

INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING

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LETTING THE WORLD UNDERSTAND CHINA  
AND LETTING CHINA UNDERSTAND THE WORLD



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CHINESE ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING

# INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING

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Letters may be edited for length or content.

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## **The Fourth Plenary Session of the 20th CPC Central Committee Concludes, Adopting Recommendations for China's 15th Five-Year Plan**



*Xi Jinping, General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, delivers an important address at the fourth plenary session of the 20th CPC Central Committee in Beijing, capital of China. The 20th Central Committee of the CPC convened its fourth plenary session in Beijing from October 20 to 23. (XINHUA)*

The draft document consists of 15 parts, which are divided into three main sections.

The first section, which consists of the first and second parts, gives a general overview of China's

major development achievements in the 14th Five-Year Plan period, the important position of the 15th Five-Year Plan period as a critical stage in building on past successes to break new ground for basically achieving socialist modernisation,

profound and intricate changes facing China's development environment in the 15th Five-Year Plan period, the guiding philosophy for economic and social development in the 15th Five-Year Plan period, and the core principles to follow and major objectives to pursue during this period.

The second section is the discussion section, which comprises 12 parts (the 3rd through the 14th part). This section mainly focuses on the key issues bearing on overall and long-term interests and makes sector-specific arrangements for strategic tasks and main measures during the 15th Five-Year

Plan period.

The third and final section consists of the 15th part and concluding remarks. This section primarily makes arrangements for tasks related to upholding and strengthening the Party Central Committee's centralised and unified leadership, advancing socialist democracy and rule of law, carrying out work concerning Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan, promoting the building of a community with a shared future for humanity, and mobilising the initiative, enthusiasm, and creativity of the whole society.

# Key Points of the Recommendations of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China for Formulating the 15th Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development

## The 15th Five-Year Plan period as a critical stage in building on past successes to break new ground for basically realising socialist modernisation

Socialist modernisation can only be realised through a historical process of gradual and ongoing development. It requires the unremitting hard work of one generation after another. The period covered by the 15th Five-Year Plan will be critical in this process as we work to reinforce the

foundations and push ahead on all fronts toward basically realising socialist modernisation by 2035.

## Guiding Principles and Major Objectives for Economic and Social Development in the 15th Five-Year Plan Period

Upholding the Party's overall leadership

Putting the people first

Pursuing high-quality development



Visitors learn about a manned aircraft during China International Digital Economy Expo 2025 in Shijiazhuang, north China's Hebei Province, on October 17, 2025 (XINHUA)



◀ An aerial drone photo shows a view of the container terminal of Zhoushan Port in Ningbo, east China's Zhejiang Province, on January 4, 2025 (XINHUA)

Comprehensively deepening reform

Promoting both an efficient market and a well-functioning government

Ensuring both development and security

### **Building a Modernised Industrial System and Reinforcing the Foundations of the Real Economy**

Upgrading traditional industries

Fostering emerging industries and industries of the future

Promoting the high-quality, efficient development of the service sector

Developing a modernised infrastructure system

### **Achieving Greater Self-Reliance and Strength in Science and Technology and Steering the Development of New Quality Productive Forces**

Promoting advances in original innovation and breakthroughs in core technologies in key fields

Promoting full integration between technological and industrial innovation

Pursuing the integrated development of education, science and technology, and human resources

Advancing the Digital China Initiative

### **Building a Robust Domestic Market and Fostering a New Pattern of Development**

Boosting consumption

Expanding effective investment

Eliminating bottlenecks and obstacles hindering the development of a unified national market

### **Developing a High-Standard Socialist Market Economy and Boosting the Momentum for High-Quality Development**

Stimulating the vitality of all market entities

Moving faster to improve the institutions and mechanisms for market-based allocation of production factors

Making macroeconomic governance more effective

### **Promoting High-Standard Opening Up and Creating New Horizons for Mutually Beneficial Cooperation**

Opening China wider to the outside world

Promoting the innovative development of trade

Expanding two-way investment cooperation

Pursuing high-quality Belt and Road cooperation

### **Accelerating Agricultural and Rural Modernisation and Advancing All-Around Rural Revitalisation**

Enhancing the overall production capacity, quality, and performance of agriculture

Building a beautiful and harmonious countryside for people to live and work in

Ensuring that policies aimed at strengthening agriculture, benefiting farmers, and enriching rural

areas deliver greater outcomes

### **Refining the Regional Economic Layout and Promoting Coordinated Regional Development**

Promoting more coordinated regional development

Boosting interconnected development between regions

Improving the development of territorial spaces

Promoting people-centred new urbanisation

Strengthening marine development, utilisation, and protection



◀ *An aerial drone photo shows farmers loading newly harvested grains into a vehicle in Daoxiang Village of Suihua City, northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on October 13, 2024 (XINHUA)*



*An aerial drone photo taken on October 19, 2025 shows an entrance of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge in south China (XINHUA)*

**Inspiring the Cultural Creativity of Our Entire Nation and Fostering a Thriving Socialist Culture**

- Promoting and practicing the core socialist values
- Boosting cultural programmes
- Accelerating the development of cultural industries
- Extending the reach and appeal of Chinese civilisation

**Ensuring and Improving Public Wellbeing and Promoting Common Prosperity for All**

- Promoting high-quality full employment
- Improving the income distribution system
- Developing education that meets the people’s expectations
- Improving the social security system
- Promoting high-quality development in the real estate sector
- Advancing the Healthy China Initiative
- Promoting high-quality population development
- Ensuring more equitable access to basic public services

**Accelerating the Green Transition across the Board and Building a Beautiful China**

- Pressing ahead with the critical battle against pollution and the drive to upgrade ecosystems
- Moving faster to develop a new type of energy system
- Working actively and prudently toward peaking carbon emissions
- Accelerating the shift to eco-friendly production practices and lifestyles

**Modernising China’s National Security System and Capacity and Building a Peaceful China**

- Improving the national security system
- Building up national security capacity in key sectors
- Enhancing public safety governance
- Improving the social governance system

**Achieving the Centenary Goals of the People’s Liberation Army and Modernising National Defense and the Armed Forces**

- Speeding up the development of advanced combat capabilities
- Modernising military governance
- Consolidating and improving integrated national strategies and strategic capabilities



*An aerial view of a village in Yongzhou City, south China’s Hunan Province, on September 14, 2025 (VCG)*

# Strategic Guidance Proves Governance Efficacy as China Propels Modernisation

By Ji Haisheng from *China Daily*

In 1954, one year after China initiated the inaugural Five-Year Plan (1953-57), a specialised factory for manufacturing bearings, core components of mechanical equipment, was set up in Luoyang, Henan province.

It was one of the 156 key projects launched nationwide during the period when the country was striving to build up the basic industries essential for national industrialisation. These projects, spanning sectors such as steel, machinery, energy and chemical engineering, laid the foundation for China's industrialisation in its early days, marking a determined stride from an agricultural society toward industrial prowess.

Over 70 years later, Luoyang Bearing Group stands as a testament to this enduring vision, as it has evolved into an innovation-driven enterprise manufacturing over 30,000 types of high-precision bearings, vital to industries ranging from aerospace and wind power to rail transit and marine engineering.

During a visit to the company in May, President Xi Jinping, who is also General Secretary of the

Communist Party of China Central Committee and Chairman of the Central Military Commission, reflected on this remarkable progress, saying: "China has always adhered to the path of developing the real economy. From the past reliance on imported matches, soap and iron, to now becoming the world's largest manufacturing country with the most complete industrial categories, we have taken the right path."

Sticking to this path, China has remained the world's largest manufacturing country for 15 consecutive years. Observers noted that this transformative journey underscores the profound efficacy of the five-year plan system as a fundamental instrument of China's governance.

The Five-year plans are crucial strategic documents that outline national goals, major tasks and policy directions in various sectors for each five-year period respectively.

It is an approach that experts say maintains policy continuity and stability toward established goals, and ensures the efficient and well-calibrated allocation of resources.

Formulating and implementing five-year plans has been a hallmark of the Communist Party of China's governance, enabling China to promote coordinated economic and social development over the medium and long terms. For China, the consistent theme from the first Five-Year Plan to the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-25), as President Xi pointed out, has been to build China into a modern socialist country.

**The five-year plans are not merely economic plans but comprehensive national development blueprints, and the robust implementation of these blueprints is the highlight of China's governance.**

For more than seven decades, a key to the enduring vitality of the five-year plan system lies in "a synergistic relationship in which the top-level design and long-term perspective of national planning effectively complement the micro-level efficiency and innovative drive of the market economy", said Yan Yilong, deputy dean of the Institute for Contemporary China Studies at Tsinghua University.

"This system operates on three pillars: building consensus on national goals through political guidance and scientific planning, breaking down goals into actionable tasks with evaluation and supervision, and ensuring resource allocation to support these objectives," Yan said.

The five-year plans are not merely economic plans but comprehensive national development blueprints, and the robust implementation of these blueprints is the highlight of China's governance, he added.

Acknowledging the nature and significance of China's five-year plan system, *The Diplomat*, a

Washington, D.C. based foreign affairs magazine, noted that "the plans are neither rigid blueprints nor mere guidelines. Instead, they act as authoritative signals that shape the behaviour of ministries, provincial governments, state-owned enterprises, private firms, and an increasing number of foreign investors".

Over the decades, China's five-year plans have guided continuous progress in national development and living standards, from ensuring adequate food and clothing after completing the sixth and seventh five-year plans in the 1980s to propelling China's total economic output to enable China to become the world's second-largest economy in the 11th Five-Year Plan (2006-10) period.

"Five-year plans illustrate the nation's shift from a planned economy to a socialist market economy," said Zhang Zhanbin, director of the Chinese Modernisation Research Centre at the Party School of the CPC Central Committee.

He highlighted the transformative power of these plans by citing the example of the revitalisation of Northeast China, comprising Heilongjiang, Jilin and Liaoning provinces.

The region became the nation's heavy-industry heartland during the first Five-Year Plan period and was reinvigorated decades later by the 10th Five-Year Plan (2001-05) period, which proposed to support the adjustment and transformation of the old industrial base. Each subsequent five-year plan has included dedicated sections outlining tasks for Northeast China's revitalisation.

The 14th Five-Year Plan has initiated a more comprehensive revitalisation phase for Northeast China, with a State Council-approved



*Two R&D members from the Technology Centre of Luoyang Bearing Group discuss the technical parameters of wind power bearings in Zhengzhou, Henan province, on May 26, 2025 (XINHUA)*

implementation plan outlining a clear road map for the region's future.

“The elevating of the strategic positioning of Northeast China in the recent five-year plans reflects the Party and the country's earnest expectations for its comprehensive revitalisation in the new era,” Zhang said.

### **Pivotal stage**

The year 2025 signifies the conclusion of the 14th Five-Year Plan and is pivotal in shaping the subsequent five-year agenda.

The 15th Five-Year Plan (2026-30) is tasked with achieving “decisive progress” in basically realising socialist modernisation by 2035, said Yan.

Speaking at a symposium with provincial leaders in Shanghai in April, Xi pointed out that the scientific

formulation and consistent implementation of five-year plans represent an important experience of the Party in governing the country and a major political strength of socialism with Chinese characteristics.

Xi, who previously led the drafting groups for both the 13th and 14th five-year plans, has consistently emphasised strategic foresight in guiding each phase of national development.

During the 13th Five-Year Plan (2016-20) period, he underscored that this stage was decisive for building a moderately prosperous society in all respects and highlighted the importance of leveraging strategic opportunities. For the 14th Five-Year Plan, he outlined the historic mission of advancing toward the second centenary goal and called for a profound understanding of the new stage of development, including its characteristics

and requirements.

### **Broad consensus**

Looking ahead to the 15th Five-Year Plan, Xi has highlighted that the formulation and implementation of this plan has immense significance for fully realising the strategic initiatives outlined at the 20th CPC National Congress and advancing Chinese modernisation.

In an instruction in May, he emphasised the importance of integrating top-level design with seeking advice from the public, enhancing research and discussions, and building broad consensus, and stressed sound, democratic and law-based decision-making to ensure that the next five-year plan is formulated with high quality.

A key feature of the planning process has been the emphasis on public participation. From May 20

to June 20, an online campaign soliciting opinions for the 15th Five-Year Plan received over 3.11 million suggestions from the public. Xi described this as a vivid example of whole-process people's democracy and urged relevant departments to carefully study and absorb these valuable insights.

By integrating visionary guidance with inclusive governance, China's "target governance mechanism", exemplified by the five-year plan system, continues to be a vital tool for aligning national ambitions with the aspirations of its people, said Yan, the Tsinghua expert.

As China navigates a complex landscape of technological acceleration, economic transformation and strategic competition, the next five-year plan represents a critical step toward securing sustainable and high-quality development, he added.

## China's Five-Year Plans at a Glance

### The 1st Five-Year Plan (1953-1957)

**Focus:** Establishing the foundations of heavy industry and socialist industrialisation

**Achievements:** Socialist transformation of agriculture, handicrafts, and capitalist sectors

### The 2nd Five-Year Plan (1958-1962)

**Focus:** Industrial technological transformation and heavy industry

**Achievements:** Advanced socialist transformation

### The 3rd and 4th Five-Year Plans (1966-1975)

**Focus:** Industrial transportation and defence technology

**Achievements:** A large number of backbone enterprises, key projects and infrastructure facilities have been built, and the country's economic aggregate has increased significantly compared with the past.

### The 5th Five-Year Plan (1976-1980)

**Focus:** Balanced and rational economic development

**Achievements:** The period was defined by the 11th CPC Central Committee's third plenary session, which launched China's reform and opening-up policy, a pivotal economic shift.

### The 6th Five-Year Plan (1981-1985)

**Focus:** Economic reform and opening up

**Achievements:** A dramatic increase in agricultural production, the opening of China's economy to the world and the onset of a take-off stage in national economic development, driven by key reforms such as the Household Contract Responsibility System and the establishment of Special Economic Zones

## The 7th Five-Year Plan (1986-1990)

**Focus:** Steady economic growth, sectoral improvements, and economic system reform

**Achievements:** The national economy maintained steady growth during this period, with major improvements across agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, and fishery, which helped further alleviate shortages in agricultural and consumer products.

## The 8th Five-Year Plan (1991-1995)

**Focus:** Reforming the socialist market economy

**Achievements:** The role of market mechanisms became a central aspect of this period. With a faster pace of reform, China's GDP grew at an average annual rate of 12 percent.

## The 9th Five-Year Plan (1996-2000)

**Focus:** Double the 1980 GNP and enable the people to achieve a moderately prosperous standard of living by the end of the 20th century

**Achievements:** The actual performance in GNP far exceeded the target. Despite the Asian financial crisis, China's GDP surpassed US\$1 trillion in 2000, and per-capita GDP reached US\$850, moving the country into the lower-middle-income category. Major agricultural and industrial outputs ranked among the world's top, and the general living standards of the people had reached a modest level of prosperity.

## The 10th Five-Year Plan (2001-2005)

**Focus:** Economic restructuring, driving IT application across the national economy and society, and navigating the challenges and opportunities presented by China's accession to the World Trade Organisation (WTO)

**Achievements:** China's accession to the WTO accelerated the growth of its export-oriented economy. The pace of industrialisation and urbanisation quickened, with notable growth in automobile and housing consumption. GDP grew at an average annual rate of 9.8 percent, and the country's total economic output ranked fourth in the world.

## The 11th Five-Year Plan (2006-2010)

**Focus:** The formal transition from a planned economy to a socialist market economy took place during this period. Significant shifts occurred in development philosophy, with the Scientific Outlook on Development guiding socioeconomic progress. Key priorities included accelerating the transformation of the economic

growth model, enhancing indigenous innovation capabilities, and promoting social harmony.

**Achievements:** Despite the impact of the global financial crisis, China's GDP continued to grow at an annual rate of 11.2 percent. The country's total economic output became the second-largest in the world, and China entered the upper-middle-income category. Notably, the core concept of plan began to reflect a more flexible and indicative approach to national development.

### The 12th Five-Year Plan (2011-2015)

**Focus:** Pivoting from pure GDP growth to sustainable, high-quality development, and targeting 7 percent annual growth while restructuring, inclusive growth with matching income rises and binding environmental targets

**Achievements:** Socialism with Chinese characteristics entered a new era under this plan. China maintained its position as the world's second-largest economy, contributing more than 25 percent of world economic growth.

### The 13th Five-Year Plan (2016-2020)

**Focus:** Key priorities included addressing challenges related to growth drivers, imbalanced development, harmony between humanity and nature, open development, and achieving shared prosperity.

**Achievements:** China's economy maintained steady and high-speed growth, with per capita GDP surpassing US\$10,000, reaching the level of upper-middle-income countries, and contributing over 30 percent of global growth. Manufacturing shifted to higher-end industries, and the digital economy flourished. Technological progress continued to be a major driver of economic growth. The country also made historic achievements in poverty alleviation, environmental improvement, and the expansion of its social security system.

### The 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025)

**Focus:** To drive China's transition from "becoming prosperous" to "becoming strong," pursuing higher-quality, more efficient, more equitable, more sustainable and more secure development

**Achievements:** Amid the complex and evolving international landscape and the demanding tasks of domestic reform, development and maintaining stability, China has withstood the severe impact of a once-in-a-century pandemic and met a series of major risks and challenges. The nation's economic strength, scientific and technological capabilities, and overall national power have all reached new heights.

## China's Sustainable Growth Brings Shared Benefits to the World

As China approaches the end of its 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025), the country stands at a new starting point in its long-term modernisation drive.

Despite a challenging global landscape marked by a sluggish recovery and supply chain fragmentation caused by protectionism, China has consistently served as a reliable engine of growth and a pillar of stability for the world economy.

During the past five years, China has contributed around 30 percent on average to global economic

growth each year. Its share of the world economy has risen from 11.3 percent in 2012 to 17.1 percent last year. The country has remained the world's largest trader in goods for many years, while also ranking among the top globally in both attracting foreign investment and making outbound investment.

Behind this sustained momentum lies one of the hallmarks of China's governance: the five-year plan mechanism, which enables the country to pursue



*Humanoid robots compete in a kickboxing match at the 2025 World Humanoid Robot Games in Beijing, capital of China, on August 15, 2025 (XINHUA)*

long-term goals with policy consistency, while allowing flexibility to adapt to shifting domestic and global landscapes.

China's roadmap for the next five years is already taking shape. While the full 15th Five-Year Plan is expected to be unveiled in March 2026, a communiqué from the recent fourth plenary session of the 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China has outlined key priorities, which include steering the development of new quality productive forces, building a robust domestic market and promoting high-standard opening up.

With steadfast emphasis on innovation and sustainability in its top-level planning, China has effectively powered its technological advancement and green transformation. The rapid rise of artificial intelligence exemplifies this shift. Smart manufacturing, intelligent driving, robotics and digitalised urban management are reshaping

traditional industries and opening new frontiers for China's economic advancement.

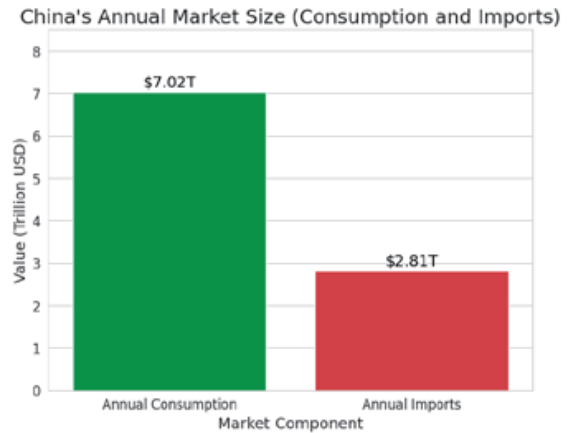
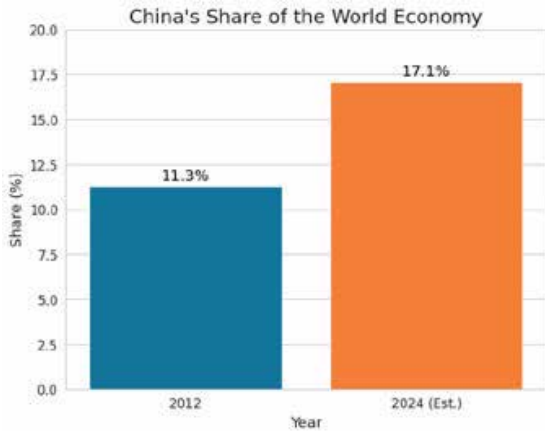
At present, China stands as a global hub for green innovation and manufacturing, particularly in electric vehicles and solar panels. And it is playing an indispensable role in driving the world's transition to a sustainable, green economy.

Beijing has deepened international cooperation on green development. Working with over 100 countries and regions, China's wind and solar exports have helped reduce global carbon emissions by an estimated 4.1 billion tonnes over the past five years.

Meanwhile, China's vast market is steadily transforming its domestic demand into global opportunities. With a population of over 1.4 billion and more than 400 million people in the middle-income bracket, China records nearly 50 trillion yuan (about US\$7.02 trillion) in annual



*A drone photo taken on September 14, 2025 shows vehicles to be loaded onto a cargo ferry at a cargo dock in Yantai, east China's Shandong Province (XINHUA)*



consumption and over 20 trillion yuan (US\$2.81 trillion) in imports. For more than a decade, the country has remained the world's second-largest consumer market and the largest online retail market.

More importantly, this market is undergoing a profound structural upgrade. From expanding and improving goods consumption to making services

a new growth engine, from building international consumption hub cities to upgrading county-level consumption, a more diversified, robust and promising domestic market is emerging, offering a broader stage for goods and services from around the world.

China's steady advance toward high-level opening up continues to send a strong signal of confidence



*This photo taken on Oct. 31, 2025 shows the north square of the National Exhibition and Convention Centre (Shanghai), the main venue for the eighth China International Import Expo (CIIE), in east China's Shanghai (XINHUA)*

and stability to the world. The country has removed foreign investment restrictions in manufacturing, broadened market access in sectors such as telecommunications, healthcare, and education, and established 22 pilot free trade zones as well as the Hainan Free Trade Port to further facilitate global business and investment.

High-quality Belt and Road cooperation has further broadened China's partnerships. From 2021 to the first half of this year, two-way investment between China and Belt and Road participating countries

surpassed 240 billion dollars. New memorandums on cooperation in the digital, green, and blue economies have been signed with more than 50 partner countries, boosting emerging industries and sustainable growth.

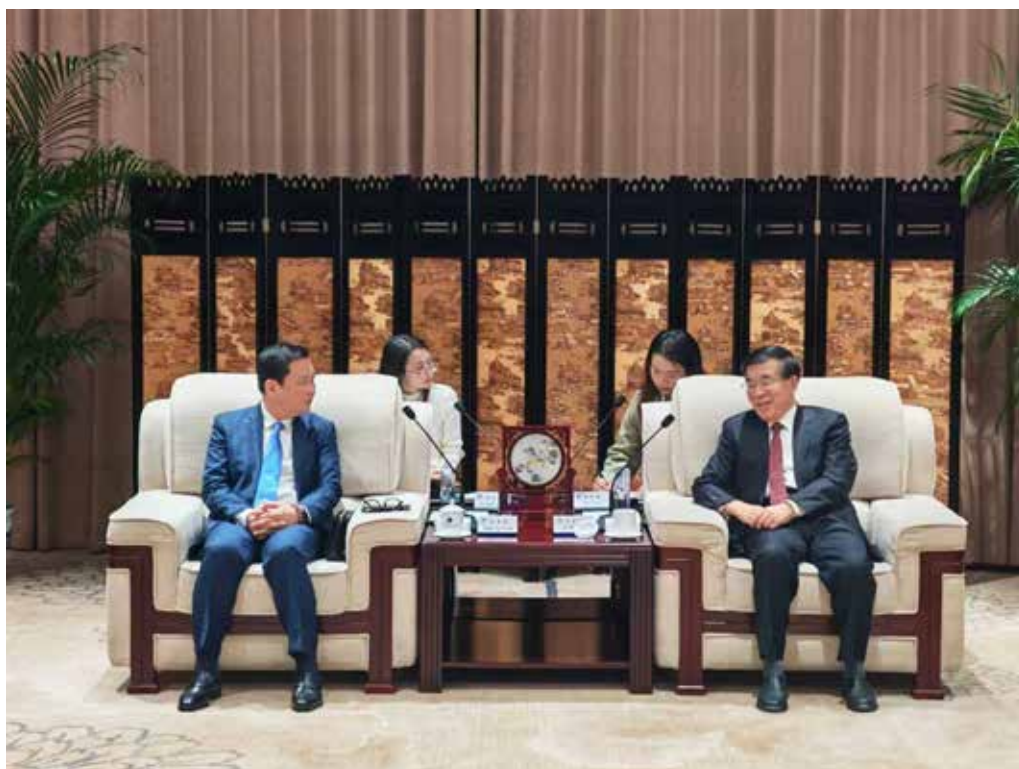
China charts the course for its next five-year plan, and its steadfast commitment to reform, innovation and openness will continue to drive its development and create new opportunities for the global economy.

## CAFIU Vice-President Liu Hongcai Meets with Delegation of Viet Nam Union of Friendship Organisations (VUFO)

At the invitation of the Chinese Association for International Understanding (CAFIU), a delegation of 5 members led by Dong Huy Cuong, Vice-President of the Viet Nam Union of Friendship Organisations (VUFO) visited China from 21st to 26th December 2025.

During the delegation's stay in Beijing, Liu Hongcai,

Vice-President of CAFIU, held a reception for the delegation. The delegation paid visits to the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs, the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, China Public Diplomacy Association, and China NGO Network for International Exchanges, as well as the Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament,



conducting in-depth discussions on the practices and useful experiences of people-to-people diplomacy and public diplomacy. The delegation also visited Tsinghua University, Beijing Foreign Studies University, and China Foreign Affairs University, engaging in seminars with experts and scholars on topics such as the history and theoretical development of China's people-to-people diplomacy. The delegation went to the Palace Museum and the Juyongguan Great Wall to learn about China's practices in cultural relics preservation and cultural inheritance.

In the meeting, Liu Hongcai spoke highly of the growing relations between the two parties and countries and the cooperation achievements in various fields in recent years. He emphasised that General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out, "the foundation of China-Vietnam friendship lies among our two peoples, and the future of this friendship

will be created by the young people." Liu said China is earnestly implementing the important consensus reached by the top leaders of our two parties, so as to deepen people-to-people exchanges, enhance mutual understanding and trust, consolidate the traditional friendship, and contribute civil strength to promoting the building of China-Viet Nam community with a shared future that carries strategic significance.

Tong Huy Cuong hailed the great significance of the Fourth Plenary Session of the 20th CPC Central Committee and the achievements of Chinese modernisation. He reviewed the traditional friendship between Viet Nam and China and expressed readiness to further deepen cooperation with China in various fields including people-to-people exchanges and accelerate the building of China-Viet Nam community with a shared future that carries strategic significance.

## CAFIU Vice-President Ai Ping Meets with Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Chairman of the Pakistan-China Institute

On 4th November 2025, CAFIU Vice-President Ai Ping met with Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Chairman of the Pakistan-China Institute. Both sides reviewed the history of friendship between China and Pakistan and exchanged views on issues of common concern.

According to Ai Ping, the enduring traditional friendship between China and Pakistan established by the older generation of leaders of both countries remains as a precious treasure shared by the two countries and two peoples. Therefore, CAFIU is ready to further strengthen cooperation with the Pakistan-China Institute and other Pakistani non-governmental organisations, and play a more

positive role in deepening the mutual learning between two civilisations as well as promoting practical cooperation and strengthening people-to-people connectivity between the two countries.

Mushahid said that under the strategic guidance of the leaders of both countries, the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership between Pakistan and China grows stronger as time goes by. Pakistan-China Institute is ready to work together with the Chinese side to deepen people-to-people and cultural exchanges as well as mutual learning between two civilisations, so as to promote the further development of bilateral relations.



## CAFIU Vice-President Ai Ping Attends the 8th Annual Conference of the Taihu World Cultural Forum

On 18th November 2025, CAFIU Vice-President Ai Ping attended the 8th Annual Conference of the Taihu World Cultural Forum in Shanghai and delivered a speech. Ai Ping stated that exchanges and mutual learning among civilisations serves as a vital driving force for human progress. All parties should join hands to actively implement the Global Civilisation Initiative, fully leverage the unique role of different cultural carriers, and strengthen dialogue among civilisations so as to promote the development and advancement of human civilisations. The Annual Conference brought together over 500 delegates from around the

world, including political figures, experts, scholars, representatives of international organisations, foreign diplomats in China, business leaders and media representatives. All delegates engaged in in-depth discussions around the theme “Mutual Learning among Civilisations and Chinese Modernisation”, enthusiastically fostering broad consensus on promoting global civilisational exchanges and mutual learning as well as common development, and injecting cultural momentum into the building of a community with a shared future for mankind.



## CAFIU Vice-President Ai Ping Meets with Angeline Tongogara, Senator of Zimbabwean Parliament

On the afternoon of 20th November 2025, CAFIU Vice-President Ai Ping met with a delegation led by Angeline Tongogara, Senator of Zimbabwean Parliament and Honorary Chairperson of Josiah Magama Tongogara Legacy Foundation.

Vice-President Ai Ping spoke positively of the traditional friendship between China and Zimbabwe and the achievements of bilateral cooperation across various fields in recent years. As the bilateral relationship enters a new stage of an all-weather community with a shared future, it is expected that both sides would further strengthen exchanges and cooperation to achieve high-quality development of China-Zimbabwe friendship. Ai Ping also briefed on the guiding principle of the Fourth Plenary Session of the 20th CPC Central Committee and the Recommendations of the CPC Central Committee for Formulating the 15th Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development, as well as the participation of Chinese social organisations in international exchanges.

Senator Angeline Tongogara expressed gratitude to CAFIU for inviting her to visit China, emphasising

that people-to-people cooperation serves as the foundation of the friendship between the two countries, while youth exchanges are the future of the enduring bilateral friendship. She expressed hope to establish connections and conduct practical cooperation with more Chinese social organisations with the help of CAFIU.



## CAFIU Vice-President Ai Ping Attends the 2025 International Energy Executive Forum

On 11th December 2025, CAFIU Vice-President Ai Ping attended the 2025 International Energy Executive Forum (IEEF) held in Beijing by the CNPC Economics & Technology Research Institute and S&P Global. Ai Ping delivered a speech at the Forum, stating that exchanges and mutual learning among civilisations serves as a significant driving force for promoting international energy cooperation. Countries should enhance communication and mutual understanding in the energy field to jointly advance the building of

a community with a shared future for mankind. Themed “Join Forces to Shape a Fair, Secure, and Intelligent New Global Energy Ecosystem”, the Forum attracted around 400 experts and scholars from relevant state ministries and commissions, international organisations, industry associations, national high-end think tanks, and research institutions. Participants explored pathways for global energy transition, security governance and high-quality development.



## CAFIU Working Group Attends the 11th Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilisations

From 13th to 16th December 2025, a CAFIU working group attended the 11th Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilisations (UNAOC) held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The working group participated in the opening and closing ceremonies, plenary sessions, thematic sessions, and youth events throughout the Forum. They engaged in exchanges with officials from the UNAOC, held extensive discussions with representatives of other civil society organisations from various countries, and had meetings with Engineer Ibrahim Al-Ghemlas, the Saudi Director of the Confucius Institute at Prince Sultan University,

and Mohamed Gaffer, young Sinologist from King Saud University.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the founding of the UNAOC. Under the theme of “UNAOC: Two Decades of Dialogue for Humanity - Advancing a New Era of Mutual Respect and Understanding in a Multipolar World”, it highly recognised the important role of the UNAOC in advancing cross-cultural dialogues while placing emphasis on topics including the preservation of the diversity of civilisations as well as the inheritance and innovation of civilisations.



## “Silk Road People-to-People Connectivity” China-Cyprus Friendship Exchange Event Held in Cyprus

On the afternoon of 20th November 2025, the “Silk Road People-to-People Connectivity” China-Cyprus Friendship Exchange Event was held in Nicosia, Cyprus. Xiao Jie, Vice-Chairperson of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress of China and President of China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE), attended the event and delivered a keynote speech. Georghios Panteli, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth of Cyprus, and Liu Yantao, the

then Chinese Ambassador to Cyprus, attended the event and gave a speech respectively. Lu Kang, Vice-Minister of the International Department of the CPC Central Committee, presided over the event. Approximately 200 representatives from Chinese and Cypriot governments, political parties, parliaments, civil society organisations, universities and enterprises were present.

In his keynote speech, Xiao Jie elaborated on the guiding principles of the Fourth Plenary Session of





the 20th CPC Central Committee and the positive significance of the *Recommendations of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China for Formulating the 15th Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development* in promoting China-Cyprus and China-Europe cooperation. He noted that the year 2026 marks the 55th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations and the 5th anniversary of the strategic partnership between China and Cyprus, presenting new opportunities for the development of bilateral relations. He said that moving forward, civil society institutions from both countries should focus on extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, carry out practical cooperation and exchanges, and promote the integration and innovation of civilisations, so as to deliver tangible

benefits to the people. This will contribute non-governmental wisdom and strength to enhancing people-to-people connectivity between China and Cyprus and building a community with a shared future for humanity.

While presiding over the event, Lu Kang said that this visit brings not only the friendship and goodwill of the Chinese people, but also the sincerity and commitment to strengthen practical people-to-people cooperation between the two countries. Multiple Chinese civil organisations joined CNIE for this visit, covering various sectors ranging from health and public welfare to economic cooperation, youth exchanges, culture, and education. During the visit, Chinese and Cypriot civil society institutions engaged in in-depth discussions to explore more opportunities for cooperation.



In his remarks, Panteli expressed that Cyprus supports and welcomes deeper exchanges with China in education, sports, culture, science and technology, environment, medicine, and many other areas of mutual interest. "We believe that cooperation in these fields not only strengthens our bilateral relations but also enriches our societies and brings benefits to future generations."

Liu Yantao said that since the establishment of the strategic partnership in 2021, which marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties, with the joint efforts of all sectors, the bilateral relationship has maintained healthy and stable development amidst an increasingly

turbulent international environment. The two countries have firmly supported each other on issues involving their respective core interests and major concerns, continuously deepened practical cooperation across various fields, enhanced the friendship between the two peoples, and steadily elevated the bilateral relations to new heights.

The event was jointly organised by CNIE and the Chinese Embassy in Cyprus. It featured multiple sessions including cultural showcase, speeches, signing of agreements, as well as business networking. Bonded by cultural resonance and practical cooperation, this event has injected people's vitality into the strategic partnership of the





two countries.

The cultural showcase session was full of highlights. The Painting Exhibition of Chinese teenagers “Cyprus in my Eyes” displayed the local conditions and customs of Cyprus through the brushstrokes of children from Wuxi Children's Palace. The Photography Exhibition “China Through the Lens of Cypriot Photographers” showcased the real China captured by Cypriot photographers. Performances and displays of Chinese Intangible Cultural Heritages, including traditional Chinese attire,

Sichuan rope weaving, and face-changing, enabled the Cypriot people to immerse themselves in the diverse charm of Chinese culture. The Wine Tasting session “When Baijiu Meets Wine”, featuring Chinese Wuliangye and local wines, interpreted the beauty of integration among civilisations through a collision of flavours. An AI-generated video, starting with the imagery of Wang Zhaojun (a beautiful princess from the Han Dynasty) and Venus holding hands, illustrated the shared perception of beauty and common aspiration for a better life across Eastern and Western civilisations throughout

history.

During the event, the Chinese Medical Association, China Charity Alliance, Beijing Angel Mom Foundation, Shandong Garment Designers Association, Sichuan NGO Network for International Exchanges signed agreements with Cypriot counterparts.

In the business networking session, Liu Jie, Vice-President of CNIE and President of Sichuan NGO Network for International Exchanges, and Charalambos Manolis, President of the Famagusta

Chamber of Commerce and Industry, delivered remarks. Nearly 50 Chinese institutions engaged in in-depth discussions with over 50 Cypriot institutions across fields such as healthcare, people-to-people and cultural exchanges, as well as economic and trade cooperation, laying the groundwork for future collaboration.

With rich cultural experiences and substantive business networking, this event served as a vivid microcosm of the friendship between the peoples of China and Cyprus.



## “Silk Road People-to-People Connectivity” China-Bulgaria Friendship Exchange Event Held in Bulgaria

On the morning of 24th November 2025, the “Silk Road People-to-People Connectivity” China-Bulgaria Friendship Exchange Event was held in Sofia, Bulgaria. Xiao Jie, Vice-Chairperson of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress of China and President of China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE), attended the event and delivered a keynote speech. Atanas Zafirov, Bulgarian Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Bulgarian Socialist Party, and Dai Qingli, Chinese Ambassador to Bulgaria, attended the event and made remarks. Lu Kang, Vice-Minister of the International Department of the CPC Central Committee

presided over the event. Mihail Mikov, former Speaker of the Bulgarian National Assembly, Natalia Kiselova, former Speaker of the Bulgarian National Assembly, Mariana Trenkova, former Bulgarian Deputy Prime Minister, Maya Dimitrova, Chairperson of the Bulgaria-China Friendship Group in the National Assembly, and Tsvetomir Petrov, Chairperson of the Sofia Municipal Council, were also present. Nearly 300 representatives from Chinese and Bulgarian governments, political parties, parliaments, civil society organisations, universities, and enterprises participated in the event.

In his keynote speech, Xiao Jie introduced the





main objectives for China's economic and social development over the next five years as proposed in the *Recommendations of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China for Formulating the 15th Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development*. He pointed out that China's mega-market and strong economic resilience will bring new development opportunities to all countries. He encouraged Chinese and Bulgarian civil society institutions to strengthen thematic exchanges, enhance practical cooperation, innovate ways for people-to-people exchanges, deepen mutual learning between civilisations, and

effectively boost the affinity of the two peoples, thereby making greater contributions to promoting the long-term and stable development of bilateral relations.

Then Bulgarian Deputy Prime Minister Zafirov said in his speech that Bulgaria and China signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Belt and Road Cooperation in 2015. He expressed Bulgaria's willingness to further deepen communication and friendship between the two peoples based on the previous achievements.

While presiding over the event, Lu Kang said





that from mutual support in the early days of diplomatic relations to in-depth cooperation within the Belt and Road framework, China-Bulgaria collaboration has yielded fruitful results, bringing tangible benefits to both peoples. He suggested that Chinese and Bulgarian civil society institutions take this event as an opportunity to further enhance mutual understanding and trust, engage in in-depth exchanges, and explore more space and opportunities for practical cooperation.

Ambassador Dai Qingli reviewed the profound friendship between China and Bulgaria over the

76 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations in her speech. She highlighted that investment cooperation between the two countries has been continuously improved covering such sectors as agriculture, information and communications, automobile manufacturing, and new energy, injecting new momentum to bilateral relations. She expressed her expectations for continued efforts from both sides to transform their traditional friendship into new outcomes of practical cooperation, effectively enhancing the sense of gain and satisfaction of the two peoples.



The event was jointly organised by CNIE and the Chinese Embassy in Bulgaria. It included multiple sessions such as cultural showcase, guest speeches, signing of agreements, as well as business networking. During the cultural showcase session, Chinese and Bulgarian participants experienced Chinese culture such as Chinese calligraphy and painting, paper-cutting, *guqin* (ancient zither), face-changing, abacus, rope weaving, and *qipao* (cheongsam). They also visited the Painting Exhibition "Bulgaria in My Eyes" by Chinese teenagers and the Photography Exhibition "Central and Eastern Europe Through the Lenses of World Photographers". A special cocktail blending with Wuliangye (Chinese spirit) and local wine was highly welcomed by Bulgarian representatives. An AI-generated video showcased the integration and coexistence of Chinese and Bulgarian culture and modern civilisations.

During the event, 17 cooperation agreements were signed between Bulgarian partners and Chinese institutions including Beijing Language and Culture University, Chinese Medical Association, World Federation of Acupuncture-Moxibustion Societies, China Charity Alliance,

Beijing Foreign Studies University, Beijing Youth Bridge Foundation, Commerce Chamber of Shandong Non-Government Foreign Exchange Cooperation, Shandong Fashion Association, Silk Road Cities Alliance, CRRC Shandong Wind Power Co., Ltd., Zhongguancun Science Park International (Germany) Co., Ltd., Liaoning Provincial People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, Jiangxi Fenglin College of Foreign Economy and Trade, and Wenzhou Blazing Youth Federation. The agreements covered fields including the Chinese language education, health, voluntary services, youth exchanges, economic and trade cooperation, low-altitude economy, new energy, sci-tech parks, and vocational education.

In the business networking session, Liu Jie, Vice President of CNIE and President of Sichuan NGO Network for International Exchanges, and Miglena Temelkova, Chairperson of the Council of Rectors of the Universities in Bulgaria, delivered remarks respectively. Nearly 100 Chinese and Bulgarian institutions engaged in in-depth discussions across the fields of health, people-to-people and cultural exchanges, and economic and trade cooperation, demonstrating a warm and friendly atmosphere.



## The Second “Reading China in Cambodia” Exchange Event within the Framework of Silk Road People-to-People Connectivity Held in Phnom Penh

On 28th November 2025, China Foundation for Peace and Development Cambodia Office, together with Cambodia-China Friendship Association and Cambodia-China Relations Development Society, jointly held the second “Reading China in Cambodia” Exchange Event within the framework of Silk Road People-to-People Connectivity in Phnom Penh. The theme of this event was “The Significance of the 15th Five-Year Plan to the World and New Opportunities for China-Cambodia Financial Cooperation.” Ek Sam Ol, President of Cambodia-China Friendship Association; Lim Visal, Deputy Secretary General of the Council for the Development of Cambodia; Ouk Sarat, Deputy Director General of the National Bank of Cambodia; Chea Munyrieth, President of

the Cambodian-Chinese Evolution Researchers Association (CCERA); Jiang Nan, Minister of the Chinese Embassy in Cambodia and Qu Kang, Deputy General Manager of the Economic and Strategic Planning Department of Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited attended the event and delivered speeches. Around 70 representatives from the Cambodian government and non-governmental organisations such as the Civil Society Alliance Forum of Cambodia, the Youth House for Cambodia-China Friendship, and the National Union Alliance Chamber of Cambodia attended the event.

Ek Sam Ol said that China’s 15th Five-Year Plan will not only drive China’s progress but also provide valuable opportunities for other countries,



including Cambodia, to align their overall development plans with China's development strategies.

Jiang Nan said that, on the new journey of the 15th Five-Year Plan period (2026-2030), China stands ready to work with Cambodia to effectively implement the outcomes of President Xi Jinping's visit to Cambodia by sharing the development opportunities with Cambodia brought by high-standard opening-up. By doing so, both sides can work together to build a higher level of political mutual trust, expand higher-quality mutually beneficial cooperation, consolidate higher-tier security guarantee, carry out more frequent people-to-people and cultural exchanges, as well as advance higher-standard strategic coordination. China is prepared to vigorously promote high-quality Belt and Road cooperation with Cambodia, continuously enrich China-Cambodia "Diamond Hexagon" cooperation framework, and deepen and substantiate the building of the "Industrial Development Corridor" and the "Fish and Rice Corridor", enabling the building of a China-Cambodia community with a shared future to deliver greater benefits to the Cambodian people, thus setting an exemplar for building a community

with a shared future for humanity.

Qu Kang said that the *Recommendations of the Communist Party of China Central Committee for Formulating the 15th Five-Year Plan for Economic and Social Development* is anchored in the long-term objectives set for the year 2035 and clarifies the pathway for high-quality development. It emphasises expanding domestic demand to boost consumption, optimising industrial structures, consolidating the foundation of the manufacturing sector, enhancing self-reliance in science and technology, creating new productivity boosters, and working faster to boost China's strength in finance to better serve the real economy. Over the next five years, Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited will stay committed to the Cambodian market, providing higher-quality financial services to support Chinese enterprises in going global.

The representatives also engaged in in-depth discussions on topics such as how the two countries can better seize opportunities to jointly advance the building of an all-weather China-Cambodia community with a shared future in the new era.

## CNIE Delegation Attends BRICS People’s Summit in Brazil

The BRICS People’s Summit was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from 1st to 4th December. Over the four-day conference, more than 150 representatives from 21 countries discussed issues covering economic cooperation and multilateralism, the construction of a multipolar world, and responses to global governance challenges. They jointly explored ways to expand the participation of civil society in global governance and promote cooperation across various fields among Global South countries.

The representative of China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE) delivered a speech, pointing out that against the backdrop of the world’s multipolar development, strengthening dialogue, consultation and cooperation among BRICS states is crucial for building a more just and equitable global governance system and promoting mutual benefits among nations. The civil societies of BRICS states need to further advance the institutionalisation of the BRICS Civil Forum, actively practice the BRICS spirit, and

contribute civil strength to realising the purposes and goals of BRICS.

Dilma Rousseff, former President of Brazil and President of the New Development Bank (NDB), stated in a video address that this conference serves as a permanent channel owned by the peoples of the BRICS states for the first time to conduct dialogues with governments. She told the participants: “You are not bystanders, but builders of the future we aspire to create.”

The BRICS People’s Summit is an agenda of the Civil BRICS Council, which was founded at the 16th BRICS Summit in 2024 in Kazan, Russia. The Council brings together social organisations, political parties, intellectuals, and scholars from BRICS states, serving as a civil society exchange mechanism for BRICS.

Wang Lei, Director of the BRICS Cooperation Research Centre at Beijing Normal University, delivered a speech at the thematic seminar.



## CNIE Delegation Attends the C20 Summit in South Africa

From 12th to 15th November, Xiao Ningning, Deputy Secretary-General of China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE) led a delegation of 4 members to Johannesburg, South Africa for the C20 Summit themed “Civil Society for a Just, Inclusive, and Sustainable Future”. The delegation hosted a side event titled “Enhancing Experience Sharing on Poverty Reduction and Development and Contributing Non-governmental Forces to Global Governance”.

At the Summit, Deputy Secretary-General Xiao Ningning delivered a keynote speech as the first international representative, focusing on sustainable development and the role of civil society, which won applause and high praise from representatives of various countries. The side event attracted over 60 participants, including the Chair of the Summit, officials from Department of International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa, as well as representatives of civil



*Deputy Secretary-General Xiao Ningning delivered a keynote speech as the first international representative during the C20 Summit.*

society organisations from the United States, South Africa, Malawi, and other countries. Xiao Ningning delivered a speech, followed by a roundtable discussion among Chinese and international civil society organisation representatives, who shared vivid stories of poverty reduction and development. Participants actively engaged in exchanges and discussions, speaking highly of the achievements of Chinese modernisation, and enthusiastically sharing their experiences and practices in poverty reduction, development and global governance. They expressed willingness to strengthen exchanges and cooperation with CSOs from China and other G20 nations to contribute

to the realisation of the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The delegation also met with representatives from institutions such as the South African National Civic Organisation (SANCO) and the National Development Agency (NDA) of South Africa, exchanging views on further enhancing people-to-people exchanges between the two countries and continuously promoting sustainable development. The South African side placed high value on the Four Global Initiatives proposed by China and expressed their wish to actively learn the successful experiences from China.

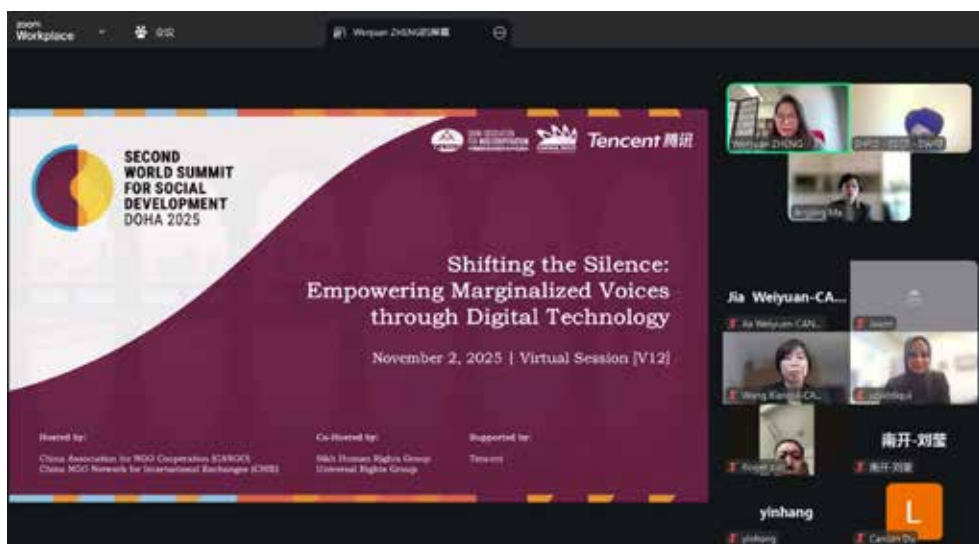


*CNIE, together with Chinese and international partners, hosted a side event titled “Enhancing Exchanges on Poverty Reduction and Development and Contributing Non-governmental Forces to Global Governance”.*

## CNIE Working Group Attends the Second World Summit for Social Development

From 4th to 6th November 2025, a China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE) working group attended the Second World Summit for Social Development held in Doha, Qatar. Together with other Chinese and overseas civil society organisations, CNIE co-organised a side event titled “From Digital Empowerment to Social Inclusion: Nurturing a Future of Diversity and Coexistence” as well as a three-day exhibition on the theme “Chinese NGOs’ Contribution to SDGs: Stories from Grassroots to Global.” Additionally,

an online side event was held on the topic “Shifting the Silence: Empowering Marginalised Voices through Digital Technology.” During these activities, CNIE working group actively showcased the significant achievements accomplished during China’s 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-2025) and the development goals outlined for the 15th Five-Year Plan period (2026-2030), which has garnered widespread attention from UN agency officials, representatives of other civil society organisations, and participants from various sectors.



## “Chinese Idioms: A Bond Connecting Cultures” Thematic Exchange Event Held in Handan

On 15th November 2025, the thematic exchange event “Chinese Idioms: A Bond Connecting Cultures” was successfully held in Handan, Hebei Province. Guided by China NGO Network for International Exchanges, the event was hosted by Silk Road NGO Cooperation Network, the Silk-Road Planning Research Centre, and Hebei Network for International Exchanges. Guests from sectors including culture, economy and trade participated in the event, hailing from over ten countries such as Germany, Spain, Brazil, and Nepal. They immersed in the distinctive appeal of Chinese idiom culture, and worked together to explore new avenues for mutual learning across civilisations and practical cooperation.

During the thematic showcase, through an AI-generated video titled “The Four Global Initiatives in Chinese Idioms,” traditional wisdom was

interpreted via modern technology, offering a refreshing perspective. The performance “Rhythmic Storytelling of Idioms with Drumbeats” wove together traditional performing arts and idiom tales, producing an enduring artistic resonance. The dance “Xibu Yao”, moving like an Eastern ballet, unfolded the profound grace inherent in Chinese culture through its elegant postures. The diverse and splendid performances won repeated applause from the audience, vividly demonstrating the enduring vitality of idioms as a bridge for cultural exchange. The international guests also visited the Handandao Historical and Cultural District and held discussions with local companies such as Huayu Agricultural Science and Technology Co., Ltd. and Hebei Taihang Iron and Steel Group Co., Ltd.



