

BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT CHINA-CELAC FORUM

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Department of Latin American and Caribbean Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China
April, 2016



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CONTENTS

I. Concept of China-CELAC Forum	1
1. What is the full name of China-CELAC Forum?	3
2. When was China-CELAC Forum established?	3
3. Why was China-CELAC Forum established?	4
4. What is the purpose of China-CELAC Forum?	5
5. Who are the members of China-CELAC Forum?	5
6. What is the relationship between China-CELAC Forum and China-LAC overall cooperation?	6
7. What is the official website of China-CELAC Forum?	6
8. What is the logo of China-CELAC Forum?	6
II. First Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum	9
9. Where and when was the first Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum held? How was the meeting going on?	11
10. What were the main initiatives proposed by President Xi Jinping in his address at the opening ceremony of the first Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum?	12
11. What is the significance of the success of the first Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum?	13
12. What was the main theme of the first Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum?	13

13. What were the main outcomes of the first Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum?.....	13
14. What are the main contents of the <i>Beijing Declaration of the First Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum</i> ?.....	14
15. What are the main contents of the <i>China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)</i> ?.....	14
16. What are the principles for implementing the <i>China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)</i> ?.....	15
17. What are the main contents of the <i>Institutional Arrangements and Operating Rules of China-CELAC Forum</i> ?	15

III. Institutional Arrangements and Operating Rules of China-CELAC Forum

17

18. What are the positioning and main meeting mechanisms of China-CELAC Forum?.....	19
19. What is the China-CELAC Summit?.....	20
20. What is the Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum?.....	20
21. What is the Dialogue of Foreign Ministers of China and the “Quartet” of CELAC?	20
22. What is the Meeting of National Coordinators (Senior Officials’ Meeting) of China-CELAC Forum?	20
23. What are the rules for holding related meetings of China-CELAC Forum?.....	21
24. What principles should the cooperation programs or multilateral initiatives to be carried out within the framework of China-CELAC Forum accord with?	22

IV. Sub-forums in Specific Fields

23

25. Which sub-forums does China-CELAC Forum include?	25
26. What are the principles for holding the sub-forums under China-CELAC Forum?.....	26

27. What is China-LAC Agricultural Ministers’ Forum?.....	26
28. What is China-LAC Scientific and Technological Innovation Forum?	27
29. What is China-CELAC Political Parties Forum?	28
30. What is China-LAC Infrastructure Cooperation Forum?	29
31. What is China-LAC Young Political Leaders’ Forum?	30
32. What is China-LAC Think Tanks Forum?.....	30
33. What is China-LAC Business Summit?	31
34. What is China-LAC People-to-People Friendship Forum?	33
35. What is China-LAC Legal Forum?	33
36. What is China-LAC Local Governments Cooperation Forum?	34
37. What is the relationship between China-Caribbean Economic and Trade Cooperation Forum and China-CELAC Forum?	34

V. China’s Financing Measures towards LAC Countries

37

38. What does China’s package financing facility towards LAC countries include?	39
39. What are the channels and main principles for implementing the package financing facility?	39
40. What is China’s Preferential Loan towards LAC countries?	40
41. What is Special Loan Program for China-Latin America Infrastructure?.....	41
42. What is China-LAC Cooperation Fund?.....	42
43. What is China Co-financing Fund for Latin America and the Caribbean?	42
44. What is China private equity fund for Latin America and the Caribbean?	43
45. What is China-LAC special agricultural cooperation fund?.....	43
46. Does China offer favorable policies towards friendly Caribbean countries applying for related funds?	44

47. Can Latin American and Caribbean countries that do not have diplomatic relations with China apply for China's package financing facility towards LAC countries?	44
48. Will the utilization of China's package financing facility towards LAC countries be concentrated just on a small number of big countries?	45
49. What will China do after the package financing facility is used up?	45
50. Does China welcome relevant multilateral financial institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean region to participate in the implementation of China's package financing facility towards LAC countries?	46
51. What is China's consideration on helping small and medium-sized countries in Latin America and the Caribbean region to improve capacity of project planning?	46
52. Can China's package financing facility be used to help LAC countries to conduct debt restructuring?	47

VI. China's Major Initiatives and Cooperation Programs on People-to-people and Cultural Exchange towards LAC countries

49

53. What measures has China announced to help CELAC strengthen development of human resources and capacity building?	51
54. What is the "Future Bridge" China-LAC 1000 young leaders training program?	51
55. What is the "Year of Cultural Exchanges between China and Latin America and the Caribbean 2016"?	53
56. What is "China-LAC Science and Technology Partnership"?	54
57. What is "China-LAC Young Scientists Exchange Program"?	55
58. What is the "China-LAC Cultural Classics Translation Program"?	56
59. What is the "China-LAC Civilization Dialogue Mechanism"?	56

60. How is the medical charity activity "Brightness" implemented in Latin America and the Caribbean?	57
61. Which LAC countries has China signed cultural agreements with? ..	57
62. How many Confucius institutes and Confucius classrooms has China opened in LAC countries?	58
63. How many political party cadres will be invited to visit China in the following five years?	58

VII. Appendix

61

Appendix I: Keynote Speech by H.E. Xi Jinping President of the People's Republic of China At China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Leaders' Meeting	63
Appendix II: Address by H.E. Xi Jinping President of the People's Republic of China At the Opening Ceremony of the First Ministerial Meeting of The China-CELAC Forum	71
Appendix III: Beijing Declaration of the First Ministerial Meeting of the CELAC-China Forum	81
Appendix IV: China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)	87
Appendix V: Institutional Arrangements and Operating Rules of CELAC-China Forum	100

I. Concept of China-CELAC Forum

1. What is the full name of China-CELAC Forum?

Its full name is the Forum of China and Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, abbreviated as Foro China-CELAC in Spanish and China-CELAC Forum in English.

2. When was China-CELAC Forum established?

On July 17th, 2014, Chinese Presi-





dent Xi Jinping attended the China-Latin America and the Caribbean Summit held in Brasilia. The meeting adopted a *Joint Statement on China-Latin America and the Caribbean Summit in Brasilia*, announcing the formal establishment of China-CELAC Forum and deciding to hold the first Ministerial Meeting of the Forum in Beijing at an early time. On January 8th and 9th, 2015, the first Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum was held in Beijing, marking the launch of the Forum.

3. Why was China-CELAC Forum established?

Since the beginning of the new century, relations between China and Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) States

have witnessed sustained rapid growth. Mutually beneficial cooperation in various fields between the two sides has been deepening, and the common interests are growing. Both view each other as important cooperation partners and major opportunities for their own development. While promoting bilateral cooperation, the two sides have reached the consensus of promoting new development of their relations at a higher level by enhancing China-LAC overall cooperation. In December, 2011, the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) which includes all the 33 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean region was founded, offering an important basis for the establishment of China-CELAC Forum, which was established later.

4. What is the purpose of China-CELAC Forum?

China-CELAC Forum aims at promoting the development of the comprehensive cooperative partnership based on equality, mutual benefit and common development between China and LAC states.

5. Who are the members of China-CELAC Forum?

China-CELAC Forum includes China and the 33 member states of CELAC: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Santa Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

6. What is the relationship between China-CELAC Forum and China-LAC overall cooperation?

China-CELAC Forum is the main platform to promote China-LAC overall cooperation. China will conduct dialogues and cooperation with other organizations and institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean region within the framework of the China-CELAC Forum according to situation, so as to build a comprehensive and balanced China-LAC cooperation network.

7. What is the official website of China-CELAC Forum?

Its official website is <http://www.chinacelacforum.org>. The Secretariat of the Chinese Committee of the Follow-up Actions of China-CELAC Forum is responsible for the maintenance and operation of the website. The website offers versions in Chinese, English and Spanish.

8. What is the logo of China-CELAC Forum?



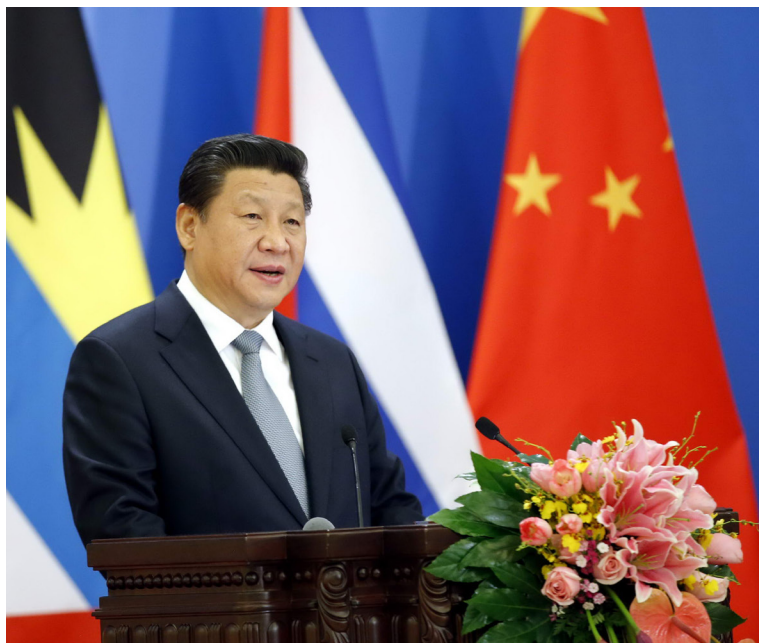
The logo symbolizes the shape of “CCF” – abbreviation of China-CELAC Forum, taking the shape of a pair of clasped hands, meaning smooth cooperation. It can also be understood as a pair of peace doves, meaning peace and soaring high in the

sky. The logo fits into the geographic position of China and CELAC. Its color comes from the colors of the national flags of China and CELAC member states, easy to be identified and accepted.

II. First Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum

9. Where and when was the first Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum held? How was the meeting going on?

The first Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum was held in Beijing on January 8th and 9th, 2015. Chinese President Xi Jinping, Costa Rica President Luis Guillermo Solís, Ecuador President Rafael Correa Delgado, Venezuela President Nicolás Maduro Moros and Bahamas Prime Minister Perry Christie attended the opening ceremony. Costa Rica currently holds the CELAC rotating chairmanship and Ecuador will be the next. The two countries, together with Cuba and Bahamas, make up the CELAC Quartet. President Xi delivered a speech entitled *Jointly Write a New Chapter in the Partnership of Comprehensive Cooperation Between China and Latin America and the Caribbean*. Premier Li Keqiang of the State Council had a collective meeting with heads of delegations of LAC countries. Foreign Minister Wang Yi chaired the plenary session. Altogether 29 foreign ministers, ministers or representatives of CELAC member states attended the meeting. Regional organizations or institutions such as the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Bank of America and Development Bank of Latin America also sent their representatives to attend the meeting as guests.



10. What were the main initiatives proposed by President Xi Jinping in his address at the opening ceremony of the first Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum?

President Xi Jinping put forward four proposals on the future development of the China-CELAC Forum in his address. First, adhere to the cooperation principle of equal treatment as well as the idea of friendly consultation, joint development and outcomes sharing, so

as to lay a solid political foundation for overall cooperation. Second, adhere to the cooperation objective of mutual benefits and win-win results, firmly hold onto the main theme of common development, and strive for early harvest as well as realization of the effect of “making one plus one bigger than two”. Third, adhere to flexible and practical approaches of cooperation and carry out various forms of cooperation through bilateral and multilateral channels to achieve mutual supplementation of advantages. Fourth, adhere to the open and inclusive spirit of cooperation and take into full consideration different interests and demands of relevant parties.

11. What is the significance of the success of the first Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum?

The successful holding of the first Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum was a milestone in the history of China-LAC relations. It marks the translation of China-CELAC Forum from a vision into a reality, starting the process of China-LAC overall cooperation.

12. What was the main theme of the first Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum?

Its main theme was “New platform, new starting point and new opportunities--Making joint efforts to promote the China-LAC comprehensive cooperative partnership”.

13. What were the main outcomes of the first Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum?

The meeting released three outcome documents, namely the *Beijing Declaration of the First Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC*

Forum, *China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)*, and the *Institutional Arrangements and Operating Rules of CELAC-China Forum*, and decided that the second Ministerial Meeting be held in Chile in January, 2018.

14. What are the main contents of the Beijing Declaration of the First Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum?

The *Beijing Declaration* embodies the political consensus of China and LAC countries in promoting their comprehensive cooperative partnership, and sets the general direction for China-LAC overall cooperation and the development of the Forum. It sets the guiding principle for deepening cooperation of the two sides, i.e., respect, equality, plurality, mutual benefit, cooperation, openness, inclusiveness and non-conditionality.

15. What are the main contents of the China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)?

The *China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)* listed out the priority areas and specific measures for China-LAC overall cooperation in the following five years, covering 13 areas of politics and security; international affairs; trade, investment and finance; infrastructure and transportation; energy and resources; agriculture; industry, science and technology, aerospace and aviation; education and training of human resources; culture and sports; press, media and publication; tourism; environmental protection and disaster risk management and reduction; poverty eradication and health; and people-to-people friendship.

16. What are the principles for implementing the China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)?

The *China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)* will be implemented, under the principles of flexibility and voluntary participation, in accordance with the domestic policies and the provisions of the national legal system of each Party, and shall not affect any bilateral cooperation programs agreed upon by individual parties nor substitute the bilateral agreements, decisions and commitments set between the Parties. The areas of Cooperation included in this Plan are indicative and not exclusive. The implementation of concrete cooperation initiatives or the adoption of norms will be subject to specific negotiations between China and the interested Latin American and Caribbean countries. Any CELAC member state may completely or partially refrain from participating in an approved initiative, be it for a period defined beforehand, or for an indefinite period, without preventing it from later joining the total or partial implementation of that initiative, with prior approval from China and the participant States. In implementing this cooperation plan, due consideration will be given to the challenges and needs of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states of CELAC.

17. What are the main contents of the Institutional Arrangements and Operating Rules of China-CELAC Forum?

The Institutional Arrangements and Operating Rules of China-CELAC Forum desires to formulate rules and regulations of the Forum, specifies the cooperation mechanisms such as the

Ministerial Meeting, the Dialogue of Foreign Ministers of China and the “Quartet” of CELAC, and the Meeting of National Coordinators (Senior Officials’ Meeting), which offer institutional guarantee for implementing political consensus and cooperation plan of the two sides.



III. Institutional Arrangements and Operating Rules of China-CELAC Forum

18. What are the positioning and main meeting mechanisms of China-CELAC Forum?

The China-CELAC Forum (CCF) is defined as the platform for inter-governmental cooperation led by the Foreign Ministries of China and the member countries of CELAC, and its main mechanisms include the Ministerial Meeting, the Dialogue of Foreign Ministers of China and the “Quartet” of CELAC, and the Meeting of National Coordinators (Senior Officials’ Meeting).



19. What is the China-CELAC Summit?

On the basis of the Ministerial Meeting of the CCF and at a time agreed upon by both sides, both may discuss holding a Summit meeting of leaders of China and the member countries of CELAC at a proper time, as the highest form of the overall cooperation between China and Latin America and the Caribbean.

20. What is the Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum?

The Ministerial Meetings are mainly held to discuss ways to improve mutually beneficial cooperation between China and CELAC member countries, at the regional and sub-regional level, and review and adopt outcome documents such as decisions and action plans, all of which will serve as cooperation guidelines for the two sides.

21. What is the Dialogue of Foreign Ministers of China and the “Quartet” of CELAC?

The Dialogue of Foreign Ministers of China and the “Quartet” of CELAC is a mechanism which the two sides use to maintain discussions on the affairs of the CCF, as well as international and regional issues of common concern. It was established in 2012, originally being China-CELAC Troika Foreign Ministers dialogue mechanism. Four rounds of dialogues have been held up till now.

22. What is the Meeting of National Coordinators (Senior Officials’ Meeting) of China-CELAC Forum?

The principal role of the Meeting of National Coordinators (Senior Officials’ Meeting) is to make preparations for the Ministerial Meetings, follow-up the implementation of the outcomes of the Ministerial Meetings, and formulate stage-specific work plans for the CCF, considering their technical and financial feasibility, sustainability and impact, as well as the capacity and capability of member countries of CELAC.

terial Meetings, follow-up the implementation of the outcomes of the Ministerial Meetings, and formulate stage-specific work plans for the CCF, considering their technical and financial feasibility, sustainability and impact, as well as the capacity and capability of member countries of CELAC.

23. What are the rules for holding related meetings of China-CELAC Forum?

Ministerial meetings will be held every three years in principle and by turns in China and the Presidency country of CELAC or another member country of CELAC agreed upon by CELAC and China, and ad hoc meetings may be held, when necessary. The Ministerial Meetings will be held in the official languages of CELAC and in Chinese. All official documents approved by the Ministerial Meeting level will be translated into the official languages of CELAC and Chinese. Working documents will be circulated in Spanish and English.

The Dialogue of Foreign Ministers of China and the “Quartet” of CELAC shall be held through meetings during the UN General Assembly sessions or mutual visits.

The Meeting of National Coordinators (Senior Officials’ Meeting) shall be held at least once a year in principle and by turns in China and the Presidency country of CELAC, or another CELAC member country agreed upon by CELAC and China. When in the CELAC region, the meeting will be held on the sidelines of the CELAC National Coordinators meeting.

Other CELAC member countries may also express willingness to host the meetings on a voluntary basis. The host country will be decided upon through consultation.

The Ministerial Meetings and the Meetings of National Co-

ordinators (Senior Officials' Meeting) shall be organized by the host countries in coordination with CELAC's PTP, which will be responsible for setting the meeting agenda, printing and distributing documents, translating speeches and documents of the meeting, and other technical work. The meetings will be co-chaired by CELAC's PTP, the host country and China. The host country will draft documents for the meeting according to the meeting agenda agreed upon by China and CELAC, submit the draft documents for review and revision by all member countries of the CCF, and present the final documents to the meeting for discussion and adoption. The PTP, in coordination with the host country, will conduct the negotiation of the referred documents within CELAC.

24. What principles should the cooperation programs or multilateral initiatives to be carried out within the framework of China-CELAC Forum accord with?

Cooperation programs or initiatives should meet the following principles: first, correspond to the mutually agreed key areas; second, contribute to regional integration and sustainable cooperation; third, be designed so that they have a multiplier effect for the CELAC member States and China; fourth, can be adapted to other member countries that express interest in the project; fifth, make optimum use of capacities in the CELAC countries.



IV. Sub-forums in Specific Fields

25. Which sub-forums does China-CELAC Forum include?

According to *China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)*, the two sides shall hold sub-forums in specific fields under the framework of China-CELAC Forum, so as to build platforms for China and LAC countries to strengthen exchanges and cooperation. By March, 2016, the following sub-forums have been launched: China-Latin America and Caribbean Region Agricultural Ministers' Forum (China-LAC Agricultural Ministers' Forum), China-Latin America and Caribbean Region Scientific and Technological Innovation Forum (China-LAC Scientific and Technological Innovation Forum), China-Latin America and Caribbean Region Political Parties Forum (China-CELAC Political Parties Forum), China-Latin America and Caribbean Region Infrastructure Cooperation Forum (China-LAC Infrastructure Cooperation Forum), China-Latin America and Caribbean Region Young Political Leaders' Forum (China-LAC Young Political Leaders' Forum), The Forum of Interchange between China-Latin America and the Caribbean Think Tanks (China-LAC Think-Tanks Forum), China-Latin America and Caribbean Region Business Summit (China-LAC Business Summit), China-Latin America and Caribbean Region People-to-People Friendship Forum (China-LAC People-to-People Friendship Forum), and China-Latin America and Caribbean Region Legal Forum (China-LAC Legal Forum).

26. What are the principles for holding the sub-forums under China-CELAC Forum?

According to the Institutional Arrangements and Operating Rules of China-CELAC Forum, at the appropriate time, the CCF will explore the possibility of incorporating gradually Forums and meetings in specific fields, subject to the CELAC consensus. The date, venue and agenda of these forums will be agreed upon by China and CELAC in advance. The outcome of the forums will be reported for consideration to the Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum.

27. What is China-LAC Agricultural Ministers' Forum?

Proposed by then Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao during his visit to Latin America in June 2016, China-LAC Agricultural Ministers Forum aims at building a platform for agricultural exchange between government departments, research institutes and businesses of China and LAC states so as to fully deepen China-LAC mutually beneficial agricultural cooperation. After the founding of China-CELAC Forum, China-LAC Agricultural Ministers Forum was incorporated as a sub-forum of the CCF. The Chinese organizer for the Forum is the Ministry of Agriculture. It shall be held on a rotation basis between China and LAC states.

On June 8th and 9th, 2013, the first China-LAC Agricultural Ministers Forum was held in Beijing, attended by over 350 representatives of agricultural departments from 21 Latin American and Caribbean states that have diplomatic relations with China and some international and regional organizations (including 16 ministers and 9 vice ministers, and ministers of agriculture from Guatemala and Honduras attended the Forum as observers). Chinese Vice-Premier Wang Yang of the State Council attended the open-

ing ceremony and had a collective meeting with the guests. At the Forum themed on “Mutually Beneficial Cooperation for Win-Win Development”, participants reviewed the journey of China-LAC friendly cooperation in the field of agriculture and achievements scored, and exchanged views on the opportunities and prospects of strengthening China-LAC agricultural cooperation under the new circumstances, explored ways and means for comprehensive cooperation, and reached extensive consensus. The Forum adopted the *Beijing Declaration of the China-Latin America and the Caribbean Agricultural Ministers Forum*.

28. What is China-LAC Scientific and Technological Innovation Forum?

At his meeting with Latin American leaders in July, 2014, President Xi Jinping proposed to hold the first China-Latin America and the Caribbean Scientific and Technological Innovation Forum. As the highest-level forum on scientific and technological innovation China has established oriented toward the Latin American region, the forum has been incorporated into the framework of China-CELAC Forum. The Chinese organizer is the Ministry of Science and Technology.

The first China-LAC Science and Technology Innovation Forum was held in Quito, capital city of Ecuador, on September 16th and 17th, 2015, co-hosted by China's Ministry of Science and Technology and the Department of the State Secretary for Higher Education, Scientific and Technological Innovation of Ecuador, attended by over 200 representatives from China, CELAC countries, UNESCO, and the Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean (ECLAC) including Jorge Glas Espinel, Vice-President of Ecuador, Wan Gang, Minister of Science and

Technology of China, and ministers of science and technology or their representatives of 23 CELAC member states. On the sideline of the Forum, China organized an “Exhibition of China’s Science and Technology Innovation Achievements”, and announced the formal launching of “China-LAC Science and Technology Partnership” and “China-LAC Young Scientists Exchange Program”. China and Ecuador held a roundtable of ministers for science and technology, and unveiled the TD-LTE joint laboratory. The Forum was the first sub-forum under the framework of China-CELAC Forum held in Latin America after the first Ministerial Meeting of the CCF, and the first sub-forum co-hosted by China and rotating presidency of CELAC.

29. What is China-CELAC Political Parties Forum?

Proposed by the International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) in December, 2015, the China-CELAC Political Parties Forum has been incorporated into the framework of China-CELAC Forum. It is co-hosted by the CPC and the ruling party of CELAC rotating presidency aimed at comprehensively promoting China-LAC political party exchanges, guiding and promoting from political aspect major initiatives for China-LAC cooperation, and building a platform for the CPC and political parties of LAC countries to develop multilateral high-level strategic dialogues and exchange development experiences.

The first Meeting of China-CELAC Political Parties Forum co-hosted by the International Department of the CPC Central Committee and Movimiento Alianza Pais of Ecuador was held in Beijing from December 7th to 9th, 2015, attended by 58 representatives from 27 ruling political parties of 26 Latin American and

Caribbean states. Focusing on the theme of “Innovation, Development, Cooperation and Future – Challenges and Response of the CPC and CELAC Political Parties”, participants conducted in-depth exchange of views. The meeting adopted the *Declaration of the First Meeting of China-CELAC Political Parties Forum*.

30. What is China-LAC Infrastructure Cooperation Forum?

China proposed the establishment of China-LAC Infrastructure Cooperation Forum during the first Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum held in January, 2015. The Forum aims at promoting mutually beneficial cooperation between China and LAC countries in infrastructure construction, realizing mutual complementarity and matching of related industries between the two sides, and accelerating infrastructure integration in Latin America and the Caribbean region. It is hosted by Ministry of Commerce of China, and organized by China International Contractors Association.

The first China-LAC Infrastructure Cooperation Forum was held in Macao on June 4th and 5th, 2015, attended by officials from 12 LAC states (including 14 vice-ministers and higher-level officials), as well as over 700 representatives of government departments, financial institutions, industrial associations and the business community from China and LAC countries. One thematic forum, two promotion fairs and over 30 business talks were held during the two-day Forum. Participants conducted in-depth discussions on how to promote cooperation in infrastructure between China and LAC countries. It was the first sub-forum in a professional field held after the first Ministerial Meeting of China-CELAC Forum.

31. What is China-LAC Young Political Leaders' Forum?

China-LAC Young Political Leaders' Forum was proposed by then Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao during his visit to Latin America in June, 2012. It aims at promoting dialogue and exchange between youth leaders of China and LAC states, and laying the social foundation for the development of China-LAC relations. After the establishment of China-CELAC Forum, the China-LAC Young Political Leaders' Forum was incorporated into the CCF as its sub-forum. It is hosted by the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League of China. And it has been held twice up till now.

The first China-LAC Young Political Leaders' Forum was held in Beijing on May 31st, 2013, attended by over 50 young political party cadres from Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Columbia, Cuba, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela and Iberian American Youth Organization. At the forum, youth representatives of China and LAC countries conducted in-depth dialogues and exchanges on the theme of "Promoting Youth Participation for a Beautiful Future".

The second China-LAC Young Political Leaders Forum was held in Beijing on July 31st, 2015, attended by over 100 participants including young political leaders from Brazil, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela, and diplomats from LAC countries in China and Chinese representatives. Youth representatives from the two sides compared notes on the theme of "promoting youth participation and facilitating youth entrepreneurship".

32. What is China-LAC Think Tanks Forum?

China-LAC Think Tanks Forum aims at strengthening the sharing of experience and knowledge between think tanks of

China and LAC states, and providing intellectual support for the deepening of China-Latin America relations. After the establishment of China-CELAC Forum, the China-LAC Think Tanks Forum was incorporated into the CCF as its sub-forum. It has been held twice up till now.

The first China-LAC Think Tanks Forum was held in Beijing on November 8th and 9th, 2010, attended by over 100 experts and scholars of China and 15 Latin American and the Caribbean states. The Forum was hosted by the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs (CPIFA), with the theme of "China-Latin America Relations with Important Opportunities – Looking into the Future Ten Years". Participants conducted heated discussions over the theme.

The second China-LAC Think Tanks Forum was held in Beijing on July 22nd and 23rd, 2013, attended by over 100 people including former state leaders, scholars of renowned think tanks, diplomats from Latin American countries to China, media representatives and well-known business leaders of China and 16 Latin American and the Caribbean states. It was co-hosted by China Foundation for International Studies (CFIS) and the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign affairs (CPIFA). The theme of the Forum was "New Opportunities, New Challenges and New Ideas –China-Latin America Relations under the New Circumstances". Participants carried out discussions and exchanges over the theme. The Forum released the *Beijing Declaration of China-Latin America Think Tanks*.

33. What is China-LAC Business Summit?

China-LAC Business Summit was founded in November, 2007 by the China Council for the Promotion of International

Trade (CCPIT), and is the first institutionalized platform China has established to promote economic and trade cooperation with Latin America and the Caribbean region, which was written into the Policy Document of the Chinese Government toward Latin America and the Caribbean region released in November, 2008. After the establishment of China-CELAC Forum, China-LAC Business Summit was incorporated as a sub-forum of the CCF. The Summit, organized by the CCPIT, shall be held on a rotation basis between China and LAC states, having already been held nine times.

The first up to the eighth China-LAC Summit have been held successively in Santiago, capital city of Chile, China's Harbin city, Bogota, capital city of Columbia, China's Chengdu city, Lima, capital city of Peru, China's Hangzhou city, San José, capital city of Costa Rica, and China's Changsha city. The summits held have won high interests and active participation of business communities of China and LAC states, with each one having the scale of over 800 participants. Through diversified forms such as policy discussions, industrial roundtables, exhibitions and business talks, the summit has promoted mutual understanding between Chinese businesses and their LAC counterparts, through which agreements on many mutually beneficial business cooperation projects have been reached.

The 9th China-LAC Business Summit was held in Guadalajara , Jalisco, Mexico on October 13th and 14th, 2015, attended by around 800 officials and business leaders from China and CELAC countries. The theme of the Summit was "New trends-Big Opportunities: Moving forward together". Over the two-day meetings, other events and activities such as China-LAC trade exhibition, discussions for business projects, and roundtable for trade promotion institutions were also organized, through which a series

of cooperation intents have been reached.

34. What is China-LAC People-to-People Friendship Forum?

China-LAC People-to-People Friendship Forum was established in 2007, hosted by the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC). After the establishment of China-CELAC Forum, it was incorporated as a sub-forum of the CCF. In principle, it shall be held between China and LAC states on a rotation basis, having been held five times up till now respectively in China's Chongqing, Havana, capital city of Cuba, China's Fuzhou, San José, capital city of Costa Rica, and China's Hangzhou.

The 5th China-LAC People-to-People Friendship Forum was held in Hangzhou of China's Zhejiang Province on September 15th and 16th, 2015, co-hosted by the CPAFFC and the Friendship Federation of Latin America and the Caribbean and China and organized by Zhejiang People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries. It was attended by over 100 senior officials and representatives from China and 20 Latin American and Caribbean states.

35. What is China-LAC Legal Forum?

China Law Society proposed the establishment of China-LAC Legal Forum in 2007. It is a long-term exchange mechanism and cooperation platform between the legal communities of China and LAC states, aimed at promoting healthy development of mutually beneficial economic and trade cooperation between China and LAC states, and consolidating the social and legal foundations underpinning friendship between China and Latin American and Ca-

Caribbean states. After the establishment of China-CELAC Forum, the China-LAC Legal Forum was incorporated as a sub-forum of the CCF. It has been held seven times up till now, respectively in Shanghai, Havana, capital city of Cuba, Buenos Aires, capital city of Argentina, Lima, capital city of Peru, Santiago, capital city of Chile, Quito, capital city of Ecuador, and Brasilia, capital city of Brazil.

36. What is China-LAC Local Governments Cooperation Forum?

China-LAC Local Governments Cooperation Forum aims at promoting friendly cooperation between local governments of China and LAC states in various fields, and has been incorporated into the CCF framework. It is hosted by CPAFFC. The first China-LAC Local Governments Cooperation Forum will be held in November, 2016, concurrently with the 5th China International Friendship Cities Conference in Chongqing. The Forum will invite local government representatives of friendship cities of China and LAC states to share experience on development and management.

37. What is the relationship between China-Caribbean Economic and Trade Cooperation Forum and China-CELAC Forum?

China-Caribbean Economic and Trade Cooperation Forum (CCETCF) is an international forum on economic and trade cooperation themed on economic development and cooperation, proposed by China in 2005, being the only Sino-Caribbean overall cooperation platform developed between China and LAC region at the sub-regional level. It covers 16 countries in the Caribbean region and regional organizations such as Caricom. Coordinated

by the Chinese Ministry of Commerce, the Forum has been held three times respectively in Kingston, capital city of Jamaica, China's Xiamen, and Port of Spain, capital city of Trinidad and Tobago in 2005, 2007 and 2011.

CCETCF offers an important platform for China and Caribbean states to enhance economic ties, and helps to deepen and expand Sino-Caribbean economic and trade cooperation. It has achieved positive results of mutual benefit and common development, and becomes a typical example of South-South cooperation. Given the special need of Caribbean states in CCF cooperation, China will keep the CCETCF, and continues its independent operation as a sub-forum within the CCF framework.

V. China's Financing Measures towards LAC Countries

38. What does China's package financing facility towards LAC countries include?

In April, 2014, while attending China-LAC summit, Chinese President Xi Jinping announced China's package financing facility totaling US\$35 billion, which consists of three parts – a Preferential Loan of US\$10 billion, Special Loan Program for China-Latin America Infrastructure Project of US\$20 billion, and China-LAC Cooperation Fund of US\$5 billion.

39. What are the channels and main principles for implementing the package financing facility?

China's package financing facility of US\$35 billion towards LAC countries has been offered by China unilaterally, with the purpose of promoting practical cooperation between China and LAC countries in related fields, which will not affect existing bilateral economic and technical cooperation and financing facilities between China and CELAC member states. The LAC side can put forward feasible projects through bilateral channel or CELAC. China will follow the principle of flexibility, pragmatism and balance to look into related applications and give due consideration to the special needs of small and medium-sized countries and Caribbean island countries, and is willing to provide assistance to countries that have difficulties to improve project feasibility study and planning. China also welcomes regional multilateral organizations and financial institutions such as the CAF, UNASUR and

CEPAL to participate in the cooperation in appropriate ways. At present, the Preferential Loans are only applicable for bilateral projects between China and LAC countries that have diplomatic relations with China. The Special Loan Program for China-Latin America Infrastructure and the China-LAC Cooperation Fund are open to all CELAC member states, which can be used in viable multilateral projects significant for the integration of Latin America and the Caribbean and in profit-promising bilateral projects. China welcomes more quality projects proposed by the LAC side to make good use of related financing arrangements to promote cooperation and benefit the people.

40. What is China's Preferential Loan towards LAC countries?

The US\$10 billion Preferential Loan towards LAC countries is comprised of the Chinese Government Concessional Loan and Preferential Export Buyer's Credit. The Ministry of Commerce takes the lead and the Export-Import Bank of China (China EXIM Bank) is responsible for operation of the loans. The loans are open to developing countries that have diplomatic relations with China.

The Chinese Government Concessional Loan refers to the medium and long-term low-interest credit operated by financial institutions designated by Chinese government, with the nature of government aid and grant. It is denominated in RMB, and can provide maximum 100% financing for business contract value for projects.

Preferential Export Buyer's Credit refers to the special credit with certain preferential terms and conditions extended in the form of export buyer's credit, aimed at promoting economic and

trade cooperation. It is denominated in the US dollar, and in principle, the maximum financing percentage is 85% of the business contract value for projects.

The forms of borrowing the above-mentioned loans are: first, sovereign-level agencies of borrowing countries that are entitled to borrow from overseas directly act as borrowers; second, financial institutions or enterprises designated by the governments of borrowing countries act as borrowers, and guaranteed by the sovereign-level agencies. The projects shall be applied formally by the government of the recipient country. The China EXIM Bank will be responsible for related project evaluation. After the project passes evaluation, the China EXIM Bank shall notify competent Chinese government authorities such as the Ministry of Commerce, and sign related loan agreements.

41. What is Special Loan Program for China-Latin America Infrastructure?

Special Loan Program for China-Latin America Infrastructure totals US\$20 billion, for which China Development Bank (CDB) is responsible for implementation.

The Loan is used to support infrastructure projects such as energy, road, communication, port, logistics, electricity, mining and agriculture in Latin American and Caribbean states participated by Chinese businesses. It adopts the market-based interest rate and commercial operation, with specific credit structure and conditions to be determined according to the projects on the ground.

The project development can be jointly done by the government and businesses of the country where the project is located together with related Chinese businesses, based on which a formal application is submitted to the CDB. The CDB shall conduct proj-

ect review and submit the review to the CDB Loan Committee. After the approval, the CDB shall conduct negotiations with the related project parties and sign loan agreements.

42. What is China-LAC Cooperation Fund?

The China-LAC Cooperation Fund is created by the initiative of the Chinese Government with an investment of US\$5 billion by Chinese institutions. The Fund is comprised of two parts: part one is the China co-financing fund for Latin America and the Caribbean (China Co-financing Fund), and part two is a private equity fund (PE fund).

43. What is China Co-financing Fund for Latin America and the Caribbean?

China Co-financing Fund for Latin America and the Caribbean has an investment of US\$2 billion by the Chinese side. The People's Bank of China takes the lead and entrusts the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to execute the fund in financing projects in LAC region in areas including education, water conservancy and energy, etc. The Fund was formally established in January, 2013 and has already started operation.

At present, the fund is only accessible by to CELAC member states that are members of the IDB. Antigua and Barbuda, Cuba, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Santa Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines are not members of the IDB, therefore not able to use the fund. The fund only makes up 5.7% of China's package financing facility for LAC countries. China welcomes related countries to apply for other funds provided by the Chinese side.

44. What is China private equity fund for Latin America and the Caribbean?

Coordinated by the NDRC, China private equity fund for Latin America and the Caribbean (PE fund) is operated by the Export-Import Bank of China with an investment of US\$3 billion from Chinese institutions, and was formally put into operation on January 12th, 2016. The PE fund will focus on a diversified range of sectors including energy and natural resources, infrastructure, agriculture, manufacturing, scientific and technological innovation, information technology and cooperation on production capacity through ways of equity and debt.

Governments, enterprises and financial institutions of China and LAC states are all entitled to apply for the fund. The fund will conduct processing and screening over projects in line with widely applied market principles and decision making process for PE fund projects.

45. What is China-LAC special agricultural cooperation fund?

In July, 2014, President Xi Jinping announced when attending China-LAC summit that China would formally implement a US\$50 million China-LAC special agricultural cooperation fund. The Chinese Ministry of Agriculture takes the lead in the implementation of the Fund, and has already provided support to related departments, scientific research institutions and agricultural enterprises of China in conducting agricultural cooperation projects with a number of LAC countries, covering various links of the industrial chain including breeding, crop planting, animal farming, product processing, logistics and storage, and research and development of applicable technologies. These projects have played

a good demonstration role, enhanced agricultural cooperation in science and technology, economy and trade between China and LAC states, and deepened integration of China-LAC agricultural industries.

46. Does China offer favorable policies towards friendly Caribbean countries applying for related funds?

China will appropriately accommodate the special needs of small and medium-sized countries and Caribbean states. China is willing to provide assistance to countries that have difficulties in areas such as project feasibility study and planning.

Moreover, during his visit to Trinidad and Tobago in June, 2013, President Xi Jinping announced a 1.5 billion USD concessional loans and a 1.5 billion USD special loan for infrastructure for friendly Caribbean states. These loans shall be used specifically for China's cooperation with friendly Caribbean states, and are independent of 35 billion USD financing facility.

47. Can Latin American and Caribbean countries that do not have diplomatic relations with China apply for China's package financing facility towards LAC countries?

At present, the Preferential Loans only apply to bilateral projects between China and LAC countries that have diplomatic relations with China. The Special Loan Program for Latin America Infrastructure Project and China-LAC Cooperation Fund adopt the model of commercial operation, and are applicable to all CELAC member states including those that do not have diplomatic relations with China.

Projects of some LAC countries that do not have diplomatic relations with China have already won financing support or been put into related project reserve, involving extensive areas such as energy, architecture, finance and infrastructure.

48. Will the utilization of China's package financing facility towards LAC countries be concentrated just on a small number of big countries?

In the process of executing the package financing facility towards LAC countries, China will follow the comprehensive and balanced principle, and do its best to accommodate the different needs of big, medium-sized and small countries, so as to enable more LAC countries to get the benefits. The top precondition for full use of China's financing facility towards LAC countries is that the LAC side should provide feasible projects. China welcomes CELAC member countries to propose viable projects, and will review all proposals in earnest, regardless of the time of proposal and whether the projects are multilateral or bilateral. Approval of funding will mainly be determined by the projects per se. Meanwhile, China will appropriate accommodate the special needs of small and medium-sized countries and Caribbean states.

49. What will China do after the package financing facility is used up?

China's package financing facility towards LAC countries has effectively promoted the upgrading of China-LAC practical cooperation. At present, the related funds are sufficient enough to meet the needs for China-LAC financial cooperation for now and within a certain period. If there is indeed the need for bigger financial arrangement, we are sure that China will by then give active con-

sideration of adding related investment.

50. Does China welcome relevant multilateral financial institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean region to participate in the implementation of China's package financing facility towards LAC countries?

Regional multilateral financial institutions dominated by LAC countries such as the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) enjoy many advantages such as being familiar with regional situations, having strong intellectual resources and a wide network of cooperation, which China attaches high importance to. China welcomes related institutions to strengthen communication with the China Development Bank and China EXIM Bank over the execution of China's package financing facility towards LAC countries to actively explore cooperation in project reserve, joint investment and financing, information sharing and personnel exchange, so as to expand the coverage of the funds and maximize the efficiency of the Chinese funds. We hope that the CAF and CDB will help LAC countries that have the need to conduct project planning and feasibility studies to identify more quality and feasible projects.

51. What is China's consideration on helping small and medium-sized countries in Latin America and the Caribbean region to improve capacity of project planning?

China will appropriately accommodate the special needs of small and medium-sized countries in Latin America and the Caribbean region in the process of executing the package financing facility. China is willing to help strengthen personnel training, and

will invite related Chinese agencies to assist in feasibility studies if necessary to countries that have difficulties in project feasibility study and planning.

52. Can China's package financing facility be used to help LAC countries to conduct debt restructuring?

Some LAC countries that face heavy debt burden and high financing cost have requested China to consider using the financing arrangement within the framework of the CCF to help them conduct debt restructuring. China is willing to maintain communication with the LAC side over the issue to explore various forms of cooperation, so as to help the LAC side to overcome existing difficulties.

According to related policies, China's package financing facility shall be mainly used for project development and construction agreed upon by the two sides, and cannot be used for direct financial payment. We hope to get the understanding from the LAC side.

VI.
China's Major Initiatives and Cooperation
Programs on People-to-people and Cultural
Exchange towards LAC countries

53. What measures has China announced to help CELAC strengthen development of human resources and capacity building?

When attending China-CELAC summit in July, 2014, President Xi Jinping announced that China would provide CELAC countries with 6,000 governmental scholarships, 6,000 training opportunities and 400 opportunities for on-the-job master degree programs in China between 2015 and 2019. In 2015, China officially launched the ten-year training program for 1000 young leaders from both sides entitled the “Future Bridge”, and will continue to organize workshops for youth cadres of the countries. The above-mentioned measures have been listed in the *China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)*, and are being steadily implemented.

54. What is the “Future Bridge” China-LAC 1000 young leaders training program?

The “Future Bridge” China-LAC 1000 young leaders training program was announced by President Xi Jinping when attending China-CELAC summit in July, 2014, and has been listed in the *China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)*. The Central Committee of the Communist Youth League is responsible for its implementation. The program started in 2015 and will last 10 years, aimed at deepening LAC youth leaders’ comprehensive understanding about China and enhancing friend-

Shanghai.

55. What is the “Year of Cultural Exchanges between China and Latin America and the Caribbean 2016”?

The “Year of Cultural Exchanges between China and Latin America and the Caribbean 2016” was proposed by President Xi Jinping when attending China-LAC leaders meeting in Brasilia in July, 2014, and has been incorporated into the *China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)*. The Ministry of Culture of China is responsible for its implementation. The event runs through the entire year of 2016, covering many Chinese provinces, municipalities, Hong



ship between the youth of China and LAC countries by inviting LAC youth leaders to visit China for field trips, trainings and discussions with Chinese youth representatives.

From May 31st to June 11th, 2015, 49 youth representatives from 10 LAC countries including Argentina, Bahamas, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico and Uruguay attended the first exchange camp of “Future Bridge” China-LAC young leaders training program, and visited Beijing, Jiangxi and Shanghai.

From July 29th to August 10th, 20 youth representatives from five LAC countries including Brazil, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela attended the 6th Workshop for Young Cadres of Latin American Countries, and visited Beijing, Shanxi and



Kong and Macau, as well as nearly 30 LAC countries including Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Cuba, Costa Rica, Peru, Ecuador, Trinidad and Tobago, and Panama. It is the largest annual cultural event China jointly hold with the LAC region since the foundation of the People's Republic of China.

Centering around “inviting in” and “going out”, activities such as performance, exhibition, forum, movie showing, book festival, dialogue among civilizations, translation of classics, people-to-people and cultural exchange, and tourism promotion will be held in the year. The opening ceremony was held in Beijing on March 24th, where excellent national art groups from China, Cuba, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina and Colombia gave a performance upon invitation. The closing ceremony will be held in Latin America in November, with the theme of “Beauty for all”, when “Exhibition of China-LAC Civilization Exchange” and other activities will be held concurrently. Lang Lang, the famous pianist, will act as the image ambassador for the event.

56. What is “China-LAC Science and Technology Partnership”?

“China-LAC Science and Technology Partnership” was proposed by President Xi Jinping when attending China-LAC leaders meeting in Brasilia in July, 2014, and has been incorporated into the *China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)*. It was formally launched at the first China-LAC Scientific and Technological Innovation Forum held in September, 2015, for which the Ministry of Science and Technology of China is responsible for its implementation. The program aims at serving China-LAC overall cooperation in scientific and technological innovation, building a platform for China-LAC scientific and tech-

nological cooperation, and promoting China-LAC five-in-one cooperation in “research, planning, technology, talent development and standard” based on the common fields and cooperation needs between China and LAC countries. The program mainly includes joint establishment of joint research center, financing support to industry-research institute-university cooperation projects, establishment of China-LAC advanced applicable technology transfer platforms and regional integration cooperation network, research on bio-diversity, energy and resources in LAC countries, scientific and technological planning research, planning of scientific and technological parks, and expert exchanges.

In 2015, Ministry of Science and Technology of China approved the establishment of China-LAC Joint Laboratory of Clean Energy and Climate Change, and China Joint Research Center of Agricultural Science and Technology.

57. What is “China-LAC Young Scientists Exchange Program”?

China-LAC Young Scientists Exchange Program was proposed by President Xi Jinping when attending China-LAC leaders meeting in Brasilia in July, 2014, and has been incorporated into the *China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)*. It was formally launched at the first China-LAC Scientific and Technological Innovation Forum held in September, 2015, for which the Ministry of Science and Technology of China is responsible for its implementation. The program aims at financing young scientists from Latin America to work in China, according to the needs for talent development in key scientific and technological fields between China and LAC countries.

In 2014 and 2015, the Ministry of Science and Technology of

China supported 14 young scientists from Latin America in coming to China to conduct joint research.

58. What is the “China-LAC Cultural Classics Translation Program”?

China-LAC Cultural Classics Translation Program was proposed by Premier Li Keqiang during his visit to Latin America in May, 2015, for which from the Chinese side the Ministry of Culture is responsible for its implementation. The translation program includes famous writers and works plan, talent development plan, institutional cooperation plan, knowledge spreading plan, industrial support plan, and trade promotion plan, etc.. It is mainly targeted at CELAC member states that are advanced in the field of thoughts and culture with relatively rich classic works. Related activities are mainly conducted through bilateral channels.

59. What is the “China-LAC Civilization Dialogue Mechanism”?

“China-LAC Civilization Dialogue Mechanism” was proposed by Premier Li Keqiang during his visit to Latin America in May, 2015, for which from the Chinese side the Ministry of Culture is responsible for its implementation. The dialogue mechanism is open to all CELAC member states, led by governments and encourages active participation of civil societies. The activities include performances, exhibitions, fairs, forums, seminars, inter-school exchanges, and exchanges of visiting artists, touching upon extensive areas of art, thoughts and culture, relics, intangible cultural heritage, sports, press, publication, broadcasting and radio. Participants include governments, major cultural institutions, civil society groups, art groups and artists, inheritors of intangible cul-

ture heritage, and renowned people in thoughts and culture from China and CELAC countries.

60. How is the medical charity activity “Brightness” implemented in Latin America and the Caribbean?

During his meeting with Caribbean leaders in June, 2013, President Xi Jinping proposed to strengthen medical and health cooperation between the two sides. In order to implement the initiative, the National Health and Family Planning Commission of China started to select Chinese experts and send them to the Caribbean region to offer free medical treatment to the local people with cataract since April 2014. The *China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)* has listed health as one of the priority areas of cooperation between the two sides.

In 2015, Chinese experts traveled successively to Antigua and Barbuda, Jamaica and Bahamas to conduct free cataract operations for 602 patients.

61. Which LAC countries has China signed cultural agreements with?

The *China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)* listed culture as one of the priority areas of cooperation between the two sides. By the end of 2015, China has signed cultural agreements with 19 LAC countries including Mexico (1978), Barbados (1980), Chile (1981), Colombia (1981), Venezuela (1981), Ecuador (1982), Argentina (1984) Guyana (1984), Brazil (1985), Peru (1986), Bolivia (1986), Cuba (1987), Suriname (1987), Uruguay (1988), Jamaica (1991), Bahamas (2004), Trinidad and Tobago (2005), Grenada (2006) and Costa Rica (2007).

62. How many Confucius institutes and Confucius classrooms has China opened in LAC countries?

The *China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)* listed education and human resources training as one of the priority areas of cooperation between the two sides. By the end of 2015, China has opened 39 Confucius Institutes and 18 Confucius Classrooms in 20 LAC countries, including 14 in Brazil (10 Confucius Institutes and 4 Confucius Classrooms), 9 in Chile (2 Confucius Institutes and 7 Confucius Classrooms), 7 in Colombia (3 Confucius Institutes and 4 Confucius Classrooms), 5 in Mexico (5 Confucius Institutes and no Confucius Classroom), 5 in Peru (4 Confucius Institutes and 1 Confucius Classroom), 2 in Argentina (2 Confucius Institutes and no Confucius Classroom), 2 in Ecuador (1 Confucius Institute and 1 Confucius Classroom), and 1 respectively in Cuba, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Guyana, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, Bahamas, Venezuela, Uruguay, Panama, Suriname (agreement in the process of signing), and Grenada (no Confucius Institute and 1 Confucius Classroom).

On May 12, 2014, the Confucius Institute Latin American Center was unveiled in Santiago, capital city of Chile. It is the second overseas regional center the Confucius Institutes Headquarter has established after the Confucius Institute U.S. Center.

63. How many political party cadres will be invited to visit China in the following five years?

During the China-CELAC summit in July, 2015, President Xi Jinping announced that China would invite 1000 LAC political party leaders to visit China between 2015 and 2019. The initiative has been incorporated into the *China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)*, for which the International

Department of the CPC Central Committee is responsible for its implementation.

In 2015, the International Department of the CPC Central Committee received 250 people from LAC political parties to China in 16 delegations. The first Meeting of China-CELAC Political Parties Forum held in Beijing from December 7th to 9th issued a declaration, stating that the International Department of the CPC Central Committee will invite 1200 LAC political party cadres to visit China between 2016 to 2020, so as to strengthen exchanges of experience in governance with LAC political parties.

VII. Appendix

Appendix I:
Keynote Speech by H.E. Xi Jinping
President of the People's Republic of China
At China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries
Leaders' Meeting

**Build a Community of Shared Destiny
for Common Progress**

(Brasilia, 17 July 2014)

H.E. Xi Jinping

President of the People's Republic of China

President Dilma Rousseff,

President Luis Guillermo Solis,

Dear Colleagues,

Good afternoon. I am so pleased to meet you all here to discuss the development of China-Latin America and Caribbean relations. I want to thank President Rousseff for her warm re-

marks. It's really a great joy to see so many old and new friends in Latin America and the Caribbean. This afternoon belongs to China and Latin American and Caribbean relations. The fact that the leaders of China and so many Latin American and Caribbean countries are gathering here is in itself of historic and global significance.

I wish to take this opportunity to express, on behalf of the Chinese government and people and in my own name, sincere greetings and best wishes to you and, through you, to the people of Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Dear Colleagues,

I took office as the Chinese President over one year ago, this is the second time for me to visit relatives and friends in Latin America and the Caribbean and attend the first ever China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Leaders' Meeting. China has proposed this meeting because we want to enhance dialogue, build consensus and boost the growth of China-Latin American and Caribbean relations from the top level. This not only serves our immediate and long-term interests but also contributes to South-South cooperation.

I want to thank President Rousseff and the Brazilian government for attaching high importance to and making meticulous preparations for this important meeting while they played host to the FIFA World Cup and the BRICS Summit. I appreciate the coordination efforts made by the extended "Troika" of CELAC before this meeting, and I thank all of you for traveling here to attend the meeting. This fully reflects your support for strengthening China-Latin America and Caribbean relations and advancing our overall cooperation.

Dear Colleagues,

As an old Chinese saying goes, "Nothing can separate people with common goals and ideals, not even mountains and seas." Although China and Latin America and the Caribbean are far apart geographically, there is a natural feeling of affinity between our peoples. The relationship between China and Latin America and the Caribbean has come a long way since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949. Thanks to generations of concerted efforts by both sides, it has made solid and steady progress for the last 60 years and more. In the new century, this relationship has shown a sound momentum of comprehensive and fast growth. Since the outbreak of the international financial crisis in 2008 in particular, China and Latin America and the Caribbean have, building on their respective strengths, forged close unity in overcoming the difficult period and achieved a quantum leap in their relations.

At present, the relations between China and Latin America and the Caribbean are best ever in history and standing at a new starting point. The two sides are now faced with better opportunities, foundation and conditions to deepen their mutually beneficial cooperation in all respects. We have every reason to achieve greater progress in growing this relationship.

Here, I wish to propose that we jointly announce at this meeting the establishment of a comprehensive and cooperative partnership featuring equality, mutual benefit and common development between China and Latin America and the Caribbean, and work together to build a five-dimensional relationship characterized by sincerity and mutual trust in the political field, win-win cooperation on the economic front, mutual learning and emulation in the cultural sphere, close coordination in international affairs, as

well as synergy between China's cooperation with the region as a whole and its bilateral relations with individual regional countries. To this end, I wish to make a five-point proposal.

First, we should always treat each other as equals and support each other with sincerity. The path we take determines our future. China and Latin American and Caribbean countries should firmly support each other in following the path of development suited to their national conditions, strengthen the sharing of governance experience and deepen strategic mutual trust. The two sides should continue to give each other understanding and support on issues concerning their core interests and major concerns such as sovereignty, territorial integrity, stability and development. China reaffirms that it supports Latin America and the Caribbean in promoting regional integration, building strength through unity, and playing a bigger role in regional and global affairs.

Second, we should deepen mutually beneficial cooperation and work for common development. The strong complementarity in the economic structure and development strategy of China and Latin America and the Caribbean provide the natural advantage for enhancing cooperation between the two sides. China proposes that the two sides work together to develop a "1+3+6" cooperation framework to promote faster, broader and deeper cooperation between the two sides for real results.

The number "1", means one plan. The two sides should develop the Sino-Latin American and Caribbean Cooperation Plan (2015-2019) with the aim of achieving inclusive growth and sustainable development and align our respective development strategies.

The number "3" means "three engines". Trade, investment

and financial cooperation should be the driving force for all-round development of practical cooperation between China and Latin America and the Caribbean. The two sides should leverage the important role of trade in driving economic growth, improve the trade mix, promote the export of traditionally competitive products and high value-added products of Latin American and Caribbean countries to China, expand cooperation in trade in services, e-commerce and other fields, and work toward the goal of US\$500 billion of two-way trade between us in the next ten years.

The two sides should expand mutual investment, promote the diversification of investment, and channel more capital into production sectors. The Chinese government will encourage and support more Chinese companies to invest in Latin America and the Caribbean, and strive to increase its stock of investment in the region to US\$250 billion in the coming decade.

The two sides should enhance financial cooperation, support closer coordination and cooperation between their central banks, expand the use of local currency in settling bilateral trade and the scale of local currency swap, and encourage the banks of the two sides to set up branches in each other's country.

The number "6" means "six areas". We should focus our cooperation in the six areas of energy and resources, infrastructure building, agriculture, manufacturing, scientific and technological innovation, and information technologies, connect the industrial sectors of the two sides, and deepen mutually beneficial cooperation between China and Latin America and the Caribbean.

To facilitate mutually beneficial cooperation in these areas, I am delighted to announce that China will formally launch the US\$10 billion special loan for infrastructure projects and will, on

this basis, further increase the credit line to US\$20 billion; provide US\$10 billion preferential loan to Latin American and Caribbean countries; and launch the Fund for China-Latin America and the Caribbean Cooperation and pledge a contribution of US\$5 billion, which is primarily for cooperation in energy and resources, agriculture, manufacturing, hi-tech, sustainable development and other areas. China will also formally launch US\$50 million special fund for agricultural cooperation, introduce the “Science & Technology Partnership” and the “Young Scientists Exchange Program” and hold the first scientific and technological innovation forum in due course.

Third, we should promote exchanges and mutual learning to consolidate the basis for lasting friendship. State-to-state relationship is underpinned by people-to-people amity. China welcomes more exchanges between governments, legislative bodies, political parties and localities, and closer cooperation in education, culture, sports, media and tourism. China is also ready to hold inter-civilization dialogue to help our people better appreciate each other's culture and form a strong bond so that there will be greater popular support for a strong bilateral relationship in the long run.

With this in mind, I want to announce here that in the coming five years, China will provide 6,000 government scholarships for Latin American and Caribbean countries, invite 6,000 people to undertake training courses in China and 400 people to pursue in-service master programs in China and invite 1,000 leaders of political parties to visit China. China also plans to launch in 2015 “Bridge for the Future”, a training program that will involve 1,000 young leaders from China, Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, China would like to propose that 2016 be designated the “Year of Cultural Exchanges” between China and Latin America

and the Caribbean.

Fourth, we should strengthen international coordination to safeguard common rights and interests. Enhanced coordination and cooperation between China and Latin America and the Caribbean in global affairs will be of great significance for international relations to be more democratic and for the international order to be more just and fair.

China stands ready to work with Latin America and the Caribbean in the United Nations, World Trade Organization, APEC, G20, G77 and other international and multilateral mechanisms to safeguard the common interests of developing countries, through better coordination and cooperation on global and hotspot issues such as global governance, sustainable development, climate change and cyber security. China is willing to increase dialogue and cooperation with you regarding regional affairs in the Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean regions and jointly contribute to peace and prosperity of both regions.

Fifth, we should advance overall cooperation to strengthen bilateral ties. It has been our shared aspiration to have closer overall cooperation between the two regions. The second CELAC summit held last January adopted the Special Declaration on the Establishment of the China-CELAC Forum, which has laid down the important groundwork for the establishment of the forum and advancement of our overall cooperation. At this meeting, we will jointly announce the official establishment of the China-CELAC Forum and the decision to hold the inaugural ministerial meeting in Beijing as early as possible. This will have profound implication for our future relationship and send out a strong signal of our commitment to strengthening unity and coordination and promoting South-South cooperation.

China looks forward to fully leveraging this platform to carry out collective dialogue on the political, economic, trade, people-to-people, social and foreign policy issues, be innovative in the form of cooperation, tap the potentials and enhance cooperation in breadth and depth so that we could complement one another and achieve common development.

Within the framework of the forum, China looks forward to increasing dialogue and cooperation with regional and sub-regional organizations and ensuring the success of China-Caribbean Economic and Trade Cooperation Forum, thus creating a comprehensive and well-designed network for overall cooperation.

Dear Colleagues,

The Chinese people are now striving to realize the Chinese dream of the great renewal of the Chinese nation. The people of Latin American and Caribbean countries are also working toward the Latin American dream of unity, coordination, development and rejuvenation. The shared dream and pursuit have brought us closely together. Let us seize the opportunities presented to us and work together to blaze new trails in building a community of shared destiny for common progress and usher in a bright future for the relations between China and Latin America and the Caribbean.

Thank you.

Appendix II:
Address by H.E. Xi Jinping
President of the People's Republic of China
At the Opening Ceremony of the First Ministerial
Meeting of The China-CELAC Forum

Jointly Write a New Chapter
in the Partnership of Comprehensive
Cooperation Between China and Latin
America and the Caribbean

(Beijing, 8 January 2015)

H.E. Xi Jinping

President of the People's Republic of China

Your Excellency President Luis Guillermo Solís Rivera,

Your Excellency President Rafael Vicente Correa Delgado,

Your Excellency President Nicolas Maduro Moros,

The Right Honorable Prime Minister Perry Gladstone Christie,

Heads of Delegations,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear Friends,

Good morning. On behalf of the government and people of China and also in my own name, I want to warmly welcome our friends who have come all the way from your part of the world to be here.

Today, delegates representing member countries of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) gather in Beijing for the First Ministerial Meeting of the China-CELAC Forum, a grand gathering in the history of China-Latin America and the Caribbean relations. Your presence has brought warmth to Beijing in the depth of winter.

The convening of the First Ministerial Meeting of the China-CELAC Forum marks the translation of our vision for overall cooperation into reality. The theme of the Meeting “New Platform, New Starting Point, New Opportunity — Joint Efforts to Promote China-Latin America and the Caribbean Partnership of Comprehensive Cooperation” well captures the features of the China-CELAC Forum and our shared aspiration for closer overall cooperation.

I am sure this meeting will yield rich results, send to the world a strong message of our commitment to deepening cooperation for common development, and have a major and far-reaching impact on South-South cooperation and the prosperity and progress of the world.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear Friends,

Six months ago, I had a landmark meeting with leaders of Latin American and Caribbean countries in Brasilia. Our two sides decided to establish a partnership of comprehensive cooperation featuring equality, mutual benefit and common development between China and Latin America and the Caribbean and officially launch the China-CELAC Forum. The decision is in keeping with the trend of peace, development and win-win cooperation in our times. It is an innovation in China-Latin America and the Caribbean relations.

Over the last six months, our two sides have followed the guidance of the Joint Statement of the Leaders’s Meeting in Brasilia, and worked together to build a new, five-dimensional relationship characterized by sincerity and mutual trust in the political field, win-win cooperation on the economic front, mutual learning and emulation in the cultural sphere, close coordination in international affairs, as well as synergy between China’s cooperation with the region as a whole and its bilateral relations with individual regional countries. With the deepening of mutually beneficial cooperation in all areas, the relations between China and Latin America and the Caribbean are flourishing.

– Our mutual political trust has been enhanced. We have maintained high-level exchanges and contacts at other levels and carried out candid and in-depth dialogue on development path, governance, foreign policy and other topics concerning our respective core interests and major concerns. As a result, our mutual understanding is deepening and strategic consensus growing.

– Our practical cooperation has been widened. Within the

“1+3+6” cooperation framework proposed by China, our two sides have worked hard to develop a cooperation plan for the coming five years and get the three engines of trade, investment and financial cooperation to run at full speed. A group of major cooperation projects in the six areas of energy and resources, infrastructure, agriculture, manufacturing, innovation in science and technology, and information technologies have been decided upon and more are in the pipeline.

– Our people-to-people exchanges have been intensified. There are regular exchanges between our legislatures, political parties and local authorities and robust cooperation in science and technology, education, culture, tourism and other fields, contributing to the deepening friendship between our people and a growing interest in each other.

– Our international coordination has been strengthened. At the United Nations, APEC, G20, G77 and other international organizations and multilateral mechanisms, we have stepped up coordination and cooperation on such major issues as global governance, sustainable development and climate change. The strategic importance and international influence of our cooperation has become all the more evident.

– Our overall cooperation has been advanced. We have completed the preparations for this inaugural Ministerial Meeting in just six months. We have vigorously explored the political design, practical cooperation and institutional building, pooled our wisdom, and built consensus, laying a good foundation for a good start in our overall cooperation.

The rapid, all-round growth of China-Latin America and the Caribbean relations is the result of our enhanced agreement

in the perceptions of the global trend, our greater confidence in the prospects of our relations, our clearer consensus on viewing each other as a development opportunity, and our stronger aspiration for a China-Latin America and the Caribbean community of shared destinies. This serves the shared interests of both sides as well as peace and development of Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and that of the world at large.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear Friends,

We live in a changing world, a world full of new opportunities and new challenges. The world today is witnessing profound adjustments in the international system and international order, and the international balance of power is shifting in a way that is more favorable for peace and development in the world.

A large number of developing countries and emerging market economies are on track of fast development. Through South-South cooperation, they have managed to draw on the development momentum of each other to grow in strength and independent development capacity, which consequently added impetus to the growth of the post-crisis world economy and significantly boosted development of the international order toward greater fairness and justice.

It is time for China and Latin American and Caribbean countries to advance our cooperation and bring it to an even greater depth. When combined, China and Latin American and Caribbean countries cover one fifth of the world's total land mass and are home to one third of the world's population. Together, we account for one eighth of the global economy. This puts us in an advantaged position and gives us valuable resources to bring about

all-round and profound growth of our relations.

The China-CELAC Forum, a young seedling in our eyes, needs the dedication and cultivation of both sides for it to grow bigger and stronger. During this Forum meeting, China and CELAC members will have in-depth discussions on overall cooperation and Forum building. Three outcome documents will be adopted, namely, the Beijing Declaration of the First Ministerial Meeting of the China-CELAC Forum, the China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019), and the Institutional Arrangements and Operating Rules of China-CELAC Forum.

The Beijing Declaration will highlight the political consensus between the two sides on promoting our partnership of comprehensive cooperation. It will set the general direction for overall cooperation and forum building and lay down the guiding principles for deepening cooperation between the two sides.

The Cooperation Plan will identify priority areas and specify measures to be taken by China and Latin American and Caribbean countries in the coming five years to advance overall cooperation. They will cover the political and security, trade, investment, finance, infrastructure, energy, resources, industry, agriculture, science, technology and cultural fields.

The Institutional Arrangements and Operating Rules of the China-CELAC Forum is designed to promote institutional building, as it will define the forum's coordination and cooperation mechanisms, such as the ministerial meeting, the dialogue of foreign ministers of China and the "Quartet" of CELAC and the meeting of national coordinators, so as to provide institutional guarantee for the implementation of political consensus and co-

operation plans between the two sides.

I am happy to note that a number of cooperation initiatives I proposed last July at the China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Leaders' Meeting are being earnestly implemented. Among them, the US\$20 billion special loan for infrastructure building projects, the US\$10 billion preferential loan and the US\$5 billion fund for China-Latin America and the Caribbean cooperation have been or will soon be put into substantive operation. The US\$50 million special fund for agricultural cooperation has started to provide funding support for cooperation projects. Besides, the competent departments of China have started to work on the provision of 6,000 government scholarships and 6,000 training opportunities to CELAC members in the coming five years. They have also started work regarding planned invitation of 1,000 leaders of political parties from Latin American and Caribbean countries to visit China as well as the "Bridge for the Future" training program that will involve 1,000 young leaders from China and Latin American and Caribbean countries. The proposed "Science and Technology Partnership", the "Young Scientists Exchange Program" as well as the planned 2016 Year of Cultural Exchanges put forward by China are all making steady progress. China welcomes CELAC members to take an active part in these programs.

Using today's opportunity, I wish to share with you the following thoughts regarding development of the Forum in the coming years.

First, we need to commit ourselves to the cooperation principle of acting as equal partners. Countries big and small all have their own merits. China and CELAC members, however different in size, strength and level of development, are equal members of

the China-CELAC Forum family. We may come together under the vision of friendly consultation, joint development and outcomes sharing, accommodate each other's interests and concerns and build as much consensus as we can so as to lay a solid political foundation for overall cooperation.

Second, we need to adhere to the goal of win-win cooperation. As a governmental cooperation mechanism between China and CELAC members, the forum covers political, economic, trade, people-to-people, cultural, social, science and technology, and many other areas. Our two sides should keep firmly to the goal of pursuing common development, enhance institutional building of the forum, and draw up a blueprint for conducting overall cooperation. This will allow us to produce early harvest and achieve the effect of making one plus one bigger than two, and ensure sustainable development of the forum.

Third, we need to pursue cooperation in flexible and pragmatic ways. It is China's view that China-CELAC overall cooperation and bilateral cooperation between China and CELAC members should be conducted on a parallel basis, which complement and reinforce each other. We may, within the framework of the China-CELAC Forum and relevant forums on specific fields, identify priority areas and projects of cooperation and carry out both bilateral and multilateral cooperation in diversified ways to draw on each other's strengths.

Fourth, we need to ensure open and inclusive cooperation. In conducting the cooperation within the China-CELAC framework, it is important to give full account to different interests and needs of various parties and accommodate each other's comfort level. We welcome active participation in China-CELAC overall cooperation by other regional organizations and multilateral institutions

in Latin America and the Caribbean. The forum will therefore contribute to not only solidarity and collaboration between the two sides, but also South-South cooperation and development and prosperity of the world.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear Friends,

Latin America and the Caribbean, which is endowed with abundant resources for development, is one of the most promising emerging regions in the world. In recent years, the region has maintained sound momentum of stability and development. Led by CELAC and other regional organizations, it has achieved fresh progress in strengthening itself through unity and accelerating regional integration. As a result, its overall strength and international influence have been enhanced. Countries in the region have actively pursued multi-direction diplomacy, and they have given priority to fostering friendly and cooperative ties with China and other Asia-Pacific countries, thus creating more space for promoting all-round growth of their relations with China.

The Chinese people are striving to finish the building of a society of initial prosperity in all respects and realize the Chinese dream of great national renewal. The people in Latin America and the Caribbean are endeavoring to achieve their dream of solidarity, collaboration, development and revitalization. So we are bound together by shared dreams and common pursuits.

China is committed to pursuing an independent foreign policy of peace, peaceful development and a win-win strategy of opening-up. China champions and practices a right approach to principles and interests, and it upholds good-faith, friendship and justice. China will integrate its own development with the com-

mon development of other developing countries and work with them to build a new type of international relations of win-win cooperation.

Looking ahead, China will maintain medium to high rate of growth, as its economy has entered a new normal. In the next five years, China will import more than US\$10 trillion of goods and make over US\$500 billion outbound investment, and over 500 million overseas visits will be made by Chinese tourists. All this will offer more market, investment, growth and cooperation opportunities to countries in Latin America, the Caribbean and the rest of the world. In the next ten years, we will work together to raise two-way trade to US\$500 billion, and China's direct investment in the region will rise to US\$250 billion.

Our two sides have designed an exquisite emblem for the forum. It is in the shape of a pair of peace doves or two clasped hands, which symbolizes close cooperation between the two sides soaring to great heights.

In a word, with the long-term and strategic goal in mind, China will work with Latin American and Caribbean countries to ensure the success of the new platform of China-CELAC overall cooperation. We should take the first Ministerial Meeting as a new starting point and seize new opportunities in China-CELAC overall cooperation. With these efforts, we will write a new chapter in our partnership of comprehensive cooperation and raise our relations to a higher level.

To conclude, I wish the meeting every success.

Thank you.

Appendix III:

Beijing Declaration of the First Ministerial Meeting of the CELAC–China Forum

1. We, the Foreign Ministers and representatives of the People's Republic of China and the member countries of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), held the First Ministerial Meeting of the China-CELAC Forum (CCF) under the theme of “New Platform, New Starting Point, New Opportunity - Joint Efforts to Promote China - Latin America and the Caribbean Partnership of Comprehensive Cooperation” on January 8th and 9th, 2015 in Beijing.

2. We appreciate the attendance of the President of China, Xi Jinping, the President of Costa Rica, Luis Guillermo Solís, the President of Ecuador, Rafael Correa, the Prime Minister of The Bahamas, Perry Gladstone Christie and the President of Venezuela, Nicolas Maduro, at the opening ceremony.

We recall the I CELAC Summit celebrated in Santiago, Chile, where the Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean instructed the Ministers of Foreign Affairs to coordinate efforts in order to establish a “CELAC – China Forum” and the II CELAC Summit held in Havana, Cuba, where the Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean expressed their commitment to the creation of the CELAC

– China Forum through the adoption of a Special Declaration.

3. We recognize that the Special Declaration, the China – Latin America and the Caribbean Leaders' Meeting and the Meeting of the Heads of State and Government of CELAC's Quartet, formed by Costa Rica, Antigua and Barbuda, Ecuador and Cuba, with China, held in Brasilia in July 2014 were important events in the history of relations between China and the region. These meetings decided to formalize a partnership of comprehensive cooperation for equality, mutual benefit, and common development between the two sides, charting out the course for the long-term development of China-Latin American and the Caribbean relationship, in the framework of the CELAC-China Forum.

We are determined to work together to strengthen our mutual relationship, in the framework of the CELAC-China Forum, fully comply with norms and principles of International Law including the mutual respect of the sovereignty and territorial integrity, promote cooperation and equitable and equally beneficial treatment in the trade and economical field, mutual learning in the cultural field, enhance constructive dialogue and close consultation in international affairs, and mutually reinforce all areas of cooperation.

4. We are convinced that the formal establishment of the China-CELAC Forum provides an important platform for the countries to have widespread cooperation. The Forum, led by the CELAC – China Foreign Ministries will address diplomatic, political, economic, science and technology, trade, financial, cultural, social and environmental areas, among others arising from the meetings held within the Forum.

We are guided by the principles of respect, equality, plurality, mutual benefit, cooperation, openness, inclusiveness and non-con-

ditionality; we are resolved to carry out a dialogue in the framework of the Forum's thematic areas and others added by mutual agreement, through innovative ways of cooperation, in order to promote common sustainable development, social well-being, economic growth and make new contributions to South-South cooperation.

5. Determined to further deepen the partnership of comprehensive cooperation between the two sides, we have reached the following consensus concerning the CELAC-China Forum as a new platform, new starting point and new opportunity for dialogue and cooperation:

– China and Latin American and Caribbean countries, as developing countries and emerging economies, are important forces for the attainment of world peace and prosperity as well as for the promotion of multilateralism and a multipolar world, and greater democracy in international relations.

– The sides are ready to intensify dialogue and collaboration on regional and global affairs of mutual interest, enhance their collaboration on major global issues, strengthen the voice of developing countries in decision-making bodies of multilateral institutions and continue to make positive contributions to peace, stability, development and prosperity.

– China and Latin America and the Caribbean face similar development goals and share broad interests, while recognizing the specific challenges faced by less developed members of CELAC. We agree that our relationship is an important opportunity for mutual development.

– We will actively work to maintain high-level exchanges and contacts including institutionalized dialogues at relevant levels, to

strengthen experiences on governance and enhance consultations on international issues.

– Promoting substantial and comprehensive mutual cooperation is a priority. We will work actively to develop a mutually agreed framework for cooperation, based in the follow-up and monitoring of initiatives, programs and projects, in order to promote dialogue on our respective development strategies and macroeconomic policies, transform and upgrade cooperation at a faster pace, aiming at achieving inclusive growth and sustainable development.

– We will strive to increase people-to-people exchanges through greater interaction between legislative bodies, state and local governments as well as young people and other actors of society to promote mutual knowledge and to expand exchanges and cooperation in such fields as education, human resources training, think-tanks, media, culture, sports, science and technology, agriculture, tourism, energy, natural resources and infrastructure.

– The overall cooperation within the framework of the China-CELAC Forum will promote the deepening of comprehensive cooperation between China and Latin America and the Caribbean. In this context, we have adopted the “Plan of Cooperation between China and the Latin American and Caribbean Countries (2015-2019)”, identifying the key areas and specific measures of cooperation between China and the region in the next period. We have also adopted the “Institutional Arrangements and Operating Rules of the CELAC – China Forum”, in order to build our framework for dialogue and cooperation.

– We agree that the China – Latin America and the Caribbean countries Cooperation Plan 2015 – 2019 from the CELAC

– China Forum will be implemented, under the principles of flexibility and voluntary participation, in accordance with the domestic policies and the provisions of the national legal system of each Party, and shall not affect any bilateral cooperation program previously agreed upon by individual parties nor substitute the bilateral agreements, decisions and commitments set between the Parties.

– We will actively explore the possibility of holding a Summit meeting, when conditions are ripe, with the participation of China and CELAC member countries’ leaders, and encourage meetings in specific fields to be held under the framework of the CELAC - China Forum.

– We consider that a special treatment should be given to Caribbean countries regarding the strategies and cooperation projects in the Forum.

6. We decide to conduct, where appropriate, dialogue and cooperation with other regional organizations and institutions of Latin America and the Caribbean, within the framework of the China-CELAC Forum, in order to build a network of comprehensive and balanced cooperation between China and the region. We warmly welcome the participation at this meeting of ECLAC, IDB, and CAF.

7. We are satisfied with the positive outcomes of this meeting. The Latin American and Caribbean side applauds and appreciates China’s warm reception, hospitality and meticulous preparation for the meeting.

8. China appreciates the coordinating role Costa Rica has actively played as Pro Tempore Presidency in ensuring the success of the meeting and the active participation of the other CELAC

member countries and wishes the Third CELAC Summit to be held in San José, Costa Rica on January 28th and 29th, 2015 a great success.

9. We agree that the Second Ministerial Meeting of the CELAC – China Forum will be held in Chile in January 2018.

Appendix IV:

China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019)

The First Ministerial Meeting of the China-CELAC Forum was held in Beijing on January 8th and 9th, 2015. Through equal and friendly consultations, the two sides have considered to adopt the China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Cooperation Plan (2015-2019) as follows:

I. Policy and Security

1. Increase the exchanges of visits and meetings at multilateral fora between leaders of China and CELAC, as well as its member States, and improve dialogue and varied consultation mechanisms between the two sides. Make full use of the China-CELAC Forum as a platform.

2. Further expand the exchanges and collaboration between the National People's Congress of China and the legislatures of CELAC countries and parliamentary organizations.

3. Consider to hold exchanges between political parties, local government and youth of China and CELAC countries. In this regard, China will invite 1,000 political leaders of CELAC countries to visit China in the next five years. Hold, in due course, the

China-LAC Capital City Mayors' Forum and the China-LAC Local Governments Cooperation Forum. China will continue to run the China-LAC Young Political Leaders' Forum.

4. Work together to enhance consular ties and collaboration between China and Latin American and Caribbean countries, protect the safety and legitimate rights and interests of each other's enterprises and nationals, according to the national legislation of the participant countries.

5. Encourage more interaction between judicial institutions from China and the region, concerning judicial exchanges; expand cooperation in terms of mutual legal assistance in criminal and civil cases. The two sides agree to continue to run the China-LAC Legal Forum on a regular basis under the umbrella of the China-CELAC Forum.

6. Enhance cooperation to prevent, suppress and punish the smuggling of migrants and trafficking of persons, particularly women, children and teenagers, and protect the victims of such crimes, including by protecting their human rights.

7. Enhance dialogue and collaboration on Internet governance and cyber security, work together to build an Internet space that features peace, security, openness and cooperation. Uphold the principles of the International Law in building multilateralism, multistakeholderism, democratic, and transparent global Internet governance system.

II. International Affairs

1. Strengthen dialogue and collaboration in international organizations and multilateral institutions such as the United Nations; based on the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and In-

ternational Law, uphold the authority of the United Nations and its leading role in international affairs.

2. Enhance collaboration in global economic, trade and financial institutions, improve global economic governance, promote sustainable development with social inclusion and poverty eradication, and bolster the prosperity of global trade and sustainable development.

3. Strengthen dialogue and consultation on sustainable development, and other global issues, and call on the international community to intensify its work towards the drawing up of the Post 2015 Development Agenda, with the aim of effectively contributing, inter alia, to the eradication of poverty, hunger and illnesses of global impact.

4. Advance on the international negotiations on climate change, under UNFCCC, in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.

III. Trade, Investment and Finance

1. Further promote trade and investment between China and CELAC countries. Work together to increase trade in both directions and in a balanced and mutually beneficial way between China and CELAC countries to 500 billion US dollars, and raise the stock of reciprocal investment to at least 250 billion US dollars in 10 years, and CELAC's stock of investment with particular emphasis in high technology and value added goods production.

2. Intensify cooperation, boost trade in services and e-commerce without prejudice to traditional trade, promote bilateral equitable trade and properly handle trade frictions in compliance

with WTO rules and existing trade agreements between China and CELAC countries.

3. Stimulate the promotion and facilitation of investment, including through joint ventures and partnerships.

4. Support the running of the China-LAC Business Summit.

5. Encourage closer cooperation between micro, small and medium-sized enterprises of CELAC and China with a view to supporting the internationalization and integration of SMEs in global value chains.

6. Enhance collaboration in customs and quality inspection.

7. Enhance dialogue and collaboration between Central Banks and financial regulatory authorities.

8. Make good use of the China-LAC Cooperation Fund, China-LAC Special Loan for Infrastructure, concessional loans offered by China as well as other financial resources, to support the key cooperation projects between China and CELAC countries, in a manner consistent with the social, economic and environmental development needs of the CELAC region, as well as with sustainable development vision.

9. Strengthen cooperation between China and CELAC countries through financial institutions for development in the region.

IV. Infrastructure and Transportation

1. Foster infrastructure cooperation between China and CELAC countries and explore the possibility of inaugurating the China-LAC Infrastructure Forum in due time.

2. Promote infrastructure development in areas such as trans-

portation, ports, roads and warehouse facilities, business logistics, information and communications technologies, broadband, radio and TV, agriculture, energy and power, and housing and urban development.

3. Encourage competent Chinese and CELAC's enterprises to participate in key projects for the integration of Latin America and the Caribbean and the improvement of connectivity and intercommunication between China and CELAC countries.

V. Energy and Natural Resources

1. Foster a closer cooperation in energy between China and the Latin American and Caribbean countries and explore the possibility of inaugurating the China-LAC Energy and Mineral Resources Forum in due time.

2. Enhance collaboration in the energy and mineral sectors, including technological research and development, and sustainable use of natural resources, based on equality, overall reciprocity and mutual benefit, with close observance of applicable laws, regulations and best international practices, while respecting the full sovereignty over their natural resources.

3. Strengthen collaboration and investment in the electricity sector, including power generation, high and ultra-high voltage power transmission, water resources planning and development, bio-energy, solar, geothermal and wind power.

4. Promote training programs for technicians and experts in management and development of renewable energy.

5. Enhance collaboration to promote in CELAC countries the industrialization for value added goods.

VI. Agriculture

1. Continue to run the China-LAC Agricultural Ministers' Forum.
2. Enhance and deepen agricultural collaboration, including livestock and forestry, as well as fisheries and aquaculture.
3. Promote the development and demonstration of modern agricultural technologies and strengthen countries' collaboration in research and development (R&D), as well as investment and development zones to advance agricultural technological innovation and increase agricultural production and processing capacity and international competitiveness of both sides.
4. Use the China-LAC special agricultural cooperation fund established at China's initiative to encourage the development of more agricultural cooperation projects.
5. Promote cooperation between China and LAC countries within the framework of the CELAC Road Map on Family Farming, approved by the I CELAC Ministerial Meeting on Family Farming, held in Brasilia, Brazil, on November 11th, 2014.
6. Promote cooperation between the two sides, within the framework of the CELAC Plan for Food and Nutrition Security and Eradication of Hunger 2025.

VII. Industry, Science and Technology, Aviation and Aerospace

1. Explore initiatives to the joint construction of industrial parks, science and technology, special economic zones and high-tech industrial parks between China and CELAC countries, especially in research and development (R&D) activities in order to improve industrial investment and the forming of industrial value

chain.

2. Increase mutual investment in manufacturing industry to support the building of industrial zones under multilateral and bilateral initiatives, to enhance mutually beneficial cooperation in fields such as construction equipments, petrochemicals, agricultural product processing, clean energies, mechanical equipments, automotive, aviation, ship and marine engineering equipments, transportation equipments, electronics, digital medical equipments, information and communication technology, the transfer of technology and know-how between the two sides, biotechnology, food and medicine. Explore the possibility of inaugurating the China-LAC Industrial Development and Cooperation Forum in due time.

3. Expand cooperation in the information industry in such fields as Internet and digital television, ICT Cluster Development, among others.

4. Strengthen inter-governmental scientific and technological dialogue and cooperation mechanisms between China and CELAC countries. Give consideration to holding the first China-LAC Scientific and Technological Innovation Forum in due time. Welcome China's official launch of the "China-LAC Science and Technology Partnership" and "China-LAC Young Scientists Exchange Program".

5. Jointly apply space technologies in Integrated Risk Management and disaster prevention and reduction, evaluation of crop production, impacts of climate change, long distance learning and medical care, taking into consideration the interests and needs of small and vulnerable economies, in particular of Small Developing States.

6. Encourage effective cooperation between the civil aviation authorities and enterprises from both sides in discussing the opening of more air routes between China and Latin America and the Caribbean, and closer air links by means of code sharing, so as to promote an increase in tourism and closer links between the populations of CELAC member countries and China.

7. Increase the collaboration in the area of sustainable fuels for aviation, including renewable jet fuel from biomass.

VIII. Education and Human Resources Training

1. Promote exchanges, research mobility programmes and co-operation between education departments and institutions.

2. Enhance human resources development, capacity building, and collaboration in different areas. The Chinese side will provide CELAC countries with 6,000 governmental scholarships, 6,000 training opportunities and 400 opportunities for on-the-job master degree programs in China between 2015 and 2019.

3. The Chinese side will officially launch the ten-year training program for 1,000 young leaders from both sides entitled “Bridge of the Future” from 2015 and will continue to run the training program for young cadres of the region.

4. Promote Mandarin Chinese, English, Spanish, Portuguese language talents. The Chinese side encourages and supports primary and secondary schools of CELAC countries in opening Chinese language courses, including Chinese language teaching in local curriculum and CELAC encourages opening Spanish and English language courses and Spanish and English language teaching in China’s schools. CELAC countries, in turn, encourage Chinese efforts to promote language courses in the official lan-

guages of CELAC in Chinese schools.

5. Continue to promote the establishment and development of Confucius Institutes and Confucius Classrooms in CELAC countries.

6. Implement technical cooperation projects in the field of institutional strengthening.

IX. Culture and Sports

1. Make joint efforts to hold the “Year of Cultural Exchanges between China and Latin America and the Caribbean” preferably in 2016, initiated by the Chinese side.

2. Promote the performance of outstanding art troupes and the showcasing of artwork from the two sides in international art festivals and visual art exhibitions held in China and the region. Encourage exchanges and cooperation in traditional as well as emerging art forms, and cultural and creativity industries.

3. Encourage collaboration in the protection of cultural heritage and the fight against theft, excavation, illegal entry and exit of cultural properties, among other areas. Jointly promote the strengthening of the 1970 UNESCO Convention of the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property.

4. Expand exchanges and cooperation in sports, encourage the participation of athletes from both sides in various types of sporting events, including the establishment of high performance sport centers.

X. Press, Media and Publication

1. Step up dialogue and cooperation between information departments of China and CELAC countries. Explore the signing of comprehensive agreements in radio, television and film.

2. Support collaboration between the news media, encourage the sending of resident correspondents, joint interviews, exchange of news and personnel training between news media from both sides. Encourage capable and influential network media of both sides to enhance collaboration in developing portals and building new media capacity. Welcome the landing of Chinese radio and television programs in the Latin American and Caribbean region.

3. Encourage cooperation between publishing industries and the translation and publication of literary works of China in the Community and of Latin American and Caribbean literature in China.

XI. Tourism

1. Strengthen dialogue and collaboration between governmental tourist departments of China and CELAC countries.

2. Encourage and assist governmental tourist departments and private and state-owned enterprises' participation in tourism promotions.

3. Promote two-way investment in tourism; encourage enterprises of both sides to jointly develop tourism projects.

4. Strengthen dialogue and collaboration between governmental consumer protection bodies of China and CELAC countries, focused on the protection of the consumer rights of international tourist.

XII. Environmental Protection, Disaster Risk Management and Reduction, Poverty Eradication and Health

1. Carry out cooperation on climate change within the framework of South-South cooperation, such as the promotion of

low-carbon, high-quality at reasonable prices, energy-saving and renewable technologies to relevant countries.

2. Enhance collaboration in the protection of biodiversity and coastal ecological system, reserves management, environmentally sound technologies, water conservation, desertification combat and pollution control and treatment, among other issues, to improve the capacity for environment protection.

3. Enhance cooperation on natural disaster management, preparedness, prevention and risk reduction, and other impacts of climate change, inter alia, developing and sharing human and technological resources in the area.

4. Encourage and support cooperation between organizations such as Red Cross Society and coordinate efforts on humanitarian cooperation, supporting the work of organizations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Food Programme (WFP), and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

5. Promote dialogue and sharing of best practices between poverty and hunger reduction and social assistance agencies, taking into consideration the priority areas of the CELAC Action Plan for Public Social Policies.

6. Expand exchanges and collaboration in areas such as disease control, epidemics with regional or global impact, and public health emergency response.

XIII. People-to-People Friendship

1. Encourage exchanges between civil groups, academic institutions, and major think tanks of China and CELAC countries. Support the holding of the 5th China-LAC People-to-People

Friendship Forum to be held in September 2015 in Hangzhou. Continue supporting the celebration of Think-Tanks of China and CELAC countries Forum.

2. Deepen friendly cooperation between women organizations, and jointly promote gender equality and equity and the empowerment of women.

XIV. Implementation of initiatives

The Cooperation Plan will be implemented, under the principles of flexibility and voluntary participation, in accordance with the domestic policies and the provisions of the national legal system of each Party, and shall not affect any bilateral cooperation programs agreed upon by individual parties nor substitute the bilateral agreements, decisions and commitments set between the Parties.

In this regard, it is pertinent to establish agreed procedures for the formulation and follow-up of the programs, projects and initiatives of cooperation, related to all CELAC members.

The areas of Cooperation included in this Plan are indicative and not exclusive.

The implementation of concrete cooperation initiatives or the adoption of norms will be subject to specific negotiations between China and the interested Latin American and Caribbean countries. Any CELAC Member State may completely or partially refrain from participating in an approved initiative, be it for a period defined beforehand, or for an indefinite period, without preventing it from later joining the total or partial implementation of that initiative, with prior approval from China and the participant States.

In implementing this cooperation plan, due consideration will

be given to the challenges and needs of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States of CELAC.

China and the CELAC member States will continue holding consultations in order to complement and strengthen the contents of this cooperation plan, as well as its implementation.

Appendix V: Institutional Arrangements and Operating Rules of CELAC-China Forum

The People's Republic of China and the member States of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC),

Desiring to formulate the Institutional Arrangements and Operating Rules of the CELAC – China Forum (CCF), in order to achieve better planning for the development of the CCF, and effectively implement in the future the cooperation initiatives and measures in different areas adopted at the Ministerial Meeting of the CCF,

We have agreed to adopt the Institutional Arrangements and Operating Rules of the CCF, as follows:

1. The CCF is defined as the platform for intergovernmental cooperation led by the Foreign Ministries of China and the member countries of CELAC, its main mechanisms include the Ministerial Meeting, the Dialogue of Foreign Ministers of China and the “Quartet” of CELAC, and the Meeting of National Coordinators (Senior Officials’ Meeting).

a. The Ministerial Meeting. Ministerial meetings will be held every three years in principle and by turns in China and the

Presidency country of CELAC or another member country of CELAC agreed upon by CELAC and China, and ad hoc meetings may be held, when necessary. The Ministerial Meetings are mainly held to discuss ways to improve mutually beneficial cooperation between China and CELAC member countries, at the regional and sub-regional level, and review and adopt outcome documents such as decisions and action plans, all of which will serve as cooperation guidelines for the two sides. The Ministerial Meetings will be held in the official languages of CELAC and in Chinese. All official documents approved by the Ministerial Meeting level will be translated into the official languages of CELAC and Chinese. Working documents will be circulated in Spanish and English.

b. The Dialogue of Foreign Ministers of China and the “Quartet” of CELAC. The two sides will continue to make good use of this dialogue mechanism, maintain discussions on the affairs of the CCF, as well as international and regional issues of common concern, including through meetings during the UN General Assembly sessions and mutual visits.

c. The Meeting of National Coordinators (Senior Officials’ Meeting). The principal role is to make preparations for the Ministerial Meetings, follow-up the implementation of the outcomes of the Ministerial Meetings, and formulate stage-specific work plans for the CCF, considering their technical and financial feasibility, sustainability and impact, as well as the capacity and capability of member countries of CELAC. In principle, it will be held at least once a year by turns in China and the Presidency country of CELAC, or another CELAC member country agreed upon by CELAC and China. When in the CELAC region, the meeting will be held on the sidelines of the CELAC National

Coordinators meeting.

d. At the appropriate time, the CCF will explore the possibility of incorporating Forums and meetings in specific fields, gradually and subject to the CELAC consensus. The date, venue and agenda of any of these forums will be agreed upon by the two sides in advance. The outcome of the forums will be reported for consideration to the Ministerial Meeting.

2. Other CELAC member countries may also express willingness to host the meetings on a voluntary basis. The host country will be decided upon through consultation.

3. The Ministerial Meetings and the Meetings of National Coordinators (Senior Officials' Meeting) will be organized by the host countries in coordination with CELAC's PTP, which will be responsible for setting the meeting agenda, printing and distributing documents, translating speeches and documents of the meeting, and other technical work. The meetings will be co-chaired by CELAC's PTP, the host country and China.

The side hosting the meeting will draft documents for the meeting according to the meeting agenda agreed upon by the two sides, submit the draft documents for review and revision by all member countries of the CCF, and present the final documents to the meeting for discussion and adoption. The PTP, in coordination with the host country, will conduct the negotiation of the referred documents within CELAC.

4. The Chinese side has established the Chinese Committee of the Follow-up Actions of the CCF, responsible for coordination among the Chinese institutions. The Secretariat of the Chinese Committee is at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China.

The Secretariat of the Chinese Committee, the CELAC PTP and CELAC member countries will coordinate to jointly implement the outcomes of the Ministerial Meetings of the CCF.

CELAC will define the procedures and mechanisms for the presentation of cooperation projects and regional initiatives to China.

5. On the basis of the Ministerial Meeting of the CCF and at a time agreed upon by both sides, both may discuss holding a Summit Meeting of leaders of China and the member countries of CELAC at a proper time, as the highest form of the overall cooperation between China and Latin America and the Caribbean. Summit meetings will be held in all official CELAC languages and Chinese. All official documents approved by the Summit will be translated into the official languages of CELAC and Chinese. Working documents will be circulated in Spanish and English.

For the consideration of cooperation projects or multilateral initiatives, understood as projects, which will have systematic impacts in the relationship between Latin America and the Caribbean and China, in the framework of the CELAC-China Forum, the following principles should be met:

- Correspond to the mutually agreed key areas of cooperation.
- Contribute to effective regional integration and sustainable cooperation.
- Be designed so that they have a multiplier effect for the CELAC member States and China.
- Can be adapted to other member countries that express in-

terest in the project.

- Make optimum use of capacities in the CELAC countries.

6. The Institutional Arrangements and Operating Rules may be amended at an appropriate time and in light of actual conditions by all the participant countries in the CFF through consensus.