Xi sends congratulatory message to Brazil's Lula

By MOEJENJO
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President Xi Jinping congratulated Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva on his inauguration as president of the Federative Republic of Brazil, saying that he is ready to work with Lula to take ties to a higher level.

In a congratulatory message sent to Lula in Brasilia on Sunday, Xi said that China and Brazil are both major developing countries with global influence and important emerging market economies.

The two countries, which are comprehensive strategic partners, have shared broad common interests and shoulder common development responsibilities, he said.

Xi said that since the two countries established diplomatic ties 68 years ago, China-Brazil relations have witnessed sustained and healthy development, thanks to joint efforts of both sides.


Farwell to Pele


Holiday consumption shows robust recovery

New Year ‘spending enthusiasm’ welcomed as Spring Festival nears

By ZHEN WEIZHAN
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Restaurants, hotels and shopping malls across the country saw a return of the long weekend harvest of tourists on Monday, during the New Year holiday, following China’s optimization of COVID-19 control measures and a large number of people recovered from coronavirus infections.

The daily tourist sector saw robust recovery during the three-day holiday period from Saturday to Monday, and daily online searches for travel arrangements for the holiday reached more than 50 percent higher than for the same period last year, according to a new report from the China Tourism Academy, which provides a range of tourism-related data on Chinese domestic tourism.

In particular, the amount of spending recorded in Guangzhou, Jiangsu and Jilin provinces, as well as Beijing and Shanghai, remained above the national average. Meanwhile, nominal spending

— the amount spent by travelers — jumped significantly and helped drive overall holiday consumption, the report said.

Chinese consumers have shown their spending enthusiasm as Spring Festival draws near, and there was post-peak demand, which was earlier hurried by the pandemic, that needed to be released," said Song Guangming, vice-dean of Nankai University’s School of Government.

“Retail, catering, accommodations and scenic spots nationwide are expected to enjoy another round of a spending spree,” Song said.

During the first two days of the holiday, many restaurants, especially large-scale ones, saw people applying the tax deductibility amount that cite–to–customer service in online restaurants or traditional restaurants at resorts was doubting the extent of the peak demand, although the service is not yet enough.

Liu Zhao, the owner of a flower shop in Beijing, said that as of the afternoon of New Year’s Eve, which was 90 percent, the valuation of orders gradually began to increase. As of Sunday morning, he had sent out dozens of bouquets via express delivery. China Media Group reported.

Local entertainments, such as visiting karaoke venues and hot springs, was also favored by young consumers during the holiday.

The number of either at-in-town handmake workshops surged 242 percent over the previous period, and the number of orders for having “New Year theme communications taken alone jumped remarkably, according to Moodie.

Meanwhile, vacations at high-end hotels or at home and travel to destinations with distinctive features also were popular. On Jan. 31, the average room rate of high-end hotels available through Meituan hit a record high for 2023, and more than 60 percent of those booking rooms were under 30 minutes to the report said.

More and more popular tourism destinations, such as Sanya in Hainan province, Zhoushan in Zhejiang province and Hangzhou in Zhejiang province, saw their visitors fully booked. During the holiday, prices of hotel rooms, especially those in tourist destinations, climbed significantly during the holiday, according to Baidu based online travel agency Tinglong Travel.

Chinese consumers have shown greater spending in the confidence of taking trips, and this has contributed to further recovery of the domestic tourism market over the New Year’s holiday. In particular, the demand for long-term travel pickup.

Cheng Changming, senior researcher at Tsinghua School of Economics and Management, said Changming, the top researcher at Tsinghua School, “The demand performance and the recovery of the tourism markets may become better than expected, and this has laid the foundation for further recovery of the tourism market for the whole year.” Changming said.
The authorities in Shandong have since completed the preparatory work and will start the project soon.

Xu Mingjie, director of the Yellow River Estuary National Nature Reserve Management Committee, said: "An area of 5,000 hectares has been allocated for the national park.

The reserve is a global biodiversity ground for the Oriental White Stork and black-tailed godwit. To prepare for the national park, the reserve returned thousands of feral birds to wetlands and lakes. It also invested billions of yuan in projects such as water-replenishing systems and dredging lakes and rivers, restoring six grasslands, and treating human-related damage.

After it is established, the national park is expected to integrate six national nature reserves, Xu said.

He explained that it is important to establish the national nature reserve system to protect biodiversity and provide habitat and food for migratory birds.

China is committed

In the opening of the 13th People's Congress of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, President Xi Jinping said that it is important to build a global service system for wetlands, reporting nations, monitoring and reporting. Wuhan, Hubei province, President Xi Jinping in Wuhan said that it is important to build a global service system for wetlands, reporting nations, monitoring and reporting.

COP14 Review

According to a plan released by the central government in October, by 2025 China will have protected 15% of its wetlands and added 30 such areas of international importance and 10 of national importance.

After the nations first specialised on protecting wetlands was introduced by France, comprehensive protection was introduced according to the National Nature Reserve and Global Wetlands Law.

The world’s protection legislation dates from the Conference of the Parties (CoP), or COP14, held in Sharm El-Sheikh in November. The 13th People’s Congress of the National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference, President Xi Jinping in Wuhan said that it is important to build a global service system for wetlands, reporting nations, monitoring and reporting.

Wetlands: National parks plan drawn up

Wetlands are the "lungs of the earth," providing valuable ecological services. At COP14, China will have protected governance for the Three-Reserve National Park (Qinghai Lake National Park, Liao River Estuary National Park, and Sanjiangyin Crane National Wetland Park).

This COP14 was held from Nov 7-12 in Wuhan and featured 170 Parties.

Every three years, representatives of contracting parties meet at COP for implementing the Ramsar Convention and updating its implementation. Last year was the first time that a meeting had been held in China.

After becoming a contracting party to the convention in 1992, China embarked on wetland protection. It was one of the first countries to appoint a national wetland management office and national wetland reserve vehicles to field monitor, study and information management platforms.

Zhang Mingliang, a professor at Beijing Forestry University’s School of Ecology and Natural Conservation, explained the importance of wetland protection.

"Wetlands are the source of fresh water. Along with forests and oceans, they are the world’s three major carbon sinks and soil instead of releasing carbon into the atmosphere. In this way, they help moderate global climate conditions," he said.

Wetlands are also used for biodiversity, as well as storage, transportation, processing and trading of wetland products. Wuhan, Hubei province, President Xi Jinping in Wuhan said that it is important to build a global service system for wetlands, reporting nations, monitoring and reporting.

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In 2025, the wetland was home to more than 300 species, according to the figures from the monitoring.

Officials at the reserve said bird watchers and park guards may inadvertently raise counting some of the birds, but the system performs this task accurately. It detects the types of birds feeding or looking for the worm, and the sounds they make.

The reserve will also support species in the wild and cope with the threats from invasive species. Wuhan, Hubei province, President Xi Jinping in Wuhan said that it is important to build a global service system for wetlands, reporting nations, monitoring and reporting.

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**TOP NEWS**

**New FM vows further support for Sino-US ties**

He outlines hopes for key relationships, says he will encourage dialogue, mutual understanding and friendship between the two peoples.

**What’s past is prologue. Going forward, I will continue to care about and support the growth of China-US relations, encourage dialogue, mutual understanding and affability between the two peoples.**

Zhou Qiang, China’s recently appointed Foreign Minister, said on Tuesday to “continue to care about and support the growth of China-US relations” he had left as his post at Beijing’s embassy in Washington.

Qin Gang was named foreign minister on Friday after he served as China’s ambassador to the United States for approximately two years. “I am very familiar with the people of the US, the US government, and the US people. I am also very familiar with the policy-makers of the US government, and I am very familiar with China and the US-China relationship,” he wrote.

Qin said that during his tenure as ambassador, he worked to implement the common understandings of the presidents of both nations, served as a bridge and bond of communication between the two countries, and explored the right way for China and the US to maintain the new normal.

Qin noted that he visited 22 states in over 200 days during his stay in the US. “I went to government agencies, Congress, think tanks, universities, ports, farms, sports and music schools, and met many friends and teachers abroad. I have been deeply impressed by the US’ rich democratic systems and talented Chinese people that I met during my stay there.”

Qin Gang, China’s newly appointed foreign minister, gave a farewell address to the ambassador’s office for the US.

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**Relief felt as bustling Beijing returns to normal**

The city government has taken multiple measures to boost consumption, which has given us huge confidence.

Zhao Zezhang, co-president of the Shanghai Commerce and Tourism Bureau, said according to the bureau’s survey of 1,750 businesses, 2.4 million people entered or exited subway stations by 9 a.m. on Thursday, an increase of 25 per cent compared with that of last week. The number of business premises reached 70,000, an increase of 72 per cent.

Commercial establishments and service businesses in the city showed promising numbers as well.

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**Sarcophagus returned**

From page 1

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**Visit**

Visit is a great opportunity to expand trade, investment and other cooperation

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**China not in ‘space race’, industry insiders say**

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**Lighting up the New Year**

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**NEW FM VOWS FURTHER SUPPORT FOR SINOS-US TIES**

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China Rail sector seeks recovery in new year

Network predicts strong growth ahead as country returns to normal travel.

By Luowangshu
luowangshu@chinadaily.com.cn

More than 4,500 kilometers of new railways were put into operation last year, bringing the total mileage in China to 14,000 km, with 3,600 km being high-speed railways, according to the national railway operator China Railway Corporation on Sunday.

Last year, the sector built more railway infrastructure to stabilize economic growth and to provide wider-range pressure on the economy encouraging the railway corporations to overcome the challenges.

A total of 4,476 km of new railways opened to traffic last year, and 6,639 km were high-speed railways, Lu Zhi, president of the company, said at the company's annual general meeting.

The network plans to build more railways in 2013, with more than 3,000 km of new railways expected to be completed. The network's total length will reach 15,257 km while the high-speed railway network will reach 11,025 km.

It is part of the company's annual work plan in 2013 to promote the sector's high-quality development and contribute to the country's economic recovery following COVID-19.

A total of 5,270 million passenger trips are expected to be made this year, a significant year-on-year increase of 40 percent.

Some 4,060 million tons of freight are expected to be handled this year, an 8.4 percent passenger-year increase, Liu added.

The senior leader to receive 687 bil lion yuan (118 billion) in total transport revenue this year, a year-on-year increase of 12 percent.

The expected revenue is built to the amount of 2013, prior to the pandemic—whereby sector gained 400 billion yuan.

Among them, passenger services are expected to bring in 338 billion yuan in revenue, a year-on-year increase of 44 percent.

Allowed by the epidemic, fewer people traveled last year, but network handled 1.41 billion passenger trips.

However, the network played a key role in transporting goods during this epidemic last year. The amount of influence increased substantially and the railway network was 3.3 billion ton-km, up 17 percent year-on-year.

A total of 671 million tons of cargo and power, for example, were transported.

Despite the downward pressure on the economy, the network's total 210 billion yuan in fixed asset investment increased compared to the previous year.

The railway sector, especially in passenger services, was badly hit by the epidemic in the first three months. Fewer people traveled and fewer services were operated, and sharply down at railway stations.

As China has downscaled in COVID-19 management, transport and services including railway operations gradually resuming their track and budget.

The railway sector is preparing for experimental operation and limited special services in its superior structure, according to the a senior railway official.

"The Yangtze River Basin has been a proving ground for experimental operation and limited special services in its superior structure, according to the committee of the National Development and Reform Commission. It reshapes the economic and social structure of the Yangtze River Basin," he said.

In 2021, 92 percent of the national monitoring stations in the basin reported "high" water quality, he said, while reporting that the committee of the National Development and Reform Commission reshapes the economic and social structure of the Yangtze River Basin.

Adopted in late 2020, the document was introduced on March 3, 2021. The country has a few water-quality monitoring stations with Grade 5 or above, Grade 10. Water quality is considered "very good." It is as good or above Grade 10. According to the Ministry of Ecology and Environment, the properties of national monitoring stations with high water-quality water in the basin has increased from 85 percent at the end of 2020.

The basin contributed 46 percent of the country's GDP in 2020, he said. The rate is 4.5 percent higher than that in 2015, according to the National Development and Reform Commission.

"The achievements were the result of a series of measures taken by the central and local governments to implement the Yangtze River Protection Law," he said.

For example, has made contributions to enhancing support for Yangtze protection. For instance, in 2021, to 2023, the central government allocates 140 billion yuan (40 billion U.S. dollars) in transfer payments for special purposes, he said, adding the payments made last year went up by about 1.3 percent from 2021.

"Since 2011, about 150 million of water objects have been built or managed in the basin," he noted. The total daily capacity of newly built sewage treatment plants since then has reached over 6 million cubic meters.

The vice-chairman also highlighted the great efforts the country has made to improve a flurry of regulations in the basin as stipulated in the law. Thanks to a joint law enforcement mechanism of different government bodies, he said, a grid of monitoring stations was established in the Yangtze for effective fishing management.

The 10 provincial-level regions along the Yangtze have signed agreements on cross-border enforcement to crack down on illegal fishing.

Rough ride

Pair of provincial official party officials take upatty posts

By Cang Wei
in Nanjing
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The Communist Party of China Central Committee has approved the appointment of new Party secretaries to lead two provincial provinces on Tuesday.

Xiao Yan, former chief of the Party’s Qujing branch, was appointed Party secretary of Hebei province.

Born in 1958 in Xi’an, a native of East China’s Jiangsu province and served as director of the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security and Director of the National Social Security Administration. He served as the deputy Party chief of Anhui province in 2011.

Jiang Xuejie, a deputy Party secretary of the Party of China Qujing Provincial Committee, was appointed Party chief of Qujing province.

Jiang, born in 1953 in Xuzhou, Jiangsu province, was a former member of the Standing Committee of the People’s Congress of Qujing province.

Also on Tuesday, Chen Gang, born in 1958 in Hebei province of China’s Jizhou province, was appointed Party chief of Qujing province.

Chen has worked in various positions, including a vice-chairman of the Beijing CPC Standing Committee, Party chief of Dazhou city in Guizhou province and member of the Guangdong CPC Standing Committee, and has been in several positions in Hebei province including as deputy governor and Party chief of Hebei province.

He is a senior member of the Leading Party Members Group of the All-China Federation of Returned overseas Chinese in December 2020, and became the vice-president of the Federation in February 2021.

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By Guo Yuan
partynews@chinadaily.com.cn

Officials, teachers and students from Nanjing University expressed their deep sorrow over the death of ailing Fang Ping, who died at 87 on Monday.

He, a native of Wuxi, Jiangsu province, was well-known as being the main author of the famous article Practice in the SMA Formula: The Best Criteria for Testing the ‘Dishui’ Which was published in Guannung Daily in 1978. He passed away at 9:30 am on Friday at Nanjing First Hospital.

The university posted an obituary on its Weibo account, expressing grief over the loss of its 'great scholar'. It said that his death is a loss to the realm of thought, bringing contributions and achievements, which will be remembered by his students.

Guo Xinglin, former Party secretary of Jiangsu province, sent her condolences to the friends and relatives of late Fang Ping, former director of the Department of Philosophy, when his work, centered that it was his profound influence on the social and cultural fields, and said that he had a profound impact on China's philosophical studies.

He was president of the Chinese Philosophy Society, and was the first presiding over the Interim of the Philosophy and Social Sciences Society in China.

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According to the Chinese Philosophy Society, he passed away at 87 on Monday.

Fang Ping was a Chinese philosopher, scholar and writer, who was a prominent figure in the study of Chinese philosophy and culture.

His work contributed to the development of modern Chinese philosophy, and he was known for his contributions to the study of Chinese thought.

He also served as the president of the Chinese Philosophy Society, and was a key figure in the study of Chinese philosophy and culture.

He passed away on Monday, March 1, 2021, at the age of 87.

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Global COVID-19 cooperation maintained

By JIA WEIJIE

China has maintained pragmatic, rational and cordial, transparent communication with the World Health Organization and countries and regions worldwide since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic three years ago, said Yang Ping, a spokesperson for the National Health Commission, on Tuesday. In January 2020, the country offered to establish a technical communication mechanism with the WHO and, over the past three years, China's technical department has held more than 160 technical discussions with WHO officials to coordinate closely with the organization and participate in the weekly technical news conference.

The two sides have held more than 60 technical discussions on COVID-19 with local economic and medical treatment teams, vaccine development and virus origin tracing, he said. China also held more than 300 epidemic prevention talks and concluded related documents more than 180 countries and regions at the national and international levels, and it has shared its experience in epidemic control without reservations, he said.

Yang said that since January 2020, China has announced 10 new examples of effective control on the basis of domestic experience, more than 400 countries and regions have announced the new epidemic situation caused by the people and their own treatment and vaccination efforts, he said.

China is willing to continue cooperation with the WHO and other international organizations to contribute to ending the pandemic, he added.

Speaking at a news briefing on Tuesday, Foreign Minister Wang Yi said that since the outbreak of the epidemic, China has been actively participating in international anti-epidemic cooperation, and worked together with the international community to respond to the challenges of the epidemic as soon as possible.

A few days ago, the Chinese government and the WHO held a special video conference. The Chinese government exchanged views on the current situation of the epidemic prevention and control, treatment, vaccination and other technical issues, and agreed to continue technical exchanges to help each other and the world as soon as possible, he said.

Preparations underway to slowly return foreign transits to pre-pandemic levels

By LIU WANGQUAN

China will gradually reopen cross-border passenger transport on rail starting on Sunday, according to a work plan released by the Ministry of Transport (the former national-level administration). Local transport departments are required to prepare to resume cross-border services by studying previous international passenger volumes, market demand and the development of enterprises that provide international rail transit services.

Communication with authorities in the overseas stations has been maintained, and after both parties reach an agreement upon the resumption of services, the information will be released to the public.

The authorities should assist enterprises to recover their operation performance and inspect vehicles and trains according to the plan. It will strengthen cooperation with foreign transport service providers and transport agencies, as well as ensure facilities a long way ahead enable passengers and staff members to operate. Testing should also be provided before the resumption of services to improve the quality of transport policies and epidemic control measures. For international rail services, pilot programs will be carried out and then full services will be planned.

The country will also offer more convenience for Chinese and foreign students that need to change shifts in China.

According to a statement released by the Ministry of Finance, the General Administration of Customs has released new measures to strengthen the orderly and steady resumption of cross-boundary transit services.

It also said that all medical aid testing for COVID-19 will be canceled on Sunday.

China announced last week it was downgrading its management of COVID-19 from Class A to Class B. As a major change to the country's epidemic strategy, the downgrade will ease restrictions for travelers, and there will be no more legal barrier to acquire a medical aid test or medical assistance in Hong Kong. However, the country still requires people to follow new testing rules for international travel, if necessary.

On Christmas Eve, a medical worker presented a traditional Chinese medicinal soup to a TCM hospital in Yunnan, Shangduan province, on Dec. 24.

TCM plays key role in virus treatment mix

By WANG XILUO

Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) has become a popular and trustworthy solution in China in the prevention and treating services COVID-19 patients, as well as accelerating rehabilitation, as TCM hospitals have setup units for TCM clinics and intense care units to help patients with COVID-19. In addition, the Chinese government previously designated these services as essential medical insurance services.

We have published a guideline on home-based TCM treatment for COVID-19 patients, which recommends 76 TCM drugs and their ingredients to be used with their prescriptions," he said.

"To create a shortage of drug supplies, policies in some regions, Huaig said that the administration has worked with the Ministry of Information Technology and Finance to ensure safety and invest in the medical capacity sufficient to address the coronavirus pandemic and enhance the overall capabilities of the pharmaceutical industry. Meanwhile, Yang Xiaodong, president of China Tobacco, Huabei, has said that the company's tobacco products have been sold in more than 50 countries and regions around the world. He also transferred 3,000 medical staff from the company's hospitals in 2020 to help in the fight against COVID-19. As a result, China's tobacco industry has increased its export capacity by 20 percent, helping more than 50 countries and regions around the world.
China

Taiwan fruit farmer flourishing in Hainan

For wax apple grower, success doesn’t fall from the tree

By CHEN BOYING in Hainan

As background music filled the air, Hainan’s Wax Apple Festival kicked off last week in Qionghai Village in Wenling City, Zhejiang Province.

The festival, the first in the province, aims to promote the development of wax apple cultivation and improve its quality and competitiveness.

Taiwanese farmer Huang Yiting, who has been growing wax apples in Hainan for 10 years, said the festival provided a platform for farmers to showcase their products and exchange knowledge.

Huang, who runs a wax apple farm in Qionghai Village, said the festival helped raise the profile of wax apples in Hainan.

He said the festival also helped promote the integration of agricultural and tourism industries, bringing more economic benefits to local communities.

“Taiwanese farmers have been doing well in Hainan, and the festival is a good opportunity to further promote wax apple cultivation,” he said.

The festival featured a variety of activities, including wax apple picking,VISITORS take photos of traditional Taiwanese matsuri (festival) dancing in Wenling Village in Yunnan Province in March 2020. XINHUA/MAO HEN

New village emerges from ashes in Yunnan

In Lingqu county, Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region, former village towers have been transformed into agricultural processing plants, rural tourism parks and other economic entities, with products such as apples, wax apples and applesauce

From left: A worker prepares materials for making bamboo utensils in Taihe Village in Yunnan province. In July 2021, China's 22 million families who make a living from bamboo are helping to promote the country's green transition. (Photo by XINHUA/MAO HEN)

Jiangxi’s bamboo forges green alternative to plastics

It is estimated that China’s bamboo industry has a potential market of more than 10 billion yuan ($1.4 billion) in the next decade. The industry is expected to play a significant role in achieving the country’s carbon neutrality goals.

The project is being carried out by the China Bamboo Industry Association, which is working with local authorities and businesses to promote the use of bamboo in various sectors.

The project aims to create a sustainable and environmentally friendly alternative to plastics, which are major contributors to plastic waste and pollution. The bamboo products are expected to be cost-effective and long-lasting, making them a viable alternative to plastics.

In the project, the bamboo is grown on a large-scale farm and then harvested and processed to produce a range of products, including bamboo buildings, furniture, and packaging materials.

Animal biofood industry breaks new ground

In Lingqu county, Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region, former village towers have been transformed into agricultural processing plants, rural tourism parks and other economic entities, with products such as apples, wax apples and applesauce.

In recent years, however, the village has undergone a transformation, with the government investing in infrastructure and tourism development. The village has become a popular destination for visitors and tourists.

In 2019, the village was recognized as a national rural tourism demonstration area, and the government has been working to improve the village’s facilities and services to attract more visitors.

The village has also become a hub for local agricultural products, with many families setting up small clinics and stores to sell their products. The village is now a hub for rural tourism and agro-tourism.

In the future, the village plans to expand its agricultural and tourism industries, with plans to develop a visitor center, a museum, and other tourist attractions.

The village is also working to improve its infrastructure, with plans to build new roads and improve the village’s water and electricity supply.

The village is a model for rural development in the region, and its success is expected to inspire other villages to adopt similar strategies to transform their communities.

The village is a shining example of how rural development can be achieved through a combination of tourism and agricultural development, and it is expected to set a new benchmark for rural development in the region.

In conclusion, the village of Lingqu in Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region is a shining example of how rural development can be achieved through a combination of tourism and agricultural development.

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Europe’s conflict sees Africa reeling from costs

Whether it’s soaring fuel bills or pricier food, the most vulnerable are hit the hardest on continent under pressure

By OXEN OWIRA in Nairobi, Kenya

Oxenowira@nation.co.ke

Rising fuel prices in Kenya give Bernard Kamau, a National Disaster Management Authority officer, plenty to worry about as he has watched his monthly salary erode take a hit over the past year.

During the Christmas holiday period, he was spending about $110 for a liter of diesel to keep his taxi on the road. In the prior year, he was paying less than a dollar. But Kamau is reluctant to ask for higher fares from the passengers.

“The customers themselves complain that their wallets have not increased, and I will lose customers if I increase the fare,” said the 35-year-old, who works on commission.

“It is like I am doing nothing while the profit I used to make will now have to go to fuel.”

Driven by the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, prices of fuel and other basic commodities in Kenya and other African countries have kept on the rise, bringing economic hardships to hundreds of small townspeople across the continent.

According to Kenya’s National Bureau of Statistics, prices of diesel and petrol climbed by around 30 percent, respectively, from January to September last year. The cost of gas and electricity, along with those related to housing, are now by nearly 3 percent over the month, with the rising rates seem to balance, it said.

A recent United Nations Development Programme study found that most of the income-earning activities in Ukraine on Africa are the rising prices for fuel and food, and the financial assistance available from donors.

The study suggests that the poor- est countries in Africa will be the hardest, as a larger proportion of cashpoor households expenditure goes on fuel and transport.

While Ukraine is far from Africa, the fact that the global price of oil is going up has a negative effect and direct impact on the African economy. For every cent we import, the price will be up because of the plummeting in Europe, Munene said.

According to the UNDP study, there are also indirect impacts of the crisis in Ukraine, including higher inflation, difficult energy sanctions, and a potential geopolitical disruption.

The impact of the conflict “will push Africa into serious debt distress,” cautioning countries less likely to meet their debt obligations, the study said. “It could increase inequality because high food and fuel prices typically hit the most vulnerable households hardest,” it said.

Munene believes that increased oil and food prices will exacerbate inflationary pressures that have been building up in the wake of the pandemic and contribute to further monetary tightening and higher interest rates that will dampen global economic growth.

“The hikes in fuel and food prices also come at a time when African economies are faced with the negative impacts of climate change on agricultural production, causing droughts in some areas and floods in others,” Munene said.

Researchers from Statista, an online platform providing market and consumer data, indicate that oil-importing African countries have found themselves being quickly forced to face the consequences of higher prices, which have raised the price of food and fuel by increasing the region’s economic outlook.

When it comes to energy consumers in the Central African Republic pay the highest price — one liter of gasoline cost an average of $2.60 in July, while in Zimbabwe, the retail price for the fuel was nearly $2, according to the research.

Recalls from an International Monetary Fund study on the impact of the Russia-Ukraine conflict on Africa indicate that growth in Africa was expected to slow to 4.4 percent in 2022 from the previous year’s rate of 4.5 percent.

In addition, inflation in the region is expected to remain elevated in 2023 at nearly 10 percent. This will be the first time since 2009 that average inflation in Africa reaches that level.

Trade strains

“Higher oil prices will increase the import bill for Africa’s oil importers by about $15 billion, worsening trade imbalances and reducing transport and other consumer costs. Oil importers’ fiscal states will be hit hardest, with fiscal balances expected to deteriorate for around 3 percent of gross domestic product compared to the October 2022 forecast,” the IMF report said.

“While African oil-importing countries are already in or at high risk of distress, rising oil prices may also represent a direct fiscal cost for countries through fuel subsidies, while inflation will make reducing these subsidies unpalatable added.”

The IMF also pointed out that spending pressures on governments in Africa will only increase as growth slows, and rising inflation makes it harder to obtain credit for some governments.

According to Kamau, the passengers he transports in the Kenyan capital should expect to pay a 30 percent increase in fares if fuel prices continue to rise.

“Feel it everything and it is not easy to hike fare,” Kamau said.

Kenyan motorcycle taxi riders wait to fill up with diesel fuel in Nairobi on April 4. | SAMSON SARI / MP
**Russia loses 63 troops in Ukraine raid**

Angev grows over highest casualty count since start of conflict last year

By BEN ROGAL in Moscow

Russian Defense Ministry confirmed on Monday that 63 soldiers had been killed in a New Year’s Eve raid in a fiery blast that destroyed a temporary army barracks in a village called Krypskoye in Volgograd region, the third military death from an attack in Ukraine.

Russian nationals and some local residents have been killed and injured following the badly coordinated wave of drone attacks on Kyiv and other Ukrainian cities.

Military commentators said the soldiers were being housed alongside an airfield, which the Russian Defense Ministry said was hit by four rockets fired from Ukraine’s Donetsk-Bakhchysarai cities.

The Ukrainian government said 63 Russian soldiers were killed in an attack on a base near the city of Lysychansk, which has become a key battlefront in the ongoing war.

The litter was terrible and a bloodbath was inevitable, with both sides suffering heavy losses.

Moscow’s defense forces were badly outnumbered and outgunned, with Ukrainian artillery and air defenses proving too strong for the Russian artillery.

The attack was a desperate attempt to break the deadlock in the conflict, which has now dragged on for over a year.

Ukrainian forces repelled the mass attack as a result of their access to western-made military equipment, as well as aid from the West.

Crimean Coup

The fury in Russia ended in carnage.

While Gorky Kaluga, a Russian Federal Assembly member and deputy foreign minister, had not ordered the attack, he had also been in touch with Moscow and Kyiv about the latest developments.

The Ukrainian government decided to launch a military operation in the southwest region of Luhansk, where Russian soldiers are based.

This operation, led by Gennady Stroev, a commander of the Luhansk People’s Republic, was aimed at taking control of the airport.

The Ukrainian military, however, was unable to enter the area due to intense fighting.

This resulted in the death of an artillery shell, which included the Ukrainian flag.

Almost all the military equipment was destroyed, which means the military cannot afford to lose more.

What happened in Krypskoye is a clear sign of Russia’s military weakness and its inability to control its military action.

Meanwhile, Russia’s military doctrine, which is focused on counter-terrorism and counter-insurgency during the New Year’s Eve attack on the airport, has been rejected by the international community.

In response, Moscow’s military leadership was quick to denounce the defenders of the airport.

A statement by the airport’s director stated that the airport was under attack and would not be able to operate.

Moscow’s response was met with anger.

**Latest bloodshed**

As a political divided new US Congress convened on Tuesday and began to make even more advances on the Republican majority in the House but failed to elect a speaker on the first floor, the first time the House failed.

Then after California Republican Kevin McCarthy failed to secure a majority of votes on second and third ballots, the House adjourned until noon Wednesday.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi used her last for a refractory vote against the US Capitol in Washington DC.

US Representative Steve King衲 McCarty (left) of California cut off the debate before the final vote after the opening day of the House of Representatives at the US Capitol in Washington DC.

Germany’s job market best since reunification

By JULIAN NIAER in London

Germany’s unemployment hit a post-reunification high in 2020, new data from the Federal Employment Agency shows, but there are signs that the overall job market could rise as wages, posting increases in 2020.

The country has reached a unique position of economic growth in recent years, with the 20-member eurozone’s third largest economy enjoying the effects of lower interest rates and an increase in exports.

It is expected that the jobless rate would rise above 8% this year.

The example of US was also the lowest total monthly unemployment level on record.

In October, the economy’s Ministry of Labor reported that the country had reached a new peak of 5.6% in October, rather than the 5.4% which was the figure that had been predicted previously.

**Presumptive measures**

German jobless rates were also lowered down from 22% to 19.7% just before the end of this year.

Niaier told the government that it was time to act on the economy’s pressing problems, and Mecklenburg-Vorpommern’s Minister of Labor Moritz von der Leyen told the government that the country was “also making progress”.

In the last quarter of the year, the number of unemployed workers grew by 2.7% in the US, but it was only 2% in Germany.

On average, the unemployment rate is 3.5% in the US, while it is 2.2% in Germany.

In November, the unemployment rate in the US was 3.5% in the fourth quarter of the year, and the number of jobs created in the US fell to 3.1% in the third quarter of the year.

The unemployment rate in Germany was only 2.2%.

As of November, the unemployment rate was 2.2% in Germany, compared to 3.1% in the US.

With this in mind, Niaier said that he had a policy to look at the economy’s performance.

However, in the last quarter of the year, the US unemployment rate was 3.3% in the US,

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In the last quarter of the year, the US unemployment rate was 3.3% in the US.
Chinese A-share market trading in green energy, the healthcare lift a shares
First day of trading in 2023 nets volume worth $11.6B on attractive valuations

By JH LIANG in Shanghai

Chinese A-share market trading in green energy, the healthcare lift a shares.

By MAI ZHISHUAN in Shanghai

The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, or RCEP, came into effect on January 1. A Chinese company, JING DONG, has signed a contract to provide healthcare and schooling services for over 12,000 children in the Philippines.

China's A-share market trading in green energy, the healthcare lift a shares.

New air route to Amsterdam opens

A Chinese Southern Airlines passenger plane flew from Guangzhou to Amsterdam on December 31, opening a new air route between China and the Netherlands.

Briefly

Tariff oil sees red record output of oil

The tariff oil of China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC) reached a record high in 2021, according to the company. The tariff oil of China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC) reached a record high in 2021, according to the company.

Manufacturing confidence bounce back

Business confidence in factory output and new orders in China to a 30-month high upon official reports that manufacturing activities expanded at a more rapid pace in December, a private survey said on Thursday.

The China General Manufacturing Purchasing Managers’ Index (PMI), which gauges operating conditions in the manufacturing sector – fell to a three-month low of 51.2 in October before rising to 51.8 in November, indicating a further decline in the pace of expansion. The PMI for the manufacturing sector remained above the 50荣水 mark for the 15th straight month.

The PMI survey performed by the National Bureau of Statistics and Zhongyuan Securities also pointed to brightening manufacturing confidence despite a slowdown in manufacturing activity. While December’s official manufacturing PMI dropped to 50.2 in October, the lowest level in five months, two important series of data show that manufacturing conditions are improving and that industrial output growth is likely to accelerate in the coming months.

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Autonomous vehicles eye bigger business opportunities

Authorities roll out series of supportive policies to promote robotaxi technology

By DAI YIXIU

Autonomous driving vehicles may be more sluggish much sooner than expected. The commercialization of self-driving vehicles is expected to gain momentum in China in the next few years, thanks to continuous technological innovation and considerable policy support, industry experts said.

China has taken the lead in the global autonomous driving industry, and an application of autonomous driving trucks will wave a golden flag in the future industry to show off the maturation and market competitiveness of the technology throughout the worldwide auto industry.

The self-driving industry is set to witness explosive growth in the next few years. The market size of China’s self-driving industry is expected to hit 1.2 trillion yuan ($180 billion) in 2023, up 65 percent from the current level, according to China’s National Information Center (NIC).

A “golden moment” for the autonomous vehicle market will eventually be determined by whether providers, with widespread application, can establish the “total businessteam”.

China’s self-driving companies have all been advancing the technology and actively applying it in large-scale autonomous driving vehicles. Baidu has already deployed a 100-km autonomous大脑 development platform in Beijing and Shenzhen, and the company plans to expand the platform to 40 cities across China.

So far, Baidu has accumulated more than 1.4 million autonomous driving test miles. By the end of the first quarter of 2022, the cumulative order volume for Apollo-generated AVs has reached 1 million, realizing Baidu’s world’s largest robotaxi service provider.

Self-driving trucks poised to overtake longhaul logistics

By DAI YIXIU

Commercialization of autonomous trucks is a key to realizing self-driving startups mapping up a future in which massive-manufacturing autonomous heavy-duty vehicles replace human drivers. As trucking demand for labor drives, Chinese autonomous driving startup Ponycar has been making forays into the trucking market.

The company announced in November that it has formed a strategic alliance with two partners — Chinese logistics company Lalamuda and machinery manufacturer Hangcha Co. — to build an autonomous smart logistics, high-level autonomous driving, and unmanned production of high-end smart heavy trucks.

Ponycar is known for its joint ventures with Xiaomi and Shimadzu, and a series of technologies using a cross-disciplinary approach in autonomous trucks for logistics applications.

The latest move will enable the three companies to jointly build the industry’s first smart heavy-duty truck fleet and provide smart logistics solutions.

Meanwhile, the first batch of 30 smart heavy-duty trucks produced by the joint venture between Ponycar and Xiaomi Heavy Truck rolled off the production line in November and were delivered to Cosinar, the smart logistics subsidiary of Xiaomi and Shimadzu. Over the next three years, Cosinar will purchase an additional 500 autonomous heavy-duty trucks.

In Hangzhou, vice-president of Ponycar and head of the company’s truck division, said there is huge demand for autonomous driving for autonomous driving in the logistics sector, and the core of self-driving truck is to allow heavy trucks to maneuver when facing large traffic situations in the city.

“Since we’re exploring how to empower and change the logistics sector, we need to solve a few key issues, which we hope to test self-driving trucks on the roads of Hangzhou and show more effective solutions to fill a lot of gaps in the market as well as improve logistics efficiency,” the company committed.

The company completed the first test of Level 4 autonomous trucks on massive expressways in December 2021. The trucks under normal working conditions were autonomous driving trucks developed on the KAV Fabtech 27 vehicle platform, which is mainly used for logistics and is able to achieve Level 4 autonomous driving on its expressways.

According to a report by Beijing-based think tank EqualOcean, the number of heavy-duty trucks in China’s logistics sector is expected to reach 12.7 million in 2023, with revenue from autonomous trucks hitting $4.9 billion (759 million yuan) by then.

“By 2030, China’s autonomous driving truck market may have generated a market size of $14 billion in revenue in 2023 and is further expected to generate $12.20 billion by 2025, growing at a compound annual growth rate of 104.9 percent from 2021 to 2030,” according to Allied Market Research, a global consulting services provider.

“An autonomous trucking startup is speeding up mass production and global deployment of its autonomous driving technology,” the report said.

However, Chinese autonomous truck manufacturers may face more challenges in their future development. The report said the main technical challenges for autonomous truck manufacturers are the lack of a supportive policy environment, a lack of a clear regulatory framework, and a lack of a clear industry standard basis.

“On the whole, the autonomous trucking market is developing at a moderate pace in China,” the report said.

Ponycar is deploying a fully automatic trucking system that focuses on a comprehensive intelligent technology platform to improve the efficiency of transportation and transport. In addition, Baidu has released an autonomous driving system that is now being deployed in the transportation industry by a number of large enterprises.

In December, the company announced that it had deployed more than 100 autonomous trucks in several cities, and the system has been widely recognized in the industry for its innovative technology.

Baidu’s autonomous driving technology is now being applied in various fields, including intelligent transportation, energy, and public services.

The company has been working on autonomous driving technology for a long time, and has made significant progress in recent years. The company’s autonomous driving technology has been widely recognized in the industry, and has been applied in various fields, including intelligent transportation, energy, and public services.

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COMMENT

Stronger China-Brasil relations have rich connotations, broad prospects

The presence of Chinese Vice-President Wang Qianlong, as a special representative of the President Xi Jinping, at the inauguration ceremony of Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro last day adds volume to the great significance China attaches to relations with Brazil.

In the past several years, President Xi expressed China's goodwill toward and upgrade in its relations with Brazil. In 2010, China and Brazil established a comprehensive strategic partnership and bring it to new heights.

The United States and Brazil are the two largest countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, and they will play increasingly important roles in the region's development. One of the characteristics of China-Brazil relations is that they are pragmatic and efficient, with a broad scope and a focus on outcomes, and they expand and deepen cooperation between Brazil and China.

What the United States and Brazil have in common is a large market and a great potential for development. China and Brazil have a common goal of achieving prosperity and development and a shared interest in maintaining international peace and promoting world economic development.

It is clear that neither the US nor Brazil will wish to see an unstable world, and the two nations will continue to cooperate in various fields.

Christchurch shooting: China reacts, New Zealand mourns

China has expressed its condolences over the shooting at the Al Noor mosque in New Zealand, which killed 49 people.

China’s Foreign Ministry said that the country had offered condolences to the families of the victims and that it was willing to assist New Zealand in any way possible.

The shooting is the latest in a series of tragic events in New Zealand, which has been grappling with the rise of far-right extremism and terrorism.

China’s reaction comes after a series of diplomatic visits between the two countries, including a visit by Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi to New Zealand in July 2018.

China and New Zealand have a long history of cooperation in various fields, including trade, investment, education and tourism.

The Chinese government has said that it will continue to work with New Zealand to maintain regional peace and stability and promote mutual development and prosperity.

China has been a major trading partner for New Zealand, with two-way trade reaching $13 billion in 2018. China is New Zealand’s biggest trading partner, followed by Australia, which accounts for 20% of New Zealand’s exports.

China and New Zealand have also collaborated on a number of initiatives, including a joint venture to develop a new airport in Christchurch and a joint venture to develop a new airport in Christchurch.

In 2018, New Zealand was the first country to sign a free trade agreement with China, and the two countries have since signed a number of economic partnerships.

China has also been a major investor in New Zealand, with several Chinese companies investing in the country’s infrastructure and real estate sectors.

China’s reaction to the Christchurch shooting comes at a time when the relationship between China and New Zealand is at a critical juncture, with the two countries facing a number of challenges, including economic, political and diplomatic issues.

China’s Foreign Ministry has said that it is committed to promoting the spirit of the China-Brasil agreement, and that it will continue to work with Brazil to maintain regional peace and stability and promote mutual development and prosperity.
COMMENT

China’s pandemic food praiseworthy

Michael Spence

If it’s time to give up 0°C?

Net-zero commitments are all the rage. Countries, companies, and others have committed to eliminating their greenhouse gas emissions by a particular date—for some, as early as 2030. We need targets and timelines to give the Paris climate agreement goal of 1.5°C a chance of being warming, for that matter. It is the path to zero emissions that makes all the difference.

This confusion finds many among experts. A recent report by the International Energy Agency, for example, charts a doomsday path, dividing five-year intervals, toward ambitious targets by 2050—and giving the world even fewer chances of limiting the global temperature to the 1.5°C. The most striking feature of this analysis, in fact, is the minute of the deadline to which roughly eighty countries set their levels of fossil-fuel emissions.

Trading, then, would be essential to ensure a climate safe future. But if the global economies’ carbon emissions are conservatively estimated annual rate of 2.3%—two-thirds of which come from China and the United States—then the global decarbonization effort would be needed to achieve 0°C by 2100.

In 2019, the Chinese government said that the 2060 goal of net-zero emissions, with per capita economic output expected to be 70% of the US level, would require cutting carbon intensity by 75% at the same time.

The problem with the 0°C target is that the world is still facing a huge wave of climate change.

The energy transition is moving at a slow pace, with major countries making only modest efforts to reduce carbon output, mainly in the fossil fuel sector. China has not yet made significant progress in reducing its fossil fuel use, and the world’s other major economies have not made significant progress either.

A concerted and coordinat- ed effort in these large economies would make a significant difference in emissions trajectories and, perhaps more important, generate the technologies and management approaches that will be needed to reach the net-zero goal.

A coordinated and coordinat- ed effort in these large economies would make a significant difference in emissions trajectories and, perhaps more important, generate the technologies and management approaches that will be needed to reach the net-zero goal.

China’s pandemic food praiseworthy

Khalid Taimur Akram

A detailed analysis of China’s pandemic actions shows that the Chinese government has taken unprecedented steps to protect its population from the novel coronavirus. The pandemic has disrupted the socio-economic structures of countries around the world, highlighting the importance of personal protective measures and vaccines.

China was one of the few countries to maintain healthy economic growth and help other countries to recover their economies. It has been focusing on containing COVID-19 infections and medical aid so that the virus does not become a global threat.

The leadership of President Xi Jinping has presented the Chinese people with the best possible scenario to control the disease. This has led to a reduction in its impact and a decrease in the number of new cases. China has been able to contain the outbreak and maintain economic growth, even though it is currently dealing with a surge in COVID-19 cases.

In general, China has been praised for its response to the pandemic, with many experts and organizations commending the country’s efforts. China’s response to the pandemic has been praised by experts and organizations worldwide. The country has been commended for its quick and effective response to the pandemic, and for its ability to control the spread of the virus.

Overall, the Chinese government has been praised for its response to the pandemic, and for its ability to control the spread of the virus. The country has been commended for its quick and effective response to the pandemic, and for its ability to control the spread of the virus.
Unknown unknowns

It is the interests of all the major economies to strengthen their economic cooperation.

As long as we abandon prejudice and strengthen cooperation with China and the Central Asian countries, the world economy will be able to overcome difficulties in the world economy next year and achieve prosperity and development.

The economic performance of Europe in 2023 could be even more difficult than that of 2022, with a higher possibility of economic recession. The economic situation could also slip into recession next year. The situation in developing countries and emerging countries will be even more serious. In these countries, where growth is limited, the public sector faces high economic growth in 2023.

These countries can set GDP growth targets of around 6.2 percent at the beginning of this year, but then cut out economic expansion and necessary policies. This growth target was reasonable and within reach of the Chinese government this year. The macroeconomic policies adopted by the government are currently almost neutral. However, there are still high-latitude social and economic activities that have been greatly affected, and it is difficult for these expansionary macroeconomic policies to be implemented in full. China's economic growth in the first quarter was only 0.1 percent, 18 times lower than the previous year. The rapid increase in China has been driven almost exclusively by its tertiary sector.

The primary challenge that China faces is to achieve stable and sustainable economic growth. We cannot give up our struggle for farmers, but we cannot turn to debt policies as soon as the inflation rate begins to fall. China's labor and social security policies are its major policy challenges. China needs to use its relatively higher growth rate to stimulate economic growth and policy coordination among countries and regions, and avoid the burden of the big three approaches. For example, for domestic policies it is best to introduce the policy support and technological support implemented by the European Union to focus on the problem. As a whole, China and the US, although competitive, are in the same boat. Neither should side against China.

China and Europe need to strengthen cooperation. When Europe is facing abroad and powerful domestic problems, it is actually conducting energy imports. Also, China can purchase EU bonds to promote this energy exchange and support the EU's Next Generation EU plan, which would be a win-win strategy. The two sides can find a way to sign an agreement to support the EU's European Comprehensive Agreement on Investment, as well as possible. China and India are the two most populous countries in the world, with a population of about 1.3 billion. As neighboring countries, China and India will benefit from each other's rapid growth and their development also helps China. India should join the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership and strengthen cooperation with neighboring countries, including China, with an open attitude.

China and East and Central Asian countries are close neighbors and key links in the global industry chain. Despite changing times and geopolitical landscapes, there is still a strong economic foundation for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Republic of Korea to promote regional economic integration. The rise of the new world realities in geopolitics, East Asian countries should adopt a long-term perspective and move forward. Instead of abandoning, the global financial community has taken steps to enhance its own resilience and provide a more robust framework for global financial cooperation.

The author is chief economist of the China Institute for Economic Research. The author contributed this article to China Daily, a newspaper published by China Daily. The views do not necessarily reflect those of China Daily.

CHEN WILENG
Six Sense
China and the Central Asian Countries are effectively building a regional community with a shared future

The year 2030 marks the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and the Central Asian countries. At a virtual summit held in January 2022 to determine this 30th anniversary, President Xi Jinping delivered an important speech, proposing new goals and charting new directions for building a closer China-Central Asia community with a shared future.

China and the Central Asian countries, being geographically close and sharing common interests, have the utmost need for cooperation. The progress and security of this region is related to the common interests and development prospects of all six countries. Under the banner of building a community with a shared future for mankind, China and the five Central Asian countries should cooperate in the following areas.

The first is to build a community of development with a shared future for China and the five Central Asian countries. After over 30 years since it launched reform and opening-up, China is now the world's second-largest economy, with its per capita GDP reaching $13,000. This has propelled the Global Development Initiative (GDI) to September 2020, and beyond by new opportunities and momentum for growth, the five Central Asian countries can work with China to build a community of development with a shared future, and jointly write a blueprint for common development in the next 30 years.

Second, the two sides can jointly boost the community of health with China and the Central Asia countries. In November 2020, as all allies for China and Central Asia, health and the new foreign policy of medical science and health was established. The five Chinese government members will join the fight for a common future to promote medical and health cooperation between China and Central Asia in the future.

China's bioengineering and pharmaceutical sector is growing rapidly. The pharmaceutical products, China, and especially those of developed economies, are characterized by their affordable prices, high quality and high industry standards. Many innovative products are also emerging. More importantly, many multinational companies have transferred their drug production to China. This is also the reason why China is playing a major role in global cooperation and development. China, and the Central Asian countries, can be the engine of the global economic slowdown and trade in the next 30 years.

The acceleration of a new round of industrial transformation has greatly improved the state of internet cooperation, which requires the joint efforts of China and the Central Asian countries to build a community with a shared future in cyberspace. At the 30th anniversary, the two sides have reached the consensus to contribute to the new momentum of internet cooperation, building a community with a shared future in cyberspace. The two sides have signed a number of agreements and international cooperation agreements. For example, the agreement on 5G, AI, and the development of a common digital infrastructure is the first step towards a shared future in cyberspace.

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As of September 2022, the number of 5G base stations being built in China had reached 3.2 million, with a goal of over 5 million base stations already completed. The popularity of 5G in China is the reflection of the country's supercomputing capabilities and the world's leading position in 5G technology. China has signed a number of cooperation agreements on 5G with other countries and regions, which have broadened the global market for 5G equipment. The two sides have taken steps to boost cooperation in five areas: global trade, finance, and technology.

The second is to build a community of health with China and the Central Asian countries. The US and the Central Asian countries have the potential for further cooperation in healthcare and development of the global community, which is the reason why the two sides share the same position on international affairs. Both countries support the UN, the World Health Organization, and the World Bank.

The third is to build a community of security with China and the Central Asian countries. At the 30th anniversary, the two sides have reached the consensus to contribute to the new momentum of internet cooperation, building a community with a shared future in cyberspace. The two sides have signed a number of agreements and international cooperation agreements. For example, the agreement on 5G, AI, and the development of a common digital infrastructure is the first step towards a shared future in cyberspace.

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Artist with a bird’s eye view

Imagination soars above the ordinary as illustrator paints a whole new world, Li Yingxue reports.

When Li Xianbo, a student at the Zhejiang Academy of Art, was 5, he was attracted by the world of illustration, especially the illustrations in the science book he read. "I was interested in the vivid,圣经, and most of the illustrations of dinosaurs are drawn by men, so I wanted to bring a female expression to the stories of the book," he says. "Some are romantic, and I’ll select the beautiful mythical creatures to draw." After finishing his postgraduate studies in 2009, Li decided that it was time to become a full-time illustrator, as she can support herself with the money made by painting. She is often commissioned by magazines, book editors, and video game companies to draw for them.

During her postgraduate work, she also co-published a book, titled Zhengan (ShenhuaDitu/AsianChameleon), for which she drew 30 illustrations. Liu likes to read stories, especially short fiction that inspires her paintings, and she finds that ancient Chinese fairy tales inspire her a lot. "Animal photography can also be relaxing to me," she says.

The illustrations of birds Li has drawn also come above all by Li Xianbo’s skillful filling time window, taking care of her father, who was hospitalized last year. She saw a photo of some sparrow and decided to draw them into human figures.

"I think birds are lovely themselves, and their feathers are like colorful clothes, so I was thinking that if I turn them into lovely birds and give them feathers into lovely clothes in traditional Chinese style of clothing," the resident is adding, adding that she is a fan of birds. It only took her a couple of years to find the painting after she posted the drawing online, it was admired praise. Li is collaborating with an animal protection NGO to help them design anthropomorphic figures of different birds to popularize science in a new way.

In November, Li held her first exhibition in Guangzhou International Fashion Release Center, which will not till the fall. The exhibition, titled "Lumingshan and the birds," shows around 120 of her works in three series, drawing, ancient Chinese myths and anthropomorphic birds.

The young illustrator can be held in her hometown and that the local government set up a special bus service for residents in an and the entry to the exhibition. On the opening day, Liu family and friends were there to support her and get a guided tour from Liu. It took over an hour to introduce all of her paintings to the audience. "My parents were quite happy that day. The exhibition showed them what I’ve been doing," she says.

One Sina Wei user, with the handle "Fenhuazheng" in Chinese, commented on the exhibition: "When I see Langyuan’s anthropomorphic birds, I realized that they are such poetry, such a love, and such a dream! I hope we will become an artist knows the world of fairy tale to the city. 14. Liu often uses her communication with her audience through her paintings, she says. When she sees her paintings in a big exhibition, she will design the outline of the object and the expression, "as an illustrator, you need to tell the audience the whole story to see your paintings," says Liu.

Besides the annual drawing aspect, she also runs her own courses on social media. "Thanks to the social media platform, I can know more people, and this made it possible for me to live through painting," she adds. Part of the sense of accomplishment that comes with being an illustrator in the continuous living, she says. "You can always get in touch with your sub- jects, and you have to learn all about them," she adds.

Liu often needs to read books, especially the traditional and modern fairy tales, and she finds that ancient Chinese fairy tales inspire her a lot. "Animal photography can also be relaxing to me," she says.

The illustrator also open the doors of her paintings to people and kids a good work of art can help people learn," she says. "I like to show something that makes people feel happy, curious and comfortable."

Contact the author at 89781001@163.com.
**Building nostalgia**

After two films on Chinese architecture, experimental filmmaker Ju Anqi is now working on a third, *Chen Nan* reports.

"I started the film project out of pure personal interest but as the shooting developed gradually, it incurred a responsibility," Ju, film director, says.

The film project, part of a short film festival, puts heat on the red carpet of the Pusan International Film Festival, which was held in January from Dec 16 to 20. Ju, along with other directors, screened the event.

"I have been interested in Chinese architecture and the stories behind them. I worked in 1980s, the first French University, located in the heart of Beijing, was built behind the 1979 exhibition." says Ju. "I also have a great interest in the new generation of Chinese architecture in the 1990s," he adds.

**LIFE**

Life can sometimes be defined by random events. For Ju Anqi, a Chinese filmmaker, a chance to visit the 2019 Venice International Film Festival, a leading non-fiction film event in the world, indicated a project that he had been preparing for the past decade.

That was, in fact, 2018. Ju, film director, Nitya in Chinese, which showcases a side of the country rarely examined, had captivated people through its unique stories. 2018 was the year the film was recognized by the festival.

During the event, Ju screened a documentary on Japanese architecture and its influence on the world, especially on architecture in remote areas. The documentary interested Ju.

"I am interested in Chinese architecture, which has a long history and rich regional diversity. I wanted to make a film about Chinese architecture and the idea kept on growing, though I wasn't quite sure if I could make it," Ju says.

Ju then started doing research, talking to Chinese architects and experts, and learning about the field. He conducted financial support. The result of his labor is three films under the theme, "Chinese architectural heritage." The first film, "Chang, Us, Your City," was selected as one of nine finalists for the Eliot Project Market at the same festival. The film will premiere in March. The shooting of "Chang" will be completed in 2022.

"It felt like a long time with finality has been fulfilled," Ju says. "I've been learning for a long time with the help of experts," he adds. "I learned "I will use my experience."

The three forthcoming films are called "Southeast," "West," and "Far East." Ju says the films will be completed in 2022.

**Education ties boost Pakistan project**

ISLAMABAD — Educational cooperation and exchanges between Pakistan and China are playing a significant role in promoting the high-quality development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, a flagship project of the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative, a Pakistani scholar said.

"It is a framework for multi-dimensional economic development. It is providing a window of opportunity that will bring socio-economic stability for countries around the globe," said Safdar Ali Shah, a Pakistani scholar.

Pakistan's educational system is facing a number of challenges, especially in terms of quality and accessibility. The country's universities are facing resource constraints and lack of investment in research and development.

According to Ju, the Chinese government, which has invested heavily in Pakistani universities, hopes to improve the quality of education in the country. The Chinese government has provided scholarships and grants to Pakistani students, who are among the highest number of students studying in China.

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With CPEC entering an important phase, both sides have increased the exchanges and cooperation to the level of two countries in higher education. For example, the Chinese government has increased the number of scholarships for Pakistani students, who are among the highest number of students studying in China.

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Memorable moments of 2022

A year of upsets and surprises but it also gave us some brilliant individual and team performances.

**On the court:**
- In the NBA, the Golden State Warriors required their past couple and solicited their dynasty with a fourth NBA title in eight years, but first since 2018. Stephen Curry was the catalyst, soliciting his claim as the greatest shooter in NBA history with another dynamic performance. 
- In college basketball, Kansas re-established its blueblood status by mounting a biggest comeback in national championship history, winning from 15 points down to beat North Carolina for its fourth national championship. The win came after an epic Final Four match up between Tobacco Road rivals North Carolina and Duke.
- In women’s college hoops, South Carolina did something no other woman had been able to accomplish, handing UConn’s Gene Auerbach his first loss in 13 national title games.
- The veterans ruled most of the men’s tennis majors, with Rafael Nadal winning the Australian Open and French Open to record his Grand Slam total to 32 titles. Novak Djokovic won Wimbledon, but didn’t get a chance to play in Australia or the US Open because of his vaccination status.
- Serena Williams became the first male and female to win their respective singles titles in the same year.

**On the ice:**
- The Colorado Avalanche cruised into the way.