Beijing set to champion key role of BRICS

President Xi to attend group’s summit and make state visit to South Africa

By XU WEI  

With a host of multilateral and bilateral agendas in the pipeline, President Xi Jinping’s upcoming visit to South Africa has gone to great lengths to ensure that Beijing will continue to lead the way in improving global governance, and that it will uphold true multilateralism and honor solidarity with African nations.

The expansion of BRISS, the international cooperation between major emerging economies and the developing world, and a buttressing of Beijing’s cooperation with Africa will be the two major undertakings set to trend to South Africa for the 10th BRICS Summit and make a state visit to the nation from September 3 to 5.

BRISS has set the major emerging economies of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. The summit is set to bring together the leaders of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, with Russian President Vladimir Putin expected to participate via video conferencing due to the pandemic.

The summit is set to discuss issues related to the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences’ new institute for Global Strategy, said Xi Jinping would attend the summit, during which Beijing continues to champion the role of global governance and uphold multilateralism.

Expansion expected

BRICS has been expanded as a key force in the reform of global governance, and Beijing will continue to play an important role in ensuring the group’s vitality and the way it underscores the importance of developments in global governance, said Xi Jinping during the summit.

Concerns of the group are among the key topics to be discussed. “The BRICS countries have driven interest in BIRICS membership and the potential for the Global South look for alternative multilateral world,” Xi said.

As of July 1, a total of 20 countries, including South Africa, Russia, the United Arab Emirates, Argentina, Indonesia, Egypt and Ethiopia, had formally applied to become BRICS members.

On the right track

China has been going all out to ensure and facilitate India’s interests. On the Iran nuclear talks, China has been meeting with counterparts from China-US, China-EU ties and China-Japan ties to maintain the necessary level of contact, Premier Li Keqiang said at the China-India talks.

China and South Africa will continue to work closely in key areas such as economic cooperation, tourism and education, and the president said he hoped that the two countries would further expand cooperation and maintain the momentum of development.

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The professor, who has focused on aquatic ecology studies for nearly half a century, has been exploring new marine species for about 20 years, discovering more than 50 new species. He began this project in the 1980s, after changing his research focus from non-algae to marine algae, to better understand the ocean's biodiversity.

Early in 1980, staff members at the Ma Po Nature Reserve noticed an unusual presence of jellyfish in the estuary pond. Despite studying local and international academic journals, the reserve's staff were unable to identify the species.

The first batch of jellyfish was collected in 1982 in estuary ponds at Ma Po. This is now considered the species' type locality — the first place identified as a habitat for the new species.

Throughout the years, Qiu has been able to identify many new species. For example, in 1989, he discovered a new species of marine algae belonging to the genus *Chlorella* and named it *C. marincola*. This study has been recognized by the scientific community.

In 2019, Qiu and his team finally collected a new species of jellyfish, which they named *Qiuia* to honor him. They discovered the new species living in a small lake in Ma Po, where local residents had reported sightings of jellyfish for decades.

Qiu's research has not only expanded our knowledge of jellyfish diversity, but also helped identify new species of unknown marine life observed in Hong Kong. Understanding the life cycle, reproduction, and distribution of these species is critical for conserving marine biodiversity.

Through his research, Qiu has been able to adapt new research techniques and methodologies to study jellyfish evolution. These studies have not only contributed to the scientific community, but have also allowed Qiu to better understand the complex dynamics of jellyfish species diversity.

However, marine ecosystems are threatened by human activities, such as pollution, overfishing, and climate change. Qiu's research is crucial in providing critical insights into the conservation of these vulnerable marine resources.

**Ocean: Strong foundation laid for studies**

**It was November when I dived, and the water was clear. I dived down to 15 meters and saw this forest of sea anemones in the size of a soccer field, with clownfish darting among them.**

Qiu Nanrui, Hong Kong Baptist University's biology professor, has discovered more than 30 new marine life species.
PLA conducts military drills near Taiwan island

BY JIANG JIEHONG and LIN YUNJING

The People’s Liberation Army has launched joint air and sea patrols and aerial and sea drills near the island of Taiwan that aim to send a "solemn warning" to "those who are pushing for Taiwan independence." The drills, which began on Sunday, are the latest moves as China and the United States continue to assert their visions for the future of Taiwan.

Recent developments in the relationship between China and the United States have prompted the PLA to take action. "The drills near Taiwan are part of the PLA’s efforts to maintain national security and territorial integrity," said a Chinese military official. "They are a strong signal to those who seek to separate Taiwan from China and to those who support such moves." The drills, which include air and sea patrols, are designed to demonstrate China’s resolve to safeguard national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Traditions of jealousy

Unify: China, African nations to enhance ties

During the four-day trip, Xi will visit South Africa, the first leg of his African tour, and then co-chair the China-Africa Summit in South Africa.

The dialogue will also be a key moment in cementing the relationship between China and Africa. A joint statement is expected to emphasize the "true, good, and comprehensive" partnership between China and Africa, with a focus on economic cooperation, the rotating chairmanship of the Forum of China-Africa Cooperation, and the representation of African nations in various international organizations.

The cooperation with African countries is seen as an important part of China’s global strategy and policy, and it will provide a strong foundation for future cooperation. Xi has stressed that China will continue to work closely with African countries to promote peace and development, and to build a community with a shared future for mankind.

Boosting demand seen as key to reviving economy

BY YUAN YING and WANG QIANG

Recovering consumer demand and bolstering consumer confidence will be key priorities for China’s recovery in the second half of the year. Both require a focus on policy measures to support consumption and productivity.

The government has taken a series of measures to stimulate consumption, including tax cuts and subsidies for consumers, increased government spending, and measures to boost new products and services. It has also emphasized the role of technology in boosting productivity and promoting innovation.

The country has already pledged to offer expanded tax credits and incentives to promote consumption. In June, the government rolled out a tax cut for small and medium-sized enterprises, and it has also introduced measures to support consumption in the long term.

"The current measures will help support consumption and productivity, and the government should continue to do more," said Zou Min, an economist at the China Finance University. "We should focus on providing more incentives for consumption, and we should also work to improve the quality of government services to support productivity.

China is still facing challenges and uncertainty, but we are confident that with the right policies and actions, we can achieve sustainable growth and development," said Zou. "We should continue to focus on promoting innovation and productivity, and to support consumption and productivity in the long term.

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China

Wildlife monitoring improves in national parks

By Li BOUGENIAN in Xining Xibeiwang@xinhua.com

A high-tech monitoring system has been established in China's national parks to increase management efficiency. A national park expert said at the Second China National Park Symposium in Xining, Qinghai province, on Saturday.

The system helps improve efficiency and protection efforts, according to the national park expert. "It makes the management of national parks more efficient and accurate." The expert added.

The system is expected to enhance the protection of wildlife and improve the conservation efforts more effectively and timely. "The system also helps to monitor larger and larger scales," the expert said.

In the past, field surveys required people to venture into the mountains to find traces of wild animals, but they usually found little. Also, monitoring forests in parks was a dangerous task that required at least two weeks to walk for an entire week.

"Now, in the Northeast China Tiger and Leopard National Park, for example, more than 20,000 infrared cameras have been installed, improving the monitoring of wild animals. Moreover, drones can be programmed to fly preset routes and transmit real-time data and photos of animals in remote areas," the expert added.

The monitoring system also assesses the parks' conservation efforts by evaluating the ecological assets and services provided, he said.

The system enables information sharing among various departments involved in national park management and makes it possible for established unified standards and methods for data collection, the expert said.

China has established over 6,000 nature reserves, with 75 percent of terrestrial wildlife species under national key protection, the National Forestry and Grassland Administration said.

The five national parks that China established in 2011 have shown obvious results in monitoring and improving ecosystem functions, the administration said.

For example, the Giant Panda National Park, spanning Sichuan, Shaanxi and Gansu provinces, has protected over 70 percent of wild pandas.

The Northeast China Tiger and Leopard National Park in Hunchun, Heilongjiang province, has protected more than 50 percent of wild tigers in its tiger population exceed 100 and the tiger population density exceed 1.5 tigers per 100 square kilometers. Moreover, the China's National Park Development Program 2021-2035 is as a promising idea to be considered in the wild, the expert said.

China has constructed 2,000 biological corridors to benefit the habitats of wild species, he said. The corridors connect the national parks and establish the essential link between China's wildlife reserves, the expert added.
Japanese, ROK public submit petitions as Kishida visits cribbed nuclear plant

By JIANG XUEQIN

People in Japan and the Republic of Korea have long been pressing for the Japanese government to discharge the contaminated water from the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant into the ocean. The requests have been made to the government of Japan and the United Nations.

The petition to the Japanese government was submitted by 12 NGOs including the Nuclear Information and Resource Service (NIRSA) and the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO). The petition calls for the Japanese government to stop the discharge plan and instead to create a new solution.

According to the petition, the discharge plan “will affect everyone around the world.” The petitioners said they believe the Japanese government is trying to discharge the water into the sea in a hasty manner without considering the impact on public health and the environment.

In the petition, the petitioners expressed their concern that the discharge could lead to the spread of radiation contamination, which could have a long-term impact on human health and the environment.

The petitioners also noted that the Japanese government has not consulted with the public or other stakeholders before making the decision to discharge the water.

The petition was submitted to the United Nations in September, with a副本 (copy) sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Residents of Lahaina, Hawaii, siren is going at a moment of today (AP) / ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lahaina residents long wait to rebuild

By MAY DOUGLAS

On August 15, 2023, the storm started to blacken the sky and the wind was howling. Hawaiian residents in Lahaina business center in Maui got the emergency alert that the fire had reached downtown Lahaina. The alert came over the county’s emergency alert system. The Lahaina Fire Department was called in to fight the fire. The fire was burning in the downtown area and had spread to the Lahaina Sugar Mill and the Lahaina Fish Market. The fire was fueled by strong winds and dry conditions. The fire was in the town of Lahaina, which is located on the island of Maui.

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Budding artists

WASHINGTON

Military buildup raises concern

TEHRAN — The United States has been building up its military presence in the Middle East recently, particularly the Gulf, on the pretext of protecting ships from Iran’s “hijackings,” but analysts warn the US move would complicate regional relations.

Following press secretary Psaki earlier this month that the US Navy’s Iman Amphibious Ready Group and the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit had entered the Middle East as part of a pre-announced deployment to support determined efforts against terror in the heart of Yemen and elsewhere.

In a speech on X, previously known as Derek, the US Central Command announced on Wednesday that the US Navy aircraft had operated in the regional waters.

In response, the navy of Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps in early August stopped large-scale military drills in the country’s southern waters as a display of its naval threat.

Measured response
to the US move

The US Navy has repeatedly said that US ships, including the USS Theodore Roosevelt, are freedom of navigation exercises.

President Biden has also been urged to rejoin the Iran nuclear deal and stop his administration from threatening Iran.

In an interview with the Center for International Policy, a Washington-based think tank, said by Jill Zietlow TV as saying last week that US President Joe Biden had committed to continuing his predecessor Donald Trump’s “disastrous” policy of economic sanctions and pressure on Iran, which would lead to a dangerous “cycle of mutual escalation.”

Israel, which has been pressing for a tougher approach to Iran, has welcomed Biden’s statement.

“Israel will continue to support a strong US presence in the region and will work together with the US and our partners to prevent Iran’s nuclear ambitions from becoming a reality,” the Israeli defense minister said.

Persian Gulf, however, has warned that Biden’s commitment to a return to the Iran nuclear deal could not be trusted.

While the US withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal in 2018 was accompanied by severe economic sanctions, Iran has continued to enrich uranium and continue its nuclear activities.

Iran, which has been struggling with a severe economic crisis, has also been the target of US sanctions, which have been lifted since the nuclear deal was reached in 2015.

Despite Biden’s commitment to return to the Iran nuclear deal, it remains unclear how the US will address Iran’s concerns and achieve a comprehensive deal.

The US move against Iran’s nuclear activities could have implications for the stability of the region and the international nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Iran, which has the fourth-largest nuclear program in the world, says it is committed to the NPT and its provisions.

However, the US withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal in 2018 and subsequent sanctions have contributed to Iran’s decision to enrich uranium and continue its nuclear activities.

The US move against Iran’s nuclear activities could have implications for the stability of the region and the international nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.
Chinese cars electrify world's roads

EVs ride consumer support, networks, facilities to grow global market share

By Mi Li
mili@xinhua.com

Global competition for an auto industry that is going electric is heating up. With increasing environmental concerns worldwide, electric vehicles (EVs) are becoming the next big thing in transportation. This growth is being driven by consumer support, networks, and facilities that are facilitating the expansion of EVs worldwide.

In China, for example, the production of NEVs has been on the rise, with companies like NIO, a Chinese electric car manufacturer, making significant strides. NIO, which is headquartered in Hangzhou, Zhejiang, has been developing its own battery technology and expanding its production facilities. In 2023, NIO announced plans to expand its production capacity in Europe, indicating its commitment to the global EV market.

China is not the only country investing in EVs. Europe, in particular, has been a leader in the adoption of EVs, with governments implementing policies to encourage the transition to electric vehicles. The European Union, for instance, has set a target to phase out fossil fuel vehicles by 2035, and many countries have set ambitious EV adoption goals.

The growth of the EV market is also being driven by the increasing availability of charging infrastructure. Governments and private companies are investing heavily in the construction of charging stations, making it easier for consumers to adopt EVs. In China, for example, the number of public charging stations has been increasing sharply, with the government providing incentives to speed up the construction of charging infrastructure.

In conclusion, the growth of the EV market is being driven by a combination of consumer support, networks, and facilities. As governments and companies continue to invest in EVs and charging infrastructure, the future looks bright for the electric vehicle industry.
Since the beginning of this year, the policies of the automotive industry have mainly focused on supporting NEVs, including encouraging the consumption of NEVs in rural areas.

Chen Shihua, deputy secretary general of the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers, said that although NEV sales were affected in the first several months of this year compared with the same period of last year because of the widespread of subsidies that were first introduced in 2008, the Chinese market is chiefly driven by consumer demand. In July, the sales of EVs reached 130,000, up 7.2 percent year-on-year, from the 122,000 reported in June.

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SOE dividends can transform capital market

EAGLE EYE
By Shen Ling

A confluence of supportive policies, investor optimism and market Sentiment has set the stage for a new chapter of growth for China’s dynamic capital market.

The major share market potential has emerged as a powerful engine driving economic recovery and investments, spurring the other major economies around the world to challenge and seize new opportunities.

Contributing to the market’s recent rise is a surge of vitality after the government adopted a fresh policy tone in July to support economic growth.

Additional policy support will be rolled out to facilitate the further development of the capital market and boost investor confidence, said a spokesperson from the State Council.

The development of China’s capital market, he said, is bound to lead to a top line of dividends that could boost stock market capital gains over the long term.

Verdict: Regrettably, there has been among Chinese investors a common perception that SOEs, which dominate the A-share market as much as 60% in value, are not good values, due to the large number of SOEs in the market.

However, SOEs, primarily state-owned enterprises, have greatly increased their market share over the last few decades.

For instance, in 2021, SOEs made up 37.5% of the A-share market, the said spokesperson continued.

The government’s resolute action in mixing market returns with state-owned enterprises will help to re-establish the trust in the market and bring the economy back on track.

A small number of blue-chip SOEs, such as A-share market leaders, are expected to benefit from the market.

Given the SOEs’ strategic importance; the valuation of the entire market would be revalued and lead to a sustainable valuation framework with Chinese characteristics that is not restricted to speculative short-term transactions.

Second, besides the SOE boost, state-owned investors as macro-shareholders, in a first commitment to higher distributed profits would greatly improve national financial resources, which is especially important in guaranteeing public expenditure and contributing to the development of China’s high-tech industry amidst the current economic downturn.

Such collaborative efforts between huge SOEs and regulatory institutions will help the capital market’s overall yields and unlock the A-share market’s latent vitality for economic growth.

In addition, higher dividend payouts will lead to substantial advantages at different levels.

Here is a snapshot of blue-chip SOEs.

With higher dividend payout rates on a higher dividend yield, which increase investor incomes, such as large investors, will see that they face less monetary risk and eventually bolster the values of such stocks.

Finally, SOEs will also be an asset to their respective regions in terms of national economic development.

This content does not necessarily reflect those of China Daily.

The writer is an associate professor at the School of Finance at the Ocean University of China Science and Technology.

That said, the country should further optimize and extend preferential tax and fee policies and ease pressure on related market entities.

The country could also provide more financial subsidies to reduce tax burdens on small and medium-sized enterprises, and further reduce and cancel valued-added taxes and income taxes for SOEs, while ensuring that debt or reduce social insurance premium payments.

Measures such as tax cuts, increasing funding lines for research and development expenses, and lowering costs of electricity, rent and logistics are also advisable.

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BRICS open and inclusive stage to promote common development and multilateralism

China Daily

S
ome Western media outlets have been tirelessly trying to throw a wet blanket on the good vibes of the 4th BRICS Summit being hosted this week by boycotting the so-called "digital summit" among its members against the backdrop of the pandemic and the United States' patenting efforts to isolate Russia and China from the rest of the world.

However, to their disappointment, not only will the five BRICS nations' leaders of China, Brazil, India, Russia and South Africa not be attending the summit in Person, but they also indicated their determination to strengthen their cooperation via "virtual" means such as "Brics+" plans.

This determines the organizational strategic autonomy from the Western agenda, as well as the unity of the BRICS under the principles of BRICS -- non-interference, equality, and mutual benefit -- despite the unsolved attempt of the US to contain China.

The theme of the event -- "BRICS and Africa Partnership: Moving Towards a Common Development and Inclusive Multilateralism" -- will serve to expose the enemy in which the developed world, under the influence of the US, has been flagrant at national responsibility to help Asian countries effectively boost their growth. It is a continent that has been long ignored by the West for too long.

Worse, the US and some of its allies smear any other non-US club countries' investment in and cooperation with African countries as "neocolonialism" and "unequal trade" in an attempt to contaminate the genuine and green economies and human cultures, the Johannesburg summit looks like to inform not only the five members but also other countries and organizations attending by trying to seize a stage for them to strength extend projects cooperation, which is ready to bring up its complementary and cooperation potential via various mechanisms or "Brics+" plans.

Unlike any other gathering by the US to sponsor the so-called "values" or "virtual" development, China's aim is clearly stated: The so-called intention of the "Brics+" Summit will not be to set up a talk shop to form toe on single country as a platform to try and resist the global industry and supply chains for its narrow ends under the cover of "de-ecolizing". The real risk stems from the lack of a clear strategic autonomy of the US, a country that is stale at managing even its own country under the rule of bullying others.

As the observer of the past 15 BRICS annual summits proves, the Johannesburg meeting will serve to inject fresh vitality into the life and add new vitality to the development of the continent to be the most competitive in the world by promoting cooperation rather than "stronging" and upholding multilateralism instead of unilaterism.

David Camp meeting poisons troublemaking

C
China and Germany are different in many aspects. They are two countries of forging a very productive relationship, whose leaders have made it possible to build the past decades that has served both sides well.

Although there have been times been peace that might make young people believe the "golden age" of China and Germany, the fact is that the "de-risking" should not be a "desinification".

The "de-risking" means China and Germany, especially in financial terms, are going to be more cautious about each other's investment due to the growing concern on the significance of a generally high rate overall equilibrium, which has prevented bilateral ties from being going on track. Amid the current geopolitical headaches against the backdrop of the new normal, while China and Germany have to be cautious about each other's investment, which can lead to a sharp decline to the high-quality technology sectors in China's "economic core", and trade policies in China are not in Germany's interest as he and the German government are trying to ensure that the German investment sector is to be a major contributor to the German economy. The plan involves Chinese investment in China's infrastructure and China's economic interest. And China's investment in Germany is not in Germany's interest.

China's political demolition is a trend toward the development, the future will have to be a good way to deal with the challenges, and the German government's task is to encourage China's investment in Germany, and the German government is also willing to invest in China. The German government will have to be more cautious about each other's investment, and the German government is also willing to invest in China, and the German government is also willing to invest in China.

Wednesday marked the one-year anniversary of China's announcement of its financial cooperation, the China-Brazil-Belgium-Russia-India Economic Cooperation, during President Joe Biden's speech at the Group of 20 leaders' meeting, at which he declared that China has been "economically dynamic, often unpredictable, and a partner of convenience for China". The US is now trying to improve relations with China, which is a key player in the world economy. However, there is no doubt that the US is not the only country interested in improving relations with China, as both the US and China have a lot to gain from a stable relationship.

The Biden administration is now keen to improve relations, but this is not the only reason behind the US' renewed interest in improving relations. In fact, the US is now trying to improve relations with China for several reasons. One is to improve the US' image in the world, which is currently suffering from a decline due to the ongoing pandemic and the US' handling of it. Another reason is to improve the US' economy, which has been hit hard by the pandemic. Finally, the US is now trying to improve relations with China to improve its relations with other countries, which are increasingly looking to China for leadership.

What They Say

EU playing Hong Kong card repugnant policy

Editors' Note: The following are excerpts of a statement on the European Union's 35th annual report on political and economic developments in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region issued by the spokesperson for the Commission's Office of the Chinese Ministry in the Brussels at the ARCD in Brussels.

We object to the EU's 2022 report on Hong Kong, which once again showed the EU's political bias towards the so-called "human rights" and "democracy" in Hong Kong. We urge the EU to respect the rule of law and upholding the principles of "one country, two systems" in Hong Kong.

In the more than three years since the implementation of the "one country, two systems" in Hong Kong, both sides have achieved significant economic and social development. Hong Kong's economy has continued to grow, the unemployment rate has fallen, and the financial sector has remained stable.

The EU's human rights issue remains a sensitive issue in the world. The EU's handling of the Hong Kong issue is expected to have a significant impact on the future development of EU-China relations. We expect the EU to play a positive role in promoting peace and stability in Hong Kong.
BRICS building a ‘pluriversal’ world

BRICS is emerging as a key bloc behind a “pluriversal” world order, which is believed to be co-led by the Chinese and Russian states. The BRICS concept has become a multiple, more inclusive, just, equitable, and sovereign centric model of interaction and cooperation of all countries to build a more humane world.

A “pluriversal” world embraces knowledge, diversity, and cultures and recognizes the rights and contributions of all countries to bear responsibility and lead. Such a world is not only beneficial for the BRICS but also for the world at large.

There are several factors that bear on the importance of the BRICS members. These factors include their influence on global governance, their role in international trade, and their economic growth. The BRICS countries are known for their diverse economies and their ability to work together to achieve common goals.

The BRICS have a significant role to play in shaping the future of global governance. They are also emerging as key players in the global economy, with a growing influence on international trade and investment. In addition, the BRICS countries are known for their commitment to addressing global challenges such as poverty, inequality, and climate change.

The BRICS countries are also known for their innovative and creative solutions to these challenges. They are working together to develop new technologies and strategies to address these issues, and are also sharing knowledge and expertise with other countries.

In conclusion, the BRICS countries are playing a vital role in shaping the future of the world. They are working together to build a more inclusive, just, equitable, and sovereign world order, and their influence on global governance and international trade is likely to continue to grow in the years to come.
GLOBAL VIEWS

Fair do’s for the Global South

HERMAN THE LAUREL

Brave new world is being built brick by brick by BRICS

In the past year, it seems that not a day has gone by that the economic grouping of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa has not made front-page headlines. The great majority of the media reports express the great optimism of the countries of the Global South for BRICS, as this group is known.

With the 10th BRICS Summit to be held in South Africa’s December, a new chapter in BRICS’ history will start, and the Indian leader would be the summit’s host. These BRICS-mentioned claims were rebutted by South Africa’s Deputy Minister, who said someone was “trying to spill the content” but clarified that India’s Prime Minister Narendra Modi is planning to attend, and Brazil and India support the expansion of BRICS. They only seek clarification on the entry rules.

BRICS has attracted the interest of over 20 months, including Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Egypt, Venezuela and the United Arab Emirates, which have expressed a desire to be a part of the group, as well as more observers nations look on joining the club membership. According to data, published by the United Kingdom-based economic research firm Accon Mauro Consulting, even with only its present members, BRICS already represents 35.2 percent of the global GDP, more than the G7’s 30 percent, and BRICS represents 41 percent of the world population, even if one has to make its own eclipse as BRICS expands over the coming years.

BRICS has shown the durability of the Global South is the largest and leading economies in each major continent of the world, and the need for a re-evaluation of economic multilateralism that has been taking place to some extent during the past decades. The world is in transition between the BRICS and the G7 countries; the world order is based on mutual respect among countries whose interactions are conducted on equal footing.

The expansion of the Global South for the BRICS proposition is based on the clear observation of the BRICS leadership’s priority to support their own developmental process. The purpose is to include the financing for this infrastructure has come from what used to be called the BRICS Bank, which, now formally known as the New Development Bank, is led by Chinese South Champion Dima Yusuf of Brazil.

Josef Gregory Mahoney

Coming of age

After maturing for 15 years, BRICS is all set to take a bigger role on the world stage in the New Era

The process of the BRICS community is the group’s 15-year anniversary, in a year that will see another milestone: the inauguration of the Bank as the BRICS entrepôt, as experts term it. The Bank has been undergoing a process of maturation that has not only seen its infrastructure and its operations but also its financial and developmental strategies.

In less than a year, the Bank will have its first round of capital, and this is a significant step towards establishing the BRICS as a credible player in the global economic landscape. The Bank is expected to play a crucial role in providing financial assistance to the countries of the BRICS community, helping them to overcome the challenges they face in the current global economic environment.

The Bank’s role is to provide a sustainable and inclusive development pathway for the BRICS countries, enabling them to achieve their development goals and contribute to global economic progress. By doing so, the Bank will help in reducing poverty, fostering economic growth, and achieving sustainable development in the BRICS region.

The Bank has already started operations with a strong mandate to support the infrastructure development in the BRICS countries. It aims to mobilize funds from various sources, including domestic and international investors, to finance projects that align with the objectives of the BRICS.

In conclusion, the coming of age of the BRICS Bank marks a significant milestone in the history of the BRICS community. The Bank’s establishment is a testimony to the growing solidarity and cooperation among the BRICS countries, as they work together to overcome the challenges they face and contribute to a more equitable and sustainable global economy.

The author is the founder of the Asian Conversion and Middle Eastern Society of Education. The author contributes regularly to various publications and has been recognized for his contributions to the field of economics.
Dancing to the next stage of excellence

Event dedicated to performance and teaching of art forms continues to produce new, national talent, Chen Nan reports.

For our performance, we simplified the costumes and minimized the essence of the moves, such as the repetitive movement of the arm and foot, and the balance of the knees and the trunk. "The dance is not the man who has been dancing since he was a child."

When he was 11, Kangshin Trinpo moved from Shigatse to Lhasa, since at the middle school affiliated to the Shigatse Teacher's Academy. In 2013, he came to Beijing to study at the Minzu University of China with a major in dance education, and four years later, he became a teacher at the Temple of Dance.

"Before I entered the dance, I had never even seen Gregor Ghaze. I have always been told that Tibetan people are performing, now-dance by moving their hands close to the ground — just the people working on the farm. During the course of the training, though, we have trained graceful, elegant movements. Before entering the Temple of Dance, I learned as a child. Now, Mr. Gregor Ghaze, who has taught me for a long time at the university, is a teacher, and studied to teach at Temple of Dance since age five.

This was the first time that she and her husband, a dance teacher at Shigatse, went to Beijing, she added, and they were all very excited to move from Tibet to the capital.

The 10th Taoli Cup National Dancing Performance Education Performance of China, which was held in Beijing from August 6 to August 19, presented 200 programs in six categories according to style, including classical Chinese dance, Chinese folk dance, ballet and contemporary dance. Students representing six schools from 27 cities and provinces participated in the event, making it the largest event in the history of the dance event. Since 2003, the event is known as the Taoli Cup National Dancing Competition, has been held every three years. In 2016, its scope was shifted to a more educational aspect, and the event was renamed. This year, the cup was organized by the Beijing Dance Academy and focused on student performances, teaching dancing and dance forms. A grand gala was held to mark the end of the event on Wednesday.

For students from Lhasa region, it's a great and new opportunity to meet and talk to teachers and students from other parts of the country. All of us were very happy when we knew that we would attend this year's Taoli Cup. We have been preparing for it for nine months," says Li Peng, a teacher from Xujing Normal University in Urumqi, capital of the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region.

Li made her choreographic debut with a piece titled Rockoll Raga by Chepang Dharma, which was performed during this year's cup. Featuring 36 male students from the dance department at Xujing Normal University, the piece combines Uygur ethnic dances and the movements of modern dancers.

"I was inspired by boys playing soccer near my home, who always work and play together. As a boy, I also loved soccer. Xujing's ethnic dances are beautiful, I tried to put the two elements together," says Li, who has become top dancer and observer and the movements of play is "a new experience, because our classes are mostly about teaching Xujing ethnic folk dances, which are traditional.

Ye Ri, president of the Beijing Dance Academy, says: "Over the decades, the Taoli Cup has built up a large base and is known as the biggest and most important dance event, promoting dance education and young talent. Some of the performers participated in the 14th Taoli Cup. Each of them has become a teacher. They are contributing to the continuous improvement of China dance." A teacher at the Beijing Dance Academy and winner of the 2012 Taoli Cup, Laurence Wang, has called the leading role of the Xu Jiaxiang by Wang Wei and Shen Ping. It has been renamed by the Taoli Cup. The cup of the Taoli Cup has been renamed by the Taoli Cup. By the Taoli Cup, the cup of the Taoli Cup has been renamed by the Taoli Cup. A teacher at the Beijing Dance Academy, and winner of the 2012 Taoli Cup, Laurence Wang, has called the leading role of the Xu Jiaxiang by Wang Wei and Shen Ping. It has been renamed by the Taoli Cup. The cup of the Taoli Cup has been renamed by the Taoli Cup. A teacher at the Beijing Dance Academy, and winner of the 2012 Taoli Cup, Laurence Wang, has called the leading role of the Xu Jiaxiang by Wang Wei and Shen Ping. It has been renamed by the Taoli Cup. The cup of the Taoli Cup has been renamed by the Taoli Cup. A teacher at the Beijing Dance Academy, and winner of the 2012 Taoli Cup, Laurence Wang, has called the leading role of the Xu Jiaxiang by Wang Wei and Shen Ping. It has been renamed by the Taoli Cup. The cup of the Taoli Cup has been renamed by the Taoli Cup. A teacher at the Beijing Dance Academy, and winner of the 2012 Taoli Cup, Laurence Wang, has called the leading role of the Xu Jiaxiang by Wang Wei and Shen Ping. It has been renamed by the Taoli Cup. The cup of the Taoli Cup has been renamed by the Taoli Cup.
A PICTURE OF DETERMINATION

Despite difficulties of his own, dedicated photographer captures the energy, persistence and inner strength of athletes who have succeeded in the face of seemingly inauditable challenges, Yang Feiyue reports.

Zheng Longhous, photographer

I’m grateful to photography—it has given meaning to my life, and I’m grateful for the era—it’s society’s care for the physically challenged that has helped turn my dreams into reality.

Zheng Longhous on his way to a photography assignment.

Photos: Provided to China Daily

As the Asian Games in dribbling, triumphs and failures, questions, approaches, Zheng Longhous is weaving up final preparations for his special exhibitions for the grand event, which is scheduled to start in September.

Over the past few months, the man in his life has been sorting through tens of thousands of photos he has taken over the past two decades, and cherry-picked 100 images focusing on the theme.

"It is seeking that it will be held on my shoulders," says Zheng from the city’s Luhu district, adding that he wants to contribute to the event in his own way.

The photos cover thrilling moments from various competitions, including the fifth and eighth National Games for Persons with Disabilities, as well as the 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games Shanghai.

One of the photos shows, Zheng Longhous’ Wings to Fly, depicts a group of paralympic and deaf para athletes, leaping over hurdles, overcoming obstacles with indomitable determination.

"Each one of the hundreds of capturing these journeys, whatever mode we take it, we can now better appreciate the value of life for common individuals with physical challenges, helping them regain their confidence and pride," Zheng says.

He says that through the images, he wants the world to see their strength, determination and positive and optimistic attitudes.

In June, Zheng’s documentary photography collection showcasing moments of 80 people with physical challenges won the Golden Medal Award for China Photography, which was hosted by the China Federation of Literary and Art Circles and the Chinese Photographers Association, and which is the top national individual achievement in the field of artistic photography.

Zheng is also credited for his role in carrying out five public photogary lectures and taking photos of celebrations in village during his time with the Lunar Photographers Association, as well as nothing more than 800-year-old photographers.

"I am grateful to photography—it has given meaning to my life, and I’m grateful for the era—it’s society’s care for the physically challenged that has helped turn my dreams into reality," Zheng says.

Zheng himself has been no stranger to hardship. He lost his hands and facial scars as an infant after an accident.

From an early age, he faced many more difficulties than his peers, even when building the most mundane daily tasks, such as holding a spoon or using a pen.

His experience has given him a tough heart.

"Since then, the most others who can do something, the more they can do something, the more they can do something," Zheng says.

He has been recognized by employers and the government, who did not provide enough care to him.

"He told me that I was a man without hands could be useful.

In 2001, a township hired him, but Zheng was turned away from the factory, and he had to find another job.

"I think a photo capturing a bundle of art students dancing on the background of Huanglong Mountain represents a snapshot at a moment in mankind’s art photography history," he says.

"I think I have always been in the mind of photography as art," he says.

The award-winning photo was taken in a position at a cultural organization in Linxia in 2004, and from then on he went on to serve the district’s Photo Art Club, the Linxia Linenrow and Art Federation and finally the local photographers association.

In 2004, he wanted to do something special to commemorate Beijing’s hosting the bid for the 2008 Summer Olympics.

"I was working with the disabled person federation, as a lawyer with the idea of photographing 100 athletes with physical challenges," he says.

From 2000 to 2010, Zheng crossed across the country to interview people that caught the interest, binding the trip by selling his apartment.

During each trip, throughout several days I.Am and starting meals with balls, he learned from interacting with their work and life, merely observing quietly from the sidelines, capturing moments that touched his heart.

His subjects included Chi Chuan from Zheng, who lost his right hand at 18, but still managed to become a big success producing beautiful wood carvings and providing work for other physically challenged craftspeople, and Yang Hongmei from Shanxi province’s capital city Xian, who was left unable to walk after a childhood ailment, but was committed to community restoration.

"They all had grand plans, and a positive, persistent attitude towards challenges," he says.

In his images, Zheng chose to reflect his subjects’ strong inner worlds through subtle facial expressions.

"I want my work to be more entertaining, and to enable viewers to better understand and respect the people in his pictures." he adds.

Each photo was accompanied by a precise description about the subject’s story.

"I was moved and inspired by them myself," Zheng says.

Wang Qindong, Zheng’s wife, has been very supportive of him, she says she is attracted to Zheng for his concordant and meaningfulness, both to his family and society.

Every time he hears his thanks, he feels someone who really makes him happy.

"Zheng Longhous is a man who should have some worth of value to the world.

I hope my work can be a mirror.

We should all be more dedicated to our work and dreams," he says.

Now that he has retired, Zheng says he has new interest to commit to photography.

In addition to his joint Games Awards, Zheng has been working on a new project—photographing 100 centenarians, he says.

"I’ve taken all of them, and will follow them not after the game," Zheng says.

Contact the writer at: yangfeiyue@chinadaily.com.cn
Salvation and secularization carved in stone

Rock sculptures in Changqing's Da nu District date back more than 1,000 years and shed light on day-to-day life in China back then.

By YUAN SHENGQIAO

Da nu Rock Carvings, also known as the Da nu Stone Sculpture, is the general term for all the stone carvings in Da nu district, Changqing County, Shaanxi Province. Up to now, 70 rock carving sites, among them more than 10,000 stances, have been administrated as provincial cultural relics, among which the most characteristic are the carvings in Beishan, Baoding, Nanshan, Shimen and Shimen mountain. The first carvings date back to the late Tang dynasty and the Five Dynasties, but some were discovered in the Song Dynasty (960-1279), continuing to the Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1912) Dynasties, an artistic achievement that has lasted for more than 1,000 years. Despite the misrepresentation of Chinese late-period stone art and even non-existent stone art from the 18th to 19th century, the carvings in Da nu have been recognized as an important part of Chinese art.

Beishan Rock Carvings

The Beishan Rock Carvings were completed by the Tang Dynasty (221-907). The stone statues include 11 rock carvings on both sides of the（1127-1279）. The carvings are the most complete set of carvings that depict the Da nu people in Shaanxi.

Shimen Mountain Rock Carvings

The Shimen Mountain Rock Carvings are located on the south side of the Shimen Mountain Rock Carvings are located on the south side of the Shaanxi Province. The carvings are of great value for studying the relationship between Buddhism and local culture in late-period Shaanxi.

Nanban Mountain Rock Carvings

Nanban Mountain Rock Carvings are located on the west side of the Nanban Mountain, which is famous in Shaanxi for its cultural and religious significance. The art and architecture of Shaanxi and local culture in the late period.}

Modern techniques used to preserve sculptures

By LI YONG

Preservation and study of rock carvings are of great significance given their unique cultural value, beauty, and also for their scientific value.

The Beishan Rock Carvings, one of the most representative rock carvings in Shaanxi Province, have been exposed to high temperatures, high humidity, and strong natural forces for a long time. Weathering, rain, wind, frost, and temperature changes, atmospheric pollution and human activities have all contributed to its decomposition and destruction. The art is one of the most significant cultural heritages in Shaanxi. The local government is taking effective measures to protect and preserve the rock carvings. Several years ago, the Beishan Rock Carvings were added to the List of National Cultural Relics.

The research team at the Shaanxi Cultural Heritage Administration Academy has completed the research on the Beishan Rock Carvings. The team has applied a variety of advanced techniques, including 3D scanning, digital technology, and remote sensing, to analyze and understand the carvings. The research has led to the development of a digital database, which is an important tool for the preservation and study of rock carvings.

High-tech methods advance monitoring and public learning

By YUAN SHENGQIAO

In the past years, many new techniques, such as remote sensing and geographic information systems (GIS), have been applied to the study and protection of rock carvings. These techniques have helped to identify and map the carvings, providing valuable information for their preservation.

In the digital display, the Beishan Rock Carvings are displayed on a digital platform, allowing visitors to explore the carvings in a new and interactive way. The digital platform also includes educational content and multimedia resources, providing visitors with a more engaging and informative experience.

International cave temple conservation forum kicks off in Changqing

By YUAN SHENGQIAO

Cultural heritage officials and experts from across the country have gathered at a forum focusing on the conservation and development of cave temples as a form of cultural heritage. The forum was held in Changqing County, Shaanxi Province.

The forum, held under the guidance of the Shaanxi Cultural Heritage Administration and the Changqing County government, is an important event for the conservation and development of cave temples in China. The forum aims to highlight the importance of cave temples as cultural heritage and promote the use of advanced technologies for their conservation.

The forum highlighted the importance of using advanced technologies for the conservation of cave temples. The forum also emphasized the need to protect and preserve the cultural heritage of cave temples.

The forum concluded with the adoption of a series of recommendations for the conservation and development of cave temples. The recommendations included the establishment of a national database of cave temples, the development of new technologies for the conservation of cave temples, and the promotion of public awareness and education about the importance of cave temples.