Hands to Fight COVID-19, A Great Chapter in Our Youth through an online video platform, calling on young people from all countries to promote Silk Road spirit of “peaceful

cooperation, openness and tolerance, mutual learning, mutual benefit and win-win.” And it will work hand in hand to promote the comprehensive strengthening of cooperation among all countries and parties, and gather strong joint forces to fight the global battle in epidemic prevention and control.

**I Making Efforts to Consolidate International Consensus and Promote the Building of ACommunity with AShared Future for Mankind.** The Joint Action has enhanced foreign people’s objective perception of our country and won the international community’s recognition of the concept of a community with a shared future for mankind, and our country’s institutional and moral strengths. Bra Sokun, Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, said that the donation to Cambodia fully demonstrated the brotherhood of Cambodia and China in helping each other and sharing weal and woe. Shun Tong, Minister of the International Department of the Central Committee of the Lao Party, said that the two parties and peoples of Laos and China have helped each other and

cooperated closely, and that was quite heart-warming. De Marre, Minister-Counselor of the Italian Embassy in China, expressed his heartfelt thanks for Joint Action and expressed that the friendship and mutual trust between Italy and China would be strengthened. Spain’s Ambassador to China Descalar expressed his gratitude to Chinese social organizations for their contributions to deepening friendship between Spain and China. Pakistan’s ambassador to China Hashmi believed that China’s selfless assistance to Pakistan at a time when the situation was severe had fully demonstrated great love, friendship and trust.

**II Making Efforts to Innovatively Explore New Modes of Cooperation between Social Organizations and Enterprises in the Fight against the Epidemic.** CNIE led the extensive participation of social organizations, enterprises, non-governmental voluntary groups, and the media, especially promoting the establishment of cooperative partnerships between social organizations and enterprises; for example, the China Foundation for Peace and Development has “paired up” with



Tencent to make donations to foreign countries. China Charity Federation cooperated with JD Group to donate anti-epidemic materials to the United Kingdom and Uzbekistan. While optimizing corporate overseas social responsibilities, efforts were also made to innovatively solve the lack of funds and channels faced by social organizations carrying out programs abroad.

III Making Efforts to Meet the Needs and Benefit Ordinary People Abroad. The Joint Action adhered to the demand-oriented approach and ensured that the anti-epidemic results benefited ordinary people abroad in a down-to-earth manner. China Foundation for Peace and Development, together with Poly Group and Tencent, donated epidemic prevention materials worth more than RMB 20 million to more than 20 countries. The China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation has launched a Smiling Children Program in Nepal, Myanmar and Ethiopia, and distributed food packages to hungry children in the three countries, and set up handwashing stations in Nepalese communities; children in Wuxi Children's Palace donated masks to people of Bosnia and Herzegovina with their pocket money; NGO volunteers went deep into markets, communities, and schools in 10 Cambodian provinces to carry out professional disinfections; Beijing Peaceland Foundation sent "Anti-epidemic Love Packages" to Lebanese refugee families; and related companies provided "cloud" medical consultation to people in remote communities abroad. CNIE also coordinated non-governmental forces to support overseas citizens in the fight against the epidemic through material donations and other means.

IV Non-Governmental International Cooperation in the Fight against the Epidemic Has Won Praise from Foreign People. On Cambodian social media, netizens left messages expressing their gratitude to the Blue Sky Rescue Team, and there were unanimous praise and thanks in the message column. Netizens left behind words of gratitude such as "Great China", "Thanks to Chinese friends", "China and Cambodia are in the same boat, we will win the fight against the epidemic", and "Truth Seen in Adversity." On the first day of the Burmese New Year, 20,000 people in Myanmar followed the online communication activities through the Burmese Facebook page of the Yangon Branch of Xinhua News Agency with 2.6 million fans. The Lao people were actively following CNIE's Material Donation Ceremony to Laos, and left messages and praises on new media platforms such as China Radio International, and left words of gratitude such as "Thank you, China", and "Truth Seen in Adversity."

Since the Joint Action was launched, more than 40 mainstream media at home and abroad have carried out extensive and active reports on it. People's Daily has repeatedly published special reports on it and also published touching stories of Non-Governmental International Cooperation in the fight against the epidemic. With practical actions, Chinese non-governmental forces have demonstrated to the world the Chinese philosophy and spirit in international anti-epidemic cooperation, and they have written a new chapter in building a community with a shared future for mankind.

(Translated by Li Junling)



# CFPD Carrying Out the Mission and Responsibilities of “Messenger of People-to-People Connectivity” and Participating in International Cooperation against COVID-19

Ge Lei

In 2020, as COVID-19 spread in the globe, China Foundation for Peace and Development (CFPD) actively responded to the Joint Action for Defeating the COVID-19 within the Framework of the Silk Road Community Building Initiative launched by China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE), gave full play to its own advantages, extensively communicated and coordinated, and actively participated in this anti-epidemic activity that crossed national borders. So far, the foundation has donated health protection supplies, such as masks, protective clothing, goggles, forehead thermometers, etc. to more than 20 countries including Italy, Spain,

Cambodia, Laos, Mongolia, Pakistan, Myanmar, Nepal, Japan, South Africa, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, and Cuba. Thus, it has provided assistance to people of the countries in fighting the epidemic, and has been widely praised.

## **I Mobilizing Multiple Forces and Joining Hands with Enterprises to Participate in International Anti-epidemic Actions.**

During the epidemic, CFPD relied on its own strength to find ways to raise funds and materials for the fight against the epidemic, and at the same time received strong support from various social resources



of the Joint Action for Defeating the COVID-19 within the Framework of the Silk Road Community Building Initiative launched by CNIE. Since the fight against the epidemic, caring companies such as Tencent Charity Foundation, Fudian Bank, China Poly Group Corporation Limited, Hangzhou Beingmate Industrial Co., Ltd., and Dongguan Weixuyuan Biotechnology Co., Ltd. have donated a total of about 16 million yuan to CFPD in funds and materials, and at the same time, CFPD launched a series of projects to help the global epidemic with its self-owned funds of 4 million yuan. CFPD launched a series of projects to help the global anti-epidemic efforts with its self-owned funds of 4 million yuan. CFPD strived to overcome difficulties such as insufficient staff, shortage of protective equipment supply, and restricted logistics, and used all the proceeds for material procurement with high quality and efficiency, so as to transform the support of the Chinese people into anti-epidemic support in the recipient countries in the shortest time.

## **II Actively Promoting, Participating in Exchanges and Sharing, and Conveying Confidence in Fighting the Epidemic.**

At the same time, CFPD also actively participated in the online exchanges and sharing sessions on epidemic prevention and control with Cambodia, Mongolia and other countries organized by CNIE. Secretary General Xu Jianguo attended the meeting and delivered a keynote speech, exchanging knowledge on epidemic prevention and control and sharing China's experience with representatives of other countries at the meeting. CFPD also cooperated with Zhongyu Power Culture Co., Ltd. to plan and launch a series of public welfare programs about China and the world fighting the epidemic together with the theme of "You and Me". Friendly people from 46 countries filmed videos to cheer for China

and the world. The total number of on-demand broadcasts has exceeded 10 million times, and mainstream media at home and abroad have widely reported the program.

## **III Giving Full Play to the Advantages of Overseas Offices, Overcoming Difficulties and Further Enhancing the Influence of CFPD**

CFPD currently has an office in Cambodia and a Myanmar office under preparation. During the epidemic, the Offices in Cambodia and Myanmar overcame numerous difficulties and coordinated with various parties to ensure the accurate and timely distribution of materials in Cambodia and Myanmar, which was highly praised and recognized by all sectors of the local community.

## **IV Giving Full Play to the Advantages of Partners to Ensure Accurate and Effective Anti-epidemic Work**

This international anti-epidemic action has received active cooperation of foreign partners. The foreign partners have provided timely feedback on the shortage and demand of foreign front-line materials, and solved the difficulties of information asymmetry at home and abroad, as well as information asymmetry between the supply and demand sides, so as to ensure that CFPD would deliver materials to the recipients quickly and efficiently while providing precise assistance. Viruses know no borders, epidemics do not distinguish between races, and mankind lives in a community with a shared future. CFPD is willing to unite and cooperate with all parties, work hand in hand to respond, fulfill the mission and responsibility of "Messenger of People-to-People Connectivity", and contribute to the early victory against the epidemic.

(Translated by Li Junling)

# Building a Community of Health for China and Myanmar Through Solidarity and Mutual Assistance

## 1. First impression of NGOs in Myanmar

On the early morning of January 8, 2020, as the staff of the Myanmar Office of the China Foundation for Peace and Development (CFPD), we flew to Yangon to embark on a new journey in Myanmar, on a mission to conduct in-depth cooperation and strengthen people-to-people connectivity between our two countries.

Since setting foot on Yangon, we have seen reports on the news of Chinese President Xi Jinping's upcoming visit to Myanmar through television networks, newspapers and magazines in Myanmar. While we were shopping in a supermarket, an elderly man cheerfully spoke to us in Chinese, and acted as a Burmese interpreter for us enthusiastically when we communicated with the salesperson. He told us that Myanmar was ready to welcome President Xi. To the new arrivals like us, the warmth and friendliness of the people of Myanmar showed us clearly that linked by mountains and rivers, the "paukphaw" friendship between China and Myanmar ran long and deep.

Soon after that, the Spring Festival was coming. The Chinatown was decorated with lanterns and colored ribbons, and flooded with people. Both the people of Myanmar and the overseas Chinese were immersed in the joyful festival atmosphere. However, an unexpected public health emergency is looming.

## 2. NGOs in Myanmar support China's anti-epidemic actions

After COVID-19 hit China, people from all walks of life in Myanmar immediately sent their sympathies and support. On February 3, Myanmar President U

Win Myint sent a message of sympathies to President Xi Jinping over the epidemic in China. U expressed confidence that under the leadership of President Xi, Chinese people will work together to overcome difficulties and successfully bring the epidemic under control. The Union Minister for International Cooperation and the chairman of the Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) U Kyaw Tin, told the Chinese side that Myanmar was willing to provide assistance to China within its capacity. Since then, Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi, the government, the military, China-Myanmar joint ventures, and NGOs expressed their sympathies and support for China. We were impressed by the cordiality and friendliness of people of all circles in Myanmar.

We were even more impressed by the solidarity and support from the ordinary people in Myanmar. In the bustling downtown of Yangon, the neon lights flash to the music, and the words "Stay strong, Wuhan!" and "Stay strong, China!" shine on the outer walls of large buildings. On TV, various videos showed the support of the people of Myanmar for China's fight against the pandemic. The drivers gave us the thumbs up and called out, "Stay strong, Wuhan!" and "Stay strong, China!". The people of Myanmar prayed for China in temples and churches. In a hotel in Naypyidaw, where President Xi Jinping stayed in while visiting Myanmar, the hotel clerks told us that they were proud to be the ones who received the Delegation of President Xi. Shoulder to shoulder, they waved their arms and called out



in Chinese, “Stay strong, Wuhan! Stay strong, China! Stay strong, China and Myanmar!”. CFPD aided the construction of many primary schools under the "Friends on the Silk Road" project. The teachers, students and their parents, and the villagers nearby shouted to us in unskilled Chinese, “Stay strong, Wuhan! Stay strong, China! Stay strong, the friendship between China and Myanmar!”. The Brightness Foundation of Myanmar, the Nay Education Foundation, the DawKhinKyi Foundation and many other partners in Myanmar have sent videos and messages of sympathies to us. In their videos and messages, China’s fight against the pandemic is fully recognized, China’s close cooperation with the international community, and scientific methods to prevent and control the disease swiftly and effectively are highly commended. They were looking forward with confidence to strengthening exchanges and cooperation with China in the future. These scenes were unforgettable and showed us clearly that the Paukphaw friendship between China and Myanmar is by no means only a slogan, but a strong bond reflected in every donation, every piece of material, every smiling face, every good wish, every concerned word. It is the very support and warmth that the people of Myanmar give to us in the time troubles.

### **3. NGOs in China rush to Myanmar’s aid to stem the epidemic**

Since March, various places and countries across the world, including Myanmar, have been plagued by the COVID-19 outbreak. We will go through hard times with concerted efforts. In the face of the pandemic, the idea of building a Community of Health for China and Myanmar has become a consensus and been put into action. Chinese people never forgot the help and solidarity from the people of Myanmar and rushed to Myanmar’s aid in the first place.

The NGOs in China took an active part in the China-Myanmar joint fight against COVID-19. In early March, the Myanmar Office of CFPD sent the Seventh Edition of Diagnosis and Treatment Plan for COVID-19 in both Chinese and English to local partners and social organizations. At that time, our friends in Myanmar were busy collecting and sorting out information about the pandemic. The comprehension and translation of the materials of China’s experience on the treatment for the COVID-19 is a big issue facing them. The English version of our Diagnosis and Treatment Plan was shared timely, and gave important reference to our friends in Myanmar. Soon, our partners in Myanmar disseminated the Diagnosis and Treatment Plan to many institutions, enterprises and the masses of people.

On April 17, the first day of the Myanmar New Year, under the guidance of the China NGO Network



for International Exchanges, the CFPD, the Beijing Peace and Foundation and the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor Cooperation and Development Council jointly organized the “China-Myanmar NGOs COVID-19 Pandemic Prevention and Control Online Conference”, under the “Joint Action for Defeating the COVID-19 Silk Road Community Building Initiative”. The Chinese side invited Dr. Wang Sujuan, an ICU doctor of Shanxi Hospital of Integrated Traditional and Western Medicine and one of the doctors of the first medical team dispatched from Shanxi to Hubei, to deliver a speech on diagnosis, treatment, prevention and control for the COVID-19 online. She also answered questions raised by the people of Myanmar. Nearly 200 people attended the Conference, including people from local governments, medical institutions, NGOs, Chinese enterprises in Myanmar, and representatives of overseas Chinese, international students, and media representatives. Nearly 30,000 local people watched the live broadcast of the Conference on Facebook. The participants from China and Myanmar exchanged greetings and blessings, actively took part in the discussions, and wished each other to gain an early victory in the fight against the pandemic.

On May 5, a batch of non-governmental assistance of medical protection materials worth more than \$750,000 arrived at Yangon. This batch of materials was donated by CFPD. Since April, our colleagues staying in China have begun to raise money, purchase materials, and arrange the logistics works. Countless people dedicated themselves in the whole process in the face of the raging pandemic, giving selfless love. The person in charge of receiving donations in the Myanmar Ministry of Health and Sports expressed his gratitude for China's assistance. He said that “the Chinese donation has boosted the confidence and courage of Myanmar medical staff to defeat the virus.” When receiving the donation, the person in charge in the Ministry of Education stated that China's donation has relieved the urgent need for the college entrance examination scoring work, as 900,000 students in Myanmar took the exam this year.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues raging across the world, we still need to work together to forge ahead. The medical protection materials donated by CFPD to NGOs in Myanmar will be delivered to Yangon in the near future.

In the joint fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, we saw many NGOs in China are in action. China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation (CFPA) in collaboration with local NGOs in Myanmar carried out the Smiling Children Program, which is aimed to help the families of poor students in Myanmar. The program provided rice and oil to families facing food shortage caused by the pandemic. The Yundi Behavior and Health Research Center in Kunming, Yunnan Province cooperated with local NGOs to share knowledge and protection tips about the pandemic with local people in Kachin State, northern Myanmar and other places, and to distribute goods and solve problems for the locals. NGOs in China carried out our domestic experiences about Community Engagement, Resource Integration, Joint Prevention and Control Mechanism forward, to actively provide Myanmar with urgently needed prevention and control materials, promoting trainings on pandemic prevention and control and poverty relief. They have provided timely and effective help for Myanmar's fight against the pandemic, and demonstrated that the long-standing paukphaw friendship between the two countries grew even stronger than before.

As President Xi Jinping said in his speech at the Virtual Event of the Opening of the 73rd World Health Assembly, “Mankind is a community with a shared future. Solidarity and cooperation is our most powerful weapon for defeating the virus.” Virus knows no borders or races. The good cooperation between NGOs in China and Myanmar in pandemic prevention and control is a true portrayal of the two sides' commitment to build a Community of Health for China and Myanmar.

(Contributed by the Myanmar Office of the CFPD)

Translated by Wang Linying



## ASidelightonBSR's Joint Anti-pandemic Efforts in Cambodia

At 7 pm on April 15, 2020, the third day of the Cambodian New Year holiday, the meeting room on the sixth floor of the Friendship Building where the Prime Minister's Office of Cambodia is located was ablazewithlight. Zhang Yaowu, Director of the Cambodia Office of the China Foundation for Peace and Development(CFPD), and Kemreat Viseth, Chairman of Cambodia's Civil Society Alliance Forum(CSAF), together with more than 10 people including leaders of various departments of the CSAF and representatives of the Ministry of Health, worked tirelessly to discuss the Blue Sky Rescue(BSR)'s work plan and details in Cambodia, formulate safety precautions and plans, and make meticulous arrangements and preparation for the upcoming 15-day disinfection and training



work carriedoutbytheBSRinCambodia. This is the third coordination meeting between China and Cambodia around the BSR in less than a month.

Soon after the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the China Charity Federation (CCF) and the BSR actively responded to the Joint Action for Defeating the COVID-19 within the Framework of the Silk Road Community Building Initiative, initiated by the China NGO Network for International Exchange (CNIE). They planned to bring to Cambodia via Laos disinfection equipment and

donated materials worth 1.28 million yuan, and help Cambodia with its fight against the pandemic. This reflects Chinese people's solicitude for the people of Cambodia and deep friendship with them. However, with the spread of the global pandemic, countries such as Cambodia and Laos have temporarily tightened their entry visa policies, making the BSR's plan to transit through Laos no longer feasible. Meanwhile, the number of flights between China and Cambodia has been drastically reduced, and the price of air tickets has skyrocketed. After many setbacks,

the BSR's plan to enter Cambodia was once stalled.

However, the Cambodia office of the CPDF did not shrink back from difficulties. Thanks to the careful coordination of the CNIE, the Cambodia Office of the CPDF further conveyed confidence with clarified

thoughts and attitudes. In response to every difficulty encountered by the BSR, it scaled up efforts to improve the communication and coordination between Chinese and Cambodian participants, and actively come up with ideas and adjustment measures, implementing the plans step by step.

On April 13, the Cambodia office urged the Cambodian side to give the BSR the green light for entry visas.

On April 15, the BSR was prompted to sign a

cooperation agreement with the CSAF.

On April 19, the fourth meeting was held with the leadership of the CSAF to revise and improve the BSR's work plan.

On April 22, the Cambodian side was prompted to formulate a security plan for the BSR, and it was determined that the Ministry of Internal Affairs would send 4 policemen as escort in the entire process.

On April 23, the BSR was prompted to sign a supplementary agreement with the CSAF to find a solution for donated materials to enter Cambodia.

On April 25, the Cambodia office coordinated with the China Eastern Airlines' office in Cambodia to reserve cheap round-trip tickets for the BSR to reduce work costs.

On April 27th, it assisted the BSR in resolving matters related to vehicles, accommodation, and catering.

On April 28, staff from the office went to the airport to greet the BSR and assisted in customs formalities for personnel and accompanying materials.

On April 29, the Cambodia office coordinated with the Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Cambodia to give condolence to the BSR.

April in Cambodia was scorching, with the temperature often reaching 40 degrees Celsius, but it was the busiest month for the Cambodia office.

As the May 4th handover ceremony of donated materials approached, an accident occurred again. Due to Vietnam Customs' reinforced inspection efforts, the delivery of donated materials originally scheduled for May 2nd was postponed, and the freight didn't arrive in Phnom Penh until the early morning of May 4th. Director Zhang Yaowu contacted a Chinese-funded company and borrowed two large trucks to pick up the goods at a cargo yard outside Phnom Penh. At the same time, he asked the logistics company to speed up shipping and send additional staff to handle the shipment procedures overnight. At 1 o'clock in the morning on May

4th, two people from the office went straight to the Phnom Penh cargo yard more than ten kilometers away, counted the materials, and directed the loading process. At 5 o'clock in the morning, the two men escorted the vehicles and transported the materials to the site of the handover ceremony in the Cambodian Prime Minister's Office. The Chairman of the CSAF Kemreut Viseth said passionately that the Cambodia office of the CFPD's proactive, timely and efficient efforts "made the impossible possible."

At 8 o'clock in the morning on May 4, as part of the Silk Road Community Building Initiative's non-governmental joint anti-pandemic action, the handover ceremony of materials was held as scheduled at the Friendship Building of the Prime Minister's Office of Cambodia. Local mainstream media and Chinese-language paper media, as well as Chinese media outlets in Cambodia all carried out the interview and reported on this event. They spoke highly of the aid of Chinese non-governmental organizations in Cambodia, believing that this reflected the brotherly friendship between the Chinese and Cambodian people. The news of the BSR went viral in various media and further deepened the understanding and friendship between the two peoples.

Sharing weal and woe is the core of the China-Cambodia community with a shared future. In face of hardships, the CNIE, the Cambodia Office of the CFPD, and the BSR spared no effort in helping the Cambodian brothers, and worked with them to cope with the crisis, significantly enhancing the friendly exchanges between China and Cambodia. The key to sound relations between states lies in amity between the people, and the key to amity between the people lies in heart-to-heart exchanges. The earnest and tangible work of Chinese non-governmental organizations will not stop and will continue to bring people of all countries closer to each other.

(Contributed by the Cambodia Office of the CFPD)

Translated by Xiong Yonghang

## China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation Has Actively Participated in International Cooperation against COVID-19

Wu Peng



In response to the Joint Action for Defeating the COVID-19 within the Framework of the Silk Road Community Building Initiative launched by China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE), China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation (CFPA) launched its international anti-epidemic action on March 27.

By June 17, CFPA had raised and adjusted a total of 6.2725 million yuan in international funds, including 454,500 yuan in new donations and 5.818 million yuan in adjusted project funds. The international anti-epidemic projects were mainly divided into three

categories, namely, the Community Anti-epidemic Hand-washing Station Project in Nepal, the Smiling Children Program (Food Distribution) and the Online Sharing of Anti-epidemic Experience between China and Foreign Countries. At the same time, CFPA also actively upgraded its International Panda Pack Program, adding sanitary products and anti-epidemic knowledge to the package, in an effort to contribute to the international fight against the epidemic.

Community Anti-epidemic Hand-washing Station Project in Nepal

On March 28, the Nepal office of China Foundation

for Poverty Alleviation launched the Community Health Project in Nepal together with its partner SSN. By June 17, 234 hand-washing stations had been set up, including 127 in Kathmandu, 46 in the second province and 61 in the third province. Hand-washing stations were mainly set up in police stations, public hospitals, poor and vulnerable communities, tourist attractions and other places, and posters were posted to publicize health and epidemic prevention knowledge such as prevention of virus transmission, home isolation, self-protection, etc., so as to enhance awareness and ability of epidemic prevention in poor and vulnerable communities in Nepal and reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection.

#### Smiling Children Program (Food Distribution)

Smiling Children Program (Food Distribution) helps children grow up healthily by feeding or distributing food to starving children in developing countries. Normally, the project provided meals, with schools as a unit. In order to alleviate the actual difficulties faced by the beneficiaries of the Smile Children Program, CFPA adjusted the implementation mode of the Smile Children Program in due time and changed the mode of school feeding into the mode of food distribution, so as to help the beneficiary children tide over the difficulties and alleviate the hunger of children to the greatest extent. As of June 17, the project has collected and adjusted funds for the Smiling Children Program (Food Distribution), and planned to distribute food packages to about 15,000 children benefiting from the project in Ethiopia, Nepal and Myanmar. So far, the program has officially launched in these three countries, and

7,617 food packages have been distributed in total.

#### Online Sharing Project of Chinese and Foreign Anti-epidemic Experience

In order to enhance the exchange of experience with non-governmental organizations in developing countries, CFPA has actively participated in and organized online anti-epidemic experience sharing activities at home and abroad. On April 30, CFPA, China NGO Network for International Exchanges and other social organizations, organized an online conference on China-Ethiopia NGO COVID-19 Pandemic Prevention and Control Online Communication and Exchange, and invited the Government representatives from Ethiopian Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs, the Administration of Social Organizations, and the Institute of Public Health and representatives of more than ten Ethiopian non-governmental organizations to attend the meeting. On May 19, Wang Xingzui, Executive Vice Chairman, participated in "the Role of NGO Forces--from International Cooperation in Anti-epidemic to International Public Health Governance System" online exchange meeting organized by China NGO Network for International Exchanges and gave a speech. On May 30, with the support of the Chinese Embassy in Nepal, CFPA and the Association of Chinese and Overseas Chinese in Nepal organized a China---Nepal epidemic prevention and control online exchange meeting. More than 240 Chinese and overseas Chinese in Nepal participated in the meeting.

(Translated by Li Junling)

## **Critical Care Medicine Branch of Chinese Medical Association Providing International Assistance During the Pandemic**

Guan Xiangdong

It has been several months since COVID-19 hit the world, and the number of confirmed cases has been on the rise. China has resolutely shouldered the responsibility of a major country. Under the scourge of the epidemic that wreaked havoc on human beings and killed people, medical workers fought against the epidemic every second. A team of professionals of Critical Care Medicine were often seen standing on the death line and fighting the virus in a life-and-death contest, who played an irreplaceable role during the epidemic. Six experts in the Critical Care Medicine Branch of the Chinese Medical Association have successively assisted Pakistan, Russia, Italy, Iraq and other countries, and published nearly 30 researches and reports related to severe COVID-19 patients internationally. At the same time, a support platform for critically ill patients with severe COVID-19 was quickly established in more than 40 countries including United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, and France, through video conferences, online communication, etc. and provided global medical staff with rich experience and data from China for critically ill patients as the



epidemic spread.

On April 11, according to the arrangements of the National Health Commission and the Health Commission of Heilongjiang Province, Zhao Mingyan, director of Department of Critical Care Medicine of the First Affiliated Hospital of Harbin Medical University, went to Russia at the invitation of the Russia as a key member of the expert group to provide critical support for COVID-19 prevention and control on behalf of China. Previously Zhao Mingyan had been working in the COVID-19 Intensive Care Center in Heilongjiang Province for more than 40 days. Before leaving, she combed her precious treatment experience overnight. After



arriving in Moscow, she shared and discussed with Russian medical staff the treatment process of severe and critical COVID-19 patients in China. When a Russian doctor approached her and said “China, friendly neighbor” in clumsy Chinese, Zhao Mingyan was very excited. At that moment, she felt that China’s mission and sentiments as a great nation in this epidemic were deserving the praise of the people of the world, and she was proud of her contribution to shared human destiny of breathing together and sharing adversity at this critical moment.

In a military guesthouse in Rawalpindi, Pakistan, Zhou Feihu, the leader of the expert team, the former director of the Department of Critical Care Medicine of the General Hospital of the People’s Liberation Army, and who had supported the fight against Ebola in West Africa, has heard about many times the essentials of how to put on and take off protective clothing. He believed that despite all the battles during the epidemic, one still had to remember the most familiar operating procedures before going to the battlefield. This was not only about the rigor of the soldiers, but also about the lives of all members. Medical staff infection and death occurred in several Pakistan fixed-point treated hospitals. Though Pakistan has reported infections of medical staff, China was able to help Pakistan optimize the prevention and control process, protect Pakistani medical staff, and strive to start work on the basis of zero infection with her rich experience.

For more than 50 days after the fight against the epidemic, the Chinese expert team was ordered to go there though in great danger. As the only critical care medicine expert in the medical team, what XuYonghao felt most deeply was on the way to the

Kurdish Autonomous Region of Iraq (referred to as Kurdish Region). The roadside villages were bombed by artillery fire. He was wearing a bulletproof vest and a guard car escorted the road. The situation along the way was tense. When he arrived in Kurdish Region, XuYonghao had no time to relax. In addition to sharing and exchanging experience with local medical staff in the treatment of critically ill COVID-19 patients with local medical staff, he also had a very important task to teach Chinese companies about the prevention and control of COVID-19. When one was in a foreign country and the global epidemic was extremely severe, XuYonghao brought not only professional advice on epidemic prevention and control, but also the concern and greetings from the people of motherland, which made the compatriots in the foreign country more confident to overcome the epidemic. Through experience sharing and knowledge dissemination, the government of Kurdish Region expressed its confidence to win the battle of epidemic prevention and control and to improve the shortcomings as soon as possible, thanking China for its support at the critical stage of the epidemic.

Under the grim international situation and when the community with a shared future for mankind is threatened, no one person or country can stay immune. China’s responsibility as a major country and the spirit of a major country in the COVID-19 epidemic are obvious to all. It is precisely because of such a country that we have the courage and dedication of the Chinese Experts of Critical Care Medicine.

(Translated by Li Junling)

## **China Family Planning Association's International Cooperation in Fighting against COVID-19**

Hong Ping & Du Lili

Many places around the world have been hit by the COVID-19 outbreak. China Family Planning Association has actively responded to the Joint Action for Defeating the COVID-19 within the Framework of the Silk Road Community Building Initiative launched by China NGO Network for International Exchanges, and actively carried out international humanitarian assistance.

Up to now, China Family Planning Association has

taken the initiative to contact more than 20 friendly partners, and after soliciting opinions and suggestions from relevant agencies, it signed donation agreements with family planning associations or medical institutions in 10 countries including Pakistan, Thailand, Japan, Egypt, Morocco, and Iran, and donated anti-epidemic materials to 8 countries worth nearly 3 million yuan.

The COVID-19 epidemic in China has been quickly



controlled in a short period of time, attracting more attention from the international community. China Family Planning Association collected timely the anti-epidemic experience, multilingual anti-epidemic brochures, promotional materials, etc. released in China, and took an active part in regional and global network of international meetings, sharing anti-epidemic experience with the international organizations, especially introducing the measures taken by China Family Planning Association to protect the reproductive health, women's health and maternal health during the outbreak. In addition, China Family Planning Association has held online classes, provided lectures on parent-child communication and adolescent reproductive health, and opened a psychological counseling hotline, which has alleviated family conflicts and pressure, and promoted family harmony. At the same time, it introduced the role of China Family Planning Association as a group organization that gave full play to the advantages of the grassroots network, and the role it played in participating in social governance, carrying out group prevention and control work, and helping the resumption of work, production, and school.

International friendly partners and recipient countries

have expressed their gratitude to China Family Planning Association. Pakistani Ambassador to China Nagamana Hashmi expressed her deep gratitude to the Chinese Family Planning Association for its material assistance. The ambassador said that China and Pakistan are All-weather Strategic Cooperative Partners, and the friendship between the two countries has stood the test of time. Both countries are populous countries and she hoped to strengthen practical cooperation in population development and family planning in the future. Thai Ambassador Atayal said that in the future, Thai Embassy in China would like to assist China Family Planning Association in increasing the cooperation and exchanges between China and Thailand in the field of population development and health promotion. Alvaro Bermejo, Director-General of International Family Planning Federation, sent a letter of thanks, stating that two-thirds of the global member associations have suspended or reduced sexual and reproductive health services due to the epidemic, and the selfless help of China Family Planning Association would help family planning associations in various countries stay on the front line and provide services during the epidemic.

(Translated by Li Junling)

## Overseas Chinese Charity Foundation of China Participated in International Cooperation of Epidemic Prevention and Control

Wu Lan

Overseas Chinese Charity Foundation of China (OCCFC) has actively responded to the Joint Action for Defeating the COVID-19 within the Framework of the Silk Road Community Building Initiative launched by China NGO Network for International Exchanges, joined hands with overseas Chinese and local Federations of Returned Overseas Chinese, and actively carried out activities to help overseas Chinese fight COVID-19, and made efforts to help and warm overseas Chinese.

Supporting Overseas Chinese and Students in Fighting the Epidemic

OCCFC has made a targeted donation of RMB 9,761,500 to the Federations of Returned Overseas Chinese and relevant units in 30 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities to carry out the project of “Overseas Chinese Love Health



Package”. According to incomplete statistics, relevant units have sent more than 20,000 “Overseas Chinese Love Health Package” to overseas Chinese and students, involving more than 50 countries, Hong Kong and Macao. According to the request of the Foreign Ministry, OCCFC has arranged a targeted donation of RMB 2 million to assist the overseas in fighting against COVID-19 through our embassies and consulates. Targeted donations were made through the local Federations of Returned Overseas Chinese to help overseas Chinese fight the epidemic.

So far, about 4.52 million yuan has been donated to the Philippines, Spain, Italy, Serbia, Germany, Myanmar, Laos, Russia and other countries through the Federations of Returned Overseas Chinese of Fujian, Zhejiang, Yunnan, Heilongjiang Province and Yihai Public Charity Foundation in Beijing.

OCCFC worked with enterprises to donate materials to support overseas Chinese in fighting the epidemic. OCCFC, together with Suzhou Yaochen New Materials Co., Ltd. , donated quarantine clothes worth RMB 690,000 to Iranian Epidemic Prevention and Control Command Center through the Iranian Consulate General in Shanghai.

OCCFC, together with World Federation of Acupuncture-Moxibustion Societies and Shijiazhuang Yiling Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd, donated 1600 boxes of Lianhua Qingwen Capsules to overseas Chinese in Egypt, about 1600 pieces in total, through the Egyptian Association of Overseas Chinese. OCCFC, together with World Federation of Acupuncture-Moxibustion Societies and Beijing Taiyang Shukang Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd, donated 1000 pieces of Preventive No.1 Chinese Herbal Tea Substitute and 1000 pieces of moxibustion. It was transported to Thailand through members of All-China Federation of Returned Overseas Chinese, and was donated by the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce to local overseas Chinese.

The Traditional Chinese Medicine worth 160,000 yuan donated by Chaoyang District Federation of Returned Overseas Chinese, Beijing, and the protective masks and gloves donated by other caring

enterprises were packaged into 2000 “Overseas Chinese Love Health Package”, which were mailed to overseas Chinese communities, overseas Chinese and students in need by the families of returned overseas Chinese and overseas Chinese students. OCCFC, together with the Egyptian Association of Overseas Chinese, coordinated Tianqi Huiyan Beijing Information Technology Co. , Ltd. and the Egyptian Ministry of Health to sign a charitable donation agreement, and donated Tianqi COVID-19 Artificial Intelligence CT Rapid Assistance Diagnosis System to major anti-epidemic hospitals in Egypt for free. The system was mainly used to assist clinicians in the rapid diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19.

Carrying Out Humanistic Care and Making Efforts in Comforting Overseas Chinese and Students

OCCFC provided assistance in “I Will Volunteer Joint Action”. The “I Will Volunteer Joint Action” aimed to sum up the experience of “Three Teachers (doctors, psychologists and social workers) in China”, and helped overseas Chinese fight the epidemic through popularization of epidemic prevention knowledge, online consultation and community guidance. So far, the Joint Action has joined 200 volunteers at home and abroad to provide psychological support, health counseling and services of popularization of epidemic prevention knowledge to more than 5,000 overseas compatriots around the world. The Action Guide for Overseas Chinese against COVID-19 has also been launched.

(Translated by Li Junling)



# **World Federation of Acupuncture-Moxibustion Societies Participated in International Fight against the Epidemic**

Liu Jingyuan

Since the outbreak of COVID-19, World Federation of Acupuncture-Moxibustion Societies (WFAS) has actively responded to the Joint Action for Defeating the COVID-19 within the Framework of the Silk Road Community Building Initiative launched by China NGO Network for International Exchanges, made full use of the advantages of the international organization platform, and made efforts to promote, introduce and share China's experience in fighting the epidemic, especially the application and role of TCM acupuncture in the fight against the epidemic, guiding 246 group members in more than 60 countries to carry out epidemic prevention and control work, using TCM to create a solid line of defense to safeguard the health of people of the world.

## **I Building a Communication Platform to Share the Experience of TCM in Fighting the Epidemic with the World**

WFAS has organized more than 10 international online consultations, including the "China's Integrated Traditional Chinese and Western Medicine Expert Group and SCO National Hospital COVID-19 Video Diagnosis Conference". China's

Integrated Chinese and Western Medicine Experts have connected experts from health departments, hospital leaders and doctors from more than 20 countries including Iran, Italy, Tajikistan, Armenia, etc. to introduce TCM experience in preventing and treating COVID-19, learned about the symptoms of local patients with COVID-19, and gave online TCM treatment plans.

The International Lectures on COVID-19 of WFAS both in English and Chinese have been held 29 times so far. More than 200,000 people from more than 60 countries and regions listened to the lecture online, and over a million people played back, forwarded, and commented on it. Two or three times a week, nearly 50 academicians of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Chinese Academy of Engineering, including Tong Xiaolin, Zhang Boli, Wang Qi and Huang Luqi, as well as leading experts and international experts, held lectures to publicize TCM anti-epidemic plans and share China's experience in epidemic prevention and control and clinical treatment with overseas colleagues. WFAS also set up an international team of translator volunteers to translate expert speeches into English, Spanish, French and other languages in time.



WFAS has repeatedly connected group members in need from more than 30 countries including France, Spain, Belgium, Poland, Serbia, the Philippines, Australia, Brazil, and Argentina to understand the epidemic prevention and control situation and needs of each country, and fully introduced the positive role of TCM in the prevention and control of the epidemic, and gave specific guidance on the treatment plan of TCM and acupuncture for COVID-19.

## **II Carrying out Assistance to Demonstrate the Power of People-to-People Connectivity in Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM)**

WFAS has actively carried out international assistance work, organizing members of international organizations and relevant enterprises and institutions to donate funds, masks, acupuncture and moxibustion equipment, traditional Chinese medicine, herbal tea substitute and other materials to Egypt, Thailand, Mauritius, Germany, Ecuador and Mali.

## **III Issuing International Initiatives to Promote the Participation of TCM in the Global Fight against COVID-19**

WFAS actively promoted the World Health Organization (WHO) meeting “on the Role of Traditional Medicine in the COVID-19 Epidemic”, and experts from more than 20 national traditional medicine cooperation centers and health authorities attended the meeting. WFAS submitted a written statement calling for “Enhancing the Role of Traditional Medicine in the Fight against the COVID-19 Epidemic” to the 73rd World Health Assembly.

## **IV Organizing Scientific Research to Provide Scientific Basis for TCM to Participate in the Fight against the Epidemic**

Efforts should be made to unite and call on international practitioners of TCM, acupuncture and moxibustion and to mobilize all the members to actively carry out “Data Management and Diagnosis and Treatment Mode Research of TCM Intervention in the Recovery Period of COVID-19” and other clinical scientific research, so as to provide scientific basis for TCM’s in-depth participation in the global fight against COVID-19.

(Translated by Li Junling)

## **HelpingRefugees to Tide Over the Difficulties Together**

Wang Ke

In March 2020, Zhan Weizhen, a Chinese volunteer in Lebanon office of Beijing PeacelandFoundation, was providing humanitarian assistance to Syrian refugees fleeing the war.

The COVID-19 spread to Lebanon, and the prevention and control of the epidemic has become the most urgent task in Lebanon.Zhan thought that since the epidemic prevention and control in China has been effective, and China’s experience in fighting the epidemic would be of somet help to the local community. The idea was immediately embraced by several local partners. “We have received a lot of information about COVID-19 prevention and control from different agencies, but we don’t know which one to believe, people are interested in the experience of Chinese doctors,” social worker Hannadie told Zhan. Zhan immediately informed her domestic colleagues and contacted several domestic experienced doctors. On March 22, through online remote training and sharing, doctors presented their

experience in prevention, treatment and diagnosis of COVID-19 to dozens of refugee relief organizations, community workers and doctors in Lebanon. The results of the training were remarkable, and the Lebanese partners who participated in the training raised many frontline questions about fighting the epidemic and received satisfactory answers.

With the impact of prevention and control measures such as the national blockade in Lebanon, the basic livelihood of the refugees has become a problem, and Zhan began to consider providing living supplies for the refugees. However, the local area was already in short supply. When Zhan was worried, local people heard that Chinese volunteers would provide living assistance to the refugees and helped Zhan find channels to purchase food such as grains and oils, disinfectants, hand sanitizers and other epidemic prevention supplies. Because many places in Lebanon have been blocked, no one is allowed to enter the refugee camps without special



permission from the government. Social worker Nadia volunteered to tell Zhan: “I will help contact the government. I believe they will welcome Chinese friends.” While Zhan waited anxiously for news, the local government allowed supplies from Chinese volunteers to enter the camp.

As word spread that Chinese volunteers were distributing supplies to refugee camps, several social workers including Aya, who had participated in online training before, approached Zhan and offered assistance in distributing supplies. On April 20, Zhan and her partners drove a truck full of living and anti-epidemic supplies to the No. 64 refugee camp on the Lebanese-Syrian border through a rough road. A few children looked at Zhan and said curiously

“Korean, Korean” in Arabic. Zhan smiled and said to them “Ana Sine” in Arabic (I am Chinese). Zhan and her friends went door to door to deliver supplies to the refugees. The local mayor also came personally upon hearing the news. He said to Zhan: “I am very grateful to Chinese public welfare organizations for being able to stand with Lebanon and refugees at this time and provide these valuable help.” On the way back, social worker Aya told Zhan that she was very happy to be able to provide such tangible help to refugees with Chinese volunteers. Zhan told her that there were still many Chinese volunteers supporting the global fight against the epidemic in various forms.

(Translated by Li Junling)

## The Story of Amity Foundation Supporting Shibuya District, Tokyo, Japan

Huang Jieyu

“The surgical masks from Amity come quickly and in time. It is truly heartwarming!” said Hasebe Ken with sincerity, the Warden of Shibuya City, when many a box of surgical masks from Amity were sent to Shibuya City, Tokyo, Japan.

Faced with the increasingly severe global COVID-19 epidemic, China has chosen to join hands with other countries in the world to fight the epidemic. China's NGO network are also actively responding to the call of the concept of a community with a shared future for mankind, and extend a helping hand to foreign friends in the spirit of humanitarianism.

At the end of March, 2020, the Amity Foundation donated 10,000 surgical masks and 50,000 disposable masks to Shibuya City, Tokyo, Japan. This was the first batch of overseas supplies for epidemic prevention and control by the Amity Foundation. It only took 5 days from the assembly to the opening of logistics channels and to the final distribution:

Packing was completed on March 23; it departed from Nanjing on the 25th and arrived in Tokyo, Japan on the same day; and on the 27th, it had been distributed in succession to local medical staff, the elderly and the disabled...

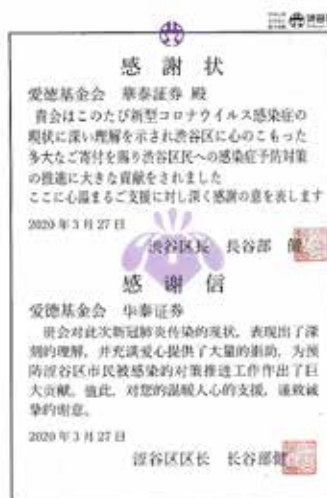
Honorary citizen of Shibuya City, Tokyo and former

table tennis world champion Ms. Kimiyo Matsuzaki was commissioned by the Amity Foundation to receive and coordinate the distribution of supplies. She said: “last October, I was invited to participate in the Second ‘Amity Cup’ Table Tennis Charity Tournament. I was deeply impressed by the pragmatic and efficient style of Amity. Since then, I hoped to promote the friendly exchanges between China and Japan with Amity.”

In order to distribute the supplies in time, Ms. Kimiyo Matsuzaki, over 80 years old, after receiving the supplies, made relevant preparations early: she contacted Shibuya City Doctors' Association to learn about the “epidemic” situation, and conducted demand surveys on local welfare institutions such as nursing home and nursery... When the supplies arrived, she organized and coordinated the distribution of masks in the first place according to the results of preliminary investigation. She said: “it is very important to help each other when in trouble. Shibuya City is in dire need

of masks recently. This batch of masks make me feel the friendship from China and I will try my best to organize the distribution as quickly as possible.”

(Translated by Li Junling)





## Guangxi Will Always Be Your Strongest Backup: The Story of Guangxi Overseas Chinese Kind Foundation's Aid to Overseas Chinese from Guilin in Fighting against COVID-19

Wei Zhongda

On April 22, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Federation of Returned Overseas Chinese and Guangxi Overseas Chinese Kind Foundation held the donation ceremony of “Overseas Chinese Love Health Package” in Nanning. The first batch of 400 health kits was sent from Guangxi to overseas Chinese and students from Guangxi in countries with severe epidemic.

The spread of the epidemic abroad has affected the work and life of overseas Chinese and students from Guangxi. In response to the call of All-China Federation of Returned Overseas Chinese to support overseas Chinese in their fight against COVID-19, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Federation of Returned Overseas Chinese has given full play to its role as a bridge between the Party and the government to connect returned Overseas Chinese and their families with overseas Chinese, with the safety of overseas Chinese in mind, and has made



efforts in stabilizing, assisting and warming overseas Chinese.

Guangxi Overseas Chinese Kind Foundation has stepped up contact with Federation of Returned

Overseas Chinese and overseas Chinese communities in various cities, and collected information about 500 people in need of help, i.e. overseas Chinese and students from Guangxi from 21 countries and regions in 4 continents, including Thailand, Cambodia, Malaysia, Singapore, Australia, New Zealand, Denmark, Germany, France, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Canada. It also purchased masks and medicines promptly, and at the same time worked closely with customs, logistics companies and other units to speed up the delivery of materials.

“Her wandering son travels a thousand miles, the mother worries from day to day. No matter when and where, we and you, our blood is always thicker than water. We share the same breath, the same destiny, we are heart to heart, and we stand together to tide over difficulties....” This was a family letter in the “Overseas Chinese Love Health Package”. It was a special gift for the overseas Chinese and students from Guangxi prepared by the Guangxi Overseas Chinese Kind Foundation. Considering that overseas Chinese and students were living in a complex environment, lack of security and psychologically

stressed, we hoped this greeting from hometown could relieve their nervousness and encourage them to build confidence in fighting the epidemic. In addition, the family letter also included precautions for epidemic prevention and control.

On April 30, the second batch of 100 “Overseas Chinese Love Health Package” was also packaged and shipped from Nanning to United States, Canada, Spain, Germany and other countries.

During the epidemic, Guangxi Overseas Chinese Kind Foundation donated a total of 500 “Overseas Chinese Love Health Package” to overseas Chinese, each kit containing 100 disposable protective masks, a box of Lianhua Qingwen Capsule and a letter full of family affection.

Small was the health package, it was filled with deep care and yearning of people in Guangxi Zhuang Region for overseas folks. The health package of affection, with a letter of caring words brought us close to each other; just like the blessing in the family letter-----our friendship would last long though thousands of miles afar.

(Translated by Li Junling)

# Cloud Dialogues: Weaving a Network of COVID-19 Prevention and Control along the Belt & Road: Serial Activities under Silk Road NGO Cooperation Network

Wang Yixiao

The Silk Road NGO Cooperation Network (hereinafter referred to as ‘SIRONET’) was established in 2017 under the auspices of China NGO Network for International Exchanges in response to the initiative of President Xi Jinping at the first Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation and is currently comprised of 352 organizations from home and abroad.

Since March 2020, the Secretariat of SIRONET has hosted a series of COVID-19 prevention and control online dialogues with both Chinese and foreign member organizations with the aim to share professional and practical information about COVID-19 containment. Themed on COVID-19 prevention, control and diagnosis, these events invited frontline medical workers from one of the Hubei medical teams, TCM practitioners, psychologists and maternal and infant health professionals to share Chinese experience with political leaders, NGOs, think tanks, medical

institutions and ordinary people from the Belt and Road countries. As of now, 11 events have been broadcasted or live streamed, covering over 30 Belt and Road countries, some 400 organizations and tens of thousands of ordinary people.

Fruitful results have been scored thanks to the Secretariat’s innovative arrangement, its cooperation

with other participants and efforts to reach more people. On April 17, the Water Splashing Day in Myanmar, China-Myanmar COVID-19 Pandemic Prevention and Control Online Dialogue was hosted and was welcomed by the Myanmar



people who were staying at home. Xinhua News Agency Yangon Bureau live streamed the event via its Facebook. The event has received over 20,000 viewers and thousands of likes. The China-Egypt online dialogue was held on April 24, the first day of Ramadan. It invited a medical expert to talk about the use of both TCM and western medicine

in the treatment of COVID-19 and cleared up some misunderstanding about TCM. China Radio International's branch radio station in Egypt has live-streamed the event on its Facebook account and had nearly 30000 views and 3000 likes. On April 30, China-Ethiopia online dialogue kicked off and psychologist from Peking Union Medical College Hospital introduced mental health therapy during home quarantine. Leaders from the governing party of Ethiopia and representatives from nearly ten international organizations took part in the event. On May 10, the International Mother's Day, China-South Africa COVID-19 prevention and control dialogue was held under the theme of 'maternal and infant health management during the pandemic', with many African NGOs participating in the event. On May 19, China-Mongolia online dialogue was held on the topic of 'domestic transmission of inbound cases', a topic highly concerned by the two countries. The Mongolian Department of Asian African Center of China Media Group also broadcasted pandemic-related knowledge to the Mongolian people. Besides, experts from social organizations in Inner-Mongolia exchanged views over 'the role of Traditional Mongolian Medicine in the fight against the COVID-19', which was welcomed by the audience. The China-Philippines dialogue was hosted on May 29, centering around the resumption of work and production under regular pandemic prevention and control measures and gained fruitful results. Nearly a hundred NGOs from 15 countries and regions attended the event. On June 14, China-Peru online dialogue was convened with frontline medical workers from Wuhan introducing prevention and control measures in communities. Experts of China's overseas medical team also provided suggestions on Peru's containment of the pandemic and gained approval from the Peruvian side. Through constant innovative arrangement, the serial activities witnessed growing impact and reputation.

Apart from the 'cloud dialogues', the Secretariat

also sent 'online health packages' to its member organizations, so as to further promote Chinese experience on the pandemic. This digitalized health packages contain relevant information in forms of both texts and videos for popularizing science and are able to meet the needs of children, mothers and other groups of people. It has received a good deal of likes since its release: 'the design of the health packages is both creative and practical', said Midhuam Saud, Vice-Chairman of Maldives China Trade and Cultural Organization, after receiving the health package.

Online information sharing has become an important way for countries around the world to jointly fight the COVID-19 pandemic. By exchanging information through the 'cloud', more and more Chinese best practices and experience are going global. The Secretariat is proactively building the brand of 'cloud dialogue' and launching series of online dialogues to weave a COVID-19 prevention and control network among people of different countries.

### **China-Lebanon COVID-19 Prevention and Control Online Dialogue**

On March 20, the Secretariat of SIRONET and Beijing Peaceland Foundation co-organized the China-Lebanon COVID-19 Prevention and Control Online Dialogue. Over 40 social service providers working with refugees and medical workers from clinics in refugee communities participated the event.

Doctor Li Ziling, Chief Physician of the Respiratory Department of Shanghai Minhang TCM Hospital, Doctor Liu Xiaolu, Attending Physician of the ICU of Shanghai Minhang TCM Hospital, and doctors from the frontline medical team in Wuhan shared relevant information, including the symptoms, the incubation period, the imaging characteristics of the virus, ways of disinfection in public spaces, how to deal with suspect cases and prevention measures in refugee camps and so forth, introduced the treatment

of some cases and answered questions from the audience about home quarantine, medical treatment, psychotherapy, etc.

According to report, Lebanon has a population of 6 million and is home to 470,000 registered Palestinian refugees, together with one million Syrian refugees. Those refugees are densely populated in the refugee camps. The poor medical and health condition might easily accelerate the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

‘We hope that the Chinese experience could offer ideas for NGOs in Lebanon and help Lebanese people and refugees in Lebanon in our fight against the pandemic’, said Mr. Liu Zhihua, Executive Secretary of the Beijing Peaceland Foundation, in his conclusion remarks.

### **China-Nepal COVID-19 Prevention and Control Online Dialogue**

On March 28, the Secretariat of SIRONET, Beijing Peaceland Foundation, Rainbow Volunteer Club and Arniko Society co-hosted the China-Nepal COVID-19 Prevention and Control Online Dialogue, inviting nearly 100 participants, including medical workers from 26 medical institutions in Nepal and professionals from 6 NGOs.

Chen Mi, Director of the Liaison Department of Rainbow Volunteer Club, presided over the conference. Doctor Li Ziling, Chief Physician of the Respiratory Department of Shanghai Minhang TCM Hospital, Doctor Liu Xiaolu, Attending Physician of the ICU of Shanghai Minhang TCM Hospital, and Niu Yanjin, frontline medical worker in Wuhan, shared their experience for two hours over the diagnosis and prevention of COVID-19.

According to report, the Nepal government has introduced nationwide lockdown measures since March 24 to stop the virus from spreading. The local medical institutions lack experience in pandemic prevention and control, so many medical workers

are not fully prepared in the face of the outbreak. This online conference has then provided relevant information for the audience in Nepal in a timely manner.

Mr. Sarbottam Shrestha, President of Arniko Society, introduced in the conclusion remarks the efforts made by NGOs in Nepal in the prevention and control efforts against the pandemic and expressed the wish of using Chinese experience after this online conference to better contain the virus in Nepal.

### **China-Cambodia COVID-19 Prevention and Control Online Dialogue**

On April 10, the Secretariat of SIRONET, Beijing Peaceland Foundation, China Foundation for Peace and Development and Cambodia's Civil Society Alliance Forum co-launched the China-Cambodia COVID-19 Prevention and Control Online Dialogue.

Dr. Wang Sujuan, Associate Chief Physician of Intensive Care Unit of Shanxi Hospital of Integrated Traditional and Western Medicine, Niu Jinyan, nurse practitioner of Shanxi Bethune Hospital, partook in the event and expounded on the diagnosis and prevention of COVID-19. Nearly 100 participants from Cambodian NGOs, medical institutions, Chinese enterprises in Cambodia and the media, as well as Chinese overseas and students in Cambodia, attended the conference. The speakers were among the first batch of the medical experts dispatched to Hubei Province and were responsible for the screening of suspect cases, diagnosis and nursing





of the patients in Xiantao. At the conference, they shared their frontline practices and experience and answered the questions from the audience.

Mr. Kim Rithviseth, Chairman of the Cambodia's Civil Society Alliance Forum, said that, currently, the COVID-19 pandemic is spreading around the world and no one is immune to it. In the past few months, China has successfully contained the virus, accumulated rich experience, sent medical experts and donated medical equipment to help Cambodia in its fight against the pandemic. He extended his appreciation for the help from China. Under the guidance of Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen, Cambodia's Civil Society Alliance Forum will mobilize and unite the NGOs in Cambodia to jointly combat the virus with NGOs from China, so as to protect people's health, ensure social stability, and contribute our share in promoting world peace.

Mr. Liu Zhihua, Executive Secretary of Beijing Peaceland Foundation, introduced the efforts made by Chinese NGOs in the prevention and control efforts during the pandemic, and expressed the wish that, through this online conference, Chinese experience would be delivered to the medical institutions and NGOs in Cambodia, so that the two countries and their people could join hands in the battle against the pandemic.

### **China-Kenya COVID-19 Prevention and Control Online Dialogue**

On April 12, the Secretariat of SIRONET, Beijing Peaceland Foundation, China House and Rainbow Volunteer Club jointly convened the China-Kenya COVID-19 Prevention and Control Online Dialogue. Nearly 70 representatives from Kenyan medical institutions, NGOs, schools, enterprises and communities, as well as representatives from social organizations in the US and South Korea, have participated in the online sharing session.

Since the first confirmed case being identified on

February 15, the COVID-19 cases in Africa have grown exponentially, especially in mid-March. The scarcity of medical resources had posed profound and long-term challenges to the African countries in their testing, emergency services, and economic dispatch practices.

On March 26, at the G20 Special Summit on COVID-19, President Xi Jinping delivered a speech named 'Working Together to Defeat the COVID-19 Outbreak'. He called for joint assistance in improving the response capabilities of developing countries with weak public health systems. The online conference is a response of Chinese NGOs to President Xi's call in this aspect.

Doctor Liu Xiaolu, Attending Physician of ICU of Shanghai Minhang TCM Hospital, and Dr. Wang Sujuan, Associate Chief Physician of ICU of Shanxi Hospital of Integrated Traditional and Western Medicine, centered round the diagnosis, prevention and control of the COVID-19, covering also the symptoms, incubation period, imaging characteristics of the virus and prevention measures taken by the medical workers, and answered questions about the route of transmission of the virus, testing methods and protective measures for communities.

### **China-Myanmar COVID-19 Prevention and Control Online Dialogue**

April 17 was the first day of new year in Myanmar calendar and the well-known water-splashing festival for Chinese people. The Secretariat of SIRONET, Beijing Peaceland Foundation, China-Myanmar Economic Corridor Development and Co-operated Organization and China Foundation for Peace and Development held a special non-governmental exchange event: China-Myanmar COVID-19 Prevention and Control Online Dialogue, where participants from Myanmar medical institutions, NGOs, Chinese enterprises, Chinese overseas and students in Myanmar, and the media were provided

with Chinese experience in the prevention and control.

Mr. U Soe Nwe, President of China-Myanmar Economic Corridor Cooperation Development Council and former Myanmar ambassador to Germany, delivered opening remarks, pointing out that the COVID-19 virus respects no borders, ethnicity and religion, and that countries are all seeking their way to combat the virus. He thanked China's support for the medical resources, medical teams and technical assistance, and is convinced that, one day, countries will ultimately prevail over the pandemic.

Doctor Liu Xiaolu, Attending Physician of the ICU of Shanghai Minhang TCM Hospital, and Dr. Wang Sujuan, Associate Chief Physician of Intensive Care Unit of Shanxi Hospital of Integrated

Traditional and Western Medicine, expounded on the topic of 'diagnosis and prevention of COVID-19' and answered relevant questions, including the route of transmission, testing and prevention measure in communities.

Mr. Wen Desheng, Director of China Foundation for Peace and Development in Myanmar, said that, since the outbreak of the pandemic in China, we are all deeply moved by the support from the Myanmar government, military forces, NGOs and Myanmar people. Currently, the number of confirmed cases in Myanmar is still increasing. It is time for Chinese government, enterprises, NGOs, Chinese people, as well as overseas Chinese to express their support since we are a community of shared future.

Nearly 100 participants from Nay Pyi Daw General Administration Department, Tanintharyi

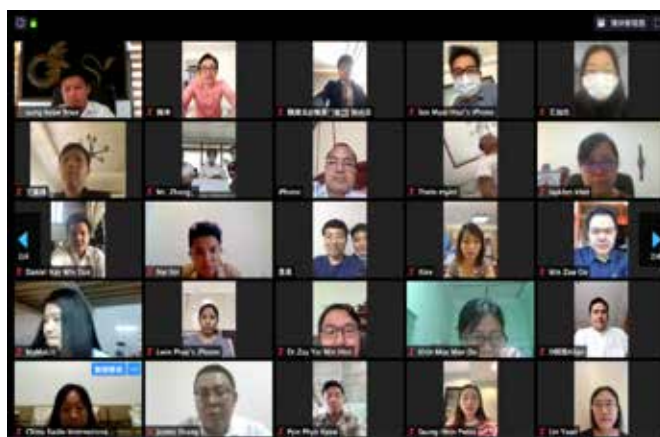
General Administration Department, Muse General Administration Department, China-Myanmar Friendship Hospital, Magway Gangaw Hospital, University of Medical Technology Mandalay, University of Nursing Yangon, Mon State Red Cross Society, Yangon Vocational College of Technology, Yangon Foreign Language University, Myanmar China Cultural Center, Myanmar-China Exchange and Cooperation Association, Mandalay Foundation Preparatory Committee, Nay Oke Foundation, Alinyaung Foundation, China Radio International, Xinhua News Yangon Bureau, People's

Daily, Myanmar Golden Phoenix, and other governmental departments, NGOs, medical institutions, academic institutions and media partook in the event. Xinhua News Yangon Bureau livestreamed the conference via its Facebook account,

which attracted nearly 20,000 viewers.

### **China-Egypt COVID-19 Prevention and Control Online Dialogue**

On April 24, The Secretariat of SIRONET, Beijing Peaceland Foundation, World Federation of Acupuncture-Moxibustion Societies, Egypt-China Friendship Association, and China Council for the Promotion of Peaceful National Reunification in Egypt co-hosted the China-Egypt COVID-19 Prevention and Control Online Dialogue. The conference has provided Chinese experience during COVID-19 prevention and control work to Egyptian medical institutions, NGOs, Chinese enterprises and overseas in Egypt, and the media. The Conference also received support from the Chinese embassy in Egypt.





Mr. Essam Shshraf, member of the International Steering Committee of SIRONET and former Prime Minister of Egypt, delivered opening remarks through video. He pointed out that China and Egypt have a long history of exchanges. China has played an important role in the world's fight against the pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic is an unprecedented challenge that needs the joint collaboration of all countries. In view of this, the cooperation of NGOs and the online conference are of great significance. He also added that he will closely follow up the conference.

Mr. Wang Rongbing, member of World Federation of Acupuncture-Moxibustion Societies and the expert team of National Administration of TCM, and Chief Physician of the department of Chinese and Western Integrative Medicine of Beijing Ditan Hospital, and other Chinese experts were invited as guest speakers to talk about the treatment of COVID-19 pneumonia using both TCM and western medicine. The speakers also responded to the questions raised by the audience, including the efficacy of TCM in COVID-19 treatment and so forth.

Mr. Abdel Adawy, former Minister of Health and Population of Egypt, quoted an Egyptian saying during his speech, which goes 'prevention comes first'. China has accumulated rich experience in its prevention and control practices, we need to learn from China, so as to improve our response capabilities. It is highly necessary to conduct experience sharing events both in governmental levels and non-governmental levels.

Professor Nasser from Egypt-China Friendship Association said that, facing the COVID-19 pandemic and other global disasters, all mankind should join hands and stay united as one to win over our common enemy. This online conference could promote the friendship between Chinese and Egyptians and even facilitate the relationship of China and Arabian countries. He also called for more exchanges to deepen multilateral cooperation.

Mr. Liu Zhihua, Executive Secretary of Beijing Peaceland Foundation, said Egypt was the first Arabian country to establish diplomatic relations with China. In the beginning of 2020, Egypt has donated large numbers of medical supplies to China. Three world cultural heritage sites in Cairo, Luxor and Aswan were lit up in red and golden stars to resemble the national flag of China as a sign of solidarity in combating the pandemic, which we will never forget. We hoped that, through this event, we could bring Chinese experience to the Egyptian side and jointly fight the pandemic with Egyptians.

April 24 was the first day of Ramadan, the Secretariat of SIRONET posted information about the conference on its website, in WeChat groups in advance, which has attracted wide attention. China Radio International Egypt Station and Peaceland Foundation respectively live-streamed the event via their Facebook and TikTok account. Nearly 10,000 viewers watched the livestream and nearly 3000 people liked or commented on the conference.

### **China-Ethiopia COVID-19 Prevention and Control Online Dialogue**

On April 30, the Secretariat of SIRONET, Beijing Peaceland Foundation, China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation, the Amity Foundation, Ethio-China People's Friendship Association and Peking Union Medical College Training Center co-organized the China-Ethiopia COVID-19 Prevention and Control Online Dialogue to share Chinese experience in

preventing and controlling the pandemic to the medical institutions, NGOs, Chinese enterprises and overseas in Ethiopia.

Mr. Minas Feseha, Advisor to the Minister of Ministry of Peace Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Executive Director of Ethio-China People's Friendship Association, said that Ethiopia and China enjoy traditional friendship and the Communist Party and the Chinese Government have always supported Ethiopia. In 1974, China, for the first time, sent medical teams to Ethiopia. Some Chinese doctors have even sacrificed their lives in the country. The Chinese assistance to Ethiopia would never be forgotten.

During the pandemic, China has once again sent medical professionals to the capital Addis Ababa and provided both technical support and resources. Ethiopia highly appreciates

the help from the Chinese government and Chinese people. These kind gestures fully display the notion of community of shared future for mankind. Besides, the online conference was hosted timely, which also show the deep friendship between China and Ethiopia.

Mr. Wang Jianhua, Director of the Silk Road General Hospital, Mrs. Wang Sujuan, Associate Chief Physician of ICU of Shanxi Hospital of Integrated Traditional and Western Medicine, and Mr. Cao Jinya, Intern Doctor of Peking Union Medical College Hospital, were invited as guest speakers to share relevant experience of the Chinese-funded hospital in Ethiopia, the treatment of COVID-19 cases in China and the protection of psychological health during a public health emergency. The speakers also answered questions on the use of TCM and western medicine when treating COVID-19

patients and psychotherapies during home quarantine.

Mr. Wu Peng, Director of International Development Department of China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation, delivered the concluding remark. He said that the virus is the common enemy for all mankind and the international community should make joint efforts to cope with this disaster. Prior to the conference, the Secretariat of SIRONET, together with over 300 member organizations from home and abroad, published the Action Plan to Jointly Address Global Challenges and Promote the Building of Community of Shared Future for Mankind, calling for countries, especially Belt and Road

countries, to enhance cooperation at the non-governmental level. It encourages countries to fully leverage the roles of NGOs and volunteers and emphasized the timely sharing of experience to the

developing countries and other countries in need. In this regard, the online conference turned out to be a good starting point for the NGOs in the two countries to share experience. He hoped that the NGOs in China and Ethiopia could keep close relationship and further their cooperation in the future.

Nearly 100 representatives from the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, UNESCO, UNFPA, Health Unlimited, International Medical Corps and other International organizations, representatives from the Federal Ministry of Health, Ministry of Women, Children and Youth Affairs, Agency for Civil Society Organizations, Ethiopia, Ethiopian Public Health Institute and other government departments, representatives from over 10 Ethiopian NGOs, as well as representatives from Chinese enterprises, Chinese overseas and students in Ethiopia participated the conference.





To meet the need of psychological counseling for Ethiopians during home quarantine, the organizer invited a psychologist from Peking Union Medical College Hospital to give a lecture on the protection of mental health during the pandemic.

### **China-South Africa COVID-19 Pandemic Prevention and Control Online Dialogue**

On May 10, under the support of Chinese embassy in South Africa, the Secretariat of SIRONET, Beijing Peaceland Foundation, the Amity Foundation, SANCO, Peking Union Medical College Training Center and China House co-hosted the China-South Africa COVID-19 Pandemic Prevention and Control Online Dialogue, which was themed as ‘maternal and infant health management during the COVID-19 pandemic’.

Mr. Richard Mdakane, President of SANCO, said in his remark that he appreciated the opportunity of exchanges and pointed out that the pandemic is an unprecedented challenge for all mankind, which requires joint efforts to address this problem. China has provided South Africa with many experiences on COVID-19 containment. The experience is of great significance for South Africa’s fight against the pandemic. The NGOs of the two countries should enhance exchanges and dialogues, carry out dialogues and share respective experience and lessons, so as to better cope with the pandemic and contribute more to relevant responses.

Representatives from the Chinese Embassy in South Africa, UNICEF in China, African National Congress Women's League, SANCO, Volunteer

Southern Africa, The Community Constituency Covid-19 Front, Bible society of South Africa, South Africa-China Economy and Trade Association and other South African NGOs and medical institutions, representatives from NGOs of Somali, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe and Swaziland, as well as Chinese overseas from S.A. Shunde Friendship Association, Chinese students from the University of Cape Town and representatives from Chinese enterprises in South Africa joined the event. In total, the online conference has invited participants from nearly 100 organizations and institutions.

May 10 was the International Mother’s Day, Mrs. Ma Liangkun, Chairperson of the Special Committee on Maternal and Child Health Management of China Medicine Education Association and Chief Physician of Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology of Peking Union Medical College Hospital, centered round the topic of ‘Being a Good Mom: Maternal and Infant Health Management during the Pandemic’. Doctor Liu Xiaolu, Attending Physician of the ICU of Shanghai Minhang TCM Hospital, shared his experience on the ‘diagnosis and prevention of COVID-19’. The speakers also answered questions on whether pregnant women and infants are susceptible to the virus, the possibility of vertical transmission between mothers and babies, the injection of vaccines for the newborns, how to make supplementary food for infants to improve their immune system, and whether there are sequelae after the infants recover from COVID-19. With the active participation from the audience, the original 30-min Q&A session was extended to one hour.

According to statistics, the number of pregnant women in Africa reach nearly 20 million. Representative from SANCO said China has been successful in combating the virus and gained valuable experience. He appreciated the arrangement of the online conference and called for further cooperation. Mrs. Meokgo Matuba, Secretary General of African National Congress Women's League, said, apart





from the tens of thousands of COVID-19 patients in Africa, the health problems of tens of millions of African pregnant women potentially caused by the pandemic are also worth our attention. This online conference is the first that targeted at the health management of African mothers and infants, showcasing special attention and care for women and children, which is very moving. This is also the best gift we can offer on the International Mother's Day. She expressed her appreciation to such effort.

### **China-Mongolia COVID-19 Pandemic Prevention and Control Online Dialogue**

On May 19, the Secretariat of SIRONET, Beijing Peaceland Foundation and Social Democracy Mongolian Youth Union co-hosted the China-Mongolia COVID-19 Pandemic Prevention and Control Online Dialogue.

Representatives from Mongolian Democratic Socialist Women's League, Social Democracy Mongolian Youth Union, Khangarid Development Foundation, Mongolian National Public Health Center, Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences, National Cancer Center Hospital, and other medical centers in Mongolian provinces and cities, participants from Chinese enterprises in Mongolia, overseas Chinese, volunteers and representatives from Chinese central media Mongolian bureau, Foreign Affairs Office of the People's Government of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region and NGOs along the border of China and Mongolia attended the conference.

On May 18, President Xi Jinping attended the 73th World Health Assembly and called for cooperation among countries to build a global community of health for all. The online conference is a response to President Xi's call at the non-governmental level. Mrs. Khurelbaatar Saikhansanaa, Vice Chairman of Social Democracy Mongolian Youth Union, mentioned in her remarks that, since February



1, the number of confirmed cases in Mongolia, including the returned overseas Mongolians, reached 136, which are all inbound cases. She praised the conference as well-targeted and believed that every participant will find it helpful.

Mr. Zhou Jian, Associate Chief Physician of the Department of Infectious Diseases of the 2nd People's Hospital of Lanzhou City and member of the first batch of medical workers sent to Hubei Province, Mr. Buren Batu, Vice President of Inner Mongolia Association of Mongolian Medicine introduced the 'domestic transmission of inbound cases' and 'the use of Mongolian Medicine in the treatment of COVID-19', and answered questions on how to prevent COVID-19 through changes of lifestyles and diet, and the application and efficacy of traditional medicine in clinical treatment.

Mr. Xu Jianguo, Secretary of China Foundation for Peace and Development, said in the conclusion remarks that, when China was facing the hardest time of the pandemic, the Foundation has received the assistance from Khangarid Development Foundation and other Mongolian NGOs. The encouragement showcases the friendship and the firm support of the Mongolian side. He wished that the Chinese experience and practices could help Mongolian people in the fight against the pandemic. As long as China and Mongolia stay united and promote mutual support, the two countries will definitely win over the pandemic.

China Media Group Asian African Center announced

the event in advance through its Mongolian radio channel and website and collected questions from netizens. China Media Group livestreamed the event via its Facebook account.

### **China-Philippine COVID-19 Pandemic Prevention and Control Online Dialogue**

On May 29, SIRONET, the Amity Foundation, Philippine Association for Chinese Studies, Philippine China Friendship Association, Kaisa Para Kaunlaran, and Philippine Academy of Acupuncture co-hosted the China- Philippine COVID-19 Pandemic Prevention and Control Online Dialogue. Nearly 200 participants from 15 countries of five continents and 121 organizations in the medical, academic and social development fields partook in the event.

Mr. Rommel Banlaoi, President of Philippine Association for Chinese Studies, said that the event was carried out in a timely and practical manner, not only does it improve people's understandings on acupuncture and TCM, but also maintain a friendly relationship between the people of the two countries during quarantine and lockdown. 'During this difficult time, distance must not become the barrier for countries to cooperate and combat the challenges.' He believed that the event could promote the medical exchanges between China and the Philippines and enhance non-governmental dialogues along the Belt and Road. In the post-pandemic world, we must get accustomed to the new normal and jointly build a new world that we all share.

Mr. Shen Jia, Deputy Director of Health Management Center the 2nd Affiliated Hospital of Nanjing University of Chinese Medicine, Mrs. Liu Lanying, Chief Physician of Department of Acupuncture and Rehabilitation of Jiangsu Province Hospital of Chinese Medicine, introduced the prevention and control measures for the resumption of work and production, as well as the role of TCM in the

treatment of COVID-19, and answered questions on how common people could effectively prevent the transmission of the virus during their work and the application and efficacy of acupuncture in clinical treatment.

Many Philippine organizations have sent their letters of appreciation via e-mail and WeChat to SIRONET and shared their stories of combating the virus. One retired pediatrician said that, after the COVID-19 broke out in the Philippines, ten of her colleagues have passed away, and one of her colleagues have recovered from the virus after using a Chinese medicine that contains 21 herbs. She is now studying Chinese medicine and hopes for more communication with her Chinese counterparts in this area. Mr. Alberto from Pastoral Bible Foundation shared the story of how Chinese medicine and acupuncture relieved his chronic back and stomach problems due to his 40-years career in the publishing industry. He was impressed by the wide coverage and the rich information of the online conference and was eager to share the information with his TCM doctor. The representative from Claretian Communications Foundation, Inc. said that the Chinese speakers had introduced relevant information in such a detailed way and provided multiple examples on the use of various TCM in the prevention and the treatment of COVID-19. He also believed that the conference would be helpful to every attendee.

### **China-Peru COVID-19 Pandemic Prevention and Control Online Dialogue**

On June 14, with the support of Foreign Affairs Office of People's Government of Hubei Province and Chinese embassy in Peru, SIRONET, Beijing Peaceland Foundation and China House co-organized the China- Peru COVID-19 Pandemic Prevention and Control Online Dialogue and Exchange Conference.

Nearly 200 representatives from Peruvian



Government's Coronavirus Command Center, Congressional Health Commission, Ministry of Education, Peruvian Aprista Party, Alliance for Progress, and other governmental agencies and hospitals in Lima, the Department of Amazonas and Loreto, representatives from Peru Palliative Care Association, Organization: Development and Self-management, ONG Vida Peru, National Engineering University, National University of San Marcos and other Peruvian organizations, as well as Chinese overseas, students and representatives from Chinese enterprises in Peru attended the conference.

On May 29, President Xi Jinping and President of the Republic of Peru Martin Alberto Vizcarra Cornejo exchanged letter and proposed the initiative of enhancing practical cooperation between the two countries in the fight against the pandemic and other areas. The conference is a response to this consensus at the non-governmental level. Mr. Omar Merino Lopez, Congressman of Peru and President of the Population and Health Commission, mentioned in his remark about the severe situation in Peru and the huge challenges posed by the pandemic on the health system of the country. The limited resources must go to those most in need. Peru and China share a long history of friendship. The help from China has shown that Peru is not fighting alone, and the cooperation between the two countries will surely bring our bilateral relations to a new stage.

Mrs. Pilar Mazzetti Soler, Commander-in-chief of Covid-19 Operations Command and former Minister of the Ministry of Health, said that the pandemic has

unveiled the weaknesses of the public health system of Peru and that the valuable Chinese experience are delivered just in time. The community prevention and control measures shared by the Chinese speakers are among the most effective ones in her eyes. She was deeply touched by the solidarity between the Chinese people and Peruvians. Despite geographical distance, the two peoples were connected thanks to this conference, and she hoped that this sharing conference is just a starting point for more exchanges between the two countries in the future.

Mr. Liang Shun, President of the Central Society of Chinese Charity, said, since the outbreak of the pandemic, Chinese overseas have always abided by the regulations of the Peru government, voluntarily established COVID-19 prevention and control groups to help each other and provide the supplies in need for medical institutions in China and Peru, contributing their share to the fight of the virus in the hope of enhancing the cooperation between the two countries.

Dr. Chen Xiaobei, Professor of the Department of Infectious Diseases of Renmin Hospital of Wuhan University, was invited to talk about COVID-19-related knowledge, including the etiological and epidemiological characteristics of the virus and the diagnosis and prevention measures of the disease. Besides, professor Chen also gave targeted prevention and control suggestions according to the situation of Peru. Mrs. Zhang Shujing, Secretary of CPC General Branch of the Central Garden Community, Wuchang District, Wuhan City, centered round 'jointly building a COVID-19-free community through the collaboration of the committee of the Communist Party, house-owners and property management'. She mainly introduced the role of community organizations working at the frontline of the pandemic, which showcases the governing philosophy of 'always putting people first' of the Chinese Communist Party. She also shared the story of the Model Worker of Wuhan City, Wang Weigang,

who, together with his son, Wang Zijian, assisted the community to do disinfection work, as well as the moving story of Deng Ping and her son, Wu Yufei, who helped neighbors buying daily necessities

On May 23, at the request of the Peruvian side, China sent to Peru a medical team of four experts, who have worked there for nearly one month. The Minister of Health of Peru awarded certificate and medal of honor to the Chinese experts for their contribution. The conference also invited the four experts, Mrs. Guo Yi, team leader and Deputy Director of Medical Affairs Department of Nanfang Hospital, Mr. Liu Laiyu, Chief Physician of the Department of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine of Nanfang Hospital, Mr. Wu Yongming, Associate Chief Physician of the Department of Neurology of Nanfang Hospital, and Mr. Zhou Hao, Associate Chief Physician of the Department of Infection Management of Nanfang Hospital, to introduce their work in Peru and provide relevant suggestions for the country's fight against the pandemic.

The representative from China NGO Network for International Exchanges said in the conclusion remarks that President Xi has mentioned in many occasions that human beings are a community of shared future. The pandemic poses a threat to people of all countries and the most effective way to win over the virus is collaboration. The conference is a hardheaded way to act on the consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries and the Chinese experience and practices are being promoted along the Silk Road via the Internet. The organizer also welcomed Peru and other countries in Latin America to join SIRONET, so as to enhance collaboration and jointly build the community of a shared future for mankind in practice.

Peru is now in dire need of cooperation due to severity of the pandemic. Peruvians of all walks of life attached high importance to the conference. The health department and local government of different

departments all sent their representatives to attend the online conference, and representatives from primary levels and some mayors also watched the recorded version. At the Q&A session, the audience raised many questions, which were all answered in details by the guest speakers. The two-hour meeting was then extended by one hour and a half to 00:30 A.M. local time. Many attendees have left their thank-you messages on the comment bar and said that they had learned a lot at the event. 'The Chinese experience shows the importance of building primary healthcare system and the Peruvian government should attach importance to the prevention and control work at the primary level', said Doctor Pela from a health center in Peru. A netizen named Denis mentioned the vivid introduction of the Chinese expert on testing methods and hoped that Peru can learn from Chinese best practices and improve the testing methods in Peru.

### **China-Brazil COVID-19 Prevention and Control Online Dialogue**

On July 29, the Cooperation Network, along with the Foreign Affairs Office of the People's Government of Hubei Province, Health Commission of Hubei Province and the Rio Grande do Sul state of Brazil (the sister province/state of Hubei), co-hosted the China-Brazil COVID-19 Prevention and Control Online Dialogue. Representatives from the Rio Grande do Sul State Health Department, Department of Economic Development, medical institutions, as well as representatives from Chinese NGOs and Chinese-funded companies, and Chinese overseas in Brazil attended the conference.

Mr. Chen Tao, Associate Professor and Deputy Director of Tongji Hospital affiliated to Tongji Medical College of Huazhong University of Science and Technology, was invited to share experience on the prevention and control of COVID-19. He emphasized that prevention is most important in the fight against the pandemic. He hoped that by sharing





Chinese experience, we could help Brazilian people to overcome the pandemic and go back to normal.

The Qiliyi Community of Hanyang District, Huan City, has accumulated a lot of frontline experience of community management. Mr. Sun Ruihua, representative of the community, introduced pandemic-related knowledge, regulations, and volunteer services in detail. He also shared the story of the 73-year-old volunteer Tu Qingling, who has lost her loved-one but still delivered daily supplies for community residents.

During the Q&A session, the most asked questions are about Hubei's experience during the pandemic. The guests also answered questions on the infection rate in Hubei Province, reasons behind the low mortality rate, research on the vaccine, and how communities mobilize volunteers.

Mr. Li Xiangdong, party member of Hubei Health Commission and Director of the Health Office, said in his concluding remark that, currently, what we need the most is solidarity and cooperation to win over the pandemic together. President Xi pointed out that solidarity and cooperation is the most powerful weapon for the international community to fight against the disease. Li added that Brazil and Hubei have a long history of friendship, and the Chinese side is willing to collaborate with Brazil to jointly prevail over this major infectious disease and build a

global community of health for all.

Mrs. Erita Bergman, head of Rio Grande do Sul State Health Department, said in her conclusion speech that the event convinced us that the current measures implemented by Rio Grande do Sul are correct. The number of infected people in Rio Grande do Sul is increasing, and there are still some difficulties in carrying out nucleic acid testing. Although the current overall situation is not optimistic, we believe that understanding China's successful experience in fighting the epidemic can help us better overcome this epidemic. She appreciated China's close attention to the pandemic in Brazil and the assistance of the Chinese government, hoping that the two countries will have more opportunities to exchange the best practices in this regard. The conference showcased the meaning of a Chinese saying: long distance separates no bosom friends. She hoped that the friendship between the two countries will last forever.

Representatives from the Economic Development Department of the Rio Grande do Sul State Government said that the conference was a successful exchange and thanked the arrangement and contribution of the organizer; in the future, they hope to contribute more to the bilateral cooperation and the friendship between China and Brazil.

Hubei Province and Rio Grande do Sul State share sister city relations. In January, 2020, Governor of the Rio Grande do Sul State, Eduardo Leite, sent a letter to Governor of Hubei, Wang Xiaodong, to express support to Hubei's fight against the pandemic. At the end of May, Hubei Province also donated a batch of supplies to Rio Grande do Sul. The pandemic is still spreading in Brazil. The successful convention of this event will further deepen the friendly collaboration between the two countries.

(Translated by Xia Peiyao)



## **Representatives of Chinese NGOs Participated in the 43rd Session of the UN Human Rights Council and Held Thematic Side Events**



On February 24, 2020, the 43rd session of the United Nations Human Rights Council was held in Geneva, Switzerland. At that time, the COVID-19 epidemic in European countries was accelerating, and the international community was faced with serious challenges in epidemic prevention and control. China NGO Network for International Exchanges (referred to as CNIE), China Society for Human Rights Studies, China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation, United Nations Association of China, Beijing NGO Network for International Exchanges, Beijing Youth Legal Aid and Research Center and other Chinese social organizations have managed to attend the Session in Geneva despite the epidemic, and held a side event on the theme of "Chinese NGOs Promoting the Realization of Sustainable Development Goals" during the session.

At the session, representatives of domestic social organizations spoke in interactive dialogues on human rights defenders, cultural rights, etc., introduced practices and principled positions in related fields by focusing on China's experience and practices in epidemic prevention and control and the prevention and control of epidemics in Europe and the world. The representatives of the United Nations and foreign non-governmental organizations said that China's epidemic prevention and control work has effectively guaranteed the people's right to life and health, and related practices are worth learning from other countries. They hope that China will strengthen experience sharing in the fight against the epidemic.

While social organization representatives were rehearsing the theme side event, they suddenly received an urgent email from the United Nations

Human Rights Council, informing them that due to the severe epidemic situation in Switzerland, all side events after March 3 will be cancelled. The “Chinese NGOs Promoting the Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals” themed side event on the afternoon of March 2 applied by CNIE became the last side event of this session. After discussion and research, the topic side event temporarily added speakers, adjusted the content of the speeches, added an introduction to the latest developments in China's epidemic prevention and control, and further expressed expectations for strengthening international public health cooperation.

The day of the side event was heavy rain in Geneva. Officers from Chinese social organizations carried heavy display racks and panels and walked in the rain for nearly an hour before reaching the venue. Everyone didn't care about the rest, and immediately devoted themselves to work with full enthusiasm. The meeting was rich in content and a warm atmosphere. Liu Kaiyang, Deputy Secretary-General of CNIE, presided over the side event. He said that development is essential to the protection and promotion of human rights. In recent years, Chinese social organizations have been active in reducing poverty, promoting fairness in education, and addressing climate change, and have made non-governmental contributions to the realization of sustainable development goals. The six speakers introduced from different perspectives how China has worked hard to overcome the impact of COVID-19 epidemic, accelerated the resumption of work and production, and resolutely completed the task of poverty alleviation. They also explained how Chinese NGOs effectively protect human rights in promoting the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation introduced the foundation's international

projects in poverty eradication, quality education and clean drinking water. The Chinese Association for International Understanding introduced the prevention and control of the COVID-19 epidemic, showing that China is working hard to overcome the impact of the epidemic, making overall plans, and resolutely completing the task of poverty alleviation. The representative of Beijing NGO Network for International Exchanges introduced the progress of the projects in promoting environmental protection, sustainable urban development, advocating gender equality and promoting SDGs and human rights. The representative of the Beijing Youth Legal Aid and Research Center introduced how to better protect the rights of children in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, especially the work in eliminating violence against children and helping children enjoy justice. The representative of CNIE stated that the “The Silk Road Community Building Initiative”, launched at the second Belt and Road International Cooperation Summit Forum for People-to-People Connectivity, is progressing smoothly and has promoted the realization of the sustainable development goals of countries along the Belt and Road. The representative of the United Nations Association of China introduced the work in disseminating knowledge of the United Nations, doing United Nations research, advocating multilateralism, and promoting the development of regional and global partnerships through the organization of the United Nations Model Conference. Permanent diplomats of many countries in Geneva, representatives of relevant international organizations and non-governmental organizations attended the side event. The representatives interacted and communicated with each other in a warm atmosphere and achieved good results.

(Translated by Bian Peilin)

## **Representatives of Chinese NGOs Spoke at the 44th Session of the UN Human Rights Council: Committed to Protecting and Advancing Human Rights**

The 44th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council was held in Geneva, Switzerland from June 30 to July 17. Representatives of some NGOs in China made speeches at the conference in the form of pre-recorded videos, expressing their views on a series of issues such as health, poverty alleviation, and education.

In a dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the right to health, Ma Jingjing, a representative of the Chinese NGO Network for International Exchange, said that the epidemic has taught the international community a serious lesson about the importance of health, and the sense of living in one community sharing the same destiny is even stronger. NGOs across the world have cooperated closely with WHO and other UN entities to ensure the physical and mental health of people during the difficult time. Her organization, CNIE, has been working hard for the health and wellbeing of people not only in China, but also in other countries as well. In March, CNIE launched the Joint Action for Defeating COVID-19 within the framework of the Silk Road Community Building Initiative, and mobilized China's NGOs and businesses in providing support and assistance



to more than 50 countries in forms of material donation and volunteer dispatch. CNIE also had video conferences with partners from other countries sharing the experience in fighting against COVID-19 and pandemic control. In times of difficulties, we all feel the strong need to work together and push for international cooperation, and NGOs can make due contribution in advancing global governance on public health.

Wang Xingzui, representative of China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation, said that health and wellbeing is a basic right and need for people living in

poverty. In light of the widespread impacts of the COVID-19 epidemic, the health status of vulnerable populations requires urgent attention. China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation has launched global initiatives since late March in response to rising humanitarian needs in many developing countries. Some of our efforts include building over 200 hand wash stations with sanitizers in communities, health clinics, and police checkpoints in Nepal, delivering over 7600 food packages to poor children in Ethiopia, Nepal and Myanmar.

In a dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the right to education, Ma Jingjing said that education is essential for the economic and social prosperity of nations, and the right to education is enshrined as part of basic human rights. Chinese NGOs have been assisting the Chinese government to ensure the quality of education, in the hope of mitigating the impact of COVID-19 as much as possible. The Chinese NGOs are active in donating medical necessities to students and teachers, disseminating the know-hows of combating COVID-19 and personal hygiene at school, promoting the use of on-line courses, as well as seeking internships and working opportunities for school graduates. We also stretched our help overseas, such as donating masks and clinical thermometers to teachers in some developing countries. We hope that our efforts can bring about more education opportunities, address education inequalities and help people to better cope with their life thereafter.

In a dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on

the Human Rights of Immigrants, Hong Ping, a representative of the China Family Planning Association, stated that China has a migrant population of 236 million. We appreciate the Chinese government's efforts to provide health services for the migrant population, especially health services for migrant women and children. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals propose to achieve universal health protection, provide high-quality basic health services for everyone, and ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health services. It is recommended that the international community pay attention to the public health and maternal and child health services of the migrant population, and effectively protect the sexual and reproductive health rights of immigrant groups to avoid the occurrence of related humanitarian problems.

In a dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers, Wang Yanbin, a lawyer at the Beijing Zhicheng Migrant Workers Legal Aid and Research Center, said that the legal service community devoted to help vulnerable groups. They have been engaged in legal protection of migrant workers since 2005. In the process of protecting the rights of vulnerable groups, no one ever disturbs our independence. To the contrary, we often felt the support of all sectors of society, which has encouraged us to do our jobs better to help those people in need.

(Translated by BianPeilin)

## **The China NGO Network for International Exchanges Held the Video Conference Titled "The Role of Civilian Forces-From International Cooperation in Anti-epidemic to International Public Health Governance"**



On May 19, China NGO Network for International Exchanges (referred to as CNIE) held an international seminar on "The Role of Civilian Forces-From International Anti-epidemic Cooperation to International Public Health Governance". Representatives of Chinese and foreign NGOs and research institutions including the Red Cross Society of China, China Foundation for Peace and Development, China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation, Shenzhen International Philanthropy Institute, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the 48 Group of the UK, Forum of Cambodian Civil Society Organization Alliance, Pearson Academy of South Africa attended and conducted in-depth

discussions on the practices and experience of civil society in participating in epidemic prevention and control, and promoting international public health cooperation in the post-epidemic era. Liu Kaiyang, Deputy Secretary-General of CNIE presided over the meeting.

The Chinese representative said that President Xi Jinping's important speech at the opening ceremony of the 73rd World Health Assembly video conference pointed out the direction for international cooperation in the fight against the epidemic and strengthening global public health governance. Chinese NGOs are willing to work hand in hand with civil societies of various countries to better play the role of civil forces



in participating in global public health governance and building a human health community.

The Chinese representative introduced a series of effective practices carried out by the organization during the fight against the epidemic. According to China Foundation for Peace and Development, as of the end of May, it had raised nearly 22 million yuan in anti-epidemic funds and provided assistance to more than 20 countries including Spain, Italy, Cambodia, and Myanmar. In a relatively short period of time, they strived to overcome difficulties such as shortage of staff, tight procurement of protective equipment, and limited logistics, used all the proceeds to purchase anti-epidemic materials with high quality and efficiency, and offered the support of the Chinese people in the fastest time. At the same time, in order to convey the firm confidence of the people of all countries to help each other and overcome the difficulties, China Foundation for Peace and Development has planned and launched a series of public welfare programs with the theme of "Me and You" in China and the world to fight the epidemic. People from 46 countries shot videos to cheer for China and the world. The number of on-demand videos exceeded 10 million times which has achieved good results. China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation introduced its special aid projects in developing countries. In Nepal, it cooperated with Tibet Shanyuan Foundation to donate a "sanitary and anti-epidemic handwashing station" to the local area, effectively helping poor and disadvantaged groups to clean their hands and prevent the spread of the virus. At the same time, China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation allocated 7 million yuan to distribute free

"food packages" to poor children living in Ethiopia, Nepal and Myanmar, which is expected to be July this year. The project will benefit a total of 15,000 local people.

Foreign representatives spoke highly of President Xi Jinping's speech. They believed that it demonstrated China's adherence to the concept of building a community with a shared future for mankind and demonstrated China's role as a responsible major power. The six recommendations for strengthening epidemic prevention and control and the five major measures to promote cooperation are very exciting and have injected strong momentum into the global fight against the epidemic. Fully affirming the effectiveness of China's fight against the epidemic and China's important contribution to international cooperation against the epidemic, foreign representatives emphasized that the epidemic is the common enemy of human society and poses a serious threat to international public health security and the economic and social development of all countries. It disrupts production chains, hinders the process of globalization, and exacerbates inequality. It must attract the attention of the international community. As an important participant in global affairs, the international civil society should work together and support each other, increase cooperation in information and experience sharing, exchanges of ideas and scientific and technological research, and jointly improve the international public health governance to safeguard the lives and health of people of all countries.

(Translated by BianPeilin)

## Work in Concert to Tide Over Difficulties

### ——Summary of China's NGOs' Participation in International Cooperation against the Epidemic (January – June, 2020)

The COVID-19 epidemic that caught us all by surprise is still spreading around the world, constituting a major test for countries' ability to respond to public health emergencies, and a test for the ability of China's local NGOs to organize international exchanges and communication. In the first half of 2020, NGOs in China have actively carry out international cooperation and strive to jointly fight the global battle against the epidemic.

#### **1. Mobilize all parties to vigorously carry out medical material assistance**

More than 40 NGOs in Beijing have donated medical supplies worth 32 million yuan to more

than 60 countries and regions around the world. Among them, the Beijing Peaceland Foundation and the Global Talent Exchange Association donated masks, protective suits, disinfectants, ventilators, thermometers and other urgently needed materials to Pakistan, Iran, Serbia and other countries. More than 30 NGOs, including the Beijing Women's Federation, the Red Cross Society of China Beijing Branch, the Beijing NGO Network for International Exchanges, and the Minhe Foundation donated anti-epidemic materials worth 2.6 million yuan to 9 international sister cities including Budapest, Yerevan, Bucharest, and Rio de Janeiro. Beijing Dragon Design Foundation launched the "Green



Ribbon Action" along with 157 NGOs and donated 3 million yuan worth of materials to 18 countries and UN-HABITAT. Beijing New Sunshine Charity Foundation donated urgently needed nucleic acid detection kits, detectors, masks and protective suits to Iran, Serbia and Indonesia. Beijing Hengji Health Management Development Foundation launched the "Beijing Traditional Chinese Medicine Overseas COVID-19 Epidemic Prevention Action" and donated COVID-19 preventive drugs worth 1.2 million yuan to Yerevan, Minsk, Rio de Janeiro, and Brasilia. Hebei Province has donated anti-epidemic materials worth 4.71 million yuan to 13 sister provinces and states, 16 sister cities, friendly organizations and people. The Affiliated Hospital of Shanxi University of Chinese Medicine provided 4,500 Chinese medicine prescriptions for Italy, Germany, Britain, Sweden and other countries. The Red Cross Society of China Shanxi Branch donated protective suits and goggles worth 960,000 yuan to Italy, Germany, South Korea and Japan. The Red Cross Society of China Inner Mongolia Branch donated 648,000 disposable medical masks, 100,000 N95 masks, 20,000 surgical masks, and 19,000 protective suits to 10 countries including Mongolia, the United States, the United Kingdom, Madagascar and Dominica. The Jilin Provincial People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries donated 980,000 masks, 5,000 sets of protective suits, and 10,000 sets of isolation clothing to sister cities and regions in 12 countries including Russia, France, and Finland. The Jiangsu Provincial People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries donated 50,000 masks and 500 sets of protective suits to friendly counties in Japan and South Korea. Cities such as Nanjing and Changshu also donated medical supplies to sister cities in Italy, Japan, and Cambodia. Yangzhou Public Diplomacy Association and Suzhou Sculpture Association donated medical supplies to Spain, Indonesia and other countries.

The Red Cross Society of China Zhejiang Branch provided aid materials worth 18 million yuan for foreign countries. The Jack Ma Foundation and the Alibaba Foundation have donated medical protective materials in more than 150 countries and regions around the world, and donated 100 million medical masks, 1 million N95 masks and 1 million nucleic acid detection kits to the World Health Organization. The Huzhou International Chamber of Commerce and the Council for the Promotion of International Trade donated epidemic prevention materials to more than 50 overseas cooperation agencies including Italy, Britain, France, and Germany. Anhui Charity Foundation and Equestrian Association donated anti-epidemic materials worth 10.5 million yuan to more than 20 countries including Bangladesh, Pakistan, Belarus, and Russia. The Shandong Provincial People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries donated epidemic prevention materials to friendly organizations in 11 countries including Italy, Japan, and Cambodia. The Commerce of Chamber Shandong Non-government Foreign Exchange Cooperation donated medical supplies worth more than 1.3 million yuan to the chambers of commerce and industry in Mongolia, Bangladesh, South Korea, Malaysia, Japan, and Laos. Shandong International Chamber of Commerce donated 200 sets of protective suits to the Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The Henan Chamber of Commerce and Industry Associations donated 177 batches of anti-epidemic supplies and food worth 18 million yuan to 56 countries. The Henan Provincial People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries led the donation of more than 100 batches of medical supplies to more than 30 countries, with a total value of more than 13 million yuan. The Hunan Provincial People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries and Hunan Eye Care Foundation launched six batches of assistance, donating 4.6 million medical masks and 5950 sets of protective



释义：

绿丝带由红色（代表中国）、蓝色（代表欧盟）、绿色（寓意生命与希望）组成，象征中欧通力合作，共同抗击疫情。

suits to 69 countries and Northeast Asia local federations. The Guangdong Provincial People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries united its sub-branches and have made donations to more than 30 countries with severe epidemics. The Guangdong Federation of Industry & Commerce has set up a special fund of more than 100 million yuan for epidemic prevention and control to encourage enterprises to actively fulfill their international responsibilities. NGOs in Shenzhen have donated 1.44 million masks, more than 2,000 sets of protective suits, and 40,000 sets of detection kits to 35 countries and regions. The Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries donated 25,750 yuan worth of epidemic prevention materials to the American Flying Tigers Historical Organization, and 8.04 million yuan worth of medical supplies to 10 ASEAN countries and the ASEAN Secretariat. The Red Cross Society of China Hainan Branch, the Federation of Returned Overseas Chinese, the Federation of Overseas Chinese Entrepreneurs, Chaoshang Economical Promotion Association, etc. donated a total of 5.54 million pieces of medical supplies such as protective suits and N95 masks. Chongqing Huayan Foundation for Culture and Education and other NGOs donated 300,000 yuan of medical masks and traditional Chinese medicine to 8 national cooperation organizations. Sichuan NGO Network for International Exchanges cooperated

with Sichuan Railway Investment Group Co., Ltd., Sichuan Development Holding Co., Ltd., Changhong Group, and Sichuan Provincial Investment Group Co., Ltd. to donate nucleic acid detection kits and other medical materials to Costa Rica, Indonesia, Nepal, Morocco and other countries. Yunnan Alternative Development Association, Yunnan Overseas Chinese Charity Foundation, Ruili Women and Children Development Center, etc. have carried out material assistance to neighboring countries such as Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia, Bangladesh, and Thailand. The Shaanxi Sub-Council of China Council the Promotion of International Trade and its member companies, along with Shaanxi Animation Comic Game Association, Shaanxi Young Volunteers Association, Shaanxi Youth Federation, etc. donated in epidemic prevention materials worth 6 million yuan to Germany, France, Canada and other countries. Gansu NGO Network for International Exchanges, the Gansu Provincial UNESCO Association, and the Gansu Provincial People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries donated nearly ten thousand sets of protective suits and a large number of masks to the National Partnership Foundation of Georgia, the Kyrgyzstan Silk Road Development Foundation, the French "Belt and Road" Beautiful Countryside Alliance. The NGOs of the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region donated 6.3 million yuan of epidemic prevention materials to nine countries including Saudi Arabia, Iran, Romania, and Colombia, and to international sister cities in Egypt, Morocco, Mauritania, and Kyrgyzstan. The Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries donated 2.25 million masks and 31,000 sets of protective suits to sister cities in 27 countries.

## **2. Share experience in epidemic prevention and control online**

The Beijing People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries organized a series of online activities of communication and cooperation dialogue to tell the "Beijing Story" of anti-epidemic. Shanxi Province held the "Experience Sharing Conference on COVID-19 Prevention and Treatment among Friendship Cities" with government representatives and medical experts from the Czech Republic, Kenya, Japan, Ukraine, Thailand and other countries. Experience were shared on how to avoid doctor-patient cross-infection, and how to strengthen the management of low-income densely populated communities. Besides, experts were organized from Shanxi province to participate in a tripartite experience sharing session on the prevention and control of COVID-19 in China, Thailand, and Singapore initiated by the Ministry of Health of Thailand. Anhui Provincial Hospital organized multiple batches of experts to carry out online sharing of diagnosis and treatment experience with more than 70 hospitals in 7 countries including India, Pakistan, Poland, Switzerland, Germany, the United Kingdom, and Russia. Experts from the First Affiliated Hospital of Anhui Medical University and experts from the University of Maryland organized a video meeting, and the Anhui Association of China Medicine and the Confucius Institute in Strald, Germany held a video seminar to introduce successful cases of treatment of integrated traditional Chinese and Western medicine. Fujian NGOs cooperated with foreign organizations such as the Canada-China Economic, Trade and Cultural Exchange Association to carry out 15 anti-epidemic cooperation activities, and arranged exchange activities on TCM topics as needed. Hubei Province coordinated with experts from more than 10 medical institutions in the province and held more than 50 video conferences with more than 50 countries including the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Algeria, Brazil, Peru, and Malaysia to share

methods and experience of fighting the epidemic and treating patients. Hunan Province organized experts and held remote video conferences with Dominican and Turkish medical experts and scholars from Yale University to share Hunan's experience in fighting the epidemic. The Guangzhou Provincial People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries of Guangdong Province organized experts to attend 19 online seminars on epidemic prevention and control held by international organizations such as the World Organization of United Cities and Local Government, the World Association of Major Metropolises, the United Nations Habitat, and the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group. The Shaanxi International Medical Exchange Promotion Association and the Xi'an Association for Science and Technology held online experience exchange meetings, and medical experts from Israel, Egypt, Turkmenistan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Ghana and other countries attended the meeting. The SCO Hospital Cooperation Alliance International Anti-epidemic







Symposium was held, and a branch venue was set up in Xi'an. Medical experts from 21 countries including China, Australia, Pakistan, Tanzania, Israel, South Korea, the United States, and Italy exchanged ideas on epidemic prevention and control strategies.

### **3. Taking strengths to boost public health cooperation**

The China Council for the Promotion of International Trade Beijing Sub-council gives full play to its advantages to promote the export of epidemic prevention materials and Chinese medicine to more than 80 business associations and trade promotion agencies in more than 50 countries around the world. In Zhejiang Province, the Jack Ma Foundation along with the Alibaba Foundation launched a global sharing platform for fighting the COVID-19. By the end of May, it has covered 196 countries and regions, and has launched 9 live videos, 42 hospital videos, 57 consultations, and 9 prevention and treatment manuals. Among them, the "Handbook of COVID-19 Prevention and Treatment" has been translated into 21 languages. The Jack Ma Foundation also launched the COVID-19 Research and Prevention Fund project, donating 100 million yuan to support vaccine research and development. Anhui Tongling

Nonferrous Metals Group Co., Ltd. cooperated with local organizations in Ecuador, and funded a medical team to the local community for 85 days of free physical examinations and diagnosis, and 16 times of city-wide disinfection in 6 local cities and towns. The Guangdong Precision Medicine Application Association mobilized its members to cooperate with Brunei, Serbia, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Italy, Australia, the Philippines and other countries to build the "Fire Eye" rapid detection laboratory for the COVID-19. The China Council for the Promotion of International Trade Guangdong Sub-council launched the Anti-epidemic Material Export Alliance, released a directory of companies that supply epidemic prevention materials in Chinese and English, promoted the docking of supply and demand for epidemic prevention materials at home and abroad, and attracted more than 100 companies. Shenzhen Mammoth Foundation cooperated with relevant institutions in Serbia, Italy, Latvia, Canada, France, Greece and other countries to carry out the COVID-19 detection laboratory upgrading project. The China Council for the Promotion of International Trade Guangxi Committee and Guangxi Chamber of International Commerce and other institutions launched the Guangxi Anti-epidemic Material

Export Alliance joined by nearly 100 companies. This alliance serves actively for epidemic-prevention material production enterprises and overseas business expansion, resulting in the export of epidemic-prevention materials worth more than 60 million yuan. The Yundi Behavior and Health Research Center in Kunming, Yunnan Province translated the "Prevention Handbook of COVID-19" in Lao, Khmer, Bengali, and Burmese, so that people in neighboring countries can better understand and prevent COVID-19.

#### **4. Offer care to overseas Chinese and students**

Hebei Province donated 80,000 masks to more than 10 overseas Chinese groups and 300 overseas Chinese in more than 70 countries. Shanxi Province coordinated medical experts to participate in the remote diagnosis and treatment meeting for overseas Chinese in Italy. The Shanxi Federation of Overseas Chinese Entrepreneurs and the Shanxi Overseas Chinese Charity Foundation raised more than 1 million yuan to purchase Chinese medicine and masks and distribute them to groups of overseas Chinese and overseas students in Italy, Britain, Germany, Canada, Brazil and other countries. The Shanxi Overseas Exchange Association sent health kits to overseas Chinese in Germany, Italy, Britain, Switzerland, the Philippines, Thailand, Laos, Indonesia and other countries. The Shanxi Provincial People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries donated 158,000 medical masks to overseas Chinese communities in Canada, the United Kingdom, and Malaysia. The Inner Mongolia Returned Overseas Association sent 1,300 health kits and donated 31,000 masks to overseas Chinese, overseas Chinese organizations and students in nearly 50 countries. Zhejiang Province Association of Traditional Chinese Medicine donated 10,000

preventive Chinese medicines to overseas Chinese in Italy. The Red Cross Society of China Hangzhou Branch purchased 17 million yuan worth of prevention and health kits for overseas students. The Italian branch of the Hangzhou Gongyang Charity Foundation carried out voluntary disinfection and sent disinfectants, masks and other epidemic prevention materials to local Chinese communities. Wenzhou "Blazing Youth Community" jointly launched the "Traditional Chinese Medicine for Overseas COVID-19 Epidemic Prevention Action" to provide free online psychological consultation and Chinese medical diagnosis and treatment services for overseas Chinese. The Hubei Province "Go Global" Enterprise Strategic Cooperation Service Alliance shared with its members the information on charter flights of protection material transportation, carried out remote diagnosis, treatment and epidemic prevention lectures, as well as presented "love packages" containing epidemic prevention materials to overseas employees in more than 100 private enterprises. Guangxi Overseas Chinese Kind Foundation and other NGOs purchased masks at home and mailed them to overseas Chinese and overseas students in 20 countries and regions including the United States, Britain, Germany, Spain, and Japan. Shaanxi Provincial Colleges and Universities Psychological Quality Education Research Association actively provided psychological consulting services for Shaanxi overseas students through WeChat groups. The Shaanxi Federation of Returned Overseas Chinese played its role and distributed health kits to thousands of Shaanxi overseas students. The Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region presented 65,000 health kits to overseas students and overseas Chinese in Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Turkey, Kyrgyzstan and other countries.

(Contributed by CNIE)

# **The Role of NGOs in Global Anti-epidemic Cooperation: Advantages, Challenges and Perspectives**

Sun Jingxin

“The friendship between nations lies in affinity between the people and affinity between the people depends on strengthened people-to-people ties.” In the process of international cooperation against COVID-19, the role of NGOs can be seen in different circumstances. With the means of donation, expressing encouragement and support, strengthening communication and coordination and sharing experience, NGOs have made the best of their advantages and specialties, by working as bridges of mutual support and concerted efforts connecting governments and people of different countries, making important contribution to global anti-epidemic cooperation and highlighting the spirit of a community of shared future for mankind featuring inseparable connection.

## **I. Unique Advantages of NGOs**

Compared with official organizations, NGOs featured diversified forms, far-reaching sectors and abundant resources. In the domain of international relations, instead of dispensable by-products or ornaments, people-to-people ties are indispensable. Therefore, the participation of NGOs in international cooperation against COVID-19 is natural and undoubtedly logical. Acting on their own initiative, NGOs established channels of direct communication and dialogues with the governments they locate in. With the identification of “liaison”, NGOs drive anti-

epidemic cooperation between different countries and make up the short slabs and deficiency of UN system and different national governments in epidemic prevention and control. In this process, NGOs demonstrated their own advantages.

NGOs are more flexible in terms of operation. As an important force independent from the government, the flexibility of NGOs far outstrips governments. In the process of fighting COVID-19, the international community is facing political manipulation from western countries such as “decoupling” “passing the buck” and “stigmatization”—the US government withdraw from WHO at such a critical period—which severely hinders the international anti-epidemic cooperation. In contrast, on the basis of maintaining national interests and dignity, diversified NGOs could, refraining from being influenced by political issues among countries, build cooperation network with NGOs from other countries, which has enhanced political understanding among countries and demonstrated the independence and flexibility of NGOs. For instance, according to statistics offered by Real Clear Politics—an American political website—and market investigation company Morning Consult, in the anti-epidemic cooperation between the people of China and the United States, although there’s political friction between two countries, the percentage of American people supporting cooperate with China is 28 points higher than those opposing

cooperation. Report from The Christian Science Monitor, an American newspaper, also said that various NGOs and individuals from the United States and China are filling the gaps in terms of Sino-US anti-epidemic cooperation—they carry out cooperation such as scientific exchanges, donating protective equipment and money as well as offering other practical support. From enterprises, small stores to local governments, NGOs and other organizations of both China and the United States are striving to strengthen cooperation and narrowing divisions.

NGOs are more professional in terms of organization. The mission of most action-oriented or service-oriented social organizations is to participate in social service and governance. Most of them are of clear boundaries,



explicit objectives and scientific job division—they establish basic principles internally coordinating the relationship among members and formed external stable channels of communication and cooperation. Fighting coronavirus calls for material aid and spiritual support and encouragement. We can see that taking advantage of their professional and information resources, NGOs specialized in mental health and healthcare offer service such as psychological counseling, stress relief, anti-epidemic consultation and healthcare; making the most of their academic and intelligent advantages, scientists of both China and abroad have made concerted efforts to contribute to global anti-epidemic cooperation by sharing anti-epidemic experience and good practice. Diversified non-profit organizations and foundations also work actively by raising fund online and offline from all over the world to purchase diversified

medical material as well as luring and inputting resources into fighting coronavirus.

NGOs are more far-reaching in terms of resource motivation. Due to the coverage and victims of the epidemic, COVID-19 is a real “global epidemic”. Such an epidemic itself needs nationwide mobilization. Under such circumstances, featuring diversified types and wide coverage, the advantages of NGOs are all the more prominent. We notice that besides NGOs, the civilian forces taking part in the anti-epidemic cooperation include enterprises, chambers of commerce,

foundations, industry associations, think tanks and media, demonstrating explicit extensiveness and diversity. With their concerted efforts and coordination, different types of NGOs have given full play to their advantages and optimize resource

distribution. For instance, according to an ongoing survey, nearly 10 non-governmental public welfare organizations such as Alibaba Foundation, Jack Ma Foundation as well as dozens of Chinese companies including Huawei, Tencent, JD.com, Mi, Suning and Bank of China offered all kinds of aid which worth at least dozens of billions RMB yuan to nearly 100 countries.

Compare with governments, NGOs can establish better contact with people of other countries. Relations between countries are rooted in the relationship between peoples of different countries. Global anti-epidemic cooperation not only calls for the leadership of governments, but also calls for the participation of social forces—this is a choice of the government in times of emergency. With the natural advantage of highly-professional, close to enterprises and industries, industry associations and chambers



of commerce could, on the basis of their own values, build connectivity among members of society and better grasp, guide and express public opinions, making others feel warm in the process of global anti-epidemic cooperation. In fields such as solicit contributions, allocating emergency resources, panic appeasement and experience sharing, NGOs can even play a leading role.

## **II .Challenges Faced by NGOs**

We should also notice that in the international anti-epidemic cooperation, NGOs still faces many obstacles and disadvantages—NGOs still have a long way to go to meet the anticipation and practical need of the public.

The cooperation mechanisms of NGOs are inadequate in terms of coordination and regularity. As the currently the most authoritative leading body in global health governance, the operation of WHO still have many problems. In addition, the blatant challenge from the federal government of the United States further hindered the coordinating role of WHO. At the regional level, there is no public health coordination mechanism. While featuring large quantities and different development levels, NGOs from different countries is to some extent disordered and low-efficient in global anti-epidemic cooperation. Without the in-time formation of mobilization and incentive mechanism, organization and coordination mechanism, demand docking mechanism as well as information sharing mechanism, different NGOs as well as NGOs and the governments can hardly form joint forces.

NGOs of different countries are of different development levels. NGOs in western countries are well developed, large in quantity, and enjoy huge resources. While most NGOs in many developing countries are still young, small in scale and inadequate in terms of capacity, participation, activity organization and efficiency. In the international anti-epidemic cooperation, NGOs of developing countries are weak in terms of influence, initiative and

especially the ability of international communication.

Support from governments to NGOs is yet to be effectively strengthened. Faced with COVID-19, nationalism returns and the force of governments are universally strengthened. Although it is still unknown whether western countries will expand government functions when the epidemic ends, at least they are bound to strengthen the power of governments during the crisis. In contrast, due to their organizational attributes and professional capability, most NGOs are reduced to a well-meaning but ineffectual “voluntary failure” and are gradually kicked out from the emergency-relief system, thus severely reducing their enthusiasm in organizing and participating in emergency response. In addition, governments and NGOs should build whole process cooperation—the reality is most NGOs could only form cooperative relationship with governments at post-processing phase. This kind of cooperative relationship is with the nature of short-term and passivity.

NGOs have their own limitations. With the features of stunning spread speed, vast coverage and great social impact, the epidemic prevention raised pretty high requirement for global anti-epidemic cooperation. The largest and second largest obstacles hindering NGOs in participating in in-depth global cooperation are language barrier and lack of credibility. What’s more, many NGOs are short of fund, technology, capability and experience of dealing with public health emergencies, professionals and high qualified compound talents. Therefore, NGOs should strive to improve their strength in the future.

## **III . NGOs with a Promising Future**

Currently, with the fast spread of disease in the world, global anti-epidemic cooperation, cooperation in other areas among different countries as well as trust among people of different countries are facing challenges. “We should bring into full play the role of industry associations and chambers of commerce to guide and help enterprises and other member organizations conduct scientific prevention and



resume work and normal life”, Chinese President Xi Jinping points out. “All of us—WHO and all its member countries, as well as all people taking part in the anti-epidemic—should re-examine our job and must do better. Not only now, but also in the future”, said Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-general of WHO. In fact, the demand for non-governmental cooperation is very strong. Taking Sino-US cooperation for instance, according to a recent survey conducted by Think Tank for Globalization, 96.74% of the interviewees are in favor of Sino-US people-to-people cooperation on anti-epidemic; 84.44% of the interviewees believe that Sino-US people-to-people cooperation on anti-epidemic have positive effect on Sino-US relations; 66.03% of the interviewees have the willingness or plan to take part in Sino-US people-to-people cooperation on anti-epidemic. The above statistics demonstrate that there is great space for NGOs to play a more important role and the society should offer more support for NGOs to take part in global anti-epidemic cooperation.

Governments should offer more encouragement and guidance to NGOs. The more effective participation of NGOs in global anti-epidemic cooperation calls for effective guidance and considerable arrangement from governments. On one hand, NGOs should be integrated into the government response mechanisms for major emergencies. On the other hand, governments should encourage NGOs to strengthen exchanges, interaction and cooperation, and promote NGOs of different types to strengthen collaborative governance. On the basis of independent operation, different types of NGOs should strengthen communication, and participate in cooperation with a more professional, balanced and objective stance. It's natural that we should at the same time build a sound exit mechanism for improper NGOs.

An international alliance of anti-epidemic NGOs should be formed under the framework of UN. The operation practice of Silk Road NGO Cooperation Network is a

good reference for the erection of international alliance of anti-epidemic NGOs. Horizontally, adopting the forms of joint conference, the strong lead the weak and the mature lead the new ones, the alliance could promote specialized and differentiated development of NGOs and strengthen cooperation among them. Vertically, on behalf of NGOs, the alliance could build coordination and communication platforms with national governments and their working departments, thus forming stable cooperative relationship and helping NGOs refrain from disorderly contact with national governments of all countries.

Chinese social force should be encouraged to strengthen participation in global health governance. Statistics from China Social Organization—a public service platform show that by July 12, 2020, there are 879,819 social organizations in China and this number had increased by 3 times in the past nearly 10 years. The above said social organizations include social groups, people-run non-enterprise units and foundations. During this epidemic, Chinese NGOs have obtained rich experience in terms of taking part in domestic anti-epidemic events and international anti-epidemic assistance. Research shows that the cooperation between Chinese government and NGOs plays an important role in the contingency management and post-emergency economic recovery. Under the circumstances of global anti-epidemic cooperation, Chinese NGOs could do a lot. Governments at all levels could encourage NGOs, making the most of their advantages and specializations, take part in the global anti-epidemic cooperation and health governance in a more comprehensive and in-depth perspective, thus making the contribution of Chinese people for the earlier end of the epidemic.

(The author is the Director of Communication Center, Academy of Contemporary China and World Studies, China Foreign Languages Publishing Administration, Translated by Ma Jiatai)

# **From Participation to Winning Influence: the Participation of Chinese Social Organizations in International Cooperation against COVID-19**

Lv Xiaoli

After the outbreak of COVID-19, the issue of global governance of public health has attracted world attention. Facing this global challenge, the WHO appeals, “let’s help each other because we desperately need the help of each other.” In the global fight against COVID-19, on one hand, large-scale intergovernmental assistance constructs the basic framework for the mansion of international cooperation against the epidemic; on the other hand, efforts made by civil society have strengthened people-to-people ties among people of different countries. With the unforgettable experience of the epidemic since its earliest outbreak, the Chinese people could better understand the pain of virus transmission, shortage of protective articles, diagnosis and treatment, friends and relatives getting infected, as well as the necessity of confinement, communication, experience sharing and psychological comfort. While the domestic fight against COVID-19 is making phase achievement at this stage, the rest of the world is still suffering from the epidemic. Chinese social organizations begin to actively join in the fight against epidemic overseas.

At present, the global fight against COVID-19 is going on. By the following analysis, we aim to probe into means of optimizing the role of Chinese social organizations and further improving the influence of Chinese social organizations in global public health governance.

## **I . Contribution of Chinese Social Organizations in Global Fight against the Outbreak: Strive to Enhance People-to-people Ties**

Virus knows no country. According to an incomplete statistics offered by China Global Philanthropy Institute, by March 31, 2020, anti-epidemic activities carried out or plan to be carried out by Chinese social organizations cover at least 109 countries (except China) in six continents, which occupy 54% of all countries influenced by COVID-19. In the global fight against the outbreak, we can see the simultaneous and all-round participation of civil society of China.

By launching the Joint Action for Defeating the COVID-19 within the Framework of the Silk Road Community Building Initiative, China NGO

Network for International Exchanges has organized all kinds of anti-epidemic cooperation with more than 60 countries, including donation, experience sharing and dispatching volunteers, with the value of foreign aid reaching 192 million RMB yuan. Chinese Red Cross Foundation founds the Evergrande International Anti-Epidemic Fund, facilitating Red Cross Society of China in bringing its professional humanitarian service experience to the rest of the world. In the early stage of the global outbreak, Jack Ma Foundation and Alibaba Foundation extend their global strategic layout at the first time and donate more than 100 million pieces of epidemic prevention articles to nearly 150 countries and regions, expanding the geographical coverage of Chinese public welfare donation by a large extent. By donating test kits and constructing Fire Eye



Labs, Mammoth Foundation of Shenzhen strives to offer targeted technological assistance for fighting COVID-19. From national social organizations to corporate foundation and non-governmental volunteer organizations, simultaneous and all-round foreign assistance from Chinese civil society is the most distinctive feature of Chinese social organizations in taking part in global fight against COVID-19. Like pearls form the necklace, numerous philanthropic acts from Chinese civil society formed a shining line of benevolence. The overseas anti-epidemic efforts of Chinese social organizations are of the following features.

The first feature is to attach importance to cooperation and develop a flexible pattern of cooperation. The pattern of pragmatic cross-sector cooperation under emergency is a cooperative pattern worth noticing for the foreign assistance carried out by social organizations. Participation of Chinese social organizations in global fight against COVID-19 features demand-oriented resource and information docking, cross-sector and cross-profession cooperation for the need of containing the epidemic, and bringing the potential of all participants into full play in the process of making concerted efforts.

In terms of concrete operation, some social organizations choose to cooperate with overseas chambers of commerce or overseas Chinese groups. For instance, from “rescue Wenzhou” to now “rush to rescue people

overseas”, the overseas cooperative partners of Blazing Youth Community of Wenzhou range from overseas chambers of commerce, overseas Chinese groups such as World Association of Wenzhou People and Roman Federation of Overseas Chinese, to some enterprises. Some social organizations carry out work with the aid of international industry exchange platform. For instance, when the outbreak in Europe accelerated, China Development Research Foundation, Global Philanthropy Institute and the To China Hub of University of Torino jointly launched the Sino-Italian Charity Forum—a cooperative platform devoted to assisting Italy fighting

COVID-19. Some social organizations directly cooperate with local governments. For example, with the coordination of Chinese Embassy in Serbia and the Serbian Government, when the COVID-19 test kits donated by Mammoth Foundation arrived in Europe, the Serbian Government immediately dispatched special planes to send test kits to Belgrade.

The second feature is to widely adopt cyber and digital means in their job. Technology changes life. In the global fight against COVID-19, we can see that the adoption of technology drive innovative platforms—science and technology accelerated the global development of Chinese philanthropy.

When the COVID-19 epidemic is sweeping across the world, the logistics of anti-epidemic goods is hindered. With the enterprise platform, the Alibaba Foundation mobilizes resources of the whole world for the anti-epidemic efforts. While many countries are forced to lockdown key cities or even lockdown the country, the Alibaba Foundation uses the e-commerce-World Trade Platform (e-WTP) to efficiently offer international goods transportation. With the coordinative network established by Cai Niao, Alibaba could finish domestic distribution of donated goods in the destination country. With the aid of “cloud” communication, the Chinese society also erected a cooperative network for fighting COVID-19. For instance, the on-line anti-epidemic experience sharing organized by the Silk Road NGO Network has covered more than 200 organizations in Lebanon and seven other countries. The Global MediXchange for Combating COVID-19 (GMCC) of Alibaba Foundation is sharing information with the whole world. The Handbook of COVID-19 Prevention and Treatment published by the Alibaba

Foundation has been translated into 21 languages and more than half of its 0.6 million total downloads are contributed by overseas readers. In terms of voluntary service, the Secretariat of Chinese Young Volunteers Association, the Beijing Probono Foundation and “iwill” jointly launched the “iwill joint voluntary service”—with online resource mobilization and off-line service distribution, the professional spirit of voluntary service featuring freedom, non-profit, free of charge, professional and cooperate are integrated and practiced both online and offline, thus accumulating useful experience for volunteers to take part in global emergency assistance in the future.

The third feature is to focus on the need of people and offer professional anti-epidemic service. Taking advantage of their previous work experience, social organizations offered targeted service and professional epidemic response. Noticing that overseas Chinese face the direct threat of COVID-19 and possible psychological pressure and the need of isolation caused by discrimination and exclusion on Chinese people in some countries, the Shanghai Huijidi Psychological Care Center expanded its service coverage from China to the whole world, helping people from all over the world strengthen their psychological defense and get out of worries. The Nepali branch of China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation and SSN jointly launched the project of community anti-COVID-19 in Nepal. By June 17, 234 hand-washing stations have been established. These stations are mainly located in places such as police station, public hospitals, under-developed communities and scenic spots—equipped with anti-COVID-19 posters, the stations can effectively strengthen the anti-epidemic awareness and the health of people in under-developed communities,

and lower the risk of being infected. The project of hand-washing stations is evolved from the project of “Wash”—an existing overseas program launched by China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation. The timely, suitable, flexible and collaborative project fully demonstrates the profession of China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation in running overseas projects—although most of them are small scale ones.

## II . Reexamine the Job of Chinese Social Organizations in Global Fight against the Outbreak: International Influence Needs to be Further Improved

During the global outbreak, small benevolent behaviors may play an important role for others and bring the hearts of people of different countries closer. Facing the COVID-19 outbreak, social organizations of China actively offer humanitarian assistance by coordinating with each other with their professionalism, thus demonstrating to the rest of the world China’s concept and act of a community of shared destiny, and making great contribution to international cooperation against COVID-19. Meanwhile, the overseas force of Chinese social organizations as a whole is relatively weak and short of scale effect and influence. The power and influence of Chinese social organizations is still relatively inadequate. In their participation in global anti-epidemic cooperation, Chinese social organizations need to improve themselves in the following aspects.

First, the participation methods concentrate on donation—lack of original-run localized projects and international influence. Mature large-scale western NGOs usually set up overseas branches and executive team, hire overseas employees and develop professional overseas cooperative partners,

thus enjoying strong influence in the destination country. The international operation of Chinese social organizations obviously lags behind and is still in the early stage. Therefore—their role in international governance system is limited. Compared with the scale of Chinese government foreign aid and enterprise foreign investment, the extent of overseas development of social organizations is low and their international influence cannot match with the rising status of China.

In the new era, there is still a long way to go and many challenges to overcome for Chinese social organizations to take part in global governance. Compared with the huge amount of overseas projects, strong discourse and publicizing advantages enjoyed by their western counterparts, the overseas projects of Chinese social organizations are small in quantity and scattered in location—therefore can hardly form sustainable influence. Fundamentally, the growth of influence depends on scale and sustainable efforts. From an overall perspective, the overseas layout of Chinese social organizations is still in a marginalized and complementary status. To obtain proper scale and influence, the overseas expansion of Chinese social organizations needs to be encouraged and strengthened.

Second, the overseas operation of Chinese social organizations is mainly short-term in nature, which lacks institutionalized policy and cooperative network for sustainable overseas operation. Taking part in international cooperation against COVID-19 is also a short-term job. For realizing their long-term objective of overseas development, Chinese social organizations should probe into issues such as how to take root overseas and form their own professional space, how to take part in global governance more



effectively and realize sustainable overseas operation.

In terms of external support, regulations at the executive level still need to be improved. For instance, there is now no regulations or policies standardizing the overseas operation of social organizations, such as donation, taxation and foreign exchange management. Due to the lack of legal support, the overseas operation of Chinese social organizations can hardly realize institutionalized and standardized operation. In terms of cooperative network, the overseas development of social organizations calls for a more sustainable partnership network. Tasks of the local network development in targeting countries include choosing diversified partners, reaching consensus, the localization of projects, staff and influence. The standards of selecting cooperative partners should also be diversified—not only select some elite, grass and pivotal supporting platforms and some influential platforms, but also probe into channels of cooperating with multinational institutions and platforms. Only by achieving the objectives of sound regulatory policies, abundant fund, localized staff, sustainable projects and profound influence in the people, can the network of diversified cooperative partners end the causal overseas development of social organizations and fulfill the mission of strengthening people-to-people ties.

Third, foreign assistance features lack of strategic considerations and professional talents. Strategic positioning is very important for the international development of Chinese social organizations and their participation in international anti-epidemic cooperation. Only by considering problems such as the unique features of our projects and the competitiveness of our job, can the overseas layout

and development of social organizations gradually improve and refrain from following suits. In addition, the shortage of talents has become a big obstacle hindering the development of Chinese social organizations overseas. Chinese social organizations are short of professional and high-end interdisciplinary project planning and executive talents. Only those talents with an international perspective, foreign language proficiency, experience of international practice and international organization operation can promote the overseas development of social organizations. Overseas Chinese and overseas students are important forces supporting the overseas development of Chinese social organizations and need to be cherished.

To conclude, international cooperation against epidemic is not only a platform showcasing the love of Chinese people, but also an important opportunity for Chinese social organizations to participate in global public health governance, contribute wisdom and improve influence. In this process, we hope to see the growth of Chinese social organizations and their identity shift from followers, participants to leaders, the promotion of global governance scheme integrating Chinese wisdom, and the growing understanding, recognition and support of foreign people to China. The realization of these objectives echoes the epoch theme of how to serve national strategy, make use of professional advantages, cooperate with diversified partners, better participate in global governance and contribute Chinese wisdom and Chinese proposals to the new era.

(The author is the Deputy-Director, Center for People-to-people Diplomacy, Beijing Normal University, translated by Ma Jiatai)

# British and American Development Models are Frustrated and Urgently Need Change

Stephen Perry

The West struggles with finding alternative strategies for developing our societies and economies. In the past there was a simple belief that focusing on growth through trade and investment would produce a rising standard of living for all even if at different levels and rates of improvement. The capitalist world encapsulated that amid different forms. Other variations exist but these two forms are the main ones. In Northern Europe a more sharing form was developed, called Social Democracy, and resting on origins in the Lutheran philosophy. In the USA and the UK a more financially driven form was always increasing speed and has now hit the buffers searching for new formulas in a fast changing world.

## **Western countries have arrived at a crossroads**

And between them the supremacy of empire of the UK, then the USA, has meant that the financially driven model of the USA and UK has dominated the Western world for most of this 300 years. The UK and USA world has not been an uncaring or unsharing model, but the care and share aspect has been achieved in the first 200 years through struggle,

and in the last 100 years with more grudging acceptance. It is still the case that those who have, controlling the levers of power, have compromised but never given up control.

Now the USA and the UK have arrived at a crossroads as their model appears threatened with a loss of its elixir – growth. Society is in pain and the drivers of the economy have shifted to Private Equity and Hedge Funds who now dominate Wall Street and the FTSE index. Some describe these two modern forms of capitalism as vultures, no longer focused on dwindling growth, instead eating their companies from within, extracting value and spitting out the remains. Whether they are the cleansers of decay or the vultures does not matter as lack of growth means the sharing can only be achieved by eating into a reluctance to give up by those who have the upper hand, the more. This model is sunk deep into financial dependency where the financial sector now ply their trade to extract growth from wherever they can find it, and not just by financing trade and investment. They no longer are focused on creating growth.

The world is dependent on China for 30pc of its growth, and most of the rest is unreliable and collections of smaller amounts. Financial capitalism is attacking its single greatest source of growth – the USA is at economic war with China, believing that if it does not stop China, China will replace the USA. The snake is eating itself. It cannot win. China is not going to roll over and hand over its 1.4 billion people market to the USA and the Western economic models which search endlessly for revenue and profit. It could happen but with 50 years of experience of China, and watching Kissinger and Paulson fail to tame China.

### **The West is degenerating**

The West is hurtling into a deep crisis, which its smaller brothers may escape but will suffer a loss of collective power which will also change them forever. The deep crisis of vultures and finance predominating means the core economy dependent on a fast modernizing infrastructure and innovation in agriculture, manufacturing and service is increasingly failing and the funds are increasingly in the wrong places – finance and military.

Our world is based on a capitalism that has emerged from the seeds of feudalism. It rose with majesty and splendor and huge economic growth. It is now in reverse. The old hegemony is now like a big ship that has lost its rudder stock and direction. The crew is in a melee, and no one knows how to get ashore smoothly. Large-scale investment in the military is an important reason for the failure of the empire. I have to admit that capitalist countries are still very powerful, but they are also declining. As

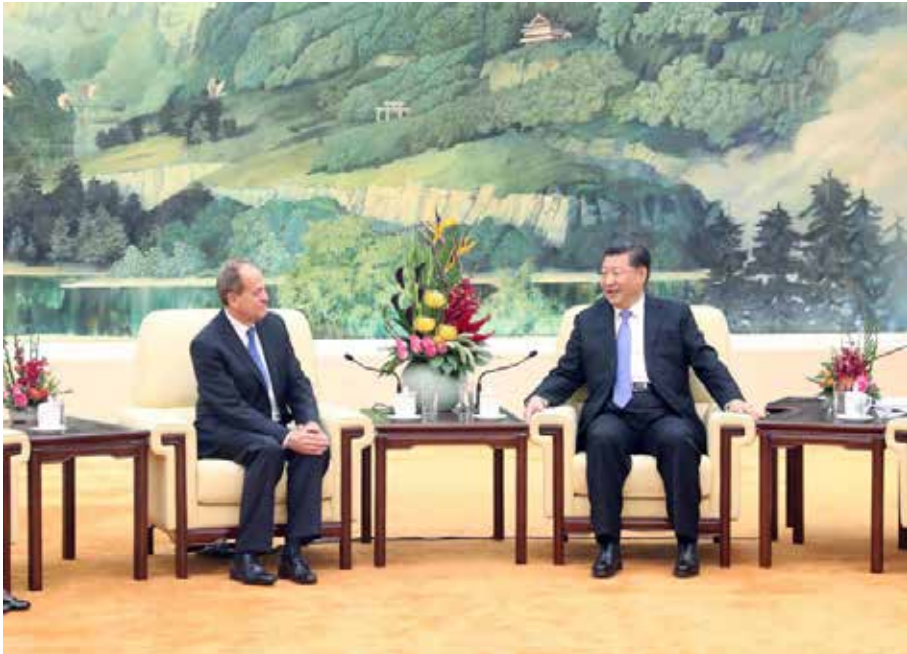
the leader of capitalist countries, the United States must take responsibility. It is foreseeable that the future of Western countries is bleak because of the weak government, short-sighted leaders and lack of comprehensive and objective vision.

Turn your gaze to the other side of the world. I often write articles about China, and I have been thinking about what China means to the West and the world. In the face of the virus, China has invested heavily in fighting the epidemic and adopted scientific and effective response methods. Compared with China, Britain's resources and strategies are stretched. In addition to China, Russia, Germany, Japan, India and other major countries are also very active on the international stage, and their influence is quietly growing, although they do not expect to build a new empire.

### **Seize the opportunity to cooperate with China**

Does it have to end in a black hole? We need to see that Responsible Capitalism is our journey. We are not going to become some bizarre form of socialism. We are not built that way. Maybe a form of social democracy is the road but only with a destination and a compass. Not if leaders emerge who grasp Responsible Capitalism, reduce the share of financial capitalism, steer the funds to the needed development areas, and form a serious security pact with China which embraces sustainable economic development and shares BRI before it has gone from our reach. BRI might then be renamed the New Silk Road and be a two way process and provide the growth for us all.

The attempt to stop Huawei is an admission the



West has lost. We need to convince China to share ownership of the key long term development areas, and not try to force them off the road. Our road will disappear before they do. Ask China to open Huawei's ownership.

While Xi is there we have a chance for a good deal. By the time he has gone China will not need to deal with us. We have 20 years to save our systems from decay.

So press for change in the academics and media. No one says what I am saying, the media is full of amendment and reform ideas. As if we can save ourselves with small ideas and without huge changes to our economies and life styles. Our societies are lost in reality TV and love island. There are a few

voices of integrity – the Queen of the UK perhaps. But very few with authority or clarity. Get the FT to start being a force for change. Get the BBC to do the same but more importantly.

The intelligence arms of society took leadership in the USA and UK about 40 years ago. They are not skilled at major development changes. But they can see that the West is degenerating. They can lead change by changing themselves. Time for top quality civilian power to be found and armed again. Civilian power includes those from intelligence and the military but operating in the civilian arena. It is our natural and accepted way to make change. So lead change from there. If the first group parachuted in do not work then try again.