

## “Africa is priority for China’s International Industrial Cooperation” – Envoy *See Pg 2*



*Former Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and head, delegation of Foreign Policy Advisory Group of the Chinese Foreign Ministry, Mr. Ji Peiding delivering a keynote address at the 3rd International Seminar on “China-Africa relations and the prospects to realize industrial and production capacity cooperation,” held in Abuja, Nigeria.*

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## “Africa is Priority for China’s International Industrial Cooperation” – Envoy



Chinese Ambassador to Nigeria, Dr Zhou Pingjian, Hon. Yacoub Buba and Ambassador Ji Peiding at the 3rd international seminar on China-Africa cooperation, held in Abuja Nigeria.

The Chinese Ambassador to Nigeria, Dr. Zhou Pingjian has declared that Africa has been and would remain a priority area for China’s International Industrial Cooperation and that as world’s top manufacturer, China has proved to be a most desirable and reliable long-term partner for Africa in its quest for industrialization.

Speaking at the 3rd international seminar on China-Africa cooperation with the theme “Nigeria-China relations and the prospects to realize industrial and production capacity cooperation,” early this month, in Nigeria’s capital, Abuja, the Chinese envoy noted that the seminar came at a very opportune time when the 2017 Africa industrialization day is around the corner and Nigeria has made progress in her economic reform agenda, which has seen her “move up 24 places to 145th in the world bank ease of doing business report,” and also listed “as one of the ten reforming economies in the world in 2017.”

The envoy further described the seminar as “apt and helpful”, coming in the heels of the successful convocation of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, whose significance and global implications are being assessed in earnest worldwide.” Noting that the successful completion of the 19th National Congress of the CPC last month has reinforced China’s confidence on the path of Socialism with Chinese characteristics, it also opened up a better prospects of mutually-beneficial and higher quality approach to China’s engagement with the rest of the world and particularly Africa, which the envoy believed has given fresh momentum

to China-Africa cooperation and China-Nigeria strategic partnership,” adding that the Chinese side is willing to comprehensively advance China-Africa ten major cooperation plans, push forward the implementation of the “Belt and Road” construction in Nigeria and Africa, support Nigeria in implementing its Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP) and support Africa in implementing the Agenda 2063 and 2030 Agenda for sustainable development.

In his own speech, the head of the Foreign Policy Advisory Group to the Chinese foreign ministry and leader of Chinese delegation to the seminar, Ambassador Ji Peiding said that China and Africa have worked in several challenging circumstances and in the current instance of Africa’s quest for industrialization, China can be counted as reliable and trustworthy partner, that would exert herself to the utmost, to ensure Africa wins in its endeavour to achieve huge industrial capacity to drive her quest for economic diversification, and sustainable and inclusive development

Earlier in his address, director of Nigeria based Centre for China Studies, (CCS) Co-organizer of the seminar, observed that “the important outcomes of the historic 2nd summit of the heads of state and government of the Forum on China-Africa cooperation (FOCAC) which held in Johannesburg, South-Africa in December, 2015 have almost been fully implemented. According to him “China-Nigeria cooperation on industrial and production capacity offers a unique opportunity to realize Nigeria’s strategic goal of economic diversification, and noted that

with the shock of the abrupt and steep decline of prices and demand for primary commodities especially oil, the agenda of industrialization could not have come at a better time.

The International Seminar, the third in the series of continuous dialogue between China and Africa since the Johannesburg 2nd summit of FOCAC in 2015, has in attendance, the special adviser to the Nigerian President on Foreign and Diaspora affairs, Mrs Abike Dabiri-Erewa, Hon. Yusuf Yacoub Buba, Chairman of Nigeria-China Parliamentary Committee of the Federal House of Representatives, Senator Shehu Sani, Senate Committee Vice Chairman on Foreign affairs, Ambassador Lv Fending, member of the Foreign Policy Advisory Group of the Chinese Foreign ministry and former Chinese ambassador to Nigeria among others, which included diplomats, scholars, industrialists, Women business groups and the media.

In keeping with the key resolution of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) that “China will keep to the path of peaceful development, hold high the banner of peace, development and cooperation and mutual benefit,” including to “actively promote international cooperation through the Belt and Road initiative and to take active part in reforming and developing the global governance system,” the international seminar in its plenary session, concluded that China-Africa cooperation has entered a matured stage with prospects for more tangible deliverables on Africa’s most crucial challenge of building industrial and production capacity.

## A miracle economy in Africa: The Ethiopia’s success story

Starting from dire poverty, as the second-poorest nation in the world in 2000, Ethiopia has been the miracle economy of the past decade.

World Bank data shows that the country has averaged 10.9 percent real annual growth since 2004 and is expected to grow by 8.3 percent in 2017.

Ethiopia’s real per capita income has increased from \$200 per year in 2000 to above \$500 today, and the percentage of the population living in poverty has declined from 55 percent in 2000 to less than 30 percent today. The country’s income distribution is still one of the most equal in the world.

In many ways, Ethiopia’s economy resembles China’s in the mid-1980s. In both cases, initial agricultural reforms, infrastructure investments and special industrial zones allowed the initial high-growth escape from poverty. If Ethiopia can continue at this rate, it will be a middle-income country by 2025. But, of course, the question is what kind of development model will allow this astounding growth to continue.

Ethiopia sent six senior officials this year to study economic development at the Institute for South-South Cooperation and Development, showing the importance the country attaches to understanding and analyzing China’s development model. China Daily interviewed four of these officials. Wondimu Tekle Sigo was state minister in the Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Electricity before entering the program. Dilamo Otores was head of the Addis Ababa Trade Bureau. Leul Gebru was deputy director-general of the Ethiopian Broadcasting Authority. And Teklay

Fikadu was head of the Addis Ababa Public Mobilization Department of the Tigray People’s Liberation Front.

The four officials stress the importance of agricultural reforms, noting that 80 percent of the population is still rural. Ethiopia has fundamentally changed because the government works on the productivity of the farmers. By introducing them to technological inputs, like using fertilizers; letting them sell their own products to the market; and supporting the farmer in general, the yield in agriculture has been going up rapidly. That is one turning point for the economy.

The country now has 65,000 agricultural extension workers - on average, one for every 500 farmers. This very closely supports and gives agricultural extension services to those farmers, promoting agricultural productivity on their parcel of land, the officials say.

The nation retains ownership of the land but each farmer has usage rights, including the right to lease out the land. Ethiopia is a very densely populated nation. In the Ethiopian highlands in the central part of the nation, the population density is very high, so it is very difficult to mechanize. The system has to ensure land productivity at the household level, they say.

The World Bank confirms that agricultural productivity has increased by 7 percent per year since 2004.

A major focus now is on creating a link between the industrial sector and the agricultural sector - agri-processing. Agricultural products should be processed through the industrial system. There is a transformation plan that gives a focus - agricultural products to industrial

products, the officials say.

The country is also building 10 special industrial parks throughout the country, allowing foreign investment to create jobs, especially in textile and garment manufacturing.

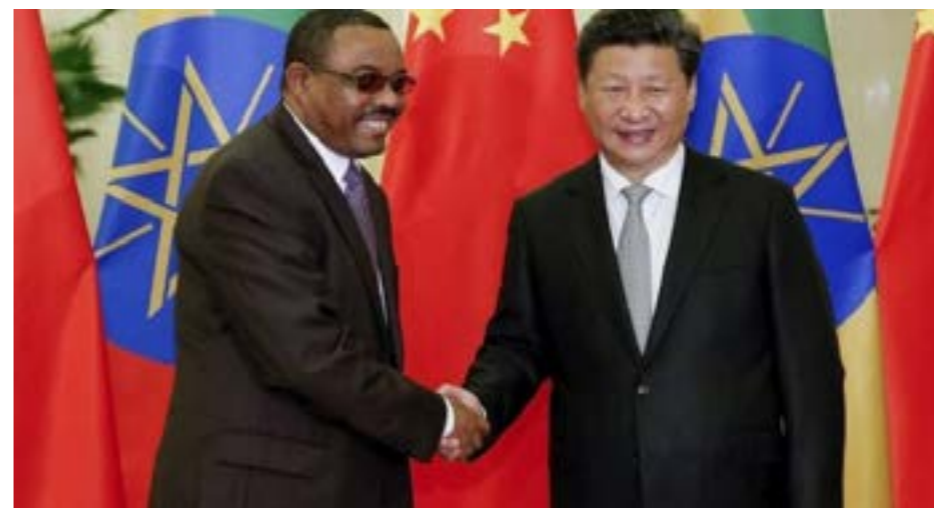
Another key government initiative is the creation of small and micro enterprises at the grassroots level. Wherever you go in Ethiopia, you can find this, the officials say. In rural areas, these enterprises supplement farming incomes. They produce construction materials such as bricks, clothing and many kinds of services. The government provides training in technical and vocational skills, market integration, legal support and loans. The officials see this as somewhat similar to the town and village enterprises that helped boost the Chinese economy in the 1980s.

Ethiopia’s highlands are the water tower of East Africa. The country is now seventh in the world and first in Africa in terms of hydropower capacity. This will allow the building of a green economy in Ethiopia and will also be the “East Africa Power Port”, helping to integrate the region, the officials say. Power is now exported to Sudan and Djibouti, and power lines to Kenya are under construction. Self-generated power will also cut Ethiopia’s dependence on oil imports, which currently use up 70 percent of its hard currency receipts.

The officials say that internal mobilization of resources is a priority. Currently the country saves 23 percent of income and invests 20 to 23 percent. The country stretched to self-finance the \$4.5 billion Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam on the Blue Nile River.

The officials say that Ethiopia welcomes private and public investment from China. For example, there are many new Chinese restaurants throughout the country, run by Chinese but employing Ethiopians.

China funded and built Addis Ababa’s new subway line and the new standard-gauge rail line to the port at Djibouti. The subway line has done a lot to solve the transportation problems that plagued the city, the officials say. The rail line, which is now in a trial period, will replace thousands of big trucks that took more than a week to transport goods to Djibouti.



Chinese President Xi Jinping (R) shakes hands with Ethiopian Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn



## China maintains cordial relations with Africa, developing world - Zimbabwean president

Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe has praised China for maintaining friendly relations with Africa and the developing world at large, as well as for providing assistance to the continent.

In an interview with Chinese media, Mugabe told Xinhua he is glad to see that China has prioritized relations with African countries for decades and shared its development achievements with them.

Mugabe said that Chinese President Xi Jinping's visit to Africa in 2015 was a major highlight in bilateral relations.

In December 2015, Xi paid state visits to Zimbabwe and South Africa, and co-chaired a summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC)

### Morocco, China to set up economic zone to boost bilateral cooperation

Morocco and China have agreed to set up an economic zone in

Morocco's northern city of Fez, offering a platform for boosting bilateral cooperation in various industries, local media has reported.

A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Fes-Meknes Regional Investment Center and the China Industrial Cooperation Association, the financial daily L'Economiste reported.

The deal aims to establish an economic zone as a platform to attract Chinese investments in the fields of automobile,

aviation, agriculture, health and renewable energy, the report said.

Bilateral economic cooperation between Morocco and China has been growing steadily since the establishment of a strategic partnership during the Moroccan king's visit to China in May 2016.

Since then, Morocco has witnessed a wave of Chinese investment in the country, especially in the areas of infrastructure construction and industrialization.

In June 2016, Morocco granted Chinese citizens visa-free entry to the North African kingdom.

Each of the winners received certificates and other prizes from the sponsors of the event.

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Zimbabwe.

"He was carrying with him what we regard as a real blueprint for development as being assisted by China," he said.

In Johannesburg, Xi pledged 60 billion U.S. dollars in funding to ensure the implementation of an action plan for China-Africa cooperation which covers a wide range of areas, including agricultural modernization, infrastructure, financial services, public health, peace and security.

"So the Chinese are sharing their own development, the results of their own socio-economic endeavors with us," he said, pointing out that China had assisted Zimbabwe in averting humanitarian crises caused by hunger.

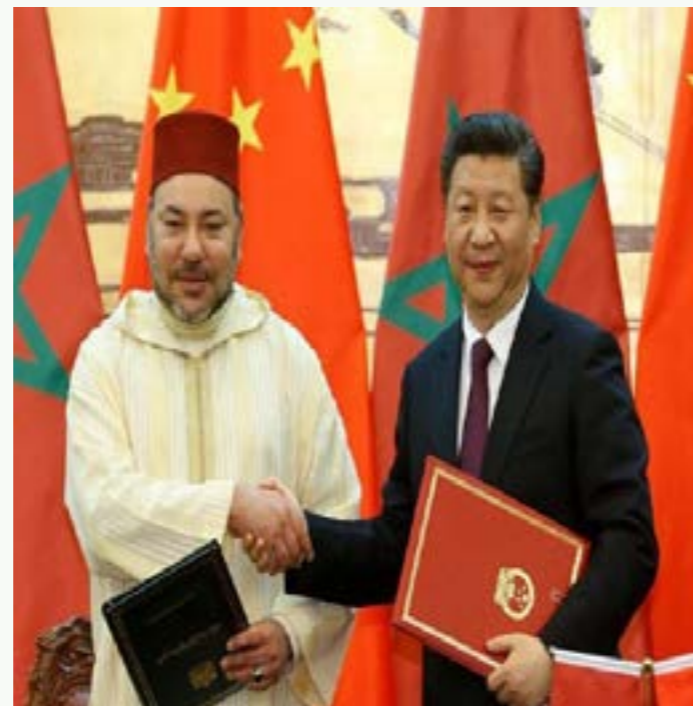
Mugabe acknowledged

the assistance China was providing to Africa through the FOCAC, adding that Xi had come with more assistance for Zimbabwe to develop and help its people through resources which are now at its disposal.

Mugabe also said that the country cherishes its traditional friendship with China, which has been forged in the anti-imperialism and anti-colonialism era.

"The independence, the sovereignty we enjoy would not have come that easily were it not for China," he said.

"It's vital for our children to know as they grow up that once upon a time, when imperialism had stretched over our land, we outdid it, (and) threw it out of Africa using the assistance that came from China," he added.



The King of Morocco Mohammed VI and Chinese President, Xi Jinping

## Ghanaian students show off talents in Chinese songs

The maiden Chinese song contest for non-native speakers took place at Ghana's Port City of Tema early this month.

The competition, which was organized by the Confucius Institute at the University of Ghana, attracted the interest of citizens of both countries.

Twelve groups of singers who were selected following a vigorous preliminary race took part in the contest. After two rounds of powerful contest, Margaret Clement, who is a student of the Confucius Institute, was adjudged the overall winner of the competition, after leaving the judges and the audience spellbound with her powerful rendition of traditional Chinese songs.

She impressed the five-member panel of judges with her lively show on the afternoon held at the Niuniu Club in Tema. "I really worked hard for it," an excited Clement said.

"What is special about this competition is that I competed with people who are majoring in the Chinese language. I'm not majoring in Chinese but still I made it. That is one of the many things that made the whole thing beautiful," she said.

Clement believes the event would motivate her to learn new Chinese words, master the language and improve her confidence when speaking the language to people.

Sandra Naa Ayerley Quaye,

Ghanaians to take up interest in learning the Chinese language and culture.

She said learning and singing Chinese songs has helped her to learn more words faster and improve on her academic

sang a song and I went to the class and the teacher used the word and I was like oh I know it. I was the only one who was able to say it and it was a motivation for me," she said.

The 2017 Chinese song contest was on the theme: "Chinese Dream Inspired by the Silk Road."

The theme aims to provide a platform for the students learning Chinese to display their good command of the language, their deep love for Chinese songs, and their recognized talents in singing.

Mei Meilian, the Chinese Director of the Confucius Institute at the University of Ghana, was highly impressed by the contestants' performances displayed during the competition.

"They did wonderfully. I'm very proud of them," she said.



President Kuffor Addo optimistic of the future of China-Ghana cooperation

a student of the University of Ghana, who emerged joint second runner-up, encouraged

performance. "Every time you sing a song, you learn a new word. I once

Each of the winners received certificates and other prizes from the sponsors of the event.

## Chinese films screened at Rwandan film festival

The opening of the 13th edition of Rwanda Film Festival has been held in Kigali, where China, as a guest country, presented five films on the screens.

"Known as Hillywood, Rwanda Film Festival has established itself as the country's most important cultural event. It's an effort to explore the dynamism of the Rwandan society, to celebrate its diversity and rich culture," said Chinese Ambassador to Rwanda Rao Hongwei.

Since Rwanda is evolving artistically and experiencing a creative revolution, China is more than happy to join Rwanda in the mission to

promote and encourage awareness, appreciation and understanding of the art cinema in Rwanda, said Rao.

This year has witnessed some highlights in China-Rwanda cultural links, the ambassador said, adding that the Chinese films screening during the festival will be an important part of bilateral cultural agenda.

This year's festival, under the theme of "Frontiers", will showcase films from Africa, Asia, America and Europe.

At the opening, James Vuningoma, executive secretary of Rwanda Academy of Languages and Culture, also hailed bilateral cultural exchanges.

"This is a great event that brings together Rwandan film enthusiasts to learn the Chinese culture through films, history and language. We hope the Chinese films that will showcased during the festival will enlighten Rwandan filmmakers to improve the quality of their films," he said.

Eric Kabera, founder of the film festival, said films are a powerful tool that can help shape everything from a business mindset to social, political and cultural consciousness of a nation.

"We are grateful for the Chinese government to be part of this colorful and educative initiative," the festival founder said.



## China, Sudan provide model for South-South cooperation

China-Sudan ties have presented a model for South-South cooperation for 58 years since their establishment, during which the two sides have expressed keenness to enhance their ties and create new impetus to strengthen economic cooperation.

Sudan is grateful to China for providing it with valued assistance as a strategic partner when Sudan was under complete economic siege. The Sudanese government is looking forward to Chinese Vice Premier Zhang Gaoli's upcoming visit to Khartoum on Aug. 25.

The exchange of visits by officials from both sides and the establishment of joint projects remain tried-and-true means for boosting historical ties, strengthening common denominators and deepening mutual respect.

"Our relationship with China is historical, deeply-rooted and strategic. This is a model relationship that we hope will continue and shift to wider horizons," said Awad Ahmed al-Jaz, Sudanese presidential assistant and official in charge of maintaining China-Sudan relations.

There are geological studies indicating that Sudan owns great reserves of oil and gas in many areas of the country. He said Sudan has now become an inspiring model for the oil

industry, and the country is currently preparing for China-Sudan cooperation in the agricultural field.

He also said the two countries have a lot of cooperation potential, adding, for example, that Sudan boasts huge agricultural, mineral and animal resources, as well as a food industry. The partnership between Sudan and China in these fields can achieve great success, the Sudanese official said.

Al-Jaz also expressed optimism over the possibility that the Belt and Road Initiative would add a new momentum to the relationship between Sudan and China as Sudan represents a link between the African continent and the Arab region.

He regarded the upcoming visit of Chinese Vice Premier Zhang as an indication of the continuing development of ties between Sudan and China, as well as of further enhanced bilateral cooperation in different fields.

Meanwhile, Dr. Ali Yousif, executive director of the Arab-Chinese Friendship Societies' League, an affiliate of the Arab League based in Sudan, said China represents Sudan's most important external partner.

"China is the most important partner in Sudan's external relations, and even if the United States lifted its sanctions on Sudan, this will not change the fact that China is the most important economic

partner for Sudan," he said.

"We have a great model indicating the benefit of this relationship and I mean the Sudanese oil project which has achieved a great benefit for Sudan by providing its economy with huge resources. The Chinese side has also benefited from this project," he said.

Bushra Al-Sheikh Dafalla, a Sudanese political analyst and diplomat, said that the partnership between Sudan and China has achieved many benefits and contributed to the establishment of great development projects in Sudan.

He expressed the hope that China would continue its support for Sudan to establish more development projects, saying "Sudan needs more support now in the field of infrastructure, namely railway lines."

"Sudan can utilize its geographical location, according to the Belt and Road Initiative, where China can establish land transport lines linking the Mediterranean Sea until Cape Town, and also linking the entire Africa across Sudan," he said.

The diplomatic ties between Sudan and China were established in 1959, followed by the first protocol for commercial exchange between the two countries signed in 1962.

China is Sudan's largest trade partner, and Sudan, in turn, ranks third among China's African economic partners.

## Technology transfer key to China-Africa agricultural cooperation: FAO official

Consistent technical support has been a major factor in the hugely successful China-African cooperation on agriculture, an official with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has said.

Speaking with reporters, Peter Anaadumba, Program Officer for South-South Cooperation at the Africa Regional Office of FAO, pointed out that through the technological innovation provided by China, African countries have been able to multiply yields in specific staples and livestock.

"If you look at the last three decades, cooperation between China and Africa has increased significantly and has contributed a lot to agriculture development," Anaadumba said.

He highlighted the role of technology in such programs, saying: "I think the most successful aspect over the last decade has been China's introduction of small mechanization tools to support agriculture in Africa."

He mentioned some of the

mini mechanization tools as small transplanters, small harvesters, small and processing machines, which have been made available for African countries.

In Liberia, Anaadumba lauded China for how its artificial insemination technology enabled exponential growth in yields of pigs, and in Nigeria where about 500 technical assistance personnel were deployed, for a significant increased yields in rice and fish production.

Through its collaboration with FAO, China has, deployed since the inception of the South-South Cooperation on agriculture, more than 1,000 technical experts and technicians, and the continent benefits from over 70 percent of the initial 30 million U.S. dollar and the top-up of 50 million dollars Trust Fund set up by China for the South-South Cooperation projects across the world.

"The number keeps increasing. Last month we fielded 13 Chinese cooperants in DR Congo, based in Lubumbashi. We have other projects

that Chinese cooperants are assisting in and this new project that we are developing tells us that the number of Chinese cooperants to these countries will only increase because there is more requests coming," he added.

"If you want to feed a hungry man you don't give him the fish, but you have to teach him how to fish," he said, citing a Chinese proverb. "The most tremendous contribution is capacity building."

Anaadumba said people will by training understand that they can improve upon their yield. In water management for example, due to China's age-old prudent water management practices, it is a technique that African farmers can apply for maximum returns, he said.

The benefits of this cooperation, the programs officer said, are diverse, including creating the right environment for private-sector investment in the African countries.

"So you look at Uganda where we had a project of about 1.5 million dollars and now there have been other

provinces in China that came in to have a bilateral cooperation to have an industrial park. And this project is around 225 million dollars. So you see this cooperation is also bringing in the private sector."

He continued: "Once you have the private sector in an economy, it is definitely going to create employment, it's definitely going to boost exportation of the country's own production. So in a way it is beneficiary to both because China will be importing, and Africa will be exporting."

Through the China-Africa Cooperation, Anaadumba said China has been giving the opportunity to African countries to be able to produce and meet international import expectations, but then it also creates a win-win situation for both sides.

"So for me, the benefit is a win-win situation for both countries. It's not about one country only taking and not giving. I have seen it from both ends," he emphasized.

## China's naval hospital ship assists 6,000 people in Angola

The Chinese naval hospital ship Peace Ark At said it had consulted and treated at least 6,000 people during its eight-day stay in Angola.

The mission's commander, Guan Bailin, early this November in Luanda said during its stay which has just ended, 14 surgeries were

carried out on the ship.

He said the most sought specialities were ophthalmology, cardiology and orthopedics.

Prior to Angola, the ship had visited Djibouti, Gabon, Sierra Leone and the Republic of Congo. It will later travel to Mozambique and Tanzania.

Guan stressed that it is the objective of the ship to reinforce the existing cooperation between the Angolan and Chinese navies.

The Peace Ark is equipped with a ship-based medical helicopter, and its medical crew comprises more than 110 medical staff from 21 institutions including the Naval Medical University and the Navy General Hospital.



Crew of the Chinese naval hospital ship Peace Ark wave hand when the ship sails out Luanda, Angola, Oct 26, 2017. The Chinese naval hospital ship Peace Ark said it had consulted and treated at least 6,000 people during its eight-day stay in Angola.

## Burundian president inaugurates road built by Chinese company

Burundian President Pierre Nkurunziza last month, inaugurated a road built by a Chinese company in Makamba Province in the south of the African country.

With a length of some 44.5 km, the road connects the northwestern commune of Mugina on the border with Tanzania to the city of Nyanza Lac in Makamba.

It was built by STECOL Corporation, a Chinese enterprise

focusing on engineering and construction works, with a funding of 51 billion Burundi francs (about 29 million U.S. dollars) from the African Development Bank.

The project aims to improve transportation and boost trade with Tanzania, Burundi's neighbor.

During his visit in Makamba Province, Nkurunziza also inaugurated other public infrastructure projects, including schools, health centers and hotels, in the context of celebrating

Burundi's 55th independence anniversary marked on July 1.

In his remarks, Nkurunziza commended citizens in Makamba for promoting development activities.

"I congratulate you for promoting development activities and for safeguarding peace and security. I also congratulate you for welcoming returnees who are numerously coming back from exile and for keeping their belongings safe until they come back," he said.



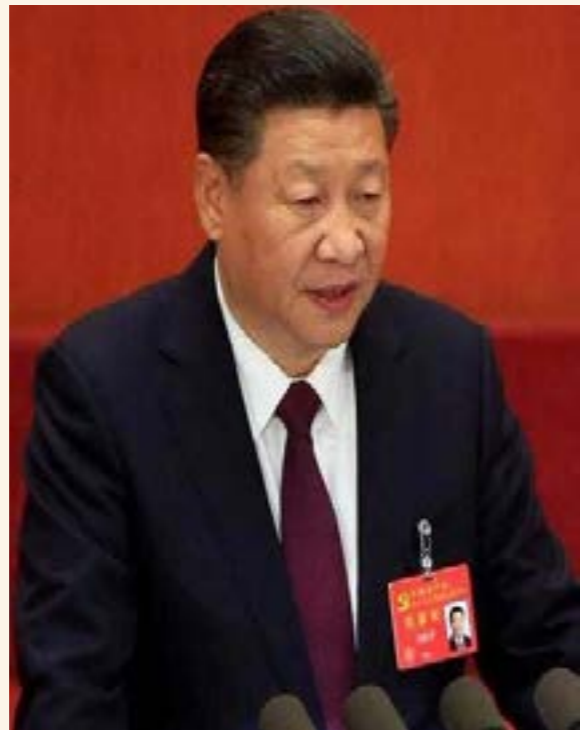
# Resolution of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China on the Report of the 18th Central Committee

The 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China approves the report delivered by Comrade Xi Jinping on behalf of the Party's 18th Central Committee. The Congress holds high the banner of socialism with Chinese characteristics and is guided by Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong Thought, Deng Xiaoping Theory, the Theory of Three Represents, the Scientific Outlook on Development, and Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era. On the basis of an analysis of the developments in the international and domestic environments and a review of the Party's work and the historic change over the past five years, the Congress forms the major political judgments that socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era and the principal contradiction in Chinese society has evolved into one between unbalanced and inadequate development and the people's ever-growing needs for a better life. The Congress elaborates on the Party's historic mission in the new era and establishes the historical position of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era. It sets forth the basic policy for upholding and developing socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era, and establishes the goal of securing a decisive victory in building a moderately prosperous society in all respects and then embarking on a journey to fully build a modern socialist China. The Congress also sets out an overall plan for advancing the great cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics and the great new project of Party building in the new era.

The report of the 18th Central Committee approved by the Congress sketches out an impressive blueprint for securing a decisive victory in building a moderately prosperous society in all respects and striving for the great success of socialism with Chinese characteristics for a new era, thus charting the course for continued progress in the cause of

the Party and the country. The report is a crystallization of the wisdom of the whole Party and the Chinese people of all ethnic groups. It is a political declaration and a program of action for the Party to unite the Chinese people and lead them in upholding and developing socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era. It is a guiding Marxist document.

The Congress believes that the theme expounded on in the report is of enormous importance to the Party leading the people toward a stronger China through tireless and groundbreaking efforts. Every



General Secretary, Xi Jinping delivering speech

one of us in the Party must remain true to our original aspiration and keep our mission firmly in mind, hold high the banner of socialism with Chinese characteristics, secure a decisive victory in building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, strive for the great success of socialism with Chinese characteristics for a new era, and work tirelessly to realize the Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation.

The Congress applauds the work of the 18th Central Committee. The five years since the 18th National Congress have been a truly remarkable five years in the course

of the development of the Party and the country, with historic achievements made in reform, opening up, and socialist modernization. Over these five years, the Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core has demonstrated tremendous political courage and a powerful sense of mission as it has developed new ideas, new thinking, and new strategies, adopted a raft of major principles and policies, launched a host of major initiatives, and pushed ahead with many major tasks. It has thus solved many tough problems that were long on the agenda but never resolved, accomplished many things that were wanted but never got done, and prompted historic shifts in the cause of the Party and the country.

The Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core has acted with courage to confront major risks and tests facing the Party and to address prominent problems within the Party itself. With firm resolve, it has tightened discipline and improved Party conduct, fought corruption, and punished wrongdoing, and removed serious potential dangers in the Party and the country. As a result, both the intraparty political atmosphere and the political ecosystem of the Party have improved markedly. The Party's ability to create, power to unite, and energy to fight have all been significantly strengthened; Party solidarity and unity have been reinforced, and our engagement with the people has been greatly improved. Revolutionary

tempering has made our Party stronger and it now radiates with great vitality. With this, efforts to develop the cause of the Party and the country have gained a strong political underpinning.

The achievements of the past five years have touched every area and broken new ground; the changes in China over the past five years have been profound and fundamental.

The Congress stresses that, with decades of hard work, socialism with Chinese characteristics has crossed the threshold into a new era. This is a new historic juncture in China's development. As socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a

new era, the principal contradiction facing Chinese society has evolved into one between unbalanced and inadequate development and the people's ever-growing needs for a better life. This represents a historic shift that affects the whole landscape and that creates many new demands for the work of the Party and the country. Building on continued efforts to sustain development, we must devote great energy to addressing development's imbalances and inadequacies, and push hard to improve the quality and effect of development. With this, we can be better placed to meet the ever-growing economic, political, cultural, social, and ecological needs of our people, and to promote well-rounded human development and all-round social progress.

The Congress stresses that the Party has been presented with the profound question of what kind of socialism with Chinese characteristics the new era requires it to uphold and develop, and how it should go about doing it. In answering this question of an era, our Party has adopted an entirely new perspective to deepen its understanding of the laws that underlie governance by the Communist Party, the development of socialism, and the evolution of human society. It has worked hard to undertake theoretical explorations, and has achieved major theoretical innovations, ultimately giving shape to Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era.

Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era builds on and further enriches Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong Thought, Deng Xiaoping Theory, the Theory of Three Represents, and the Scientific Outlook on Development. It represents the latest achievement in adapting Marxism to the Chinese context, and encapsulates the practical experience and collective wisdom of our Party and the people. It is an important component of the theory of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and a guide to action for all our members and

all the Chinese people as we strive to achieve national rejuvenation. This Thought must be adhered to and steadily developed on a long-term basis.

The Congress highlights the 14 points that form the basic policy underpinning our endeavors to uphold and develop socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era. They are: Ensure Party leadership over all work; commit to a people-centered approach; continue to comprehensively deepen reform; adopt a new vision for development; see that the people run the country; ensure every dimension of governance is law-based; uphold core socialist values; ensure and improve living standards through development; ensure harmony between human and nature; pursue a holistic approach to national security; uphold absolute Party leadership over the people's forces; uphold the principle of "one country, two systems" and promote national reunification; promote the building of a community with a shared future for mankind; and exercise full and rigorous governance over the Party. All our members must fully implement the Party's basic theory, line, and policy so as to better steer the development of the Party and people's cause.

The Congress points out that the period between now and 2020 will be decisive in finishing the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects. We must follow the requirements on building this society set out at our 16th, 17th, and 18th National Congresses; focus on priorities, address inadequacies, and shore up points of weakness. We must take tough steps to forestall and defuse major risks, carry out targeted poverty alleviation, and prevent and control pollution, so that the moderately prosperous society we build earns the people's approval and stands the test of time.

The Congress believes that the period between the 19th and the 20th National Congress is the period in which the timeframes of the two centenary goals converge. In this period, not only must we finish building a moderately prosperous society in all respects and achieve the first centenary goal; we must also build on this achievement to embark on a new journey toward the second

centenary goal of fully building a modern socialist country.

Based on a comprehensive analysis of the international and domestic environments and the conditions for China's development, we have drawn up a two-stage development plan for the period from 2020 to the middle of this century. In the first stage from 2020 to 2035, we will build on the foundation created by the moderately prosperous society with a further 15 years of hard work to see that socialist modernization is basically realized. In the second stage from 2035 to the middle of the 21st century, we will, building on having basically achieved modernization, work hard for a further 15 years and develop China into a great modern socialist country that is prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious, and beautiful.

The Congress endorses the report's plans for promoting socialist economic, political, cultural, social, and ecological advancement in China. It stresses that we must apply a new vision of development and develop a modernized economy. We should put quality first and give priority to performance, pursue supply-side structural reform as our main task, and work hard for better quality, higher efficiency, and more robust drivers of economic growth through reform. We should accelerate the building of an industrial system that promotes coordinated development of the real economy with technological innovation, modern finance, and human resources, and endeavor to develop an economy with more effective market mechanisms, dynamic micro-entities, and sound macro-regulation. With this we can steadily strengthen the innovation capacity and competitiveness of China's economy. We should further supply-side structural reform, move faster to make China a country of innovators, pursue a rural vitalization strategy and the strategy for coordinated regional development, accelerate efforts to improve the socialist market economy, make new ground in pursuing opening up on all fronts, and strive to achieve better quality, more efficient, fairer, and more sustainable development.

*Continues on page 14*

## Chinese medical team provides free treatment in rural Rwanda

The 18th China Medical Team in Rwanda has launched a week-long free treatment activity in Rwanda's Kibungo Cell.

Hundreds of local residents gathered at the health post in Kibungo, Eastern Province, around 9:30 a.m. to receive free medical care from the Chinese doctors. The doctors from departments of orthopedics, internal medicine, surgery, stomatology, acupuncture, anesthesiology and maternity provided consultations and treatment, after donating medicines to the health post.

"I have been suffering from painful swollen legs for the past two years and have visited several healthcare centers in my area," said Jean d'Arc Mukandutiye, 47, who got diagnosis, medicines, recommendation of further medical checkup from the Chinese doctors.

"It's expensive to access medical checkup and treatment in hospitals. I tried to get treatment in hospitals but I couldn't afford," said the mother of seven.

The patients at the site reported health problems ranging from dental problems, malaria, hypertension, diabetes, reproductive health, influenza, arthritis, typhoid to skin diseases.

Emmanuel Ndayambaje, who suffered a terrible headache for the past six months, said the health centers he visited failed to diagnose the problem. The Chinese doctors explained to him the cause of the headache, he said.

The 60 years old expressed his gratitude for the free medical services, as it has been difficult for him to access health services in Kigali due to his financial constraints.

Eugenie Imurinde, head of Kibungo health post, thanked the Chinese medical team for the work they have done for the health center.

"Many patients especially in rural areas fail to access treatment even for minor problems, due to lack of money for treatment and sometimes the long distances involved," Imurinde said.

"When our health post can't handle

complicated health problems and refer these patients to hospitals, they don't go because of financial difficulties," she said.

Providing free treatment to Rwandans is one of the Chinese medical teams' main assignments, according to the team leader Lu Jun. The team aims to provide Rwandan patients with convenience through such activities, she said.

China started to dispatch medical team to Rwanda in 1982, and there have been hundreds of medical staff working in Rwanda since then.



Chinese medical team provides free treatment in rural Rwanda

## Gambia distributes 45,600 Bags of Chinese Donated Rice Nationwide

Information gathered by this medium has it that 45,600 bags of the Chinese donated rice, has so far been distributed nationwide.

According to information from the upper river region, 15 containers totalling 7,500 bags of rice, were delivered to the governor for onward distribution to the people of that region.

in the central river region, 22 containers or 11,000 bags of rice were delivered for distribution whilst in the lower river region, 7 containers or 3,500 bags were delivered. in north bank region, 8 containers or 4,000 bags were delivered for distribution and in the west coast region, 25 containers or 12,500 bags were delivered. in the kanifing municipality, 13 containers

carrying 6,500 bags were delivered and in banjul city, one container of 500 bags were delivered.

when contacted on the issue, the coordinator of the taskforce responsible for the distribution of the rice, mr.musasonko, confirmed the various allocations and added that the all the deliveries at the regional level, were received by the governors.



## Cote d'Ivoire inaugurates Chinese-built biggest hydropower dam

Cote d'Ivoire has inaugurated the Chinese-built Soubre hydroelectric power station, the largest of its kind in the West African country.

The 4.5-km-long hydropower dam at Naoua Falls on the Sassandra River, with an installed capacity of 275 megawatts (MW), is expected to increase hydro power in Cote d'Ivoire's energy mix and cement the country's status as a key power producer and supplier in West Africa.

The Soubre project, dormant for several decades due to lack of funding, was launched in February 2013 with funding from China.

One of Soubre's four total generator units started generating electricity in May, about eight months ahead of schedule, according to the builder Sinohydro Corporation Limited, which is under PowerChina.

"The Government of Cote d'Ivoire is very satisfied with the quality and speed of the construction of the Soubre hydroelectric dam," Alassane Ouattara, President of Cote d'Ivoire, said at the inauguration ceremony held in front of the dam.

The president said Cote d'Ivoire is willing to have more cooperation with China.

Hailing it as "one of the landmark achievements of cooperation between China and Cote d'Ivoire," Wang Jun,

Charge d'affaires of the Chinese Embassy in Cote d'Ivoire, noted in his speech that the hydro station has helped deepen the bilateral economic and trade cooperation, especially in the areas of energy and hydroelectricity.

"Soubre dam is of high quality and built within a shorter period than schedule. I've been impressed by both the determination and flexibility shown in the Chinese builder's work," said Teyssiaux Jean, an engineer with Tractebel Engineering, a French company in charge of quality supervision over Soubre's construction.

The cost of the Soubre project is about 572 million U.S. dollars, of which 85 percent is financed by the Export-Import Bank of China and 15

percent by Cote d'Ivoire.

Cote d'Ivoire has the ambition to push its power production capacity to 4,000 MW by 2020. Thursday's inauguration of Soubre adds to the country's existing capacity of around 2,000 MW.

"With Soubre dam, we're on course to meet the target of 4,000 MW by 2020," said Thierry Tanoh, energy minister of Cote d'Ivoire, noting that the dam contributes greatly to the improvement of people's livelihoods.

Following the Soubre inauguration, a foundation laying ceremony was held at the same site for the 112-MW Gribo-Popoli project, a dam 15 km downstream of Soubre, to be built also by Sinohydro.



Alassane Ouattara (2nd, R), President of Cote d'Ivoire, unveils a milestone during the inauguration ceremony of the Soubre hydroelectric power station near the city of Soubre in Cote d'Ivoire

## ...As China starts building another hydropower dam

Foundation stone was laid early this month for a 112 megawatts (MW) hydroelectric dam on Sassandra River in western Cote d'Ivoire, the same day the country inaugurated its biggest dam Soubre 15 km upstream, built by a Chinese company.

The Gribo-Popoli hydropower plant will be built by Sinohydro Corporation Limited, the same company that built the 275 MW

Soubre.

The Gribo-Popoli project, will take 40 months to complete.

"The Government of Cote d'Ivoire is very satisfied with the quality and speed of the construction of the Soubre hydroelectric dam," Alassane Ouattara, President of Cote d'Ivoire, said at the inauguration ceremony held in front of the dam.

He expressed hopes that the Gribo-Popoli dam will be built "with the

same determination."

Cote d'Ivoire aims to push its power production capacity to 4,000 MW by 2020.

The inauguration of Soubre hydro plant adds to its existing capacity of around 2,000 MW, also bringing the hydro power on par with thermal power in its energy mix.

Cote d'Ivoire is a key power producer and supplier in West Africa.

## Exhibition launched in Zambia to mark Tanzania-Zambia railway

The Chinese and the Zambian governments early this month launched an exhibition to mark the construction of the Tanzania Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA), a joint railway project between Zambia and Tanzania built over 40 years ago.

The launch of the "TAZARA: A Monument of Friendship for 40 Years" exhibition at the Lusaka National Museum was witnessed by Zambia's first President Kenneth Kaunda and Chinese Ambassador to Zambia Yang Youming as well as Zambia's independence fighters.

Sylvia Chalikosa, minister in the Office of the Vice President and the guest of honor, said the exhibition was intended to showcase the process of the railway's construction and its significance to a landlocked country like Zambia.

"I have no doubt in my mind that through this exhibition, our people will learn the history of the construction of TAZARA. It will also give a feel of the TAZARA spirit that inspired the men and women who were part of this great project in the middle of Africa that has stood the test of time," she said.

She hoped that the exhibition will help the young generation learn the history of the railway line and carry forwards its spirit in the future.

The Zambian government is committed to ensuring that TAZARA's operations were revamped so as to contribute effectively to national development, she added.

She paid tribute to both Chinese and Zambian nationals who sacrificed their lives during the construction of the project and hailed China over its dedication to the project even during the time when it was going through economic problems



Zambia's first President Kenneth Kaunda (1st L, front) and Chinese Ambassador to Zambia Yang Youming (3rd R, front) look at old photos of Tanzania Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA) during the launch of TAZARA exhibition at the Lusaka National Museum, Zambia,

of its own.

Yang said the railway was a project of friendship initiated by the leaders of the three countries.

The Chinese envoy, who described the project as a great railway of freedom, noted that it provided the urgently needed and most important link to the sea when Zambia's southern routes were blocked due to instability in some countries.

The railway line, he said, has played a key role in the economic development of not only Zambia and Tanzania but also other neighboring countries.

The governments of the three countries have reached consensus on how to revive the railway line which has been facing operational challenges, he said, adding that its revival will usher in

a new era for the railway and inject new impetus into the industrialization and agricultural modernization in the region.

Kaunda said the construction of the railway line was a shining example of the cooperation with China and that African leaders recognize the sacrifice China made to make the liberalization of southern Africa a reality.

The former Zambian leader further hailed the spirit of Chinese leaders to cooperate with African countries which has been carried on by their successors.

The construction of the railway linking Tanzania and Zambia started in 1970 and finished in 1976, covering 1,860.5 km from the Zambian town of Kapiri Mposhi to Tanzania's Dar-es-Salaam.

## Namibia commissions Two Chinese-Built Naval Vessels

Two state-of-the-art Chinese-built naval vessels were commissioned early this month in Walvis Bay, Namibia by H.E President Hage Geingob.

According to reports the two submarine chasers, Brukkaros and Daures, boast surface and undersurface targets attacking capabilities and were donated by the Chinese People's Liberation Army and arrived in Namibian waters in August.

The President thanked China

for its assistance to the country in protecting its territory and maritime resources.

"The delivery and incorporation of the two submarine chasers into our naval fleet will add tremendous value to Namibia's naval combat surface and under-surface capability, as well as augment the country's maritime patrol and surveillance capability," Geingob said.

"Our maritime economy is a major contributor to job creation

and economic growth. Given our large coastline, the Navy faces a huge challenge in ensuring that it protects the country against any and all maritime threats. It is therefore of paramount importance that we continue to increase our naval capabilities," he added.

Geingob also thanked China for being an all-weather friend, adding that it is better to have one loyal friend than a hundred fair-weather friends.



## World Youth Forum opens in Egypt focusing on dialogue, interaction

Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi has inaugurated the World Youth Forum at the Red Sea resort city of Sharm El Sheikh. The forum gathers over 3,200 young people from 113 states representing different parts of the world under the slogan of "We Need to Talk."

"From here, from the land of peace, I announce the inauguration of the activities of the World Youth Forum," said the Egyptian president in his opening speech, adding that the event seeks to send a message of peace and aspires for a world without terrorism, extremism or war.

The world forum, the first of its kind held in Egypt, is attended by 70 official delegations including leaders and senior officials from different countries, in addition to envoys from the United Nations and the African Union.

The week-long forum seeks to boost dialogues between youths and decision makers as well as provides a platform for youths from different parts of the world to interact, share thoughts, and exchange cultures and experiences as future world pioneers.

"I invite you to exercise the virtue of dialogue and co-existence on objective and neutral bases," said Sisi, stressing the need for dialogue without discrimination.

The event includes 46 sessions and



Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi delivers a speech at the inauguration of the World Youth Forum in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt.

workshops to discuss various key issues including the employment of youth to achieve sustainable development as well as fighting terrorism, extremism and illegal immigration.

"Egypt seeks to play its historical role in shaping a vision for peace and stability," said the Egyptian president, adding that

Egypt is engaged in two parallel wars, one against terrorism and another for development.

Sisi announced 2016 as "The Year of Youth" and later held several local youth conferences, where he interacted with Egyptian youths.

## Four Chinese experts arrive in Madagascar to fight against plague

A group of four Chinese experts arrived in Antananarivo, Madagascar's capital, to help the African island nation fight against plague.

"We come to assist Malagasy health authorities in fighting the plague," said Wang Jian, leader of the Chinese group, adding that his group will also offer medical training to Malagasy health workers.

The group is expected to exchange views with Malagasy health and hygiene authorities as well as the UN World Health Organization (WHO), he said.

Madagascar's Ministry of Health has confirmed 126 deaths and 1,292 cases of plague, since the beginning of the spread of the plague on Aug. 1.

WHO said 65 percent of cases are presenting as pneumonic plague, rather than the usual bubonic form. Pneumonic plague is the deadliest form that can spread from human to human.

Authorities have already implemented a series of measures including postponing the new school year until Nov. 6.



Presidential of Madagascar, Hery Rajaonarimampianina

## Continued from pages 8&9 on the CPC resolution

The Congress stresses that it takes a good blacksmith to make good steel. For the Party to unite the people and lead them in carrying out our great struggle, advancing our great dream, we must unwaveringly uphold and improve Party leadership and make the Party still stronger. The general requirements for Party building for the new era are: Uphold and strengthen overall Party leadership and ensure that the Party exercises effective self-supervision and practices strict self-governance in every respect; take strengthening the Party's long-term governance capacity and its advanced nature and purity as the main thrust, take enhancing the Party's political building as the overarching principle, take holding dear the Party's

ideals, convictions, and purpose as the underpinning, and take harnessing the whole Party's enthusiasm, initiative, and creativity as the focus of efforts; make all-round efforts to see the Party's political building enhanced, its theory strengthened, its organizations consolidated, its conduct improved, and its discipline enforced, with institution building incorporated into every aspect of Party building; step up efforts to combat corruption and continue to improve the efficacy of Party building; and build the Party into a vibrant Marxist governing party that is always at the forefront of the times, enjoys the wholehearted support of the people, has the courage to reform itself, and is able to withstand all tests.

The Congress stresses

that we must put the Party's political building first. All of us in the Party must strengthen our consciousness of the need to maintain political integrity, think in big-picture terms, follow the leadership core, and keep in alignment. We must uphold the authority and centralized, unified leadership of the Party Central Committee, closely follow the Party's political line, strictly observe its political discipline and rules, and closely align ourselves with the Central Committee in terms of political stance, direction, principle, and path.

The Congress calls on the entire Party and the Chinese people of all ethnic groups to rally closely around the Party Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core, hold high the

banner of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and earnestly study and put into practice Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era. We will keep on working with great determination to accomplish the three historic tasks of advancing modernization, realizing China's reunification, and preserving world peace and promoting common development, and make continued efforts to secure a decisive victory in finishing the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects, strive for the great success of socialism with Chinese characteristics for a new era, realize the Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation, and see that our people realize their aspirations for a better life.

## Continued from back page on the lessons of growth

The institute's curriculum covers four cross-cutting policy domains - development and poverty reduction; innovation and education; population and health; and climate change and the environment. Courses on leadership aim to give the students intellectual leadership skills and the managerial skills needed to run public organizations. A course in microeconomics is required so each student will be able to analyze incentive structures. Courses in macroeconomics and the role of the state are also required, giving students the tools needed to assess the right balance between the state and the market.

On top of this, students conduct field studies in rural areas, special economic zones, coastal cities and interior parts of China. For example, they visit Xiaogang village in Anhui province, where a group of villagers started China's reforms by secretly agreeing to divide their collective farm into private plots. The students are asked to analyze the risks and incentives faced by the villagers.

### World voices

The Institute for South-South Cooperation and Development's students come from 23 developing countries in Africa, Latin America, Asia and Europe. They all work in the public sector or nonprofits. Many are idealistic, dreaming of changing their countries with the knowledge learned in China.

Several students plan to tie their experiences at the institute with future work related to the Belt and Road Initiative or the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

Nasser Alsaqsi, from Oman, says: "We in the Middle East are depending on oil and gas, but they will vanish someday. What I want to take back is how China survived without what we have in terms of raw materials. I really want to reform the backward philosophy of my country. We need to open up for foreign direct investments. We are opening up some now, but it's more like we are afraid to take that step. Chinese companies are opening up some industrial zones back in my country. This fits into what they are planning now in the Belt and Road Initiative. From the sea, shipments come directly to Oman, and that is very good for Oman."

Yousaf Malik was sent to the institute by his employer, the secretariat for the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor in the Pakistan Ministry of Planning and Industrial Reform. His agency is responsible for dealing with China's National Development and Reform Commission and with Chinese companies that invest in Pakistan. He says that Chinese loans to his country are effective because they give the money in progress payments directly to the company that wins the tender. "The IMF gives money to the government directly, and much of it goes into corruption."

Kamila Sitchanova, from Kazakhstan, says that in 2015 her country adopted a strategy similar to the Belt and Road Initiative. She works in the international cooperation division of the State Revenue Committee and focuses on cooperation between Kazakh and Chinese customs. China is sponsoring her department's efforts to set up

automatic checkpoints along all of her country's borders.

Thandanani Wah Ziqubu, a 27-year-old from South Africa, has worked for the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs and is a member of the Communist Party of South Africa. He has had trouble finding jobs because South Africa's unemployment rate now stands at 27.7 percent and is much worse among the young.

"In South Africa, we are moving toward being a developmental state, and that can't happen unless the people are conscious that they can do whatever in this country, just as long as it's within the law. And you can do whatever economic activity as long as it is going to bring about positive economic change to the country. In China, the Communist Party gives the people more room to be actors because it is one with the people," he says.

He also emphasizes the opportunities for all to contribute in China. "The culture and the education they receive promote that culture of working and of participation from each and every person. The economy of China is so great and South Africa can be like that. The culture of a working people is instilled in the people. In the next 50 years, we can also see ourselves in a very, very favorable position within the global economy."

"To me, economics is the most valuable part of our curriculum. You are looking at the world, but from the Chinese perspective.





Chinese ambassador, Dr Zhou Pingjian, former Nigeria Foreign Minister, Aminu Wali, Representative of the speaker of the House of Representatives, South-Africa high commissioner to Nigeria, Representatives of PDP, APGA and others at colloquium on the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, hosted by the Centre for China Studies, (CCS) last October at Transcorp Hilton, Abuja



Senator Shehu Sani, ambassador Lv Fending and Mr. Charles Onunaiju, Director CCS at the 3rd international seminar on China-Africa, held at the Sheraton hotels, Abuja in early this month.



Ambassador Ji Peiding, Special adviser to the President on Foreign and Diaspora affairs, Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa, Chinese Ambassador, Dr. Zhou Pingjian and former Chinese ambassador to Nigeria, Lv Fending at the International seminar.



Across section of scholars, delegation of the Foreign Policy Advisory Group of the Chinese Foreign Ministry and Chinese deputy ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Li Jing at the seminar.



# Growth Lessons

In a September 2015 speech at United Nations headquarters in New York, President Xi Jinping announced a series of programs that China would make available to other developing countries, including projects in poverty reduction, agricultural cooperation, trade promotion, environmental protection, health and education. In addition, during the speech to the High-Level Roundtable on South-South Cooperation, he announced the creation of a venue for the international study of economic development.

“China will also set up an academy of South-South cooperation and development,” Xi said.

Yao Yang, a professor of economics at the National School of Development of Peking University, says his school was honored to jump into action after Xi’s speech. The Institute for South-South Cooperation and Development, an English-language graduate school at the university, was established to give promising leaders from developing countries the opportunity to learn about, and analyze in depth, China’s economic development experience.

Yao, who is now executive dean of the institute, says the school will concentrate on economic development, in contrast with Western organizations, such as Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government, that focus on international relations and government management. “We are going to focus on economic development, so economists are the backbone of our faculty. I think that is more pertinent for developing countries, where raising incomes is the most pressing issue.”

Fu Jun, the institute’s academic dean, emphasizes that developing countries are important to China’s economic future. “To link different parts of the world together, you need to have connections at the physical dimensions, at the economic institution dimension, and also at the dimension of ideas. This program is at the dimension of ideas, the exchange of ideas, and people-to-people contact. That is what we are doing here,” he says.

The great debate

Fu kicked off the Institute for South-South Cooperation and Development’s second year with a discussion of a key issue



Nigeria’s Finance Minister, Ms Kemi Adeosun

that permeates the curriculum: How do you find the correct balance between the state and the market?

He starts from first principles: “Why do we need to have a state? When you read Adam Smith’s The Wealth of Nations, there are hundreds of pages in that book on the role of the state. Serious economists argue that the market is efficient. They never claim that it is perfect. So the implicit message is that markets themselves cannot work without institutions. Where do we draw the line between the market and the state?”

Yao argues that the institute offers a unique opportunity for students to analyze China’s development model. “Our faculty has a unique combination of knowledge. All are trained in the US or other countries. In the meantime, we know China well. We have studied China for our lifetime, so we have a good combination. We believe that the Chinese experience is pertinent for other developing countries. But don’t take me wrong. We don’t want students to copy the Chinese experience.

“I teach a course in the political economy of economic development in China. The first thing I tell them is that I’m going to talk about China. I have no knowledge about

your countries. You are going to see China as a mirror of your own country, and you are going to decide which part of the Chinese experience is useful for your own country,” Yao says.

This echoes President Xi’s comments at the South-South Roundtable, when the president said: “The first (proposal) is to explore diversified paths of development. A matching key is required to open the lock. The developing countries should stick to the development paths of their independent choice and with their unique characteristics, share successful experience in governance and administration of state affairs, focus on capacity-building, explore growth potential, solve development difficulties and improve the well-being of the people.”

Yao emphasizes the quality of debates at the school: “We have a spectrum of faculty from the ultraright to the ultra-left. We have professors at each point. Most of the professors work on economics, which does not have any ideological implications. Students can listen to all sorts of voices and opinions - that is their choice, whether they are going to choose market-oriented or government-oriented policies.”

*Continues on page 14*

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