

(Translation)

**Work Together to Defeat COVID-19 and  
Build a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind**

Written Statement by H.E. Li Zhanshu  
Chairman of the Standing Committee of  
The National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China  
At the Fifth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At this crucial stage in the global fight against COVID-19, the World Conference of Speakers of Parliament, held via video link, underlines the resolve and confidence of legislatures around the world to work together to defeat the outbreak.

In the face of COVID-19, China has put the safety and health of its people front and center. President Xi Jinping has been personally directing and planning China's response efforts. He called for adhering to the people-first approach as nothing matters more than human life. He stressed that China will stop at nothing to protect its people's life and health. We have swiftly taken the most comprehensive, rigorous and thorough measures, mobilized the whole nation, and established collective and society-wide mechanisms to fight the virus. Through these painstaking efforts and enormous sacrifices, China has scored major strategic achievements in bringing the virus under control. It has proved the remarkable strengths and effectiveness of the leadership of the Communist Party of China, and the system and governance of our country.

China is working to maintain the right balance between proper COVID-19 containment and sound socio-economic development, and will stay committed to deepening reform and opening-up. We will make every effort to overcome the impact of the virus, complete the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects, and secure an ultimate victory in the battle against extreme poverty.

In international cooperation against COVID-19, China stands for building a community with a shared future for mankind. President Xi Jinping stressed that solidarity and cooperation is the most powerful

weapon to defeat COVID-19. He has advocated joint efforts in building a global community of health for all, and has conducted frequent head-of-state diplomacy to elaborate on China's propositions and proposals and discuss joint responses to the disease with other world leaders.

China has acted with openness, transparency and responsibility. We have provided information to the World Health Organization (WHO) and relevant countries in a timely fashion. We have released the genome sequence at the earliest possible time. We have shared control and treatment experience with the world without reservation. We have done everything in our power to support and assist countries in need.

China has sent 31 medical expert teams to 29 countries, and extended assistance to over 150 countries and international organizations. China has donated US\$50 million in cash to WHO, and will provide US\$2 billion over two years to affected countries, especially developing countries. True friendship stands the test of adversity. In fighting COVID-19, China has received heart-warming help and support from the international community, and has played an important role in safeguarding international public health security.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, and the victory of the World Anti-Fascist War. Over these years, the UN has played an important role in promoting peace and development in the world. The sudden onslaught of COVID-19 once again reminds us that the interests of all countries are intertwined, and future of all humanity interconnected. Legislatures of all countries need to firmly uphold multilateralism, advance global cooperation against the disease, and restore the growth of the world economy. To this end, I wish to propose the following:

**First, we need to make every possible effort to defeat COVID-19.** The virus respects no borders or nationalities, and can only be defeated when the international community fights in unity. We need to oppose stigmatization and politicization, and stop the spread of the "political virus". We need to step up information and experience sharing on COVID-19, take strong steps in areas such as protection, quarantine, detection, treatment and tracing, and strengthen cooperation on source-identification, testing, clinical treatment, vaccine research and development, etc. We need to provide more assistance to developing

countries and win the global war against the disease.

**Second, we need to join hands to defend multilateralism.** China will work with the global community to safeguard the international system centered on the United Nations, and the international order based on international law, and to promote the vision of consultation and cooperation for shared benefits in global governance. We need to support political resolution of regional hot-spots, firmly oppose unilateralism, hegemony and power politics, and stand against any interference in other countries' internal affairs. These efforts will help steer the reform of the global governance system in the right direction and uphold global fairness and justice.

**Third, we need to work actively to revive the global economy.** The top priority at this moment is to reopen the economy and restore normal life at a faster pace under the precondition of normalized prevention and control efforts. At the same time, we need to focus on the post COVID-19 era by accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We need to uphold the WTO-centered multilateral trading system, coordinate macro-economic policies and ensure the stable and smooth functioning of global industrial and supply chains. We also need to promote trade and investment liberalization and facilitation to facilitate world economic recovery, and balanced and sustainable growth.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) is an international organization of parliaments with the longest history and greatest influence. The National People's Congress of China attaches great importance to the role of IPU, and will continue to participate in IPU events and support its growth. I am pleased to announce that China will make a cash donation of US\$1.5 million to IPU to facilitate its activities. We will step up exchanges and cooperation with regional parliamentary organizations and legislatures of other countries to focus on improving the public health governance system and draw on each others' legislative experience. Together, we will contribute our due share to the ongoing battle against COVID-19, and the restoration of socio-economic development in our countries.

With unity and collective wisdom, we can accomplish any goal. I am confident that with the spirit of partnership and cooperation, we will be able to prevail over the virus, build an open, inclusive, clean and beautiful

world with lasting peace, universal security and common development, and together foster a community with a shared future for mankind.

Thank you.