

# Reply to the Questionnaire of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee on the Role of Technical Assistance and Capacity Building in Fostering Mutually Beneficial Cooperation

## I. General Position

At the 37th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council in March 2018, by an overwhelming majority, it adopted the resolution "Promoting Mutually Beneficial Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights" jointly proposed by China and the developing countries. It calls on all parties to strengthen dialogue and cooperation in the field of human rights, promote the construction of a new type of international relations featuring mutual respect, fairness, justice and win-win cooperation, and build a community with shared future for mankind. This reflects the common expectation of international society to work together to improve global human rights governance and promote the healthy development of the cause of human rights in the world.

The promotion and protection of human rights is a dynamic historical process with no end. At present, the international "human rights deficit" is still very serious. Injustice, intolerance and insecurity still exist in the world. Unbalanced, uncoordinated and unsustainable development remains prominent. More than 700 million people around the world are still hungry, more than 132 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance, and more than 65 million people are displaced. The deep-seated impact of the international financial crisis has not been eliminated. Developing countries are still being treated unfairly and unjustly. Regional conflicts and terrorism pose serious challenges to the cause of international human rights protection. The trend of politicization of human rights is rising and double standards prevail. Some countries engage in open confrontation and "name calling and shaming". They use human rights issues to attack others and interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, thus poisoning the global atmosphere of human rights governance. There is still a long way to go to achieve the goals set in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to enable everyone to enjoy human rights. The international community should stand at the height of all mankind, firmly

establish the concept of mutually beneficial cooperation, strengthen dialogue and cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual respect, and jointly promote the cause of international human rights.

Technical assistance and capacity-building play an important role in promoting and protecting human rights through win-win cooperation.

The first is to enhance mutual understanding and comprehending. Different countries have different historical and cultural traditions, levels of economic and social development and political systems, different human rights concepts and practices, and different priority areas and specific plans for human rights development. All parties should strengthen win-win cooperation in the field of human rights through technical assistance and capacity-building, conduct constructive dialogue and exchanges on the basis of equality and mutual respect, enhance mutual understanding, properly control human rights differences, avoid conflicts and confrontations, and create a good atmosphere of mutual tolerance among civilizations and common promotion and protection of human rights.

The second is to improve the level of human rights

protection. On the issue of human rights, there is no best, only better. All parties should strengthen win-win cooperation, exchange and learn from each other and make common progress in the field of human rights through technical assistance and capacity-building. Poverty eradication and development are pressing challenges for developing countries on human rights issues. The international community should increase its financial and technical support to developing countries. Developed countries should honour their official development assistance commitments, help developing countries accelerate economic and social development, eradicate hunger and poverty, and ensure the right to survival and development. Developing countries should learn from each other, learn from each other's strengths and complement each other's weaknesses, and promote the all-round development of human rights.

Third, we should promote the healthy development of global human rights governance. At present, the global human rights governance system still has some problems, such as unfair opportunities, unfair rights and unfair rules. The work of international human rights mechanisms is seriously unbalanced, and the concerns of developing countries have not been given enough attention. All parties

should strengthen win-win cooperation in the field of human rights through technical assistance and capacity-building, and jointly explore ways to promote the democratization, rule of law, rationalization and fair development of global human rights governance. Strengthen the capacity-building of multilateral human rights institutions, promote the balanced development of all kinds of human rights, and effectively reflect the power contrast, geographical balance and the demands of all parties in rule-making, membership and staff distribution, so as to support the participation of developing countries in global governance and safeguard international fairness and justice.

To strengthen win-win cooperation in the field of human rights through technical assistance and capacity-building, the following principles should be followed:

1, equality and mutual respect, adherence to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the basic norms of international relations, respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of other countries, respect for the social systems and development paths independently chosen by countries,

non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, non-imposition on others, and opposing the politicization of human rights issues.

2, we should build and share together through consultation to determine the areas of cooperation, project planning and concrete implementation according to the requests and priorities of the parties concerned, respect the wishes of the parties concerned, take into account the concerns of the parties concerned, and combine the technical and capacity advantages of the parties in the field of human rights with the needs of the parties concerned.

3, we should promote all kinds of human rights in a balanced manner, always taking the well-being and interests of the people as the starting point and the foothold, attaching equal importance to promoting democracy and life, balancing economic, social and cultural rights and civil and political rights, paying more attention to the demands of developing countries for realizing the right to development, and promoting the all-round development of human beings and the continuous progress of human rights.

4, we should promote and protect human rights in development, keep development at the top of the global policy framework, fully implement the sustainable development agenda of 2030, integrate the promotion and protection of human rights into the national development strategy, create favorable conditions and provide fundamental guarantees for people's enjoyment of human rights while carrying out technical assistance and capacity-building.

5, safeguard international fairness and justice, fully understand the difficulties and efforts of developing countries in achieving economic development and maintaining social stability, guarantee the special and differential treatment enjoyed by developing countries in institutions such as the World Trade Organization, support the development of developing countries and create conditions for the development of human rights in developing countries.

## II. Practice in China

### (1) Overall situation

While vigorously promoting the development of China's human rights cause, China actively shares its experience in human rights development with other countries in the world and creates more development opportunities for all countries. China has always upheld the spirit of equality, mutual trust, tolerance, mutual learning and win-win cooperation, actively carried out exchanges and cooperation in the field of human rights, committed to strengthening cooperation and win-win in the field of human rights through technical assistance and capacity-building. China advocated and promoted the realization of human rights in the world, including the right to subsistence, to development and to peace, and contributing itself to the promotion of world peace and development and the advancement of global human rights.

By organizing the South-South Forum on Human Rights, the Beijing Forum on Human Rights, the seminar to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration on the Right to Development, the 16th Asia-Europe Informal Seminar on Human Rights, and carrying out bilateral human rights dialogue, consultation

and human rights technical cooperation projects with relevant countries, China has strengthened the exchange of ideas, policy communication and experience in the field of human rights, and enhanced mutual understanding to reach a common progress.



(The 2008 Beijing Forum on Human Rights was held in Beijing

from September 18 to 19. With the theme of "Eradicating Poverty: Building a Community of Human Destiny without Poverty and Common Development", more than 200 people from nearly 50 countries, regions and international organizations, experts, scholars and eminent persons attended the Forum. Since 2008, the Beijing Forum on Human Rights has successfully held nine sessions and has become one of the important platform for human rights exchange and cooperation among States. )

The Chinese Government strongly supports and actively participates in the work of the UN human rights mechanism and maintains constructive exchanges with OHCHR. When China participated in the third round of human rights periodical review of the UN Human Rights Council in November 2018, it announced that it would contribute US\$ 800,000 annually to OHCHR in the next five years and invite relevant special mechanisms of the Human Rights Council to visit China. China will earnestly fulfill its commitments and continue to strengthen exchanges and cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanism on the principle of "mutual respect, cooperation and win-win".

( From November 6 to 9, 2018, China participated in the third round of the UN Human Rights Council human rights review. During this period, China announced that it would contribute US\$800,000 annually to OHCHR and invite the special mechanism of the Human Rights Council to visit China in the next five years. )

China carries out foreign aid on the principle of equality, mutual benefit and without any political conditions. Since the founding of the People's Republic, China has actively implemented a large number of foreign aid projects under the circumstances that its own development level and

people's living standard are not high. Over the past 60 years, China has provided nearly 400 billion Yuan of assistance to 166 countries and organizations, trained more than 12 million personnel of various types and dispatched more than 600,000 aid workers to developing countries. Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China in 2012, China has continued to provide assistance to other developing countries in reducing poverty, improving people's livelihood, promoting economic development and social progress, guaranteeing people's right to subsistence and development, and promoting the development of human rights.



( In December 2015, at the Atonda project site of the China-FAO-Namibia South-South Cooperation Project, Chinese technicians instructed local people to prune mango trees. )

Chinese President Xi Jinping and state leaders have announced a series of practical assistance initiatives and initiatives on major international occasions such as the 70th

anniversary series of summits of the United Nations, the Paris Conference on Climate Change, the Johannesburg Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation and the Beijing Summit, the Hangzhou Summit of the leaders of G20, and the Xiamen Meeting of BRICS leaders. China will build "one belt and one road" with all sides, create a new platform for international cooperation, and add new impetus to the common development of the world. China has innovated its aid methods by proposing "8 X 100" projects, the "Ten Ten Cooperation Plans" and "Eight Action" between China and Africa, the establishment of South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund, the China-United Nations Peace Development Fund, the establishment of South-South Cooperation and Development College, and the BRICS Economic and Technical Cooperation Exchange Plan, including the establishment of the first 500 million Yuan BRICS economic and technological cooperation. Under the South-South cooperation assistance fund, it will provide \$500 million in aid to other developing countries, and provide RMB 60 billion Yuan assistance to the developing countries and international organizations participating in the construction of "one belt and one road". China has also put forward China's plans on poverty alleviation, epidemic prevention and control, climate change, refugee assistance and other global and regional issues,

contributed China's wisdom and eliminated the global governance deficit, and demonstrated to the world China's great responsibility and historical responsibility for promoting the common development of mankind.

China combines its own advantages with the needs of recipient countries to help them improve the level of human rights protection in various fields in the process of development. Since 2012, China has implemented more than 2,000 assistance projects in agriculture, food security, education, science and technology, health, environmental protection, poverty alleviation and poverty alleviation, and climate change response to support other developing countries in implementing the Millennium Development Goals and the United Nations sustainable development agenda for 2030. The first two phases of China's "South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund" provided US\$ 3 billion to support other developing countries in poverty eradication, people's livelihood protection, coordinated economic, social and environmental development, and harmonious coexistence between man and society, man and nature.

China actively shares its own experience, helps recipient

countries to strengthen capacity-building, and provides beneficial reference and bright prospects for developing countries to modernize. Since 2012, through human resources development cooperation and technical assistance, China has supported more than 5,000 training courses in China, dispatched 30,000 managers and technical experts of various types, nurturing nearly 200,000 talents for recipient countries, covering many social, economic and cultural fields, including industry, agriculture, trade, education, health care, environmental protection and poverty alleviation. Establish a South-South Cooperation and Development College to help developing countries train high-end government management talents, promote South-South cooperation and promote common prosperity through diploma and degree education, summarizing and sharing the experience of governing the country, including China.



(Chinese experts are on the spot in Nigeria to guide farmers in watermelon cultivation. )

## (2) Specific Areas and Cases

### 1. Implementing the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030

In 2016, the China-United Nations Peace and Development

Fund was formally established, with a sub-fund for peace and security and a sub-fund for the implementation of the sustainable development agenda of 2030 (referred to as the Development Sub-Fund). Over the past two years, the Development Sub-Fund has implemented 24 projects with a total amount of more than 25 million US dollars, covering poverty eradication, scientific and technological innovation in developing countries, inclusive economic growth, infrastructure construction and interconnection, sustainable investment, health, employment, strengthening the capacity-building of geographic information in African countries, energy and other fields. It has provided strong support for dozens of developing countries in the field of Agenda 2030.



(On May 6, 2016, H.E. Mr. Liu Jieyi, Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations, signed an agreement with the Director-General of the Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and Deputy Secretary-General Mulet at the United Nations Headquarters in New York to establish the China-United Nations Peace and Development Fund. )

## 2. Poverty Reduction Areas

In cooperation with relevant international organizations,

China has organized a number of international high-end forums, such as the China-ASEAN Forum on Social Development and Poverty Reduction, the China-Africa Cooperation Forum-Conference on Poverty Reduction and Development, the ASEAN+3 Village Officials Exchange Project, the Global Partners Seminar on Poverty Reduction, the International Forum on Poverty Alleviation in China, the International Forum on Reform and Opening-up and China's Poverty In cooperation with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and other organizations, we launched the Global Poverty Reduction Case Award Collection Activity to share the successful poverty reduction practices of the international community and jointly promote the cause of world poverty reduction. In 2018, 18 seminars were held to provide poverty reduction training for 528 officials from 66 countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America to help officials from developing countries improve their ability to formulate and practice poverty reduction policies.

In Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar, China has carried out technical assistance projects for poverty reduction Demonstration cooperation in East Asia, improving project organization and coordination, system construction, technical support and service publicity, and has made overall progress

smoothly. Steady development of the Lancang-Mekong cooperation project, through the organization of Lancang-Mekong cooperation seminar, Lancang-Mekong cooperation special fund project special seminar products, sharing experience with Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and other countries, to help them enhance capacity-building. We will actively explore the cooperation between China-Philippines and China-Pakistan poverty reduction projects, improve the design scheme of projects in the Philippines, sign a memorandum of understanding with Pakistan on poverty reduction and social development cooperation, and make efforts to improve the well-being of local people's livelihood.



( On August 14-16, 2018, the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation-Conference on Poverty Reduction and Development was held in China. More than 300 officials, scholars, international organizations and non-governmental organizations from 40 African countries and from the United States, Japan, Denmark and other countries participated in the conference to discuss China-Africa poverty reduction cooperation and exchange experiences in social development and poverty reduction. )

### 3. Health field

Since 1963, China has sent 21,000 medical team members and 220 million patients to 50 African countries and regions. At present, nearly 1,000 Chinese medical workers are providing free medical services to African people in 46 countries and regions in Africa. Aid Africa Medical Team has made important contributions to help African countries achieve the sustainable development agenda of 2030, safeguard the right to health of recipients, and promote the construction of a community of non-destiny in the field of health and health.



(On April 17, 2018, members of the Chinese Red Cross Medical Assistance Team took pictures with the children after a press conference in Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan. According to the "angel trip" - the "one belt and one road" serious illness children's humanitarian rescue plan, the second batch of 25 children with congenital heart disease in Afghanistan will be treated in China. )

In 2015, President Xi Jinping announced at a series of

United Nations summits that 100 hospitals and clinics and "Maternal and Child Health Project" would be upgraded and renovated for developing countries in the next five years. In December of the same year, President Xi Jinping announced at the Johannesburg Summit of the China-Africa Cooperation Forum that he would implement the China-Africa Public Health Cooperation Plan with Africa in the next three years.

In terms of upgrading and renovating 100 hospitals and clinics, projects such as assistance to Niger General Hospital and renovation and expansion of Juba Teaching Hospital in South Sudan have been implemented. In the implementation of 100 "Maternal and Child Health Projects", projects such as the Pediatric Building of Mozambique Bella Central Hospital and the Construction of Senegalese Maternal and Child Hospital have been implemented. Demonstration projects on maternal and child health were carried out in seven African countries. Special nutrition is provided to famine-affected pregnant women, lactating women and malnourished children under 5 years of age in Somalia and other countries through United Nations agencies.

China has formulated the overall assistance program of the African Center for Disease Control and Prevention, sent two

experts to the headquarters of the African Center for Disease Control and Prevention to provide technical guidance. Since 2013, 977 African public health officials and technicians have been trained. China sent public health experts to implement technical assistance from the Biosafety Laboratory in Sierra Leone. Pilot projects on schistosomiasis and malaria control were carried out in Tanzania jointly with the World Health Organization and the United Kingdom. Sierra Leone Public Health Capacity Building Project in collaboration with the Gates Foundation. In Comoros, we launched the "Artemisinin Compound Rapid Malaria Eradication Project" to achieve zero malaria deaths.

Since 2015, China's 3A hospitals have cooperated with 18 hospitals in Africa to establish a number of medical demonstration centers, such as heart center, minimally invasive surgery center, ophthalmology center and traditional Chinese medicine center. More than 10 provincial (city) medical institutions in China have organized free clinic activities in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Botswana, Morocco, Mauritania, Sierra Leone, Burundi, Eritrea, Garner, Namibia and other countries to allow more than 5000 patients to see the light again. In Ghana, a free clinic for congenital heart disease surgery was carried out,

and an epidemiological survey of cardiovascular diseases was completed. Thirteen local cardiovascular professionals were trained. Since 2013, Southeast University has co-sponsored clinical medicine training courses with the University of Zambia for three consecutive years. Since 2011, Tianjin University of Traditional Chinese Medicine has co-sponsored four "China-Ghana Symposium on Research and Development of Medicinal Plants" with the University of Ghana to train professionals in related fields.

In recent years, China has provided emergency medical assistance and international public health emergency assistance more than 50 times to help African countries fight major epidemics such as Ebola, yellow fever, dengue fever, avian influenza, cholera and Lassa fever, and effectively curb the spread of various epidemics.



(In 2014, the Ebola epidemic broke out in West Africa. China sent medical personnel and public health experts to fight the epidemic.)

Build a global health safety barrier and safeguard the health of people in Africa and around the world. After the outbreak of Ebola in Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia in 2014, China has

implemented five rounds of assistance to three countries in the affected areas and seven surrounding countries, dispatching nearly 1200 medical personnel and public health experts to Africa to fight the epidemic. The Presidents of the three countries have expressed their gratitude on many occasions. China's aid to Guinea's medical team has thus won the United Nations South-South Cooperation Award. In 2016, an expert group was sent to support the prevention and control of yellow fever in Angola. In 2017, two groups of health emergency experts were sent to Madagascar to support the prevention and control of plague. In 2018, a public health emergency expert group was sent to Congo (DRC) to participate in the prevention and control of Ebola epidemic.

#### 4. Women's field

In 2015, China jointly hosted the Global Women's Summit with the UN Women's Office. President Xi Jinping presided over and delivered a speech explaining China's views on promoting gender equality and women's all-round development and promoting the cause of women worldwide. He announced that he would donate 10 million US dollars to the Women's Department to help developing countries implement the

"Maternal and Child Health Project", 100 "Happy Campus Project" and 30,000 invitations within five years of this year. A number of women from developing countries came to China to participate in training and to train 100,000 female vocational and technical personnel locally for developing countries.



(On May 17, 2017, in Nairobi, Kenya, female train drivers followed Chinese teacher Zhang Cheng to familiarize themselves with the operation process. The Mombasa-Nairobi standard rail line,

built by China, is about 480 kilometers long and opened to traffic in May 2017. The first train on the railway was driven by the first female drivers in Kenya's history. )

In the past three years, China has organized more than 60 training courses and skills training for more than 2500 women in 90 countries, provided 23 batches of small-scale material assistance in the field of women in 18 countries, set up training or exchange centers for Chinese and foreign women in 13 countries, carried out women's development projects in cooperation with the Women's Department in Ethiopia, and provided free surgical treatment for Philippine cleft lip children through the "Mother's Smile Action". China held the "first women's forum along the Silk Road", "the Silk Road at the fingertips, the international women's handicraft development forum", and strengthened exchanges in women's fields with Laos, Kampuchea, Vietnam, Russia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan. Through exchanges and cooperation, we will help women in developing countries improve their living and working conditions, improve their income and self-development capabilities, and enhance the level of women's rights protection.

## 5. Disabled Persons

China Disabled Persons' Federation organized two international disabled and trainers' Internet + training classes in 2016 and 2018. 96 disabled persons from 20 countries and regions participated in training to improve the ability of disabled persons to participate in the Internet economy and enhance the level of protection for disabled persons' employment rights. In 2018, a training course on capacity-building for managers of organizations and services for the disabled in Africa was held to share China's experience and achievements in developing disabled people's work, and to provide China's wisdom and China's program for promoting the development of disabled people's work in Africa and guaranteeing the rights of disabled people in Africa.

Under the framework of the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Special Fund, the Center for Hearing and Language Rehabilitation of China, affiliated to the China Disabled Persons' Federation, launched assistance in hearing and language rehabilitation technology and assistive devices for the disabled in the five countries of Lanmei from 2017 to 2018. To train 15 professionals of hearing language rehabilitation station

and 4 pediatric audiologists for Priandon Hospital in Cambodia, and provide 120 hearing aids for 80 patients free of charge. This project is conducive to better rehabilitation services for the disabled in the five countries of the region, and better guarantee the right to rehabilitation.

## 6. Agriculture

China organizes research and training projects for agricultural officials and technicians in developing countries, covering not only specific agricultural fields such as planting, animal husbandry, forestry and fisheries, but also macro-policy aspects such as food security, rural development and poverty alleviation, and South-South agricultural cooperation. It also pays attention to issues related to the development of industrial chains such as the extension of advanced agricultural technology, the processing, marketing and circulation of agricultural products.



( In April 2012, in the China-FAO-Malawi South-South Cooperation Project, Chinese aquatic experts guided rice field fish culture technology in Songba. )

China has supported the construction of agricultural technology demonstration centers in Benin, Sudan, Mozambique, Rwanda, Liberia, Timor-Leste and Laos. By means of

experiments, demonstrations and training, the advanced and practical agricultural production technologies are extended to the local people, so that the poor areas and the poor people can enhance their hematopoietic function while improving their production level, gradually alleviate poverty and improve their economic and social development ability.

For example, the Liberian Agricultural Technology Demonstration Centre has promoted the cultivation of hybrid rice and Maize in an area of nearly 1,000 hectares, and trained more than 1,000 local agricultural researchers and farmers. The Rwandan Agricultural Technology Demonstration Centre conducts adaptability studies, experiments and demonstrations of fungi, straw and rice, pays attention to integrating traditional local agriculture, and extends them to Rwandan Women's Association, Rice Planting Association and other institutions. Tanzania Village Poverty Reduction Learning Demonstration Center cooperates in capacity-building, technical training, small-scale processing and micro-irrigation, and village infrastructure construction. It shares the experience of intensive farming in the development of small-scale agriculture in China, promotes and improves local agricultural production level by

means of peasant demonstration households, improves the overall agricultural production level, and promotes poverty alleviation.

## 7. Employment and Social Security

China has contributed US\$ 1 million to the International Labor Organization's "South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund". From 2014 to 2016, China has implemented a cooperative project to promote employment services and enhance the information processing capacity of the labor market in Cambodia and Laos, helping the countries implementing the project to strengthen public employment services and improve the level of information technology in the labor market. Cambodia has established employment service centers in various provinces and municipalities, carried out employment publicity activities in rural and poor areas, and strengthened the construction of employment network services. Laos has conducted public employment service training in various provinces, and established the national occupational classification standards.

In 2016, China and the International Labour

Organization and ASEAN Secretariat jointly organized a high-level seminar on International Labor Organization - China ASEAN social security. In 2017, the International Labour Organization co organized the ASEAN + China, Japan and South Korea "one way" Employment Service International Symposium, exchanged experiences in social security and public employment, and shared the South South cooperation between China and ILO. The results of the project and the further expansion of technical cooperation in related fields are also discussed.