

**Remarks at The Long Beach Qingdao Sister Cities  
Association's (LBQA) Annual luncheon 2007**

Consul General Zhang Yun

(Nov. 16, 2007, KYL Law Firm, Long Beach)

Honorable Mayor Bob Foster,  
President David Zanatta, Vice President Alain Sarfatti,  
Members of LBQA ,  
Ladies & Gentlemen,

Good afternoon!

First of all, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to LBQA for inviting me to attend this great event. I'm very happy to have this opportunity to come back to this beautiful city and meet with friends!

Ever since I started to perform my duty as Consul General seven months ago, I have made extensive contacts with friends from all walks of life within my consular jurisdiction. I have been deeply impressed by their attention and passion towards China, their eagerness and willingness to strengthen mutual understanding and beneficial cooperation with China.

The 17th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) was concluded last month. This Congress is very important to China as well as the world. The average Chinese people care about whether or not the CPC would speak out their mind and mean to solve their problems. Other countries are keen to see which path China would take for its further development and how it would impact the world. Generally speaking, media reports and feedback on the 17th Party Congress have been very positive.

Dear friends, Ladies & Gentlemen,

It is true that, over the past 30 years after opening-up and reform, China has scored tremendous achievements in its rapid economic growth. The living standard of the Chinese people has risen remarkably, and their awareness of engaging themselves in the local and national politics has increased accordingly. China is now enjoying a favorable situation of political stability, economic prosperity, and social advancement.

We strongly believe, without reform, there would have been no such great changes in today's China. The only way out for China is to continue its reform.

Currently, China is also facing a lot of unprecedented difficulties and challenges, ranging from sheer pursuit of GDP growth while ignoring environmental Green GDP, disparities between regions, widening income gap between the rich and the poor, to high pressure in its employment, education and hygiene, and production safety.

Proceeding from the actual practices and experiences in China, the Chinese government has come out with the new Outlook of Scientific Development.

What is Outlook of Scientific Development? In general, it requires us always to put people as our first priority, and to promote all-round, coordinated and sustainable development by achieving harmonies between urban and rural areas, among different regions, between economy and society, between human beings and the natural environment, and between domestic development and opening-up to the outside world.

To put it simple, we have to not only ensure urban planning but also emphasize

rural development. Not only need we maintain vitality in the metropolitans like Beijing and Shanghai, but also develop the medium and small sized cities. Not only need we encourage Eastern coastal cities to open-up further, but also provide favorable policies to those in the Central and Western regions. Not only need we maintain a rapid growth of economy, but also set our eyes on the future, protect environment and promote the ecological civilization, and commit ourselves to the Research & Development and utilization of recyclable energy and resources. The ultimate goal for this Outlook is to build a harmonious society in China.

To apply the Outlook in diplomacy, we propose to build a harmonious world.

What is a harmonious world? China maintains that, all countries should politically respect each other, economically strive for mutual benefit, culturally learn from each other, and strategically build up constructive cooperation based on mutual trust and common interest. With such a model of country-to-country relationship, the world is not far from being a harmonious one.

The United States is the largest developed country in the world, and China is the largest developing country. Both countries have strategic impact on the world. A mutually beneficial and stable long-term relationship between the two countries not only conform to the fundamental interests of the two peoples, but also contribute to the world peace and development.

We will make incredible contribution to mankind if we could set a glorious example of harmonious co-existence of two countries with different social systems, historic traditions, cultural backgrounds and development levels. History has accorded us such a great opportunity, and we should not let it slide away.

Since the establishment of diplomatic ties in 1979, China-US relationship has gained a positive momentum through all the ups and downs in the past decades. Now, our relationship has entered into the most favorable period.

Politically, state leaders from both countries have made frequent contacts with each other. Economically, both countries reciprocate with each other as second largest trading partners. Both countries have deepened exchanges and cooperation in such fields as anti-terrorism, law enforcement, education, technology, culture and hygiene, and have started new dialogue in innovative fields like energy, climate change, tourism, environmental protection, food safety, etc.

China and the United States have also achieved great coordination on North Korea nuclear and other grave outstanding issues. All these have proved the growing strategic importance and global impact of our relationship.

In the meantime, there are some issues on which we do have different perspectives due to disparities on history, culture and national situations. I strongly believe that any issue between our two countries can only be settled through dialogue and negotiation. It is not advisable for the US Congress to try to pressure China by tabling so many irresponsible bills. If it is not China's fault, China should not be blamed.

The online website of Globalist carried an article recently. The author mentioned that the recent bout of rising anti-China sentiment in the United States was setting China as a scapegoat. The Chinese people are not to blame, because they are neither the causes nor the answers to the American problems. I personally think this article is worth reading.

Dear friends,

Long Beach Port, as the largest port with the third largest volume of export and import in the world, plays a key role in Sino-US trade. Almost half of the products imported to the US from China are coming through the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles. About 25,000 containers of COSCO, Chinese transporting company, arrive at Pier J every week. I believe many friends present today are doing business with China.

The City of Long Beach set up a sister cities relationship with Qingdao in 1985. Both cities boast its harbors, tourist attractions and hosting Olympic Games. The sister cities associations from both cities have contributed a lot to promote bilateral exchanges, mutual understanding and practical cooperation and have brought about productive results.

The recent reciprocal visits by Mayor Foster to Qingdao last June and by Mayor Xia Geng to Long Beach last September have deepened mutual exchanges and cooperation between the two cities on economy, trade, technology, education, culture and sports, and consolidated their sister cities relationship.

I was told that a US-China trade forum will be held in Long Beach soon. This is a pragmatic event with great significance. The Chinese Consulate encourages the Chinese enterprises to continue their investment in Long Beach. I hope that the municipal government of Long Beach will provide more favorable conditions for them to expand business here.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

Beijing will host the 2008 Olympic Games next August. Qingdao, the sister city of Long Beach, will host the sailing contests. The preparation work for sailing contests is now in a full run. In 1932 and 1984, Long Beach successfully hosted the Olympic Games contests such as sailing, swimming, water polo, volleyball and jockeyship. You have also gained advanced experiences on management of infrastructure and volunteers.

I am happy to learn that, Capstone Global is working with Qingdao Sailing Committee to hold a large-scale series of events called "Glorious China" in Qingdao next May. We wish to thank Long Beach for supporting Qingdao's sailing contests and hope you can cooperate more successfully to open a new page for the Long Beach-Qingdao friendly relationship!

Thank you all.