



PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

DEPARTMENT ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

**Speech by Ambassador LI Baodong,
Head of the Chinese Delegation
At the Annual Ministerial Review of the High
Level Segment of the Substantive Session of
ECOSOC**

Geneva, 4th July 2007

(Translation)

Mr. President,

On behalf of the Chinese Government, I wish to extend my congratulations to the First Annual Ministerial Review of ECOSOC and my appreciation to you, Mr. President, for your efforts for this meeting. I would also like to endorse the statement made by the Pakistani Representative on behalf of G77 and China.

The UN's 60th anniversary Summit affirmed that security, development and human rights are the three pillars of the UN work. The Summit also stressed the need for a more effective ECOSOC as a principal body for policy dialogue, review and coordination, aiming to promote economic and social development and speed up the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The

that the Summit Outcome is being implemented.

As economic globalization is deepening, international development cooperation faces new opportunities and challenges. Since 1990s, the international community has held a number of conferences that set the MDGs as a sustainable and a road map for international development cooperation on development. Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon stated in his report this year that most countries and regions would be able to attain MDGs as scheduled in 2015. This is an encouraging prospect. In addition, since 2001, the world economy has kept growing, and developing countries in particular, have maintained sound momentum for growth. All this will help facilitate international cooperation on development and realize the goal of common development. In the meantime, we must be

the international financial market, stagnation of the international financial market negotiations and the rise of economic nationalism. Moreover, there are non-traditional challenges such as climate change, deteriorating environment, epidemics and aging of population.

Mr. President,

Poverty elimination is on top of the agenda of the MDGs. To realize

the goal of reducing by half the proportion of people living in hunger and

the following proposals:

First, move toward a true global partnership for development.

responsibility and cooperation. Developing countries have the primary comprehensive strategy for poverty alleviation and include it in the overall development planning. On the other hand, the international

sound economic globalization and create an enabling external environment for poverty elimination and economic growth of developing countries.

Second, provide efficient financial and technological support to developing countries. Lack of capital and technology are two major causes of poverty. The consistent allocation of resources is essential for

this is a worrisome prospect. To address this shortfall, developed countries should fulfill their commitment of devoting 0.7% of Gross National Income (GNI) to ODA, and delivering 0.15-0.2% of their ODA to the Least Developed Countries (LDC). Moreover, developed countries

Third, push forward the Doha Round of trade negotiations. A successful Doha Round is conducive to the steady growth of the world economy and an orderly conduct of international trade. The Doha Round is now at a critical juncture. Success or failure, all hinges on the political

particular the major trading members, should show greater political
substantial progress. Being a development round, the Doha negotiations
should see to it that the developing members get tangible benefits and that
the global economy grows in a balanced and harmonious manner.

Fourth, coordinate development policies. All relevant parties
should better coordinate their policies and pool the existing resources so
that all positive factors may work together for the same goal. The United

Institutions; the World Trade Organization and other relevant
international development institutions, and in making use of the new
mechanisms such as the Annual Ministerial Review and the Development
Cooperation Forum to study and design specific "means of
implementation" and monitor the follow-up to international development
goals. All this will contribute to global poverty alleviation and
development.

Mr. President,

The Chinese Government has always attached great importance to
poverty alleviation and development. Ever since the adoption of the

population from 250 million in 1976 to 21.76 billion in 2006 and are

to the world cause of poverty elimination. In the course of poverty
alleviation and development, we have gained the following experiences
that work well under the country's conditions.

1. Government guidance. The Chinese Government has put forward

in its effort to carry a

the 11th Five-Year Plan (2006-2010) and other important

hundred million yuan. The importance the government attaches to the work and its

organizations to participate in the development of poor areas. The most important programs include targeted poverty alleviation programs launched by Party and government departments and institutions at various levels and state-owned enterprises, and poverty alleviation program through cooperation between the eastern and the western regions. Other initiatives in various forms are equally effective. To name a few: Poverty Alleviation Through Education, Project Hope, Glorious Scheme and Women's Action for the Poor. All these efforts have made remarkable contribution to reducing and eliminating poverty in China and promoting development in poor areas.

3. Self-reliance. The government spurs local officials and people in poor areas to rely on themselves and work hard to improve their working and living conditions. The targeted people in poverty alleviation and development projects must play a major role and be involved in policy-making, institutional building and management.

4. Development-oriented poverty alleviation. We encourage and help the poor people to improve conditions, grow the economy, increase income and accumulate fund for their own development. Taking account of the practical needs of the poor rural areas, we organize and implement poverty alleviation and development programs village by village. We take effective measures to strengthen skill training for the labor force in poor areas, assist them in seeking employment in non-agricultural industries and encourage the establishment of bases for agricultural product processing in those areas.

5. Coordinated development. Economic development should go along with development in science, technology, education, culture and health. There are multiple ways to alleviate poverty. To address the

renewable energy resources. These measures have not only created an

However, we are clearly aware that China is the biggest developing country in the world. We face many difficulties and challenges due to imbalances between urban and rural areas, among different regions, between economic growth and social progress. China's rural population is still large, and more than 22 million urban citizens living on the minimum living allowance.

eliminate poverty, we will continue to step up our efforts in poverty alleviation according to the principle of putting people first. In particular, we will focus on ethnic minorities and the disabled. We will further improve their basic living conditions, raise their educational level and help them increase income. We will scale up our input in poverty alleviation and engage people from all walks of life in poverty reduction and production and development.

Mr. President,

Poverty alleviation in China is an important part of the global efforts. China not only actively supports the world cause of poverty alleviation, but also participates in its international cooperation. Over the past years,

Poverty Reduction Centre was officially set up in Beijing in 2005, which provides a new platform for international cooperation in poverty reduction. China will continue to adhere to the principle of equality, mutual benefit and common development,

and make unremitting efforts to achieve further progress in the global cause of poverty alleviation.