

Implementing the Guiding Principles of the Central Conference on Work Relating to Foreign Affairs and Breaking New Ground in Major-Country Diplomacy With Chinese Characteristics

深入贯彻中央外事工作会议精神 不断开创中国特色大国外交新局面

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At the end of December 2023, the Central Conference on Work Relating to Foreign Affairs was successfully held. General Secretary Xi Jinping delivered an important address at the conference, in which he presented a comprehensive review of the historic achievements and valuable experience of major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in the new era, gave a profound exposition on the international environment and historical mission of China's external work on the new journey, and made comprehensive plans for China's external work for the present and coming periods. The conference identified the theme of China's external work as building a community with a shared future for mankind, set the noble goal pursued by China in conducting major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics, and laid out the top-level plan for China's diplomatic strategies on the new journey ahead. Practiced and developed over the first decade of the new era, Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy has increasingly demonstrated its extraordinary theoretical quality of keeping in sync with and leading the times, a testament that our Party's understanding of China's relations with the world has reached a new and higher level.

We must study and implement the guiding principles of the conference, follow the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for the New Era, especially Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy, act with a stronger sense of historical responsibility and a more vibrant spirit of innovation to make new headway in our major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics, and create a more favorable international environment and provide more solid strategic support for building China into a great modern socialist country in all respects and advancing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation on all fronts through the Chinese path to modernization.

A summary was made at the Central Conference on Work Relating to Foreign Affairs of the historic achievements of China's external work in the new era. They include the following ten points: establishing and developing Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy; showcasing distinct Chinese characteristics, style and ethos in China's diplomacy; advocating the building of a community with a shared future for mankind; creating a new model of diplomacy led by the strategic guidance of head-of-state diplomacy; fostering major-country dynamics featuring peaceful coexistence, overall stability and balanced development; forming a wide-ranging, high-quality global network of partnerships; advancing high-quality Belt and Road cooperation; effectively upholding China's sovereignty,

2023年12月底，中央外事工作会议胜利召开。习近平总书记发表重要讲话，全面总结新时代中国特色大国外交的历史性成就和宝贵经验，深刻阐述新征程对外工作面临的国际环境和肩负的历史使命，对当前和今后一个时期的对外工作作出全面部署。这次会议明确了推动构建人类命运共同体这一外交工作主线，确立了中国特色大国外交要追求的崇高目标，形成了新征程上中国外交战略的顶层设计。经过新时代10年的实践和发展，习近平外交思想日益彰显出与时俱进、引领时代的卓越理论品质，反映了我们党对中国与世界关系的认识达到新的高度。

我们要深入学习贯彻会议精神，以习近平新时代中国特色社会主义思想特别是习近平外交思想为指导，以更加积极主动的历史担当、更加富有活力的创新精神，不断开创中国特色大国外交新局面，为以中国式现代化全面推进强国建设、民族复兴伟业营造更有利国际环境、提供更坚实战略支撑。

中央外事工作会议从十个方面总结了新时代对外工作取得的历史性成就，包括：创立和发展了习近平外交思想，彰显了我国外交鲜明的中国特色、中国风格、中国气派，倡导构建人类命运共同体，创建了以元首外交战略引领的外交新模式，推动构建和平共处、总体稳定、均衡发展的大国关系格局，形成了范围广、质量高的全球伙伴关系网络，推动高质量共建“一带一路”，有效维护国家主权、安全、发展利益，引领国际体系和秩序变革方向，加强党中央集中统一领

security and development interests; showing the way in reforming the international system and order; and strengthening the centralized, unified leadership of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC). To fully appreciate the extraordinary historical process of China's diplomacy in the new era, the key is to understand the basic thread and underlying logic of these ten achievements in a multi-dimensional, systematic and interconnected manner.

First, Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy serves as the fundamental guideline. Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy is based on General Secretary Xi Jinping's profound strategic thinking about changes of the world, of our times and of historical significance, and rooted in the great practice of major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in the new era. It is a shining example of applying the basic tenets of Marxism to the practice of China's diplomacy and fine traditional Chinese culture. It has not only built on the proud diplomatic tradition of New China but also kept abreast of the times, broken new ground and opened up new vistas in China's diplomatic theory and practice.

Second, head-of-state diplomacy offers strategic guidance. General Secretary Xi Jinping is the core of the CPC Central Committee and the entire CPC, and the top decision-maker and chief architect of our external work. As the highest form of China's diplomacy, head-of-state diplomacy has played an important and irreplaceable role in major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in the new era, achieving exemplary and landmark diplomatic results and fully reflecting China's image as a confident, open and responsible major country. It is thanks to the great foresight and statesmanship of General Secretary Xi Jinping that China has been able to pursue its diplomacy against all odds amid the great transformation of the world, and to remain calm, confident and proactive in the context of a changing international landscape.

Third, building a community with a shared future for mankind stands as the bright banner. General Secretary Xi Jinping, with his broad strategic insight, extraordinary political wisdom and deep commitment to the world as the leader of a major party and a major country, has gained a deep understanding of the prevailing trends and laws governing the evolution of human society, ingeniously put forth the vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind, and charted the right course for the world at a historical inflection point. Building a community with a shared future for mankind is the core tenet of Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy. It reflects the high consistency of the CPC's founding aspiration and mission with the trend of our times, and embodies the broadest common expectations of people around the globe for a better world. With tremendous theoretical value and far-reaching historical significance, this vision is gaining increasingly strong influence, vitality and appeal.

Fourth, CPC leadership provides the fundamental safeguard. CPC leadership is our greatest political strength and the defining feature of socialism with Chinese characteristics. It is also the most fundamental principle and greatest source of strength for China's diplomacy. Since the 18th CPC National Congress in 2012, three Central Conferences on Work Relating to Foreign Affairs and one symposium on neighborhood diplomacy have been convened; the system and mechanisms for the leadership by the CPC Central Committee over the external work have been improved; and the Law on Foreign Relations and the guidelines on the CPC's leadership over foreign affairs have been promulgated. All this has ensured greater coordination among various departments under the unified stewardship of the CPC central leadership, thereby providing strong political and organizational safeguards for China's diplomacy in the new era.

Major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in the new era builds on and carries forward New China's diplomacy. Withstanding high winds and choppy waters and overcoming various difficulties and challenges, we have, in our external work, provided strong leadership in the development of the world, shaped our country's external environment profoundly and gained much more strategic autonomy and initiative in our diplomacy. China has become a responsible major country with enhanced international influence, stronger capacity to steer new endeavors and greater moral appeal.

导。全面理解新时代中国外交波澜壮阔的历史进程，关键是把握贯穿“十大成就”当中的基本脉络和内在逻辑，立体地、系统地、相互联系地加以学习和领会。

第一，习近平外交思想是根本遵循。习近平外交思想基于习近平总书记把握世界之变、时代之变、历史之变的深邃战略思考，源于新时代中国特色大国外交的伟大实践，是把马克思主义基本原理同中国外交具体实际相结合、同中华优秀传统文化相结合的光辉典范，不仅继承了新中国外交的优良传统，又与时俱进、开拓创新，开辟了中国外交理论与实践的新境界。

第二，元首外交是战略引领。习近平总书记是党中央的核心、全党的核心，是对外工作的最高决策者和总设计师。作为中国外交的最高形式，元首外交在新时代中国特色大国外交中发挥了不可替代的重要作用，打造了一件件经典之作，铸就了一座座辉煌丰碑，充分展现了中国自信开放、担当有为的负责任大国形象。正是因为有了习近平总书记高瞻远瞩、运筹帷幄，中国外交才能在世界大变局中攻坚克难、砥砺前行，我国才能在国际风云变幻中从容自信、占据主动。

第三，构建人类命运共同体是鲜明旗帜。习近平总书记以大党大国领袖的宽广战略视野、卓越政治智慧和深厚世界情怀，深刻认识人类社会发大势和演变规律，创造性地提出推动构建人类命运共同体，在历史转折关头为世界发展指明了正确方向。构建人类命运共同体是习近平外交思想核心理念，体现了我们党的初心使命与时代发展潮流的高度统一，凝聚了各国人民期盼建设美好世界的最大公约数，具有重大理论价值和深远历史意义，越来越展现出强大的影响力、生命力、感召力。

第四，党的领导是根本保障。党的领导是我们最大政治优势和中国特色社会主义本质特征，是中国外交最根本原则和最大底气。党的十八大以来，召开了三次中央外事工作会议和一次周边外交座谈会，健全了党中央统领的外事工作领导体制机制，制定出台了对外关系法、党领导外事工作条例，党中央总揽全局、协调各方的大协同格局巩固完善，为新时代中国外交提供了有力政治和组织保障。

新时代中国特色大国外交是新中国外交的接续和升华，我们在对外工作中经历了不少大风大浪，战胜了各种困难挑战，有力引领了世界发展方向，深刻塑造了我国外部环境，我国外交的战略自主性和主动性显著增强。我国已成为更具国际影响力、创新引领力、道义感召力的负责任大国。

II

On the basis of reviewing the historic achievements of China's diplomacy in the new era, "six imperatives" has been identified at the Conference as new experience and understanding of the external work, i.e. it is imperative to uphold principles, shoulder China's responsibility as a major country, apply systems thinking, uphold fundamental principles and break new ground, carry forward our fighting spirit, and leverage our institutional strengths.

On major issues of right and wrong, it is imperative to uphold principles. China is a socialist country led by the CPC. We should take a clear position by standing on the progressive side of history and on the side of fairness and justice, work actively to meet the common aspirations and legitimate concerns of people of all countries, and demonstrate the people-centeredness of the CPC and the commitment to serving the people in China's foreign policy. This way, we will always rally abundant support for the just cause, hold the high ground of justice and have strategic initiative.

On promoting peaceful development, it is imperative to shoulder China's responsibility as a major country. It is incumbent on China, the biggest developing country and a major country, to uphold justice in a world undergoing profound changes and turbulence and to shoulder responsibility at critical moments, and hence be a firm defender of world peace and champion of global development. At the same time, and through Chinese modernization, we are ready to be helpful in the efforts of other developing countries that want to achieve development while preserving their independence, so that all countries will be able to embark on the right path toward modernization through peaceful development.

On making strategies and policies, it is imperative to apply systems thinking. The CPC, a Marxist party armed with theories of dialectical and historical materialism, should know how to analyze, study and assess international situation with the understanding that things are universally connected and constantly evolving. We should be able to see the present from a historical perspective and look beyond the surface to get to the crux of issues, so as to discern and analyze accurately the laws and direction of the profoundly changing world, and make sound foreign policies.

On making progress in both theories and practices, it is imperative to uphold fundamental principles and break new ground. In our external work, we should not only carry forward the fine traditions but also blaze new ground. We need to draw on past achievements in steering new endeavors which, in turn, consolidate the progress we have made. Over the years, China's diplomatic work has withstood numerous tests, accomplished no small number of key and major tasks, and made a series of significant breakthroughs. Facts have proven that it is the outstanding character and defining feature of China's diplomacy to advance with the times and break new ground while upholding fundamental principles.

On addressing risks and challenges, it is imperative to carry forward our fighting spirit. The CPC has never been deterred by intimidation, swayed by fallacies, or cowed by pressure. Only with the courage and ability to carry on our fight, can we overcome various difficulties and obstacles. Going forward, we will face an even more severe international situation and more complex external environment. We must forge ahead with an indomitable spirit and tenacious efforts to open up new horizons in our external work.

On strengthening coordination, it is imperative to leverage our institutional strengths. The greatest strength of the system of socialism with Chinese characteristics is the leadership of the CPC. By upholding and strengthening the centralized, unified leadership of the CPC Central Committee over the external work, we will be able to ensure smoother coordination and collaboration among all regions and all departments, advance and implement major strategic plans more forcefully, and achieve even greater success in China's diplomacy.

The "six imperatives" captures succinctly the new developments and practices of Chinese diplomacy in the last five years. It is a thorough account of our basic experience in conducting major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in the new era, further enriching and developing Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy. Having been tested repeatedly in practice, the "six imperatives" demonstrates the political, theoretical and institu-

二

在总结新时代中国外交历史性成就的基础上，中央外事工作会议概括了对外工作“六个必须”的新经验、新认识，即必须做到坚持原则、必须体现大国担当、必须树立系统观念、必须坚持守正创新、必须发扬斗争精神、必须发挥制度优势。

在大是大非面前必须做到坚持原则。中国是中国共产党领导的社会主义国家，当然要旗帜鲜明站在历史进步一边、站在公平正义一边，积极呼应各国人民的普遍愿望和正当关切，彰显中国共产党的人民立场和中国对外政策的人民性，使我们始终得道多助，占据道义高地，赢得战略主动。

在促进和平发展上必须体现大国担当。中国作为最大的发展中国家和主要大国，有责任在世界乱局变局中主持公道，在重大关键时刻担当作为，坚定做世界和平的维护者、全球发展的促进者。与此同时，我们也愿意通过中国式现代化，为众多企盼实现发展又想保持自身独立性的发展中国家提供助力，推动世界各国一起走和平发展正道、实现现代化。

在制定战略策略时必须树立系统观念。我们党是用辩证唯物主义和历史唯物主义理论武装起来的马克思主义政党，应当善于运用普遍联系、不断发展的观点方法分析研判国际形势，通过历史看现实、透过现象看本质，准确辨析世界大变局的规律和走向，科学制定对外方针政策。

在理论实践发展中必须坚持守正创新。中国的外交既要有接续传承，又要有开拓发展。要坚持在继承中不断创新、在创新中更好继承。这些年的外交经受了诸多风浪考验，办成了不少大事要事，取得了一系列重大突破。实践证明，坚持与时俱进、守正创新，是中国外交的卓越品质和鲜明特色。

在应对风险挑战时必须发扬斗争精神。我们党从来不怕鬼不信邪不怕压，敢于斗争、善于斗争，才能战胜各种艰难险阻。前进道路上，我们还会面对更加严峻的国际形势和复杂的外部环境，必须发扬大无畏的斗争气概，通过顽强斗争打开外交事业发展新天地。

在加强统筹协调时必须发挥制度优势。我国社会主义制度的最大政治优势就是党的领导。坚持和加强党中央对对外工作的集中统一领导，各部门各地方协同配合就能更加顺畅，战略部署和推进落实就能更加有力，外交事业就能无往不胜。

上述“六个必须”是对近5年中国外交新发展新实践的高度提炼，是对新时代中国特色大国外交基本经验的深刻总结，进一步丰富发展了习近平外交思想。“六