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Global health and foreign policy

Letter dated 29 June 2021 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Asia and Pacific High-level Conference on Belt and Road Cooperation was successfully convened virtually on 23 June 2021. At the conference, China, together with 28 partner countries of the Belt and Road Initiative, jointly launched the Initiative for Belt and Road Partnership on COVID-19 Vaccines Cooperation (see annex I) and the Initiative for Belt and Road Partnership on Green Development (see annex II). I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the two initiatives for your reference.

I would be grateful if you could have the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 14 and 131.

(Signed) **Zhang Jun**
Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China
to the United Nations



Annex I to the letter dated 29 June 2021 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Chinese]

Initiative for Belt and Road Partnership on COVID-19 Vaccines Cooperation

Jointly launched by Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Fiji, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, the United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam at the Asia and Pacific High level Conference on Belt and Road Cooperation on 23 June 2021.

1. We recognize that solidarity and cooperation are key to combating the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, a challenge confronting all countries in the world.
2. We believe that in combating the pandemic, people and their lives must be put first, and no one can be safe until everyone is safe.
3. We stress that vaccines, as an important part of our toolkit for pandemic response, should be equitably distributed as a global public good, inter alia, in a way that their availability, accessibility and affordability in developing countries are ensured.
4. Recalling the relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and the World Health Assembly as well as the Political Declaration on Equitable Global Access to COVID-19 Vaccines, we call for open, fair and non-discriminatory international cooperation on vaccines.
5. We commend the efforts made by the United Nations system, in particular the World Health Organization (WHO), as well as by relevant countries in carrying out cooperation on vaccines.
6. We call upon Belt and Road cooperation partners to focus on the following:
 - Strengthen communication on vaccine regulatory policies to jointly ensure the safety and efficacy of vaccines.
 - Encourage vaccine-producing countries that are in a position to do so to support vaccine companies in providing more vaccines to the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Facility of WHO.
 - Support the provision of vaccines by Governments and companies to developing countries either through donation or export at affordable prices.
 - Facilitate joint vaccine research, development and technological exchanges, and encourage the transferring of relevant technologies to developing countries.
 - Promote partnerships between vaccine producers and developing countries for joint vaccine production towards the scaling up of global production.
 - Encourage regional and multilateral development banks to provide more concessional financing to developing countries for their vaccine procurement and production, while respecting each country's right to select its preferred vaccines.

- Strengthen Belt and Road cooperation on connectivity to ensure cross border flows of vaccines.
7. We look forward to the participation of more partners in this initiative.

Annex II to the letter dated 29 June 2021 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Chinese]

Initiative for Belt and Road Partnership on Green Development

Jointly launched by Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Fiji, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, the United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam at the Asia and Pacific High level Conference on Belt and Road Cooperation on 23 June 2021.

1. Recalling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement adopted under the Convention, we emphasize that there is but one Planet Earth and it is our shared responsibility to work towards ecological and environmental protection. All countries need to make concerted efforts to foster green, low carbon and sustainable development.
2. We reaffirm that climate change is one of the major challenges of our time, and all countries, particularly developing countries, are vulnerable to its adverse impacts. Climate change can be addressed through climate actions guided by the principle of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in light of different national circumstances.
3. We call for internationally collaborative efforts to achieve green and sustainable recovery and foster a low carbon, resilient and inclusive post pandemic growth.
4. We take note of the progress made by relevant Belt and Road cooperation partners, on a voluntary basis, in building a green silk road, including the development of the Belt and Road Initiative International Green Development Coalition and the formulation of the Green Investment Principles for Belt and Road.
5. We call upon Belt and Road cooperation partners to focus on the following:
 - Continue the efforts towards achieving the goals set in the 2030 Agenda by fostering economic, social and environmental development in a balanced and integrated manner.
 - Support green and low carbon development, including through the implementation of the Paris Agreement and sharing of best practices.
 - Strengthen policy communication and coordination on green development to draw upon each other's experience and good practices, while respecting different national circumstances as well as legal and regulatory frameworks.
 - Deepen environmental cooperation to step up ecological and water resource conservation efforts and to achieve harmony between Humanity and Nature for green and sustainable development.
 - Promote environment friendly and resilient infrastructure through, inter alia, enhancing climate and environmental risk assessment on projects, drawing upon internationally recognized standards and best practices, as well as advocating corporate social responsibility in protecting the ecological environment.

- Promote development and utilization of clean energy as well as enhanced international cooperation on renewables, to ensure affordable and economically sustainable energy in developing countries.
 - Encourage national and international financial institutions to provide adequate, predictable and sustainable financing for environment friendly and low carbon projects through development of effective financial instruments.
 - Strengthen human and institutional capacity in implementing climate change adaptation and mitigation.
6. We look forward to the participation of more partners in this initiative.
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