

**SPEECH AT THE CLOSING SESSION OF
THE SEVENTEENTH NATIONAL CONGRESS
OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA**

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Comrades,

All the items on the agenda of the Seventeenth National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) have been completed today. With the concerted efforts of all delegates, we have held high our banner and carried forward our cause in a truth-seeking and pragmatic manner, and made our congress one of unity, victory and progress.

The report of the Sixteenth Central Committee of the CPC adopted at the congress is one that follows the guidance of Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong Thought, Deng Xiaoping Theory and the important thought of Three Represents and thoroughly applies the Scientific Outlook on Development. It has analyzed changes in the international and domestic situation and set forth the theme of the congress. It has reviewed the progress made by the Party and the state in our cause since the Sixteenth Congress, analyzed the great historical course of reform and opening up and the invaluable experience therein, set forth the fundamental requirement of thoroughly applying the Scientific Outlook on Development, explicitly raised the new requirement for attaining the goal of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, and made overall arrangements for socialist economic, political, cultural and social development in China and for building the Party. It has drawn up a grand blueprint for continuing to build a moderately prosperous society in all

respects and accelerating socialist modernization in the new era, and set the direction for continued progress in advancing the cause of the Party and the state. The report is the crystallization of the wisdom of the whole Party and the people of all ethnic groups in the country. It is a political declaration and a program of action for the Party to rally and lead the people of all ethnic groups in unswervingly taking the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics and continuing to develop socialism with Chinese characteristics from the new historical starting point.

The Party Constitution amended and adopted at the congress embodies the achievements in the Party's theoretical innovation and progress in practice and the major theoretical viewpoints, strategic thoughts and work arrangements defined in the political report to the congress, and has set forth explicit requirements for upholding and improving the leadership of the Party and strengthening Party building.

The congress has elected a new Central Committee to succeed the old one. It has also elected a new Central Commission for Discipline Inspection.

History will prove that the major policy decisions and arrangements the congress made and its important achievements are of vital strategic significance and will play an extremely important guiding role in comprehensively advancing the great cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics and the great new undertaking to build the Party.

The congress has established a tenure system for delegates to Party congresses, which sets new, higher requirements for the delegates. As delegates to the National Congress, we have a glorious mission and heavy responsibilities. We must keep firmly in mind our sacred duties, conscientiously study and implement the Party's theories, lines, principles and policies, and earnestly study, observe, implement and uphold the Party Constitution. We must stay in close touch with other Party members and the general public, and properly exercise our rights as delegates. We must exert ourselves to play an exemplary role in making suggestions and proposals for developing the cause of the Party and the state and rendering meritorious service, and prove ourselves worthy of the great trust other Party members

have placed in us.

During the congress, we received congratulatory messages from political parties and organizations in many foreign countries, from the central committees of the democratic parties, the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce and personages of all ethnic groups and circles in China, and also from the general public in various forms. Here the Presidium of the congress would like to express its heartfelt thanks to all of them.

Comrades,

The congress calls on all Party members to unswervingly hold high the great banner of socialism with Chinese characteristics, cherish the path and the system of theories of socialism with Chinese characteristics, which the Party explored and created after going through all the hardships, keep to the path and uphold the system for a long time to come, constantly develop them, and always adhere to the Party's basic line of taking economic development as the central task and upholding the Four Cardinal Principles and the reform and opening up policy, known as "one central task and two basic points." All this will serve as the fundamental political guarantee for us to overcome all the difficulties and risks on our way forward, strive for new victories in building a moderately prosperous society in all respects and create a new situation in the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics. All Party members must rally closely around the Central Committee, hold high the great banner of socialism with Chinese characteristics, continue to follow the guidance of Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong Thought, Deng Xiaoping Theory and the important thought of Three Represents and thoroughly apply the Scientific Outlook on Development. We must unswervingly continue to emancipate our minds, persist in reform and opening up, pursue development in a scientific way, promote social harmony, and work to attain the ambitious goal of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects. We must lead the

people in grasping and making the most of the important period of strategic opportunities, staying truth-seeking and pragmatic, forging ahead with determination and working together to carry out the tasks assigned to us at the congress.

Now all rise to the *Internationale*, please.

I now declare closed the Seventeenth National Congress of the CPC.