

欧阳玉靖大使在第 36 届亚太圆桌会晚宴上的致辞
(2023 年 8 月 9 日 18:00, 吉隆坡希尔顿饭店)

Work together to build a more certain and beautiful world

Honorable Professor Dr. Mohd Faiz Abdullah, Chairman of the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia, Pengiran Datin Paduka Shazainah, Chair of Brunei Darussalam Institute of Policy and Strategic Studies (BDIPSS) and 2023 Chair of Asean-ISIS network,

Respected ambassadors, scholars and dear friends,

Good evening!

It is my pleasure to attend the 36th Asia-Pacific Roundtable (APR) Conference. First of all, on behalf of the China Embassy in Malaysia and on my own account, I give the warmest congratulations to ISIS Malaysia, on the successful convening of this important Conference. My sincere thanks go to Professor Dr. Mohd Faiz Abdullah, Chairman of ISIS Malaysia, for kindly inviting me to attend APR and deliver a speech.

This is the first APR held in the face-to-face way after the pandemic, something we have been expecting for long. The theme of this year's APR is "an age of strategic uncertainty". It is particularly timely and relevant. The world is confronted with challenges and difficulties unseen in history. Geopolitical

conflicts keep occurring, global economy recovers weak, and cold war mentality regains strength. The world is full of uncertainties and instabilities. We are once again at the crossroads. Which path to take? We have to choose.

To pursue common prosperity or let go the trend of the poor becoming poorer and rich becoming richer? To keep doors open to be friends or build walls to confront each other? To conduct win-win cooperation or play zero-sum games? To these questions, China has given its clear-cut answer. It is to take the path of peaceful development, open inclusiveness and win-win cooperation. China is dedicated to giving a safe and prosperous life to both its own people and other peoples in the world.

“Building a community with a shared future for mankind” put forward by president Xi Jinping has provided the Chinese solution to adding more certainty to world peace.

As the term suggests, a community with a shared future for mankind means that the destiny and future of each and every country and nation are interlocked. Therefore, we should work together through thick and thin to build our common planet a harmonious big family. After 10 years of unremitting efforts, the shared-future community network has already taken shape, comprising bilateral, regional, trans-regional and global

governance communities covering various fields. Peoples of different countries have become more closely connected and bonded, just like a family. The world has become a more peaceful and loving place thanks to this network.

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has injected strong impetus to global economy growth. BRI has promoted inter-country connectivity and integration, bringing benefits to partner countries through policy coordination, unimpeded trade, financial integration, facilities connectivity and people-to-people exchange. After 10 years of collaborative efforts, BRI has brought enormous growth to both China and its partner countries, with US\$270 billion two-way investment, 421,000 local jobs and nearly US\$1,000 billion total investment achieved. China has become the largest trading partner of 25 BRI countries, successfully helping many realize their "railway dream", "bridge dream" and "poverty alleviation dream". Take the Malaysian East Coast Railway Link (ECRL) for example. By mid July, ECRL has achieved 50.1% of its overall image completion, bringing over 6,000 jobs to local people and business opportunities to more than 3,000 enterprises. In estimation, completion of ECRL will help to contribute 2.7% to Malaysia's total GDP growth.

The Global Development Initiative(GDI) is key to

resolving global economic stagnation. GDI advocates development-priority, people-focus, inclusiveness, innovation-driven, harmonious coexistence with nature and action-orientation. It has helped to accelerate the realization of UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. By June 2023, GDI has won support from more than 100 countries and international organizations, with nearly 70 countries joining the UN-based GDI Group of Friends. Over the last ten years, China has made a more than 30% average contribution to global economic growth. Just recently, World Bank and many other international organizations have raised their expectations for China's economic growth. If the 5% growth target can be achieved, China will contribute one third to this year's global economic growth and continues to be the most powerful engine for global economy.

The Global Security Initiative has provided the safety valve to world peace and stability. GSI advocates a new security path which takes dialogue over confrontation, partnership over alliance and win-win cooperation over zero-sum rival. It has won support and appreciation from over 90 countries and regional organizations, and has been written into more than 30 bilateral and multilateral documents. China plays an active role in helping to resolve conflicts and confrontation. With its

efforts and meditation, Saudi Arabia and Iran have achieved the historic rapprochement. And “China’s Position on the Political Settlement of the Ukraine Crisis” has provided a systematic and feasible way out for all concerning parties. Now, we are happy to see that more and more countries have turned to negotiation and dialogue in resolving differences and misunderstanding.

The Global Civilization Initiative has pointed out the right direction for dissolving global trust deficit. There are more than 200 countries and regions in the world which comprise over 2,500 ethnic groups who believe in various religions. Different civilizations are valuable assets to cherish and learn from, not the cause of distrust and animosity. Trust comes from understanding and alienation breeds animosity. GCI advocates cultural exchanges over cultural estrangement, mutual learning over mutual despise, and coexistence over confrontation. We advocate respect for different social systems and development paths, learning from one another, and moving forward together in diversity.

Dear Friends,

The world is full of uncertainties. Uncertainty poses challenges and difficulties, yet it also breeds opportunities and possibilities. How to change crisis into opportunity and

uncertainty into possibility? This is a big question. I would like to give my humble opinion as follows:

First, we must safeguard the existing international order to add more certainty to world peace. Nothing can be achieved without peace. This is a costly lesson we have learned from history. The purposes and principles of the UN Charter are the important cornerstone for a stable international order, which have provided a solid framework for the modernization of all countries. Therefore, China firmly upholds the international system with the UN at its core, the international order underpinned by international law, and the basic norms of international relations based on the purposes and principles of the UN Charter. China firmly opposes all hegemonic, high-handed and bullying acts, rejecting all practices of exceptionalism and double standards.

Second, we should strengthen inter-connectivity and pursue for common prosperity. “Development is the ultimate solution to all major global problems.” We should ensure priority given to development, be cautious not to be misled by geopolitical calculation or short-term gains. This is also what H.E. Prime Minister Anwar has advocated in “MALAYSIA MADANI”, which is based on six core values of "Sustainability, Prosperity, Innovation, Respect, Trust and Compassion". We

should firmly advocate liberalisation and facilitation of trade and investment, making sure global industrial and supply chain run stable and smooth, and actively promoting global, regional, sub-regional and country-specific development cooperation. We should also ensure the sound function of regional industrial systems with complementary advantages.

Third, we should carry out more cultural exchanges to enhance mutual understanding and trust, especially among young people. We should let more people learn that difference is not to hate but to understand and respect. Diversity is not to eradicate but to enjoy and cherish. “Dialogue between Islamism and Confucianism” advocated by H.E. Prime Minister Anwar has set us a good example to follow. We should continue to promote exchanges and cooperation in education, science and technology, culture, health, sports, media and other fields, encouraging more people, especially the younger generation, to learn the importance of respecting differences who will grow up to be the ones passing these values on.

There is an old Chinese saying“天下兴亡，匹夫有责”， which means "Every citizen is responsible for the rise and fall of his country". Chinese Intellectuals are particularly committed. They take it their life-long mission to make their country and the

world safe and prosperous. I believe, all the seated scholars must share the same commitments with your Chinese counterparts, that is, you are all dedicated to making this world a safer and better place. By conveying voice of truth and justice with knowledge, insight and good faith, you will surely help to build a safer and better world, where peace, love and prosperity flourishes, a world with more certainties and goodness. I would like to join you in this great endeavor.

Once again, wish the 36th Asia-Pacific Round Table a great success!

Wish you good health and success in all endeavors !

Thank you!