

# NEWS Bulletin

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Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the United Republic of Tanzania



Chinese President Xi Jinping attends the first China-Arab States Summit and delivers a keynote speech titled "Carrying Forward the Spirit of China-Arab Friendship and Jointly Building a China-Arab Community with a Shared Future in the New Era" in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Dec. 9, 2022. (Xinhua)

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**I. Focus on China**

**1. China holds Central Economic Work Conference to plan for 2023**



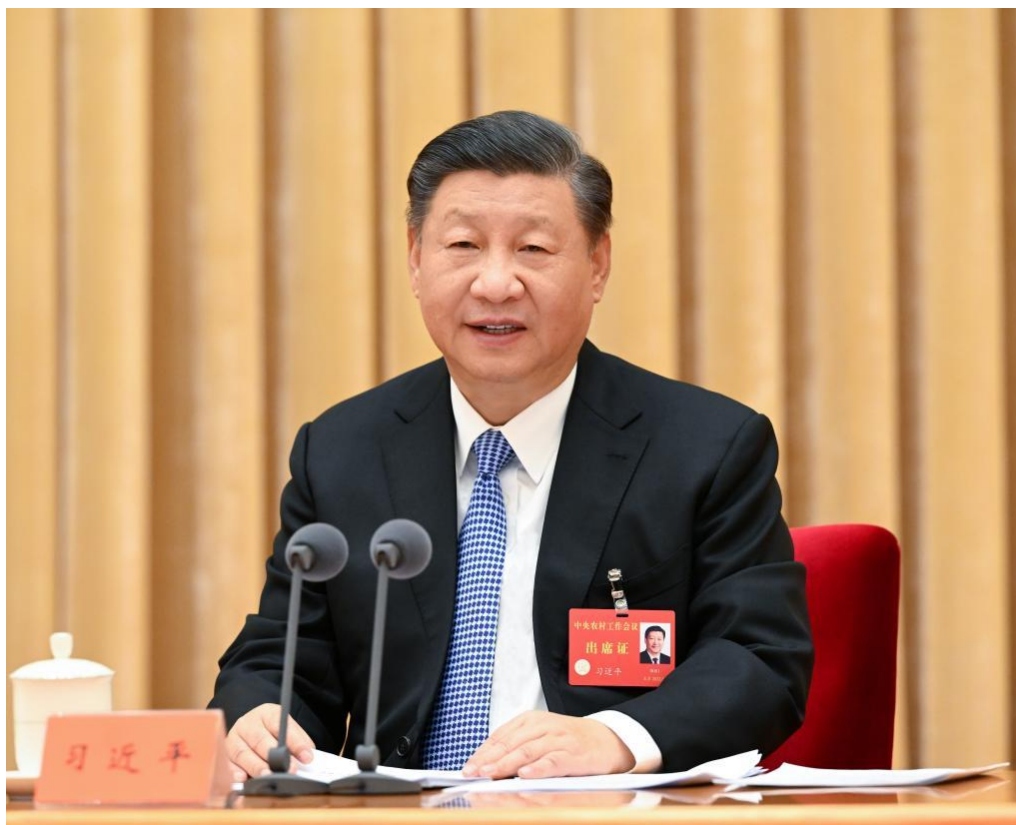
China’s annual Central Economic Work Conference was held in Beijing from Dec. 15 to 16 as Chinese leaders decided priorities for the economic work in 2023.

It was noted at the meeting that an overall recovery and improvement is expected in the country’s economic performance in the next year, and that a firm confidence is necessary to do a good job in the economic work.

The meeting demanded making economic stability a top priority and pursuing steady progress while ensuring economic stability for the next year.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/3CLLO72>

## **2. Building up nation's strength in agriculture stressed at key rural work conference**



Chinese President Xi Jinping has called for enhanced efforts to build up China's strength in agriculture and do a good job in work on agriculture and rural areas.

Xi made the remarks while attending and addressing the annual Central Rural Work Conference held from Dec. 23 to 24 in Beijing.

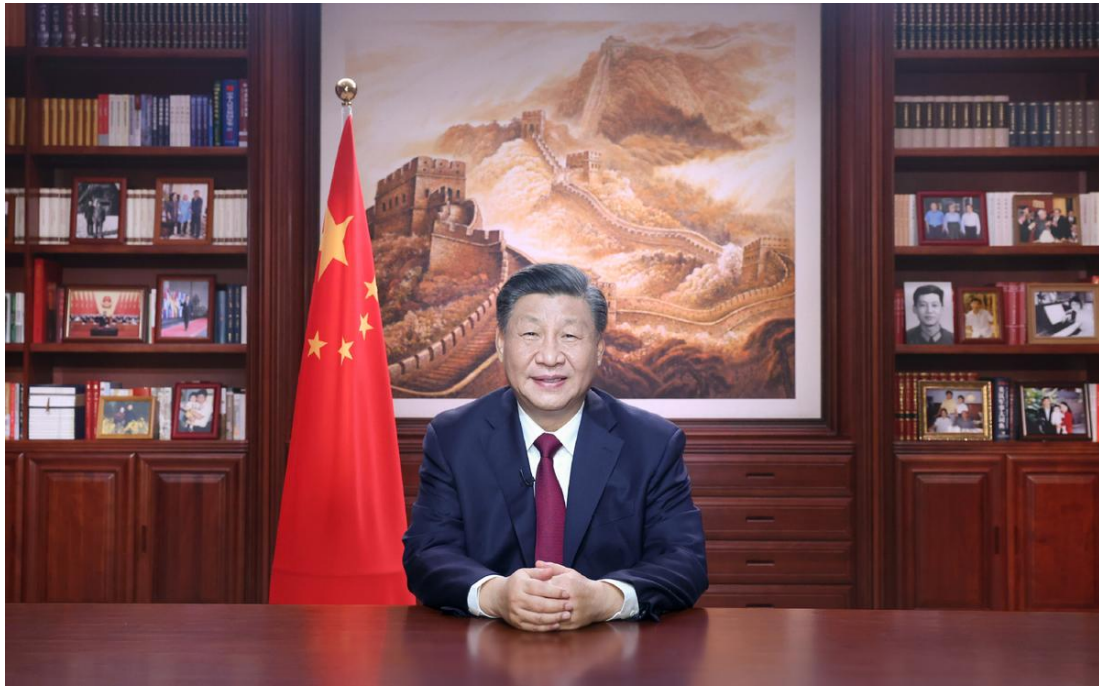
Without strong agriculture, there would be no modernized strong country; without agricultural and rural modernization, socialist modernization would be incomplete, Xi told the meeting.

“We must go our own way instead of simply copying foreign models of modern agricultural power, and we must rely on our own strength to secure

people's rice bowls," Xi said.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/3H2IsPG>

### 3. Xi gives uplifting address to ring in New Year



President Xi Jinping on Dec. 31 expressed strong confidence and optimism about China's economy in his New Year address to ring in 2023, saying the economy enjoys "strong resilience, tremendous potential and great vitality".

While speaking from Beijing through China Media Group and the Internet on New Year's eve, Xi, who is also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and Chairman of the Central Military Commission, reviewed the country's achievements in 2022 and extended his wishes for the coming year.

Xi said that the fundamentals sustaining the country's long-term growth have remained strong. He cited the achievements made by the country in 2022, including the success of the Beijing Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games; the launch of Shenzhou-13, Shenzhou-14 and Shenzhou-15 spacecraft; the launch of China's third aircraft carrier Fujian; and the delivery of C919, China's first large passenger aircraft.

Noting that China has entered a new phase of COVID response, Xi called for doubled effort from the Chinese people to pull through as perseverance and solidarity mean victory.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/3ZCm071>

Full text of Xi's New Year Address: <https://bit.ly/3CKCDnw>

#### **4. China's Shenzhou-14 astronauts return safely, accomplishing many “firsts”**



Three Chinese astronauts on board the Shenzhou-14 manned spaceship returned to Earth safely on Dec. 4, after accomplishing many “firsts” during their six-month space station mission.

Shenzhou-14's return capsule, carrying astronauts Chen Dong, Liu Yang and Cai Xuzhe, touched down at the Dongfeng landing site in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region at 8:09 p.m. Beijing Time, according to the China Manned Space Agency.

The astronauts were all in good physical condition, and the Shenzhou-14 manned mission was a complete success, the agency announced.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/3X8TRTA>

## 5. First C919 jet delivered to China Eastern Airlines



The first C919 large passenger aircraft was delivered to its first customer, China Eastern Airlines, on Friday. It is the first time ever for China's civil aviation transport market to have an indigenously-developed mainline jetliner.

With registration number B-919A, the aircraft completed its maiden flight from Shanghai Pudong International Airport to Shanghai Hongqiao International Airport during the delivery process.

The 164-seater aircraft comes with a two-class cabin layout, consisting of business class and economy class.

After delivery, it will undergo more than 100 hours of empty aircraft verification test flights, with stops including Shanghai, Beijing, and Guangzhou.

The aircraft is expected to be put into commercial use in the spring of 2023.

## 6. China pulls off new record in grain output, expected to remain cornerstone of global food security

China pulled off a new record in grain output in 2022, official data showed on Dec. 12, defying the uncooperative weather at home and the ripples of the Ukraine

crisis.



The difficult feat attests to the country's targeted and effective response to a conflux of headwinds, as food security is adamantly high on the government's agenda, experts said.

China's capability to sufficiently feed nearly one-fifth of the world's population against all odds and at reasonable prices offers reassurance to a patchy global grain market, they noted, expecting the country to remain a cornerstone of global food security and economic stability.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/3Xc7ktO>

## **7. Peace stressed as China commemorates Nanjing Massacre**

A senior Communist Party of China (CPC) official stressed the importance of peace as the country held a national memorial ceremony on Dec. 13 to mourn the victims of Japan's brutal massacre in the city of Nanjing during World War II.

Cai Qi, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and a member of the CPC Central Committee Secretariat, made the remarks at the ceremony, held in Nanjing in remembrance of the 300,000 victims who died in the Nanjing Massacre committed by Japanese invaders in 1937.





The ceremony was held to express the Chinese people’s lofty desire to unswervingly follow the path of peaceful development and demonstrate the Chinese people’s firm stance that they will keep history firmly in mind, never forget the past, cherish peace and forge a future, said Cai.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/3GDMoEX>

## **8. China to scrap quarantine requirement for international arrivals**

China will scrap the quarantine requirement for international arrivals starting January 8, 2023, the country's National Health Commission (NHC) said in a statement on Dec. 26.

NHC said passengers traveling to China need to take nucleic acid test within 48 hours before boarding their flights to China, adding that nucleic acid screenings and centralized isolation after arrival will be canceled.

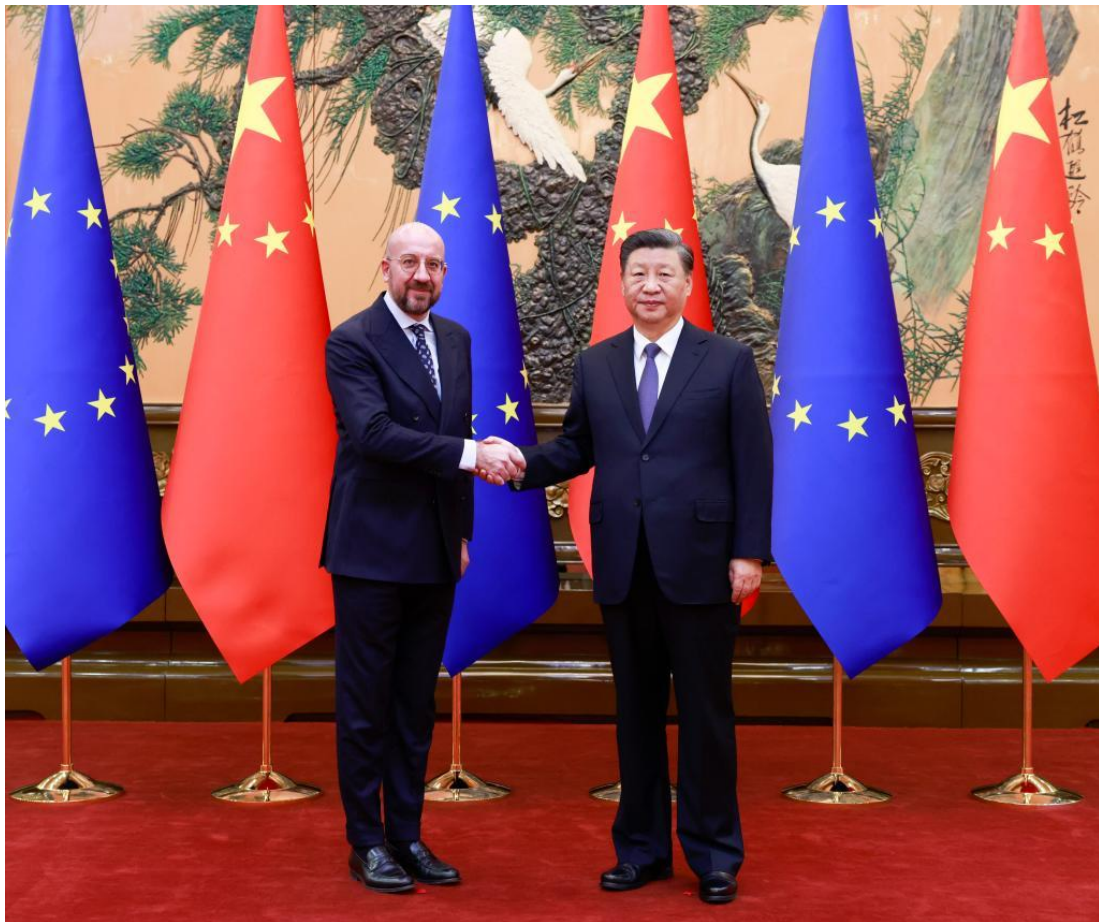
“In light of the international epidemic situation and service capacity, the outbound travel of Chinese citizens will be resumed in an orderly manner,” NHC said.

In addition, NHC noted that China has renamed the novel coronavirus pneumonia as novel coronavirus infection.

China will also downgrade management of the disease from Class A to Class B in accordance with the Law of the People's Republic of China on Prevention and Treatment of Infectious Disease, starting January 8, the statement added.

## II. China's Diplomacy

### 9. Xi holds talks with European Council president



Chinese President Xi Jinping held talks with visiting President of the European Council Charles Michel in Beijing on Dec. 1.

Xi said President Michel's visit to China after the conclusion of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) -- on behalf of all European Union member states -- demonstrates the good will of the EU toward the development of relations with China.

Noting that China and the EU are two major forces for world peace, two

major markets for common development and two major civilizations for human progress, Xi said it is in the common interests of China, the EU and the international community to maintain the upward momentum of China-EU relations and pursue mutual benefits.

The more turbulent the international situation becomes and the more prominent the global challenges become, the greater the global significance of China-EU relations will be, he added.

President Michel congratulated President Xi on his reelection as General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee, and expressed on behalf of the EU deep condolences over Comrade Jiang Zemin's passing due to illness.

He said China does not pursue expansion. It is an important partner for upholding the purposes of the UN Charter and supporting multilateralism. The EU values the opportunity to have a face-to-face meeting at the highest level with China shortly after the 20th CPC National Congress. The EU stands ready for an in-depth discussion with China on important issues concerning various respects of EU-China relations in the spirit of mutual respect and candor, in a bid to increase mutual understanding, promote dialogue and cooperation, and manage differences properly.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/3QBGitg>

### **10. Xi calls for fostering closer China-Arab community with shared future**

Chinese President Xi Jinping called on China and Arab states to carry forward the spirit of China-Arab friendship, and foster a closer China-Arab community with a shared future, while addressing the first China-Arab States Summit held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia on Dec. 9.

As strategic partners, China and Arab states should carry forward the spirit of China-Arab friendship, strengthen solidarity and cooperation, and foster a closer China-Arab community with a shared future, so as to deliver greater benefits to their peoples and advance the cause of human progress, Xi said.



China and Arab states should stay independent and defend their common interests, Xi said, adding that China supports Arab states in independently exploring development paths suited to their national conditions and holding their future firmly in their own hands.

China is ready to deepen strategic mutual trust with Arab states, and firmly support each other in safeguarding sovereignty, territorial integrity and national dignity, Xi said, noting that the two sides should jointly uphold the principle of non-interference in other countries' internal affairs, practice true multilateralism, and defend the legitimate rights and interests of developing countries.

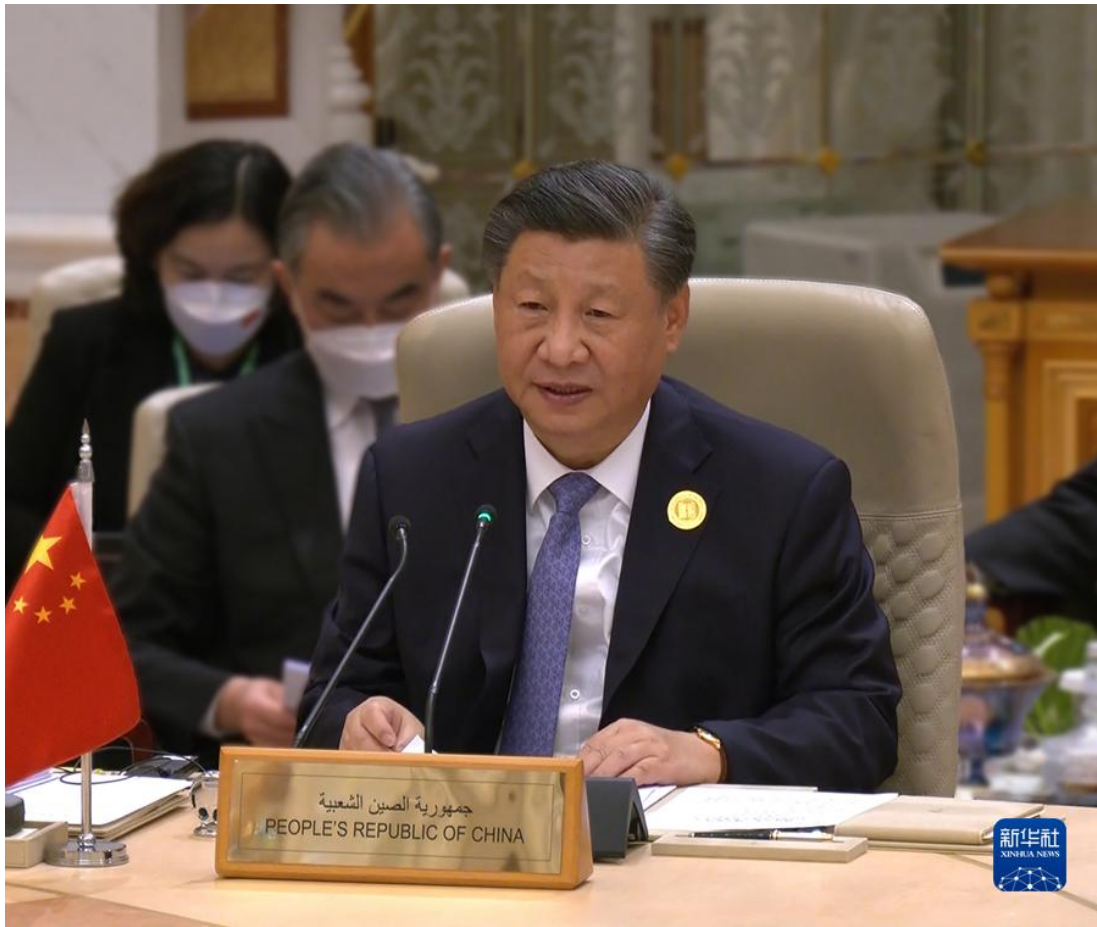
Read more: <https://bit.ly/3W8fdz2>

## **11. China-GCC relations elevated to new level as first China-GCC Summit held in Riyadh**

As the China-Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Summit brought the leaders of China and the GCC countries together for the first time in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, the traditional friendship between the two sides has been carried forward and the strategic nature of the relations has been further enriched.

China and the GCC countries are natural partners for cooperation, said Chinese President Xi Jinping on Dec. 9 in his speech at the summit, calling on the two sides to be partners in promoting unity, development, security and

civilizations.



The summit decided to establish and strengthen the strategic partnership between China and the GCC countries.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/3YnyAqp>

## **12. Xi addresses opening ceremony of high-level segment of COP15 part 2**

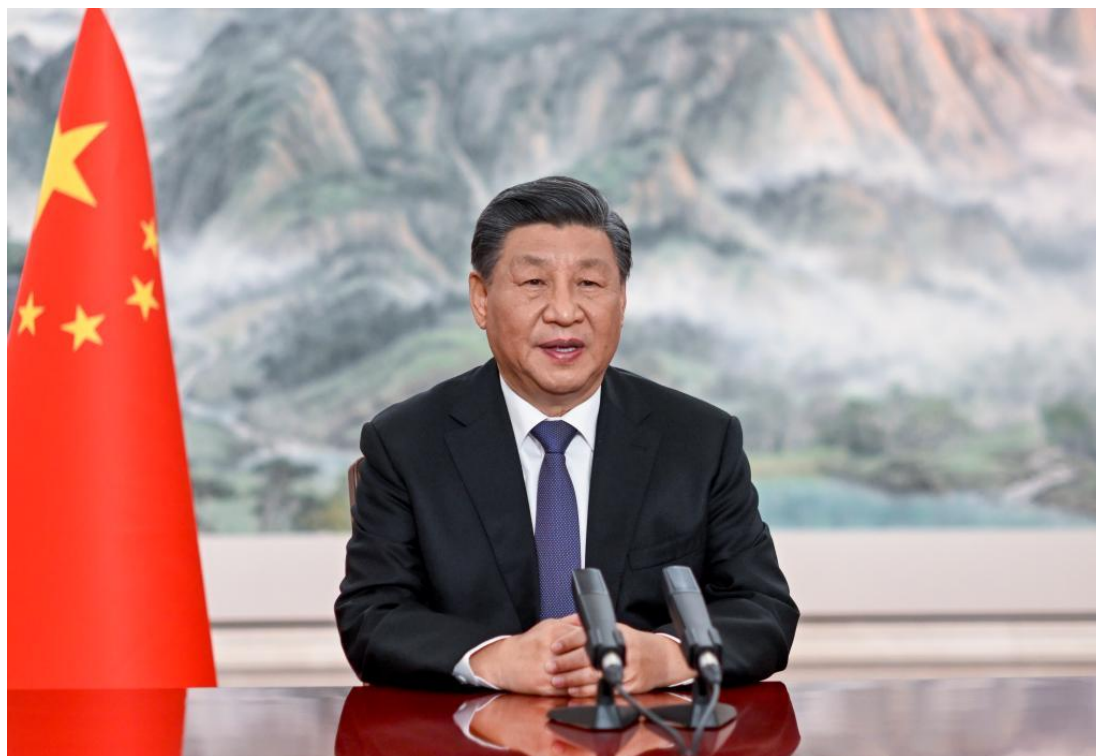
On Dec. 15, Chinese President Xi Jinping addressed via videolink the opening ceremony of the high-level segment of the second part of the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15), held in Canada's Montreal.

Noting that humanity lives in a community with a shared future, Xi said solidarity and cooperation is the only effective way to address global challenges.

“A sound ecosystem is essential for the prosperity of civilization. We must

work together to promote harmonious co-existence between man and Nature, build a community of all life on the Earth, and create a clean and beautiful world for us all,” Xi said.

“We need to build global consensus on biodiversity protection, jointly work for the conclusion of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, and identify targets and pathways for global biodiversity protection,” said the president.



Read more: <https://bit.ly/3ZK7fPQ>

### **13. Xi meets Putin via video link**

On Dec. 30, Chinese President Xi Jinping had a virtual meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Beijing.

President Xi expressed his pleasure in meeting President Putin virtually at the year-end, which he said has become a good tradition between them. President Xi noted that under the guidance of both President Putin and himself, the China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for a new era has grown more mature and resilient, with the internal impetus and special value of bilateral cooperation further brought out.

In the first 11 months of this year, two-way trade volume reached a record high. Investment cooperation has been improved and integrated. Energy cooperation continues to serve as an anchor. And cooperation projects in key areas are moving forward steadily. The two sides also enjoy growing sub-national cooperation and closer people-to-people and cultural exchange. Activities of the Year of Sports Exchange have been carried out smoothly. The social and popular support for China-Russia friendship becomes stronger, President Xi said.



President Putin said it is a great pleasure to continue with the good tradition of the two countries and have this virtual meeting with President Xi when the new year is around the corner to take stock of progress in Russia-China relations this year and draw a blueprint for cooperation in the year ahead.

He once again extended warm congratulations on behalf of the Russian people on the success of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and on President Xi's re-election as General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee. Under the able leadership of General Secretary Xi, China will continue to score new achievements in various fields of economic and social development, and China's international status and influence will be further enhanced.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/3FZsoha>

## 14. China to keep advancing high-level opening up: premier



On Dec. 9, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang said that China will open its door wider, keep advancing high-level opening up, and steadily expand institutional opening up.

Li made the remarks during the seventh “1+6” Roundtable in Huangshan City, Anhui Province, with President David Malpass of the World Bank Group, Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva of the International Monetary Fund, Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala of the World Trade Organization, Director-General Gilbert F. Hounbo of the International Labor Organization, Secretary-General Mathias Cormann of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and Chairman Klaas Knot of the Financial Stability Board.

Li said due to the pandemic and other factors beyond expectation, the Chinese economy experienced a notable decline at the beginning of the second quarter this year. China responded by resolutely and swiftly introducing a policy package for stabilizing the economy.

Through hard work, the downward trend was quickly reversed, and the economy is recovering and showing a stabilizing momentum on the whole. China has achieved stability in employment and prices, kept the overall economic



performance stable, and ensured that major economic indicators stay within a proper range, Li said. “This is not an easy job, considering the serious impact of COVID-19.”

Read more: <https://bit.ly/3XdxrjU>

### 15. Chinese envoy rebuts ‘debt trap’ charge on Africa



Beijing’s top envoy in Washington has rejected charges that China has used a “debt trap” to secure influence in Africa, a continent that he said should be a venue for international cooperation rather than competition for geopolitical gains.

“China’s investment and financing assistance to Africa is not a trap, it’s a benefit,” Ambassador Qin Gang said at a Semafor news event ahead of the US-Africa Summit scheduled to open on Dec. 13 in Washington.

Semafor is a global news outlet that debuted October.

China’s Foreign Ministry has called talk of a Chinese “debt trap” a narrative trap that the US and some other Western countries use to defame and smear China and disrupt China’s cooperation with other developing countries.

Over the past two decades, China has provided loans to help African

economic and social developments, building hospitals, highways, airports and stadiums, Qin said.

“Obviously, there's no such trap. It's not a plot; it's transparent. It's sincere,” he said.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/3ILiVLS>

### **16. China takes legal action against U.S. over chip exports**

China has filed a lawsuit with the WTO against the United States over chip export control measures, a necessary way to defend China's legitimate interests, the Ministry of Commerce said.

In recent years, the United States has been generalizing the concept of national security and abusing export control measures, which hinders the regular international trade in chips and other products, and threatens the stability of the global industrial and supply chains, the ministry said in a statement issued on Dec. 12.

The U.S. moves are typical trade protectionism practices as they disrupt the international economic and trade order, violate international economic and trade rules and basic economic laws, and harm the global interests of peaceful development, the statement noted.

The ministry urged the United States to give up its zero-sum game mindset, correct its wrongdoings promptly, stop disrupting trade in high-tech products such as chips, maintain the regular economic and trade exchanges between China and the United States, and keep the global supply chain for significant industrial goods like semiconductors stable.

### **17. FM criticizes Western media smears on China's epidemic policy shift**

More and more countries have extended their olive branches to actively welcome Chinese tourists after China decided to resume international tourism and scrap tests and quarantine for arrivals from January 8. However, several Western countries and regions including the US and Japan are mulling introducing or have

strengthened COVID-19 measures against travelers from China, while at the same time smearing China's epidemic policy adjustment with groundless accusations through media.



Responding to some Western media outlets which have discredited China's COVID policy shift and hyped that China's epidemic fight has failed, Wang Wenbin, spokesperson for the Chinese Foreign Ministry, said at a regular press briefing on Dec. 28 that the claims are prejudiced hype, smears and political manipulation with ulterior motives, which cannot stand the scrutiny of the facts, and run counter to the truth.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/3QGncCj>

### **18. China opposes U.S. arms sales to Taiwan: spokesperson**

On Dec. 30, 2022, a Chinese mainland spokesperson voiced firm opposition to planned U.S. arms sales to China's Taiwan region.

Zhu Fenglian, a spokesperson for the Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council, made the remarks in response to a media inquiry concerning the recent U.S. decision on arms sales to Taiwan.



The planned U.S. arms sales seriously violate the one-China principle and the three China-U.S. joint communiques, especially the August 17 Communique, Zhu said.

In doing so, the United States connives with and supports the “Taiwan independence” forces and undermines peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait, Zhu said.

“We urge the United States to abide by the one-China principle and the three China-U.S. joint communiques, fulfill its commitment to not support ‘Taiwan independence,’ and cease arms sales to Taiwan and military contact with Taiwan,” Zhu said. She added the United States should deal with the Taiwan question prudently.

Zhu also warned Taiwan’s Democratic Progressive Party authorities that any attempt to resist reunification with military buildup or collusion with external forces to seek “Taiwan independence” is doomed to fail.

### III. China-Tanzania Relations and Embassy Updates

#### 19. Ambassador Chen Mingjian delivers a speech at the 10th UNESCO Chair on Media and Gender Forum via video link



At the invitation of China Women’s University, Chinese Ambassador to Tanzania H.E. Chen Mingjian attended 10<sup>th</sup> UNESCO Chair on Media and Gender Forum on Dec. 28, 2022 via video link, and delivered a speech. Ambassador Chen Mingjian briefed the participant on the cooperation between China and Africa, Tanzania in particular, in promoting gender equality and safeguarding women’s rights and interests.

Vice-President of the All-China Women’s Federation (ACWF) Ms. Wu Haiying, Director of the UNESCO Office in Beijing Prof. Shahbaz Khan, Head of UN Women China Office Ms. Smriti Aryal, and over 100 experts and scholars from Chinese and foreign universities, media organizations and think tanks were present at the Forum.

Hosted by China Women’s University, the 10<sup>th</sup> UNESCO Chair on Media and Gender Forum is themed “Women’s International Communications and the Building of a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind”.

#### 20. Chargé d’Affaires a.i. and Minister Counsellor Suo Peng attends the

## 10th CCM National Congress



Invited by Tanzania's ruling party Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM), Chargé d'Affaires a.i. and Minister Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy in Tanzania Mr. Suo Peng attended the 10<sup>th</sup> CCM National Congress in Dodoma on Dec. 7, 2022. Mr. Suo Peng read the congratulatory letter from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) at the Congress.

The letter says that the CPC cherishes its traditional friendship with CCM and stands ready to work together. It stresses that the CPC will follow the guidance of the consensus reached between the top leaders of the two parties, maintain high-quality interactions, and continuously conduct exchanges of experience in governance and mutual learning so as to guide the development of China-Tanzania strategic comprehensive cooperative partnership and jointly build a China-Africa community with a share future in the new era.

### **21. Chargé d'Affaires a.i. and Minister Counsellor Suo Peng attends the UNESCO Conference on Mentoring and World Heritage**

On Dec. 12, 2022, Chargé d'Affaires a.i. and Minister Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy in Tanzania Mr. Suo Peng attended the UNESCO Conference on Mentoring and World Heritage in Arusha, and delivered a speech at the opening

ceremony. Mr. Suo Peng briefed participants on China's achievements in protecting natural and cultural heritages and the country's contribution to relevant international cooperation.



The UNESCO Conference on Mentoring and World Heritage was jointly organized by Tanzania's Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF), Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Convention, and selected higher learning institutions in Africa.

The Conference summarized the achievements of the Mentorship Program for African World Heritage Professionals during the past year, and discussed and set up plans and objectives for the next step. The Mentorship Program is co-sponsored by the Chinese Government and the French Government.

## **22. Chargé d'Affaires a.i. and Minister Counsellor Suo Peng attends contract signing ceremony for construction of Central Line Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) Phase II**

Minister Counsellor Suo Peng, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Chinese Embassy in Tanzania attended the contract signing ceremony for the second phase of

Tanzania's Central Line Standard Gauge Railway from Tabora to Kigoma at the State House in Dar es Salaam on Dec. 20, 2022.



Witnessed by H.E. Samia Suluhu Hassan, the Tanzanian President, Director General of the Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) Mr. Masanja Kadogosa and Managing Director of China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC) East Africa Limited Mr. Zhang Junle, who represented the joint venture of CCECC and China Railway Construction Corporation Limited (CRCC), signed the Central Line SGR Phase II design and build contract.

The Central Line SGR is the first electrified standard-gauge railway in Tanzania. Its first phase has a length of 1,596 kilometers, starting from Dar es Salaam and ending in Mwanza. The railway's second phase starts from Tabora and ends in Kigoma, with a length of 506 kilometers.

Speaker of Tanzania's National Assembly Tulia Ackson, ministers, local government officials, and representatives of Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) and the Tanzanian military were also present at the signing ceremony. Economic and



Commercial Counselor of the Chinese Embassy in China Chu Kun, President of CCECC Chen Sichang also participated in the event.

### 23. China's Shandong holds an online dialogue with Tanzania on economic and trade collaboration



China's Shandong Province held an online dialogue with Tanzania on economic and trade collaboration on Dec. 13, 2022.

Deputy Director-General of Shandong Provincial Department of Commerce Mr. Zhang Xingcheng, Tanzanian Ambassador to China H.E. Mbelwa Kairuki, Dr. Rugano, Director of the Industrial Development Department in the Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade of Tanzania delivered speeches at the dialogue. Entrepreneurs from China and Tanzania who participated in the dialogue had a heated discussion on the topics relating to the bilateral trade and economic collaboration.

## IV. Chinese Community in Tanzania

## 24. Tanzania Fujian Overseas Chinese Association makes donations to two orphanages



When Christmas and New Year was approaching, Tanzania Fujian Overseas Chinese Association made donations to New Faraja Orphanage and Msimbazi Nyumba ya Watoto Yatima Orphanage.

This was the third time that they did such a good deed for Tanzanian children in 2022. The donated goods include 700kg grains, 300kg fruits, 140 liters edible oil, 60 cartons of beverages, and hundreds of clothes and school bags, with a total value of TSh 5,080,000/-.

“Helping others is a traditional virtue of the Chinese people”, said Mr. Chen Yong, president of the Association. “I believe the Chinese community in Tanzania will give back more to the local society in the future, which will strengthen the bonds between the peoples of China and Tanzania,” Chen added.

## 25. Highlights of the work of China Medical Team in Tanzania’s Mainland

On July 18, 2022, the China Medical Team in Tanzania’s Mainland completed

the country's first children laparoscopic fundoplication operation at the Muhibili National Hospital (MNH). The operation set a number of precedents at the MNH. In September 2022, China Medical Team doctors drove more than 600 kilometers to a patient's hometown for on-site follow-up, and brought medicines to the family.

In October 2022, under the on-site guidance of Dr. Sun Xufang from the China Medical Team in Tanzania's Mainland, doctors in Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Center (JKCI) completed the first percutaneous tracheotomy operation in Tanzania.

