

Joint Statement Between the People's Republic of China And the Republic of Vanuatu

1. At the invitation of Premier Li Qiang of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, Prime Minister Charlot Salwai of the Republic of Vanuatu paid an official visit to China from July 7 to 12, 2024.

2. During the visit, President Xi Jinping met with Prime Minister Charlot Salwai, and Premier of the State Council Li Qiang held talks with Prime Minister Charlot Salwai.

3. The two sides spoke positively of the achievements in the development of bilateral relations, especially the new and important progress since the establishment of the comprehensive strategic partnership featuring mutual respect and common development in 2018. Both sides agreed to upgrade the comprehensive strategic partnership and build a China-Vanuatu community with a shared future in the new era.

4. The two sides agreed that all countries, regardless of size, strength and wealth, are equal, and that the independent choice of development paths by people of all countries in light of their respective national conditions should be respected under the principle of non-interference in internal affairs.

5. The two sides reiterated their staunch support for each other on issues involving each other's core interests and major concerns. The Chinese side firmly supports Vanuatu in upholding its sovereignty and independence. Vanuatu firmly adheres to the one-China principle, and

recognizes that there is but one China in the world, that Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory, and that the government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legal government representing the whole of China. Vanuatu firmly supports efforts by the Chinese government to realize national reunification, opposing "Taiwan independence", and firmly recognises that issues relating to Hong Kong, Xinjiang, Xizang and human rights are internal matters for China to deal with. By the same token, Vanuatu fully understands and supports China's position on the South China Sea issue, and calls for peaceful negotiations and dialogue by parties involved.

6. The two sides will enhance interactions at all levels and in various areas and expand exchanges between government departments, legislative bodies, and localities to carry out mutual learning of governance and development experience and deepen political mutual trust.

7. The Chinese side welcomes Vanuatu's active participation in high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, and stands ready to build greater synergy between the Belt and Road Initiative and the development strategies of Vanuatu such as the Santo Economic Corridor and expand practical cooperation in areas including land and maritime infrastructure, trade and investment, green and low-carbon development, agriculture, forestry and fisheries. The Chinese side will continue to provide help within its capacity for Vanuatu's endeavor to achieve independent and sustainable development, welcome more competitive specialty products of Vanuatu to enter the Chinese market, and encourage Chinese companies to invest and do business in Vanuatu. The two sides encourage local currency settlement in bilateral trade and investment.

8. The two sides agreed to expand exchanges and cooperation in such areas as education, health and human resources. The Chinese side will continue to send high-standard medical teams to Vanuatu, continue to provide scholarships and various training opportunities to Vanuatu, and provide support to Vanuatu in Chinese language teaching.

9. Vanuatu welcomes and supports the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative and the Global Civilization Initiative proposed by President Xi Jinping and will work with China to advance the building of a community with a shared future for mankind. The Chinese side welcomes the official participation of Vanuatu in the Group of Friends of the Global Development Initiative, and stands ready to take this opportunity to deepen relevant cooperation and forge synergy for accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

10. The two sides agreed to champion humanity's common values of peace, development, fairness, justice, democracy and freedom, strengthen communication and coordination on international and regional affairs, defend the international system with the U.N. at its core, the international order underpinned by international law, and the basic norms governing international relations based on the purposes and principles of the U.N. Charter, safeguard the WTO-centered multilateral trading system, oppose hegemonism and power politics, and promote an equal and orderly multipolar world and a universally beneficial and inclusive economic globalization.

11. The two sides agreed that climate change is a global challenge that requires all countries to respond with joint efforts under the framework of multilateralism and following the principles of equity, common but

differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. The two sides will jointly promote the full and effective implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Paris Agreement.

12. The two sides agreed to deepen practical maritime cooperation in ocean observation and forecasting, marine disaster prevention and mitigation, marine ecosystem protection and restoration, marine spatial planning, blue economy and other fields, develop a blue partnership, and promote the building of a maritime community with a shared future. The two sides reiterated their commitment to firmly upholding the international nuclear non-proliferation regime with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as the cornerstone and the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty, and call on relevant countries to fulfill international obligations and prudently handle issues such as the discharge of nuclear-contaminated water and nuclear-powered submarine cooperation.

13. The two sides are committed to working together with all parties for the implementation of the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent. The two sides agreed to strengthen cooperation within the cooperation platforms and frameworks of the China-Pacific Island Countries Reserve of Emergency Supplies, climate change response, poverty alleviation and development, disaster prevention and mitigation, Juncao technology, agriculture, police training center and so on. The two sides will work together to build a closer community with a shared future between China and Pacific Island countries.

Beijing, July 12, 2024