

Remarks at the General Debate of the 140th IPU Assembly

--By H.E. Shen Yueyue,

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(Doha, Qatar, April 2019)

Madam President,

Ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of the National People's Congress of China, I would like to extend congratulations on the successful opening of the 140th IPU Assembly and appreciation to Qatar, the host country, for its thoughtful arrangements.

The world is experiencing profound changes unseen in a century. Peace and development remains the theme of our times, while uncertainties and destabilizing factors still abound. As we face an array of common challenges, it is a shared task of all countries to safeguard peace and promote development. Under the theme "Parliaments as Platforms to Enhance Education for Peace, Security and the Rule of Law", this assembly offers a fitting opportunity to discuss the role of the parliament. It gives me great pleasure to share

views and experience with you on this theme.

In a community with a shared future for mankind, countries should join hands in pursuing development. Despite differences in size and culture, all countries are equal members of the global family. Thus, we need to respect and learn from each other as equals. It is the founding mission and unremitting aspiration of the IPU to promote peace. And it is the duty of parliaments to make contributions to removing estrangement, defusing disputes and bridging differences, to work for a vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, to promote the spirit of openness, inclusiveness and amity, and to facilitate exchanges, mutual understanding and trust among people all over the world. Hereby, I would like to share with you the following three points:

First, we need to stay committed to win-win cooperation and safeguard peace with concerted efforts. Peace is in the fundamental interests of all people and is crucial to development. Parliaments should engage in win-win cooperation to jointly address problems and challenges, create a peaceful and stable international environment, and let cooperation featuring mutual respect and equal consultations take root, so that we can work together towards a

community with a shared future for mankind.

Second, we need to champion exchanges and inclusiveness to achieve mutual learning between different cultures. Cultural diversity is the basic feature of human society. Each country has its unique national conditions, history, culture, development path and social system. With parliaments calling for cultural diversity, equal treatment and mutual learning, exchanges and mutual learning will serve as a bridge to boost friendship between peoples, a driving force to promote the progress of human society, and a bond to safeguard world peace.

Third, we need to advocate the rule of law and enhance fairness and justice. The rule of law is the basic means of modern governance. Fairness and justice is a noble goal pursued by all. Parliaments ought to observe, uphold and promote international law and the basic norms governing international relations, with a view to jointly defending our happy, peaceful and tranquil life.

Colleagues and friends,

The Belt and Road Initiative is an important driving force for building of a community with a shared future for mankind. Over the

past six years, the Initiative, underpinned by the principle of consultation and cooperation for shared benefits, has helped participating countries accelerate their own development. With broad anticipation, the second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation will be held later this month in Beijing. It is our hope that this forum will bring inexhaustible development opportunities to various parties.

Colleagues and friends,

The 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China drew the blueprint for China's future development, announcing China's entry into a new era.

In this new era, China, with people's aspiration for a better life as its goal, is committed to the people-centered philosophy and works for constant improvement of people's livelihood so that they can feel more satisfied, happy and secure. We are deepening reform across the board, making steady progress in modernizing the governance system and capacity, and building a complete, well-conceived, well-regulated, and effective institutional framework. We are committed to the vision of innovative, coordinated, green, open and shared development and work towards higher quality, more efficient,

fairer, and more sustainable growth. We remain committed to the running of the country by the people, keep to the path of socialist political advancement with Chinese characteristics, and uphold and improve the system of people's congresses. With commitment to peaceful development, China stands ready to join hands with people all over the world for a brighter future for mankind. The newly promulgated Foreign Investment Law fully manifests China's firm determination to and specific actions for opening wider to the outside world.

Over the past 70 years since the founding of the People's Republic of China, the Chinese government has been committed to mutual assistance and win-win cooperation, and we the Chinese people have kept relying on ourselves and working hard. As a result, China has become an important force in maintaining world peace, promoting common development and upholding fairness and justice. In the new era, China will continue to make even greater contribution to world peace and global development, and make unremitting efforts for enduring peace and common prosperity.

Thank you.