

## **Joint Statement Between the People's Republic of China and the Kingdom of Tonga**

At the invitation of President Xi Jinping of the People's Republic of China, King Tupou VI of the Kingdom of Tonga paid a state visit to China from November 21<sup>st</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

During the visit, President Xi Jinping of the People's Republic of China met with King Tupou VI, Premier of the State Council Li Qiang and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Zhao Leji held separate meetings with the King. The two sides had an in-depth exchange of views and reached broad consensus on renewing China-Tonga traditional friendship, deepening high-quality Belt and Road cooperation and international and regional issues of mutual interest.

1. The two sides spoke highly of the substantial progress achieved in bilateral relations since the establishment of China-Tonga diplomatic relations 27 years ago, and agreed that the China-Tonga relationship in the new era faces important opportunities for further development and that it will bring more benefits to people of both countries and contribute to peace, stability and development in the Pacific Islands region. The two sides are committed to deepening their comprehensive strategic partnership featuring mutual respect and common development.

2. Tonga congratulated China on its significant achievements during the 14th Five-Year Plan period under the leadership of President Xi Jinping, and believes that the 15th Five-Year Plan will provide new strategic guidance for Chinese modernization and provide more certainty, stability and new opportunities for the development of all countries, including Tonga. China congratulated Tonga on the 150th anniversary of the promulgation of its Constitution and wished the people of Tonga sustained achievements in social and economic development under the leadership of King Tupou VI and the Government of Tonga.

3. The two sides agreed to continue head-of-state interactions to provide strategic guidance for bilateral relations, further strengthen engagement across

different levels and areas, expand exchange and cooperation between government departments, legislative bodies and political parties and at sub-national levels, and continuously enhance experience sharing on state governance and development.

4. The two sides reaffirmed their readiness to keep enhancing mutual political trust, uphold a foreign policy that advocates equality among all countries, regardless of their size, strength and wealth, resolutely support each other in their independent choice of development paths suited to their national conditions, and firmly support each other on issues concerning their respective core interests and major concerns. Tonga reaffirms its commitment to the one-China principle and recognizes that there is but one China in the world, Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory, and the government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legal government representing the whole of China. Tonga firmly opposes "Taiwan independence" in all forms, steadfastly supports the Chinese government in realizing national reunification, and believes that the authority of the United Nations (U.N.) General Assembly Resolution 2758 brooks no question or challenge. Tonga firmly supports China's position on issues related to Hong Kong, Xinjiang, Xizang, human rights, etc.

5. The two sides spoke highly of the fruitful outcomes of high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, and agreed to enhance synergy between the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and Tonga's national development strategies such as the Tonga Strategic Development Framework III (2025-2035), and expand practical cooperation in a broad range of areas, including trade and investment, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, infrastructure and clean energy. The Chinese side will continue to provide help within its capacity for Tonga to achieve independent and sustainable development. China carries out cooperation with Tonga in a way that responds to Tonga's needs, focuses on development, honors openness and inclusiveness, and does not target any third party. Tonga expresses its recognition and appreciation.

6. The two sides congratulated the signing of the Enhanced Economic Partnership Agreement between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Kingdom of Tonga, and looked forward to

seeing mutually beneficial outcomes soon through negotiation. The Chinese side welcomes more high-quality Tongan products to the Chinese market, and encourages Chinese companies to invest and do business in Tonga.

7. The two sides agreed to expand exchanges and cooperation in such areas as education, healthcare, tourism, sports, youth and media and at the sub-national levels to build ever stronger people-to-people bonds. The two sides welcomed the new progress made in medical referral cooperation. China will continue to send medical teams to Tonga and send traditional Chinese medicine doctors to bring Tonga into the New-Era Shennong Herbal Project. China will continue to provide Chinese government scholarships and various training opportunities to Tonga and support Tonga in Chinese language teaching.

8. The two sides stand ready to conduct maritime cooperation on the basis of equality, mutual trust, and mutual benefit. The two sides agreed to deepen practical maritime cooperation, including ocean observation and forecasting, marine disaster prevention and mitigation, marine ecosystem protection and restoration, marine spatial planning and blue economy, to foster a maritime community with a shared future.

9. The two sides agreed that climate change is a global challenge, and all countries should uphold true multilateralism and respond together following the principle of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, work together to promote the full and effective implementation of UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. The Chinese side will work to support the Tonga Energy Roadmap and, building on the success of the China-Aid Wind Farm Project, further expand cooperation with Tonga in green and low carbon areas. The two sides agreed to continue to step up practical cooperation on disaster prevention, mitigation and response and strengthen multi-level communication under the Belt and Road Cooperation Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management.

10. Tonga supports the Global Governance Initiative (GGI) proposed by President Xi Jinping, and believes that the GGI comes at the right time as this year marks the 80th anniversary of the victory of the World Anti-Fascist War

and the founding of the United Nations and will contribute to shaping a more just and equitable global governance system. Tonga reaffirmed its support for the Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative and Global Civilization Initiative. The two sides agreed to strengthen communication and collaboration in international and regional affairs, advocate humanity's common values of peace, development, equity, justice, democracy and freedom, safeguard 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, uphold 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.

Beijing, November 26<sup>th</sup> , 2025