

**Statement of the Head of the Chinese Delegation
at the International Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Power
in the 21st Century**

Mr. President

It is my great pleasure to lead the Chinese delegation to attend the International Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Power in the 21st Century. On behalf of the China Atomic Energy Authority, I would like to express the warmest congratulations to the successful opening of the Conference.

The 19th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party put forward the state governance strategy for the new era, with clear focus on speeding up reform of the system for developing an ecological civilization, promoting green production and consumption, establishing a clean, low-carbon, safe and efficient energy system. Nuclear energy has many advantages in promoting environmental protection, stabilizing economic growth and optimizing energy structure. It will play a more important role in China's modernization drive for sustainable development.

After years of efforts, China has achieved self-reliance in its large scale development of nuclear power in series. There are now 37 nuclear power units in operation in Chinese Mainland, ranking the fourth in the world and another 19 units are under construction, which rank the first globally. Looking forward to the next five years, Hua Long One (HPR1000) and the Demonstration Project of the High Temperature Gas Cooled Reactor which are independently developed by China will complete their constructions both home and abroad. The world first AP1000 and EPR nuclear power

reactors will be put into operation. The large advanced PWR--CAP1400 and the small multi-purpose reactor--ACP100 are going to start construction.China is heading steadily for achieving the target of 88 Gwe nuclear power installed capacity both operational and under construction by the year 2020.

Mr. President

Nuclear energy plays an important role in the UN 2030 agenda for sustainable development.Here, I would like to take this opportunity to share with all of you about the experience that China gained in its process of developing nuclear energy with Chinese characteristics.

First, have strong confidence in nuclear energy development.China is firmly committed to the Paris Agreement, and despite volatile international energy situation over recent years, Chins is consistent and insistent on its policy of developing nuclear energy in a safe and highly efficient manner and making relentless efforts to achieve energy conservation and emissions reduction targets.

Second, uphold the principle of "safety first". China has always put safety as the top priority and made relentless endeavor to improving nuclear safety standards, strengthening nuclear safety review, fostering nuclear safety culture, boosting nuclear security measures, and enhancing nuclear emergency preparedness and response systems. As the Chinese saying goes: Keeping in mind that past experience, if not forgotten, can serve as a guide for the future.We should fully absorb the lessons learnt from the Fukushima nuclear accident with the view to contentiously enhance nuclear safety level.

Third, establish a complete infrastructure. China has put in place a relatively complete system of nuclear power development and regulation, and actively build a modern, market-based, professional and international nuclear fuel cycle. China has the nuclear equipment manufacturing capability which is also competitive in the international market, and the nuclear engineering construction capacity of constructing several nuclear power units simultaneously. China is also making effort to broaden the channel for assured supply of natural uranium, to improve the system of radioactive waste management and to accelerate the process of decommissioning.

Fourth, promote innovation-driven development. China has the independent intellectual property rights of the third generation nuclear power technology--Hualong One, and is pushing forward the construction of the advanced nuclear fuel cycle technology research and development platform. A number of major projects have been put into implementation such as the advanced nuclear energy systems represented by demonstration fast reactor, spent fuel reprocessing project, space nuclear power S&T demonstration project,etc. China is also actively engaged in international cooperation projects such as GIF and ITER so as to lay a solid foundation for the sustainable development of nuclear energy in the future.

Fifth, attach importance to professional personnel training. Over 40 universities in China have nuclear related majors. The on-the-job training system and the international exchange channels are easily available. With the combination of both theoretical education and practical training, we keep instilling the spirit of perfect craftsmanship, so as to create a highly qualified engineering, technical and management talent pool.

Sixth, strengthen international cooperation and exchanges. In line with the

principle of win-win cooperation, China has developed technical exchanges with developed countries in nuclear energy and shared experience with developing countries. We actively participate in the activities of the IAEA and contribute China's wisdom and strength to global governance in the nuclear field.

Mr.President

China support the IAEA in its efforts to uphold the motto “Atoms for Peace and Development”, to strengthen public acceptance to reverse the mentality of anti-nuclear and nuclear panic, to increase international cooperation and exchange,to upgrade nuclear safety, nuclear security and nuclear emergency preparedness and response, to reassure the public about the development of nuclear energy, to do well in nuclear knowledge management and development and to provide technical assistance to emerging nuclear energy countries and help more developing countries to enjoy the dividends of nuclear energy development.

Mr. President,

Chinese President Xi Jinping has called on the people of all countries to work together to build a community of shared future for mankind. Energy is the power for the sustainable development of human society. China is willing to make joint efforts with all countries to promote the safe and sustainable development of nuclear energy, and to build an open, inclusive, clean and beautiful world that enjoys lasting peace, universal security, and common prosperity.

Thank you, Mr. President.