

# **National Human Rights Action Plan of China (2026-2030)**

The State Council Information Office of

the People's Republic of China

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# Introduction

Between 2021 and 2025, the Chinese government implemented its fourth Human Rights Action Plan. With the effective implementation of its objectives and tasks, the country achieved remarkable progress in human rights protection, providing much-needed stability and certainty for global human rights development.

The period from 2026 to 2030 is a critical stage for China to further consolidate the groundwork for basic socialist modernization and strive for this goal on all fronts. At this new starting point, the country's human rights cause enjoys a stronger foundation and more favorable conditions, while the people aspire to higher-quality development and fuller protection of their rights. Yet in China, imbalanced and insufficient development remains a pronounced issue, while the international landscape, complicated by tumultuous changes and upheaval, is facing mounting uncertainty and instability. Scientific and technological progress and industrial transformation have also given rise to new demands for rights.

Drawing on past successes, the Chinese government now presents the National Human Rights Action Plan of China (2026-2030) (the Action Plan), which sets out the objectives, tasks, and measures for respecting, protecting, and promoting human rights in the period from 2026 to 2030.

This Action Plan adheres to China's constitutional principle of respecting and protecting human rights, and honors the principles enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, and other international human rights conventions. It is formulated based on China's realities and in accordance with the Outline of the 15th Five-Year Plan for Economic and Social Development.

The guidelines for formulating and implementing the Action Plan are:

- following the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era;
- acting on Xi Jinping's important statements on respecting and protecting human rights;
- staying committed to a people-centered approach to human rights;
- adhering to the Chinese path of human rights development;
- integrating human rights protection into the whole process of Chinese modernization;
- ensuring that the people have a stronger sense of gain, fulfillment, and security in human rights protection.

The basic principles of the Action Plan are:

- safeguarding human life, value, and dignity;
- applying systems thinking in planning human rights development;
- advancing the cause of human rights in accordance with the law, on the basis of equality, and in a pragmatic, coordinated, and concerted manner;
- elevating all-round human rights protection through coordinated progress in the material, political, cultural-ethical, social and eco-environmental fields;
- promoting well-rounded individual development and comprehensive social progress.

The objectives of the Action Plan are:

- respecting the principal position of the people;
- safeguarding the people's fundamental interests;
- promoting social fairness and justice;
- ensuring that the gains of modernization benefit all people fairly.

These objectives will be pursued through the following key tasks:

– Promoting the all-round protection of economic, social, and cultural rights through high-quality development. China will accelerate the modernization of agriculture and rural areas to advance comprehensive rural revitalization. It will promote high-quality and full employment, raise household incomes, improve education, social security, and healthcare systems, and ensure more equitable access to basic public services. Efforts will also be made to stimulate cultural innovation and creativity across society, enrich the content of rights protection, and improve people's quality of life.

– Improving the mechanisms for safeguarding citizens' civil and political rights. China will further refine the institutions, standards, and procedures for whole-process people's democracy, expand orderly public participation in political affairs, and guarantee that the people engage in democratic elections, consultations, decision-making, management, and oversight in accordance with the law. The country will guarantee the people's extensive rights and freedoms as prescribed by law, strengthen legal protection of human rights, and ensure that the respect for and protection of human rights run through all aspects and the entire process of legislation, law enforcement, judicature, and law observance.

– Strengthening the protection of environmental rights. China will uphold and act on the principle that lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets, implement the Ecological and Environmental Code, and improve the systems for eco-environmental progress. While staying committed to pursuing environmental benefits for the people, it will safeguard eco-environmental security, advance green and low-carbon development, and achieve carbon peak

on schedule, to build a beautiful China and promote harmonious coexistence between humanity and nature.

– Ensuring equal protection of the rights and interests of all groups. China will guarantee the equal rights to participation in governance and development for ethnic minorities, women, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, and prevent and oppose all forms of social discrimination. Efforts will also be made to improve care and service systems and promote inclusive sharing of development achievements.

– Guiding the healthy development of emerging human rights fields. Adhering to a development-oriented approach and the principles of benefiting the people and promoting virtues, fairness and justice, inclusiveness, and benefits for all, China will fully leverage digital and intelligent technologies and data as a factor of production to enrich people's lives and improve their wellbeing, thereby promoting the free and well-rounded development of individuals and enabling them to create a better life for themselves. The country will also strengthen guidance on corporate social responsibility, follow the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and improve enterprises' awareness and capacity for human rights due diligence.

– Continuing to raise awareness of human rights. China will promote and practice the contemporary Chinese outlook on human rights, continue to incorporate human rights education into the national education system, provide human rights training, disseminate human rights knowledge, and strengthen public awareness of respecting and protecting human rights across society. It will further develop human rights think tanks and research bases to advance human rights research, and develop disciplinary, academic research, and discourse systems for human rights.

– Promoting global human rights governance. China will champion humanity's shared values, practice true multilateralism, and advocate protecting human rights through security, promoting human rights through development, and advancing human rights through cooperation. The aim is to advance global human rights governance in a more just, fair, reasonable, and inclusive direction. It will take an active part in UN human rights affairs, conduct dialogue and exchanges on human rights with all parties on the basis of equality and mutual respect, and strengthen solidarity and cooperation with all countries, contributing to the overall progress of global human rights.

Compiled under the leadership of the State Council Information Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and reviewed and approved by the joint meeting mechanism for the National Human Rights Action Plan, the National Human Rights Action Plan of China (2026-2030) is hereby released by the State Council Information Office.

# **I. Advancing the Protection of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on All Fronts**

## **1. Right to an Adequate Standard of Living**

– Continuing to consolidate and expand the achievements made in poverty eradication. The government will make coordinated efforts to establish regular mechanisms for preventing rural residents from lapsing or relapsing into poverty. It will provide well-targeted assistance, strengthen support to help those most in need, ramp up development-oriented assistance by growing industries and boosting employment, and boost internal impetus for development. It will provide multitiered and categorized assistance for underdeveloped areas, improve the policies supporting key counties in need of assistance for rural revitalization, and make every effort to guard against any large-scale lapse or relapse into poverty.

– Exploring the multiple functions of agriculture, and nurturing distinctive rural industries, towns with strong agricultural industries, and new industries and business forms such as rural leisure tourism, cultural experience, and rural e-commerce. The government will regulate the development of specialized farmers' cooperatives, foster enterprises leading agricultural industrialization, improve the mechanisms for involving more rural residents, and ensure that policies for supporting new types of agribusiness serve to increase rural incomes, thereby helping to sustain rural income growth.

– Building a beautiful and harmonious countryside for people to live and work in, and ensuring basic conditions for modern life in rural areas. The government will adopt a zonal, category-based approach to systematically advancing rural revitalization, rigorously pursue rural development initiatives, and take well-ordered steps to ensure rural residents enjoy access to more complete infrastructure, more convenient public services, and a more comfortable living environment. It will continue to improve the rural living environment by supporting eligible villages in addressing their shortcomings in internal roads, water supply, drainage, sanitary toilet upgrading, domestic waste, sewage treatment, and eldercare facilities in light of local realities, so as to create quality living spaces in rural areas.

– Ensuring food security and safety. The government will fully implement the food crop production strategy based on farmland management and application of technology, and intensify efforts to advance a new round of

initiatives for increasing grain production capacity by 50 million tonnes. It will advance the high-quality development of high-standard farmland, further improve agricultural production conditions, and increase the overall production capacity of grain and other key agricultural products. It will formulate a law on cultivated land protection and quality improvement. The government will improve the full-chain, whole-process supervision mechanism and the accountability system for food safety. It will reinforce food safety supervision from farm to table, intensify risk prevention and control at source, raise the level of collaborative and smart supervision, and step up the control of pesticide residues in key agricultural products.

– Ensuring water supply to both urban and rural areas. The government will move faster to develop urban water source projects as backup for emergencies and carry out initiatives for groundwater protection and treatment. It will develop regulations on water supply, promote equitable access to water supply services, and ensure water supply security to better meet socio-economic development needs and the daily needs of the people. The government will build and renovate approximately 175,000 kilometers of urban water supply pipelines. It will roll out the “3+1” model<sup>1</sup> for standardized construction, management, and maintenance of water supply in rural areas, aiming to bring tap water coverage to 98 percent in the countryside by 2030.

– Achieving a higher standard of housing for all. The government will continue to renovate dilapidated rural housing for rural residents that are at risk of lapsing or relapsing into poverty, and upgrade 500,000 units of dilapidated and old urban housing and 115,000 aging residential communities. It will improve the supply of government-subsidized housing, strengthen housing security for low-income urban households with housing difficulties and better meet the basic needs of low-income salaried workers who lack decent housing, and gradually address the temporary housing difficulties faced by groups such as new urban residents and young people. Reform of the housing provident fund will be advanced to expand its scope of application and include people in flexible employment.

– Improving the modern integrated transportation system. The government will strengthen cross-regional coordination and planning, promote seamless multimodal integration, and improve coverage and accessibility in underserved areas. By 2030, further advances will be made in high-quality development,

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<sup>1</sup> The “3” refers to prioritizing integrated urban-rural water supply, advancing large-scale centralized water supply, and implementing standardized construction and renovation of small water supply projects in light of local conditions; the “1” refers to actively promoting unified county-level management and professional management and maintenance.

high-standard safeguards, and high-efficiency governance in the transportation sector, and a modern integrated system will be in place. This system will feature a sounder network, an upgraded structure, and improved functions; and 95 percent of the main framework of the national comprehensive and multidimensional transportation network will be completed, enabling 75 percent of the population to commute to work within one hour in major metropolitan areas.

– Promoting universal internet access. The government will continue to strengthen internet infrastructure construction and increase internet penetration. It will carry forward the Signal Enhancement special campaign and accelerate the construction of communications networks in rural and remote areas in order to enable these areas, the agricultural sector, and rural residents to access more advanced networks and more inclusive telecommunication services. Agricultural and rural digitalization will be advanced to provide foundational support for all-round rural revitalization. The government will build and upgrade converged infrastructure at a faster pace, develop a new type of industrial network, and move faster to establish a modern information infrastructure system. It will increase broadband network coverage in border areas.

## **2. Right to Work**

– Pressing forward with the employment-first strategy and improving the quality of public employment services. The government will improve employment promotion mechanisms and foster a development model that is more employment-friendly. It will boost synergy between industry and employment, strengthen policy support for sectors and enterprises providing more employment opportunities, and stabilize and expand employment among key groups, including college graduates, rural migrant workers, and ex-service personnel. The government will strengthen services that help people find jobs close to their homes and increase access to public employment services. It will provide more employment assistance for disadvantaged groups, such as those at risk of lapsing or relapsing into poverty and those who have been lifted out of poverty but still require continued support, facilitate the re-employment of the unemployed, and ensure that at least one member of every zero-employment family is employed. It will make coordinated use of public welfare posts and provide effective employment assistance to disadvantaged populations to secure their livelihoods. The government will strengthen the development of entrepreneurship incubation platforms.

– Improving the system of lifelong vocational skills training. The government will expand the supply of high-quality training and support vocational skills training. It will ensure that training subsidies reach enterprises

and trainees directly, and introduce a system for unemployed individuals from key groups to apply for training subsidies. It will launch a “Skills for Careers” training initiative.

– Better protecting workers’ rights and interests. The government will improve labor standards and the mechanisms for labor relations consultation and mediation, strengthen the system for protecting the rights and interests of those in flexible employment and new forms of employment, urge platform companies to adopt equitable work rules and employ workers in accordance with laws and regulations, and foster harmonious labor relations. It will improve the legal framework for labor and employment, optimize the system of procuratorial public-interest litigation for protecting workers’ rights and interests, strengthen the institutional framework for collective consultation, and ensure more efficient mediation and arbitration in resolving labor disputes. It will improve the labor protection supervision system, urge employers to comply with regulations on working hours, rest, and leaves in accordance with the law, and effectively address practices such as employment discrimination, default on the payment of wages and social security contributions, and illegal layoffs. It will improve the mechanism for resolving labor and personnel disputes through multiple channels.

– Improving the mechanisms for guaranteeing workers’ remuneration. The government will improve the mechanisms for determining and reasonably increasing workers’ wages and for ensuring their timely payment. It will implement a system of collective wage consultation, improve the mechanism for adjusting minimum wage standards, and strengthen macro-level guidance on wage distribution within enterprises. It will promote the implementation of staggered paid leave. It will fully implement the system guaranteeing the payment of wages to rural migrant workers, improve the system for supporting civil litigation, and ensure that migrant workers can exercise their right to litigation effectively and in accordance with the law.

### **3. Right to Social Security**

– Improving the social security system. With a focus on strengthening protection for key groups and reinforcing institutional sustainability, the government will improve the multitiered social security system that covers the entire population in urban and rural areas and see that it is fair, unified, reliable, well-regulated, and sustainable. It will move faster to develop the multitiered, multi-pillar old-age insurance system, and improve the mechanism for determining and adjusting benefits. Basic old-age pension for rural and non-working urban residents will be gradually increased, and basic pension for retirees will be adjusted in a way that gives more support to those with lower benefits. The coverage of enterprise annuities will be expanded, and the private

pension system will be implemented in a prudent manner. The government will increase social security participation among rural migrant workers as well as people in flexible employment and new forms of employment. It will expand the coverage of unemployment insurance, work-related injury insurance, and other social insurances, and establish a sound occupational injury insurance system.

Policies will be improved for transferring social security accounts. The government will see that strategic reserve funds for social security grow in size and deliver better returns, and continue to transfer state capital to replenish social security funds. It will continue to cover basic old-age insurance premiums for rural and non-working urban residents facing financial difficulties, and consolidate the achievements of provincial-level unified management of unemployment insurance and work-related injury insurance funds. The social security card will integrate all public services for residents, and 90 percent of the total population will hold the electronic social security card.

– Refining the multitiered, categorized social assistance system covering both urban and rural areas. The government will enforce the Social Assistance Law to strengthen the legal safeguards for social assistance. The basic living assistance system and the special assistance system will be improved. The government will strengthen the identification of families struggling with essential expenditures, and work to ensure that special assistance covers these families and families just above the eligibility threshold for subsistence allowances. It will improve the subsistence allowance system, the system for supporting people in extreme conditions, and the temporary assistance system. Proactive efforts will be made to develop service-oriented social assistance.

– Improving the multitiered medical security system. The government will improve direct settlement of medical expenses incurred outside the region of residence, and fully leverage the complementary role of commercial medical insurance. It will work towards wider coverage of the basic medical insurance among rural migrant workers as well as people in flexible employment and new forms of employment, determine a reasonable contribution base, and clarify the contribution responsibilities of employers and platform companies. Government subsidies for basic medical insurance for rural and non-working urban residents will be reasonably increased. Unified management of basic medical insurance funds will be basically achieved at the provincial level, and the policy allowing holders of residence permits to enroll in basic medical insurance for rural and non-working urban residents will be implemented. The government will further reform the payment methods of basic medical insurance, optimize the use of surplus funds, and refine differentiated payment

policies for medical institutions at various levels, thereby ensuring more efficient use of basic medical insurance funds.

– Strengthening policy support for family development and building a childbirth-friendly society. The government will adopt stronger support measures in finance, taxation, education, housing, and employment, and expand public services for families, such as eldercare, childcare, family education guidance, and domestic service. Policies such as childcare subsidies will be thoroughly implemented to alleviate the burden of raising children. The government will support families with multiple children in enrolling their children in the same school and prioritize such families in housing security and home-purchase policies. It will ensure the full implementation of maternity leave, childbirth incentive leave, paternity leave, and childcare leave as stipulated by laws and regulations, and establish a reasonable cost-sharing mechanism for childbirth incentive leave and similar leaves.

Employers are encouraged to adopt flexible working hours and remote work options based on their conditions to enable work-life balance for employees. The provision of baby care facilities will be expanded in workplaces and public venues such as medical institutions, shopping malls, stations, airports, and tourist attractions. Couples are encouraged to share childcare and eldercare responsibilities and narrow the gender gap in time spent on domestic work. The government will continue to promote marital and family relationships based on gender equality, harmony, and civility, foster a new marital and childbearing culture, and effectively address outdated wedding and funeral practices.

#### **4. Right to Property**

– Protecting property rights in accordance with the law. The government will improve the legal framework for real estate registration, and related services will be provided in accordance with laws and regulations. Efforts will be redoubled to prevent and combat telecom and online fraud.

– Consolidating and improving the basic rural operation system. The government will keep rural land contract relationships stable and make steady progress in trials on extending second-round rural land contracts by another 30 years upon their expiration. It will protect, in accordance with the law, the legitimate land contracting rights and interests of rural residents who have moved to urban areas and obtained permanent residency, and refine the pricing mechanism for the transfer of contracted land management rights and the associated management and service system. The government will move faster to complete the confirmation, registration, and certification of the property rights to residential plots for rural housing, advance well-regulated management of rural residential plots, and make effective use of idle land and

housing in accordance with the law. The rural collective property rights system will be further reformed, and support will be provided for the development of new types of rural collective economies. Efforts will be strengthened to regulate the development of the rural property rights trading market.

- Protecting the legitimate rights and interests of farmers whose land has been expropriated. The government will regulate local land expropriation and strengthen oversight and management to ensure that it serves the public interest and follows legal procedures, and that compensation and resettlement are provided timely and in full.

- Ensuring equal and long-term protection of the property rights of economic entities under all forms of ownership in accordance with the law. Infringements upon the property rights and lawful interests of economic entities incur uniform liability and equal penalties for the same offenses, regardless of their form of ownership. The government will implement the Private Sector Promotion Law and improve supporting laws, regulations, policies and systems to effectively protect the legitimate rights and interests of economic entities in the private sector. It will improve the long-term mechanisms for regulating enterprise-related law enforcement, prevent and rectify unauthorized cross-jurisdictional and profit-driven law enforcement, and conduct joint law enforcement on multiple matters in a single visit. It will strengthen law enforcement and judicial administration to protect property rights and tighten judicial oversight over coercive measures such as the sealing, sequestering, and freezing of assets. It will establish and improve long-term mechanisms for settling overdue payments owed to enterprises, and ensure unimpeded channels for filing complaints against government default and breach of contract. The corporate bankruptcy system will be improved.

- Strengthening the protection and application of intellectual property rights (IPR). Rules and guidelines will be developed for the protection of trade secrets in key sectors. Reform will continue in the mechanisms for attributing IPR and distributing related benefits.

## **5. Right to Health**

- Implementing a health-first strategy. The government will integrate the element of health into the entire process of public policy formulation and implementation to advance the Healthy China initiative. It will refine policies and the institutional framework for promoting public health and establish a healthcare service system that meets health needs across the entire life cycle. It will uphold public welfare and equity in the healthcare sector and work to ensure equal access to basic public health services. It will shift the focus from treating diseases to promoting health and accelerate the development of healthy ways of life and work.

– Bringing key health indicators up to the levels of high-income countries. The government will strive to increase the average life expectancy to 80 years and reduce the neonatal mortality rate to 3 per 1,000 live births, the infant mortality rate to 3.5 per 1,000, the under-five mortality rate to 6 per 1,000, and the maternal mortality rate to below 12 per 100,000.

– Establishing a resilient national public health security system. The government will strengthen capacity building in infectious disease surveillance and early warning, laboratory testing, epidemiological investigation, emergency response, and medical treatment. It will improve the joint prevention and control mechanism, and strengthen the country's capacity for early detection of and rapid response to major infectious disease outbreaks. It will develop a system of emergency treatment prior to hospital admission, increase the blood supply capacity, and establish 10 state-level regional centers for blood safety.

– Strengthening public health emergency preparedness to address non-traditional security threats such as climate change and biosecurity. The government will conduct assessments of health risks related to climate change and formulate health response plans for climate-related extreme events. It will improve the full-chain regulatory and ethical review system for research and development in biotechnology and the application of its results, and increase laboratory biosafety management and pathogen detection and identification capabilities. It will strengthen independent R&D, production, and storage and reserve capabilities in key areas such as vaccines, medicines, and diagnostic reagents, to ensure the supply chains for core health products are safe and controllable under extreme circumstances.

– Ensuring universal medical insurance coverage. China will formulate the Healthcare Security Law. The government will make dynamic adjustments to the catalog of medicines covered by the basic medical insurance and continue to consolidate basic health care for insured patients. It will establish a long-term care insurance system that is equitable, unified, secure, standardized, and sustainable, one that coordinates urban and rural areas, conforms to national conditions, and covers the entire population, to meet the needs of functionally impaired people for basic long-term care.

– Refining the functions and distribution of medical institutions, and improving the tiered diagnosis and treatment system with a focus on the community level. The government will further reform public hospitals to ensure that they truly serve the public interest and strengthen their duties and functions as public-interest institutions. It will promote differentiated and complementary development of private hospitals, Sino-foreign joint-venture hospitals, and wholly foreign-funded hospitals, alongside public hospitals.

– Launching initiatives to strengthen community-level medical and health services. Greater support will be provided for the running of medical institutions at county, district, and community levels. The government will improve conditions for providing basic services, extend medical services to lower levels, organize mobile medical care, and introduce paired assistance programs. It will promote decentralized examinations in township or community medical and health facilities, centralized diagnosis at county and district hospitals, and mutual recognition of examination and test results. Medical consortia in close collaboration will cover whole county areas, and support will be provided for approximately 1,000 such consortia in improving their comprehensive service capabilities. The government will expand the scope of drug procurement, allocation, and use at the community level and ensure continuous access to medicines prescribed by higher-level hospitals in community-level medical institutions.

– Increasing capacity building for medical and nursing personnel. The number of medical professionals will continue to rise in specialties such as general medicine, pediatrics, mental health, emergency care, traditional Chinese medicine (TCM), infectious diseases, pathology, rehabilitation, and nursing. The number of practicing doctors will reach 3.77 per 1,000 people, and that of registered nurses will grow to 5.1 per 1,000; every village-level medical and healthcare institution run by the government or collectives will have one practicing or assistant doctor, while practicing and assistant doctors will account for 50 percent of rural doctors. The government will launch initiatives to dispatch 10,000 doctors to support rural health care, provide free training for medical students that will serve in rural areas, and carry out a special program for college graduates to become village doctors.

– Developing full-chain services covering prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and health management. The government will improve the system for early screening, diagnosis, and treatment, and strengthen integrated prevention, treatment, and management of multiple diseases. An action plan will be launched to promote healthy lifestyles, and daily health guidance and management will be strengthened. Prevention and treatment services will be integrated systematically across acute care hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, and community-level medical and healthcare institutions, and more rehabilitation care services will be provided. Improvements will be made to the first-visit responsibility system where the first-visit doctor assumes overall responsibility and the referral mechanism between hospitals and departments to ensure continuity of care.

– Improving the system for comprehensive prevention and control of chronic diseases. The government will improve the quality and efficiency of National Demonstration Areas for Comprehensive Prevention and Control of

Chronic Diseases, and reduce the premature mortality rate from major chronic diseases to below 13 percent. In conjunction with their capacity building, community-level medical and healthcare institutions will provide one-stop integrated health management services for patients with chronic diseases. More than 70 percent of patients with hypertension and Type 2 diabetes will enjoy standardized management services at community-level institutions.

– Promoting the preservation and innovative development of traditional Chinese medicine. The government will continue to implement major projects for TCM revitalization and development, improve its capacity to prevent and treat diseases, optimize the supply of TCM services, and further integrate the application of TCM and Western medicine. It will strengthen organized scientific research into TCM to boost its scientific and technological innovation capacity. Efforts will be made to promote the TCM culture.

– Providing better psychological and mental health services. The government will improve the mechanism for psychological crisis intervention, and improve the diagnosis, reporting, medical treatment, and follow-up management services for severe mental disorders to cover over 90 percent of patients with such disorders. Psychological outpatient services will be expanded to 110 additional counties. The government will promote mental health education and improve the national monitoring and early-warning system for students' mental health. It will improve the system of psychological and mental health services and strengthen its service capacity and quality.

– Improving pricing mechanisms for medicines and policies for centralized procurement of medicines and medical consumables. The government will streamline the evaluation and approval of innovative medicines and medicines urgently needed for clinical use, improve the mechanisms for medical insurance to support the high-quality development of innovative medicines and medical devices, update the catalog of innovative medicines, and encourage commercial health insurance providers to expand the scope of reimbursement for innovative medicines.

– Improving public services for promoting fitness for all. The government will build more small but functional fitness facilities, ensure free or low-cost access to public sports venues, and improve fitness facilities and venues located within 15 minutes of residential areas. The proportion of people who regularly engage in physical exercise will grow to approximately 40 percent of the total population. Work will be done to develop 100 high-quality outdoor sports destinations, including those for ice and snow sports and mountain sports.

## **6. Right to Education**

– Developing education that meets the people’s expectations. The government will move faster to establish a high-quality education system, guarantee equal access to education, and reduce disparities between urban and rural areas, across different regions, and among schools.

– Working towards high-quality and inclusive preschool education. The government will implement the action plan for high-quality and inclusive preschool education in the 15th Five-year Plan period, and optimize the allocation of preschool education resources. Efforts will be made to develop public kindergartens and increase the proportion of children enrolled in them. It will improve the mechanism for ensuring preschool education services while promoting its free supply and high-quality development. The government will implement the Preschool Education Law and encourage government-funded and privately-run non-profit kindergartens to enroll children with disabilities who can adapt to kindergarten life, and provide them with convenience and help.

– Coordinating efforts to ensure high-quality and balanced development of compulsory education. The government will develop schools for compulsory education in accordance with uniform standards, and ensure rational allocation and flow of quality education resources. Exploratory efforts will be made to extend the length of compulsory education. Necessary small village schools will continue to operate and be improved. The government will advance small-class teaching in an orderly manner and improve the conditions and management of boarding schools.

– Promoting diversified development of senior secondary schools. The government will coordinate efforts for the differentiated development of senior secondary schools within city areas, explore to establish a group of regular high schools with strengths in science education, and advance comprehensive high schools. It will thoroughly implement the action plan for revitalizing regular high schools in county areas. The gross enrollment rate of senior secondary education will be increased to 93 percent.

– Developing family education. The government will increase its effort in implementing the Law on Family Education Promotion, apply a family education mechanism characterized by family responsibility, government support, and social synergy, leverage the role of community, parents, and schools, boost the real-life impact of family education, and ensure that minors enjoy a sound, positive, and wholesome family education environment.

– Moving faster to build a modern vocational education system. The government will promote the integrated development of secondary and higher vocational education, as well as vocational and general education. It will steadily increase the number of vocational undergraduate colleges and expand their enrollment, and expand the scope of beneficiaries from vocational

education. It will establish around 60 high-quality higher vocational colleges and 160 high-level program clusters, develop a group of high-quality technician colleges and 100 exemplary programs, and set up 200 training bases integrating industry and education. The average years of schooling for the working-age population will increase to 11.7 years, and that for new entrants to 14.7 years.

– Promoting the equitable distribution of higher education resources. The government will optimize the planning of higher education, appropriately direct new higher education resources towards central and western regions and areas with underdeveloped higher education, and improve the mechanism for paired assistance. The gross enrollment rate in higher education will increase to 65 percent. A total of 200 high-quality colleges with applied undergraduate programs will be set up, together with approximately 150 national innovation platforms for industry-education integration. Undergraduate enrollment will be increased by over 100,000 students at first-rate universities with first-class disciplines, and the proportion of doctoral candidates will be steadily increased.

– Ensuring funding for education. The government will work to ensure that general budget spending on education increases year by year and is not cut, and that fiscal spending on education remains above 4 percent of GDP. It will gradually increase the share of budgetary spending on education. It will guide and regulate private funding and donations for education and improve the financial aid system covering students at all stages of schooling.

## **7. Cultural Rights**

– Improving the quality of cultural product supply. The government will foster a sound cultural ecosystem, nurture original cultural creation, and promote the production of outstanding works in fields such as the press, publishing, radio, television, film, literature, and art. It will develop a large, well-structured contingent of high-performing, dedicated, and innovative personnel in the cultural sector.

– Improving public cultural institutions and spaces. Construction will be completed for the new buildings of the National Archives and the Natural History Museum, as well as for the National Literature Repository. The National Art Gallery will be built. Efforts will be made to improve services at public libraries, cultural centers, and new-type public cultural spaces, and the plan for upgrading small and medium-sized museums will be carried out.

– Directing high-quality cultural resources to the grassroots level. The government will refine the standard for public cultural services and their catalog. It will advance the integrated development of urban and rural public cultural services, carry out innovative cultural programs for public benefit, and

work to effectively integrate high-quality resources into urban and rural public cultural spaces and into the daily lives of the people.

– Developing a new-type radio and television network. The government will improve the production and broadcasting capacity for ultra-high-definition programs. Multiple billing and complicated interfaces in internet TV services will be further addressed.

– Establishing the service system for promoting reading among the public across urban and rural areas. The government will make further efforts to create a culture of reading throughout society. It will improve community libraries, reading rooms, and rural libraries, and optimize the reading environment. It will renovate reading facilities to make them age-friendly, digital, and barrier-free, raising the level of reading services for all. The overall reading rate among adults will be raised to over 83 percent.

– Carrying forward the initiative to preserve and develop fine traditional Chinese culture, and promoting systematic protection of cultural heritage. The government will strengthen the effective protection of cities, urban districts, towns, and villages renowned for their historical and cultural heritage, so that they continue to develop as living monuments to history. It will establish a mechanism for heritage protection that prioritizes resident participation, and build and make good use of national cultural parks. It will complete the fourth national survey of cultural relics and a special survey of historical urban districts and neighborhoods, and work to ensure higher-quality and more efficient public cultural services in museums. It will launch a national survey of intangible cultural heritage (ICH) resources, continue to document the knowledge and skills of the bearers of the ICH items on the national representative list, and refine the institutional framework for ICH inheritance and protection. Cultural heritage will be preserved in digital forms.

The government will continue to provide free access to museums, encourage cultural relic protection sites to open to the public, and improve the level of public cultural services related to cultural heritage. It will establish the National Center for Technological and Scientific Innovation in Cultural Heritage and the National Xia and Shang Civilization Archaeological Research Center. Holistic protection will be strengthened for national cultural heritage routes of the Hexi Corridor, as well as the Ancient Shu Roads and the Qin Zhi Dao (Qin Direct Road or Qin Highway). Systemic efforts will be made to preserve, collate, and publish *The Great Encyclopedia in the Reign of Emperor Yongle*, literature for Dunhuang studies, and bamboo and wooden slip documents.

– Supplying a broader range of high-quality tourism products. The government will push forward with the renewal and development of tourist attractions, enhance the quality of resorts, develop leisure tourism products and

tourism with distinctive features, and cultivate high-quality service brands. It will improve public services for tourism and enhance the quality of tourism services across the entire chain.

## **II. Improving the Mechanisms for Protecting Citizens' Civil and Political Rights**

### **1. Right to Life**

– Improving guarantees for the right to life in emergencies. China will implement the Emergency Response Law and the Law on Public Health Emergency Response to improve the legal framework on emergency management. Disaster monitoring, forecasting, and early warning will be strengthened. To minimize losses caused by natural disasters, China will strengthen risk management and comprehensive emergency supply, improve new quality emergency rescue capabilities, and increase the efficiency of post-disaster relief and recovery.

– Increasing the capacity to prevent public safety risks. The responsibility system for workplace safety covering all employees will be strictly implemented. Greater efforts will be made to make critical infrastructure inherently safer. The government will continue to optimize the mechanisms for identifying and addressing workplace safety risks and for tracing accountability, improve the quality and effectiveness of workplace safety law enforcement, and drive a shift in public safety governance towards proactive prevention.

– Maintaining public security and social stability. China will take all necessary measures to prevent incidents of extreme violence that endanger people's lives. Extreme criminal acts will face resolute action and heinous crimes will be punished in accordance with the law. A comprehensive approach to social tension governance that integrates source prevention and control, case screening and assessment, dispute resolution, and emergency response will be developed. The system for public psychological and counseling services as well as mechanisms for crisis intervention will be improved.

– Upholding the criminal policy of retaining the death penalty while strictly controlling and prudently applying it. The standards for applying the death penalty will be unified. Legal supervision will be strengthened over major, contentious, and complex capital cases with severe adverse social impacts to make sure the death penalty is imposed only on the very few criminals guilty of the most heinous crimes. The system for the court

attendance by witnesses and expert witnesses will be implemented, and the defense system in capital cases will be improved. The legal supervision mechanism for reviewing capital sentences will be improved.

## **2. Personal and Personality Rights**

– Protecting personal rights in accordance with the law. Illegal detention is strictly prohibited in China. The application of compulsory measures involving personal rights such as residential surveillance, detention, and arrest will be regulated, and the system for the adjustment of punishment execution such as commutation, parole, and temporary service of sentence outside prison will be refined. Supervision over investigative activities will be strengthened, and investigations will be initiated, in accordance with the law, into criminal acts of illicit detention committed by judicial personnel who take advantage of their authority.

– Prohibiting extorting confessions by torture. The institutional framework to prevent criminal acts such as extortion of confessions by torture and collection of evidence by violence will be refined to effectively protect the legitimate rights and interests of criminal suspects and defendants. Criminal acts of judicial officers abusing their authority to bend the law for personal gain, extract confessions by torture, or obtain evidence by violence will be investigated in accordance with the law.

– Implementing the principle of individual criminal responsibility. Unlawful restrictions on the rights of the spouses, children, parents, and other close relatives of individuals involved in crimes, including their rights to education, employment, and social security, will be prevented and rectified.

– Protecting the legitimate rights of persons in custody. The personal dignity of individuals in custody is respected and protected. China will accelerate the legislative process for the law on detention centers, further strengthen supervision of their law enforcement and regulate the law enforcement process, advance their refined management, and improve efforts to ensure law-based and well-regulated operations. The revised Prison Law will be put into effect, and the legal framework and institutional arrangements for prison work will be improved. The conditions of detention facilities for persons in custody and the professional level of their medical services are to be raised to fully protect the legitimate rights and interests of individuals in custody. The procuratorial supervision system integrating resident oversight, inspection tours, and technology application will be further embraced to punish and rectify acts that infringe upon the lawful rights and interests of detainees in accordance with the law.

– Protecting the lawful rights of persons subject to compulsory isolation for drug rehabilitation in accordance with the law. Law enforcement and

management in drug rehabilitation centers will be strictly regulated, and all facility safety regulations will be strictly enforced to protect the lawful rights and interests of persons under compulsory isolation in these facilities.

– Regulating the implementation, treatment, management, and supervision of compulsory medical care. The legitimate rights of individuals subject to compulsory medical treatment are protected. The government will move faster to establish compulsory medical care facilities and regulate the management of persons receiving compulsory medical care. Treatment, rehabilitation, diagnostic assessment, and decisions on the termination of treatment will be carried out in accordance with the law. The dignity, personal safety, and property security of persons receiving compulsory medical treatment will be protected, and continuous efforts will be made to improve the law-based and standardized management of compulsory medical care facilities.

– Strengthening judicial protection of personality rights. Judicial interpretation of the Personality Rights Section of the Civil Code will be formulated and issued, with clearly defined rules for the judicial application of injunctions against the infringement of personality rights. The government will take proactive measures to address emerging personality rights disputes arising from developments in internet and information technology, and promptly issue guiding and typical cases on the protection of personality rights.

### **3. Personal Information Rights and Interests**

– Advancing legal protection of personal information. The Data Security Law and the Personal Information Protection Law will be enforced. Efforts will be made to coordinate legislation, law enforcement, administration of justice, and legal education in cyberspace to promote its sound, law-based development. Legislation in key and emerging fields will be expedited, and the institutional framework for personal information protection will be improved. Cyberspace data governance will be strengthened, and outbound data transfer security will be managed with efficiency.

– Implementing rules and measures for ensuring cyber and data security. China will prevent acts infringing upon citizens' information rights and interests such as large-scale data leakages, the collection and misuse of personal information beyond the authorized scope, and user profiling attacks. It will step up efforts to guide online platforms, we media, and multi-channel networks, and ensure that platforms fulfill the principal responsibilities in protecting citizens' personal information rights and interests. In addition, it will strengthen the governance of artificial intelligence security and improve the filing-based administration of large model services to guarantee personal information security.

– Improving the judicial and law enforcement mechanisms for protecting personal information. Violations of citizens’ personal information privacy will be investigated and penalized in accordance with the law. Judicial interpretations will be issued on personal information protection. Typical cases involving penalties for the infringement of citizens’ personal information and cyber violence will be made public. More attention will be given to handling online reports of illegal and harmful information to foster a healthy online environment and safeguard the lawful rights and interests of netizens.

#### **4. Freedom of Religious Belief**

– Protecting the freedom of religious belief in accordance with the law. China fully applies the religious policies of the Communist Party of China and respects people’s religious beliefs. Laws and regulations concerning religious affairs management will be further improved and refined to make them more targeted, practicable, and up to date. Both believers and non-believers will be protected against extremist thoughts.

– Promoting more harmonious and amicable religious relations. While upholding the principles of equality among all religions, independent management of their own affairs by religious groups, and the conformity of religions in China to China’s realities, the state will continue to actively guide religions to be compatible with socialist society, and encourage them to better align with and serve society and fulfill their social responsibilities.

– Protecting the legitimate rights and interests of religious circles. China protects the rights of believers to conduct normal religious activities in accordance with their doctrines, teachings, and traditions free from interference and restriction. The state will facilitate the access to religious knowledge for believers of all ethnic groups. It will continue to show care and support for religious figures, improve social security provision for clerical members, and upgrade the conditions for religious activities.

– Encouraging international exchange in the religious sector. The state encourages all religions to develop their own international exchange programs with Chinese characteristics. It supports the introduction of more quality works and academic writings on religious culture to the global audience and calls for mutual respect, equal dialogue, inclusiveness, and mutual learning among different civilizations and religions. It opposes religious intolerance and stigmatization in any form.

#### **5. Democratic Rights**

– Expanding the people’s orderly political participation. The state will diversify forms of democracy at all levels, promote a whole-process people’s democracy that is broader, fuller, and more robust, and protect the rights to

vote and to stand for election, to be informed and to participate, and to be heard and to exercise public scrutiny in accordance with the law.

– Improving the system of people’s congresses and its working mechanisms. By implementing the Electoral Law, the Organic Law of the National People’s Congress, the Organic Law of Local People’s Congresses and Local People’s Governments, and the Law on Deputies to the National People’s Congress and Local People’s Congresses at All Levels, China will continue to improve the system of people’s congresses and make it more mature and better defined. It will ensure that deputies to people’s congresses reach out to the public on a greater variety of issues and in more diverse ways, and strengthen the working mechanisms for drawing on public opinion and pooling the wisdom of the people. It will intensify efforts to handle suggestions and proposals from deputies to ensure they play their roles to the full.

– Improving the system for soliciting public opinion on draft laws. China will strengthen the delivery and dissemination of legislative information on media platforms. It will strengthen the capacity of outreach offices of the Legislative Affairs Commission of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress (NPC) and optimize the feedback mechanism for soliciting legislative suggestions.

– Improving systems, standards and procedures for consultative democracy. China will advance the extensive, multilevel and institutionalized development of consultative democracy. By fully leveraging the role of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) as a specialized consultative body, the state will refine the mechanisms that enable in-depth consultation and interaction, full expression of opinions, and broad consensus, and those for adopting, implementing and providing feedback on the results.

– Refining the institutional framework for primary-level democracy. China will fully implement the Organic Law of the Villagers Committees and the Organic Law of the Urban Residents Committees. It will enhance democracy at the primary level and ensure that the people manage grassroots public affairs and public-interest programs in accordance with the law. China will improve the democratic management system in enterprises and public institutions, which generally take the form of workers’ congresses, to further expand transparency and keep employees informed of important issues concerning reform and development and their immediate interests. The democratic rights of employees will be well protected by developing effective channels for their participation in management.

– Promoting the public’s orderly participation in social governance. China will fully leverage the people’s active role in innovating social governance and ensuring public wellbeing. Procedures and mechanisms for public participation in social governance will be improved. Clear time frames and responsible

entities will be specified for handling reasonable suggestions made by the public. Both online and offline platforms will be integrated to fully improve the effectiveness of public participation in social governance.

– Implementing regulations on government information disclosure. China will strengthen standardized and regulated disclosure of grassroots-level government information, make it more accessible, and promote transparency across all areas of grassroots government affairs. It will enforce the Emergency Response Law, and improve the mechanisms for information disclosure in public emergencies.

– Improving transparency in village and community affairs. The state will expand the transparency of village and community affairs, and continue to prioritize financial transparency. It will further specify the form, time frame, and basic procedures of information disclosure to ensure timely and lawful release. The working mechanisms of teams responsible for disclosing information on village and community affairs will be improved to guarantee the effective implementation of the disclosure system. Mechanisms for addressing villagers' and residents' concerns involving released information will be refined to ensure their rights to be informed, to participate, and to make decisions.

– Improving and regulating judicial transparency. In promoting judicial transparency, transparency will be a norm and opacity an exception. There should be stronger awareness of proactive disclosure, improved mechanisms, innovative approaches, and unimpeded channels to make judicial transparency more regulated, institutionalized, and IT-based. Efforts will be redoubled to strengthen the interpretation and explanation of legal documents. The evaluation mechanism for judicial transparency will be refined.

– Promoting law-based handling of public complaints and proposals. China will build on the progress it has made in this endeavor in the new era and work towards its integration with societal affairs and positive interplay between the two. The state will continue to advance and implement the roadmap for law-based handling of public complaints and proposals. It will intensify efforts to properly settle problems and disputes in accordance with the law, improve the system of leading officials receiving public visits and visiting the grassroots, advance the multi-party governance of public complaints, and continue to strengthen the governance of these problems at source.

– Improving the mechanisms for checking and overseeing the exercise of power. The state will diversify channels and approaches for self-supervision and public oversight, and regulate the operation of administrative, supervisory, adjudicatory and procuratorial powers. The Law on Supervision by the Standing Committees of People's Congresses at All Levels will be enforced to strengthen the forms and mechanisms of supervision by people's congresses.

The state will step up efforts to apply the Constitution and laws and to oversee their enforcement, and improve the system for constitutionality review and for recording and reviewing normative documents. It will enforce the Regulations on Supervision over Administrative Law Enforcement, refine the standards on administrative discretion, improve the long-term mechanisms for regulating enterprise-related law enforcement, and continue to promote strict, procedure-based, impartial and non-abusive law enforcement.

– Achieving solid results in primary-level democratic supervision. The state will continue to improve the working mechanism for village and community supervision committees to regulate and strengthen the supervision of village and community affairs. It will improve the institutional framework and procedures for village and community affairs supervision by putting in place robust systems for regular meetings of village affairs supervisors, reporting, record keeping, and feedback, thereby ensuring that supervision committee members fulfill their duties properly. An approach to coordinating village and community supervision with internal Party scrutiny will be explored to better align grassroots discipline inspection and supervision organizations with village and community supervision committees for greater synergy in their joint supervision.

– Expanding channels of public scrutiny. The state will diversify the channels of oversight by the media through news reporting and by the public through public opinion. It will put in place a secure mechanism for public scrutiny feedback and a system for ensuring the confidentiality and safety of whistleblowers. Malicious reporting and false accusations will be punished in accordance with the law.

## **6. Right to a Fair Trial**

– Giving full play to the role of court trials in promoting judicial justice. The court trial system and evidence collection regulations in civil and administrative proceedings will be further refined to ensure that litigants and their representatives can lawfully and properly exercise the rights to present evidence, cross-examine, and debate.

– Advancing reform of the criminal litigation system centered on court proceedings. The Criminal Procedure Law will be amended. The legal principles of equality before the law, legality, and proportionality between crime, liability and punishment will continue to be upheld, as will the principles of evidence-based verdict and presumption of innocence. It will improve the systems for court appearance of witnesses in criminal cases, exclusion of illegally obtained evidence, and second-instance hearings to ensure that court proceedings play a decisive role in the judicial process. By improving the system for safeguarding lawyers' rights to practice, protecting

the rights of defenders and duty lawyers in performing their duties in accordance with the law, and strengthening full coverage of lawyer defense in criminal cases, the state will give full play to the role of lawyers in maintaining judicial justice and ensuring judicial protection of human rights. It protects the right to appeal of defendants, private prosecutors, and the plaintiffs and defendants in incidental civil actions, and the right of victims and other interested parties to petition the people's procuratorate to lodge a protest in accordance with the law. The state will further standardize the criteria for filing criminal appeals and improve the mechanism for effective prevention and prompt rectification of wrongful criminal convictions.

– Regulating the systems for applying leniency to those who plead guilty and accept penalties. China ensures that all economic entities, regardless of their form of ownership, enjoy equal protection of their property rights and other legitimate rights and interests, and that infringements are equally accounted for, criminalized, and punished. The abuse of criminal means to intervene in economic disputes will be prevented and rectified. Those who seal, seize, freeze or dispose of case-related property in violation of laws and regulations will be subject to legal accountability; if state compensation is incurred, reimbursement will be sought against those responsible in accordance with the law. A system for sealing criminal records of minor offenses will be established.

– Advancing comprehensive and integrated reform of judicial accountability. China will further define the powers and responsibilities within judicial departments in handling cases, and strengthen the supervision and management duties of court presidents, chief prosecutors, and department heads. To provide institutional guarantees ensuring that judicial officers administer justice strictly and impartially, it will improve the systems for disciplining judges and procurators and for protecting their rights and interests, and implement mechanisms for protecting them in the performance of statutory duties and for clarifying false accusations.

– Giving full play to the role of procuratorial supervision. Supervision on civil and administrative litigation will be carried out in accordance with the law, with a focus on prominent problems such as damages to the public interest, violation of legal procedures, and obviously unfair judgments. To ensure the legality, fairness and efficiency of litigation activities, comprehensive, systematic, and dynamic legal supervision will be carried out throughout the entire criminal litigation process, covering every stage including investigation, examination before prosecution, trial, and execution of sentence, and efforts will be made to increase the ability to identify and rectify illegal investigative practices such as extorting confessions by torture and illegal collection of evidence. The mechanism for preventing, identifying and holding perpetrators

accountable for fraudulent litigation will be improved. Procuratorial public-interest litigation will be strengthened in areas such as the development of accessible environments, protection of minors, safeguards for women's rights and interests, food and drug safety, and personal information protection.

– Making legal aid more targeted and equally accessible. China will offer targeted legal services to women, children, seniors, persons with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups based on their specific needs. To make the delivery of basic public legal services more balanced and accessible, it will put in place a sound mechanism for the lawful flow of legal service resources across regions and encourage and guide legal workers, college teachers and students, and other volunteers to provide legal aid services at the grassroots level in the western regions.

– Accelerating the development of digital courts and strengthening the application of science and technology in empowering the judiciary. China will build a national platform for case handling covering courts at all four levels. With a focus on serving the people and ensuring the impartial administration of justice, this platform will enable the online handling of all case-related matters, ensure transparency throughout all procedures in accordance with the law, and provide comprehensive intelligent services. It will integrate the channels for litigation services, including case filing, mediation, preservation, and document delivery. Lawyers will be provided with practical tools such as smart scheduling for court sessions to avoid conflicts, and one-click contact to judges. These functions will reduce litigation costs and improve judicial quality and efficiency.

– Improving the judicial assistance system. While exploiting the strength of judicial assistance as a safety net to guarantee people's basic lives, China will put in place a mechanism that coordinates judicial resources such as legal aid and judicial remedies with social resources such as social assistance to promote diversified assistance. It will further optimize approval procedures and ensure rational budgetary support.

– Continuing to refine the state compensation system. China will press ahead with the amendment of the Law on State Compensation, further improve the accountability system and the assumption of liability, refine the procedures of compensation for higher effectiveness and efficiency, and strengthen the mechanisms for ensuring and executing compensation payments. It will better leverage the remedial function of state compensation, and ensure that government departments and their staff exercise their powers in accordance with the law.

# III. Strengthening the Protection of Environmental Rights

## 1. Improving Modern Eco-Environmental Governance Systems

– Applying the Ecological and Environmental Code. China will improve eco-environmental responsibility and supervision systems, as well as relevant standards, and increase the effectiveness of environmental governance. It will accelerate the formulation and revision of standards and norms in key fields for building a beautiful China, carry out research on environmental criteria, and revise the standards for ambient air quality, aquatic environment quality, and others. It will update the standards on pollutant discharge and environmental quality, and build an environmental credibility oversight system. It will improve the pollutant discharge rights trading system and the policy and standard systems for green finance. It will amend the regulations on nature reserves and areas of scenic and historic interest, and formulate regulations on the implementation of the Mineral Resources Law.

– Strengthening eco-environmental information disclosure and public participation. Departments responsible for supervising and managing eco-environmental protection should disclose relevant information and improve procedures for public participation in accordance with the law. China will make it more convenient for citizens, legal persons, and organizations to obtain eco-environmental information and participate in and oversee eco-environmental protection. It encourages enterprises, public institutions and business owners to disclose relevant eco-environmental information.

– Promoting simple, moderate, green, low-carbon and healthy lifestyles and consumer habits. The government encourages industrial parks, enterprises, communities, schools and other grassroots units to carry out green, clean, and zero-carbon leadership initiatives. It will develop standards, certification systems, and labeling systems for green and low-carbon products and explore the establishment of mechanisms encouraging public participation, such as the Inclusive Carbon Benefit program. It will continue to carry out a series of activities under the theme of “I’m a contributor to a beautiful China”. It will enable trade associations and chambers of commerce to fully play their role as bridges of communication and people’s organizations to mobilize more people, and advance the development of an eco-environmental volunteer service system. It will further open environmental protection facilities to the public and provide services for promoting environmental awareness. It will improve the mechanisms for public eco-environmental oversight, reporting, and feedback.

– Strengthening the environmental public-interest litigation system. China will enact the Procuratorial Public Interest Litigation Law, strengthen case handling of procuratorial public-interest litigation, and regularly publish judicial cases concerning environmental and resource protection. It will advance special oversight over environmental damages affecting the public interest.

– Improving the system of compensation for eco-environmental damage. China will ensure the application of regulations on the compensation for eco-environmental damage and release typical cases in this regard. It will establish and improve a unified national technical standard for the appraisal and assessment of eco-environmental damages.

– Promoting the application of artificial intelligence and other digital technologies. China will establish a digital governance system for the Beautiful China initiative, and build a green and smart digital eco-civilization. It will execute an eco-environment informatization project and improve the integrated monitoring network covering the sky, space, land and sea, to strengthen oversight and monitoring of ecological quality and realize the integrated, full-coverage monitoring of carbon and pollutant reduction and greenery expansion. It will improve the prediction and forecasting of eco-environmental quality, vigorously promote off-site law enforcement, and accelerate the formation of a smart law enforcement system.

## **2. Advancing the Critical Battle Against Pollution**

– Preventing and controlling air pollution. The state will further advance ultra-low emissions retrofitting in key industries, aiming to complete the retrofitting of cement clinker production lines with a total capacity of 500 million tonnes and coking facilities with a total capacity of 100 million tonnes. It will promote the whole-process management of volatile organic compounds and their replacement at source, and make integrated efforts to address air pollution caused by industrial clusters. The emissions of nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds will each be reduced by more than 8 percent. The concentration of fine particulate matter PM<sub>2.5</sub> in cities at the prefecture level and above will drop below 27 micrograms per cubic meter.

– Improving water resources, aquatic environments, and aquatic ecosystems. The government will continue its efforts to regulate the development of centralized drinking water sources. It will step up the systematic management and ecological conservation of important rivers, lakes and reservoirs, reduce chemical oxygen demand and total phosphorus discharge by six percent each, and basically complete the identification and rectification of sewage outlets discharging into rivers and seas in key basins and coastal waters. The government will continue to build and upgrade urban

sewage collection and treatment facilities, consolidate its achievements in treating black and fetid water bodies in cities, and basically eliminate such water bodies in counties and townships. The proportion of surface water and nearshore waters with good to excellent water quality will be raised to 85 percent.

– Preventing and controlling soil and solid waste pollution. The government will trace the sources of heavy metals in the soil of agricultural land in key counties and undertake corresponding remediation. It will carry out comprehensive treatment of solid waste, advance the treatment of emerging pollutants, and establish systems for the coordinated treatment and risk management of persistent organic pollutants, endocrine disruptors, antibiotics, microplastics, and so forth. It will upgrade and transform urban household garbage sorting, collection and transport facilities, aiming for a daily garbage collection and transport capacity of 750,000 tonnes. It will promote zero-waste initiatives in around 200 cities.

– Preventing and controlling noise pollution. China will continue its campaign to prevent and control noise pollution and improve the acoustic environment quality. It will establish a list of comprehensive noise control, focusing on small but important issues that directly affect people's lives. It will delineate areas with a high concentration of noise-sensitive buildings, encourage the development of residential communities with a quiet environment, expand the use of noise mapping, and launch a volunteer pilot program for promoting quiet environments.

– Preventing and controlling marine pollution. China will formulate the National Plan for Marine Eco-Environmental Protection for the 15th Five-Year Plan Period. The state will advance comprehensive governance in key sea areas, protect against and control marine pollution in a targeted manner, and continue to build beautiful bays. It will realize coordinated prevention and control of land and sea pollution, and create a green and sustainable marine eco-environment. The government will formulate and implement action plans for conserving and restoring marine ecosystems, including the Blue Bay project, the Beautiful Shores and Beaches initiative, and the Harmonious and Beautiful Islands initiative. It will strengthen regulation of territorial space utilization in the sea and along the coastlines, carry out a new round of marine eco-environmental restoration projects, and establish an exit mechanism for inefficient sea use.

### **3. Increasing the Diversity, Stability and Sustainability of Ecosystems**

– Strictly enforcing red lines for ecological conservation. China will strengthen ecological protection and restoration, as well as law enforcement and oversight to ensure that the land area under ecological protection remains

above 3.15 million square kilometers and that the total area of China's farmland does not fall below the red line of 120 million hectares. It will strictly enforce the boundaries for urban development and promote intensive, green development within existing urban spaces to maximize their potential. It will tighten space management and control over the waters and shorelines of rivers and lakes, and improve the system for region-specific eco-environmental management across the country. The retention rate of natural mainland shorelines will not be lower than 35 percent.

– Consolidating the shields for protecting natural ecosystems. Progress will be made in the protection and development of key national eco-environmental functional zones and important ecological corridors. The government will strive for extensive progress in developing the national park-based system of protected areas and complete the integration and optimization of the country's protected areas. It will implement the national project for monitoring and assessing natural ecological resources and for issuing early warnings, strengthen monitoring and evaluation of ecosystems, and evaluate the effectiveness of ecological conservation and restoration efforts. It will continue to advance the Green Shield campaign to identify eco-environmental issues in protected areas, and establish a supervision mechanism for ecological damage that breaches the red lines for ecological conservation. The forest and grassland coverage in the shelterbelt areas in northeast, north and northwest China will reach 40.9 percent, the treatment rate of manageable desertified land 67 percent, and the overall vegetation coverage of desertified land 22 percent.

– Following a holistic and systematic approach to the conservation and governance of mountains, waters, forests, farmlands, grasslands, and deserts. China will accelerate the implementation of major projects for protecting and restoring key ecosystems, and promote the natural regeneration of grasslands, forests, rivers, lakes and wetlands. It will continue to integrate the conservation and restoration of mountain, water, forest, farmland, grassland and desert ecosystems. It will intensify the protection and restoration of grasslands and wetlands, strengthen the comprehensive treatment of desertification, stony desertification, and soil erosion, and fully carry out sustainable forest management. It will take action to consolidate and boost the carbon sink capacity of ecosystems. Virtuous cycles of ecosystems will be basically realized. Forest coverage will reach 25.8 percent, and protected areas, which mainly consist of national parks, will account for 18 percent of China's total land area, while the soil and water conservation rate will reach 74 percent by 2030.

– Strengthening the protection of biodiversity. China will actively implement its Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan and

implementation plan for major projects of biodiversity protection, while improving its biodiversity protection policies and institutions. It will build and improve a smart monitoring network for biodiversity protection and effectively implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. It will strengthen the prevention and control of invasive alien species, and build a strong national biosecurity shield. It will implement the regulations on the protection of biological genetic resources and related intellectual property rights, improve the access and benefit-sharing system for biological genetic resources, and strengthen its capacity to manage genetic resources.

– Promoting the intensive and safe use of water resources. China will increase its water-use efficiency in agriculture, promote water saving and emissions reduction in industry, and reduce water loss in urban areas. By 2030, water consumption per unit of GDP will be reduced by 10 percent, and the effective utilization coefficient of irrigation water in farmlands will increase to 0.6.

#### **4. Tackling Climate Change**

– Reaching peak carbon emissions in 2030 as scheduled. Both the total volume and intensity of carbon emissions will be controlled. The state will advance well-planned and phased initiatives to reach peak carbon emissions. It will press ahead with retrofitting for energy conservation and carbon emissions reduction while controlling and reducing the consumption of coal. It will move faster to ensure that newly added electricity consumption is covered by newly added clean power, and expedite peak coal and oil consumption.

– Improving the statistical and accounting systems for carbon emissions. China will make steady headway in enforcing policies and systems for assessing the carbon-related performance of local authorities, carbon control by industries, carbon management by enterprises, carbon evaluation for projects, and carbon footprint management for products. It will develop distributed energy sources and build zero-carbon factories and industrial parks.

– Expanding the coverage of the China Carbon Emission Trade Exchange. China will accelerate the development of the National Voluntary Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Trading Market. It will adopt sound standards for green and low-carbon development, spearhead improvements to relevant international rules and standards, and promote alignment and mutual recognition between domestic and international rules and standards.

– Vigorously increasing the capacity to adapt to climate change. Attaching equal importance to both mitigation and adaptation, China will impose comprehensive control of greenhouse gas emissions and proactively address the adverse impacts and risks of climate change. It will strengthen the development of the climate change observation network, and strengthen

monitoring, forecasting, early warning, and impact and risk assessment. It will continue to increase climate resilience in agriculture, health, public health and other fields, and improve climate risk management for infrastructure and major projects. It will improve the working system for climate change adaptation to boost its capacity to respond to climate change, especially extreme weather events, and make further efforts to build climate-adaptive cities.

– Moving faster to develop a new type of energy system. China will steadily increase the share of new energy in the total energy supply, advance the systematic transition from fossil fuels to safe, reliable alternatives, and build new power systems utilizing wind, photovoltaic, hydro, and nuclear energy. It will make power grids safer and more resilient and increase the complementarity between them. It will develop new types of energy storage and accelerate the construction of smart grids and microgrids. It will increase the proportion of electricity in final energy consumption and accelerate efforts to foster robust market and pricing mechanisms for a new energy system.

– Strengthening international cooperation on climate change. China will maintain its commitment to the principles of equity, common but differentiated responsibilities, and respective capabilities, and constructively participate in and lead international cooperation on climate change. It will press ahead with the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement, and actively carry out South-South cooperation on climate change.

## **IV. Guaranteeing the Rights and Interests of Ethnic Minority Groups, Women, Children, the Elderly, and People with Disabilities**

### **1. Rights and Interests of Ethnic Minority Groups**

– Promoting shared prosperity and development among all ethnic groups. With a focus on fostering a stronger sense of the Chinese nation as one community, China will fully implement the Ethnic Unity and Progress Promotion Law, promote commonalities, respect and accommodate differences, advance ethnic solidarity as well as interactions, exchanges and integration, and work towards prosperity for all ethnic groups.

– Upholding and improving regional ethnic autonomy. China will refine policies, laws and regulations concerning ethnic groups, and protect the legitimate rights and interests of people of all ethnic groups in accordance with

the law. It will actively modernize the system and capacity for handling ethnic affairs under the rule of law.

– Protecting the right to participate as equals in administering state and social affairs. All ethnic groups have deputies to the NPC, and those with very small populations have at least one deputy. In areas with large ethnic minority populations, all ethnic minority groups are guaranteed to have deputies to local people’s congresses. Greater efforts will be made to build teams of officials in ethnic minority areas and to strengthen the training and appointment of officials from ethnic minority groups.

– Promoting the high-quality development of ethnic minority areas. China will support ethnic minority areas in fully integrating into national development strategies and increasing their self-development capability. It will improve integrated regional development mechanisms and differentiated policies for supporting specific regions, and refine assistance and collaboration mechanisms covering paired assistance and cooperation between the eastern and western regions. The state will thoroughly implement the program for boosting development and raising living standards in border areas in the new era, and work towards achieving common prosperity for all ethnic groups.

– Developing a high-quality education system in ethnic minority areas. China will further improve mechanisms for paired assistance in education, support two-way and cross-regional enrollment between higher education institutions in ethnic minority areas and other regions, strengthen collaboration in cultivating professionals, and encourage and support exchanges between teachers in ethnic minority areas and other regions. The state will support the cultivation of professional and technical personnel and highly skilled workers in ethnic minority areas.

– Comprehensively promoting standard spoken and written Chinese. The government will ensure citizens can learn and use standard spoken and written Chinese without interference from any organization or individual. It respects and ensures the study and use of spoken and written ethnic minority languages, and will advance their normalization, standardization and digitization.

– Bringing better public cultural services to ethnic minority areas. To promote mutual learning and integration among the cultures of all ethnic groups, the state will provide more diverse cultural content and continue to organize national-level cultural and sports events for ethnic minorities. It will also support the protection, cataloging, research and use of ancient books of ethnic minorities.

## **2. Women’s Rights and Interests**

– Upholding the basic national policy of gender equality. China will further implement the Outline for the Development of Women in China

(2021-2030). It will work to ensure that women can participate in economic and social development, exercise their democratic rights, and benefit from the outcome of reform and development on an equal and legal basis.

– Improving the legal framework for protecting women’s rights and interests. China will continue to fully apply the Law on the Protection of Women’s Rights and Interests, and improve mechanisms for evaluating gender equality implications in regulations and policies. It will strengthen the role of procuratorial bodies in public-interest litigation for the protection of women’s rights, initiating public-interest lawsuits in accordance with the law against acts that harm the public interest. These include infringement of women’s equal right to employment and their rights and interests as members of collective economic organizations in rural areas, violations of their personality rights and interests, and failures to perform duties in the prevention and control of sexual harassment and cases of domestic violence. It will reinforce protections for vulnerable or disadvantaged groups of women, including women with disabilities, elderly women, and women in rural areas. The state will establish and improve cross-departmental coordination mechanisms to protect women’s rights and interests, as well as mechanisms for collaboration between law enforcement and the judiciary at and above the county level.

– Safeguarding women’s full and equal participation in state and social affairs. China will actively select and train female officials and enhance their capacity to perform duties, and strengthen women’s ability to participate in the deliberation and administration of state affairs. It will encourage women to participate in whole-process people’s democracy extensively, and further increase the proportion of women among deputies to people’s congresses and members of CPPCC committees at all levels, with particular focus on gradually raising the proportion of women among the deputies and CPPCC committee members at provincial and city levels. The state will steadily increase the proportion of women in villagers and urban residents committees, ensuring that they account for more than 30 percent of villagers committee members and more than 40 percent of urban residents committee directors. The proportion of female representatives to workers’ congresses will be kept in line with that of female employees to the total number of employees.

– Protecting women’s personal rights and personality rights and interests. The state prohibits and prevents all forms of violence against women. It will establish and improve relevant rules and regulations, with a particular focus on combating cyberviolence against women. It will take concrete steps to strengthen personal safety protection orders, significantly improving the convenience of filing applications and the issuance and enforcement rates of orders. It will also continue to issue admonitions against domestic violence and provide shelter and assistance for victims. China will maintain a tough stance

against human trafficking, ensuring that victims receive timely rescue, rehabilitation services, and proper placement. It will also improve mechanisms for preventing and stopping sexual harassment in workplaces, schools, and public spaces.

– Effectively protecting women’s property rights and interests. The state protects women’s rights of ownership and inheritance of marital and family property, and their right to know about and dispose of community property on an equal basis. It will strengthen the protection of rural women’s land rights and interests and fully apply the Law on Rural Collective Economic Organizations. Rural women are guaranteed rights to land contracting, to the use of rural residential land, and to a share in the collective income of their villages and compensation for land expropriation and requisition.

– Protecting women’s equal right to education. The state protects women’s equal rights to preschool education, compulsory education, senior secondary education, higher education, and vocational education in accordance with the law. It will increase the scientific and digital literacy of women, scale up support for the cultivation of female scientists, technicians, and skilled professionals, and strengthen the lifelong learning support system for women.

– Strengthening support for women seeking employment and starting businesses. The state will expand initiatives to promote women’s employment and entrepreneurship, improve the public employment service system, and strengthen targeted campaigns to provide employment services. It will fully leverage the role of the service sector and new business forms in creating employment opportunities for women, support women’s participation in skills training for new business forms and models, and improve protection for the rights and interests of women engaged in new forms of business. China will scale up support and create multiple channels to help disadvantaged women secure employment. Public reemployment training services will be provided to women who have left their jobs due to childbirth. The initiative to promote women’s participation in scientific and technological innovation will be further advanced, and the share of female professionals in the fields of science and technology will be steadily increased. China will also expand the initiative on women’s participation in rural revitalization, intensify skills training for women in rural areas, and support their involvement in modern agriculture, handicrafts, cultural tourism, e-commerce, digital services, and other industries.

– Eliminating gender discrimination in employment and protecting women’s equal right to employment. China will continue to completely prohibit gender discrimination in employment and regulate hiring practices. Labor security supervision and law enforcement on gender discrimination in employment will be strengthened, and mechanisms for joint inquiry, inspection, accountability, and admonition by relevant state departments will be improved.

Employers will be urged to establish and improve special labor protection systems for women in workplaces as well as systems aimed at eliminating workplace sexual harassment, and specialized collective contracts promoting gender equality will be formulated.

– Improving health services for women throughout all stages of life. Targeted health services will be strengthened for women in adolescence, childbearing age, pregnancy, childbirth, menopause, and old age. The state will establish breast specialty alliances at the national, provincial, city and county levels, and the application of artificial intelligence in the prevention and treatment of breast cancer will be actively explored. The action plan for accelerating the elimination of cervical cancer will be further implemented, with the screening rate for cervical cancer among women of appropriate age exceeding 70 percent and the treatment rate for patients with cervical cancer and precancerous lesions reaching 90 percent. Efforts will be made to achieve the goal of eliminating mother-to-child transmission of AIDS, syphilis, and hepatitis B nationwide, and women’s mental health should also be improved.

– Strengthening support and meeting the basic needs of women in need. The state will improve the multitiered and category-based social assistance system, providing basic life assistance and medical aid to eligible women in need. It will also actively provide legal aid, psychological counseling and other services, safeguarding the subsistence and legitimate rights and interests of women with special difficulties.

### **3. Children’s Rights and Interests**

– Adhering to the principle of acting in the best interests of children. China will further implement the Outline for the Development of Children in China (2021-2030) and promote the healthy, safe and well-rounded development of children. It will foster child-friendly development across society and adopt a child-centered perspective in designing urban spaces from “one meter above the ground” to develop child-friendly cities and communities.

– Protecting minors’ personality rights. The state respects minors’ personal dignity and strictly prohibits any form of corporal punishment against minors, any act that degrades their dignity, and school bullying. All types of schools and educational institutions at all levels should establish systems for the prevention and control of bullying, set up channels for reporting bullying and seeking assistance, and promptly report or address acts of bullying in accordance with the law. All domestic violence against children, abuse, and abandonment will be comprehensively banned. Minors’ privacy and personal information are protected. Schools and kindergartens should establish and

improve working mechanisms to prevent, report and handle sexual assault and harassment of minors.

– Strengthening the protection of minors in cyberspace. China will strictly enforce the Regulations on the Protection of Minors in Cyberspace and improve the systems for protecting minors online. It will reinforce the primary responsibilities of online platforms and regulate online content, screen time management, personal information protection, and addiction prevention mechanisms. Online information that may affect the physical or mental health of minors will not be pushed to them. The state will strengthen education on digital literacy for minors to improve their self-protection and risk-prevention capabilities. Strict bans will be imposed on online bullying and infringements against minors, including insults, defamation, threats, malicious damage to their images, vulgar scripted content, and doxxing via text, image, audio, video, or any other form. China will severely punish illegal and criminal acts that harm minors through the internet.

– Listening carefully to children’s voices. China will establish channels for children to participate in school governance, community services, and public policy-making. Before any decision concerning the rights and interests of minors is made, their opinions should be fully considered. In adjudicating cases involving minors, courts should fully consider and respect their wishes.

– Promoting universal, inclusive, safe, and high-quality preschool education. China will take concrete measures to narrow the development gaps in preschool education between urban and rural areas and among different regions, and provide the conditions and support for children of appropriate age to access preschool education. It will also ensure access to inclusive preschool education for children from families with financial difficulties, orphans, children with disabilities, children who remain in rural areas while their parents work in cities, and other eligible children in need.

– Enacting the Law on Childcare Services. China will expand demonstrations and trials for subsidized childcare services, provide support for public-benefit childcare services and integrated nursery and childcare services, and take steps to improve relevant systems. It will increase the enrollment rate of children under three in childcare facilities by six percent.

– Improving healthcare services for children. China will increase the screening rate of newborns for inherited metabolic disorders to over 98 percent and that for hearing impairment to over 90 percent. Common childhood diseases, malignant tumors, and other diseases that pose a serious threat to children’s health will be effectively prevented and treated. The vaccination rate for children of appropriate age under the national immunization program will be maintained above 90 percent, and the HPV vaccination initiative under this program will be effectively implemented, including providing the bivalent

HPV vaccine free of charge to girls aged 13 and older. The number of practicing pediatricians (including assistant physicians) will be increased to 1.12 per 1,000 children and that of pediatric beds to 3.17 per 1,000 children. Early screening and treatment of major childhood diseases will be advanced.

– Ensuring healthy weight in children and promoting their vision, mental, bone and oral health, while strengthening screening and intervention efforts in these areas. China will implement the Student Physical Fitness Enhancement Plan in primary and secondary schools, with a goal of ensuring that students engage in at least two hours of physical activity per day. The state will carry out nutritional improvement programs for preschool children, optimize the diet compositions of meals served to students, and advance the development of health-promoting school canteens. A project to improve the lighting of schools will be further advanced to ensure that classroom lighting in primary and secondary schools meets required standards.

A closed-loop mechanism for the screening, early warning, intervention, and referral of cases concerning children's mental health will be established. The state will ensure that every primary and secondary school is staffed with at least one full-time or part-time teacher to provide mental health education, and strengthen child mental health care departments. China will improve the working mechanisms to care for and support children with autism across all cities (city-level prefectures and leagues) and counties (county-level cities, districts, and banners) and implement a system of comprehensive services throughout the developmental stages of children with autism, along with service measures designed to support them.

– Improving the service and support systems for children in difficult circumstances. The state will improve the systems of subsistence support, medical care and rehabilitation services, basic public education services, mental health support services, personal safety protection, and legal guardianship responsibilities for children in need. It will strengthen subsistence support for orphans and unattended children. Meanwhile, children's welfare institutions will further implement the open-door management model to provide more social services. The state will also expand institutions providing relief and protection to minors and improve their service quality.

– Comprehensively strengthening judicial protection and crime prevention and control in relation to minors. China will continue to improve minors' literacy of the rule of law and refine the tiered system of prevention, intervention and correction for criminal offenses involving minors. It will develop juvenile trial to make the work more specialized and comprehensive, further strengthen procuratorial supervision, and promote the prevention and governance of juvenile delinquency. It will also scale up legal aid and judicial assistance for minors. Crimes against minors will be severely punished in

accordance with the law. China will establish a mechanism to analyze and report on the implementation of the mandatory reporting system for cases involving abuse of minors.

– Improving and enforcing the guardianship system for minors. China will fully enforce the Law on Family Education Promotion, promote informed parenting and guardianship guidance, and ensure that parents and other legal guardians shoulder their duties towards children. For officials in charge of children’s affairs in villagers and urban residents committees, their ability to perform duties should be improved. They must identify, verify and report potential risks involving the guardianship of minors, abuses against them, and cases of school dropouts. The state guardianship system will be fully implemented, under which civil affairs departments at or above the county level will, in accordance with the law, assume temporary and long-term guardianship of minors in difficult circumstances, without effective guardianship, or have suffered harm, in order to ensure unattended minors receive timely protection in emergencies.

#### **4. Rights and Interests of the Elderly**

– Further implementing the national strategy in response to population aging. China will improve preferential policies and regulations for older persons and safeguard their dignity and rights. It will build an age-friendly society in all respects and make greater efforts to ensure care, support, recreation, self-fulfillment and security for the elderly, so that they can share in the benefits of development and live happy and secure lives in old age.

– Optimizing health services for the elderly. China will strengthen the development of geriatrics departments in general hospitals and traditional Chinese medicine hospitals, improve the prevention and treatment of geriatric diseases, and boost the application of scientific research results in the field of senior health. It will increase the supply of rehabilitation nursing and hospice care services. It will build additional capacity of community-level healthcare institutions in rehabilitation nursing, health management, and other aspects, and encourage the expansion of integrated eldercare and medical services. It will also encourage medical institutions to extend rehabilitation services to communities and households by means of day care, hospital beds at home, and house calls, and support the provision of services such as geriatric rehabilitation assessment, guidance, and follow-up visits for the elderly.

– Optimizing the supply of basic eldercare services. China will improve eldercare service networks in both urban and rural areas and provide strong support for the development of eldercare institutions that provide safety-net guarantees and inclusive support. It will upgrade community-based eldercare services, enhance care and service capacity, and expand service functions,

aiming to achieve a 70 percent coverage rate for community-based eldercare institutions and facilities. The state will upgrade 2,000 public eldercare institutions to meet Rank II or higher standards and improve the operating mechanisms for public institutions. It will encourage and guide the participation of enterprises and other non-governmental actors in service provision, and promote mutual-aid eldercare. It will facilitate the deep integration of medical and health care in eldercare services, and encourage the establishment of rehabilitation hospitals, nursing homes, and other institutions adjacent to eldercare institutions and promote resource sharing among them. It will improve the working mechanism for eldercare services in rural areas, strengthen relevant support and safeguards, and make these services more accessible in rural areas. It will advance the professional development of eldercare service personnel and improve the quality and effectiveness of comprehensive supervision over eldercare services.

- Building an eldercare ecosystem integrating home-based, community-based and institutional care. China will improve the quality and expand the scale of home-based and community-based eldercare services, focus on the development of the 15-minute community service circles, work faster to ensure the full coverage of embedded service facilities, and expand service scenarios for the convenience of residents, such as assistance for the elderly with meals, personal hygiene, medical treatment, and travel. It will also improve the mechanism for referral and coordination among home-based, community-based and institutional services. It will strengthen the visit and care mechanism for key elderly groups such as seniors living alone and empty-nesters, and rely on smart technologies to build a comprehensive network for risk prevention and control, thus making services more targeted and secure.

- Improving the quality and expanding the coverage of the age-friendly and barrier-free retrofitting of public facilities. China will prioritize age-friendly and barrier-free retrofitting in government service facilities, hospitals, shopping malls, banks, stations, parks, and other locations frequently used by older persons, and optimize age-friendly and accessible transport services. It will retain conventional service models or adopt easy-to-use, age-friendly models for services commonly used in older persons' daily lives. It will provide age-friendly home modifications for the elderly, with a focus on households with elderly members who are either experiencing financial difficulties or are cognitively impaired, physically incapacitated, or disabled. It will strengthen procuratorial supervision over public-interest litigation concerning accessibility and age-friendly renovation and services.

- Offering more diverse and accessible educational, cultural and sports activities for the elderly. China will expand the supply of educational resources

and cultural and sports services for older persons, and carry out a series of activities under the theme of “Enjoying the Silver Age”. To broaden the coverage of elderly education, the state will further develop the Seniors University of China, build a national public service platform for elderly education, and increase the supply of high-quality learning resources. It will encourage universities for the elderly managed by government departments, industries and enterprises, and higher learning institutions to open their doors to the public, and promote the provision of elderly education in eldercare institutions, centers for promoting cultural-ethical progress in the new era, and media platforms such as radio, television, and the internet. The state will fully take into account the fitness needs of older persons in the planning and construction of public sports facilities, support their free or discounted access to such venues, and organize a broad range of sports and fitness activities and competitions for them.

– Supporting social participation of the elderly. China will support the sustained development of senior voluntary services, continuously enrich the content of such services, create innovative service models, and strengthen the safeguards for voluntary work. It will cultivate and develop senior voluntary service brand programs, such as the Silver Age Action program, and widely publicize exemplary older volunteers and volunteer organizations. It will improve support policies for the employment of older persons and provide them with high-quality and efficient employment and career development services.

– Strengthening law enforcement and judicial safeguards for the rights and interests of the elderly. China will establish and refine a working mechanism for protecting the lawful rights and interests of older persons and work to establish a closed-loop risk management system that covers early warning and prevention, discovery and reporting, and resolution and handling. The state will take strict action against illegal and criminal acts that infringe upon the personal and property rights and interests of older persons, such as abandonment, abuse, telecom and online scams, illegal fundraising, and eldercare-related fraud. It will strengthen judicial protection of the rights and interests of workers beyond the statutory working age, as well as civil and administrative adjudication, enforcement, and procuratorial supervision in cases involving the rights and interests of older persons. China will establish and improve a judicial service mechanism that better serves and benefits older persons, and refine age-friendly litigation services. People’s courts at all levels will generally adopt measures to facilitate access to services for older persons, such as priority service windows. The state will support eligible older persons in filing lawsuits to claim support and maintenance payments, and step up efforts to provide legal aid and judicial assistance for the elderly.

## **5. Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

– Ensuring equal rights and interests for persons with disabilities. China will improve laws and regulations for protecting the rights and interests of persons with disabilities. It will coordinate the construction and renovation of barrier-free environments in urban and rural areas, strengthen barrier-free environments in public facilities, information exchange, and social services, carry out barrier-free home renovations for persons with disabilities, and fully leverage the role of persons with disabilities in the development of barrier-free environments. It will also intensify judicial protection and the provision of legal services for persons with disabilities.

– Improving social security for persons with disabilities. The state will expand the coverage of social insurance and increase social benefits for persons with disabilities. It will improve reasonable accommodation and preferential policies and strengthen social assistance for them. Achievements in poverty alleviation among persons with disabilities will be consolidated and expanded.

– Ensuring the right of persons with disabilities to education. China will improve the education system for persons with disabilities, establish special funds, and promote the development of inclusive education. To bolster the support mechanism for special education, the state will help every county (county-level city, district or banner) with a population of over 200,000 to establish one special education school that meets the defined standards, and encourage regions with adequate resources to build 15-year all-through special education schools.

– Promoting employment and entrepreneurship for persons with disabilities. China will create more employment channels, reinforce policy support for their employment, and ensure rolling implementation of action plans for promoting the employment of persons with disabilities. It will improve policies for supporting concentrated employment and introduce innovative forms of quota-based employment for them. China will continue to encourage Party and government bodies, public institutions, and state-owned enterprises to arrange jobs for persons with disabilities. The state will formulate and implement the Plan on Improving the Vocational Skills of Persons with Disabilities for the 15th Five-Year Plan Period. It will expand its capacity to provide employment services for persons with disabilities, optimize the employment environment, and provide stronger safeguards for their rights and interests.

– Refining the service system for persons with disabilities. China will strengthen disability prevention, improve the health of persons with disabilities, and upgrade rehabilitation services. The state will improve the system of care services for persons with disabilities, and reinforce the safeguards for such services. The development of the service sector for persons with disabilities will

also continue. The state will expand community-based rental services for assistive rehabilitation devices, strengthen the mental health welfare service system, and improve community-based rehabilitation services for persons with mental disorders.

– Enriching the intellectual and cultural lives of persons with disabilities. The state will increase the supply of cultural services and products, as well as accessible radio, television, and audiovisual programs for persons with disabilities, and develop the cultural industry for them. It will encourage persons with disabilities to participate in cultural creation and pass on intangible cultural heritage. It will implement the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled, and promote extensive recreational sports and activities among persons with disabilities. Efforts will be made to foster self-confidence and self-reliance among persons with disabilities.

## **V. Guiding the Healthy Development of Emerging Human Rights**

### **1. Creating a Better Digital and Intelligent Life**

– Fully leveraging the role of digital and intelligent technologies and data as a factor of production in enriching people’s lives and improving their wellbeing. China will implement the AI Plus initiative to expand the integrated applications of technologies and data in education, health care, eldercare, culture and tourism, employment, consumer spending, and other sectors. It will continue to raise internet penetration, launch the Signal Enhancement special initiative, and accelerate the development of telecommunication networks in rural and remote areas. The country will coordinate the development of computing infrastructure, model algorithms, and the supply of high-quality data resources to consolidate the foundation for digital and intelligent development.

– Advancing the full- process application of digital and intelligent technologies to deliver ubiquitous, smart, convenient, equitable and inclusive government services for the people. It will promote the orderly deployment of large AI models in governance and explore a new service model characterized by precise demand identification, proactive service planning, and full- process intelligent handling.

– Strengthening the digital and intelligent collection of public opinion. China will promote law- based connectivity and information sharing of public opinion collection systems in an orderly manner. It will continue to provide

unimpeded channels for people to report issues, raise suggestions, or file complaints via digital and intelligent platforms, and respond promptly to reasonable public demands.

– Facilitating the digital and intelligent transformation of health care. China will improve the systems for digital medical and health records, and accelerate the development of a full life- cycle health information platform and national health big data resource system that cover the entire population. It will promote the Internet Plus Health Care and AI Plus Health initiatives, expand telemedicine coverage, and promote the orderly application of digital and intelligent technologies in assisted diagnosis and treatment, precision medicine, health management, and medical insurance services.

– Implementing the educational digitalization strategy. China will develop and utilize the Smart Education of China platform and the National Education Big Data Center, and establish a dedicated education network and computing power sharing network. It will promote AI application in driving transformation in the education model and strengthen the digital adaptation and transformation of the education system.

– Implementing the national cultural digitalization strategy. China will further promote the digital collection and intelligent utilization of cultural resources. It will strengthen the digital development of modern cultural venues and launch more high- quality digital cultural heritage products. The country will roll out broad-based public online cultural activities, promote new forms of literature and art for the general public in the internet age, and use digital and intelligent technologies to boost literary and artistic creation and dissemination. It will guide and regulate the sound development of online literature, games, and audiovisual content.

– Improving information accessibility. China will ensure accessible and user- friendly digital services and help the elderly, persons with disabilities, and other groups share in digital life. Priority will be given to making government service websites and mobile applications more accessible. It will continue the Smart Senior Support initiative, accelerate age- friendly smart service upgrades, and improve the accuracy and safety of elderly assistance services to help the elderly better integrate into the digital society. The state will diversify the supply of age- friendly intelligent terminal products, and 100,000 Silver Age Digital Classes and other smart technology training activities will be held each year. China will step up R&D of assistive technologies for persons with disabilities, foster innovation capacity in this regard, and accelerate the transformation and application of assistive technology achievements.

– Further implementing the national initiative for improving the population’s digital literacy and skills. China will build a lifelong digital

learning system, improve digital education in schools, and explore new models for vocational education and training in digital skills.

– Regulating the application of digital technologies and improving the safety and security oversight framework for new technologies and business forms. China will refine the laws, regulations, policies, systems, application standards, and ethical codes in the field of artificial intelligence. It will strengthen the systems for algorithm registration, transparency management, and safety and security assessment to ensure that AI systems are fairer, more transparent, and non-discriminatory.

## **2. Promoting Corporate Fulfillment of Human Rights Responsibilities**

– Implementing relevant provisions of the Ecological and Environmental Code, the Company Law, the Labor Law, and other laws. China will formulate and improve laws, policies, and judicial measures related to corporate social responsibilities, refine corporate social responsibility guidelines, and guide enterprises to respect human rights.

– Improving the corporate social responsibility evaluation system in government procurement and providing necessary training and support for relevant enterprises.

– Encouraging and supporting enterprises to formulate and release policies and commitments on fulfilling social responsibilities. The state will support enterprises in assessing risks in their operations and supply chains and improving complaint handling mechanisms. It will encourage them to disclose information on their fulfillment of social responsibilities, and improve the mandatory information disclosure system for listed companies.

– Guiding enterprises to align with the UN Sustainable Development Agenda. China will guide enterprises to integrate environmental, social, and governance principles into their global development strategies based on national conditions and business realities, and encourage them to abide by the UN Global Compact and follow the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

– Upholding the principle of planning together, building together, and benefiting together. China will follow the guideline of open, green and clean cooperation and pursue the goal of high-standard, people-centered and sustainable cooperation in advancing high-quality Belt and Road cooperation. It will encourage market participants in this initiative to fulfill their corporate social responsibilities in investment, assistance, and economic and trade activities.

– Implementing the Guidance for Chinese Enterprises to Fulfill Their Social Responsibilities Overseas and the Guidance on Integrity and Compliance for Chinese Enterprises Operating Overseas. China will encourage

enterprises to operate in compliance with local laws and facilitate the sustainable development of the local economy, society, and environment.

– Fostering a corporate culture that respects and protects human rights. China will hold special training on responsible business conduct in overseas investment and other special training programs. It will promote due diligence on human rights in overseas economic and trade cooperation and investment, and help enterprises build awareness and capacity to fulfill their social responsibilities in respecting and promoting human rights.

– Conducting international exchanges and discussions on business and human rights, and actively sharing the approaches and practices of Chinese enterprises in fulfilling their social responsibilities.

## **VI. Continuously Raising Public Awareness of Human Rights**

### **1. Human Rights Education**

– Championing the correct outlook on human rights. China will incorporate education on the contemporary Chinese outlook on human rights into the national education system, actively apply digital and intelligent technologies, and explore new forms, channels, and scenarios for human rights education.

– Strengthening human rights education in schools. China will strengthen general education on human rights in primary and secondary schools and support diverse teaching practices. It will encourage higher learning institutions to carry out multidisciplinary human rights education, teaching, and talent cultivation, develop a human rights curriculum system, and produce relevant textbooks, reference books, and teaching materials. The country will promote the development of human rights disciplines and the training of high-level professionals, and support qualified higher education institutions in actively exploring the establishment of human rights as a first-level discipline. It will support training for human rights teachers and continue to explore the establishment of human rights teacher training centers at normal universities.

– Increasing support for the development of national human rights education and training bases. China will boost the development of human rights think tanks and research bases, and improve the staffing, funding, infrastructure, and management of national human rights education and training bases. It will establish five new national education and training bases, continue to explore the development of international human rights education

and exchange centers on the basis of national education and training bases, and develop high-quality human rights courses and study camps for international students.

## **2. Human Rights Research**

– Strengthening human rights research capacity based on the requirements for all-round advancement of human rights. China will focus its efforts on strengthening academic foundations and adopting a practical approach, historical dimensions, and an international vision to promote higher-quality human rights research. It will encourage the formulation of original concepts derived from practices in applying human rights, and develop the disciplinary, academic, and discourse systems of human rights.

– Supporting research by universities and research institutions on the path, theories, institutions, history and culture of human rights. China will consolidate basic theoretical research on human rights, strengthen research in cutting-edge interdisciplinary fields, and deepen country- and region-specific studies.

– Encouraging and supporting academic publishing on human rights. China will support the development of human rights academic journals and series to improve the quality of research outputs. It will increase funding from the National Social Science Fund of China, the National Publication Foundation, and other sources for basic research on human rights and for academic publications, and launch a series of major basic research projects. China will support the publication of human rights research findings including monographs, collected papers, think tank reports, and selected cases, and increase rewards for high-quality outcomes. It will also support the China Society for Human Rights Studies in compiling and publishing the blue book *Annual Report on China's Human Rights*.

– Supporting academic events on human rights. China will encourage universities, research institutions, and social organizations to carry out extensive academic exchanges and cooperation on human rights both at home and abroad in the forms of seminars, visits, report releases, among others.

## **3. Human Rights Training**

– Providing human rights training for public officials to raise their awareness of, respect for and ability to protect human rights. China will include human rights knowledge, policies, and protection in the education and training of public officials, and provide tiered and categorized human rights training.

– Supporting national human rights education and training bases in playing an active role. National human rights education and training bases will

be encouraged to leverage their geographical advantages and academic strengths to provide human rights training for various groups.

– Supporting human rights training in enterprises and public institutions. China will encourage enterprises and public institutions to establish human rights training systems, expand the scale of training, and innovate training forms. It will promote the development of a culture of human rights in enterprises and public institutions.

#### **4. Raising Public Awareness on Human Rights**

– Promoting and practicing core socialist values and the contemporary Chinese outlook on human rights. China will increase public awareness of human rights through various channels, including newspapers, periodicals, radio, television, the internet, and new media, and foster a sound social atmosphere of respecting and protecting human rights. It will carry out human rights-related legal awareness activities in conjunction with national legal literacy campaigns.

– Strengthening information release on human rights. China will hold press conferences, briefings, and media salons on key and hot issues in human rights development, and publish white papers and special reports. It will summarize relevant practical experience in a timely manner and publicize typical cases of human rights protection.

## **VII. Actively Promoting Global Governance on Human Rights**

### **1. Improving Global Governance on Human Rights**

– Promoting the common values of humanity. China will practice true multilateralism. It will advocate the protection of human rights through security, the promotion of human rights through development, and the advancement of human rights through cooperation, contributing Chinese wisdom and strength to global human rights governance and progress.

– Participating in the formulation of international human rights rules and agenda- setting, and reforming and improving global human rights governance.

– Upholding the rights to subsistence and development as the foremost among all basic human rights. China will continue to encourage the international community to attach equal importance to economic, social, and cultural rights as to civil and political rights. It will continue to oppose the politicization of human rights issues and double standards in human rights, and

will call on multilateral human rights bodies to carry out their work in an impartial, objective, and non-selective manner.

- Organizing successful international and regional human rights forums and building exchange platforms that foster international consensus on human rights.

## **2. Effectively Engaging in International Human Rights Dialogue and Cooperation**

- Actively engaging in human rights dialogue, consultation, and exchange with all parties on the basis of equality and mutual respect. China will work to expand consensus, reduce differences, promote mutual learning, and pursue common progress with all parties, so as to jointly advance the international cause of human rights to the benefit of the peoples of all countries.

- Expanding exchanges and cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. China will continue to cooperate with the Special Procedures of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) and UN human rights treaty bodies.

- Responding to communications from the Special Procedures of the UNHRC. China will invite relevant Special Procedures to visit China in accordance with its reception capacity.

- Conducting extensive international human rights exchanges and cooperation with other countries, especially developing countries.

- Continuing to participate in regional and sub-regional human rights exchange activities.

- Conducting systemic cooperation on cultural heritage protection and contemporary people-to-people exchanges with Belt and Road partner countries. China will continue to focus on Belt and Road cooperation and promote people-to-people connectivity.

## **3. Playing an Active Role in UN Human Rights Affairs**

- Engaging substantively in the work of UN human rights bodies. China will play a constructive and leading role in various UN human rights bodies to achieve practical and positive results.

- Actively participating in multilateral human rights mechanisms such as the UNHRC and promoting the sound development of the international human rights cause.

- Campaigning for 2028-2030 UNHRC membership. China will support and recommend Chinese experts to run for positions in the Special Procedures of the UNHRC and UN human rights treaty bodies.

– Earnestly implementing the proposals it accepted during the UNHRC’s fourth-round Universal Periodic Review for China. China will participate in the UNHRC’s fifth-round Universal Periodic Review for China.

– Continuing to work for the reform of UN human rights treaty bodies. China will urge UN human rights treaty bodies to operate within their respective treaty mandates in an objective, fair, and independent manner.

– Participating constructively in negotiations on the UN business and human rights treaty.

#### **4. Continuing to Advance the Review of China’s Implementation of the Human Rights Conventions**

– Timely submitting reports on the implementation of conventions to relevant UN human rights treaty bodies. China will engage in constructive dialogue with relevant UN human rights treaty bodies, and adopt and implement suggestions that are reasonable and feasible in the Chinese context.

– Participating in the review of its seventh report on implementing the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and its combined fifth and sixth report on implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

– Completing and submitting its fourth report on implementing the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, its combined 18th-20th report on implementing the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and its combined fourth and fifth report on implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and participating in their review.

– Actively advancing the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

## **VIII. Implementation, Supervision and Assessment**

Party committees and governments at all levels must assume the historical responsibility of advancing the cause of human rights. They should strengthen leadership, take the initiative in fulfilling their responsibilities, and ensure the implementation of the Action Plan in light of actual conditions.

China will improve the joint meeting mechanism for the Action Plan. It will strengthen oversight of its implementation and ensure all-round and multilevel support.

China will refine the third-party assessment mechanism for the Action Plan. It will conduct phased research and evaluations, and strengthen tracking of developments, risk analysis, and experience sharing.

China will encourage news media to provide extensive coverage of the Action Plan and foster a favorable social atmosphere for its full implementation.