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Modernization path lauded for peaceful growth

Vision set out at 20th CPC National Congress to help promote global progress in key areas

By ZHANG YUNBI
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In the eyes of Assistant Foreign Minister Hua Chunying, China's commitment to peaceful global development and common prosperity is illustrated by a new banknote in Madagascar with the image of Chinese hybrid rice printed on it. The inspiration for the image on the Madagascan banknote is the late pioneering Chinese agricultural scientist Yuan Longping. Yuan and his team worked for more than a decade on the cultivation of several high-yield hybrid rice strains suitable for Madagascar's climate and soil conditions. The team also taught Madagascans the techniques to cultivate the high-yield rice.

"Now, Madagascar is the country with the largest area of hybrid rice and the highest production in Africa. And it is also the first country in Africa to develop the chain of the hybrid rice industry," she said.

"We sincerely believe that a better China contributes to the world, and China goes well when the world goes well. Instead of putting itself first and seeking supremacy, China believes in harmonious coexistence and win-win cooperation," she added.

Peaceful development stands out as one of the five major features of "the Chinese path to modernization" — a holistic vision set out at the recent 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China.

At the congress last month, Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, delivered a report and said, "In pursuing mod-

ernization, China will not tread the old path of war, colonization, and plunder taken by some countries."

"Dedicated to peace, development, cooperation, and mutual benefit, we will strive to safeguard world peace and development as we pursue our own development, and we will make greater contributions to world peace and development through our own development," Xi said.

During Xi's recent Southeast Asia trip, he explained in detail how the Chinese path to modernization will help advance the world's progress in economy, security, the environment and culture through tangible approaches such as implementation of the Global Development Initiative.

Leaders and officials from different countries have welcomed the recent remarks by Xi about China's blueprint for its future growth.

When meeting with Xi in Bangkok on Nov 17, Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said China's rise is unstoppable, and a strong and friendly China will have a positive impact on the region and the world as well as helping small and medium-sized countries achieve common development.

Sierra Leone's Deputy Minister of Agriculture Theresa Tenneh Dick said that Chinese modernization is suitable for China's national conditions, benefits everyone, and echoes the country's peaceful rise.

China's modernization drive will bring more opportunities for the two countries to further deepen mutually beneficial cooperation, and provide a new and powerful force for the common development of their people, she told a local symposium on Nov 11.

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Staring into the past



A visitor gazes at a statue on Monday of a warrior featured in the Terracotta Warriors and Ancient China — Heritage from the Qin and Han Dynasty exhibition at the Ueno Royal Museum in Tokyo, Japan. The exhibition is part of cultural exchanges to mark the 50th anniversary of the normalization of China-Japan diplomatic relations. YANG GUANG / XINHUA

US state, Sichuan celebrate longtime friendship

By LINDA DENG
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A popular Chinese ballad echoed through the music and drama classroom of Lincoln High School in Tacoma, Washington, on Monday night.

The performance by the school choir of *On the Fields of Hope* was part of an online meeting between the state and Southwest China's Sichuan province, with the theme: "40th Anniversary of the Establishment of Friendship Relations."

Zhang Jianmin, China's consul general in San Francisco, attended the meeting and noted that the recent 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China proposed a Chinese path to modernization featuring common prosperity for all.

China's new journey will create opportunities for cooperation between Washington state and China, he said. A landmark meeting between President Xi Jinping and US President Joe Biden also set the tone for returning the relationship to

one of healthy and stable growth, for the benefit of the two countries and the world as a whole, he said.

"I believe that the local exchanges and cooperation between Sichuan province and Washington will surely lay a more solid foundation for the development of bilateral relations," Zhang said.

Officials from Sichuan and Washington state participated in the meeting.

Li Yunze, executive vice-governor of Sichuan, said that Sichuan and Washington state will potentially cooperate on energy and the climate. He also said businesses from the state of Washington will always be welcome in Sichuan.

Li also said that he looked forward to sending a trade delegation to the state next year.

Washington Secretary of State Steve Hobbs said his predecessors had visited China 28 times in the past 40 years and that he hoped to visit the country in the near future. In addition, he said, the state of Washington enjoys 10 sister and friendship city relationships with China.

"Moving forward, we need to strengthen our cooperation in the areas of culture, commerce, education, environmental sustainability, aerospace and tourism," Hobbs said. "I look forward to welcoming all of you from Sichuan province and China to visit my office at the state capitol in Olympia, Washington."

The state established a friendship relationship with Sichuan in 1982.

In 2015, during a visit to Lincoln High School, President Xi called on the young people of the two countries to strengthen exchanges, enhance friendship and continue contributing to China-US relations.

Washington State Panda Foundation Co-Chair Ron Chow said, "During 40 years, friendly exchange between Washington state and Sichuan province ... would not be possible without the passion and hard work from citizens and educators to foster our youth and student exchange."

Tacoma Mayor Victoria Woodards and Dick Muri, mayor of the town of Steilacoom, sent a letter to Xi at the

beginning of this year, wishing him and the people of China a happy new year and offering congratulations on the success of the Beijing Winter Olympic Games.

The president replied to both mayors and thanked them for the letter.

Steilacoom and Dujiangyan, Sichuan, signed a memorandum of understanding in March to establish friendly and cooperative relations. Tacoma and Mianyang, Sichuan, have been friendship cities since 2006.

Dujiangyan, where the China Conservation and Research Center for Giant Panda Dujiangyan Base is located, showed a short film about Baiyun, a 31-year-old female giant panda who lived at the San Diego Zoo from September 1996 to May 2019, and Bao Bao, a female giant panda born at the National Zoo in Washington, DC, in August 2013 and returned to China in February 2017.

The state presented a gift to Sichuan at the end of the event — a picture drawn by Lincoln High School students Lily Nop and Devynee Ye.

Aftershocks hit villages



Residents move to safety on Wednesday after a magnitude 3.9 aftershock hit Cugenang, Cianjur, in Indonesia. The tremor followed a 5.6-magnitude earthquake that hit the area on Monday. Rescuers searched devastated villages, with hopes fading of finding survivors. ADEK BERRY / AFP

Divisions jeopardize G20's 'recover together' efforts

As an annual forum of the world's 20 largest economies, the Group of 20 Summit usually raises expectations and hopes. However, the G20 Summit in Bali, Indonesia, on Nov 15 and 16 caught special attention as the most difficult ever.

The group's 2022 Indonesian presidency, led by President Joko Widodo, had tried hard for the Bali summit to deliver great results on urgent issues including shoring up the world economy, tackling food

insecurity and preventing global hunger, as 345 million people in 82 countries face the risk of starvation.

Yet divisions on the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict pose a serious challenge. Evidence of this was visible throughout the year.

From the ceremonial aspect, the

A meeting of finance ministers and central bank governors in April, for instance, saw representatives of the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom stage a walkout, in protest of a decision to allow Russian officials to participate. And in July, Russia's top diplomat walked out of a G20 foreign ministers meeting while denouncing the West's "frenzied criticism" of Moscow.

From the ceremonial aspect, the

Bali G20 meeting was a success, as is best represented by a joint communique — the G20 Bali Leaders' Declaration — that contains 52 points. These successes should be appreciated, considering that many lower-level meetings had failed to reach agreements.

Indeed, the tagline "Recover Together, Recover Stronger" had not been created randomly in the

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CHINESE COMPANIES SCORE BIG AT WORLD CUP

Enterprises showcase wide range of products at Qatar tournament

By ZHONG NAN,
WANG ZHUOQIONG and MASI



Although failing to qualify for the FIFA World Cup finals soccer tournament now underway in Qatar, China is making a huge contribution to the largest global sporting event.

Chinese products, infrastructure projects and sponsors have won

praise from appreciative fans and potential customers.

In recent months, Luo Yang, a sales manager at the overseas business unit of Higer Bus Co, a bus and truck manufacturer based

in Suzhou, Jiangsu province, has kept a close eye on the 1,815 buses the company delivered to Qatar last year.

These vehicles operate shuttle services for the thousands of fans, officials and journalists from different countries during the tournament, which is being staged from Nov 20 to Dec 18.

"After the World Cup, the buses

will be used to take children to and from school," Luo said, adding that child monitoring systems installed in the vehicles sound an alert when a bus arrives at its destination. The driver moves through the vehicle to ensure the children leave safely, before pressing a button to turn off the alert.

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