



CHINA · YUNNAN



VOICE

China's proposals inject fresh impetus into world economic recovery

Jia Jinjing

Two months ago, President Xi Jinping said in his opening speech at the G20 Summit in Hangzhou, "Let's make Hangzhou a new starting point and steer the giant ship of the global economy on a new voyage from the shore of the Qiantang River into the vast ocean." From the 24th APEC informal leaders' meeting held recently in Peru, we can see that this ship has arrived in the Pacific.

In 2016, in the face of increasing uncertainty and doubtful recovery of the global economy, China proposed a solution that advocates systematic innovation, opening-up, global synergy and inclusiveness. This recommendation calls for new sources of growth, new room for development and a new foundation for win-win cooperation. The results of the APEC meeting show us that China's proposal has been implemented with detail.

In terms of a new path for innovative growth, APEC's quality growth stems from that of the G20. The APEC meet-

ing came up with an upgraded version of the G20's innovation growth plan, which aims to shape a dynamic, harmonious and open Asia-Pacific economy characterized by innovative development, increased synergy and common interests.

To enhance the vitality of trade, the APEC meeting also promoted the development of the FTA in the Asia-Pacific region based on G20 results. In promoting synergy and prosperity, APEC is trying to implement the infrastructure interconnection initiatives proposed at the G20 summit.

In promoting inclusive development, APEC is making concrete steps to implement the 2030 sustainable development agenda. As the world's largest and most dynamic economy, the Asia-Pacific region will play a leading role in injecting a new impetus to world economic recovery with strong and coordinated action.

(The author is expert of Chongyang Institute of Finance. The article was reproduced from People's Daily Overseas Edition)

CULTURE

'24 Solar Terms' inscribed in World Cultural Heritage list



Slight Heat, the 11th solar term of the year, signifies the hottest period is coming. In the picture, farmers in Shandong Province apply fertilizer in the fields on that day.

Photo by Liu Yuguo (Xinhua Agency)

Wang Shoubao

China's "24 solar terms" were added to UNESCO's world intangible cultural heritage list during the 11th session of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage meeting.

China's "24 solar terms" represent a knowledge system and social practice formed through observations of the

sun's annual motion, as well as the deep understanding of the year's changes in season, climate and phenology. The "24 solar terms" guide traditional agricultural production and daily life. They are an important part of the traditional Chinese calendar system and its related practical activities. In the international meteorological field, this time system is known as the "fifth of China's great inventions".



Foreigners studying acrobatics in China

An overseas student was practicing acrobatics recently at Wuqiao Acrobatics School. In July this year, foreign students from Laos, Ethiopia and other 5 countries began study at the school known as a "cradle of acrobatics" in China's Hebei Province. Through learning the rich Chinese acrobatic culture, these students are engaged in acrobatics-related work in China or their own countries.

Photo by Mu Yu (Xinhua Agency)

HSR

Neighbouring countries share in Chinese HSR opportunities

Luo Rongchan

On the list of Yunnan's eighteen oddities, one item says that "trains go abroad but not inland". Strange as it may seem, this was the case when the Yunnan-Vietnam Railway went into operation in 1910.

Today, Yunnan is accessible by high-speed railways, which connect with the Yunnan-Vietnam Railway and in turn the China-Laos Railway, the China-Thailand Railway and the Pan-Asian (Kunming-Singapore) Railway. Such a web of tracks brings great opportunities for the economic development of neighbouring countries.

Many people in neighbouring countries are very

concerned about the news that Yunnan will soon be accessible by high-speed rail. "Laos is close to Kunming. Soon we will be able to travel from Laos to many cities in China and enjoy the beautiful scenery along the way," a Lao journalist said. "The construction of the China-Laos Railway is now in full swing. Upon its completion, it will facilitate two countries' economic development."

To date, Yunnan Province has developed blueprints for constructing domestic sections of international railways. These include the China-Laos Railway, the China-Thailand Railway, the China-Myanmar Railway and the China-Myanmar-

India Railway. Inspiring progress has been made along the paths of the China-Laos Railway and the China-Thailand Railway. The Kunming-Yuxi section of China-Laos Railway has already entered its test phase. With the development of high-speed railways, Yunnan Province is being brought closer to South and Southeast Asian countries, as well as the Pacific and Indian oceans and China's coastal areas. With the implementation of the Belt and Road Initiative, the day is drawing closer and closer when Yunnan shares with its neighbouring the economic development opportunities brought by high-speed railways.

NEIGHBOURS

Yunnan fruits mostly exported to ASEAN countries

Wu Ping

According to customs statistics, from January to October 2016, Yunnan has exported 592,000 tons of different kinds of fruits including dry and fresh fruits and nuts, an increase of 41.3% over the previous year. It earned RMB 9.33 billion, an increase of 23.9%, and it accounts for 36.9% of China's total, the top among all provinces and cities in China.

In terms of destination, Yunnan fruits are mostly exported to ASEAN countries. From January to October this year, fruits worth RMB 7.75 billion were exported from Yunnan to ASEAN countries. This is an increase of 16.2%, and accounts for 54.2% of China in total which is RMB 14.3 billion for the corresponding period.

CONNECTIVITY

Sydney - Kunming air route opened

Hu Xiaorong

On November 24, China Eastern Airlines Yunnan had its first flight from Kunming to Sydney with 227 passengers onboard. The first air route from Yunnan to Australia, it is also Yunnan's fourth intercontinental route.

As a major tourist destination and origin, Yunnan attracts a large number of Australian tourists. The opening of the Kunming - Sydney route will serve as an important bridge between the two places in deepening exchanges and cooperation.



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FOREIGNERS IN YUNNAN

Australian businessman's dream of flowers

Yang Caiyun

The Australian merchant John Khalil plants flowers in Shuanghe Township, Jinning County, Yunnan Province. He hopes to plant more and better flowers to sell all over the world.

John Khalil, executive director of Lynch Group, the largest flower grower and wholesaler in Australia and the southern hemisphere, did not chose Jinning without good reason.

Today, Yunnan's fresh cut flowers make up about 75 percent of the total domestic

market. At Kunming's Dounan Flower Market, 70 percent of fresh cut flowers are produced in Jinning, which claims the title of "first among all Chinese towns in flowers."

In 2014, Lynch Group set up a fresh cut flower production base. It now exports between 200,000 to 300,000 plants to Australia on a weekly basis. Today, this supply still falls behind Australian.

John said that China holds and will maintain an important position in the company's development strategy. This is because, he says, "the favourable climate here is suitable



The picture shows John Khalil and his flowers in Jinning County.

Photo by Meng Shibin

for planting flowers; the local market promises great opportunities; and the government

is ready to support agricultural development and foreign business people."