

UN SECRETARY GENERAL
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VIDEO MESSAGE
TO THE JOINT HIGH-LEVEL SYMPOSIUM ON 2030 AGENDA
CO-ORGANIZED BY
THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE UN COUNTRY TEAM
IN CHINA
30 May 2016

10/05/16

Distinguished guests,

Thank you for coming together for this High-Level Symposium on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, jointly organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the UN System in China.

Last year, leaders from around the world, including President Xi Jinping, adopted the 2030 Agenda and the ambitious Sustainable Development Goals.

China has demonstrated great leadership and made remarkable commitments to advance the 2030 Agenda. I am pleased that China has pledged to eradicate poverty in the country by 2020, increase south-south cooperation, and focus action to tackle climate change.

China's 13th Five-Year Plan has integrated the 2030 Agenda to reflect the SDGs in the country's overall social, economic and environmental planning.

I welcome China's continued leadership to achieve the 2030 Agenda both at home and globally.

I am pleased that China will be among the first countries volunteering to make national presentations on SDG implementation at the High-level Political Forum this July.

The United Nations looks forward to further strengthening our partnership to advance our shared goals of development, peace and human rights for all.

Please accept my best wishes for a successful symposium.



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中华人民共和国常驻联合国代表团

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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May 10, 2016

Your Excellency,

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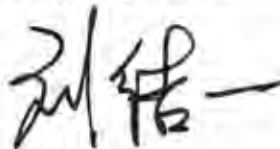
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I have the pleasure to inform you that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China and the UN system in China will co-organize the Joint High-Level Symposium on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at Linzhi Municipality, Tibet Autonomous Region, People's Republic of China on May 30 2016. The theme of the Symposium is "Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Through an Equitable, Open, All-round and Innovative Approach". Attached please find the concept note of the symposium.

H.E. Mr. WANG Yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs will deliver a video message to the symposium. I will be very grateful if you could deliver a short video message to the opening ceremony of the symposium to demonstrate your support. I look forward to receiving your video message soon.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



LIU Jieyi

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of
The People's Republic of China to the UN

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York

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Concept Note

Joint High-level Symposium on 2030 Agenda

Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:

Through an Equitable, Open, All-round and Innovative Approach

1. Title	Joint High-level Symposium on 2030 Agenda <i>Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Through an Equitable, Open, All-round and Innovative Approach</i>
2. Date and Venue	May 30, 2016 (Monday) Linzhi Municipality, Tibet Autonomous Region, People's Republic of China
3. Organizational Structure	Hosts: UN System in China, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)
4. Objectives	The Symposium is to be organized as the first joint initiative between MOFA and the UN System in China following the adoption of the SDGs and the 13 th FYP. It will bring together key actors from the government, non-governmental and international organizations to discuss key bottlenecks and opportunities for China in meeting the SDGs. In particular, it will focus on how equitable, open, all-around and innovative approaches can be promoted in support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
5. Target Audience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening Speeches to be made by ministerial-level officials of Chinese government and Mr. David Nabarro, United Nations Special Adviser on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. SDGs Advocates such as Mr. Jack Ma, Founder and Executive Chairman of Alibaba Group would be also invited. A total of 100 high-level guests from the Chinese Government (national and local level, including cities), UN and international organizations, private sector/foundations, think tanks, academia and civil society.
6. Background & Rationale	<i>The Adoption of the 2030 Agenda</i> Last September, world leaders adopted the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It sets out a comprehensive and

universal vision for sustainable development. The complex, integrated and multi-faceted nature of the SDGs requires a different implementation approach. Holistic solutions and multi-sectoral partnerships are needed at all levels of societies to successfully achieve the SDGs goals.

China's Commitment to the 2030 Agenda

China is strongly committed to the new 2030 Agenda and its implementation at both national and global levels. This has been demonstrated by President Xi's commitments at various occasions¹ and the recently approved 13th Five-Year Plan (FYP) by the National People's Congress. The 13th FYP sets out critical reforms and targets to guide China's path towards a more harmonious, ecological and equitable development model.

The 2030 Agenda is a comprehensive initiative through which the global community has pledged to eradicate poverty, achieve shared prosperity with *no one left behind* and to protect our planet. Guided by five development concepts: *innovation, coordination, green development, opening up and sharing*, the implementation of the 13th FYP is well aligned to support the 2030 Agenda.

For *equitable* development, China has committed to a more quality oriented and Inclusive growth model that benefits all. With more than 55 million people still living in rural poverty, the Government faces the complex task of reaching the last pockets of poverty while reducing inequalities.

The 13th FYP recognizes the value of *openness*, partnerships and exchanges of knowledge within and across borders, both for China and for other developing countries in their pursuit of the 2030 Agenda.

The integration of the economic, social and environmental pillars of development is at the center of the 2030 Agenda. Addressing the multiple and diverse objectives of the Agenda will require a coordinated and an *all-round* approach. According to the 13th FYP, this is at the core of China's goal to comprehensively build a moderately well off society by 2020.

Making a transition into a more inclusive and green development path requires new solutions and approaches. The 13th FYP integrates *innovation* as a core development concept in terms of policy-making and institutional set-up, technologies and economic growth patterns.

The UN System in China

¹ For instance, President Xi's speech At Session I of the 10th G20 Summit in Antalya on 15 November 2015.

	<p>The UN has worked closely with China in support of the MDGs. The UN System collaborated with the Government to develop the final report on the MDGs and also provided strong support for China's preparations ahead of the adoption of the new Sustainable Development Agenda. In January 2016, the UN System in China and the Government have also just launched the new United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2016-2020, that is well aligned with national development priorities. The UNDAF will guide further the UN-China collaboration to advance the SDGs in China and related follow-up and reporting mechanisms.</p> <p>Given the diversity of the anticipated challenges and to take advantage of the new opportunities that are arising, the following are some examples that could support the 2030 Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies that create the right incentives to invest in green technology; • Science and technology advancements that seek cost effective solutions to development challenges; • Social policies that offer social protection and foster human development; • New business models to promote sustainable and inclusive production, consumption and economic growth; • Institutions and mechanisms that enable multi-stakeholder participation and shared benefits. • Other potential approaches.
7. Suggested Key Areas of Discussions	<p>From the overall objectives outlined above, thematic areas to structure discussions could center on: 1) <i>tackling poverty and inequity</i>; 2) <i>fostering sustainable and inclusive economic growth</i>; 3) <i>protecting our planet and combating climate change</i>. Specifically, discussions can respectively focus on exploring strategies in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How to achieve early harvest in implementing 2030 Agenda and the means to realize it. ○ How to integrate the implementation of 2030 Agenda with domestic development strategies and among different SDGs. ○ How to provide impetus for the implementation of 2030 Agenda through innovation in policy-making and institutional set-up, technology and economic growth patterns.
8. Preliminary Agenda	<p>Morning session</p> <p>Welcoming remarks: One senior leader from the Tibet Autonomous Region.</p> <p>Opening remarks:</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) One ministerial official of MOFA 2) Mr. David Nabarro, Special Adviser on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 3) Statement (s) from the SDGs Advocate and/or others – to be confirmed <p>Morning and afternoon session</p> <p>One morning session and two afternoon sessions of moderated discussions with 4 speakers (from government, UN/International organization, private sector, civil society/think tank/academia):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) How to achieve early harvest in implementing 2030 Agenda and the means to realize it. 2) How to integrate the implementation of 2030 Agenda with domestic development strategies and among different SDGs. 3) How to provide impetus for the implementation of 2030 Agenda through innovation in policy making and institutional set-up, technology and economic growth patterns. <p>Closing remarks</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4) Senior official of MOFA 5) Senior UN official
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