

ADDRESSING AFRICA

Premier initiates new mode for deepening cooperation





An Africa-oriented English monthly covering China and Africa published by BEUING REVIEW, ChinAfrica is the leading publication in China featuring news, views and analysis for an African audience.

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Cover Photo: Chinese Premier Li Keqiang delivers a speech at the African Union headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on May 5 (LI XUEREN)

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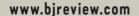
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Into a New Stage

Chinese Premier Li Kegiang set forth on a four-nation African tour during the first half of May, in his first visit to the continent since he took office in March 2013. Not coincidentally. Chinese President Xi linping also visited Africa last April as the newly elected head of state. These two visits are seen not only as the continued implementation of China's consistent African policy, but also as a display of the willingness and determination of China and Africa to bring their all-round strategic partnership into a new stage.

China and Africa have maintained close bonds for more than half a century. Since the 1950s, with the founding of New China as well as an increasing number of African states winning independence, the two sides have developed and consolidated their bilateral ties in many areas. China has provided unconditional aid to help African nations in their reconstruction and development programs; and African countries have supported China in safeguarding its national interests and sovereignty in the global arena. In the 1970s, the reputable Tanzania-Zambia Railway emerged as a testimony to the lasting friendship between China and Africa. The sight of African diplomats dancing heartily at the UN Conference Hall in celebration of China's regaining its legitimate seat in October 1971—for which 26 African countries cast affirmative votes, along with 50 other UN member states—left a lasting impression on Chinese people.

Entering the new century, China-Africa relations have expanded amidst the changing tide of global, regional and national conditions. Leaders from both sides have been in frequent communication. Meanwhile, institutional frameworks, such as the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, have been launched to ensure sustainable, effective and mutually beneficial partnerships between the two sides. During the past five years, China has been Africa's biggest trade partner, while Africa has also become one of China's major exporters and investment destinations. The latest official statistics indicate that by the end of last year, direct investment from China had totaled \$25 billion, while the number of Chinese companies operating in Africa had risen to some 2,500.

Some Western politicians and media claim that China has carried out "neocolonialist policies" in Africa. This is a rather inaccurate, misleading assertion. The China-Africa friendship and associated cooperation have been firmly rooted in the spirit of equality, mutual respect and mutual benefits. Having undergone similar experiences of humiliation and oppression in bygone days, they carry a shared desire to make their nations stronger and more prosperous. These commonalities may in part explain why China and Africa have scrupulously abided by their partnerships for so long.

WRITETOUS

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SHOW ME YOUR SMILE

Children in a Chongqing-based primary school in southwest China on May 7 show their drawings of smiling faces, which they painted on the palms of their hands. May 8 is the date on which World Smile Day is observed.



Cheering Festival

People from the Rukai ethnic group in Taiwan participate in celebrations for Siyueba in Fenghuang ancient town in central China's Hunan Province on May 6. Siyueba is a traditional festival observed by a number of ethnic minorities on the eighth day of the fourth lunar month.

Security Measures

Chinese authorities will launch special operations against domestic terrorists, according to a senior security official.

Law enforcement agencies will implement the leadership's arrangement for counter-terrorism, said Meng Jianzhu, head of the Commission for Political and Legal Affairs of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, at a meeting of officials from law enforcement and judicial departments in Beijing on May 6.

Meng vowed that authorities will strike back against terrorists. Law enforcement agencies and judicial departments will deploy new technologies to detect and remove security threats.

On March 1, assailants killed 29 civilians and injured another 143 at a railway station in the southwestern city of Kunming in Yunnan Province. Three other people were killed and 79 more were injured in an attack at a railway station in Urumqi, capital of northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous

Region, on April 30. The two incidents were both confirmed as terrorist attacks.

On May 6, a male suspect carrying a knife attacked people at a railway station in the southern metropolis of Guangzhou. The nature of this attack has not yet been confirmed.

Credibility System

China will soon release an outline for building a government-led national social credibility system to assess individuals and organizations on areas ranging from tax payment to judicial credibility.

On May 5, Economic Information Daily reported that the outline, the drafting of which was led by the National Development and Reform Commission and the People's Bank of China, focuses on credibility building in four areas—administrative affairs, commercial activities, social behaviors and the judicial system.

According to the outline, China will also establish an integrated platform by

PRIDE DONATION

A volunteer in Zhengzhou, Henan Province, shows the certificate and thank-you card she received after donating blood before the 67th World Red Cross Day, which fell on May 8



2017 to collect credibility information on financial, industrial, and commercial registration, taxes and social security payments, as well as traffic violations.

To facilitate the process, individuals and organizations will be coded based on identity card numbers or organization numbers.

Satellite Launch Drill

China's new satellite launch center, located in south China's Hainan Province, will conduct a drill in the second half of this year.

The drill at the Wenchang Satellite Launch Center aims to test the center's functionality, a necessary step for future launch programs, according to a senior official in charge of the program.

The Wenchang Satellite Launch Center is the fourth such facility in China.

A satellite launched from Wenchang, which is located at a low latitude, is expected to enjoy longer service life as a result of the fuel saved by the shorter maneuver from transit orbit to geosynchronous orbit.

Adoption Restrictions

China's religion watchdog has banned unregistered groups and persons from adopting orphans or abandoned infants in the name of their religion. It also laid out detailed rules on the proper adoption procedures.

"Only lawfully registered religious groups, venues and clergy as well as orphanages run by them are allowed to adopt orphans or abandoned infants. No other organizations or individuals should do so in the name of religion," said a circular jointly released on May 5 by the Ministry of Civil Affairs and the State Administration for Religious Affairs.

The circular stressed that qualified religious groups should cooperate with civil affairs departments to strengthen their daily management, take good care of adopted children and conduct activities legally.

Groups wishing to run homes or orphanages independently should first apply for adoption approvals from civil affairs departments and sign agreement papers containing adoption responsibilities and instructions for attending to the adopted children, it said.

Cultural Coop

China is planning a program to promote cultural cooperation among countries along the ancient Silk Road, the Ministry of Culture said on May 5.

The program is aimed at improving cooperation in fields such as the entertainment business, tourism, protection of cultural heritage and sport, said a statement from the ministry.

The Silk Road, an ancient trade route, linked China with Europe through Central Asia for centuries. Chinese President Xi Jinping during his visit to Central Asia last September put forward the idea of a Silk Road economic belt.

The program will include an annual cultural forum, joint production of TV shows, films and animation, trade centers and exhibitions of cultural products as well as cultural events, according to the ministry.

China's Central Government and provincial governments along the Silk Road will work out preferential policies, it added.

No Smoking

China's TV channels at or above the provincial level, as well as major video websites, will have a one-month "intense run" of an anti-smoking commercial starting on May 5.

Titled "supporting the ban on public smoking for yourself and others," the ad is part of a month-long anti-smoking campaign, according to a statement from the National Health and Family Planning Commission.

China is home to 320 million smok-

"Running the anti-smoking advertisement aims to raise public awareness about the harm of tobacco and help mobilize all of society to voluntarily resist smoking and stay away from tobacco."

Mao Qun'an, spokesman for the National Health and Family Planning Commission



Dropping Mortality Rate

Doctors in Suixian County, Henan Province, examine an infant.

The mortality rate for children under 5 in China has dropped by more than two thirds since 1990, while maternal mortality has been cut by 70 percent, said a report released by the world's leading independent charity, Save the Children, on May 6.

The annual report, which began in 2000, ranked China as 61st on its list of best places to be a mother, up seven spots from last year. This year's report focuses on mothers in humanitarian crises, who face many obstacles in keeping their children healthy.



ers, accounting for nearly one third of the world's smoking population.

At least 740 million non-smokers are also subject to second-hand smoke, according to official statistics.

Subsidies in Xinjiang

Regional government subsidies for poor families in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region increased 6.6 percent to 4.16 billion yuan (\$668 million) in 2014.

As a key program to improve people's living standards, the regional government earmarked 2.3 billion yuan (\$369 million) and 1.8 billion yuan (\$289 million) as living subsidies for urban and rural poor families respectively,

according to Peng Gang, an official with the regional civil affairs department on May 2.

Xinjiang has 860,000 urban citizens and 1.3 million rural residents who enjoy subsidies for living expenses. The monthly per-capita subsidy is 277 yuan (\$44.49) for urban families and 129 yuan (\$20.72) for rural households.

In 2013, the regional government allocated 3.9 billion yuan (\$626 million) as the minimum living allowances for the poor.

With a land area of 1.66 million square km, Xinjiang has a population of 22.6 million. Ethnic minority groups account for approximately 60 percent of the total population.

Fish Migration

Over 2,000 artificially-bred Chinese sturgeons are released into the Yangtze River from Yichang City, Hubei Province, on April 13.

The fish has completed a 1,600-km migratory trip along the Yangtze to the sea, said the Chinese Sturgeons Research Institute on Mau 6.

Chinese sturgeons, sometimes called "aquatic pandas," are listed as being under state protection.

This was the first time scientists have obtained firm evidence showing that artificially-bred fish retain inherited natural migratory habits and can thus survive in the wild.



THIS WEEK ECONOMY

Foreign Trade Rebound

China's exports went up 0.9 percent year on year to \$188.54 billion in April, customs data showed on May 8.

Imports were up 0.8 percent to \$170.09 billion and total foreign trade volume increased 0.8 percent to \$358.63 billion, the General Administration of Customs (GAC) said.

Trade balance realized a surplus of \$18.45 billion in April, up 1.8 percent year on year, the GAC said.

In light of trade data in April last year being very high, the improvement in trading performances this April is even more impressive, said Xu Gao, chief macro-economy analyst with Everbright Securities. China's foreign trade condition has substantially improved.

During the January to April period, China's foreign trade volume declined 0.5 percent year on year to \$1.32 trillion. During the period, exports decreased 2.3 percent year on year while imports went up 1.4 percent.

PMI Pickup

China's manufacturing growth continued to rise in April, fresh evidence of better performance in the manufacturing sector, official data showed on May 1.

The purchasing managers' index (PMI) for the manufacturing sector rose to 50.4 in April, up from 50.3 in March, according to data jointly released by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and the China Federation of Logistics and Purchasing (CFLP).

This is the second consecutive monthly uptick of the widely monitored data. The index began to climb in March after three months of declines.

A reading below 50 indicates contraction, while above 50 signals expansion.



SPEEDING UP PRODUCTION

A staff member from CNR Changchun Railway Vehicles welds a tramcar that will be exported to Ethiopia in Changchun, capital of northeast China's Jilin Province, on May 6 The latest PMI index shows that China's market demand is improving, but the momentum of the recovery is not strong, said Zhao Qinghe, a senior analyst with the NBS.

The PMI for China's non-manufacturing sector rose to 54.8 in April, up 0.3 percentage points from March.

CFLP Vice Chairman Cai Jin attributed the rebound to the warming of the tertiary industry and the recovering market demand against the backdrop of China's economic growth having shown signs of stabilizing after an array of grim indicators at the beginning of the uear.

The logistics-related industries have picked up pace, while the wholesale and retail sectors were revitalized, Cai said, noting that the dynamic activity, along with the mild change in price index, will contribute to stable economic growth.

Canton Fair Cools

The biannual Canton Fair, a barometer of the country's foreign trade, had fewer overseas buyers and trade deals in comparison to last year, organizers said.

The 115th session of the fair, which closed on May 5, attracted 188,119 overseas buyers, down 0.81 percent from the previous session last autumn, and down 7.23 percent from last year's spring session, said Liu Jianjun, spokesman for the fair.

Export volume dropped 12.64 percent year on year to 191.18 billion yuan (\$31.05 billion), said Liu.

The decrease in attendance and turnover indicated that overseas market demand remained weak, and that the recovery of the domestic market had a long way to go, Liu said.

More Obligations

Chinese state-owned enterprises (SOEs) will have to pay 5 percent more of their profits to the government, the Ministry of Finance (MOF) said on May 6.

The money will be used to improve social services, said the MOF. SOEs administered by the Central Government will pass on up to 25 percent of their profits depending on their line of business.

The change is based on profits made from the beginning of this year, according to the MOF. Tobacco com-



Beautiful and Useful

Pictured is a wind farm located in Tianchang, east China's Anhui Province.

The lakeside wind farm, the first of its kind in the province, has produced 136 million kilowatt hours of electricity for the national grid since it was put into use in November 2012.



A Rosy Future

A farmer picks edible roses in Jimo, east China's Shandong Province.

The city has planted over 1,000 mu (67 hectares) of roses that can be used in the beverage, medicine, cosmetics and textile industries. Each mu (0.07 hectare) of roses can yield over 30,000 yuan (\$4,820) of annual income for local farmers.

panies will turn in 25 percent of their profits, with petrochemical, electricity, telecom and coal companies paying 20 percent, steel, transportation, electronics, trade and construction companies transferring 15 percent, while militaryindustrial companies hand in 10 percent.

Some companies including China Grain Reserves Corp. and China National Cotton Reserves Corp. can still keep their profits for their own development.

The central SOEs are expected to deliver 141.5 billion yuan (\$22.7 billion) to the government this year, up 36.1 percent from 2013, according to the MOF.

Rising Bad Loans

Non-performing loans (NPL) of major Chinese commercial banks edged up

AUTO SHOW

Visitors observe a domestically made SUV at the 2014 China (Shenyang) Auto Fair Expo in Shenyang, capital of northeast China's Liaoning Province on May 7. The expo attracted 138 auto makers from home and abroad to showcase their latest car models



in the first quarter, fresh evidence of growing pressure for industry titans to improve the quality of their loans after years of lending sprees.

The NPL of China's four largest state-owned commercial banks all rose in the first quarter according to their quarterly financial reports. Agricultural Bank of China has the highest NPL ratio, which is hovering at 1.22 percent.

The NPL ratio of the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, the country's largest bank, rose by 0.03 percentage points to 0.97 percent by the end of March.

The NPL ratio of Bank of China inched up 0.02 percentage points from three months ago to 0.98 percent by the end of March, and that of China Construction Bank edged up 0.03 percentage points to 1.02

percent during the period.

Non-performing loans refer to loans that are in default or close to being in default, while the NPL ratio is the ratio of NPL to a lender's total loans.

Polysilicon Duties

China's Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) started to impose two-year anti-dumping and anti-subsidy duties on imports of solar-grade polysilicon from the EU from May 1.

A final ruling by the MOFCOM found that the EU products were dumped and subsidized in the Chinese market and caused substantial damage to domestic producers during the period of investigation.

The MOFCOM launched the probe on November 1, 2012, in response to requests filed by Chinese polysilicon manufacturers amid an import surge and price decline of the EU products. On October 31, 2013, the MOFCOM announced that it would extend the probe by another six months to May 1, 2014.

Solar-grade polysilicon is a key material for making solar cells.

Expanding VAT Trial

China is to replace turnover tax with value-added tax (VAT) in the telecom sector, following similar changes in transport and some service sectors.

The new rules become effective on June 1, the MOF and the State Administration of Taxation announced on April 30.

Basic telecom services such as voice calls and bandwidth leasing or sales will be subject to 11-percent VAT while valueadded services such as messaging, data transfer and Internet access will be subject to a 6-percent rate. Telecom services for overseas clients will be exempt.

China has been pushing VAT reform since the beginning of 2012. The reform started with transportation and some modern service sectors, and expanded to railway transportation and postal service sectors before it was introduced in the telecom industry.

Turnover tax refers to a tax on the gross revenue of a business, while a VAT refers to a tax levied on the difference between a commodity's price before taxes and its cost of production.

THIS WEEK WORLD





VIET NAM

War veterans, soldiers and government leaders gather in Dien Bien Phu Town on May 7 for an event to mark the 60th anniversary of the country's victory over French colonial forces



RUSSIA

Trade union members parade on the Red Square in Moscow on May 1 for the first time since 1991







BRITAIN

A participant takes part in the Park and Slide project, an interactive temporary installation set up in Park Street in the center of Bristol, southwest England, on May 4





UKRAINE

A woman mourns outside a burned trade union building in the city of Odessa on May 4. Flowers, candles and photos of the dead are piled up outside the charred building









THAILAND

Former Prime Minister
Yingluck Shinawatra answers
questions during a press conference
in Bangkok on May 7. Thailand's
Constitutional Court earlier dismissed
Yingluck from office for abuse
of power



THE UNITED STATES

People celebrate the Indian Holi Festival on May 3 in the Brooklyn borough of New York City. The festival, also known as the Festival of Colors, marks the arrival of spring

THIS WEEK PEOPLE & POINTS

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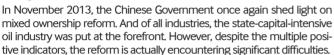
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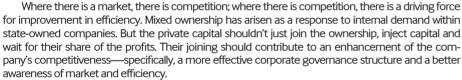
Bai Chunli, President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, was elected to become one of the 10 new foreign members of the United Kingdom's Royal Society on May 1. Foreign members are elected for life through a peer review process on the basis of their excellence in the sciences. There are currently around 140 foreign members.

In a Royal Society statement, Bai, born in September 1953, was described as one of the pioneers in the field of nanoscience and as having outstanding scientific achievements as well as a leadership role in China's scientific community.

Oil Company Reform Caijing Magazine May 5



It has been agreed within the industry that to promote mixed ownership reform, the top priority now is to break the monopoly of China's three major state oil giants and make it possible for other market players to survive on their own.



This requires a major environment of institutional innovation. It is essential for the companies to separate themselves from government management and recover their nature as market players.

The mixed ownership reform requires the property rights of the state-owned companies to be more diversified. The board of directors should become the hub of corporate governance. Currently, the truth is the board is just a figurehead. The shareholders can't participate in the decision-making process. The investment safety and investment return of the shareholders don't have a procedural guarantee. Therefore, changes should be made in this regard.



Situation in Ukraine Life Weekly May 5

"The West will not confront Russia on the issue of Ukraine with everything it has got, because for the West, the importance of Ukraine is limited, and so is the price it is willing to pay," said Liang Qiang, a researcher with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. "On the contrary, the price that Russia is willing to pay is infinite. Russia has already seen the bottom line of the West during its war with Georgia in 2008."

The crisis in Ukraine has three aspects. The first is how the Russian nationality in Ukraine can protect their rights and interests. They may tend toward gaining independence, or return to Russia. They hope to safeguard their rights and interests as an ethnic minority. The second aspect is the territorial dispute between Ukraine and Russia. And the third aspect is the conflict between the east and the west of Ukraine. This conflict results from different political opinions between the two regions, yet it is between people within one shared nationality.

All these three aspects are closely

"Education on ethnic unity should be part of educational curricula. We will create conditions that let children and youths from different ethnic groups play together, receive education together and grow up together."

Zhang Chunxian, Secretary of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Regional Committee of the Communist Party of China, at a conference on May 6 "One of the key things about the exhibition is accessibility. We want to make sure people at every level of experience with Chinese calligraphy can come here and feel comfortable as well as learn something."

Joseph Scheier-Dolberg, Assistant Curator at the Department of Asian Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the organizer of *Out of Character: Decoding Chinese Calligraphy*, an exhibition that opened in New York City on April 29



related to Russia, especially the aspect involving the Russian nationality. Without the backing of Russia as a strong support, the crisis would never have become so serious. Therefore, the crisis in Ukraine is essentially a problem of Ukraine-Russia relations.

Free Highway **Beijing Youth Daily**May 4

During the Labor Day holiday, highways across China witnessed yet another wave of traffic jams, the latest in a long line of such incidents experienced since the country implemented the policy to waive tolls for vehicles on four important national holidays, as part of an attempt to ease congested traffic during annual travel peaks.

The Central Government approved of the policy on August 1, 2012. On the following National Day vacation on October 1-7, 2012, many families that chose to travel by highway experienced the worst traffic jam on record. The severe traffic congestion drew fierce complaints. Some people even blamed the congestion on the free highway policy. Some criticized the free highway policy for going

against economic theory. Based on this argument, the tolls for vehicles should even be increased, so that more vehicles would stay parked at home, ensuring that the highway traffic would be smoother.

It is a pity that these critics failed to see the whole picture. The policy was carried out at a time when the Central Government decided to deal with the disorder in highway tolls. In June 2011, the Central Government launched a year-long investigation on toll roads. Following the investigation, a number of toll roads changed to a free-pass system. However, a much bigger number of highways were completed by banking lending. Because the debt has not yet been paid off, it is impossible to waive the tolls. Against this backdrop, the Central Government implemented the policy. It came as a signal implying that the nation's highway system may change back from being a money maker to a public resource.

↓) GENEROUS BUSINESSMAN

Xu Rongmao, founder and Chairman of Shanghai-based Shimao Property, has been ranked as China's top philanthropist by an annual list compiled by *China Philanthropy Times*.

According to the list, which was released in late April, the 64-year-old Fujian-born real estate billionaire donated a total of 370 million yuan (\$59.7 million) during 2013. For years, Xu's donations have funded the prevention and treatment of HIV-AIDS, construction of new hospitals and schools as well as scholarships to children living in shantytowns across China.



"Liquor has a long history in China, carrying the essence of traditional culture and the rich emotions of the Chinese people."

Li Zuoxun, Vice Mayor of Guiyang, capital of southwest China's Guizhou Province, after signing a contract for his city to host the 2015 Concours Mondial de Bruxelles Spirits Selection, an international liquor competition, on May 2 "I am honored to be the president of the jury for the Golden Goblet Award and to be able to work with prominent figures from the international film industry. I will lead the jury members to try and find films that touch people's hearts."

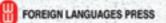
Chinese actress **Gong Li**, after being named president of the jury for the main award at the 17th Shanghai International Film Festival on May 5

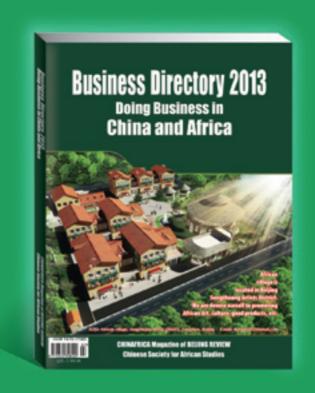


STORIES OF CHINA'S REFORM

A PHOTOGRAPHER'S PERSONAL EXPERIENCES







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COVER STORY

FROM GIVER TO PAR

China adds fresh elements of cooperation and partnership to traditional friends



TNER

hip with Africa By Ding Ying



bout 2,500 years ago, Chinese philosopher Lao Tzu said, "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach him how to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." Now this ancient wisdom is being implemented to strengthen the China-Africa friendship in a modern context.

In early May, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang made his first state visit to Africa after taking office in March last year. Li's trip upgraded China-Africa relations into "version 2.0," in which traditional assistance programs will be supplemented by economic cooperation and cultural exchange.

Enriching relations

Premier Li visited Ethiopia, Nigeria, Angola, Kenya and the African Union (AU) headquarters from May 4 to 11, marking his first overseas visits this year and his first voyage to Africa since March 2013.

The global situation is far from what it was 50 years ago, when late Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai made his landmark visit to Africa. Li's tour sought to further advance the traditional friend-ship, promote practical cooperation, and boost the bilateral strategic partnership.

This voyage demonstrates the new leadership's commitment to the China-Africa relationship, said professor Huang Zequan with the African Studies Department at Peking University. "The friendly cooperation between the two sides will be continuously pushed forward, and generally be enriched with new concepts," said Huang.

"Premier Li's visit cements Africa's significant, fundamental and strategic status in China's overall diplomacy," said professor Ji Mingkui with the National Defense University.

Li Zhibiao, a researcher on African studies with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), explained that the four African countries are either politically influential powers or major economies in Africa. Nigeria has the biggest population in Africa, and it has replaced South Africa as the continent's top economy as its GDP in 2013 exceeded South Africa's. Ethiopia, where the AU headquarters is located, has attracted many Chinese investors in recent years. Kenya has become one of the favorite tourist

destinations in Africa for Chinese travelers. And Angola, an influential state in Southern Africa and also an oil producer, has been in close cooperation with China.

In his speech at the AU headquarters, Premier Li came up with a suggestion of developing bilateral relations in a 4-6-1 mode, which is considered the new leadership's practical implementation of China's new Africa policy. Unlike the simple mode of providing direct assistance to African nations in the past, China has worked harder to improve Africa's competence in economic and cultural development, shifting its role from that of a giver to a partner. Moreover, China has enhanced its political relationship with these countries and bolstered economic cooperation with them.

Professor Yuan Gangming with Tsinghua University explained that the mode has been developed on the basis of long-term friendship and cooperation between China and Africa. "There will be a completely new outlook on bilateral cooperation leading to win-win outcomes and reciprocity," Yuan said. He stressed that the platform of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation is significant in that it represents an upgrading of bilateral cooperation on both a mechanical and operative level.

Chinese President Xi Jinping visited Africa in 2013, during which he expounded on China's Africa policy and stressed China's commitment to cooperation with sincerity, real results, affinity and good faith.

Li Zhibiao believed that President Xi's commitment pointed the way to China-Africa relations, and the four principles Premier Li suggested is a further step confirming China's determination to realize Xi's pledge.

Referring to six areas of bilateral cooperation, he stressed, "Both China and Africa are at their respective crossroads of development in the new era. The six areas not only are of African countries' general concern of participating in economic globalization based on independence, but also reflect China's practical interests of accelerating its economic transformation."

He said that the core of the six key areas is cooperation in industry, while cooperation in the remaining five areas is meant to solve problems concerning financing, marketing, en-

vironmental protection, personnel and security. Cooperation in the six areas is China's mid-

and long-term strategic plan of boosting China-Africa cooperation.

Yang Lihua, a senior research fellow with the CASS, pointed out that the premier's speech showed the consistency of China's friendship with and its policy concerning Africa in the past 50 years. "During the last five decades, the China-Africa relationship has been bound by mutual respect and reciprocity. Our goal, approach and destination have been consistent in spite of changing circumstances," said Yang.

Based on the similar target of fighting imperialism to gain national independence, the Chinese and African peoples started to support each other in the mid-20th century.

On October 25, 1971, China resumed its legal status in the United Nations with support from the developing world, including many African countries. Late Chinese leader Mao Zedong emphasized, "It's our African brothers that have carried us into the UN."

The China-Africa relationship has entered a new phase since the beginning of the 21st century. In October 2000, the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation was launched. In 2006, China and Africa agreed to upgrade their relationship to a new type of strategic partnership featuring political equality and mutual trust, economic win-win cooperation and cultural exchanges.

Two wheels of cooperation

About 60 cooperation documents were signed during Premier Li's Africa tour, covering fields like economic, cultural, agricultural, health and personnel training cooperation. This great achievement is also closely linked to the six areas that he proposed.

Yang believed that the Chinese premier's proposal is very encouraging. According to the new 4-6-1 mode, China will expand the scope of industrial cooperation by including trade, investment and infrastructure construction, she said. "China is at a crucial stage of industrial restructuring and transformation of its economic growth pattern. This is a good way to closely match China's development with Africa's," said Yang,





Premier Li also laid out the blueprint for increasing China-Africa trade volume to \$400 billion by 2020. Yang believed such a goal is relatively conservative. In 2013, China-Africa trade reached \$210 billion, 2,000 times that of 1960. China has been Africa's biggest trading partner for the past five years; in addition, more than 2,500 Chinese companies are operating in Africa, creating over 100,000 jobs. According to a report by the International Monetary Fund, China-Africa cooperation has contributed to more than 20 percent of Africa's development.

China and African countries have made progress in infrastructural construction, especially in railway projects. China is ready to expand cooperation with Africa in building roads, railways, telecommunications, power grids and other infrastructure so as to help the continent achieve regional interconnection, the Chinese premier said in his speech, adding that Beijing also encourages Chinese enterprises to form joint ventures with African counterparts in a bid to improve Africa's regional aviation industry. During Premier Li's visit, China and Nigeria agreed

on a coastal railway project worth \$13.12 billion. The coastal railway will be of great strategic significance in promoting the economic development of the whole of West Africa and building a coastal economic corridor in the region.

The premier also depicted a vision of connecting African capitals with high-speed rail, saying that China is willing to use its worldleading technologies in this area to improve pan-African communication and development.

Nowadays, China has become a major railway equipment provider to Africa. Unlike previous assistance projects, today's railway construction ventures in Africa are mostly realized through commercial cooperation, which is targeted at greatly increasing African countries' level of technical proficiency through reciprocity. By 2013, China had built about 2,200 km of railways and 3,500 km of roads in Africa.

Professor Yuan said that the building of joint ventures is an excellent way to promote Africa's self-sufficiency after adopting China's technology. This is a new cooperative mode, he said, as China's successful experience in building



INFRASTRUCTUAL COOPERATION: Chinese Premier Li Kegiang and Ethiopian Prime Minister

Hailemariam Desalegn tighten a bolt during a visit to a light railway project in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on May 5

high-speed rail offers a vast continent like Africa the infrastructural technologies of which it is in urgent demand.

Traditional assistance projects will continue at the same time. Premier Li announced during his trip that China has decided to increase its loans for African countries by \$10 billion, which

brings the total pledged amount to \$30 billion, and to expand the China-Africa development fund by \$2 billion to \$5 billion. Moreover, to help reduce poverty, China will train 2,000 agricultural technicians and management personnel for Africa in the coming five years, tilting its assistance toward such welfare areas as drinking

water and prevention and control of epidemics.

The Chinese premier also emphasized the importance of cultural and people-to-people exchanges during his visit. In regards to people-topeople exchanges, he said China will carry out its "African talent plan" and will provide African countries with 18,000 government scholarships and help them train 30,000 various professionals. He also declared that China will offer South Sudan another 50 million yuan (\$8 million) of humanitarian aid to help deal with their humanitarian crisis.

Premier Li praised Africa's encouraging contributions to the world civilization and economy. Now a land full of vigor, Africa has reshaped itself into an important pole in world politics, a new pole in global economic growth and a colorful pole in human civilization, he said in his speech.

"African civilization, as an important part of a pluralistic global village, is worthy of our undivided attention," Yang said.

ullet) The 4-6-1 Mode Between China and Africa

Visiting Chinese Premier Li Keqiang delivered a speech on May 5 in the Africa Union Headquarters Center in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, proposing a new 4-6-1 cooperative mode between China and Africa. This mode includes:

Four principles: To further consolidate bilateral cooperation, the two sides uphold the four principles of treating each other sincerely and equally; consolidating solidarity and mutual trust; jointly pursuing inclusive development; and promoting innovation in bilateral practical cooperation.

Six key areas: Six areas—industry, finance, poverty reduction, ecological protection, people-to-people exchanges, and peace and security—have been identified for the two sides to make the leap forward.

One platform: As the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation serves as an important platform for deepening bilateral relations, joint efforts should be made to turn it into a more pragmatic and efficient mechanism.

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