President Hu Jintao Addresses the Meeting Celebrating the 15th Anniversary of Hong Kong’s Return to the Motherland and the Inaugural Ceremony of the Fourth HKSAR Government

(Hong Kong, China, July 1, 2012)

Today, we gather here on a joyous occasion to celebrate the 15th anniversary of Hong Kong’s return to the motherland. First of all, I wish to extend, on behalf of the Central Government and people of all ethnic groups across the country, cordial greetings to all the people of Hong Kong. I wish to offer warm congratulations to Mr. Leung Chun-ying, the fourth chief executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), his team and members of the Executive Council who have just been sworn in. I also wish to express my sincere appreciation to all the fellow Chinese both at home and abroad and foreign friends who have cared about Hong Kong and have contributed to its smooth return and to its continued prosperity and stability.

The return of Hong Kong to the motherland will go down as a great achievement in the annals of Chinese history; it will be remem-
bered as a historic event at the end of the last century that has a major international significance. Since the very moment of its return, Hong Kong has entered a new era and begun a new journey. Over the past 15 years, the principles of “one country, two systems”, “Hong Kong people administering Hong Kong” and a high degree of autonomy have been fully implemented. Our compatriots in Hong Kong are now masters of their own fate and administrators of their own affairs that fall within the autonomy of the HKSAR. Never before have Hong Kong residents enjoyed the range of democratic rights and freedoms as they do now. Despite the impact of the international financial crisis, Hong Kong has registered steady economic growth and has remained an international financial, trade and shipping center. It has all along been considered as the most free and open economy and one of the most competitive and dynamic regions of the world. Hong Kong continues to enjoy all-round social development and high employment as well as significantly improved social security. Its exchanges with the mainland have expanded across the board, with much stronger economic and trade ties and deepened cooperation in various areas. Hong Kong has continued to make unique contributions to the reform, opening up and modernization drive in the mainland of China. At the same time it has gained more and more opportunities and endless impetus for its development from the mainland. Our compatriots in Hong Kong enjoy a growing sense of identity and camaraderie with the country and the nation. In the face of serious disasters, our Hong Kong compatriots and people on the mainland have stood together and supported each other, fully demonstrating that we are kith and kin, and blood is thicker than water. Also in these 15 years, Hong Kong has been more active in its external contacts and has seen its international influence further expanded.

All this fully proves that “one country, two systems” is the best solution to the Hong Kong question left over from history and the best institutional arrangement for the long-term prosperity and stability of Hong Kong after its return to the motherland. Advancing the cause of “one country, two systems” serves the interests and aspirations of our fellow compatriots in Hong Kong and the fundamental interests of the country and the nation. Through the great practice of “one country, two systems,” the pearl of Hong Kong now shines more brilliantly than ever.

The cause of “one country, two systems” is a ground-breaking endeavor and must be pushed forward in a pioneering spirit. Thirty years ago, Comrade Deng Xiaoping creatively put forward the great concept of “one country, two systems.” He personally led the efforts to formulate the basic principles and policies of the Central Government for Hong Kong, gave direct instructions for China’s negotiations with Britain on the question of Hong Kong the drafting of the Basic Law of the HKSAR, and made foundational contribution to the return of Hong Kong and the great cause of peaceful reunification of the motherland. The third generation of the CPC collective leadership with Comrade Jiang Zemin at the core properly handled various complex problems and challenges before and after the return of Hong Kong, ensured the smooth handover and transition of Hong Kong, and made enormous, pioneering efforts for the full implementation of the “one country, two systems” principle. Over the past years, the Central Government has taken the maintenance of Hong Kong’s long-term prosperity and stability as a major objective of governance under the new circumstances, encouraged the HKSAR government and the people of various sectors in Hong Kong to give priority to economic development, take effective steps to raise living standards, advance democracy in an incremental manner and promote inclusive, common and harmonious development, and supported their efforts in this regard, thus further enriching and improving the “one country, two systems” principle in both theory and practice. It is the shared mission of the Central Government, the HKSAR government and the people of Hong Kong to keep exploring new ways for advancing the cause of "one country, two systems" based on the existing achievements.

The fundamental goal of the principles, policies and major steps of the Central Government for Hong Kong is to safeguard state sovereignty, security and development interests and to ensure long-term prosperity and stability in Hong Kong. This is the core requirement and basic objective of practicing “one country, two systems” in Hong Kong. Therefore, we must correctly and comprehensively understand and implement the principle of “one country, two systems” and act in strict accordance with the Basic Law. We must stay committed to keeping a balance between adhering to the “one country” principle and respecting the differences of the “two systems,” between upholding the authority of the Central Government and ensuring a high degree of autonomy of HKSAR, between safeguarding the overall national interests and protecting the interests of various social sectors of Hong Kong, and between supporting Hong Kong in actively conducting exchanges with the outside world and opposing interference by external forces in Hong Kong affairs.

While fully recognizing the remarkable achievements Hong Kong has made since its return to the motherland 15 years ago, we should also be sober-minded of the deep-seated problems and challenges in Hong Kong society. The next five years are of great significance to Hong Kong’s long-term development and will be a period of important opportunities which Hong Kong must seize and take advantage of. I hope the new HKSAR government and the people of Hong Kong will work harder in the following four areas.

First, promote social harmony and stability. Harmony and stability underpin development, while improving people’s livelihood is essential for building a harmonious and stable society. It is impera-
tive for the new HKSAR government to follow the principle of putting people first in its administration, accurately gauge public opinion and take concrete and effective measures to properly address issues concerning people’s livelihood and social tensions. The HKSAR government should pay greater attention to ensuring equal opportunities, heed the concerns of disadvantaged groups and care about the younger generation so that people of all sectors in Hong Kong will share the benefits of the city’s development and lead a better life. People from different social groups and sectors in Hong Kong should bear in mind the overall interests, follow the call of loving the motherland and loving Hong Kong, work for the broadest unity, wholeheartedly support the new HKSAR government in effectively administering Hong Kong pursuant to law, and increase the cohesion of the Hong Kong society.

Second, uphold the authority of the Basic Law. Rule of law is a core value of Hong Kong. The Basic Law has the supreme status in the legal system of the HKSAR and is the legal basis for administering Hong Kong pursuant to law. It is essential to put into practice each and every provision of the Basic Law and improve the institutions and mechanisms related to the implementation of the Basic Law. The executive, legislative and judicial branches of the HKSAR should take the lead in strictly observing the Basic Law, firmly upholding the Basic Law and performing their duties in accordance with the Basic Law. Since Hong Kong’s return to the motherland, the political system and democracy have developed in an incremental and orderly manner, and achieved much progress. We should continue to advance the democratic process in Hong Kong as provided for in the Basic Law and the relevant decisions of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress.

Third, enhance competitiveness. Hong Kong must work hard to increase its competitiveness if it is to win in the increasingly intense regional and international competition. It must have better strategic planning for its long-term development and bring into better play the role of the government in promoting economic and social development. It must update its development concepts, encourage and support various innovation programs, enhance the service sector and foster new economic growth points. It must have a thorough understanding of the profound changes in the global economic landscape, make full use of its extensive international reach and its advantages in other areas and grasp critical opportunities for development. At the same time, it is all the more important for Hong Kong to take advantage of the vigorous economic development on the mainland to expand and deepen its exchanges and cooperation with the mainland in order to achieve mutually complementary, win-win and common development.

Fourth, strengthen human resources development. Human resources are the most important strategic resources and lie at the heart of competition in today’s world. It is essential to develop education, science and technology and culture with a view to turning out all types of high-caliber professionals at all levels required for the development of various sectors. Priority should be given to nurturing people of leadership quality who love the motherland and Hong Kong, outstanding young potential political leaders in particular, by providing opportunities and platforms for them to stand out and acquire capabilities so that they will carry on the tradition of loving the motherland and Hong Kong and the cause of “one country, two systems.”

The Central Government will remain committed to implementing the principles of “one country, two systems,” “Hong Kong people administering Hong Kong” and a high degree of autonomy, to fully supporting the chief executive and the HKSAR government in carrying out administration according to law and to maintaining and promoting the long-term prosperity and stability of Hong Kong together with the people of all sectors in Hong Kong. We are confident that with the joint efforts of the Central Government, the HKSAR government and people of all sectors of Hong Kong, efforts to practice “one country, two systems” will bear richer fruits and the road to common prosperity and development of both Hong Kong and the mainland will open broader prospects.

Trusted Friends Forever
— Speech by Premier Wen Jiabao at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations
(Santiago, Chile, June 26, 2012)

It gives me great pleasure to come to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) on the occasion of my visit to four Latin American countries after attending the UN Conference on Sustainable Development. I wish to begin by extend-
and the Caribbean.

Latin America and the Caribbean is a magical land known for its vast expanse, spectacular landscape, rich resources and splendid cultures. It is where the Maya, Inca and Aztec cultures were nurtured, and it is home to both natural wonders and an ancient civilization of the world. The lush and extensive Amazon virgin forest, the majestic Andes Mountains and the charming Caribbean Sea make this region a distinctive and enchanting place. The astronomical calendar invented by the Mayans, the Pyramids of the Sun and the Moon built by the Aztecs and the maize, sweet potato and pumpkin cultivated by the Incans are fine achievements of human civilization known and shared across the world. They attest to the exceptional ingenuity of the people living on this land. Latin America is known for its rich literature and art. It has produced passionate and exquisite Latin songs and dances, and such literary giants as Pablo Neruda, Gabriel García Márquez and Jorge Luis Borges. Latin American civilization has come into being through the long course of development of this region. It is also a product of exchanges and mutual learning with other civilizations in the world. Such cultural interactions are a natural development independent from people’s will. Both Latin American and Chinese civilizations are open, inclusive and innovative, always ready to draw upon the fine achievements of all human civilizations. This is the fundamental reason why our two civilizations have survived and thrived.

This is my third visit to Latin America. It has given me the opportunity to gain more first-hand knowledge and do some deep thinking about Latin American countries. Everywhere I went, from Rio de Janeiro to Montevideo and from Buenos Aires to Santiago, I could feel the warm hospitality of the Latin American people and the vibrance of economic and social development in the region. What has impressed me most is that governments of Latin American countries have adapted their domestic and foreign policies to the changing circumstances in recent years and focused on pursuing coordinated economic and social development. You have effectively countered the international financial crisis, achieved steady economic recovery, and become one of the important engines driving global recovery. You have made concerted efforts in advancing regional integration and established the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC). This has bolstered the coherence, capability and influence of the region. Latin America and the Caribbean today are major emerging power rapidly rising and playing an increasingly important, constructive role in global economic governance, sustainable development and other critical issues. As a good friend and good partner of the Latin American and Caribbean people, we feel truly happy for what you have achieved. We firmly believe that a growing Latin America and the Caribbean serves interest of world peace and development.

In spite of the geographical distance, our two sides have a time-honored history of friendly exchanges. Entering the new century, our relations have embarked on a fast track of development, showing sound momentum of all-dimensional, wide-ranging and multi-tiered growth. High-level exchanges between us have become closer and mutual political trust has deepened. In 2008, the Chinese Government issued China’s Policy Paper on Latin America and the Caribbean, and proposed to build a comprehensive and cooperative partnership featuring equality, mutual benefit and common development between the two sides. It was well received by Latin American and Caribbean countries. Our practical cooperation has made substantive progress. Since 2001, two-way trade has been growing at an average annual rate of over 30 percent, reaching $241.5 billion last year. China has become Latin America’s second largest trading partner and a major source of investment. Our cooperation in finance, resources, energy, infrastructure, high technology, agriculture and other fields has also expanded, and cultural and people-to-people exchanges have deepened. Both China and Latin America are birthplaces of human civilization with similar national conditions and splendid cultures. And now, we are at the same stage of development, face the same task of development and share extensive common interests. As long as we continue to treat each other on the basis of mutual respect and equality, and accommodate each other’s core interests and major concerns, we can be good friends who trust and rely on each other, and good partners who draw on each other’s strengths and cooperate for mutual benefit. Our friendship will stand as firm as the Himalayas and the Andes.

The world today is undergoing major development, major adjustments and major changes. The impact of the international financial crisis continues to deepen and world economic recovery remains difficult and tortuous. Profound transformation in relations between countries and the international system is in the making, presenting a growing number of new issues to the international community. China, Latin American and Caribbean countries are developing countries enjoying bright prospects and vigorous growth. Both are important parts of the emerging power in the world and positive forces for world peace and common development. Under the complex international situation, both our common interests and mutual needs are growing, and our enterprises and peoples are more eager to enhance exchanges and cooperation. Stronger win-win cooperation and mutual reliance between us serves the fundamental interests of our people and balanced development, prosperity and stability of the world. China is ready to advance its comprehensive and cooperative partnership with Latin America and the Caribbean with utmost sincerity and raise our practical cooperation to a new level. In this context, I wish to put for-
ward the following proposals:

**First, deepen strategic cooperation on the basis of mutual political trust.** We should increase high-level contacts; establish various forms of government consultation mechanisms; expand exchanges between legislatures, political parties and local governments; and enhance experience sharing on governance. China proposes to launch a cooperation forum between the two sides as a higher platform for enhancing our overall cooperation. China is a staunch supporter of the efforts of Latin American and Caribbean countries in seeking strength through unity. We would like to set up a regular foreign ministers’ dialogue mechanism with the CELAC Troika and hold the first round of dialogue within this year. We are also ready to explore the possibility of establishing a China-CELAC leaders’ meeting mechanism at an appropriate time. We look forward to working with countries in this region to play a constructive role in international affairs and safeguard the common interests of developing countries.

**Second, expand common interests with a focus on economic cooperation and trade.** The pursuit of common interests lies at the core of China-Latin America relations. The strong complementarity of our economies opens up broad prospects for our business cooperation. The two sides should oppose trade protectionism, open markets wider to each other, improve the trade mix, enhance customs and quality inspection cooperation, and bring our trade to over $400 billion in the next five years. China does not pursue a trade surplus. We not only import raw materials from this region, but want to buy more manufactured goods and high value-added products so as to achieve balanced and sustainable growth of our trade. Our two sides should step up cooperation in investment and finance. China will initiate a cooperation fund between the two sides. Chinese financial institutions will contribute a first tranche of $5 billion to the fund, and we welcome the participation of Latin American and Caribbean countries in developing the fund for our joint investment in cooperation projects in manufacturing, high and new technologies, sustainable development and other fields. The China Development Bank will coordinate the efforts in setting up a special loan of $10 billion to facilitate our cooperation in infrastructure development, including railways, roads, ports, power plants, power grids and telecommunication facilities that are closely linked to production and people’s livelihood. We will continue to encourage competitive and reputable Chinese companies to invest in this region to enhance our industrial cooperation. At the same time, we want to explore the possibility of establishing industrial cooperation mechanisms with Latin American and Caribbean countries and this region as a whole to promote closer industrial links and collaboration. China is considering signing currency swap agreements with more Latin American and Caribbean countries, settling bilateral trade with local currencies with them, and establishing more bank branches in each other’s countries. The Chinese Government will continue to provide economic assistance to the relevant countries in this region as its ability permits and undertake more projects that benefit the local people. The sixth China-Latin America and Caribbean Business Summit will be held in Hangzhou, China this October, and we welcome the active participation of companies from this region.

**Third, safeguard food security through agricultural cooperation.** Latin America and the Caribbean, blessed with fertile land and favorable weather conditions, have a unique advantage in agricultural production, while China has been a long and stable export market for farm produce from this region. Our agricultural cooperation can bring benefits to both sides. China proposes to launch a China-Latin America and Caribbean agricultural ministers’ forum and hold the first meeting in China in 2013. We propose to put in place an emergency food reserve of 500,000 tons between the two sides for natural disaster response and humanitarian relief. The Chinese Government will contribute $50 million to set up a special fund for our agricultural cooperation and development. We plan to establish five to eight agricultural research and development centers, agricultural processing demonstration parks and agricultural investment zones in this region. The two sides will exchange 500 agricultural experts and technicians in the next five years and strive to bring our trade in agricultural products to over $40 billion.

**Fourth, enhance people-to-people friendship through cultural exchanges.** Both the Chinese and Latin American civilizations are open and inclusive. We can draw on each other’s strengths and seek common progress through exchanges. Deeper people-to-people and cultural contacts will help expand the common understanding between our peoples and pass on our friendship from generation to generation. We should actively promote inter-civilization dialogue, expand cooperation in education, culture, media, sports and other fields, and encourage mutual respect and harmonious co-existence among different races, religious beliefs and cultures. The Chinese Government supports setting up Chinese cultural centers in this region and will offer 5,000 scholarships to Latin American and Caribbean countries in the next five years. China proposes to launch a scientific and technological innovation forum between the two sides for stronger cooperation in space and aviation, new energy, resources and the environment, ocean, and polar science research. We support the holding of a China-Latin America and Caribbean Young Political Leaders’ Forum to provide more opportunities for youth exchange between the two sides. Both China and Latin American and Caribbean countries have rich tourism resources, and there is great potential for our cooperation in this area. It is necessary to put in place a tourism facilitation mechanism between the two sides as quickly as possible to promote each other’s tourism resources, and encourage airlines to open more
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Since launching the reform and opening-up program in the late 1970s, China, an ancient country in the East, has undergone momentous changes. But China’s basic national condition of being a developing country remains unchanged. China’s foreign policy of strengthening solidarity and cooperation with other developing countries remains unchanged. And the Chinese people’s sincere friendship towards the Latin American and Caribbean people remains unchanged. As China grows and gets more closely linked with the world, it needs, more than before, a peaceful and stable external environment and closer cooperation with other countries. Peaceful co-existence, openness and inclusiveness, and pursuit of common development are the valuable experience that we have gained in developing external relations over the past 30-plus years. They are also the important principles that have made our continuous progress possible. China will unswervingly follow the path of peaceful development, strive for a peaceful international environment to develop itself and promote world peace and prosperity with its own development. This serves the fundamental interests of all Chinese people and will bring more benefits to people around the world, Latin America and the Caribbean included. China’s development and progress represents an opportunity to the world, not a challenge, less still a threat.

“Friends are like stars in the sky. Though far apart, they can still see each other.” Let us join hands and work together to usher in a new era of lasting friendship and common development between China, Latin America and the Caribbean.

The World Peace Forum is the first high-level non-governmental forum on international security hosted by China. Its theme of “Win-Win for All: Peace, Security, Cooperation,” has a major significance that bears on the future and destiny of the world and the happiness and well-being of people in all countries. In-depth discussion and exchange of views over this important subject will offer new perspectives, approaches and make new contributions to world peace and security.

Today, the world is in a period of major development, change and readjustment. The international situation is experiencing very deep and complex changes. The trend towards a multi-polar world and economic globalization is gaining momentum. Scientific and technological revolution holds the promise for new breakthroughs. Information is exerting greater influence on the society. Members of the international community are more interconnected and interdependent. Emerging market economies and developing countries continue to grow in strength. All of this has changed the international landscape profoundly and exerted far-reaching impact on the development of all countries and international relations.

Despite new developments in the current international situation, peace and development remain the main trend of our times. This is reflected in the following aspects. The exchange, dialogue and cooperation among countries are deepening. Peace, development and cooperation represent the common aspirations of people in all countries. On the other hand, the international community is also facing increasingly complex and diverse security challenges. Regional hotspot issues keep cropping up. Terrorism is rampant. Non-proliferation still faces grave challenges. The underlying impact of the international financial crisis continues to be felt. To maintain world peace and promote common security remains an arduous task.

It is important to recognize that in today’s world, the interests of countries of different systems, types and development stages are intertwined. Their interdependence is growing. Countries have shared interests and a common stake in security. Under such new circumstances, security goes far beyond the security based on confrontation and balance of power during the Cold War, military security in the traditional sense, or security of just one country or one region. In the face of complex and diverse security challenges, no country can stay immune or achieve the so-called absolute security on its own. A country which pursues its own development, security and well-being must also let other countries pursue their development, security and well-being. All countries must take a cooperative approach with an innovative spirit and responsible attitude, stand together and seek win-win cooperation to resolve various problems and challenges, and foster a harmonious and stable international and regional security environment.

Working Together to Maintain World Peace and Security
— Address by Vice President Xi Jinping at the Opening Ceremony of the World Peace Forum
(Beijing, China, July 7, 2012)
To this end, we need to be committed to the following ideas and principles.

**First, we must seek security on the basis of development.** Economic development and prosperity provide a strong guarantee for security. Many of the world’s conflicts and chaos are closely related to the issue of development. Development is what matters most. Only when all countries develop, can we better maintain world peace and stability. With the lingering impact of the international financial crisis, the issue of economic and financial security becomes more acute. All countries are facing the pressing task of economic development and improvement of people’s lives. We must continue to give serious attention to and well address the major issue of achieving all-round, balanced and sustainable development, make continued efforts to grow ourselves, actively support the progress of developing countries, endeavor to narrow the growth gap between the North and the South and achieve common development and prosperity.

**Second, we must seek security on the basis of equality.** Treating each other as equals is essential for maintaining security. Countries, rich or poor, strong or weak, are equal members of the international community. The rich and the strong bullying the poor and the weak can only lead to endless cycle of hatred and vengeance. Only by respecting each other and treating each other as equals can countries live in harmony and contentment. It is important to respect all countries’ sovereignty, territorial integrity and national dignity, their people’s independent choice of social system and path of development, as well as their legitimate security concerns. At any time and under any circumstances, countries should adhere to the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, refrain from interfering in others’ internal affairs and imposing their own will on others, and bring about security for all through dialogue on an equal footing and mutually beneficial cooperation.

**Third, we must seek security on the basis of mutual trust.** Increasing mutual trust is indispensable for maintaining security. A person without credibility cannot stand. Mutual trust, not mutual suspicion, and mutual respect, not mutual confrontation, are what countries need to transcend differences, manage crisis, understand each other, seek common ground and resolve divergence, and live together in peace and harmony. As countries are different in history, culture, social system and development stage, it is natural for them to have differences and disputes. Therefore, we should make continuous efforts to increase strategic and political mutual trust among countries, properly handle differences and sensitive issues, respect core and vital interests of other countries, expand strategic consensus and consolidate the foundation for the maintenance of security.

**Fourth, we must seek security on the basis of cooperation.** Dialogue and cooperation are fundamental to maintaining security. Today, traditional and non-traditional security challenges to human survival and sustainable economic and social development are more pronounced. Only through candid dialogue, consultation and sustained comprehensive exchanges can countries effectively respond to these challenges. Countries should seek peaceful solutions to international disputes and oppose the use or threat of force. Countries should abandon the zero-sum mentality, the notion that one’s rise means the others’ fall. They should always work for peace, security and settlement of disputes through cooperation, expand converging interests, and commit themselves to win-win and all-win outcomes.

**Fifth, we must seek security on the basis of innovation.** Security issues in today’s world are diverse, easily spread, hard to predict and have a domino effect. Security factors, internal and external, domestic and international, traditional and non-traditional, are intertwined. New issues and challenges are emerging one after another. We must abandon those mindsets and approaches that are rendered obsolete, keep pace with the times, forge ahead with innovation, foster a new security concept featuring mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and coordination, cultivate a new approach of comprehensive security, common security and cooperative security. We must find new answers to old questions and good solutions to new issues to successfully tackle development and security challenges facing mankind.

China is experiencing rapid industrialization and urbanization. China is committed to economic development, world peace and common development of mankind. China pursues peaceful, open, cooperative and win-win development. After the outbreak of the international financial crisis and the European sovereign debt crisis, China has been working with the international community to tide over the difficulties and made important contribution to the stability and recovery of the world economy. On major international and regional hotspot issues, China is committed to promoting peace and encouraging talks and has played a constructive role in this regard. China has taken an active part in peacekeeping missions and is the largest contributor of peacekeepers among the permanent members of the UN Security Council. We have sent a total of 21,000 personnel to 30 UN peacekeeping missions. China has worked with the international community to actively tackle terrorism, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, climate change, food and energy security, major natural disasters and other global challenges. China has acceded to over 100 international inter-governmental organizations and signed over 300 international conventions and covenants. Facts have shown that China has actively participated in and contributed to the building of the international system. The sustained and fast development of China would not have been possible without peace and development of the world. At the same time, China’s development has provided valuable opportunities and broad space for the
common development of all countries.

China will stay committed to the path of peaceful development. China pursues its own development by upholding world peace and helps maintain world peace through its own development. It works with the international community to push for the building of a harmonious world of lasting peace and common prosperity. This is a strategic choice that follows the trend of the times and serves China’s fundamental interests. It is also what China needs to achieve sustained development. The Chinese nation values good faith and pursues harmonious relations. China adheres to the foreign policy of peace. Even when China becomes more developed in the future, it will never seek hegemony. China consistently and firmly pursues a defense policy that is defensive in nature to firmly safeguard its sovereignty, security and development.

China will stay committed to the building of a new type of relations between major countries. Major country relations are important factors in the evolvement of the international situation. China and the United States are actively exploring a new type of relations between major countries featuring mutual respect and win-win cooperation. This is in the shared interests of China, the United States and the world. It will be a pioneering effort in the history of international relations. China will continue to encourage all major countries to see each other’s strategic intentions objectively and rationally, respect each other’s interests and concerns, and strengthen coordination and cooperation on major international and regional issues, and strive to build a new type of major country relations and international relations in the 21st century.

China will continue to firmly uphold peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific region. China has a vast land territory, vast sea area, and many neighboring countries. China has always been committed to building good neighborly relations. China is committed to the principle of building amicable relations and partnerships with neighboring countries, in an effort to foster a regional environment featuring peace and stability, equality and mutual trust, and win-win cooperation. In the future, China will continue to deepen bilateral and regional cooperation, vigorously develop friendly relations with neighbors and other countries in the Asia-Pacific, and contribute, through its own development, to the development of its neighbors. At the same time, China will continue to seek appropriate settlement of the differences and frictions with relevant countries and, on the basis of firmly defending national sovereignty, security and territorial integrity, work together with neighboring countries to maintain the stability of their relations and of the region.

China will continue to fulfill its due international responsibilities and obligations. To endeavor to contribute China’s due share to the progress and development of mankind is the long-standing and solemn commitment of the Chinese Government. We are of the view that for China, the biggest developing country in the world, the most important way to be responsible to the world is to manage its own affairs well. China will continue to bear in mind the interests of its own people and the common interests of mankind, follow the principle of responsibility consistent with rights, interests and capability, and undertake more international responsibilities within its capability. China will actively participate in the reform of the international system and global governance, with a view to moving towards a more just and equitable international political and economic order. China will continue to play a constructive part in resolving, through political means, major international and regional hotspot issues and the handling of global challenges. We will strive to make fresh and bigger contributions to world peace, security and stability. China will continue to take an active part in undertaking global development and work with all countries for the realization of the UN Millennium Development Goals and global prosperity and progress.

Today’s world is in general peaceful and stable, despite conflicts and turbulence in some regions. There are both opportunities and challenges for development and security. We must meet the challenges together, pursue win-win cooperation and gradually achieve peace and security in the whole world so that all countries will be able to enjoy peace, security, common development and prosperity in the 21st century.