



Chapter 1

Discipline Inspection and Supervision Theoretical Dynamics

**Qiushi published an important article of General Secretary Xi Jinping
“Building China's Strength and Advancing Its Rejuvenation Through
Modernization Drive”¹ (2025.05.16)**

With the objective of promoting senior officials' study and application of the Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era and the guiding principles of the 20th CPC National Congress, The central Party leadership has decided to convene this study session for members and alternate members of the newly elected CPC Central Committee and principal officials at the provincial and ministerial level . This will motivate all Party members and the people nationwide to align the thinking with the Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era and the guiding principles of the 20th CPC National Congress and pool the strength to achieve the goals and tasks set forth by the congress.

These guiding principles encompass profound theoretical richness and practical significance. Detailed explanations have been provided on multiple occasions, and requirements for their study and implementation have been formally issued. In this context, the systematic elaboration and comprehensive exposition of the theory of Chinese modernization constitute a landmark innovation of the National Congress and represent the latest advancement in the development of scientific socialism. The following sections outline several perspectives on comprehending and advancing Chinese modernization.

On February 7, 2023, a seminar for newly appointed members and alternate members of the Central Committee and leading provincial and ministerial-level officials to study and implement Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era and the spirit of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China began at the Central Party School (National Academy of Governance). Xi Jinping, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, President of the People's Republic of China, and Chairman of the Central Military Commission, delivered an important speech at the opening ceremony.

I. The significant result of the enduring efforts of the Chinese people under CPC leadership

The Chinese nation boasts a civilization dating back more than 5,000 years, which long stood at the forefront of the world. However, the policy of national seclusion, which began in the later stages of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), is resulted in China missing out on the opportunities presented by the Industrial Revolution and the subsequent wave of scientific and technological revolution. This, coupled with internal strife and the impact of Western modernization, led to China's decline. The Opium War of 1840 was the

1. English Edition of Qiushi Journal, 2025-05-16.

tipping point for the country, reducing it to a semi-colonial and semi-feudal society and inflicting dreadful suffering on the people.

To relieve their plight and escape the oppression and manipulation they faced, the Chinese people rose up in resistance. Noble-minded patriots explored various approaches to national rejuvenation. The Self-Strengthening Movement of the late Qing dynasty represented an initial attempt to “learn from the foreigners approaches to surpass them,” focusing on technological and military modernization. The 1911 Revolution, led by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, advanced the revolutionary objective of establishing a bourgeois republic and promoting industrial modernization. Despite their historical significance, these successive movements ultimately proved insufficient to fulfill the comprehensive modernization imperative. This historical mandate subsequently devolved upon the Communist Party of China, which has since assumed responsibility for advancing China's modernization process.

However, achieving modernization within a semi-colonial and semi-feudal society proved an impossible task. During the New Democratic Revolution (1919-1949), our Party united the people and led them in ferocious battles fought with unyielding determination. Through the Northern Expedition (1926-1928), the Agrarian Revolutionary War (1927-1937), the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression (1931-1945), and the War of Liberation (1946-1950), we successfully toppled the three mountains of imperialism, feudalism, and bureaucrat-

capitalism, and established the People's Republic of China (PRC) with the people as the masters. This triumph secured our nation's independence and liberated our people, creating the essential social conditions for China's drive for modernization.

Following the founding of the PRC in 1949, our Party continued to lead the people in carrying out socialist revolution—dismantling the feudal system that had persisted for thousands of years and establishing socialism as the country's basic system. This transformation represented the most comprehensive and profound social change in Chinese history, and laid the fundamental political and institutional foundations for China's drive for modernization. During this period, China had fallen significantly behind the global mainstream, to the extent that it was unable to independently manufacture essential household commodities, and the population became heavily reliant on imported supplies such as kerosene, matches, and nails.

To remedy this problem as quickly as possible, our Party explored all possible paths, setting the goal of building China into a great socialist country with modern agriculture, industry, national defense, and science and technology. Through the implementation of multiple five-year plans, we established an independent and relatively complete industrial system and economic system, and achieved significant breakthroughs in cutting-edge defense technology, exemplified by the development of China's first atomic bomb, missile, and man-made satellite. The

Communist Party of China's pioneering theoretical innovations and the historic achievements in socialist revolution and construction laid the foundation for China's modernization drive, providing crucial theoretical guidance, practical experience, and material foundations.

As the country entered the new period of reform and opening up and socialist modernization, our Party made the historic decision to shift its own and the nation's focus to economic development and reform and opening up, starting a new Long March toward modernization. But how could we narrow the yawning gaps in economic performance and science and technology between China and the developed Western nations? How could we catch up with the times and expedite our modernization? From the outset, the Communist Party of China maintained strategic clarity in its approach. Instead of blindly imitating Western models, as some developing countries did, we emphasized the importance of charting a distinctive path toward modernization adapted to China's realities.

To facilitate socialist modernization, our Party has steadfastly upheld its basic guidelines, while promoting innovation grounded in practical experience across theoretical, institutional, cultural and other domains. By adopting a socialist market economy, we have made historic leaps in economic development, transforming China from a nation with underdeveloped productive

forces into the world's second-largest economy. This has elevated the living standards of the Chinese people, moving from bare subsistence to a basic level of moderate prosperity, and ultimately achieving moderate prosperity in all respects. It has also endowed China's rapid modernization with renewed institutional support, injecting vitality and preparing essential material conditions.

Since its 18th National Congress in 2012, our Party has continued to build on its established foundations. By taking a problem-oriented approach and addressing prominent challenges and issues in modernization efforts, we have furthered reform on all fronts and constantly broken new ground in both theory and practice. As a result, we have advanced Chinese modernization and broadened its scope.

Over the decade since then, we have expanded our understanding and formed the Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, which represents a fresh breakthrough in adapting Marxism to the Chinese context and the needs of our times, and provides us with fundamental guidance for advancing Chinese modernization. We have arrived at a more profound comprehension of the essence and nature of Chinese modernization. We have defined the defining characteristics, essential requirements, and major principles of Chinese modernization, and designed a preliminary theoretical

framework, thereby clarifying and refining the path toward modernization and enhancing its feasibility and practicality.

We have steadily reinforced our strategic initiatives, including a two-step strategic plan for building China into a great modern socialist country that is prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious, and beautiful by the middle of the century. We have rolled out the Five-Sphere Integrated Plan, the Four-Pronged Comprehensive Strategy, and strategies for invigorating China through science and education, building China into a talent powerhouse, and pursuing rural revitalization, among others. These initiatives have provided solid strategic foundations for China's drive towards modernization.

We have also introduced a range of transformative measures, achieving breakthroughs across various fields and reaching significant milestones. The successful eradication of absolute poverty and the realization of a moderately prosperous society in all respects constitute monumental achievements for the Party and represent a historic transformation for the Chinese nation. This victory has strengthened institutional guarantees, solidified material foundations, and invigorated the national resolve in advancing the cause of Chinese modernization.

In summary, Chinese modernization represents a significant achievement, hard-earned through the uncompromising efforts of the people under the leadership of the Party. We must unwaveringly cherish, uphold, and

continue to advance and expand this historic endeavor.

II. Socialist modernization led by the CPC

The report to the 20th CPC National Congress pointed out that Chinese modernization is socialist modernization pursued under the leadership of the Communist Party of China. This is an overarching and fundamental definition of Chinese modernization. Why is it important to emphasize the leading role of the Party in Chinese modernization? It is important because Party leadership has a direct bearing on the fundamental orientation, future trajectory, and ultimate success of Chinese modernization.

Party leadership determines the fundamental nature of Chinese modernization. The Party's nature and purpose, its original aspiration and founding mission, its ideals and convictions, and its policies and principles determine that Chinese modernization is socialist modernization, and not modernization in any other form. Under socialism with Chinese characteristics, our Party has upheld the basic tenets of scientific socialism while also endowing it with distinctive Chinese characteristics and contemporary features. Our Party has firmly followed the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics to ensure that Chinese modernization advances along the right track. With Marxism as its fundamental guide, our Party has expanded its understanding of the laws that underlie governance by a communist party, the development of socialism, and the evolution of human society, opening up a new frontier

in adapting Marxism to the Chinese context and the needs of our times and providing sound guidance for Chinese modernization.

Our Party has upheld and improved the system of socialism with Chinese characteristics, further modernized the state governance system and capacity, and established a comprehensive institutional framework encompassing foundational, fundamental, and critical components of Chinese socialism, thereby providing a strong institutional guarantee for the steady progress of Chinese modernization. Our Party has also upheld and advanced a socialist culture with Chinese characteristics, to ignite the cultural creativity of the entire nation and offer a powerful source of inspiration for Chinese modernization. It is fair to say that only by firmly upholding Party leadership can we create a bright and prosperous future for Chinese modernization. Without such leadership, Chinese modernization will veer off course, lose its soul, or even result in catastrophic mistakes.

Party leadership ensures that Chinese modernization steadily advances in line with our set goals. Our Party has stayed true to its founding mission of seeking happiness for the Chinese people and rejuvenation for the Chinese nation, and integrated high ideal with phased targets, which once set, have been tenaciously pursued with hard work and dedication.

After the launch of reform and opening up in 1978, we advanced gradually and consistently toward our goal of building a

modern socialist country, and enriched and refined the goal in line with the evolution of our practices. Based on a review of our achievements and experiences in reform and opening up and in the new era, we clearly defined goals and requirements for China's development to be met by 2035 and drew up a grand blueprint for building a great modern socialist country and advancing national rejuvenation at the Party's 20th National Congress.

From this historical process, it is clear that building a modern socialist country has been a consistent goal of our Party and has been pushed forward by one generation after another, resulting in remarkable achievements that have entered the annals of history.

Party leadership unlocks powerful momentum for advancing Chinese modernization. Reform and opening up has been a crucial move in making China what it is today. It is also integral to the success of Chinese modernization. Since the launch of reform and opening up in 1978, our Party has taken proactive action to steadily transform those aspects of the relations of production that are out of alignment with the productive forces and those aspects of the superstructure that are incompatible with the economic base. It has advanced institutional reform across the board and established and developed robust institutions and mechanisms suited to the conditions of contemporary China. This has unleashed all the vitality of labor,

knowledge, technology, management and capital, and enabled all sources of social wealth to fulfill their potential. Since the 18th CPC National Congress, our Party has expanded comprehensive reform with tremendous political courage. We have adopted a problem-oriented approach and dared to brave uncharted waters, tackle tough problems, navigate potential dangers, and face new problems and challenges. We have broken the shackles of stale thinking, torn down barriers erected by vested interests, and removed institutional obstacles in all areas. Reform has been transformed from limited exploration and partial breakthroughs into an integrated drive that advances across the board. This has seen historic, systemic and holistic transformations in many fields, creating an inexhaustible source of momentum for Chinese modernization.

Party leadership brings together a mighty force for advancing Chinese modernization. Our Party remains acutely conscious that Chinese modernization is a shared undertaking of all Chinese people, who therefore serve as the primary drivers of this historical process. We must rely closely on the people, respect the people's creative vitality, and harness the people's collective wisdom and strength to move Chinese modernization forward.

Upholding the Party's mass line, we have focused on understanding the people's opinions, responding to their concerns,

reflecting their wishes, and improving their wellbeing when addressing issues, making decisions, and taking actions. In this way, we will win their wholehearted support for our Party's theories, guidelines, principles and policies. We regard the people's aspiration for a better life as our goal; we have followed a people-centered philosophy of development, worked hard to ensure and improve public wellbeing, and made every effort to resolve the pressing difficulties and problems that concern the people most, so that the gains of Chinese modernization benefit all our people fairly.

Our Party has advanced whole-process people's democracy, expanded democratic channels, diversified the forms of democracy, and encouraged the people's orderly participation in political affairs. These have ensured that the people can participate in various ways in the management of state, economic, cultural and social affairs in accordance with the law and join in modernization with full enthusiasm as masters of the country. By encouraging and inspiring the people with the vision of Chinese modernization, our Party has effectively promoted harmony between different political parties, ethnic groups, religions, social strata, and compatriots both at home and abroad, strengthened unity among all the sons and daughters of the Chinese nation both in the country and overseas, and forged a mighty force for building a modern socialist country.

III. A sure path for building a great country and rejuvenating the nation

A country's choice of path to modernization is determined by its historical traditions, social systems, developmental conditions, and external environment, among other factors. As countries differ in their conditions, they may take different paths to modernization. As we have seen, to achieve modernization, a country must not only follow the general laws that apply; more importantly, it must keep in mind its own realities and distinctive characteristics. Chinese modernization has characteristics that are common to the modernization processes of all countries as well as characteristics that are unique to the Chinese context. The report to the 20th CPC National Congress articulated the five distinctive characteristics of Chinese modernization, and profoundly captured the essence of the concept. Both a theoretical summary and a guide to action, this has offered a sure path for China to build itself into a great modern socialist country and achieve the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

A sure path does not mean that there will be no obstacles along the way to modernization. To fully leverage the five distinctive characteristics of Chinese modernization and turn them into unique strengths and achieve success calls for arduous efforts.

First, the modernization of a huge population

This is a salient characteristic of Chinese

modernization. As countries differ in population size, each faces distinct developmental tasks which vary in degree of difficulty and complexity, with development paths and advancement strategies necessarily differing accordingly. Presently, only slightly more than 20 countries around the world, collectively home to approximately one billion people, have attained modernization. China is working to achieve modernization for more than 1.4 billion people, exceeding the combined population of the world's developed countries. This endeavor will largely reshape the landscape of the global modernization paradigm. Chinese modernization represents an unprecedented undertaking in human history, both in terms of scale and complexity.

A huge population provides ample human resources and a vast market, but it also poses many problems and challenges. Ensuring that all our people are fed is a tough challenge to begin with, and there are other issues to be resolved, such as employment, income distribution, education, health care, housing, eldercare, and childcare. None of these issues can be easily solved and each of them involves an enormous number of people. When addressing challenges, formulating policies, and implementing measures, we need to keep in mind China's population scale and the development disparities between urban and rural areas and between different regions. We must refrain from pursuing overly ambitious objectives or

clinging to outdated approaches, ensuring that our strategies remain pragmatic, inclusive, and aligned with the nation's actual conditions.

Second, the modernization for common prosperity

This is a defining feature of Chinese modernization, one that distinguishes it from Western modernization, which bears its biggest problems: It is capital-centered rather than people-centered and seeks to maximize capital gains rather than serve the interests of the people. This has created a huge gap between the rich and the poor and led to severe polarization. In their efforts to achieve modernization, some developing countries have approached the developed country threshold only to fall into the middle-income trap and become mired in prolonged stagnation, or even experience severe regression. A major cause of this is that these countries failed to solve the problems of polarization and solidification of social strata.

Chinese modernization aims to ensure that development is for the people and relies on the people, and that its fruits are shared by the people. China has made important progress in promoting prosperity for all. Since 2012, we have won the critical battle against poverty and lifted close to 100 million rural people out of poverty. We have developed a complete set of guidelines, principles, institutions, policies, and measures to deliver prosperity for all. As we work to pursue high-quality

development and strive to expand and enhance the economic “pie” bigger and better, we must ensure more equitable distribution of its benefits. This requires addressing issues affecting people's well-being in key areas such as employment, income distribution, education, health care, housing, eldercare, and childcare. We must establish a comprehensive institutional framework wherein primary, secondary, and tertiary income distribution mechanisms operate in a mutually complementary and coordinated manner. Furthermore, we need to take more effective measures to regulate income distribution and wealth accumulation and, conduct law-based regulation and guidance to promote the healthy development of capital. Through such efforts, we can expand the middle-income group over time, narrow income disparities, and ensure more benefits of modernization are shared equitably among all our people so that no polarization will occur. Achieving prosperity for all is a long-term mission, we must make consistent efforts to deliver continued progress, and we must not stop until we reach our goal.

Third, the modernization that balances material progress and cultural-ethical progress

Both material abundance and cultural-ethical enrichment are lofty goals of Chinese modernization. Material shortage is not compatible with socialism, nor is cultural and ethical impoverishment. Western countries' early pursuit of modernization accrued wealth,

but led to a lack of faith and insatiable material desires. An important cause of the Western predicaments today is their failure to check greed, which is the nature of capital, and their failure to resolve their deep-seated problems of rampant materialism and spiritual impoverishment.

Chinese modernization, in addition to creating abundant material wealth, also strives for cultural-ethical enrichment to boost our people's confidence in Chinese values and culture. We must attach equal importance to material progress and cultural-ethical progress and ensure that the two reinforce each other and advance together. This will give our people an intellectual foundation to strive together, the initiative to break new ground, and inspiration to pursue progress and our shared values. In response to the people's growing cultural needs, we must develop socialist values that have the power to rally and inspire the people, foster ideals and convictions, and heighten public understanding of the history of the CPC, the PRC, reform and opening up, and the development of socialism, nurture and promote the core socialist values, and develop advanced socialist culture. We should encourage the creation of more outstanding literary and artistic works, enrich people's cultural lives, enhance public civility, and promote people's well-rounded development.

Fourth, the modernization with harmony between humanity and nature

Respecting, adapting to, and protecting

nature and promoting harmony between humanity and nature are distinctive characteristics of Chinese modernization. Since the advent of modern times, Western modernization has typically involved a stage of wanton plundering of natural resources and destruction of the environment. While creating enormous material wealth, it has often caused serious problems such as environmental pollution and resource depletion. Because of its severe dearth of per capita share of energy and resources, China will face growing energy, resource and environmental constraints in accelerating development. This means that China cannot follow the path of Western modernization.

In pursuing modernization, China is committed to sustainable development. Guided by the fundamental state policy of prioritizing resource conservation and environmental protection, and adhering to the principle of "lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets," China advances high-quality development that harmonizes economic prosperity, social well-being, and ecological security. By promoting the coordinated advancement of a beautiful China, an ecological civilization, and the modernization of national governance, we are opening up broad vistas for the eternal prosperity of the Chinese nation. We should embrace and act on the principle that lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets and take a holistic and systematic approach to conserving and improving mountains, waters, forests, farmlands,

grasslands, and deserts. We should prioritize eco-environmental protection, conserve resources and use them efficiently, and pursue green and low-carbon development. Furthermore, we should accelerate the transition to a green development model, strengthen the diversity, stability, and sustainability of our ecosystems, and work both actively and prudently toward the goals of peak carbon and carbon neutrality. These efforts will ensure that high-quality ecological progress underpins and enables high-quality socioeconomic development.

Fifth, the modernization that follows peaceful development

Adhering to the path of peaceful development, China pursues its own development while safeguarding world peace and development, actively promotes the building of a community with a shared future for mankind. These principles are integral to and defining features of Chinese modernization, reflecting its commitment to mutual benefit, global governance, and shared prosperity. Western modernization was fraught with bloody crimes such as war, slavery, colonization and plunder, which inflicted untold misery on developing countries. Having suffered from aggression, abuse, and humiliation by Western powers, we Chinese are keenly aware of the value of peace and will never follow the path of the West.

In advancing Chinese modernization, China will remain steadfast in upholding independence and self-reliance. We will

strengthen ourselves with the hard work and creativity of all our people and pursue development by boosting internal drivers and making peaceful use of external resources. We will never oppress other nations or loot the wealth and resources of other countries in any form. Rather, we will provide support and assistance to other developing countries to the best of our ability. We will always uphold peace, development, cooperation, and shared benefit, follow a mutually beneficial strategy of opening up, and continue to create new opportunities for the world through China's development. We should become actively involved in the reform and development of the global governance system, practice true multilateralism, champion the common values of humanity, pursue the Global Development Initiative and the Global Security Initiative, and endeavor to make a greater contribution to world peace and development.

Since the founding of the PRC, and particularly since the launch of reform and opening up, we have completed in a few decades the process of industrialization that took developed Western countries centuries to complete. We have achieved the miracles of rapid economic growth and enduring social stability, so as to open up bright prospects for the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. This shows that Chinese modernization works and that it is the only path for building China into a great country and rejuvenating the Chinese nation.

IV. A new model for human progress

Chinese modernization is deeply rooted in the rich heritage of China's fine traditional culture and embodies the progressive essence of scientific socialism. By embracing the strengths of various civilizations, it represents the evolving trajectory of human civilization and presents prospects distinct from the Western approach to modernization. As such, it constitutes a novel paradigm for human advancement. As the latest major achievement of scientific socialism, Chinese modernization has attracted extensive international interest.

It presents a fresh path to modernization for the global community. Modernization first emerged in Western capitalist countries, and the majority of developed countries are in Europe and America or those significantly influenced by Western civilization. This has led to the common misconception that equates modernization with Westernization, and modernity with Western civilization. However, the truth is that global civilizations are diverse, and no uniform model or standards of modernization exist. Chinese modernization has dispelled the myth that modernization is synonymous with Westernization. It presents an alternative pathway to modernization, broadening the choices available for developing countries as they pursue their own modernization, and it offers a Chinese solution to humanity's quest for a better social system.

It transcends Western experience and theories of modernization. Capitalist civilization is built on the exploitative system of

capitalism, and therefore, it cannot overcome or deprive itself of its inherent cruelty masked by a veneer of civility. In essence, the conflict between private ownership of the means of production and the socialization of production is intrinsic to the capitalist system. Although capitalism and the Western model of modernization are evolving, their fundamental nature, which prioritizes capital above all else, advocates the law of the jungle, tolerates the divide between rich and poor, and champions hegemonism and power politics, remains unchanged. This immutable nature is increasingly exhibiting its detrimental effects. The distinctive worldview, values, historical perspectives, and concepts of civilization, democracy and eco-civilization contained and applied in Chinese modernization represent a significant innovation in both the theory and practice of modernization.

Therefore, it offers a new option for other developing countries. The pursuit of modernization is a right and the natural aspiration of everyone in every country, but the key lies in finding a path suited to their national conditions and guided by the laws governing the development of human society.

From the end of World War II to the early 1990s, some developing countries, ignoring their unique realities and histories, blindly copied the Western model. This approach was ill-suited to their circumstances, and most ended up in prolonged economic stagnation and persistent social and political unrest.

Choosing the right development path is a

constant question in many developing nations. Recognizing the preliminary success and remarkable achievements of Chinese modernization, alongside the evident contrast in economic growth and social stability between China and Western nations since the advent of the new era, developing countries can now embrace fresh hopes and alternatives. Chinese modernization is our response to the critical question of how to awaken the “sleeping lion” and realize national rejuvenation, which can only be achieved by attending to our own affairs along our own chosen path. We have not exported—and do not intend to export—Chinese modernization or the “Chinese model.” Nevertheless, Chinese modernization serves as a paradigm for developing nations seeking to modernize independently, and it will undoubtedly inspire some to learn from our approach.

V. Major issues to be addressed for further progress

Promoting Chinese modernization necessitates a coordinated, systematic, and comprehensive approach to addressing a series of key strategic tasks. In this context, the following six critical dimensions warrant particular emphasis.

First, top-level design and experimentation

The report to the 20th CPC National Congress expounds on the distinctive characteristics, essential requirements, and major principles of Chinese modernization, all of which represent a case of top-level design. Chinese modernization is to be phased sector

by sector. A top-level design is a must for achieving the development goals at successive stages, and implementing development strategies in different sectors.

To produce a top-level design for plans and policies that will be up-to-date, dynamic, innovative, consistent, coordinated and feasible, we must develop keen insights into the trends of world development, accurately identify the common aspirations of the people, and continuously explore the laws behind economic and social development.

Chinese modernization is now on a path of exploration. There are still many uncharted territories. We need to be bold in our efforts and advance this cause through reform and innovation. We should never act blindly without assessing how conditions have evolved, nor wait in the hope of windfalls. All provincial authorities and central departments should forge ahead in a spirit of enterprise and innovation, based on their actual conditions. We should encourage bold exploration and pioneering work, particularly in frontier fields and uncharted territories. We should come up with new ways of thinking and effective measures to address new challenges and problems so that successful experiences can be replicated and applied in wider areas.

Second, strategies and tactics

The Communist Party of China regards strategic and tactical acumen as vital instruments in leading the Chinese people to refine practical actions, advance development, and transform the world. The Party's historical

triumphs and victories over myriad challenges and risks fundamentally stem from its mastery of scientific strategic principles and tactical flexibility. This proven formula for success—the art of combining strategic resolve with tactical agility—must be fully harnessed in advancing the cause of Chinese modernization.

We must adopt a forward-looking approach in formulating strategies. This requires an accurate grasp of development trends, keen insights into the opportunities and challenges that may lie ahead, and the capacity to shape the future through well-conceived strategic planning. Strategic planning must adopt an overarching approach—its objectives, planning frameworks, and implementation measures must address major issues critical to the long-term prospects of the Party and the state, while exerting a comprehensive influence on national development. Strategic consistency must be maintained; once established, strategic plans must be consistently upheld and fully implemented without arbitrary modification. To make this possible, we need to raise our political awareness, adopt a global perspective, and bear in mind the priorities of the country. A better understanding of the relationship between the past, present and future and the relationship between China and the world will improve our capacity for strategic thinking, leading to strategies that are more realistic and effective, and providing strong support to Chinese modernization.

Tactics contribute to the proper implementation of strategies. New problems and uncertainties arise constantly in the ever-changing environment and conditions under which our strategies are implemented. This requires flexible tactics, while the strategies themselves remain immutable. By adapting to changing circumstances and making sound decisions, we can seize the strategic initiative.

Third, upholding fundamental principles and breaking new ground

Upholding fundamental principles and breaking new ground is an important approach to governance for our Party in the new era. Only by upholding fundamental principles can we avoid losing our bearings or making catastrophic mistakes. Only by breaking new ground can we meet the call and shape the trends of our times.

On the Chinese path to modernization, we seek development while inheriting tradition, and break new ground while upholding fundamental principles. On the new journey, we must first and foremost, nurture the roots and consolidate the foundations of Chinese modernization. To ensure that modernization keeps to the right course, we must commit to the distinctive characteristics, essential requirements, and major principles of Chinese modernization; follow the Party's underlying theories, basic guidelines, and fundamental principles; and apply all the major principles and implement all the major policies adopted since the 18th CPC National Congress.

Meanwhile, innovation must be the

priority in overall national development. In meeting the call of the times, we should address major theoretical and practical questions, identify, respond to, and steer changes, and be innovative in our theories, practices, institutions and culture as well as in other fields. This will open up new areas and new arenas in development, and steadily create new growth drivers and new strengths. We should foster a culture that values and encourages innovation, so that it becomes the norm throughout society. In order to become true leaders and promoters of innovation, leading officials at all levels must adjust any mindset, administrative practice, or method that hinders innovation-driven development.

Fourth, efficiency and equity

Chinese modernization aims to achieve higher efficiency than capitalism, deliver better social equity, and balance and coordinate mutually reinforced efficiency and equity.

We must uphold and improve China's basic socialist economic system, and continue to consolidate and develop the public sector while encouraging, supporting and guiding the development of the non-public sector. It is imperative to ensure that the market plays the decisive role in resource allocation while the government fulfills its functions more effectively, thereby fostering a synergistic relationship between the market and government. We will build a unified national market, advance reforms for the market-based allocation of production factors, and

put in place a market system operating to the highest standards. We will create a market-oriented, law-based and internationalized business environment. We will continue to optimize the allocation of production factors such as labor, capital, land and resources in order to improve total factor productivity.

To ensure that all enjoy equal rights to participation and development, we will accelerate the building of an equity system that delivers equal rights, equal opportunities, and fair rules for all. We will continue to reform the judicial system so that the people can see that justice is served in every law, every law enforcement action, and every court proceeding. We will remove institutional barriers to social mobility and facilitate smooth channels for people to move up the social ladder. To achieve more solid progress in common prosperity, we will improve the basic public services system, raise public service standards, and make the delivery of public services more balanced and accessible.

Fifth, vitality and order

Maintaining the balance between vitality and order is a global challenge on the path to modernization. China must and can achieve a dynamic balance between vitality and order in its modernization.

China will maintain both vitality and order, preventing chaos while fostering development. We will advance institutional reform in all sectors to fully unleash the creative potential of society. Talent from all

fields— scientists, entrepreneurs, artists, and particularly young people—will be encouraged to engage in innovation and creative endeavors.

We will actively develop internal Party democracy and protect the rights of Party members. We will take effective measures to deal with problems such as reluctance to take on responsibilities due to lack of will, courage, or ability, and we will inspire Party members and officials to perform their duties well. To spark creativity throughout society, we will strengthen the guidance of public opinion, instilling the belief that good fortune, success, and well-being can be guaranteed by hard work. There are a number of undesirable traits that we must curb. Undesirable tendencies that must be curbed include disdain for labor, parasitism relying on others' efforts, the pursuit of illusory shortcuts to wealth, and complacency in idleness.

We will coordinate development and security. We will pursue a holistic approach to national security and strengthen our national security system and capabilities. We will firmly ensure the security of our state power, political system, ideology, and key areas. We will strengthen public security governance, improve the social governance system, and make social governance more effective. We will develop whole-process people's democracy. We will properly handle disputes among the people, seek to resolve them as soon as they emerge at the grassroots, guide the people to express their

concerns in a rational and legal manner, and protect their legitimate rights and interests. We will adopt a holistic approach to law and order, take resolute action against illegal and criminal activities that cause grave public concern, and ensure that the people can live and work in peace and contentment.

Sixth, self-reliance and opening up

To move Chinese modernization forward, we must remain committed to the principles of independence and self-reliance, develop the country and nation with our own strength, and maintain a firm grasp on the future of China's development.

We will accelerate the fostering of a new development dynamic in order to realize smooth domestic economic flows. We will leverage the strengths of China's enormous market, attract global resources and production factors, and amplify the interplay between domestic and international markets and resources. We will safeguard economic security, in particular food security, energy security, and industrial and supply chain security.

We will improve the new system for mobilizing resources nationwide to increase our country's strength in strategic science and technology. To meet China's strategic needs and achieve breakthroughs in core technologies in key fields, we will concentrate resources on original and pioneering scientific and technological research.

We will advance high-standard opening up and raise the level and quality of trade and investment cooperation. We will steadily

expand institutional opening up with regard to rules, regulations, management, and standards. We will promote high-quality development of the Belt and Road Initiative. We will optimize the planning of regional opening up, upgrade pilot free trade zones, and expand our globally-oriented network of high-standard free trade areas. We will deeply involve ourselves in the global industrial division of labor and cooperation. We will endeavor to preserve the diversity and stability in the international economic landscape and economic and trade relations, and expand space for Chinese modernization.

VI. The call for a great struggle

Having the courage to join in the struggle is an innate political gene of our Party that has been developed and refined over the past century. We relied on this trait to create an illustrious history and will continue to depend on it to ensure a bright future. As we advance Chinese modernization—an unprecedented and pioneering endeavor—we will undoubtedly encounter risks, challenges, obstacles, and threats, both foreseeable and unforeseeable. Therefore, we must remain vigilant about potential dangers, have a plan in place for worst-case scenarios even during periods of calm, and demonstrate the courage and competence to confront challenges head-on. With unwavering perseverance, we must continue to explore new horizons for our cause.

History has repeatedly demonstrated that security and prosperity are sustained only through unwavering commitment, while

compromise and weakness inevitably erode them. It is for this reason that we have consistently emphasized the necessity of upholding a resolute fighting spirit.

We must be clear-headed on matters of strategy and be well aware of the various risks and challenges. Our country has entered a development phase marked by both strategic opportunities and significant risks, with rising uncertainties and unforeseen factors compounding the complexity and intensity of the risks, challenges, and problems we must preempt and resolve.

Internationally, change on a scale unseen in a century is accelerating. The unprecedented pandemic of Covid-19 has had a far-reaching impact, a backlash against globalization is surging, and unilateralism and protectionism are becoming more evident. Global economic recovery is sluggish, and the Ukraine crisis continues, causing a spillover effect. The world has entered a new period of turbulence and transformation.

Domestically, we face deep-seated and unavoidable problems in promoting reform, development and stability. Balancing the response to Covid-19 with economic and social development remains a formidable challenge, and our economy is facing the triple pressures of shrinking demand, disruption to supply, and weakening expectations. Risks and hidden dangers that may jeopardize social stability exist in great numbers, and “black swan” and “gray rhino” events could occur at any time.

Inside our Party, some deep-rooted

problems remain unresolved at their core. Even a slight easing of our efforts poses a constant risk of regression into previous problems, and new challenges are continuing to arise. The Four Tests (long-term governance, reform and opening up, developing the market economy, and responding to the external environment) and Four Risks (losing drive, incompetence, disengagement from the people, and corruption and other forms of misconduct) for the Party are likely to remain relevant for an extended period. In particular, our efforts to improve Party conduct, promote integrity, and combat corruption must deal with many persistent and recurring issues. The Party's self-reform is a journey with no end, and not for one minute can we let our guard drop in the governance of the Party. In the face of these risks, challenges, and problems, we must stay especially clear-headed and vigilant. We must remain in a state of high alert, as complacency and negligence are absolutely impermissible.

We should maintain strategic confidence and strengthen our resolve to struggle. But where does our confidence come from? It derives partly from our growing national strength—but more importantly, from our steadfast ideals and convictions, our unwavering quest for truth, and our adherence to the Party's original aspiration and founding mission. As a country that has always stood on the right side of history and human progress, we must confidently counteract blockades, containment and suppression. We are

committed to building an open, inclusive, clean and beautiful world of lasting peace, universal security, and shared prosperity. We will continue to play a constructive role in safeguarding world peace and regional stability, and as we continue along the right path, our actions will advance global justice. Hegemonism, power politics, unilateralism, and protectionism are anathema to the tide of history, contradict the people's aspirations, and will ultimately fail to sustain themselves.

We must confront problems and challenges head-on and work through any difficulties in our efforts to promote reform, pursue development, and maintain stability. Our cause has always progressed through the resolution of problems, and only with unwavering determination to overcome all obstacles, whether towering mountains or expansive rivers, can we ensure the steady and sustained progress of our endeavors.

Similarly, we must demonstrate strong moral fiber to take resolute action against prominent problems within the Party. Full and rigorous internal Party governance is a critical element of self-reform and the fundamental means to maintain the progressive and wholesome nature of a Marxist political party. Only by enforcing strict requirements, education, management and supervision can we maintain our Party's unity, solidarity and vitality.

We must maintain the strategic initiative and boost our capacity to address challenges. Senior officials must maintain sharp vision and

acute discernment, detecting latent threats through subtle indicators—like identifying a deer from rustling grass, sensing a tiger's approach through shifting pine winds, or recognizing autumn's arrival from a single fallen leaf. The interconnected, interdependent risks and hidden dangers we confront today are characterized by tight intersection; even minor oversights can trigger cascading impacts through the butterfly effect, transforming localized risks into systemic crises, economic or social disruptions into political challenges, and isolated incidents into widespread instability.

Therefore, we should consider the broader spectrum of risks and hidden dangers across all areas and in all aspects. By conducting regular analysis and assessment of potential risks, we can develop a complete policy toolkit, take proactive measures, and employ a forward-thinking approach. Our vigilance against potential hazards must not be limited to our own department or region of responsibility, but should extend to risks in other areas. We must never allow the temporary absence of incidents to breed an air of complacency, nor allow ourselves to become negligent of long-standing risks and hidden dangers or only recognize them after they have mutated into tangible dangers. Once risks arise, we must act quickly and decisively, and give timely instructions to prevent small issues from escalating into big issues, and big issues from spiraling out of control.

We should emphasize the importance of using the right methods. By consistently

sticking to our principles, we can effectively counter every oppositional move, seize the initiative, and take preemptive actions when necessary to create a situation that favors us. We must further increase our capabilities. Just as a skilled swimmer is shaped by the hours they have dedicated to the pool, we should encourage leading officials, especially younger ones, to immerse themselves in theoretical studies and political endeavor. They should hone their skills and forge their abilities through hands-on practice so that they can brave storms, broaden their horizons, strengthen their muscles and bones, and develop their capacity to deal with complex and severe challenges. We should assess officials' performance while they are under intense pressure, and recognize those who display courage, competence and capability in dealing with challenges, especially those who are able to shoulder responsibilities and resolve tough issues at the risk of displeasing others by upholding principles. Officials who have been acknowledged for their performance in this regard should be promoted to suitable positions without hesitation.

Advancing Chinese modernization is a long-term challenge that requires our deeper understanding on many issues. We should intensify our efforts in theoretical research and practical action to ensure that our understanding, policies and measures properly align with the objective laws. By doing this, we will gradually move closer to a “realm of freedom” in the pursuit of Chinese modernization.

※ This is the main part of a speech delivered by General Secretary Xi Jinping on February 7, 2023 at a study session on implementing Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era and the guiding

principles of the 20th CPC National Congress, attended by members and alternate members of the newly elected CPC Central Committee and principal officials at the provincial and ministerial level.

Ju Li : A New Type of Political Party System That Has Grown Out of Chinese Soil²

As one of China's basic political systems, the system of CPC-led multiparty cooperation and political consultation is a new type of political party system that has grown out of Chinese soil. Over our country's glorious 75-year journey, it has played an irreplaceable role in the modernization of our system and capacity for governance.

I

The type of political party system a country adopts is determined by its historical traditions and actual realities. China's new type of political party system did not emerge from thin air. Rather, it was conceived over the course of China's democratic revolution (1840–1949) and took shape during the political consultations in preparation for the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) in 1949. It represents a remarkable creative contribution by the Communist Party of China (CPC), one that is based on our Party's review of the lessons of history both in China and around the world and its explorations to establish a distinctively Chinese political party system.

After the advent of modern times, China was gradually reduced to a semi-colonial, semi-feudal society. The country endured intense humiliation, the people were subjected to untold misery, and Chinese

civilization was plunged into darkness. Generations of Chinese struggled tirelessly to save the nation, and myriad political forces successively emerged on the historical stage. In the early 20th century, the Revolution of 1911 finally brought an end to the autocratic monarchy that had ruled China for several millennia, establishing the first republican state in Asia. China followed the example of Western countries by adopting parliamentary politics and a multiparty system. At one time, over 300 political groups were active in the country. Yet, rather than bringing democracy to China, the multiparty system led to a proliferation of political parties, all competing for power. The result was a political merry-go-round. Between 1912 and 1928, a span of just 16 years, China cycled through 10 different heads of state, 45 cabinets, and 59 prime ministers. The longest-serving prime minister held office for less than a year, while the shortest served for less than a day. The constant turnover of presidents, cabinets, and parliaments caused serious political upheaval. As one political figure aptly noted, “The people's disdain for political parties has reached its peak.” In 1924, Dr. Sun Yat-sen declared, “For thousands of years, Chinese social sentiments, customs, and habits have differed widely from those of

2. English Edition of Qiushi Journal, 2024 (06) .

Western society. Hence, methods of social management in China are different from those used in the West, and we should not merely copy the West.”

Where the multiparty system failed, one-party dictatorship proved equally unworkable. After the Kuomintang under Chiang Kai-shek established a one-party dictatorship following the creation of the Nanjing National Government, it led to economic collapse, political isolation, and military defeat. This ultimately ended with the complete collapse of Kuomintang rule on the mainland.

As President Xi Jinping put it, “After the Revolution of 1911, China experimented with various political forms such as constitutional monarchy, restoration of the traditional monarchy, the parliamentary system, the multiparty system, and the presidential system. Various political forces and their representatives appeared on the scene, but none were able to find the right answer. China was still torn apart and stuck in a state of poverty and weakness, foreign powers were still tyrannizing and plundering China, and the Chinese people were still living in misery and humiliation.”

For modern China to successfully avoid subjugation and resist the forces of imperialism and feudalism, it would need to forge a new path based on a new political system. This weighty historic mission fell upon the shoulders of the CPC.

On the day it was founded, the CPC made it its mission and aspiration to seek

happiness for the Chinese people and rejuvenation for the Chinese nation. In the face of a grave national crisis caused by both domestic turmoil and foreign aggression, Chinese Communists saw that the strength of the working class alone would not be enough to ensure victory in the new-democratic revolution; rather, all progressive elements would need to be united to create a force powerful enough to secure complete victory.

As early as its Second National Congress in 1922, the CPC initially put forward a united front policy based on the proposition of establishing a democratic united front. During the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression, the three-thirds system of democratic government was implemented in resistance base areas, to unite all possible forces in active resistance against Japanese aggressors. This type of government, which was CPC-led and based on multiparty participation was a forerunner to the subsequent system of CPC-led multiparty cooperation and political consultation. Mao Zedong saw the three-thirds system of democratic government as “the best political model for uniting all classes to fight against Japanese aggression.” He even stated “After the war, it will be more necessary to apply these principles to unite the people of all classes and jointly build a new Chinese democratic republic.”

Following victory in the War of Resistance in 1945, the KMT tried

frantically to suppress the democratic movement. In the struggle against KMT autocracy and the fight for democratic freedom, the various democratic parties, many of which were established during the Wars of Resistance and Liberation, gradually came to realize that only the CPC could save China. Only by following the CPC would it be possible to create a bright future for the country. Abandoning their illusions, they chose to firmly side with the CPC. By forging close ties with these parties and sincerely welcoming their involvement in consultations on founding a new China, the CPC demonstrated a clear and resolute commitment to multiparty cooperation. In the “May Day Slogans” to mark International Labor Day, published on April 30, 1948, the CPC proposed to convene a political consultative conference and establish a democratic coalition government, which was enthusiastically received by democratic parties, prominent figures without party affiliation, and people from all sectors of society. This was the prologue for the CPC's consultations with other parties, organizations, and people of various ethnic groups and from all walks of life on founding a new nation and laid the foundations for the system of CPC-led multiparty cooperation and political consultation. The first plenary session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) was convened in September 1949. Along with the CPC, various other political parties, people's

organizations, and democrats without party affiliation were in attendance. The Common Program of the CPPCC, which was adopted at the session, became the interim constitution for the PRC. This session heralded the establishment of a new type of political party system in China.

From this historical account, it is clear that China's new type of political party system took shape as the CPC led the Chinese people on a journey to realize national independence, make our country strong and prosperous, and pursue a better life. It was also an inevitable result of the practice of people's democracy.

Yet, deeper cultural factors also lie behind the formation and development of this system. One rich source of nourishment has been our traditional culture. Cultivated over the course of more than 5,000 years, it embodies our deepest cultural and intellectual aspirations and has helped subtly shape our thinking and behavior. As President Xi has stated, China's new type of political party system “not only conforms to the realities of contemporary China, but also embodies the best of time-honored cultural values long espoused by the Chinese nation, including pursuing the common good for all, promoting inclusiveness and harmonious coexistence, and seeking common ground while reserving differences.” Through the ages, the Chinese people have always held deep sentiments for their homeland. They espouse the principles of pursuing the

common good and working selflessly for the public interest and believe in taking responsibility for the future of the nation. They uphold the ideals of selecting the virtuous and capable, acting in good faith, and showing friendliness to others, and hold that every person has a stake in our world, everyone is entitled to share in its benefits, and all should participate in its governance. Chinese civilization is distinguished by its inclusiveness. It does not seek to impose a single cultural model but enables diverse cultures to blend together to create a shared cultural heritage, while also being open to elements from other cultures around the world. Traditional Chinese culture is characterized by its pursuit of harmony. It emphasizes unity in diversity, coexistence, and common prosperity, and stresses the importance of coordination, interaction, dialogue, and complementarity between parties with different viewpoints and interests. Moreover, traditional Chinese culture incorporates traditions of collaborative and consultative governance, among other important principles. All these elements are part of the deep-rooted cultural make-up that has enabled China's new type of party system to enjoy steady progress and development over a long period.

II

As the founding of the PRC ushered in a new era for the country, the system of CPC-led multiparty cooperation and political consultation also entered a new stage. With the help of the CPC, China's other political

parties were able to take on a new look by clearly defining their nature, undergoing reorganization, and developing their membership.

The post-revolutionary political landscape inspired optimism among these parties but also posed a critical question: whether to persist or disband. Some leaders believed that their parties were established to realize democracy. With this goal achieved, they believed their mission was accomplished, and they could honorably disband their organizations. However, the stance of Mao Zedong and other CPC leaders on this issue was clear-cut: the non-CPC parties should not be dissolved; rather, they should be further developed.

Under Mao Zedong's guidance, the CPC adopted the principles of long-term coexistence and mutual oversight as a basic policy for handling relations with other political parties at its Eighth National Congress in 1956, establishing a new phase of multi-party cooperation under socialist conditions. Under the leadership of the CPC, the other political parties joined the cause of socialist development and took part in the exercise of state power and the administration of national affairs. They encouraged their members and those they represented to actively contribute to national development through their respective roles.

Following the launch of reform and opening up in 1978, Chinese Communists took stock of the primary challenges and changes in Chinese society. During this

process, they the historical contributions of China's other political parties were affirmed, and a proposal was made that these parties had developed into a close political alliance of the socialist workers and patriots whom they represented. In December 1989, the CPC Central Committee issued guidelines on upholding and improving the system of CPC-led multi-party cooperation and political consultation. In 2005, it published guidelines on further strengthening this system. Under the CPC's firm leadership, the theory underpinning China's new type of political party system has been steadily enriched, and the implementation of this system in practice has been consolidated and advanced.

From a theoretical standpoint, non-CPC parties have been designated as “political parties participating in national governance” in order to more accurately define their nature. The policy of “long-term coexistence and mutual oversight” has been expanded to incorporate the principles of “sincerity and sharing the rough times and the smooth.” It has been written into the Constitution that the system of CPC-led multiparty cooperation and political consultation will continue and develop long into the future. This has ensured that this system is reflected in the will of the state and has provided it with a constitutional underpinning. Furthermore, it has been defined as one of China's basic political systems and as a new type of socialist party system adapted to Chinese conditions and

characterized by distinctive Chinese qualities.

From a practical standpoint, we have secured impressive results in developing China's new type of political party system: A framework has been established to carry out consultation on major issues prior to decision-making; members of non-CPC parties and prominent figures without party affiliation now account for a considerable percentage of deputies to people's congresses, the standing committees of people's congresses, and the special committees of people's congresses at all levels; and the channels through which other political parties and prominent figures without party affiliation deliberate on and participate in the administration of state affairs and exercise democratic oversight have been expanded. This has given fuller rein to the role of non-CPC political parties in multiparty cooperation. As the well-known Chinese democrat Fei Xiaotong, when reflecting on his own personal experience, once observed, “Thanks to the joint efforts by several generations of members from the Communist Party of China and other political parties, we are fortunate to be able to share this political system, which was developed by the Chinese people themselves under the CPC's leadership.”

III

Now that socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era, how can we better uphold, develop, and improve

the system of CPC-led multiparty cooperation and political consultation? How should non-CPC parties position and present themselves in the new era in order to make greater contributions and play a bigger role? This is the defining question to be answered regarding multiparty cooperation in the current era.

Since the 18th CPC National Congress in 2012, the Central Committee with Xi Jinping at its core has attached great importance to multiparty cooperation. With a view to developing socialist democracy, modernizing China's governance system and capacity, and advancing national rejuvenation through Chinese modernization, it has made a series of major decisions and plans on multiparty cooperation for the new era, thereby spurring fresh progress in the development of China's new type of political party system. The CPC has strengthened overall leadership over multiparty cooperation, advancing the development of relevant institutions and holding central conferences on the work of the united front and the CPPCC. It has issued a series of important guidelines on enhancing socialist consultative democracy, consultative democracy in the CPPCC, consultation with non-CPC political parties, the development of political parties participating in national governance under socialism with Chinese characteristics, and the work of the CPPCC in the new era. These efforts have helped further institutionalize and standardize multiparty cooperation,

creating a Constitution-based framework that takes relevant CPC regulations and documents as the mainstay and is supplemented by relevant policies. To propel the development of socialist consultative democracy, the CPC has placed interparty consultation at the forefront of its seven consultation channels. This form of consultation is underpinned by clear content, standard procedures, sound institutions, and strong guarantees, all of which have helped establish it as a regular feature of national political life.

Since 2012, President Xi Jinping has, in a series of statements, presented new ideas, new thinking, and new conclusions on how to uphold, develop, and improve China's new type of political party system.

For example, President Xi has made it clear that the system of CPC-led multiparty cooperation and political consultation is one of China's basic political systems and is the result of integrating Marxist political party theory with China's realities. He has declared that leadership by the CPC is the defining feature of China's new type of political party system and has emphasized that upholding its leadership and working together with the CPC is the fundamental political basis for multiparty cooperation. He has pointed out that this political system reflects the essence of socialist democracy, which is to ensure that the people run the country. He has stressed the need to develop whole-process people's democracy and forge great unity and solidarity in order to pool as much strength as

possible for collective endeavors. He has also stated that socialism with Chinese characteristics provides the common ideological and political foundation for this political system in the new era and has emphasized the importance of maintaining the correct political direction and strengthening the ideological and political foundation underpinning the leadership by the CPC. He has defined non-CPC political parties as participating parties and prominent figures without party affiliation as participating forces in national governance under Chinese socialism and has called on them to serve as effective advisers, helpers, and partners to the CPC. He has underscored that in this new era of Chinese socialism, multiparty cooperation should take on a new look, ideological consensus should reach new heights, fresh accomplishments should be realized in the performance of duties, and a new outlook should prevail among all participating parties. He has highlighted the CPPCC's role as an important political and organizational platform for this political system and stressed the need to create conditions for non-CPC political parties and prominent figures without party affiliation to better play their role in the CPPCC. He has declared that the key to better demonstrating this political system's effectiveness lies in leveraging the positive role of non-CPC political parties and prominent figures without party affiliation and has emphasized the importance of interparty consultation as a form of democracy and institutional

channel. He has pointed out that this political system serves as an important institutional guarantee for China's political stability and has stressed the need to regard the efforts to understand, uphold, and improve the system in this overarching strategic light. Finally, he has posted that this political system stands as a major contribution to political advancement of humanity. On this basis, he has stressed the need to speed up the development of relevant theoretical and discourse systems, so as to contribute to the political advancement of humanity with Chinese insights.

Most notably, President Xi provided an in-depth and systematic exposition of the distinctive features and advantages of China's new type of political party system during a meeting with political advisors from the China Democratic League and the China Zhi Gong Party, prominent figures without party affiliation, and those from the sector of returned overseas Chinese at the first session of the 13th National Committee of the CPPCC on March 4, 2018. He explained the three ways in which this system is new and the three things it effectively avoids. This system is new because it is the result of integrating Marxist political party theory with China's realities, which enables it to truly and extensively represent and realize the fundamental interests of the greatest possible number of people and of all ethnic groups in the country on an ongoing basis. It thus effectively avoids the defects of old-

fashioned political party systems, which represent only the select few or the vested interests. It is new because it unites all political parties and prominent figures without party affiliation to pursue common goals, thereby effectively avoiding the risks of inadequate oversight in one-party rule and the problems of power rotation and destructive competition in multiparty systems. It is new because it uses institutions, standards, and procedures to pool different opinions and suggestions as a basis for sound and democratic decision-making. It thus effectively avoids the defects of old-fashioned party systems where political parties make decisions and exercise governance in pursuit of their own interests or the interests of the classes, regions, and groups they represent, thus creating division in society.

President Xi Jinping's statements on upholding, developing, and improving China's new type of political party system have provided sound answers to major theoretical and practical questions from the strategic perspective of maintaining and strengthening CPC's overall leadership, developing whole-process people's democracy, and leveraging the strengths of China's political system. Such questions include why we should uphold and develop this system in the new era, what kind of form this system should take, and how we should go about upholding and developing it. President Xi has elaborated on the historical necessity and great advantages of

this system and shed light on its theoretical foundations, cultural origins, distinctive strengths, and major significance. All this has helped open up new horizons for the theory of socialist democracy with Chinese characteristics, charting the way forward and providing fundamental guidance for multiparty cooperation in the new era.

Since the new era began in 2012, the CPC has closely cooperated with other political parties based on a unity of purpose and action, thereby broadening the stage for multiparty cooperation. Non-CPC political parties have participated in national governance in important areas and deliberated on key issues with a focus on the central tasks of the CPC and the country. To advance Chinese modernization and coordinated implementation of the Five-Sphere Integrated Plan and the Four-Pronged Comprehensive Strategy, both have conducted in-depth research and offered suggestions on major issues such as supply-side structural reform, new urbanization, the Belt and Road Initiative, the rural revitalization strategy, the development of new quality productive forces in line with local conditions, and innovation-driven high-quality development. As a result, these parties are playing an increasingly important role in national political life.

Looking back at the emergence and evolution of China's new type of political party system, it is clear that this system is a remarkable political creation, jointly shaped by the Chinese people, the CPC,

China's other political parties, and prominent people without party affiliation. Having grown out of the soil of China, it boasts significant advantages and tremendous vitality. As a basic political

system that supports China's development, national rejuvenation, social progress, and people's happiness, it can be considered a Chinese solution for the advancement of the global political party system.

Uphold, Improve, and Implement the People's Congress System to Good Effect³

Author : By CPC Leadership Group of the General Office of the National People's Congress Standing Committee

On the morning of September 14, 2024, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) held a meeting to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the NPC's founding. At the meeting, President Xi Jinping delivered a keynote speech. He reviewed the Chinese people's glorious journey in establishing and improving the people's congress system under the leadership of the CPC. He provided an exposition of the remarkable strengths of this system, thoroughly summarized our major achievements in advancing theoretical and practical innovation of this system in the new era which began in 2012, and put forward a comprehensive plan and clear requirements for upholding, improving, and implementing it to good effect from a new historical starting point.

I. An inevitable outcome of history

On its founding in 1921, the CPC made it its mission to seek happiness for the Chinese people and rejuvenation for the Chinese nation. On the basis of integrating the basic tenets of Marxism with China's specific realities and the best of its traditional culture, it made tireless experiments and protracted practical efforts to create a people's

democratic government and ensure that the people run the country. Indeed, the very first program adopted by the CPC at its First National Congress in July 1921 clearly stated, "The Party recognizes the Soviet management system and organizes workers, peasants, and soldiers." During the Great Revolution (1924–1927), the CPC led the worker and peasant movements, establishing strike committees and city councils in cities and peasant associations in rural areas. These efforts marked its first attempts to establish political power. During the Agrarian Revolution (1927–1937), revolutionary base areas established the system of worker, peasant, and soldier congresses, which resembled the basic form of the subsequent people's congress system. During the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression (1931–1945), a government based on a national united front against Japanese aggression was established, and the Shaanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Region implemented a representative assembly system based on the three-thirds principle (according to which Communist Party members, non-CPC progressives, and middle-of-the-roaders each filled a third of the official posts). These experiments led the CPC to propose the basic idea of adopting a system of people's congresses.

In January 1940, Mao Zedong pointed

3. English Edition of Qiushi Journal, 2024 19 .

out in his essay “On New Democracy” that “China may now adopt a system of people's congresses, from the national people's congress down to the provincial, county, district, and township people's congresses, with all levels electing their respective governmental bodies.” In “On Coalition Government,” published in April 1945, he further stated, “The organizational principle of the new-democratic state should be democratic centralism, with the people's congresses determining the major policies and electing the governments at the various levels. During the War of Liberation (1946–1949), people's representative conferences were successively held in all liberated areas, serving as prototypes in preparation for the establishment of people's congresses. In September 1949, the first plenary session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) adopted the Common Program of the CPPCC, which held the status of an interim constitution and solemnly declared that New China would implement the people's congress system. The first session of the First National People's Congress was held in September 1954. At the session, the inaugural Constitution of the People's Republic of China (PRC) was adopted, formally making the people's congress system the foundational political system of the state. This was a landmark event in the political development of China and even that of the world.

Thanks to 70 years of consolidation,

improvement, and development since then, China's system of people's congresses is now more mature and well-defined. It has taken deep root in our country and become an integral part of Chinese socialism.

II. Notable political advantages

President Xi Jinping has elaborated on the five notable advantages of the people's congress system: First, it upholds the leadership of the CPC and ensures that the Party leads the people in effectively governing the country in accordance with the law. Second, it applies whole-process people's democracy and guarantees that the people run the country. Third, it implements democratic centralism, ensuring that the country's political life is both vibrant and stable. Fourth, it guarantees law-based governance, ensuring that the rule of law underpins all aspects of the country's work. Fifth, it maintains national unity and ensures long-term stability and security for the country. These important conclusions take into account both history and present reality, theory and practice, and the situation in China and around the world. They offer sound answers and explanations as to why the people's congress system is so effective, vibrant, and efficient. They also add greater depth and breadth to the well-conceived nature, distinct advantages, and practical requirements of our country's foundational political system.

Over the past 70 years, under the CPC's leadership, the people's congress system has effectively ensured that China has advanced

along a socialist path. This has provided an important institutional guarantee for the Party's efforts to lead the people in creating the two miracles of rapid economic development and long-term social stability. It has thus been proven in practice that the people's congress system is a sound one that is well-suited to China's conditions and realities, reflects the socialist nature of our country, and ensures that the people run the country. It is an effective system for coalescing the strength of our people to promote Chinese modernization, and possesses tremendous vitality and remarkable advantages.

III. Fruitful theoretical and practical innovations

Since the 18th CPC National Congress in 2012, the Central Committee with Xi Jinping at its core has pursued a strategy of national rejuvenation amid global changes of a magnitude not seen in a century. From the strategic perspective of upholding and improving the CPC's leadership and consolidating and developing the socialist system, it has continuously promoted theoretical and practical innovations in the people's congress system, putting forward a series of new ideas, new thinking, and new requirements that form the basis for Xi Jinping's thought on upholding and improving the people's congress system.

In this regard, President Xi has stressed the following: People's congresses must uphold the CPC's leadership; use institutions and systems to guarantee that the people run

the country; advance law-based governance; adhere to democratic centralism; stay on the path of socialist political advancement with Chinese characteristics; continue to modernize China's system and capacity for governance; give full play to the roles of deputies to people's congresses; and strengthen the development of people's congresses at all levels. Such development should be based on the requirement that people's congresses must serve as political institutions that consciously uphold the CPC's leadership, institutions of state power that ensure the running of the country by the people, working institutions that fully assume the functions conferred by the Constitution and the law, and representative institutions that always maintain close ties with the people.

These requirements, known as the "eight essentials," represent an enrichment and elaboration of the "six essentials" put forward by President Xi at the Central People's Congress Work Conference in 2012. Seamlessly interconnected, the requirements constitute the core tenets of Xi Jinping's thought on advancing and refining the people's congress system. The document clarifies the direction, principles, and rationale underpinning the development of the people's congress system and the work of people's congresses. Full comprehension, resolute application, and unwavering adherence to these principles are imperative.

To uphold, refine, and effectively implement the system of people's

congresses. It is crucial to ensure organic unity of the Communist Party of China's leadership, the people's position as masters of the country, and governance based on the rule of law. The people's congress system is an important institutional vehicle for the Party's leadership over the organs of state power, and its primary task is to resolutely uphold the CPC Central Committee's authority and its centralized, unified leadership, and ensure that our Party's theories, guidelines, principles, policies, decisions, and plans are fully and effectively implemented through the work of the state. It is not only an important means for ensuring that the Chinese people run the country, but also the highest form through which this is realized. Adhering to the principle that all power of the state belongs to the people, we must support and ensure the people's exercise of state power through people's congresses. This necessitates ensuring that all state institutions remain accountable to the populace, dedicated to serving the public interest, and firmly subject to democratic oversight, thereby solidifying the people's position as the true masters of the country and institutionalizing the principle of people-centered governance. The people's congress system is also an important institutional platform for law-based governance. To develop a system of socialist rule of law with Chinese characteristics and build a socialist nation under the rule of law, we must advance sound legislation, strict law enforcement,

impartial administration of justice, and society-wide observance. We must also ensure that all state work is carried out under the rule of law.

IV. New missions and tasks in advancing Chinese modernization across the board

President Xi Jinping has pointed out that “With a focus on developing whole-process people's democracy, we must uphold, improve, and implement the system of people's congresses to good effect, so as to provide a firm institutional guarantee for achieving the goals of our Party and people on the new journey in the new era.” He has also set forth clear requirements for “giving full play to the role of people's congresses in four respects” with an emphasis on “continuously improving the quality of their work in the new era.”

In line with the guiding principles from the 20th CPC National Congress and the following plenary sessions of the 20th CPC Central Committee, we must accurately grasp the role and tasks of people's congresses in advancing Chinese modernization, so as to fulfill our duties and responsibilities and make solid efforts to contribute to the building of a modern socialist country.

First, we must give full play to the important role of people's congresses in ensuring full and effective implementation of the Constitution and the law. We must improve the legal systems concerning the Constitution to fully leverage its central role

in legislation and ensure that it is observed throughout the entire legislative process. We should establish a system for reporting on the implementation of the Constitution and improve both the constitutional review and the record and review for normative documents. This will enable us to resolutely correct any inconsistencies with the Constitution and the law and ensure full implementation of our constitutionally established systems, principles, and rules.

Second, it is crucial to fully leverage the pivotal role of people's congresses in legislative affairs. The organization and coordination of legislative work should be strengthened. The NPC should give fuller rein to its leading role in determining legislative items, organizing the drafting of laws, coordinating efforts on major issues, and reviewing draft legislation. The mechanism through which relevant NPC special committees and working bodies of the NPC Standing Committee take the lead in drafting important laws should be improved. With a focus on the key task of raising the quality of legislation, we must steadily improve the socialist legal system with Chinese characteristics. We should make improvements to laws that are urgently needed for national governance, necessary for meeting the people's needs for a better life, and imperative for safeguarding national security, making good laws that promote development and ensure good governance. We should see that reform is advanced under the rule of law and that the

rule of law is improved through reform. This means that major reforms should be underpinned by sound laws and that reform achievements should be timely elevated to the status of law.

Third, it is imperative to fully harness the critical oversight function of people's congresses within the Party and state oversight frameworks. Oversight mechanisms must be implemented in a precise, efficient, and legally grounded manner to facilitate the implementation of the CPC Central Committee's strategic decisions and policy directives, guarantee that all state organs exercise their authority in strict accordance with the law, and uphold the lawful rights and interests of the people. To refine the systems for oversight of administrative, supervisory, adjudicatory, and procuratorial organs by people's congresses, we should improve the Law on the Oversight by the Standing Committees of People's Congresses at All Levels and its implementation mechanisms. We should also step up examination and oversight of government budgets and final accounts, oversight of state-owned asset management, and oversight of government debt management.

Fourth, it is imperative to fully embody the exemplary role of people's congresses in maintaining close ties with the people. The people-centered development philosophy must be steadfastly applied, and the principle of serving the people and relying on their support must be upheld as the

cornerstone of all legislative and oversight endeavors. To ensure close ties with the people, we need to engage with local communities and residents in our research and studies, seek out people's opinions and suggestions, and better respond to their needs. This will ensure that all our initiatives embody the will of the people, safeguard people's rights and interests, and align with their needs and wishes.

V. An important institutional vehicle for realizing whole-process people's democracy

The major concept of whole-process people's democracy proposed by President Xi Jinping has established a clear theme for our efforts to advance socialist democracy on the new journey in the new era. The development of whole-process people's democracy is integral to Chinese modernization. We must resolutely follow the socialist path of political advancement with Chinese characteristics and uphold and improve China's foundational, basic, and important political systems. On this basis, we should enrich the forms of democracy at every level and ensure that the principle of the people running the country is manifested in concrete and practical ways in all aspects of national political and social life.

In China, all state power is vested in the people. Deputies to people's congresses are elected by the people through democratic procedures to form people's congresses at all levels as the organs through which the people exercise state power. Administrative,

supervisory, adjudicatory, and procuratorial organs at all levels are established by people's congresses in accordance with the law, accountable to them, and subject to their oversight, thereby institutionalizing the people's status as the sovereign authority and ensuring the people's democratic participation in state governance. From the nature and configuration of state organs to the distribution and exercise of state power, all facets of the state embody the principle that power comes from the people, must answer to the people, serves the people, and is subject to the people's oversight. This ensures, to the greatest extent possible, that it is the people who run the country. The formulation and revision of the Constitution and the law by the NPC and its oversight of their implementation are vivid examples of whole-process people's democracy in practice. At the same time, these efforts also provide legal safeguards for the development of whole-process people's democracy.

Practicing and developing whole-process people's democracy is not only an important duty of the NPC but also the key to its vitality. It is imperative that we improve the democratic platforms and vehicles through which the general public express opinions, enhance the rules of procedure for people's congresses, along with their debate, assessment, discussion, and hearing systems, and improve the working mechanisms for drawing on public opinion and pooling the wisdom of the people.

Therefore, we will ensure that all work of people's congresses is firmly underpinned by the will of the people.

The NPC Standing Committee has established and improved the mechanism for soliciting public opinion on draft laws. Since 2012, public opinion has been sought on 277 draft laws, with about 1.47 million submissions providing more than 4.15 million suggestions and comments. Since 2015, the Legislative Affairs Commission of the NPC Standing Committee has established 45 legislative outreach offices covering 31 provinces, autonomous regions, and municipalities directly under the central government. These efforts have prompted provincial and municipal people's congresses to establish more than 7,300 such offices, thereby creating smooth democratic channels for community-level participation in national legislative work. Since 2020, the Budgetary Affairs Commission of the NPC Standing Committee has established 13 community-level outreach offices and two university outreach offices, with a view to better assessing popular sentiment, gathering insights from the people, and benefiting the public in areas such as the examination and oversight of government budgets and final accounts, state-owned asset management oversight, government debt management oversight, and fiscal and tax legislation.

Better leveraging the role of deputies to people's congresses is an important manifestation of the people running the country and a crucial foundation for the

work of people's congresses. State organs should support deputies in performing their duties in accordance with the law, improving the systems and mechanisms for communications with deputies, ensuring high-quality handling of deputies' proposals and suggestions, and seeing that the demands and will of the people, as conveyed by deputies, are incorporated into all aspects of work. We must leverage the unique strengths of our deputies who come from and are rooted among the people by giving play to their professional expertise. Efforts must be made to enhance both the scope and substance of public engagement mechanisms, ensuring that the voices and aspirations of the general populace are effectively gathered and channeled to competent authorities for timely resolution. To date, more than 200,000 outreach and local centers for deputies have been established nationwide, attaining near-universal coverage across all towns, townships, and subdistricts. This has created an effective platform to facilitate deputies at all levels in performing their statutory duties and staying in contact with the public. We need to develop and effectively utilize various mechanisms and platforms with a focus on ensuring that outreach activities enable deputies to carry out their statutory duties and effectively fulfill their roles. Doing so will allow us to create more pragmatic and effective windows into public opinion and bridges of connection with the people.

The CPC's Overall Leadership Is a Fundamental Guarantee for the High-Quality Development of the CPPCC in the New Era

Author : By CPC Leadership Group of the General Office of the CPPCC National Committee

A commemorative meeting was held in Beijing on September 20, 2024, to mark the 75th anniversary of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC). During the meeting, President Xi Jinping delivered a keynote speech, in which he highly commended the CPPCC's historical contribution and elaborated on its distinctive Chinese features and notable political advantages. In his speech, President Xi set clear requirements for promoting extensive and institutionalized development of consultative democracy across all levels and put forward overarching plans for CPPCC work in the present and near future. He used 10 principles to summarize the main points of his thought on strengthening and improving CPPCC work, with the foremost principle being to uphold the CPC's overall leadership over the CPPCC.

I. The fundamental guarantee for the CPPCC's development and progress over the past 75 years

The leadership of the CPC is the defining feature and greatest strength of socialism with Chinese characteristics. It is the foundation and lifeblood of the CPC and the country and where the interests and future of all Chinese people rest. Over the past 75 years, the CPPCC has consistently adhered to the fundamental political principle of upholding the CPC's leadership, and each step in its

growth and development has borne the unmistakable mark of this leadership.

An original mission of the CPPCC

The CPC's leadership was an inevitable result of China's historical development. Moreover, it was the common choice of all Chinese people, including all other political parties, people's organizations, and ethnic groups, social strata, and prominent figures from all sectors of society. On April 30, 1948, the CPC Central Committee issued the "May Day Slogans" to mark the International Labor Day, in which it issued a call for "all democratic parties, people's organizations, and prominent figures to quickly convene a political consultative conference to discuss the holding of a people's congress and establish a democratic coalition government." The proposal immediately received an enthusiastic endorsement from other political parties, prominent figures without party affiliation, and all sectors of society, indicating those groups, having endured tests of life and death, now more clearly recognized the CPC's advanced nature and readily and openly accepted its leadership. The first plenary session of the CPPCC which was held in September 1949, marked the start of a new era in which the CPC would lead all other political parties, people's organizations, and prominent figures from various ethnic groups and sectors of society in building a new state

through consultation and securing great achievements through concerted efforts. It also marked the formal establishment of the system of CPC-led multiparty cooperation and political consultation. In the 75 years since then, the CPPCC has steadfastly pursued its original mission of upholding the leadership of the CPC, and served the central tasks of the CPC and the country and played a vitally important role in national affairs.

An inevitable requirement for accurately grasping the CPPCC's nature

The CPPCC Charter stipulates that the CPPCC is an organization of the patriotic united front, an important institution for CPC-led multiparty cooperation and political consultation, and an vital avenue for advancing socialist democracy and practicing whole-process people's democracy in China's political life. It defines the CPPCC as an important channel and specialized institution for socialist consultative democracy, an irreplaceable component of the national governance system, and an institutional arrangement that is distinctly Chinese in nature. The CPPCC's nature and role determine that it is a political organization led by the CPC, that its working bodies are political organs, and the CPPCC system and organization have a clear political nature. It is essential that we demonstrate a high degree of commitment in our thinking, political stance, and actions to the principle of upholding the CPC's leadership; there is absolutely no room for ambiguity or irresolution on this point. For the CPPCC, upholding the CPC's

leadership means that all important work is carried out under this leadership, all important activities are focused on the central tasks of the CPC and the country, and all important plans are implemented with the approval of the CPC Central Committee, after extensively soliciting opinions. This ensures that the CPC's propositions are translated into consensus among all sectors of society by means of democratic procedures and that the CPPCC always advances in the correct political direction.

On July 4, 2024, members of the Shibing County CPPCC Committee conducted consultations with CPC branch and village committee members, as well as village representatives, in Shijiawan Village, Shibing County, Qiandongnan Miao and Dong Autonomous Prefecture, Guizhou Province. In recent years, the Shibing County CPPCC Committee has set up consultation and discussion platforms in local communities to promote democratic consultations at the community level.

The fundamental basis for the CPPCC's historic achievements in the new era

The CPC Central Committee with Xi Jinping at its core has strengthened its leadership over CPPCC work ideologically, politically, organizationally, and institutionally. It has convened the Central Conference on CPPCC Work and issued regulations on the CPC's united front endeavors and political consultations. It has also formulated a series of major plans in the new era to enhance socialist consultative

democracy, improve CPPCC work, strengthen Party building in the CPPCC, improve the work of municipal- and county-level CPPCC committees, and uphold, develop, and improve China's new type of party system. These moves have paved the way for historic achievements in the CPPCC's work and helped foster a new atmosphere and image for the CPPCC.

II. Seamless integration between CPC leadership, united front, and consultative democracy

We should accurately grasp the rich implications underlying the integration between the CPC's leadership, the united front, and consultative democracy and fully understand the sound and effective institutional arrangements underpinning the CPPCC, in order to strengthen our confidence in the path, theory, system, and culture of Chinese socialism.

The CPC's leadership is a fundamental guarantee for the development of the united front and consultative democracy

The CPC is the leadership core for Chinese socialism. Whether we can uphold its leadership has a direct bearing on the fundamental direction of united front work and consultative democracy. As such, there is a unity between our efforts to uphold the CPC's leadership on the one hand and to promote democracy and unity on the other. Unity must have a center, and true unity is only possible if we hold firm to that center. For us, that center is the leadership of the CPC. The stronger its leadership and the

firmer its political stance, the more it will be possible for us to enhance the competence and cohesion of CPC organizations and members within the CPPCC committees at all levels, to provide effective ideological and political guidance, and to realize great unity that is genuine and tight-knit. This will ultimately result in more extensive and effective democracy.

Consultative democracy is also an important means of realizing CPC leadership, as the process of consultation is about extensively listening to different voices and absorbing useful opinions and suggestions, but also about enabling people from all ethnic groups and social sectors to understand and embrace the CPC's political propositions and its guidelines, principles, and policies. The CPC's leadership thus determines both the direction and the effectiveness of united front work and consultative democracy. Only by upholding its leadership can the united front be steadily consolidated and expanded, and can consultative democracy achieve effective, systematic, and sound development.

The united front is a powerful instrument for the CPC in rallying people's support and strength and an important pillar for the development of consultative democracy

The united front is a vital part of the general line and policy of the CPC. It has served as an important tool in defeating the enemy, in working to govern and rejuvenate the country, and in the efforts to unite all the sons and daughters of the Chinese nation at home and abroad to realize national

rejuvenation. Through the united front, the CPC is able to realize political leadership by ensuring that other political parties, prominent figures without party affiliation, representative figures from all ethnic groups and sectors of society, and Chinese people at home and abroad understand its political propositions and its guidelines, principles, and policies. Through the united front, it is able to rally support and gather strength for achieving its goals by uniting with representative figures and ensuring all members of the united front identify with the CPC's latest theories on a political, intellectual, theoretical, and emotional level. This allows the CPC to rally people across all sectors closely around it. At the same time, the united front has long remained committed to the principle of engaging in extensive consultation when matters arise, when problems emerge, and when taking actions. In practice, it has created standard and systematic mechanisms and diverse consultation platforms and vehicles, all of which have laid a solid foundation for the development of consultative democracy.

At its third plenary session, the 20th CPC Central Committee put forward plans for building a broad united front, emphasizing the need to improve the policies and measures for facilitating the united front's political role in rallying the support of the people and pooling their strength. On the new journey ahead, we must fully leverage the united front as an important instrument and work continuously to build a broader united front. In doing so, we will better pool, coordinate,

and integrate the resources and strengths of all political parties, people's organizations, and social organizations, thereby consolidating the main forces for the development of consultative democracy, expanding the CPC's public support, and reinforcing its governance foundations.

Consultative democracy is a significant means of upholding the CPC's leadership and consolidating and developing the united front

The process of extensive consultation among all sectors of society is a process of advancing democracy and pooling wisdom, promoting unity in thinking and building consensus, and ensuring sound and democratic decision-making. It is, in effect, a process of more effectively realizing the CPC's leadership. At the meeting marking the CPPCC's 75th anniversary, President Xi Jinping set out specific plans and clear requirements for the comprehensive development of consultative democracy in five areas. These are as follows: consistently maintaining the correct political orientation, thoroughly improving the system of consultative democracy, effectively strengthening the mechanisms for consultative democracy, steadily expanding consultation methods and platforms, and actively creating an enabling atmosphere and conditions for consultation.

On the new journey ahead, we must ensure that President Xi's plans and requirements are carried out. By upholding, developing, and using consultative democracy to good effect and promoting full expression to solicit effective solutions and

views from all sides, we can ensure that CPC and government decisions and work better align with the will of the public and practical conditions. This will enable all members of the united front to better identify with the CPC's propositions and to carry out its guidelines, principles, and policies. It will ensure that we consolidate both the CPC's leadership and governance position and the great unity that prevails among all ethnic groups in China and among all the Chinese people at home and abroad.

The CPC's leadership, united front work, and consultative democracy all share the same objectives and constitute a cohesive whole; they are interconnected, with each reinforcing the strengths of the others. The fact that the CPPCC seamlessly integrates all three of these elements highlights its distinctive Chinese features and striking political advantages. As a political organization under the leadership of the CPC, the CPPCC contributes to refining the institutions and systems through which the people run the country, thus effectively safeguarding the overall, fundamental, and long-term interests of the greatest possible number of people. As the most extensive organization of the patriotic united front, it effectively consolidates the collective wisdom and strength of the Chinese nation to the greatest extent possible, thus creating a powerful dynamic where everyone is of one mind and working for the same goals. As an important channel and specialized institution

for socialist consultative democracy, it can help promote sound decision-making and effective implementation of policies, thus enhancing the effectiveness of national governance. The CPPCC has integrated CPC leadership, the united front, and consultative democracy into its dynamic efforts to advance democracy and promote unity and to offer suggestions on state affairs and build consensus. This has enabled it to demonstrate tremendous vitality and ensures it will continue to do so in the future.

III. Exercising the CPC's leadership throughout all aspects of the CPPCC's work to facilitate Chinese modernization

The CPC's leadership is the fundamental guarantee for the development and progress of the CPPCC. Therefore, we must ensure that its leadership is embedded in all aspects of the CPPCC's work.

Firmly upholding the CPC's overall leadership and the centralized, unified leadership of its Central Committee

The CPC leadership group of the CPPCC National Committee shoulders major political responsibility for realizing the CPC's leadership over the CPPCC. It must fulfill its leadership role of setting the correct direction, keeping the big picture in mind, and ensuring implementation of its policies. To this end, we need to improve the organizational systems and institutional mechanisms for implementing its leadership over CPPCC work. We should uphold and improve the top-of-the-agenda system and

enhance the regular, long-term mechanisms for studying and implementing President Xi Jinping's written and spoken instructions and the CPC Central Committee's decisions and plans. We must put in place a complete chain of work to ensure we act upon incoming tasks immediately, conducting relevant studies and research, clearly assigning responsibilities, and carrying out follow-up supervision. We will apply the list system regarding issues for which the CPC leadership groups of the National Committee and its general office need to seek instructions from, and submit reports to, the CPC Central Committee and ensure all work is reported on in a timely manner. We will urge CPC members within CPPCC organizations to always keep in mind that their primary identity is as CPC members and that their primary duty is to work for the CPC. using their exemplary conduct to influence and lead all National Committee members in observing discipline, abiding by the rules, and acting with integrity.

Endeavoring to use the CPC's new theories to enhance cohesion and build inner strength

We must step up efforts to arm ourselves with the CPC's new theories. This is essential for ensuring the CPC's overall leadership over the CPPCC and a prerequisite for reinforcing our foundations and correctly carrying out our duties. Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era serves as the overarching guide for CPPCC work. We should improve the long-term mechanisms for regular reading programs and political and

theoretical study sessions for National Committee members, and consolidate and build on the achievements of our educational campaign on the study and implementation of this Thought. We need to keep enhancing our capacity to analyze and resolve problems and to transform the subjective and objective worlds using this new theory. We must also fully and faithfully apply President Xi Jinping's thought on strengthening and improving CPPCC work, grasping the essence and core principles of this thought and understanding both the significance and rationale behind it. We must not only understand what needs to be done but also grasp the underlying reasons, apply our knowledge in practice, and act according to our convictions. This will allow us to turn new knowledge into abilities that ensure the CPPCC carries out its duties to a high standard and into concrete actions to uphold Xi Jinping's core position on the CPC Central Committee and in the Party as a whole, and uphold the Central Committee's authority and its centralized, unified leadership.

Fulfilling our duties and responsibilities with a focus on advancing Chinese modernization

The CPPCC can only function effectively and fulfill its crucial role by aligning itself with the development objectives and comprehensive endeavors of the CPC and the state. We must focus on major, difficult, and pressing issues related to advancing Chinese modernization, furthering comprehensive reform, promoting high-

quality development, and maintaining social harmony and stability. We should optimize the mechanisms for developing key consultation plans and formulate sound annual plans for consultations, inspections, field visits, research tours, and key democratic oversight plans. We must steadily advance our consultative role in state affairs and leverage the advantages of consultative oversight to transform the institutional strengths of the CPPCC into effective national governance. We must improve the working mechanisms that enable the united front to fulfill its political role in rallying support and pooling strength. We should enhance the effectiveness of activities for building unity and friendship and engaging in discussion, and advance initiatives to ensure National Committee members stay in close contact with the sectors they represent and serve the people by fulfilling their duties. We must do more to strengthen confidence, rally public support, demonstrate compassion for people, and build consensus, striving to achieve the greatest possible convergence of interests for building a great country and achieving national rejuvenation. We must implement the reform tasks set out at the third plenary session of the 20th CPC Central Committee on improving the mechanisms for consultative democracy. To this end, we need to refine the mechanisms that enable in-depth consultations and interactions, the full expression of opinions, and the formation of broad consensus. We need to strengthen the mechanisms through which the CPPCC

reports on social conditions and public opinions and stays in contact with and serves the people, and refine the mechanisms for democratic oversight by the CPPCC. These efforts will guarantee the improvement of institutional frameworks, operational standards, and procedural guidelines for CPPCC consultations.

Improving the quality and effectiveness of CPPCC work through strict discipline

To strengthen the ranks of the National Committee, we need to guide CPPCC members in valuing their political identity, improving their political integrity, and enhancing their political capabilities. On fundamental issues concerning our path, system, political standpoint, and direction, the stance and principles of National Committee members must be clear-cut and unwavering demonstrating a stronger sense of mission and responsibility. While consciously committing to taking practical actions on the front lines to build consensus, provide proposals and suggestions, promote consultative democracy, and contribute to national governance. We must step up efforts to strengthen the CPPCC as a political institution. This requires implementing systematic and sustained initiatives to increase awareness of CPC discipline and organizational discipline, and ensure strict, comprehensive enforcement of disciplinary standards. Through these efforts, we will foster a clean and honest political environment that encourages dedication and hard work and build a contingent of loyal and

responsible members with integrity. Focusing on the role of political inspections, we will improve the systems and procedures for inspection work, facilitating the CPC leadership group of the National Committee in conducting inspections of the CPC branch groups of special committees. We will also ensure all CPC organizations at every level are inspected by the Party leadership groups of general offices at the corresponding level. We must continue to make concerted efforts to enhance Party consciousness, improve Party

conduct, and tighten Party discipline. In making personnel appointments, we will adopt an approach that emphasizes practical work, concrete achievements, and the willingness to shoulder responsibility. And we will advocate the pursuit of constant improvement and perfection in our work and improve the systems and mechanisms for guarding against pointless formalities and bureaucratism, thereby forging the CPPCC into an exemplary institution that earns the trust of the CPC and the satisfaction of the people.