

Joint Statement between the People's Republic of China and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on the Establishment of the All-Weather Strategic Partnership

1. At the invitation of the President of the People's Republic of China Xi Jinping, the President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela Nicolás Maduro Moros made his third State Visit to the People's Republic of China from September 9 to 14, 2023. During the Visit, both Heads of State held talks in a warm and friendly atmosphere, and exchanged views on the bilateral relationship, binational cooperation in all fields and other international and regional issues of common interest, reaching broad consensus. Premier Li Qiang and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Zhao Leji held respective meetings with President Maduro.
2. Both sides agreed that since the opening of diplomatic relations on June 28, 1974, especially since the establishment of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership on July 14, 2014, despite international vicissitudes, Sino-Venezuelan ties have always been as solid as a rock against all odds, and bilateral cooperation in the various areas has achieved fruitful results.
3. Based on the common will to raise the level of bilateral ties and further deepen binational cooperation in various fields, and taking into account the profound changes in the current international and regional situation, the two sides agreed to raise bilateral relations to the level of an All-weather Strategic Partnership, and further assert the political guidance role of the Heads of State diplomacy, expand practical binational cooperation in various fields and strengthen strategic collaboration in international affairs, so as to improve the welfare of their peoples and jointly promote the building of the human community with a shared future.

4. The Venezuelan side reiterated its warm congratulations on the full success of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the annual sessions of the 14th National People's Congress (NPC) of China and the 14th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), warmly congratulated President Xi Jinping on his re-election as General Secretary of the CPC General Committee and President of the People's Republic of China, and expressed its high appreciation for China's great achievements in the past ten years of the new era, considering that Chinese modernization offers a new alternative to humanity for the materialization of modernization. The Venezuelan side expressed its firm conviction that under the leadership of General Secretary Xi Jinping, the CPC and the Chinese people will continue to make new and great achievements in the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era.

5. The Chinese side reaffirmed its warm congratulations on the full success of the 5th Congress of the United Socialist Party of Venezuela (PSUV) and the re-election of President Nicolas Maduro as President of the PSUV. The Chinese side respects the Venezuelan people's decision on the development path in accordance with their national realities and supports the efforts of the Venezuelan government and people to safeguard the country's stability, development and peace.

6. China and Venezuela are close friends of mutual trust, good partners in common development, and dear strategic cooperation partners. Both sides reiterated the firm support for each other on issues of their respective vital interests. The Chinese side expressed its firm support for the Venezuelan side's efforts to defend its independence, sovereignty and national dignity, social and economic stability and right to self-determination, inspired by the legacy of the Liberator, Simon Bolivar. The Venezuelan side reiterated its firm adherence to the principle of one China, recognizing that the Government of the People's Republic of China is the only legitimate government representing all of China, and Taiwan is an inalienable part of Chinese territory, and expressed its firm support for all efforts of the Chinese government to achieve the reunification of the country. Both sides agreed to categorically reject intervention by any foreign force in their internal affairs under the pretext that any foreign force in their internal affairs under any pretext whatsoever. The Venezuelan side expressed its rejection of intervention in China's internal affairs under the pretext of the issues of Taiwan, Hong Kong,

Xinjiang, Tibet, the South China Sea and human rights.

7. Both parties consider it necessary to renew efforts in defense of the common values of humanity such as peace, development, equity, justice, democracy and freedom, and commit themselves to continue working together in defense of the international order based on international law and the basic norms of international relations, and the international system centered on the United Nations Organization (UN) and the purposes and principles of its Charter, to oppose hegemonism and the policy of force in all its manifestations, unilateralism of all kinds and the formation of blocs and small exclusionary circles against certain countries. Venezuela appreciates China's outstanding participation in the initiative of the Group of Friends in Defense of the UN Charter and pledges to work together with China to continue building the new type of international relations, as well as deepening and expanding global partnerships of equality, openness and cooperation, with a view to jointly promoting world peace and development, consolidating the multicentric and pluripolar world and promoting hand in hand the construction of the human community with a shared future.
8. The Venezuelan side warmly welcomes and strongly supports the Belt and Road Initiative proposed by President Xi Jinping. Both sides recalled the Memorandum of Understanding on Joint Construction of the Belt and Road signed in September 2018. They highly appreciated the fruitful results achieved under this Initiative and expressed their readiness to further deepen cooperation in this regard. The two sides agreed to accelerate the signing of the Cooperation Plan on the Joint Construction of the Belt and Road between China and Venezuela, based on the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Accelerating the Joint Planning of the Cooperation Plan for the Promotion of the Belt and Road between the National Development and Reform Commission of the People's Republic of China and the People's Ministry of Economy, Finance and Foreign Trade of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

9. The Venezuelan side highly appreciates and supports the Global Development Initiative (GDI), the Global Security Initiative (GSI) and the Global Civilization Initiative (GCI) proposed by President Xi Jinping. The Chinese side appreciates the Venezuelan side for taking the lead in joining the Group of Friends of the GDI. Both sides agreed to further strengthen cooperation within the framework of the GDI, GCI and GCI, in order to achieve stronger, sustainable and balanced global development.
10. Both sides agreed that the changes in the world, in our time and in history are unfolding in an unprecedented way. Being developing countries alike, China and Venezuela share a wide range of common interests and identical positions in international affairs. Both sides value the strategic collaboration between the two countries in international organizations and multilateral mechanisms and will continue to firmly support each other in international affairs.
11. The Venezuelan side reiterated its interest in joining the BRICS, considering that it can contribute significant strengths to the group's energy agenda, as a reliable supplier and the country with the largest certified oil reserves and the fourth largest natural gas reserves in the world. The Chinese side welcomes the positive willingness of the Venezuelan side to join BRICS and supports Venezuela's efforts to achieve this goal.
12. Venezuela highly appreciates China's efforts to support development tasks in the countries of the Global South, boosting growth in the world economy and generating new economic governance practices, and expresses its interest in participating in development financing institutions and initiatives such as the New Development Bank, among others. Likewise, the Venezuelan side will continue to support the internationalization of the use of the RMB yuan.

13. Both sides agreed that it is necessary to build on the country's own national realities in exploring the path of development of democracy and human rights that meets the needs of the people. Both sides opposed the actions of any country for abusing the values of democracy, interfering in the internal affairs of other sovereign countries under the pretext of defending democracy or human rights, as well as provoking division and confrontation in the world. Both sides also expressed their opposition to politicization, instrumentalization and double standards on the issue of human rights, and to the imposition of one's own will and criteria on other countries.

14. The illegal unilateral coercive measures seriously violate the basic principles of international law, such as the sovereign equality of states and non-interference in domestic affairs, and severely harm the Venezuelan people's right to livelihood, development, and peace. The Chinese side firmly supports the just struggle of the Venezuelan people to defend national sovereignty and reject external sanctions, opposes the illegal unilateral coercive measures and so-called "long-arm jurisdiction" imposed by a small number of countries against Venezuela under any pretext, rejects any kind of intimidating acts, military interventions, or the threat of the use of force.

15. Both sides agreed that dialogues and negotiations are the only viable way out of the Ukraine Crisis, and all efforts leading to the peaceful resolution of the crisis should be encouraged and supported. The Venezuelan side highly appreciates and strongly supports the relevant proposals of the Chinese side. Both sides called on more countries to play a constructive role in promoting the political settlement of the Ukrainian crisis.

16. Both parties highly valued the XVII China-Venezuela High-Level Joint Commission held on September 13, 2023. Both sides agreed to continue to assert the institutional role of the Commission in planning, guiding, and implementing cooperation between the two countries and to deepen practical bilateral cooperation in various areas.

17. Both sides will continue to promote and deepen cooperation in such areas as energy, finance, economy, trade, investment, mining, agriculture, infrastructure, communications, and digital economy, and adhere to mutual benefits and friendship, for the benefit of the two peoples. Both countries welcome the signing by the relevant departments of both countries of

the Memorandum of Understanding on Exchange and Cooperation in the field of Economic Development, the Memorandum of Understanding on the Promotion of Industrial Investment and Cooperation, the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation for Sustainable Development, and the Memorandum of Understanding on Intensifying Digital Economy Cooperation. The Venezuelan side highly values China's great achievements in the construction of special economic zones and poverty reduction, and the Chinese side is ready to support the construction of Venezuela's special economic zones. China appreciates Venezuela's active participation in the International Import Expo, the Import and Export Fair and the International Service Trade Fair and supports Venezuelan enterprises to participate in more economic and trade exhibitions in China. The two sides agreed to further develop bilateral trade and enrich the variety of trade products.

18. With joint efforts, both parties have completed negotiations on the Agreement on the reciprocal promotion and protection of investments and agree to finalize as soon as possible the work related to its signing and entry into force, so that it may benefit the investors of both parties as soon as possible. Venezuela reiterates its invitation to Chinese companies and investors to expand their investments in the country, making full use of the advantageous conditions of the legal framework in force.

19. Both sides agreed to deepen exchanges and cooperation between the legislative bodies, their special committees and friendship groups, and to further strengthen exchanges of experiences in legislation and state governance. They agreed to strengthen local exchanges and cooperation between the two countries and further deepen the already established state-province twinning. They agreed to promote the establishment of twinning between more provinces and cities.

20. The two sides agreed to further strengthen cultural and educational exchanges, boost exchanges and cooperation between major media and educational institutions to strengthen social and cultural ties between China and Venezuela. They agreed to continue to provide facilities for Venezuelan students in China, welcomed the renewal by the relevant departments of the two countries of the China-Venezuela Educational-Cultural Exchange Plan, and agreed to further facilitate the exchange of personnel, Chinese language teaching in Venezuela, and further expand tourism exchange between the two countries. The Venezuelan side appreciates the Chinese side for including Venezuela in the list of foreign destinations where Chinese citizens can resume group travel.

21. Both sides recalled the achievements made in the Simon Bolivar Satellite (Venasat-1), Miranda Satellite (VRSS-1) and Sucre Satellite (VRSS-2) programs, agreed to further strengthen cooperation in the field of aerospace, and strengthen coordination in platforms such as the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) to promote fair and reasonable global governance of outer space. The Chinese side welcomes the participation of the Venezuelan side in the International Lunar Research Station (ILRS) cooperation project. Both sides highly appreciate the signing of the Aerospace Cooperation Framework Agreement between the China National Space Administration (CNSA) and the Ministry of People's Power for Science and Technology (MINCYT) of Venezuela, and are willing to work together to promote the progress of cooperation projects in such fields as communication and remote sensing satellites, and lunar and deep space exploration, with a view to aerospace capabilities and the development of the national economies of the two countries.

22. Both sides agreed to further strengthen cooperation in the field of aviation and welcome the relevant departments of both countries to sign the Air Services Agreement and encourage airlines of both countries to open flights between China and Venezuela in a timely manner in accordance with market principles.

23. Taking into account common concerns on climate change, both sides decided to promote, in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, the comprehensive and effective implementation of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement, and agreed to promote cooperation in environmental protection, combating climate change and biodiversity loss. The Chinese side will accelerate

the project of material assistance to Venezuela for the conservation of water resources. Both sides welcomed the renewed efforts of the members of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization to build common policies for the preservation of the Amazon and the sustainable development of the region, based on a scientific and technological approach and focused on the well-being of its inhabitants.

24. The Venezuelan side expressed its sincere gratitude to the Chinese side for its anti-epidemic support to its country during the Covid-19 pandemic. Chinese vaccines, health supplies and medical equipment played a key role in Venezuela's anti-epidemic struggle and made an important contribution to saving the lives of millions of Venezuelans. Both sides agreed to promote health cooperation by exchanging experiences and technologies.

25. Both sides agreed that data security is relevant to national security and the economic and social development of all countries. The Venezuelan side appreciates the Global Data Security Initiative proposed by the Chinese side and is willing to promote the development of standards for global digital governance.

26. Both sides highly valued the important role of the China-CELAC Forum (CCF) in promoting China-Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) relations. They are willing to strengthen communication and coordination in matters related to the CCF, so as to promote the stable and lasting development of China-LAC relations in the new era, characterized by equality, mutual benefit, innovation, openness and well-being for the peoples. The Chinese side appreciated Venezuela's role in LAC affairs, as well as its active stance in favor of the continued development of cooperation between the region and China.

27. Both sides supported the positioning of LAC as a nuclear-weapon-free zone, opposed Japan's dumping of water contaminated with nuclear waste.
28. Both parties agreed to hold a series of activities on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between China and Venezuela in 2024.
29. Both Presidents expressed their satisfaction with all the documents signed during this visit.
30. Both sides agreed that the Visit of President Nicolas Maduro has been crowned with full success and is of transcendental significance for deepening the China-Venezuela All-Weather Strategic Partnership and promoting the China-Latin America and the Caribbean shared future community in the new era. President Nicolas Maduro sincerely thanked President Xi Jinping and the Chinese Government and people for their hospitable and friendly welcome during the Visit and welcomed President Xi Jinping to pay a State Visit to Venezuela at an opportune date.