On March 15, 2016, the 12th National People’s Congress (“NPC”) of P.R. China adopted the 13th Five-Year Plan on national economy and social development of China. This plan aims for “the construction of new pattern of all-round opening by 2020.” Under “along the way” construction, the basic tasks set out in the plan are to: improve the level of opening up; promote synergy strategic mutual trust, investment and trade cooperation, and cultural exchanges; form a pattern of depth in integration and mutually beneficial cooperation; and create a new situation of opening. In fact, it will comprehensively promote two-way opening, leading to the orderly flow of domestic and international factors.

The plan also emphasizes on the opening of a new sound system by improving the rule of law. By promoting global cooperation, the plan aims to increase national development planning, technical standard system docking, and transport facilitation arrangements between countries along, in order to carry out customs clearance cooperation. It also helps other international economic cooperation corridor construction, infrastructure interconnection with neighboring countries, and cultural exchange. The “21st Century Maritime Silk Road” is a key element for smooth maritime trade routes. In order to realize it, action will be taken to actively participate in global economic governance. This involves international economic system reform, governance improvement, and the global economic agenda, to preserve and strengthen the multilateral trading system with equality and fairness. Mutual cooperation and win-win direction will jointly cope with the global challenges.

The 13th Five-Year Plan clearly states that steps will be taken to actively carry out international responsibilities and obligations. Thus, China will expand and diversify foreign aid. Steps will be taken for development planning, economic
policy consulting and training for human resources of developing countries. Foreign cooperation and assistance will include areas such as scientific and technological education, health, disaster prevention and mitigation, environmental management, wildlife protection, poverty reduction and humanitarian assistance.

During the 13th Five-Year Plan period, measures will be taken to actively implement the 2030 sustainable development agenda. It will help strengthen environmental protection in order to ensure ‘sustainable progress.’ Furthermore, it pays attention to China’s decision in the maintenance of international public security and fight against all forms of terrorism. China will actively support and participate in the UN peacekeeping operations, international non-proliferation, global network security, cyberspace governance, and anti-corruption.

REFERENCES

China’s 13th Five-Year Plan, Permanent Representative of P.R. China to the UN, Nov. 5, 2015, available at http://www.china-un.org/eng/zt/China123456