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**Front cover:** The opening session of the Ninth National Council Meeting of the CPAFFC held in Beijing (May 17, 2007)

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# Ninth National Council Meeting Of CPAFFC Held

## Our Staff Reporter

The Ninth National Council Meeting of the CPAFFC was held in Beijing from May 17 to 18. More than 330 council members from the central and local nongovernmental friendship organizations and all social circles attended the meeting. Present at the opening session were He Luli and Gu Xiulian, vice chairpersons of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC); Tang Jiaxuan, state councillor; Luo Haocai and Abdul'ahat Abdurixit, vice chairmen of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC); Buhe, Tomur Dawamat and Peng Peiyun, former vice chairpersons of the NPC Standing Committee; Wang Wenyuan, former vice chairman of the CPPCC National Committee; Yang Jiechi and Zhang Yesui, minister and vice minister of foreign affairs. State Councillor Tang Jiaxuan made an im-

portant speech at the opening session. The council members deliberated the work report entitled *Adhering to CPAFFC's Aims of Friendship, Cooperation, Peace and Friendship and Striving for A Harmonious World of Lasting Peace and Common Development* delivered by CPAFFC President Chen Haosu on behalf of the Executive Committee of the 8th National Council, listened to the report on the amendments of the Statutes of the CPAFFC made by its Vice President Li Xiaolin and approved the amendments, elected members of the Executive Committee of the Ninth National Council and appointed advisers. The meeting achieved full success.

In his speech made on the morning of May 17, State Councillor Tang Jiaxuan, first of all, expressed warm congratulations on the convening of the meeting on behalf of the State Council, and



extended sincere greetings and heartfelt thanks to all present, to all the comrades who have been actively engaged in the work of people-to-people friendship over the years and to personages of all social circles who are devoted and have given great support to this important work.

In his speech, Tang Jiaxuan made a profound analysis of the present international situation, expounded on the important role people-to-people diplomacy plays in China's total diplomacy and its opening to the outside world as well as the importance and urgency of doing well people-to-people diplomatic work in the new century. He fully affirmed and gave positive appraisal of the work of the CPAFFC in the past five years and the achievements in China's nongovernmental diplomacy.

Tang Jiaxuan said, the Central Government has always given great importance to the work of friendship with the people of other countries and refers to it vividly as people-to-people diplomacy. Since the founding of New China, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council have always regarded it as a component part of the country's total diplomacy and emphasized bringing its important role into full play. In fact, people-to-people diplomacy has done a great deal of useful work to strengthen the friendship between the Chinese and other peoples in the world, to further the relations between China and other countries and to create a favourable external environment for the country's development, and achieved gratifying results.

Tang Jiaxuan said, reviewing the history of New China's diplomacy in the past half a century and more, a basic experience and major feature is



**State Councillor Tang Jiaxuan speaking at the 9th National Council Meeting of the CPAFFC**

attaching importance to people-to-people diplomacy and adhering to the principle of carrying out both governmental and nongovernmental diplomacy. In different historical periods, China's people-to-people diplomacy has played an indispensable role in establishing in the world the image of the Chinese people who love peace, uphold justice and seek progress and development, and in creating a peaceful and stable international environment. In the early days of New China, faced with diplomatic isolation, economic blockade and military encirclement by the West, we, guided by Chairman Mao Zedong's Thought of placing hopes on the people, mobilized the forces of all social circles and carried out active exchanges with the people of other countries. And through people-to-people diplomacy we broke the blockade imposed by imperialists, established contacts with other peoples, helped bring about changes in



**CPAFFC Vice President Li Xiaolin presenting to Tomur Dawamat the certificate of adviser to the CPAFFC**

state relations, laid the foundation for New China's diplomacy and paved the way for its development. In this process, promoting governmental ties through people-to-people contacts was a great innovation of our socialist diplomacy. In the new era of reform and opening-up, China's people-to-people diplomacy has been even more active in making friends extensively and making close friends, publicizing the peaceful foreign policy of China and displaying the Chinese people's image of valuing friendship and cherishing peace. At the same time, it has energetically promoted the fine Chinese culture and carrying out exchanges in the economic, cultural, sports, scientific, technological and other fields in a variety of forms. With the unremitting efforts made over the years, it has consolidated the social and public opinion bases for the vigorous development of our country's diplomacy. By reviewing the past, we can see that whenever there are major changes in international situation and great difficulties in China's relations with other countries, people-to-people diplomacy,

with unique advantages and flexible ways in carrying out its activities, has always served as timely and important supplement to the governmental diplomacy and played a positive and constructive role.

Tang Jiaxuan said, the CPAFFC is an important force of China's people-to-people diplomacy. Proceeding from the country's development and the actual needs of its external work, the CPAFFC has made great efforts to improve the overall arrangement, enrich the contents, expand the areas and innovate mechanisms of its work. Adhering to enhancing people's friendship, it has continued to commit itself to consolidating the mass social base for the country's relations with other countries. Taking the country's modernization drive as the central task, it has conducted various activities to promote international economic and trade cooperation. Coordinating with the construction of China's soft power which centres on the country's image building, it has carried out various impact producing, rich and colourful cultural exchanges.

Aware of the increasing influence of nongovernmental organizations in international affairs and multilateral diplomacy, the CPAFFC has actively pushed for international cooperation in various areas, taken part in city diplomacy and multilateral people-to-people diplomacy, and has achieved positive results.

Tang Jiaxuan pointed out, as the international situation is undergoing profound changes and China's diplomatic work is further progressing; people-to-people diplomacy is faced with both new opportunities and challenges. He stressed, to create a new situation in people-to-people diplomatic work, we must act in the spirit of the Eighth Central Meeting on Foreign Affairs Work, focus on the central task, serve the overall interests, exploit our advantages to the full and go for innovation, attach importance to multilateral diplomatic activities, expand our influence, plan and coordinate activities, give stronger guidance, step up studies and strengthen the building of the contingent of nongovernmental diplomatic workers to better serve the cause of building socialism with Chinese

characteristics.

CPAFFC President Chen Haosu made a comprehensive summary of the work of the Executive Committee of the Eighth National Council in his report. He said, over the past five years, the CPAFFC has conscientiously upheld the spirit of the speech Comrade Hu Jintao made when receiving the members of its Eighth National Council. Sticking to its aims of enhancing people's friendship, furthering international cooperation, safeguarding world peace and promoting common development, the CPAFFC has persisted in serving three overall interests: the country's total diplomacy, development of the motherland, and world peace, and fulfilled the tasks set by the Eighth National Council through continuously expanding the areas, enriching the contents and creating new ways of working, by carrying out all-directional, wide-ranging and multi-channel people-to-people friendly contacts, making innovation through practice and advancing through innovation. In the past five years, the CPAFFC has received over 1,600 delegations with 19,500 person/times from about

**A group discussion  
in session**





100 countries, sent 640 delegations consisting of more than 8,100 people to some 90 countries, and held 358 celebrations for the establishment of diplomatic relation between China and other countries and other large-scale activities. Hu Jintao, Jiang Zeming, Wu Bangguo, Wen Jiabao, Jia Qinglin, Zeng Qinghong and other major Party and state leaders attended over 100 activities organized by the CPAFFC. At present, the CPAFFC has established regular contact with 458 nongovernmental friendship-with-China organizations in 148 countries and international organizations, and conferred upon 60 foreign friends from 25 countries the title of Friendship Ambassador.

Chen Haosu pointed out, in the past five years, the CPAFFC has strengthened friendly contact with the developing countries and China's neighbouring countries and actively promoted nongovernmental exchanges and cooperation with big countries and big country groups such as the United States, Russia, Japan and the European Union. Great efforts have been made by the CPAFFC to open up multilateral people-to-people diplomatic work. It is a founding member of the International Organization of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) and hosted the 2005 UCLG World Council Meeting and World Mayors' Forum. It is a nongovernmental organization associated with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations. Earnest efforts have been made by the CPAFFC to serve China's economic development. It has organized and sent businessmen's delegations to visit other countries, and sponsored forums on scientific and technological cooperation, presentations for inviting outside investments and symposiums on economy and trade cooperation. The CPAFFC has also carried out active people-to-people cultural exchanges. It has or-

ganized 180 cultural exchange programmes with more than 40 countries in the five continents and more than 500 large-scale performances and exhibitions of various kinds. The work of international friendship cities has seen sound development. In the past five years, 331 pairs of friendship-cities/provinces have been twinned between Chinese provinces and cities and their counterparts in other countries. By the end of 2006, 30 Chinese provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government and 309 cities in China have established friendship-city relations with 335 provinces (states, districts and prefectures) and 1,057 cities in 119 countries.

In his report Chen Haosu specially mentioned the creative work the CPAFFC did and the activities it sponsored that had extensive impact both at home and abroad in the past five years. Take for example the holding of the meeting in celebration of CPAFFC's 50th anniversary, which was attended by over 700 people including 104 delegations of friendship-with-China organizations from various countries, leading members of relevant government departments and people's organizations, and CPAFFC council members, and at which President Hu Jintao was present and gave an important speech; inviting 380 anti-fascist war veterans and descendants of renowned international friends from 22 countries including Russia, the United States, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Korea and Japan to China to participate in the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression; organizing the selection of the ten Chinese who have deeply moved the African people; taking part in the organization of the China-Arab Friendship Conference; convening the first Conference on

China-ASEAN People-to-People Friendship Organizations and signing the Declaration on China-ASEAN People-to-People Friendship and Cooperation; holding the China-Spain Forum, the China-US Relations Conferences, the first High Level China-France Forum on Local Governmental Cooperation, the China-UK Forum on Local Government Cooperation, and the Central American Forum on People-to-People Friendship; holding activities marking the 30th anniversary of normalization of diplomatic relations between China and Japan and the 25th anniversary of the signing of Sino-Japanese Peace and Friendship Treaty; inviting presidents of the seven Japan-China friendship organizations for a joint visit to China; launching the China-ASEAN Association and the China-Oceania Friendship Association, etc.

Chen Haosu put forward in his report a nine-point tentative plan for the work of the Ninth National Council. In the next five years, the CPAFFC will, guided by the scientific outlook on development and taking as its guiding ideology that nongovernmental diplomacy serves the total diplomacy, development of the motherland and world peace, promote official ties through people-to-people contacts, political relations through economic and trade contacts and trust through cultural exchanges. It will make friends extensively and make close friends in the world, open up more areas in its contact with other countries, and enhance consciousness of serving China's economic development, conduct mutually beneficial economic cooperation and increase cultural exchanges with the outside world. Together with the people of all countries, it will make new contributions to creating a harmonious world of lasting peace and common prosperity. (Excerpts of the report on p. 8)

Members of the Executive Committee of the

Ninth National Council were elected at the meeting. They are: President: Chen Haosu; Vice Presidents: Li Xiaolin, Jing Dunquan, Feng Zuoku and Li Jianping; Secretary General: Luo Qin.

The meeting appointed the following fourteen CPAFFC advisers: Ismail Amat, He Luli, Cheng Siwei, Jiang Zhenhua, Gu Xiulian, Luo Haocai, Abdul'ahat Abdurixit, Xu Kuangdi, Buhe, Tomur Dawamat, Peng Peiyun, Song Jian, Hu Qili and Wang Wenyuan.

All the council members at the meeting unanimously held, as the first-founded and most influential people-to-people friendship organization in China, the CPAFFC has, in the past fifty years since its founding, forged extensive relations with most countries in the world, kept close links with many international institutions and friendship organizations, and established contacts with great numbers of international friends. It has opened up broad channels for friendly exchanges, and done a great deal of useful work in enhancing the friendship between the Chinese and other peoples of the world and in creating a favorable international environment that national development needs. In the new historical period, the CPAFFC should work hard to keep abreast with the new situation and meet the new demands arising from the country's rapid development, go in for innovation and strive to enhance people's friendship, further international cooperation, safeguard world peace and promote common development. □



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# Report on the Work of Executive Committee Of 8th CPAFFC National Council

(Excerpts)

**Chen Haosu**

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**T**he Ninth National Council Meeting of the CPAFFC is now held as scheduled. For the two days, together we will review all the achievements in our work in the past five years, and discuss the guiding principles and tasks of our people-to-people diplomatic work in the next five years.

This year's National Council consists of 333 members, including group members and specially invited ones. The structure is improved in comparison with the last National Council, better reflecting the broadness and high representative nature of nongovernmental diplomacy.

## **Review of the Past Five-Year's Work**

In the past five years, the CPAFFC conscientiously upheld the spirit of the speech Comrade Hu Jintao made when

receiving the members of its Eighth National Council. Sticking to its aims of enhancing people's friendship, furthering international cooperation, safeguarding world peace and promoting common development, the CPAFFC has persisted in serving three overall interests: the country's total diplomacy, development of the motherland, and world peace, and fulfilled the tasks set by the Eighth National Council through continuously expanding the areas, enriching the contents and creating new ways of working, by carrying out all-directional, wide-ranging and multi-channel people-to-people friendly contacts, making innovation through practice and advancing through innovation.

In the past five years, the CPAFFC has received over 1,600 delegations with 19,500 person/times from about 100

countries, sent 640 delegations consisting of more than 8,100 people to some 90 countries, and held 358 celebrations for the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and other countries and other large-scale activities. Hu Jintao, Jiang Zeming, Wu Bangguo, Wen Jiabao, Jia Qinglin, Zeng Qinghong and other major Party and state leaders attended over 100 activities organized by the CPAFFC. Other leaders who were advisers to the CPAFFC participated in many more activities. At present, the CPAFFC has established regular contact with 458 nongovernmental friendship-with-China organizations in 148 countries and international organizations. The CPAFFC has conferred upon 60 foreign friends from 25 countries the title of Friendship Ambassador from 1990 to the end of 2006 and started to confer



this title upon senior Chinese personages in the field of people-to-people diplomacy in May 2004.

On May 20, 2004, the CPAFFC organized in Beijing the grand meeting in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of its founding, at which 104 delegations from friendship-with-China organizations of other countries, leaders of relevant ministries, departments and people's organizations in China and CPAFFC council members, totaling over 700 people, were present. President Hu Jintao delivered an important speech at the meeting, praising the CPAFFC as an important force pushing the development of China's people-to-people diplomacy. He emphasized, comrades working for people-

to-people diplomacy should persistently act under the guidance of Deng Xiaoping Theory and the important thought of Three Represents, fully implement the foreign policies and principles of the Party and state and, in accordance with the requirements of serving total diplomacy, national construction, the great cause of peaceful reunification of the motherland and world peace, strive to open up new prospects for work, so as to better serve the cause of building socialism with Chinese characteristics and promote the solidarity and friendship between the people of all countries.

In September 2005, the CPAFFC invited 380 anti-fascist war veterans and descendants of renowned international

friends from 22 countries including Russia, the U.S., the DPRK, the ROK and Japan to China to participate in the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression, while activities such as the Friendly Gathering of Chinese and Russian War Veterans, the Reunion of Chinese and US War Veterans After 60 Years and the Meeting of Chinese War Veterans with the Japanese Anti-War League Veterans, were also held. The theme of "never forgetting the past, cherishing peace and creating a better future" was stressed all through these activities, which have exerted wide influence at home and abroad, playing an active role of the people-to-people

**CPAFFC President Chen Haosu (middle) delivering the work report**



diplomacy in implementing the principles and policies of China's total diplomacy and gaining more experience in organizing and coordinating large-scale multilateral nongovernmental activities.

In the past five years, the CPAFFC has been making efforts to improve the layout of its nongovernmental diplomatic work, organizing influential nongovernmental diplomatic activities in different fields and focusing on building more effective working platforms. Through re-election, the leadership of the Chinese-African People's Friendship Association, the China-Latin America Friendship Association, the China-US People's Friendship Association and the China-Korea (ROK) Friendship Association have changed, and after the establishment of the China-Arab Friendship Association and the China-EU Association, the China-ASEAN Association and the China-Oceania Friendship Association were set up. Now, the China-Central Asia Association is in preparation. Here, I will talk about our work in the following main aspects in greater detail:

### **1. Friendly cooperation with the developing countries**

**remains the foothold of our people-to-people diplomacy.** In the past five years, the CPAFFC invited over 60 former important political figures, traditional leaders and wives of heads of state of more than 20 Asian, African and Latin American countries to visit China, and promoted all-dimensional cooperation with the developing countries in the fields of politics, economy, culture, parliament, local government, land control, environmental protection, personnel training, etc.. In the spring of 2004, a special series *Road of Friendship* was filmed in cooperation with the Beijing TV Station to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Premier Zhou Enlai's visit to African countries. In 2005, the Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of Bandung Conference was held. In 2006, in coordination with the Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, the CPAFFC sponsored selection of the ten Chinese who have deeply moved the African people, published collections of articles on China-Africa cooperation and together with the China Central TV Station filmed the featured documentary *Stories of Chinese Aid Workers in Africa*. In celebration of the 50th an-

niversary of the beginning of diplomatic relations between China and Arab countries, the CPAFFC took part in organizing the China-Arab Friendship Conference held in Khartoum, capital of Sudan, giving impetus to the establishment of the Federation of the Arab-China Friendship Associations and designated November 29 as the Day of China-Arab Friendship, and successfully conducted the China-Arab Friendship Tour. On the basis of developing traditional friendly relations, the CPAFFC played an active role in setting up the Latin America and Caribbean Region-China Friendship Federation, expanding the channels and scope of friendly cooperation. To coordinate with the opening of the First Ministerial Conference of the China-Pacific Island Countries Economic Development and Cooperation Forum, the CPAFFC sent delegations of friendship personages and entrepreneurs to visit this region in 2006.

**2. Friendly cooperation with neighboring countries is the primary focus in our people-to-people diplomacy.** The large-scale activities in commemoration of the establishment of diplomatic relations jointly

sponsored by the CPAFFC and the ASEAN and South Asian countries witnessed the presence of presidents and prime ministers of five countries. Friendly exchanges with neighbouring countries continued to develop and the friendship activities were varied and colourful. In 2005, the CPAFFC and the Harbin TV Station sent a film shooting team to 13 land neighbours of China to make the TV series *Neighbours*. In May 2006, the CPAFFC held the First Conference on China-ASEAN People-to-people Friendship Organizations, during which the Declaration on China-ASEAN People-to-people Friendship and Cooperation was signed and it was decided to hold a meeting every year. In October of the same year, the China-ASEAN Friendship Tour was successfully held. The nongovernmental contacts with the DPRK and Mongolia were frequent and the CPAFFC received former Mongolian president not long ago. The CPAFFC maintains good cooperative relations with five ROK friendship-with-China organizations. The people-to-people friendship work with South Asian countries has made steady development, and the preparation for re-election of the council of the

China-India Friendship Association is underway. To keep pace with the increasing influence of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the CPAFFC has newly strengthened the nongovernmental exchanges with the central Asian countries, taking the opportunity of the 15th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties.

**3. Nongovernmental friendly contact with big countries (big country groups) like the United States, Russia, the European Union and Japan is another focus in our people-to-people diplomacy.** Maintaining stable and good nongovernmental contacts with the U.S. is a long-term principle of the CPAFFC in its work. In the past five years, the CPAFFC has received many important political figures from the U.S. including former President George Bush, former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, former National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft and former Democratic Senator John Edwards. In 2002, the CPAFFC held the commemoration of the 30th anniversary of Issuance of the Shanghai Communiqué. In 2003 and 2005, in the cooperation with former President George Bush, the CPAFFC twice sponsored the

China-U.S. Relations Conference held in the U.S. and in China, as a high-ranking nongovernmental communication platform between the two countries. Progress has been made in our contacts with American congressmen; of the 535 congressmen and senators, 74 have visited China at the invitation by the CPAFFC in the past five years. The CPAFFC attaches great importance to contacts with U.S. local government high-ranking officials, and received 83 local legislators, 13 governors and over 400 mayors and municipal officials in the past five years. The CPAFFC successfully sent three "Speaking the Plain Truth" Delegations composed of common Chinese to the U.S. where they had face to face communication with 75 U.S. congressmen.

Russia is a big country and a neighbour with whom China shares its long boundary. It is of great significance to have various pragmatic nongovernmental friendly contacts with Russia. The CPAFFC has joined and shared the work of the Sino-Russian Committee of Friendship, Peace and Development (the Committee of the 21st Century), playing an active role in the people-to-people exchanges. In June 2002, the



**CPAFFC President Chen Haosu welcoming CPAFFC national council members home at the get-together**

CPAFFC held a celebration on the occasion of the 1st anniversary of the Sino-Russian Good-Neighbourly Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation. Together with the Russian Twin Cities International Association, it sponsored the Meeting of Chinese and Russian Friendship Cities in 2002 and 2004, and in 2004, it organized a series of activities, in cooperation with the Russian side, to celebrate the 55th anniversaries of the founding of the People's Republic of China, the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Russia and the founding of the Russia-China Friendship Association. In 2005 and 2006, the CPAFFC and the China Science and Technology Association held twice the exchanges in

popular science between the Chinese and Russian young people. In 2006, the Year of Russia in China, the CPAFFC launched a series of activities to promote cooperation between local governments of the two countries including the 11th Symposium on Sino-Russian Regional Cooperation, and the Recommendation and Introduction of the Federal Districts of Siberia, Northwest and Far East.

Nongovernmental contacts with EU member countries have greatly progressed. In 2002, Euro Road Shows were conducted in several provinces and municipalities as euro came into circulation. In 2004, a briefing was held on the new round of EU enlargement. In 2005, the

CPAFFC and the EU diplomatic corps jointly organized the China-EU Art Summer School. Through the efforts made in the past six years, the China-EU Association has become an important channel of nongovernmental cooperation between China and Europe. The China-Spain Forum has been held every year since 2003, becoming a significant platform of high level cooperation between the two countries. During the Year of Chinese Culture in France and the Year of French Culture in China, a good number of nongovernmental and local cooperative programmes were carried out. In October 2005, the CPAFFC and the French side held the First High Level China-France Forum on Local Government Cooperation.

Two Sino-British Local Government Seminars were held. Cooperation with German and Austrian friendship organizations has continued to develop. In 2006, *Gotheborg*, the Swedish replica ship, revisited Guangzhou and Shanghai at the invitation of the CPAFFC.

In the past five years, the Sino-Japanese relations have experienced twists and turns. As certain Japanese government leaders made drawbacks on historical questions, the Sino-Japanese relations were dragged into a deadlock for quite some time. The CPAFFC holding high the banner of Sino-Japanese friendship, and adhering to promoting governmental diplomacy through nongovernmental diplomacy, furthering political relations through economic relations and enhancing people's friendly feeling through cultural exchanges, did a lot of work for the bilateral relations to get out of the difficult situation. Following the issuance of the *Declaration on Promoting Sino-Japanese People's Friendship in the New Century* in January 2001, the *Appeal of People-to-People Friendly Cooperation* was published in January 2002. Celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the normalization of Chi-

na-Japan Diplomatic Relations and the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Sino-Japanese Peace and Friendship Treaty were successively held in 2002 and 2003. In 2005, the CPAFFC launched a series of Sino-Japanese people-to-people friendship activities to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression. In March 2006, the heads of seven Japan-China friendship organizations made a joint visit to China at the invitation of the CPAFFC. During his meeting with the delegation, President Hu Jintao expounded the root cause of the problems in bilateral political relations and the Chinese Government's principled stand, which had great impact on bilateral relations getting out of the difficulties. In June 2006, the CPAFFC and the Liaoning Provincial People's Government jointly held the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of repatriation of over one million Japanese emigrants from Huludao. Since October 2006, Sino-Japanese relations have shown relaxation of tension which was welcomed by people of both countries. The CPAFFC closely followed the favourable trend to push for-

ward the nongovernmental contacts and greeted a new upsurge.

**4. Actively serving the great cause of peaceful reunification of the motherland and enhancing contacts with countries which have not yet established diplomatic relations with China obtain satisfactory results.** In 2004, a CPAFFC delegation visited Guatemala giving impetus to the establishment of the Guatemalan Association of Friendship with the People's Republic of China. In 2005, the CPAFFC established links with the Sino-Burkinabe Friendship Forum and both sides exchanged useful visits. In 2006, the First China-Central America People-to-people Friendship Forum was successfully held in Mexico. Six countries in this region which have not yet established diplomatic relations with China, set up friendship-with-China organizations and sent representatives to the forum. They declared their political stand for promoting the normalization of relations with China in a joint statement. In March 2007, the Central American Federation of Friendship with China was officially established. Besides, with the help of the CPAFFC, a pair of friendship cities has been twinned between



Panama and China, which had pioneering significance.

**5. Traditional cultural exchanges extend to new fields.** In the past five years, the CPAFFC carried out 180 cultural exchange projects with over 40 countries in the world, organized more than 500 large-scale performances and exhibitions, edited 25 editions of photo series for display in the showcases and published 30 issues of the Chinese edition of *Voice of Friendship* and the same number of its English edition. The activities to select and award talents in all fields held by the pictorial *China's Talents* have produced good influence. Taking 2006 as an example, the CPAFFC and the Japanese Hokushi Seal Cutting Society jointly sponsored the exhibition tour of the Chinese Ancient Writings Series. The CPAFFC organized a performing tour of the Peking Opera *Zhuge Kongming* in Japan, giving performances in 38 cities with a total audience of 140,000 person/times. Together with the Chinese Embassy in France, it initiated the Paris Chinese Fine Arts Week, during which the best pieces of work by over 60 well-known contemporary Chinese painters were mounted. The 5th Tianjin International

Children's Culture and Art Festival, held by the CPAFFC in cooperation with the Tianjin Municipal People's Government, attracted 46 art troupes from 40 countries and regions and 48 art troupes from 27 Chinese provinces, regions and municipalities. The CPAFFC organized the 2006 Friendly Competition among Ambassador's Wives in Knowing Chinese Culture. Together with the All-China Philatelic Federation and the State Post Bureau, the CPAFFC sponsored the 5th Best Foreign Stamp Poll and the number of participating countries increased to 21. In the past five years, the CPAFFC in cooperation with the San Marino Postal Authority issued commemorative stamps, and with the postal authorities of Mozambique, Tanzania, Cuba and Laos, designed, printed and issued stamp series and commemorative envelopes.

**6. Good results have been achieved by the CPAFFC in its work to promote international economic and trade exchanges, cooperate with big international enterprises and send personnel for training abroad.** In 2002, the CPAFFC organized a delegation of leaders of important domestic energy enterprises to visit Saudi Arabia and Oman in an effort to

help China's giant petroleum enterprises open up the prospect of tapping oil in the Middle East. In the same year, the Sino-Russian Forum on Science and Technology was held in Moscow, which led to a number of achievements in cooperation in science and technology between the two countries. In 2003, the CPAFFC and the Saudi Arabia-China Friendship Association together initiated the Mixed Committee of Chinese and Saudi Entrepreneurs, and China-Saudi Arabia Economic and Trade Talks were held in Beijing, Xi'an and Shenzhen during which over 3,000 participating Chinese and Saudi Arabian entrepreneurs signed a number of agreements and letters of intent on cooperation. In 2003, the CPAFFC and the Qingdao Municipal People's Government jointly held briefings in Beijing and Tokyo to attract investments. In 2004, together with the Arab Ambassadors Council in China, the CPAFFC sponsored the China-Arab Economic and Trade Symposium, which was attended by nearly 20 diplomats of Arab countries and led to the launching of cooperation projects between relevant Chinese enterprises and Syria and Tunisia. Entrusted by Bo'ao

Forum for Asia, the CPAFFC successfully organized over 100 entrepreneurs to attend Bo'ao Energy Forum for Asia in Iran. In 2005, the CPAFFC held the Meeting on Making Investment in DPRK, following which Tianjin municipality and Korea signed the contract on running a joint bicycle factory.

The CPAFFC cooperated with Citigroup, United Parcel Service and United Technologies Corporation of the U.S. in carrying out projects such as English language training, environmental friendly education aid and reemployment training for laid-off female workers in China's western region, winning good social benefits.

The China Friendship Foundation for Peace and Development under the CPAFFC has continued to enlarge its fields of work. Now, it has funds for culture, education, sports, health

care, environmental protection, western development, rural construction, poverty and disaster relief, personnel training, etc., with recipients of its aid in 30 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities and a dozen of countries and regions in the world. The Foundation has raised a total of over 130 million RMB yuan in ten years since its establishment.

In some important sections of national economic development, the CPAFFC enthusiastically organized professional trainings, such as sending personnel in road construction, management and supervision, eco-environment and forest quality evaluation on training courses in the U.S. and Australia. In addition, it sent over 3,000 people to Japan for on-the-job training in construction, laundering and dyeing, aquatic product processing and

electronics.

**7. Continue to take multilateral international exchanges between NGOs as the point of extension of people-to-people diplomacy.** The CPAFFC joined the International Union of Local Authorities (IULA) in 1999 and became a founding member of the International Organization of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) in May 2004. With its assistance, 9 provinces and cities including Beijing, Shanghai and Tianjin Municipalities and Hunan Province joined the UCLG. In June 2005, the CPAFFC hosted the UCLG World Council Meeting and the World Mayors Forum, at which more than 100 mayors from 38 countries and regions were present.

After becoming a NGO in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Coun

**Participants of the 9th National Council Meeting visiting the exhibition on achievements in exchanges with foreign countries mounted by CPAFFC's Department of Asian and African Affairs**



cil of the United Nations and member of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO) in 2001, the CPAFFC became a NGO for association with the Department of Public Information of the UN, and selectively attended a series of multilateral international conferences ever since, to brief on China's development and explain China's principled stance on major international political issues.

From 2002 to 2006, the CPAFFC, together with relevant organizations in Japan and the ROK, hosted the China, Japan and ROK Friendship Cities Conference for 5 consecutive years, on the basis of which gratifying progress has been made in the China-Japan-ROK Cultural Exchange Forum.

**8. The work of international friendship cities enjoys continuous and healthy development.** In the past five years, 331 pairs of friendship-cities/provinces have been twinned between Chinese provinces and cities and their counterparts in other countries. By the end of 2006, 30 Chinese provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government and 309 cities

in China have established 1,401 pairs of friendship-city relations with 335 provinces (states, districts and prefectures) and 1,057 cities in 119 countries. At its 4th Council Meeting held in September 2005, the China International Friendship Cities Association clearly put forth the principles for future development of friendship cities, and in 2006, made suggestions on strengthening classification of friendship cities and giving them proper guidance.

**9. Attach importance to close cooperation with local foreign affair offices and friendship associations at all levels.** In the past five years, the CPAFFC organized 40 groups with a total of nearly 100 local government officials, especially leaders of western provinces and regions to visit over 50 countries and attend various nongovernmental exchanges and specialized conferences. The Biannual Meeting of Presidents of China's People's Associations for Friendship with Foreign Countries was held in 2004 and 2006. A working conference of friendship associations of prefecture-level cities and two training courses for staff of local friendship associations were held. The CPAFFC was invited to participate in

and help over 10 provinces, autonomous regions and cities to conduct various exchanges with foreign countries, many of which are influential large-scale projects including the China International Fair for Investment and Trade in Xiamen, the West Lake Expo Hangzhou, the Western China International Economy and Trade Fair, the Dalian International Fashion Fair and the Qingdao Beer Festival.

In May 2004, the 8th National Council of the CPAFFC held a mid-term session and issued a declaration on the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the CPAFFC. The convening of the mid-term session is an innovation, which facilitates the council members to play an active role in people-to-people diplomacy. Within the past five years, because of their age Su Guang and Chen Yongchang retired from their posts of vice presidents which were succeeded by Liu Zhiming and Jing Dunquan. Now, Liu Zhiming has been assigned to work abroad, which means he left his vice presidency. All these changes of members of the Executive Committee are now submitted to the present 9th National Council Meeting for con



**Participants of the 9th National Council Meeting listening to the briefing at the exhibition area of CPAFFC's Department of American and Oceanian Affairs**

firmation.

Looking back, while seeing the achievements, we should also see our weakness. We should admit that what we have done is still far from meeting the demands of the development of the situation, which is mainly shown in the relatively weak influence, cohesiveness and creativity of the CPAFFC. Our nongovernmental diplomatic activities' coverage is quite limited. Some of our work units and platforms for exchanges are not well-known in society, especially the mechanism for making innovations to cope with the new situation has not been established yet. All this should be improved in future. All council members present here are welcome to discuss the weakness of our work and give us your valu-

able suggestions. Let us strive to further strengthen and improve our people-to-people diplomacy, let a new look of it appear before us.

### **Tentative Plan for the Work of the 9th National Council**

From now to 2012, China's reform and opening to the outside world and the cause of socialist modernization will enter a new historical stage under the guidance of the 17th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC). In his speech delivered at the UN Summit Commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the Founding of the United Nations in 2005, President Hu Jintao advocated building a harmonious world of lasting peace and common prosperity, which marked

that China's diplomatic stand of upholding justice was establishing greater influence in the whole world. The people-to-people diplomacy to which we are committed should and would make new achievements in this new historical background.

General Secretary Hu Jintao pointed out in his speech at the Central Meeting on Foreign Affairs Work that foreign affairs work should take both the international and domestic situations into consideration. As a component part of the total diplomacy, the people-to-people diplomacy carried out by the CPAFFC should, of course, serve the total diplomacy, development of the motherland and world peace. In serving these three overall interests, the CPAFFC should imple-

ment the correct policy of people-to-people diplomacy that we have been carrying out over the years, which is closely related to our aims of enhancing people's friendship, furthering international cooperation, safeguarding world peace and promoting common development and the realization of our goal of building a harmonious world. Here is what we are planning to do in future:

The CPAFFC will persist in enhancing people's friendship as our primary work, staying rooted in the people, focusing on the people and placing hopes on the people; make friends extensively and make close friends in the world, and make new contributions to consolidating and developing the friendship between the Chinese and other peoples and expanding the social mass base for the relations between China and other countries.

The CPAFFC will stick to promoting international cooperation as our main direction, broaden our fields of work with other countries, enhance the awareness of serving the country's economic construction, actively carry out mutually beneficial economic cooperation, and strengthen international cultural exchanges so as to make

new contributions to pushing forward the socialist modernization and promoting the flourish and development of human civilization.

The CPAFFC will take safeguarding world peace and promoting common development as our ultimate aims, and together with the people of all countries make new contributions to building a harmonious world of lasting peace and common prosperity.

The CPAFFC will give full play to our creativity, and continuously improve the layout, enrich the contents, build platforms and create new mechanisms of our work. We have established regional friendship associations with Africa, Arab, Latin America, Oceania, the ASEAN and the EU, and bilateral friendship associations with countries including the DPRK, the ROK, Mongolia, India, Pakistan, Israel, Russia, Japan and the United States. We are considering setting up regional friendship associations with Central Asia, South Asia and Northeast Asia in the future.

The CPAFFC will work hard to expand our influence by maintaining close contact with practical social life at home and abroad and working out the kinds of activity that have wide

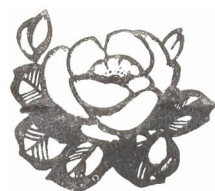
social coverage.

The CPAFFC will continuously strengthen our cohesiveness, reinforcing unity and coordination with other institutions and organizations, and making joint efforts to open up new prospect for the people-to-people diplomacy.

The CPAFFC will continue to raise the visibility of the highlights of our work, pushing forward the healthy development of international friendship cities' activities and upgrading cities' ability in dealing with bilateral and multilateral foreign affairs.

The CPAFFC will build our organization culture around the theme of peace and friendship, and under the guidance of core socialist values, make contributions to enriching and enchanting the cultural content of people-to-people diplomacy.

The CPAFFC will push for innovations both in practice and theory in people-to-people diplomacy under the guidance of Deng Xiaoping Theory, the important thought of Three Represents and the Scientific Outlook on Development. □





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## **Name List of Advisers to CPAFFC's 9th National Council (2007—2011)**

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**Ismail Amat**, vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, president of the China-Egypt Friendship Association and the China-Turkey Friendship Association

**He Luli**, vice chairperson of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and honorary president of the China-EU Association

**Cheng Siwei**, vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and president of the China-Latin America and Caribbean Region Friendship Association

**Jiang Zhenghua**, vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress

**Gu Xiulian**, vice chairperson of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, president of the China-ASEAN Association and the China-Cambodia Friendship Association

**Luo Haocai**, vice chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and president of the China-ROK Friendship Association

**Abdul'ahat Abdurixit**, vice chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and president of the Chinese-African People's Friendship Association

**Xu Kuangdi**, vice chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and president of the China-US Peoples Friendship Association

**Buhe**, former vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and president of the China-Poland Friendship Association

**Tomur Dawamat**, former vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and president of the China-Arab Friendship Association

**Peng Peiyun**, former vice chairperson of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, president of the China-Oceania Friendship Association

**Song Jian**, former vice chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, president of the China-Japan Friendship Association

**Hu Qili**, former vice chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, chairman of the Chinese Committee of the China-Spain Forum

**Wang Wenyuan**, former vice chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference

## Name List of Executive Committee of Ninth National Council of CPAFFC ( 2007—2011)

President:	Chen Haosu
Vice Presidents:	Li Xiaolin
	Jing Dunquan
	Feng Zuoku
	Li Jianping
Secretary General:	Luo Qin



From left: Li Jianping, Jing Dunquan, Chen Haosu, Li Xiaolin, Feng Zuoku and Luo Qin

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# Statutes of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries

## (Amended and Adopted by the Ninth National Council Meeting on May 18, 2007)

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### Chapter One General Principles

**Article 1** The Association is a national people's organization of the People's Republic of China known as the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, and abbreviated as CPAFFC.

**Article 2** As an institute of people-to-people diplomacy, on behalf of the Chinese people, the Association makes friends extensively and makes close friends on the international arena and works to win broad international sympathy for the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics and to provide a consolidated social basis for the establishment of good state relations between China and all other countries.

**Article 3** To enhance people's friendship, further international cooperation, safeguard world peace and promote common development are purposes which the Association pursues indefatigably in its work.

**Article 4** The Association implements China's independent foreign policy of peace, and observes the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, while carrying out all-directional, multi-level and wide-range people-to-people friendship work. It serves the great task of China's peaceful development and peaceful reunification, dedicates itself to the cause of solidarity and progress of all mankind, and strives for a harmonious world of lasting peace and common prosperity.

### Chapter Two Functions

**Article 5** Establish and develop good relations of cooperation with friendship-with-China organizations and personages of various circles in other countries. Increase mutual understanding between peoples, build confidence and develop friendship through sending delegations for exchange of visits, holding commemorative meetings, public lectures, seminars and symposiums, taking part in bilateral or multilateral meetings, exchanging publications, etc.

**Article 6** Initiate and organize, in accordance with the overall arrangement for nongovernmental diplomacy, friendship organizations for different regions and countries, develop friendly exchanges on a people-to-people basis, and confer the title of Friendship Ambassador on distinguished international friendly personages or pay respect to them in different ways.

**Article 7** Work for safeguarding world peace and common security of humanity, and show support for the people of all countries in their just struggles for national development and social progress and for safeguarding sovereignty and security.

**Article 8** Promote nongovernmental economic cooperation with other countries, conduct mutually beneficial cooperation in trade, investment, education, science, technology, environmental protection, urban and rural construction as well as other fields, and encourage international exchanges of qualified personnel.

**Article 9** Develop nongovernmental cultural exchanges with other countries by dispatching Chinese art troupes or hosting cultural groups or figures from the five continents on their friendly visits, and sponsoring various performances or exhibitions.

**Article 10** Conduct exchanges with different types of civil organizations across the globe, learn from and disseminate their useful experiences to give impetus to building a harmonious society, and pay attention to international exchanges among the youth in particular.

**Article 11** Coordinate and oversee, as entrusted by the government, the work of establishing and developing friendship-city relations between localities in China and their counterparts in other countries, and facilitate exchanges and cooperation between these localities or cities.

**Article 12** As a nongovernmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, take an active part in exchanges sponsored by the United Nations and other international organizations. As a member of the International Organization of United Cities and Local Governments, participate in international cooperation on behalf of Chinese local authorities.

**Article 13** Carry out other activities for friendship and cooperation between the Chinese and other peoples.

### **Chapter Three Membership**

**Article 14** The Association adopts a combined system of group membership and individual membership.

**Article 15** The departments concerned of the Central Government, civil groups, friendship associations as well as people's associations for friendship with foreign countries in provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government and in cities directly under their jurisdiction may become group members of the Association. Member groups elect representatives to serve as group council members of the Association. In case the working post of the representative changes, the member group needs to elect another representative.

**Article 16** The Association may invite a number of noted public figures to be its specially invited council members in the capacity of individual members of the Association.

**Article 17** Members of the Association should comply with the statutes of the Association, take up some definite work with a view to achieving the purposes of the Association, actively participate in the people-to-people diplomatic activities organized by the Association, and are entitled

to enjoy the services provided by the Association for international exchanges.

## **Chapter Four Structure**

**Article 18** The highest organ of authority of the Association is its National Council. Each term of office is five years. In addition to its plenary session held at the beginning of each term, at least one more session should be convened during the term.

**Article 19** Attention ought to be given to the broad representation of the composition of the National Council which is determined by the previous one after consultation with all sectors of society.

**Article 20** The functions and powers of the National Council are as follows:

1. To examine the report on the work of the Association and decide on policies for its work and determine its tasks;
2. To amend the statutes of the Association in light of the developments of situation and the needs in its work;
3. To decide on the invitation of its honorary president and advisers; and
4. To elect the president, vice presidents and the secretary general.

**Article 21** The Executive Committee is formed by the president, vice presidents and the secretary general to attend to the day-to-day work of the Association and is responsible for reporting its work to the National Council. The Executive Committee may decide on the individual change of its component members, which must be recognized retroactively by the next National Council Meeting. The Executive Committee may decide on the appointment of a number of deputy secretaries general and the establishment of necessary offices. The Executive Committee may call the National Council to session when it is deemed necessary.

**Article 22** Provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government as well as cities, districts and counties under their jurisdiction may set up friendship associations with foreign countries at corresponding levels when necessary. As people's organizations at corresponding levels, the friendship associations with foreign countries in provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government as well as in cities, districts and counties work under the guidance of the associations at a higher level.

## **Chapter Five Funds**

**Article 23** The sources of the Association's funds are:

1. Donations from various sectors of society in China and abroad;
2. Incomes from activities sponsored by the Association; and
3. Government's subsidies

## **Chapter Six Association Emblem**



# Former Mongolian President Bagabandi Visits China

**Xu Yan**

**A**t the invitation of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC), a five-member delegation led by Natsag Bagabandi, former president of Mongolia, paid a friendship visit to China from March 24 to April 4, 2007.

Bagabandi served as president of Mongolia for two terms from 1997 till 2005, during which he paid two official visits to China and received the visits to Mongolia by two consecutive Chinese presidents, Jiang Zemin in 1997 and Hu Jintao in 2003. Bagabandi took his wife and ten-year-old grandson with him this time to get knowledge of new changes and development in China.

Though this was his first contact with the CPAFFC, Bagabandi seemed familiar with what the CPAFFC had been doing. During the short meeting with Wang Yunze, vice president of the CPAFFC who came to welcome the Mongolian

delegation at the Beijing Capital International Airport on March 24, Bagabandi spoke highly of the achievements by the CPAFFC and Mongolian friendship organizations through the past decades. He encouraged the two sides to make more contributions to the friendship between the Mongolian and the Chinese people.

At the welcoming banquet hosted by Chen Haosu, president of the CPAFFC, Bagabandi expressed his appreciation for what the CPAFFC had done to push forward the Mongolian-Chinese friendship cause and emphasized the special role played by the people-to-people organizations in promoting the bilateral relations. He said, relations between countries are in nature the relations between peoples. Bilateral relations would develop smoothly only when people understand and respect each other. In Mongolia, more and more young people were eager to learn Chinese, at the

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**Article 24** The emblem of the Association is made up of the design of the Chinese plum blossom together with the Chinese characters of "friendship" and "The Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries", and CPAFFC. The emblem may be hung in offices, venues of activities and meeting places; it may be printed on publications and souvenirs; it may also be made into badges.

## Chapter Five Supplementary Provisions

**Article 25** The seat of the Association is in Beijing.

**Article 26** The statutes shall become effective upon adoption by the national council meeting.

**Article 27** The dissolution of the Association shall take effect only after discussion and approval by a majority vote of more than two-thirds at the national council meeting.

**Uyunqing, vice chairperson of the NPC Standing Committee, meeting with former Mongolian president Bagabandi**



same time, Mongolia had become one of the tourist destinations for Chinese citizens who had more opportunities to have sightseeing in Mongolia. All these were favourable factors in Mongolian-Chinese relations. Chen Haosu expressed his gratitude for Mr. Bagabandi's comments on the role of people-to-people organizations and assured him that the CPAFFC would continue working hard for enhancing the important relationship between China and Mongolia. Seeing Bagabandi's grandson present at the banquet, Chen Haosu said to him: "I hope that when you grow up, you will also do a lot for Sino-Mongolian friendship as your grandpa."

As former president of Mongolia, Bagabandi cared very much about the bilateral political relations as well as the economic and trade cooperation. At the meeting with Madame Uyunqing, vice chairperson of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China, Bagabandi highly appreciated the selfless assistance China gave Mongolia and the unremitting efforts Chinese leaders had made to develop Mongolian-Chinese relations. Bagabandi considered the joint

declaration in 2003 signed by Mongolian and Chinese leaders as a key document guiding the bilateral relations. Uyunqing and Chen Haosu highly appreciated what Bagabandi had done for Sino-Mongolian relations in the past years and expressed the hope that Bagabandi would use his influence to further deepen the Sino-Mongolian friendship. During his visit, Bagabandi had talks with the managers of China General Technology (Group) Holding Ltd. and Beijing ZHUZONG Group Co., Ltd. Bagabandi briefed them on the economic policies of Mongolia and encouraged more Chinese enterprises to invest in Mongolia.

In order to let the delegation to have a general idea of the urban construction of Beijing, the CPAFFC invited Bagabandi and his party to visit the Beijing Planning Exhibition Hall. The Mongolian delegation liked the modern acoustic and electronic equipment inside the hall and enjoyed the three-dimension movies. Standing in front of the screen of a electronic book, which could "turn pages" at the sign of people's hands, the grandson waved his little hand again and again and enjoyed the great sceneries of the historic city of Beijing at



**CPAFFC President Chen Haosu meeting with Bagabandi and his party**

every “turn of the page”.

Leaving the Beijing Planning Exhibition Hall, the delegation’s motorcade ran eastward along the Chang’an Avenue, heading for the Red Sandalwood Museum, a place Madam Bagabandi once visited. Madame Chen Lihua, member of the National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and curator of the Museum, came to the gate with her three

granddaughters and accompanied the delegation all through the museum. Bagabandi and his wife showed great admiration at the craftsmanship of a piece of wood carvings. Chen Lihua immediately gave it to them as a gift. In the lounge, Madame Chen selected traditional Chinese dress for every Mongolian friend, expecting that they would appreciate the beauty of Chinese culture more “closely” when they put on the dress. She also



**Chen Lihua, curator of the Red Sandalwood Museum, presenting a piece of Sandalwood carving to Bagabandi**

# Delegation of Japanese Dietmen's League for Japan-China Friendship Visits China

**Cheng Haibo**

From April 28 to May 2, the delegation of the Japanese Dietmen's League for Japan-China Friendship led by its president Masahiko Komura visited Beijing and Dalian. Premier Wen Jiabao met with the delegation in Beijing on April 28. The Premier told the delegation that his successful visit

to Japan in April was the result of the concerted efforts made by the governments and people of China and Japan. He said, Sino-Japanese friendship accords with the trend of the times and the desire of the people. The visit has increased mutual understanding and trust between the leaders and people of

the two countries and given impetus to the further improvement and development of bilateral relations. An important achievement of the visit is that the two sides have decided on the contents, framework and key cooperation areas of the mutually beneficial strategic Sino-Japanese relations. The

presented a souvenir album with Madam Bagabandi's photo printed in it to the Mongolian delegation. Bagabandi said, every nation's culture should have something special to win privilege in the world. Madame Chen happily agreed with him. Harmony filled the whole museum.

At the request of Bagabandi, the CPAFFC arranged for the Mongolian delegation to visit the Forbidden City. The delegates listened carefully to the tour guide's explanation and asked more details they were interested in. At the imperial garden, the tour guide took them to a pine-cypress combining tree. Explaining that this tree symbolized "living to old age in conjugal bliss", the tour guide suggested that Mr. Bagabandi and madam take a photo together under the tree. While making jokes they pleasantly came under the tree hand in hand for the little grandson to shoot the precious photo.

Besides Beijing, the Mongolian delegation al-

so visited Sanya City of Hainan Province. Yan Zhiyao, executive vice mayor of Sanya, hosted the welcoming banquet in honour of the delegation. Bagabandi had visited Sanya before as president of Mongolia. Visiting the same place again, Bagabandi saw new development both in the city and the surrounding rural areas.

On April 4, Jing Dunquan, vice president of the CPAFFC, came to the Beijing Capital International Airport to see off the Mongolian delegation. Bagabandi said, "We are so grateful to the CPAFFC for arranging our visits, through which we felt the vigour and vitality wherever we went." Jing recalled his joyful memory of visiting Mongolia and said in earnest, "There is an old saying in China that 'a close neighbour means more than a distant relative.' We hope to see the Sino-Mongolian relations becoming closer and closer." Shaking hands with Jing, Bagabandi completed his successful friendship tour in China. □





**Premier Wen Jiabao meeting with the delegation of the Japanese Dietmen's League for Japan-China Friendship headed by its president Masahiko Komura**

next step is how to speedily implement these important consensus. A turn for the better in Sino-Japanese relations is what the people of the two countries have longed for and feel happy. It has not come about easily and should be treasured dearly. Bilateral relations will have no future if they retrogress. We

should solve the problems in bilateral relations properly in line with the principles of taking into consideration the overall situation, seeking common ground while reserving differences, and mutual benefit. The two countries should view and handle the direction of the development of their bilateral relations from a

strategic and long-term perspective.

Vice Chairman Sheng Huaren of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, and State Councillor Tang Jiaxuan met with the delegation on separate occasions. □

**State Councillor Tang Jiaxuan having a cordial conversation with the delegation**





# Government, Parliament and Foreign Ministry Secretaries General of Cape Verde Visit China

**Xu Liya**

Invited by the CPAFFC, Ivete Lopes, Eutropio da Cruz, and Severino Almeida, secretaries general of the Government, the Parliament, and the Foreign Ministry of Cape Verde, paid a goodwill visit to Beijing, Sanya and Shanghai from March 20 to 27. Abdul'ahat Abdurixit, vice chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, had a cordial meeting with them. Chen Haosu, president of the CPAFFC, Zhou Muyao, vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the Shanghai Municipal People's Congress, and Rong Liping, vice mayor of Sanya, met with them and hosted banquets in their honour. They called on Ji Peiding,

vice chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National People's Congress, and Zhai Jun, assistant foreign minister, and held talks with the Department of African Affairs of the Foreign Ministry, the Department of Foreign Aid of the Commerce Ministry and the Shanghai International Porting Group Zhendong Branch. They also inspected the tourist facilities of Sanya.

In meeting with the delegation, Vice Chairman Abdul'ahat Abdurixit spoke highly of the China-Cape Verde relations. He expressed appreciation of the Cape Verdean Government's adherence to the one-China policy and thanks for its consistent support for China in international

**Abdul'ahat Abdurixit, vice chairman of the CPPCC National Committee, meeting with the delegation**





The Cape Verdean guests visiting the Shanghai International Porting Group Zhendong Branch

affairs. He believed that under the framework of the Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries would see greater development.

The delegation held, the government of Cape Verde highly appreciates the concept of building a peaceful and harmonious world and is willing to work together with China to build ideal society. On the issue of Taiwan, the delegation reiterated again that Cape Verde has always adhered to the one-China policy, that it has not wavered

and will never waver. The three secretaries general thanked the Chinese Government for its selfless support and assistance over a long period of time, saying that the aid projects of China have played positive roles in the political, economic, cultural, social and other fields of Cape Verde and are crystalization and symbols of Cape Verde-China friendship. They pointed out that the Chinese Government has relieved Cape Verde of its matured debt and continues to provide the country with aid, for which the Cape Verdean Government is deeply grateful. This will play an important role in the country's economic transition. □

#### **(Continued from p.32)**

from Guangdong's experience in managing "villages within the cities". The delegation also had a discussion with leaders of the Guangzhou Municipal Environmental Protection Bureau and listened to their briefings on different ways of treatment of garbage such as burying, incineration, etc. Leader of the delegation Kombo spoke highly of

China's awareness, advanced technology and experience in pollution control and environmental protection and expressed the hope to cooperate with the departments concerned in this area.

The delegation went to Guangzhou's Donghu Neighbourhood Office to learn about its work of providing various services for the residents. The

members of the delegation praised the grass-roots organization for providing all kinds of services including legal consultation, business management and organization of community activities. When visiting a square in the vicinity, Minister Kombo, with great interest, played ping pong with the people there who were doing morning exercise. □

# Delegation of Kenyan Ministry of Local Government In China

**Wu Jiong**

At the invitation of the CPAFFC, the delegation of the Kenyan Ministry of Local Government headed by its minister Musikari N. Kombo paid a friendly visit to Beijing and Guangdong from March 19 to 25.

Abdul'ahat Abdurixit, vice chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and president of the Chinese-African People's Friendship Association, Liu Shijin, deputy director of the Development Research Centre of the State Council, Lin Musheng, deputy governor of Guangdong, met with the delegation. CPAFFC President Chen Haosu and Vice President Wang Yunze met with and entertained the delegation. The delegation made visits to the Development Research Centre of the State Council, the Bei-

jing International Institute for Urban Development, the Guangdong Provincial Department of Construction and the Guangzhou Municipal Environmental Protection Bureau.

## **China-Kenya Friendship Praised**

Minister Kombo said many times at meetings and talks, the friendly contact between Kenya and China has a long history. As early as 600 years ago, Chinese navigator Zheng He and his fleet had been to Kenya, reaching the present day city Malindi. Now sunken boats of those days can be found in the nearby sea. The minister viewed his visit to China as a friend-making trip. He hoped to get to know more Chinese friends and publicize Kenya so that more Chinese would go to Kenya for sight-seeing and making invest-

ment. At the same time he would take home with him the hospitality and friendship of the Chinese people and let Kenya-China friendship be passed on generation after generation.

Minister Kombo thanked the Chinese Government and people for the efforts they have made to help Kenya with its development. He mentioned time and again that it is the result of China's assistance that Kenya has got its state stadium and the highway linking Nairobi and Mombasa.

## **Learning Experience in Urban Development and Environmen- tal Protection**

On the delegation were officials from Kenya's Ministry of Local Government, mayors and secretaries general of the governments of Webuye and other cities. They were eager to know about urban planning and environmental protection in China and learn relevant experience. Through their visits to the Development Research Centre of the State Council and the Beijing International Institute for Urban Development, they learned China's policies for regional economic development, especially the relevant measures for solving problems



**CPPCC National Committee Vice Chairman Abdul'ahat Abdurixit meeting with the delegation of Kenyan Ministry of Local Government**

arising in the process of urbanization. Minister Kombo said that China's development, especially urban development is planned and carried out step by step and that this scientific and serious attitude is worth learning by Kenya.

While in Guangdong, the delegation called on the Provin-

cial Department of Construction, where they listened to the introduction of the policies on urban planning, environmental protection, waste and polluted water treatment, housing and house renting, etc. They showed special interest in the policies on housing and house renting. They inquired about the relations

among the builders, the users and the owners of houses as well as funds for the construction. They pointed out that at present in Kenya, large numbers of poor people live in slums in the cities, which is difficult for management and affects peace and order, and that they benefited a lot  
**(Continued on p.30)**



**CPAFFC President Chen Haosu warmly welcoming Kenyan Minister of Local Government M. N. Kombo**



# CPAFFC President Chen Haosu Attends UCLG-ASPAC Council Meeting

**Zhang Ruoning**

**A** CPAFFC delegation headed by its president Chen Haosu attended the meetings of the Executive Bureau and the Council of United Cities and Local Governments-Asia Pacific Regional Section (UCLG-ASPAC) and the Annual Regional Training Forum with the themes of “Investment Climate: Economic Development and Employment Growth; City Cleanliness: Environmental Sustainability” in Batam, Indonesia from April 14 to 17. About 200 local government representatives from Indonesia and other countries and regions in the Asia Pacific region participated in the meeting. Chen Haosu who is also president of UCLG-ASPAC made an opening speech at the Annual Training Forum, in which he called on UCLG-ASPAC members to join the efforts to make

the Second UCLG World Congress that would be held in Jeju, ROK in October this year a grand gathering of solidarity of local governments the world over and to show the achievement of unity and cooperation of the Asia Pacific region. At the Annual Training Forum, Liu Yang, deputy director of the Foreign Affairs Office of the Beijing Municipal Government, spoke on the theme of “Investment Climate”. He gave an account of the efforts made and results achieved by Beijing in creating a favourable investment environment. Members of the next UCLG World Council and World Executive Bureau were elected at the meeting. Beijing was elected member of the World Council and the Executive Bureau. □

From left: UCLG ASPAC Secretary General Peter Woods, Indonesian Municipal Council Association President Soerya Respartiono, CPAFFC President Chen Haosu, Governor of Indonesia's Riau Province Ismeth Abdullah and others at the UCLG-ASPAC Council Meeting





# Delegation of Zimbabwean Ministry of Local Government Visits China

**Wang Kai**

**D**r. I. M. C. Chombo, minister of local government, public works and urban development of Zimbabwe, visited Beijing, Wuxi and Shanghai as the head of a delegation from March 17 to 24 at the invitation of the CPAFFC.

The Ministry of Local Government of Zimbabwe oversees the construction and maintenance of municipal infrastructural facilities, housing and other public works and deals with emergencies and incidents. Invited by the Ministry, CPAFFC Vice President Wang Yunze paid a visit to Zimbabwe in May 2006. Minister Chombo's visit to China was reciprocal. The visit aimed at learning China's experience in urban construction and in setting up emergency management mechanism. The delegation went to Wuxi to study the coaches exported to Zimbabwe by the China First Automobile Group Corporation (FAW), and to sign

follow-up agreements.

Abdul'ahat Abdurixit, vice chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and president of the Chinese-African People's Friendship Association, met with the delegation. CPAFFC President Chen Haosu and Vice President Wang Yunze met with the delegation and hosted a banquet in its honour.

The delegation paid a visit to the emergency management office under the State Council and had ample discussions on how to handle unexpected incidents and crises. In Beijing, they visited the October First School, the coach plant under China North Industries Corporation, the Fangzhuang Community Hospital of Fengtai District, the Dongsì Community Olympic Sports and Culture Centre, the Institute of Geographic Sci-

**Abdul'ahat Abdurixit, vice chairman of the CPPCC National Committee, meeting with the Zimbabwean guests**



# CPAFFC Vice President Li Xiaolin and Her Party Visit New Zealand, the Cook Islands and Samoa

**Liu Yanling**

Invited by Sister Cities New Zealand (SCNZ), New Zealand China Friendship Society (NZCFS), and the governments of the Cook Islands and Samoa, a CPAFFC delegation led by its vice president Li Xiaolin visited the above three countries from April 21 to May 1, during which it attended the 2007 Sister Cities New Zealand Conference held in Te Anau and the commemoration of the 110th anniversary of the birth of Rewi Alley co-sponsored by the

Christchurch City Government and the NZCFS Christchurch Branch in New Zealand.

## **2007 Sister Cities New Zealand Conference**

2007 Sister Cities New Zealand Conference with the theme of “For all of us and the generations that follow” aimed at promoting exchanges among the youth of all countries to enhance understanding and friendship through the channel of friendship cities. CPAFFC Vice

President Li Xiaolin and her party and a delegation of local government officials from Beijing Municipality and Guizhou, Anhui, Liaoning and Jiangsu provinces organized and sent by the CPAFFC attended the conference. Vice President Li Xiaolin was invited to speak at the conference. She briefed the participants on the development of Chinese friendship cities. Since 1973 Chinese cities began exchanges with cities in other countries, China has established

ence and Natural Resources under the Chinese Academy of Sciences. In Wuxi, they visited the FAW Bus and Coach (Wuxi) Co., Ltd., the Wuxi Diesel Engine Works, a medium-sized residential quarters and a waste water treatment plant. These visits enabled the members of the delegation to have a general knowledge of the construction of public works and infrastructural facilities, education, culture and recreation in China. Leader of the delegation Chombo said that he would take China’s experience back home and let it contribute to the revitalization of Zimbabwean economy.

When meeting with Vice Chairman Abdurixit, Minister Chombo said that Zimbabwe is very happy to see China’s rise. Developed China can provide the Third World countries with more as-

sistance. China has given Zimbabwe selfless support and assistance in its struggle for independence. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations, the two countries have enjoyed stable and friendly relations; their leaders have exchanged visits many times and their economic and trade contacts have increased day by day. The two countries have always cooperated closely in the United Nations and other international organizations, standing side by side like brothers. Faced with sanctions imposed by western countries, President Mugabe leads the Zimbabwean people to persist in the struggle and stick to its own road of development. On behalf of the Zimbabwean Government, Chombo thanked China for its support in the economic, political and other fields over the years. □



**CPAFFC Vice President Li Xiaolin speaking at the 2007 Sister Cities New Zealand Conference**

friendship-city (province, state) relations with 335 province (states) and 1,057 cities in 119 countries, of which Guilin City and Hastings of New Zealand twinned friendship-city ties in 1981, the first pair between the two countries. Up to now, 22 pairs of friendship cities have been twinned between China

and New Zealand. The vice president also emphasized the significance of youth exchanges between the two countries. SC-NZ President Peter Tennent said in his speech that more and more New Zealand cities showed interest in establishing friendship-city relations with Chinese cities and hoped to use

this opportunity to strengthen contacts in the cultural, educational, economic, trade and other fields, which would play a positive role in furthering the friendly relations between the two countries.

### **Reception in Commemoration of 110th Anniversary of Rewi Alley's Birth**

This year sees the 110th anniversary of the birth of New Zealand friend Rewi Alley. CPAFFC Vice President Li Xiaolin and her party attended

**CPAFFC Vice President Li Xiaolin with friends of the New Zealand China Friendship Society**



**Terepai Maoate, deputy prime minister of the Cook Islands meeting with CPAFFC Vice President Li Xiaolin**

the reception in commemoration of the anniversary jointly held by the NZCFS and Garry Moore, mayor of Christchurch City, birth place of Rewi Alley. Those present included NZCFS President Margaret Cooper, councillors of Christchurch, the principal of Rewi Alley Chinese School, members of the NZCFS Christchurch Branch, and recipients of Rewi Alley scholarship. In his speech Mayor Moore extended welcome to Li Xiaolin and her party on behalf of Alley's home town. He said, he had just returned from a visit to China. Christchurch's friendly relations with China started by Rewi Alley 80 years ago. What he is doing now is to follow the footsteps of Rewi Alley. Christchurch has carried out many exchanges with Lanzhou and Wuhan, its friendship cities in China and hopes to make joint efforts with them to further exchanges at various levels. Vice President Li Xiaolin made a speech upon invitation. She said, Rewi Alley was an old friend of the Chinese people. The CPAFFC would, in September this year, hold activities to commemorate the 110th an-

niversary of the birth of Rewi Alley, the 80th anniversary of his arrival in China and

the 20th anniversary of his passing away. She expressed the hope that China and New Zealand would carry out more exchanges and cooperation in the political, economic and trade, cultural and other fields. NZCFS President Cooper said in her speech that she hoped more New Zealanders would know about Rewi Alley and like him join the rank for promoting friendship between the people of New Zealand and China.

**In the Cook Islands and Samoa**

The 10th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and the Cook Islands falls in 2007. The government of the Cook Islands attached great importance to the delegation's visit. Deputy Prime Minister Terepai Maoate met with the delegation in his office. On the question of Taiwan, he



said, the Cook Islands has always adhered to the one-China principle and will not change this stance in the future. He pointed out, the friendly relations between the Cook Islands and China did not start on the date of the establishment of diplomatic relations 10 years ago, but went back more than 40 years ago. He thanked the Chinese Government for providing selfless assistance. In their meetings with the delegation, the foreign minister and the agricultural minister of the Cook Islands also stressed the above stance.

In Samoa, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Tolofuaivalelei Falemoe Leiatua had a luncheon with Vice President Li Xiaolin. The speaker said that Samoa-China relations are stable and that Samoa will not change its stance on the Taiwan question. □



# Centenary of Birth of Chinese People's Old Friend I.V. Arhipov Commemorated

**Niu Yingli, Kang Jingyuan**

**O**n April 24, 2007, the CPAFFC and the China-Russia Friendship Association (CRFA) jointly held a meeting in commemoration of the centenary of the birth of I.V. Arhipov, an old friend of the Chinese people, former first vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and former honorary president of the Russia-China Friendship Association (RCFA). Chen Haosu, president of the CPAFFC and the CRFA, Bo Xilai, minister of commerce, Yan Mingfu, honorary president of the China Charity Federation, Liu Shu, executive vice president of the CRFA, Zhu Jiamu, vice president of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and the CRFA, and representatives of various circles in Beijing attended the commemorative meeting. Igor V. Morgulov, minister counsellor of the Russian Embassy in China, Sergey S. Tsyplakov, Russian trade representative in China, as well as visiting Russian guests G. V. Kulikova, vice president of the RCFA, and A.M. Matveenko, president of the Moscow Aviation Institute and vice president of the RCFA, were also invited to the meeting.

I.V. Arhipov was born on May 1, 1907. In the 1950s he, as chief adviser to the Government Administration Council of China and chief of the Soviet Union's aid-China expert group, worked in China for 8 years and made great contributions to China's first Five-Year Plan. In 1958 the Chi-



**Premier Zhou Enlai presented a certificate of gratitude to I. V. Arhipov in 1958**

nese government in the name of Premier Zhou Enlai conferred upon him the certificate of gratitude and the China-USSR Friendship Medal. After returning home in 1958, he successively served as first vice chairman of the State Committee for



**Chen Yun met with I. V. Arhipov on October 1, 1989**



Foreign Economic Relations of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and first vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR. In 1984 he led a delegation of the USSR government to visit China, actively promoting cooperation between China and the USSR in the fields of economy, trade, science and technology and the process of normalization of relations between the two countries. After he left his post in 1986, he was elected first vice president of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Association. In 1992 he served as honorary

president of the RCFA. He passed away of illness in February 1998.

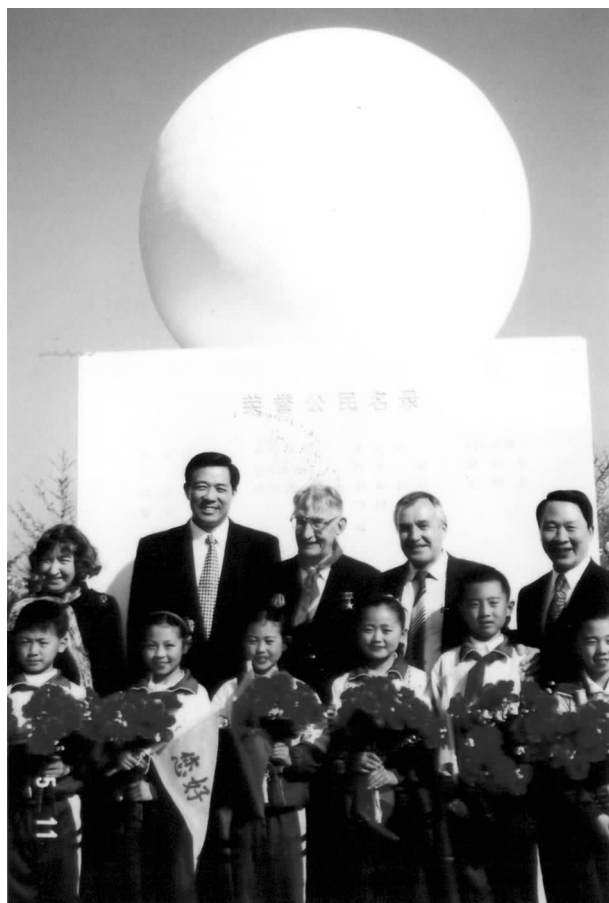
Chen Haosu briefed with deep feeling about Arhipov's extraordinary life, and spoke highly of his outstanding contributions to China's socialist construction and the friendship between Russia and China. Chen said, Arhipov and other Soviet experts had worked hard for the 156 projects constructed with the aid from the Soviet Union in the 1950s. After he was elected a leader of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Association, he was invited

**On May 1, 1996, the CPAFFC conferred on I. V. Arhipov the title of Friendship Ambassador**



by the CPAFFC to visit China many times. In 1989 he led a delegation to attend the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. Deng Xiaoping, Chen Yun, Li Xiannian, Jiang Zemin, Li Peng, Bo Yibo and Wan Li met with him cordially. On May 1, 1996, the CPAFFC and CRFA held a grand ceremony at the Diaoyutai State Guest House to confer upon him the title of Friendship Ambassador and celebrate his 89th birthday. In May 1997, on the occasion of his 90th birthday, the CPAFFC presented him and his family with the book *The Story of Arhipov* edited by CPAFFC President Chen Haosu and written by Gao Meng to express the Chinese people's sincere wish to him. On that occasion, Arhipov said with emotion, "China is my second home. Half of my heart is left in China." During their visits to Russia, Chen Haosu and other leaders of the CRFA paid special visits to Arhipov and his wife many times. Chen said, Arhipov and his wife regarded the Chinese friends as their own family members. The Chinese comrades who had been to their home would never forget their sincere friendship. Comrade Arhipov had worked to the last minute of his life for the cause of friendship between the Russian and Chinese people. His spirit has inspired us to work for this sacred cause from generation to generation.

In his speech, Bo Xilai, minister of commerce, said, China's first large-sized high-level economic and trade cooperation with other countries after the founding of new China began from the 156 Soviet-aided projects, which started the process of industrialization in China's modern history. Arhipov as the chief economic adviser to the Chinese government had devoted all his enthusiasm and energy to it. Bo Xilai talked about how his father Bo Yibo and other Chinese leaders



**Bo Xilai, mayor of Dalian, conferred the title of Honorary Citizen on I.V. Arhipov in May 1996**

shared weal and woe and forged profound friendship with Arhipov in the exciting 1950s. He recalled his two meetings with Arhipov when he served as mayor of Dalian and the conferment of the title of Honorary Citizen of Dalian upon Arhipov in May 1996. Up till now Minister Bo still remembers how the 90-year-old man passionately sang the song *Sailing to a Distant Place*. The minister extended his sincere thanks to CPAFFC President Chen Haosu for holding such an emotional commemoration, fully showing that the Chinese people do not forget old friends.

Comrade Yan Mingfu cordially called Arhipov "Ah Lao" (revered Arhipov). He got acquainted with Arhipov in 1956 and forged profound friendship with him in later years. Yan

quoted what Shi Zhe said of Arhipov at that time: "A man in the prime of life who is energetic, very talented, active and upright and has great attainments and experience in economic construction as well as a strong sense of responsibility and great ability in administration and organization." Yan said, Arhipov tried his best to ensure that all the Soviet experts working in China were persons of real learning with rich practical experience. In work he fully respected Chinese comrades and asked other Soviet experts to respect and treat their Chinese colleagues equally and never impose their opinions on the Chinese side. In order to ensure the smooth going of the Soviet-aided projects, he together with the Chinese and other Soviet experts traveled all over China and inspected many factories, mines and various major projects in order to find out personally how these works were going on and gave timely concrete instructions. Arhipov's strong sense of responsibility for work and selfless dedication won the Chinese people's trust.

Comrade Zhu Jiamu worked as Comrade Chen Yun's secretary in the 1980s. He witnessed the touching scene when Chen Yun, Bo Yibo and Yao Yilin met with Arhipov in Zhongnanhai, Beijing on December 24, 1984. Zhu said, the four old men with tears in their eyes hugged each other tightly for many minutes. 30 years had passed since they parted in the late 1950s. Both sides had experienced too many difficulties and hardships, and all sorts of feelings welled up in their hearts. During his visit to China in 1991 Arhipov asked to see Comrade Chen Yun who was in Shanghai for recuperation and seldom received visitors because of his poor health. But, when he learnt that Arhipov wanted to see him, he immediately agreed. This was the last meeting of the two old men. Zhu Jiamu said, Arhipov in his prime made outstanding contributions to the friendship be-

tween the Soviet and Chinese people. In his old age he made special contributions to the restoration of the traditional friendship between the people of the two countries. It can be said that he dedicated all his life to the Soviet-Chinese and Russian-Chinese friendship.

Russian Trade Representative Sergey S. Tsyplakov said, the series of agreements signed between the Soviet Union and China in 1984 when the Soviet Union Government delegation led by Arhipov visited China have served for a good start of economic and trade cooperation between the two countries in the 1980s. Now Russia-China economic and trade cooperation maintains a good momentum of development and has entered a new historical stage. The agreements signed at that time still have practical significance nowadays. The cooperation between Russia and China in large industrial projects including the nuclear power station and the thermal-power plant embodies contributions made by Arhipov.

G. V. Kulikova, first vice president of the RCFA, told the audience vividly how Arhipov wholeheartedly threw himself into the cause of consolidating and developing Russia-China friendship after he took the post of first vice president of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Association in 1986. She said, Arhipov's greatest wish was that the friendship between the two great countries Russia and China and between the two peoples could last for generations, and it is also our common aspiration. The RCFA and the CRFA will continue to work hand in hand to make the friendship between Russia and China well established and vigorously develop and bear richer fruits. She said that after returning home she would tell Arhipov's family about this touching commemorative meeting, and convey to them the Chinese people's deep feelings for their old friend. □

# CPAFFC Awards Mary Eisenhower Title of Friendship Ambassador

Liu Yi

On April 16, the CPAFFC held a ceremony awarding Mary Eisenhower, president and CEO of People to People International (PTPI) of the U.S., the title of Friendship Ambassador at the auditorium of the CPAFFC. More than 70 members of the PTPI delegation were present at the ceremony.

Mary Eisenhower is the granddaughter of former US president Dwight Eisenhower. In January 2000, Mary officially took the office of president and CEO of PTPI and worked for promoting understanding

and friendship among peoples of the world. She has visited over 40 countries and helped provide cultural and humanitarian aid to the developing countries. She attaches great importance to nongovernmental exchanges between Chinese and American people, especially between the young people. Since the 1990s, PTPI has organized nearly ten thousand young people to visit China. Moreover, she actively supports China's efforts in education, health and children's welfare by making donations to the Breast Cancer Awareness Pro-

ject initiated by the CPAFFC and continuously contributing money and things to the orphanages and schools in Beijing, Shanghai, Guizhou Province and other places.

On behalf of the CPAFFC, Vice President Li Xiaolin presented the certificate and medal of Friendship Ambassador to Mary Eisenhower. In her speech, Vice President Li said, President Mary Eisenhower and PTPI not only actively supported China's humanitarian cause, but also devoted herself to spreading the seeds of friendship and peace into the hearts of young people all over the world.



CPAFFC Vice President Li Xiaolin presenting the certificate of Friendship Ambassador to Mary Eisenhower



The preparatory meeting for the founding of the Central American Federation of Friendship with China (CAFFC) was held in the capital of Nicaragua from March 23 to 24. The meeting was convened to implement the Declaration of the Forum on

China-Central America People-to-People Friendship held in Mexico last year. After two days of discussions and deliberations, the Central American Federation of Friendship with China was inaugurated. Juan Manuel de Jesus Flores Cornejo, president of the Salvadorian Association of Friendship with the People's Republic of China (SAFPRC), was elected president. The headquarters of the Federation is in Panama City, capital of Panama. Wang Hongqiang, deputy director general of the Department of American and Oceanian Affairs of the CPAFFC and secretary general of the China-Latin America Friendship Association who was invited to attend the meeting read out the letter of congratulations from CPAFFC Vice President Li Xiaolin, in which the Vice President expressed CPAFFC's willingness to cooperate with the CAFFC to deepen the friendship between the people of China and Central America and to make efforts to forge friendship and realize the normal-

Her contributions to the cause of people's friendship help people deeply realize that mutual respect and understanding are vitally important to the future of the world and the whole humanity.

On receiving the title of Friendship Ambassador, Mary Eisenhower said with emotion that this is the most valuable and

## Central American Federation of Friendship with China Founded

**Wang Hongqiang**

ization of relations between China and Central American countries.

On the morning of March 23, the opening ceremony of the meeting was held at the Hotel Best Western Las Mercedes, Managua. The Chinese national flag was hung on the wall of the meeting hall and the Chinese national anthem was played. Present at the opening ceremony were Bayardo Arce Castano, adviser to the Nicaraguan President and president of the Nicaraguan Association of Friendship with the People's Republic of China and her People (PRO-NICACHINA for short), Dr. Jose Pasos, vice president of the PRO-NICACHINA and comptroller general of the Republic of Nicaragua, Alberto Guevera Obregon, Nicaraguan finance and public credit minister, Liana Lacayo, Nicaraguan development, industry and commerce vice minister, Juan Manuel de Jesus Flores Cornejo, president of Salvadorian Association of Friendship with the People's Republic of China, Ajax S.

meaningful title she has ever received. Both the U.S. and China are important countries in the world, therefore, the friendship and cooperation between the two people will not only benefit both countries' own development, but also mean a great deal to world peace, stability and prosperity. She pledged to do her best to enhance the under-

standing and friendship between the Chinese and American people, especially the younger generation, so as to make more contributions to the lasting friendship between the two people.

The ceremony ended in the beautiful melody of *Edelweiss*, Mary's favourite song, and the whole place was filled with a happy and friendly atmosphere.□





SAFPRC President Juan Manuel de Jesus Flores Cornejo (L. 1), CPAFFC deputy director general Wang Hongqiang (L.2), Adviser to the Nicaraguan President Bayardo Arce Castano (L.3) and others at the opening ceremony

Delgado Q, secretary of the PRO-NICACHINA, and representatives from the friendship-with-China organizations of Honduras, Costa Rica, Panama and the South American country Paraguay. Deputy Director General Wang Hongqiang attended the opening ceremony.

Bayardo Arce Castano, adviser to the Nicaraguan President and PRO-NICACHINA president, spoke at the opening ceremony. He said, Nicaragua is far away from China. There is a lack of understanding between the two peoples. The founding of the CAFFC will provide a mechanism for communication. He continued, Nicaragua established diplomatic relations with China in 1985 during the period between 1979 and 1990 when the Sandinista National Liberation Front was in power. Later, the Sandinista National Liberation Front lost in the general election and the succeeding government severed diplomatic relations with China. In the 16 years that followed, Nicaragua missed the opportunity to share China's valuable experience in its political, economic and social development. A few months ago, the Sandinista National Liberation Front won the mandate to govern the country again. He expressed the hope that China would help Nicaragua with its experience in the political, economic, cultural and

People's Republic of China as the sole legitimate government of China.

Deputy Director General Wang Hongqiang gave a brief account of China's economic development in the last two years and China's economic and trade relations with Latin America, especially the Central American region at the opening ceremony. He emphasized that the lack of diplomatic relations between Central American countries and China has gravely hindered the development of bilateral relations. He expressed gratitude to the friendship-with-China organizations in Central American countries for their efforts to increase mutual understanding and friendship between the peoples so as to realize the normalization of relations between their respective countries and China.

Before the meeting was concluded, a joint statement was adopted, which says that all the member organizations of the CAFFC hold that the People's Republic of China is the sole legitimate government representing China and that Taiwan is an inalienable part of the Chinese territory. They will work hard to promote the establishment of diplomatic relations and the development of trade and other relations between Central American countries and China. □

# China Henan Cultural and Art Troupe's Performance Tour of Venezuela and Brazil

**Zhao Bingbing**

Invited by the Venezuelan National Council of Culture and the Brazil Chinese Cultural Exchange Association, a 69-member cultural and art troupe from Henan Province, China gave three performances with a total audience of over 20,000 people in Venezuela and Brazil from February 25 to March 8.

On the evening of February 27, the premiere was staged in Valencia, capital of Carabobo State, Venezuela. The variety of items such as Henan Opera, Shaanxi Opera, the face changing in Sichuan Opera, martial arts, etc. the troupe put on intoxicated the audience who marveled at the exquisite skills of the performers. At the end of the performance, Governor Luis Felipe Acosta Carlez and Chinese ambassador to Venezuela Ju Yijie went up the stage to congratulate the performers, bringing the joyous atmosphere to a climax.

The second performance was given in Caracas, capital of Venezuela on the evening of



**The troupe performing a Chinese local opera**

March 1. Venezuelan Vice Foreign Minister Hely Vladimir Villegas Poljak accompanied by Ambassador Ju Yijie watched the performance and made an impromptu speech. The vice minister enthusiastically called on the audience to stand up to salute the artists from "brother China". When the performance ended, there was a long standing ovation. Many from the audience came up to the performers to have a picture taken with them or asking for their autographs.

The third performance was put on in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Yan Xiaomin, Chinese consul general in Rio de Janeiro, as well as Italian, Greek and Russian diplomats and representatives of the government of Rio de Janeiro State, among more than 3,000 people, watched the performance. It happened to be the Chinese Lantern Festival that day. The art troupe brought the best wishes to the overseas Chinese and Chinese compatriots in Brazil with their beautiful Chinese operas and the consummate Shaolin martial arts.

Because of the great distance between China and South America, the Henan Cultural

# A Ninety-Year-Old American Lady Eunice Moe Brock

——I Am a Happy Ambassador of Friendship  
Between the American and Chinese People

**Wang Zengqin**

**O**n the evening of January 18, 2007, the prize-awarding party “True Love 2006—Ten True Touching Stories Chosen Through Public Appraisal in China in 2006” jointly sponsored by the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League of China, the All-China Women’s Federation and the China Charity Federation was held in Beijing, and at the same time “True Love 2006—Personages in the Ten True Touching Sto-

ries in China in 2006” were announced, among whom there was a ninety-year-old American lady named Eunice Moe Brock. Seven days before, this American old lady just won the title of “Ten People Moving Shandong, 2006”.

Why does an old lady from a faraway country want to settle down in China in the evening of her life? Why are millions of the Chinese people moved by her deeds? What an extraordinary legend is there in this old lady?

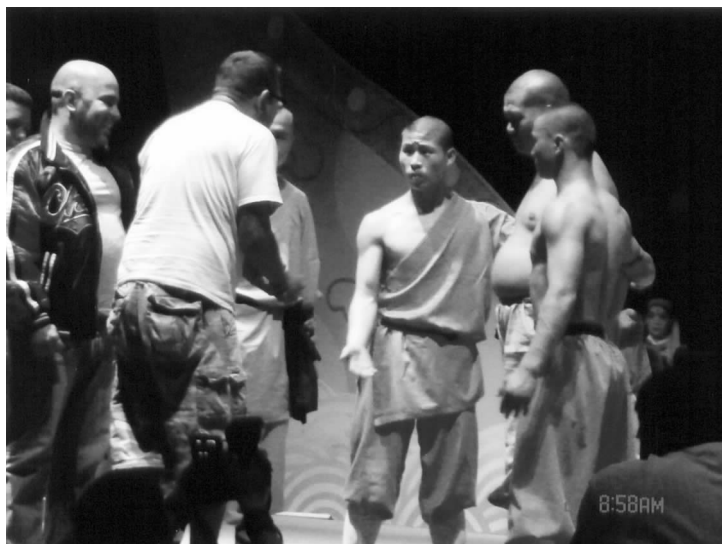
## I

In 1902, an American couple as Christian mis-

and Art Troupe is one of the few large-scale art troupes China has ever sent to the region. The first performance in Valencia had an audience of more than 10,000 people and was broadcast live by Venezolana de Television (channel 8). It was estimated

that some ten million people in the country watched the performance on TV. Vice Foreign Minister Hely Vladimir Villegas Poljak who watched the performance in Caracas said in his speech: “Thank you for bringing such an excellent programme to

the Venezuelan people, which enabled us to have a deeper understanding of the Chinese culture and China’s development. In the name of President Hugo Chaves and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and in the name of the whole people, I express to you my gratitude.” □



**Monks of the Shaolin Temple exchanging views with Venezuelan audience**

sionaries came to China. On August 11, 1917, their fourth child Eunice was born in Qinhuangdao, China. They also gave her a Chinese name Mu Lin'ai. Not long after, the whole family moved to Shandong and set up a church in Liaocheng.

Eunice lived in Liaocheng for fully 13 years, growing from a baby into a graceful young girl. In her memory, the deepest impressions left on her by the old China were chaos caused by wars, poverty, pestilence and misery. "How good it would be if I could help these miserable people and let them live a happy life when I grow up!" This became Eunice's greatest wish in her childhood.

In Liaocheng Eunice had a playmate named Xiao Lin who was two years older than Eunice and very handsome. At that time many Chinese children liked to play with blonde-haired and blue-eyed Eunice, and Xiao Lin was her "pal" particularly. The two often played games together. Xiao Lin's parents did not allow him to play with this foreign girl for fear of involving in trouble. Xiao Lin then tried to find all kinds of excuses to play together with Eunice without his parents' knowing and often brought her some delicious local specialties. As she grew up, the seed of love gradually sprouted in her heart.

At the end of 1930, Eunice's parents finished their mission in China and would go back to the United States. Eunice was unwilling to part from her friends, particularly from Xiao Lin. But what could she do? On the day of her departure, Xiao Lin and her other friends accompanied her league after league before parting. They all cried and Eunice cried too. She comforted Xiao Lin and others, saying: "I will never forget everything here. I will come back. I mean what I say."

After returning to the United States, Eunice's family lived in the City of San Luis Obispo, Cali-



**Eunice Moe Brock**

fornia. After she got a master's degree in nursing in 1941, Eunice applied to the government for going to China to support its War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression as well as to look for Xiao Lin and her other friends. It was a pity that her application was turned down by the government and her parents also strongly opposed it. She had to give up her plan. In the following year she got acquainted with her alumnus Edwin and they fell in love. When Edwin proposed to her, Eunice told him that she wanted to settle down in China after their marriage. Edwin felt surprised at her idea and flatly rejected it. Some time later after they parted, Eunice could not control her longing for Edwin and took the initiative to reconcile with him. The two got married on the condition that she did not insist on living in China after marriage.

Though she lived a quiet and happy life in the United States, in her heart she was still sentimentally attached to China where she had spent her

childhood and her longing and affection for China never died out. In the 1960s she told her husband again that she wanted to work in China. Considering that at that time the United States and China had not yet established diplomatic relations and bilateral relations were tense, Edwin did not agree.

After President Nixon visited China in the early 1970s, US-China relations were improving. Eunice thought that the time to go to China was ripe, so she discussed it with Edwin again. Edwin said “China is too poor”, and still did not agree.

Since then, almost every day Eunice paid attention to the appearance of news about China on TV, earnestly hoping that China would become strong and prosperous soon. At the end of the 1970s China began its reform and opening up. Its changes with each passing day often made her very excited.

In March 1992, Eunice, who was already 75 years old, wrote a letter to the Liaocheng Municipal Government, asking the local government to help her to look for Xiao Lin and her other childhood playmates. The Liaocheng Municipal Government attached great importance to it, and not long after they found five of her childhood playmates. Most of them were already more than seventy years old. Unfortunately, Xiao Lin passed away accidentally during the “cultural revolution”. But his children still live in Liaocheng and have a happy life.

She felt very sad when learning that her best childhood playmate died young, and regretted that she had not been able to come to China earlier, thinking that though she could not settle down in China, it would have been a great comfort to her playmates if she had met them personally.

In November 1992, Eunice decided to travel to China with her husband. Edwin knew that China retained his wife’s lifetime affection; he happily

accompanied her to China, and said humorously that he accompanied his wife to go back to her “parents’ home”. In Liaocheng Eunice visited the places where she had lived in her childhood and met some of her childhood friends whom she had missed day and night. She and her friends recalled the happy time in their childhood and talked about how they longed to see each other in these years. When they chatted about something exciting, they would laugh, and sometimes sob. Eunice and her husband paid a visit to Xiao Lin’s four children. The Lin family was very warm to their father’s American childhood pal, and entertained the couple with the most delicious dishes they could prepare at home. During the 60 days in China, Eunice experienced this country’s earthshaking changes, which deepened her understanding about China and strengthened her determination to settle down in China if a chance comes in the future.

After her loving husband passed away on August 24, 1998, Eunice moved to stay in an apartment for the old people in New York, feeling very lonely. Though she had spent most of her life in the United States, she missed those simple and kind-hearted people she had met in faraway China. This yearning was growing day by day, finally spurring her to make up her mind: to go to China and live there.

Regardless of her children’s opposition to her decision of going to live in China, Eunice sold all her properties including 40 acres of forest, her villa, garden and car and traveled alone across the ocean and arrived in China on November 15, 1999. She settled down in Liumiao Village, Yanggu County, Liaocheng City, Shandong Province where she had spent her childhood, and became a new villager of Liumiao Village, deciding to live out a beautiful autumn of her life there.

**(To be continued in the next issue)**