

International Exchanges of CPAPD

Working Together to Boost Common Peace and Prosperity

Speech by Ma Biao

Vice President of the Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament

At the 2017 Commemoration of the International Day of Peace

4 September 2017

Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear Friends,

In this lovely season, I wish to extend the warmest welcome to all of you, distinguished guests from different organizations in Poland and China to attend the 2017 Commemoration of the International Day of Peace in beautiful Warsaw.

Established in 1981 by the United Nations resolution, Peace Day provides a globally shared date for mankind to commit to peace above all differences and to contribute to building a Culture of Peace. This event is themed by "Chinese and Polish People Long for Sustainable Peace and Development", which is of significance to us. Chinese President Xi Jinping emphasizes that we are now building a community of shared future, and mutual respect, equality, peaceful development and common prosperity are the right path to take. I would like to share with you my ideas on the Chinese and Polish people working together for a community of shared future for peace and development.

First of all, we shall work as builders of peace and stability. During World War II, the Fascists brought about untold sufferings to the world. Japanese and German Nazis committed a series of inhumane war crimes including Nanjing Massacre in 1937 and Auschwitz Concentration Camp Massacre, to name just a few. We Chinese and Polish people both bear unforgettable memories of wars and turbulence in our minds and fully understand each other's sufferings. Nowadays, armed conflicts and violence are still cropping up frequently. Hundreds of thousands people are displaced by warfare including Syrian conflicts, and refugees have become a crisis for Europe. A series of terrorist attacks have stricken Spain, Finland and Germany, having caused heavy casualties. With painful experiences, we fully comprehend the value of peace and stability. Inevitable as disagreements and disputes are in human society, we should resort to dialogues rather than confrontation. China has actively fulfilled its international responsibilities and obligations in the political settlement of international hotspot issues in a constructive manner. Countries, regardless of their size, wealth and strength, should respect each other and treat each other on an equal footing. They

should not resort to forces nor interfere into domestic affairs of other countries, nor provoke conflicts willfully. China and Poland are important force for world peace and we shall work together to safeguard the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, so as to create a peaceful and stable international environment and a brighter future.

Secondly, we shall work as contributors to mutually beneficial and win-win cooperation. Development is the pressing task confronting humankind, thus a community of development should come prior to the community of shared future. Since the transition, Polish economy continues to grow and is the only one within the Europe Union that has maintained increase against the effect of international financial crisis in 2009. Poland has given full play to its geographical advantage and actively taken part in regional economic cooperation and global multilateral trade system. In 2013, the Belt and Road Initiative is put forward by China, aiming to better share development opportunities and promote common prosperity with countries along the routes. Nowadays, the Belt and Road Initiative is gradually carried out and this vision of future is being turned into reality. The cooperation between China and Central and Eastern European (CEE) Countries under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative has further promoted policy consultation, trade and financial cooperation, infrastructure connectivity, and people-to-people exchanges. The Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation is successfully held in May this year, and thus bringing great momentum to the exploration of “16+1” cooperation mechanism. Polish Prime Minister Beata Szydło attended the Forum and played an important role for the success of the Forum. We two countries enjoy profound friendship and sincerity for cooperation and mutually

complementary economies. We shall further align our development strategies to deepen cooperation and promote people-to-people exchanges, bringing benefits to our two peoples.

Thirdly, we shall work as promoters for global governance. Global and regional challenges such as sluggish recovery, terrorism, climate change and migrant crisis are calling for global governance. As a Polish saying goes, a man asking the way would not lose his way. While global governance is in urgent need of institutional innovation, the G20 Leaders Summit mechanism is set up after the 2008 global financial crisis and the Hangzhou Summit has facilitated the transition of G20 from a crisis response mechanism to a long-term governance platform. During the Hamburg Summit in July, President Xi Jinping shared his observations of global economy, namely staying committed to building an open global economy, fostering new sources of growth for the global economy, working together to achieve more inclusive global growth and continuously improving global economic governance. His ideas have indicated the way out against negative trends including protectionism and anti-globalization. Mr. Liu Yunshan, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of CPC has just visited and attended China-CEE Countries Political Parties Dialogue in Romania. We shall regard equality as the basis, cooperation as the driving force and shared benefits as the goal, promote global governance to equally reflect interests and appeals of all counties including our two peoples, and jointly establish a global governance structure that is more just, sound and efficient.

Fourthly, we shall work as messengers for exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations. “Since wars begin in the minds of

men, it is in the minds of men that the defense of peace must be constructed". It is carved on the monument in front of UNESCO Headquarters in different languages. Interactions and mutual learning among civilizations are important driving forces for the progress of human civilization, world peace and development. As the crystallization of ancient labor and wisdom, civilizations are diversified, equal and inclusive, worth respecting and cherishing. Under the circumstances of frequent exchanges between the Chinese and European civilizations, friendly interactions between China and Poland are carried out, including Polish Culture Season

Event, Polish Culture Festival, etc. the "Chinese Spring Festival in Poland" is held for seven years consecutively and "China-Poland Regional Forums" for four times. Five Confucius Institutes are established in Poland and Polish language classes are accessible in many Chinese colleges. We shall actively push for the interactions and dialogues to facilitate harmonious coexistence among different religions, ethnic groups and cultures in China and Poland, thus making cultural exchanges a bridge of friendship, a driving force for social progress and a belt of peace and security in the region and the world.

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People-to-people Contributions to Building Lasting Peace

Speech by An Yuejun

Secretary General of the Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament

At the 2017 Commemoration of the International Day of Peace

4 September 2017

It gives me great pleasure to be with you in Warsaw and on behalf of CPAPD Secretariat, I would like to extend the warmest welcome to all the guests attending the 2017 Commemoration of the International Day of Peace. We would like to express sincere appreciation for the efforts that the Polish House has made in organizing the activity.

Peace and development are the themes of the times. Peoples across the world bear strong desires for a better livelihood. However, the world is not peaceful and regional conflicts are still occurring frequently. The International Day of Peace is observed around the world on 21 September each year. The General Assembly of United Nations has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples. The theme for the year 2017 is "Together for Peace: Respect, Safety and Dignity for All." Uncertainties and unstable elements are increasing; traditional and non-traditional security challenges confronting countries are increasing, mainly shown in the following three aspects:

The first is outdated security concepts. At present, the cold war mentality still exists and some people still believe in the zero-sum game. In recent years, a few countries are still unwilling to give up cold war mentality and power politics thinking, taking the attitude of "if you are not my friend, you are my enemy"

and pursuing absolute security, thus having become one of major factors in endangering world peace and security. Those outdated and backward security concepts obstruct further development of international communication.

The second is deficient global governance. As traditional and non-traditional security challenges such as terrorism, financial crisis, transnational crimes, epidemic disease, climate change, etc. are complex and severe, and call for better global governance. However, more countries still single-handedly respond to non-traditional security challenges, thus lacking international and regional cooperation and coordination, and there are also much talk but little action on global governance, producing unsatisfied effects.

The third is frequent occurrence of security hotspot issues. The Middle East is still in turbulence, and the Syrian, Israeli-Palestinian and Korean peninsula hot issues are still too complex to settle. Millions of people in the Middle East become homeless refugees and pour into Europe, causing a series of social problems and several countries are attacked by terrorists. It is necessary to deepen international cooperation, so as to properly resolve security hotspot issues and safeguard international and regional peace.

Those traditional and non-traditional issues have posed serious threats to people's safety of

life and property and caused inequality. Meanwhile, people's longing for lasting peace and common prosperity become stronger. As Chinese old saying goes, old methods cannot suit new situation nor resolve new challenges. Facing new problems and challenges, the Chinese Government has put forward the concept of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, providing a new model of thinking for international security cooperation. Since we gather together as representatives from NGOs today, we can work together to promote international security and lasting peace. To this end, I would like to make the following three proposals.

First, NGOs should share a new concept of security and spread positive energy. The new concept of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security aims to respect and safeguard each country's security and integrate traditional and non-traditional security, to promote international and regional security through dialogue and cooperation, and to focus both on security and development in order to realize lasting peace. Though put forward by government, it is based on public opinion to build a safe world. Awarded with "Peace Messenger" by the United Nations, the CPAPD as a national peace organization has held seven commemoration activities of the International Day of Peace since 2009 and introduced Chinese security concepts and Chinese people's wishes for peace. The CPAPD works to promote mutual understanding and deepen cooperation between the Chinese people and peoples across the world, which has gained positive response from the United Nations and delegates and media from different countries. As a non-governmental peace association, we shall adhere to peace course and spread the idea of peace to work as a guardian, builder and promoter of world peace and new security concepts.

Second, NGOs should focus on development as the main theme and promote sustainable development. Development is fundamental to peace and stability, and is also the ultimate answer to all sorts of security problems. China has implemented the overall plan for promoting all-round economic, political, cultural, social, and ecological progress. The Chinese Belt and Road Initiative has won great recognition from countries along the routes. Recently, some Chinese NGOs have conducted activities of different types in these countries. For instance, they helped people with ocular diseases to take treatment and organized public welfare programs by constructing schools and hospitals. Those efforts have promoted sustainable development of local economy and society, received warm welcome from local people, and gained recognition from the United Nations. As representatives of NGOs, we shall focus on development and introduce strategic meaning of China-Poland cooperation to our two peoples, trying to win more understanding and support for China-Poland cooperation programs and platforms. Civil Association "The House of Poland" has been working to boost friendship between the Chinese and Polish peoples and is influential in your country. Earlier this year, the CPAPD is honored to invite you to join in Belt and Road NGOs Network. We hope to have more friends join this Network to promote development of the Belt and Road and boost sustainable development to bring benefits to our two peoples.

Third, NGOs should promote cultural exchanges and heart-to-heart communications. As CPAPD Vice President Ma Biao has just said, interactions and mutual learning among civilizations are important driving force for the progress of human civilization, world peace and development.

Though we are far from each other geographically, we have developed traditionally close friendship. In the middle of 17th century, Polish missionary Michel Boym came to China and studied Chinese society, history, medical science and geography and written a lot of essays and books. He is the first European that had introduced Chinese ancient culture and science to Western countries and is known as “Polish Marco Polo”. Besides, Mazowsze is the first overseas troupe that had come to China. Many polish folk songs became well-known in China since then. The well-run China-Poland Ship Corporation was established in 1951 and is the first Sino-foreign joint venture. We will never forget those who have made great contributions to China-Poland friendship. One of the goals of holding Commemoration of the International Day of Peace is to boost people-to-people exchanges and mutual understanding between the Chinese people and

peoples of all countries. We have about 180 councilors from different walks of life in the CPAPD who have made great contributions to cultural exchanges. Today, we also have invited delegates from political, cultural and educational circles to joint us. We shall build more bridges for communication and roads for friendship, thus promoting cultural interactions through various dialogue mechanisms. Therefore, we can nurture the idea of peace based on friendship between two peoples and solidify the foundation for peaceful coexistence and common development.

It is the first time that the CPAPD holds Commemoration of the International Day of Peace overseas, which is a milestone event. Poland thus bears unique meaning toward people-to-people exchanges. Let us work together as NGOs to make the world a better place with lasting peace and shared prosperity.

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Poland has been one of the countries that has acknowledged new China and established diplomatic relations with China. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations 68 years ago, we have always respected each other. Poland is a country with profound history and we two peoples enjoy friendship toward each other. Poland is an important member state of European Union and China stays ready to work together with Poland to promote China-CEE Countries cooperation and steady development of relations between China and Europe.

Currently, the Chinese people are striving to build a moderately prosperous society in all respects and to realize the Chinese dream of national rejuvenation. China's economy has

maintained steady growth. In 2016, China's GDP grew at 6.7%, contributing more than 30% of global economic growth. In the first half of the year, the growth rate reached 6.9%. In the second half of the year, the 19th National Congress of CPC is to be held, which is a very important event at the decisive stage in finishing the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects in the crucial period of the development of socialism with Chinese characteristics. Holding high the banner of peace, development and win-win cooperation, China stands ready to work with other countries to build a world economy that is open, inclusive and interconnected, to realize a more peaceful, prosperous and secure international community.

Strengthening People-to-people Bond to Pursue Cooperation and Development

--Some highlights of a CPAPD delegation's Visits to Poland, Latvia and Hungary

By Wang Qing, CPAPD

In the beautiful golden autumn, at the invitation of Polish Senate, Latvian Parliament and the National Assembly of Hungary, Ma Biao, Vice Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and Vice President of the Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament (CPAPD) headed a CPAPD delegation on a good-will visit to Poland, Latvia and Hungary as from September 4 to 13, 2017. It is an important visit to CEE countries after the fifth China-CEE Countries Leadership Summit and is a visit of significance in enhancing political mutual trust, seeking common development, strengthening people-to-people bond and deepening friendship between people of China and those of three countries.

These three countries are rich in history and unique in natural scenery. The delegation always receives warm welcome from European people during the stay and the visit is in friendly atmosphere. During the visit, Mr. Ma Biao held wide-ranging discussions with parliamentary leaders and non-governmental friends and made an extensive briefing on the new governance concept, thought and strategy formed by CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping as the core, which has won great recognition. It is a big step forward on the road of "working for win-win cooperation and shared development" between China and these three countries.

Strengthening friendship and political mutual trust

The delegation could feel amity and enthusiasm of Polish people. "Welcome to Poland", Speaker of the Senate Stanisław Karczewski and Deputy Speaker Michał Sewerynski with open arms welcome the

delegation. According to Mr. Karczewski, Poland always attaches great importance to its friendly relation with China. They feel happy for and admire economic and social progress that China has made, and expect to maintain the momentum of frequent high-level contacts to boost bilateral relations. Mr. Ma Biao said that it had witnessed the traditional friendship between the two countries and China stays ready to deepen mutually beneficial cooperation all-dimensionally and to enrich comprehensive strategic partnership with Poland.

In the evening of September 7, the delegation reached Riga, Latvia. National flags of two countries were flying in the airport. On the next day, Mr. Ma Biao respectively met with Deputy Speaker of the Parliament Mr. Gundars Daudze and Vice Chairman of Latvian Committee of Parliament Assembly of Council of Europe Andris Bērziņš. Daudze warmly recalled recent development of bilateral relations. He believed that the visit would further deepen Latvian-China friendship and political mutual trust. Latvia has firmly upheld "On China" policy and regarded China as a reliable and important cooperation partner. According to Bērziņš, though two countries are different in social systems, the Chinese great progress and development are obvious to all and he has full reason to believe that the Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation surely can be realized under the leadership of CPC. Mr. Ma Biao said that Latvia was an important partner of China in the Baltic Sea and in the CEE and European Union; China stays ready to work together with Latvia to create better future based on mutual respect and equality.

In the evening of September 9, the delegation reached Budapest, the last stop. Blue Danube passes through the city, seemingly

linking the ancient with modern times as well as the East with the West. Mr. Ma Biao respectively met with Executive Vice Chairman of the Parliament Ms. Matrai Marta and Ms. Nemeth Zsolt, President of Foreign Council in Parliament. Ms. Matrai spoke highly of rapid economic and social progress in China and introduced proudly that Hungary was the first country that had published *Xi Jinping: Governance of China* in native language. Hungarian leaders got many inspirations from the book and expected to “roll up our sleeves and work with added energy” as President Xi had proposed. According to Nemeth, based on traditional friendship, the bilateral political mutual trust has reached a high level, and the consensus of deepening bilateral relations has been reached among different parties within the Parliament. Mr. Ma Biao said that China regards Hungary as good friend and an important partner in EU; China is ready to work together with Hungary to promote friendly cooperation between two countries to a new level.

Promoting pragmatic cooperation and working for common prosperity

As an old Chinese goes, “nothing, not even mountains and oceans, can separate people with shared goals and vision”. The Belt and Road Initiative provides greater space for China-CEE cooperation. Poland is the first country that has held China-CEE Countries Leadership Summit and has played a leading role in 16+1 cooperation mechanism under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative. The fifth China-CEE Countries Leadership Summit was held in Latvia in 2016 and Latvia means special for the Initiative to be spread in Europe. Hungary is a frontrunner of China-CEE countries cooperation, the first country that has signed inter-governmental cooperation documents with China to boost the Belt and Road construction and the first country that has established and started the Belt and Road working group mechanism.

Mr. Grzegorz Czelej, Chairman of Poland-China Friendship Group in Senate remarked that the Belt and Road Initiative has

attracted wide attention in Poland and aroused hot discussions on how to participate in it. Poland is planning to modernize its railway and take full use of Rhodes - Chengdu trains to better promote logistics, economic and trade cooperation with China. Mr. Ma Biao stated warmly on Polish initiative in taking part in the Belt and Road cooperation, since China would like to work with Poland to make the platform a better and stronger one, thus bringing more benefits to our two peoples.

During the visit in Latvia, friends positively reviewed Chinese investment programs in Latvia and expressed wishes of utilizing harbor advantages to improve transshipment efficiency for China to realize win-win results. Latvian side expects to broaden cooperation and communication in terms of culture, education, sport, etc. Mr. Ma Biao stressed that China is willing to further integrate its development strategy with Latvia and make the "cake" of development bigger to achieve mutually beneficial win-win results.

During the visit in Hungary, the friends stated that Hungary has become the most popular place attracting Chinese investment among CEE countries and the number of overseas Chinese in Hungary ranked first in CEE countries. Bilateral trade volume has grown steadily, and Hungarian export to China increased by 31% in the first half of 2017. More and more Chinese companies come to invest in Hungary, making great contributions to the economic growth of Hungary accordingly. Hungary would offer full support to 16+1 cooperation mechanism, wishing to play a more important role in it. Mr. Ma Biao said that Hungarian "opening to the East" policy is highly consistent with China's "Belt and Road" Initiative, and the comprehensive and in-depth cooperation of all aspects between two countries are moving toward a high level.

Strengthening people-to-people bond to lay solid foundation for cooperation

The key to sound relations between states lies in amity between their peoples. Public support is of great significance and people-to-people bond serves as solid

foundation for national relations. With development of the Belt and Road Initiative, China and the three countries are moving closer toward each other while people-to-people exchanges become frequent and mutual understanding deepened.

Warsaw has a history of about 800 years but was unfortunately destroyed during World War II and was reconstructed from scratch based on its original look after the war and again becomes a beautiful city at present. In the morning of September 4, the 2017 Commemoration of the International Day of Peace was co-organized by the Poland House Civic Association and the CPAPD in Warsaw. The Activity was themed by “Chinese and Polish People Long for Sustainable Peace and Development”. In his speech *Working Together to Boost Common Peace and Prosperity*, Mr. Ma Biao emphasized that peace and development are still the themes of the times and it is widespread trend to boost win-win cooperation. Facing rising global challenges, Chinese and Polish peoples shall work as builders for peace and stability, contributors to win-win cooperation, promoters for global governance and messengers for exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations, in order to develop a community of shared future for mankind. The former Polish Speaker Mr. Pastusiak praised CPAPD’s effort in strengthening mutual understanding, cooperation and friendship between the Chinese people and peoples across the world by holding Commemoration of the International Day of Peace and spreading Chinese people’s wishes for peace. Mr. An Yuejun, Secretary General of the CPAPD and Mr. Wiesław Klimczak, President of the Poland House respectively delivered speeches.

The delegation also paid a visit to a southern town Auschwitz Concentrated Camp, constructed by Nazis during the World War II. A series of inhumane war crimes were committed and over 4 million Jews lives were taken here from 1940 to 1945. Nowadays, Auschwitz has become a place to remember those who died. It is a way to cherish peace and

oppose war by remembering what had happened during wartime. Deeply touched after the visit, Mr. Ma Biao wrote down “Remember history and cherish peace” on the visitors album. Prejudice, bias, hatred and wars would only bring about disasters and sufferings to people. We can only achieve peaceful development and common prosperity through mutual respect and treat each other as equals.

During the visit in Latvia, the delegation held a seminar with the Latvian Institute of International Affairs. According to the Institute Director, the Institute cherished this good opportunity and would like to develop friendly relations and cooperation together with the CPAPD.

Hungarian-Chinese Bilingual Primary School is the only public school to use Hungarian and Chinese as teaching languages. In the afternoon of September 11th, the delegation was warmly received by Principal Ms. Erdélyi Zsuzsanna and lovely children, “Welcome” in Chinese and waving the two national flags by boys and girls. The school is such a cradle of cultural integration between the East and the West. Just as Ms. Erdélyi remarked, children symbolizes future and hope, and languages are important tools for communication and cultural exchanges. Teaching Chinese characters in details shows how Chinese culture becomes rooted and flourished in Hungary. Mr. Ma Biao said that Hungary is a unique country of cultural connection between the East and the West and Chinese people thus feel that they are very closed to each other. Based on years’ of cultural exchanges, we hope friendship between our two countries to last forever.

Standing on the threshold for a new era, China stays ready to continuously work with these three counties and provide wisdom for common development and shared prosperity from ancient civilization, so as to strengthen cultural exchanges and usher in a new chapter of building a community of shared future for mankind.