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Report Name: China's 2020 Agricultural Policy Document Stays the Course

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Report Highlights:

On February 6, 2020, the Chinese government released the annual policy guidelines on agriculture and rural development, also known as the 2020 No. 1 Document. This report contains an unofficial translation of the document and a summary of key policy priorities, most of which remain unchanged from previous years.

Executive Summary:

In past No. 1 Documents and continued in the 2020 No. 1 Document, the Chinese government has set specific goals including the eradication of poverty in rural areas by the end of 2020 and doubling GDP value and per capita income of urban and rural residents from 2010. However, the nation's GDP growth is slowing down, touching the 30-year low of 6.1 percent in 2019 and the outbreak of coronavirus is likely to drag down the economy further in 2020. Furthermore, African Swine Fever (ASF) continues to depress pork production, sending the cost of pork and other substitute proteins to record levels. Finally, the United States and China continue to impose additional tariffs on a wide variety of traded commodities. Despite the signing of the Economic and Trade Agreement between the United States and China (the ETA), bilateral trade with the United States remains depressed in several key areas. Notwithstanding these exceptional circumstances, the 2020 No.1 Document generally maintains and extends existing policies.

Food Security Remains A Top Concern

The Chinese government has repeatedly stressed being self-reliant in food and agriculture, especially for staple grains to maintain food security (see Section 3.14 below). China has maintained strong grain production of more than 650 million metric tons for the last five consecutive years and reached record levels in 2019. Supply of other main commodities, including cotton, edible oil, and sugar was also sufficient in 2019, according to official statistics. The No. 1 Document requires that grain planted area and production in each province should remain stable in 2020. There is also no change to the minimum support price (MSP) program for wheat and rice that has existed for many years. China's National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) has announced that the MSP program will continue to be implemented in major wheat producing regions in 2020. For the first time, NDRC set a MSP program ceiling to purchase a total wheat volume of 37 million tons in 2020; official data indicates that China procured 20 million tons of wheat in 2019. In addition, pilot programs on cost-based and income-based insurance will be further expanded in rice, wheat, and corn production areas.

To support grain production and other key commodities, the government will continue to support the construction of high standard farmland in 2020. It is estimated that grain yields on high quality farmland may be 10 to 20 percent higher than compared with traditional farmland (please see the USDA GAIN report on the 2019 No. 1 Document for more details). Meanwhile, China continues its support for the construction of major irrigation projects and renovation of water-saving facilities to address drought and flooding issues. In addition, the government has been advocating the adoption of modern farm technology to increase agriculture productivity and sustainability. It is reported that three major grain crops (wheat, rice, and corn) have basically achieved industry-wide mechanization. It is also worth noting that the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) granted the biosafety certificate for cultivation of one biotech soybean event and two corn events in December 201, but additional regulatory steps are needed before those events can be commercialized (see USDA GAIN

report on China's Biotechnology). The 2020 document also calls for joint efforts to control and prevent outbreak of fall army worm that may pose risks on grain production.

African Swine Fever Recovery Expected in 2020

The 2020 No. 1 Document commits significant resources to recovering from the African Swine Fever outbreaks that began in the fall of 2018, decimating China's swine herd (see Section 3.15). Annually, China produces and consumes more than half of the world total pork supply. The ASF outbreaks wiped out nearly 30 percent of the country's total swine herd, pushing pork prices to historic highs. The document simultaneously seeks to strengthen biosecurity controls designed to minimize the spread of ASF as well as encourages swine production through a combination of environmental, land use, and lending measures. In the document, swine slaughtering and processing facilities are encouraged to move closer to major production areas to minimize the long distance transportation of live pigs. The document sets an ambitious goal of swine production returning to "normal levels" by the end of 2020.

Tailoring Production and Imports to Meet Market Demand

China has been restructuring its crop production in recent years based on market needs. For example, China increased soybean planted area to 13.8 million mu in 2019 and converted 15 million mu of corn planted area into feed crops, including forage grains. This trend of converting grain to feed will continue to be expanded in 2020, especially in northern China. This reduction in corn stocks strains earlier expectations and as swine production recovers, the corn supply may tighten.

BEGIN TRANSLATION

No. 1 Central Document of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on Increasing Efforts on Major Work Concerning Agriculture, Rural Areas and Rural People to Ensure the Goal of Building a Moderately Prosperous Society in All Respects is Achieved on time

January 2, 2020 (released by official Xinhua News Agency on February 6, 2020)

Since the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the CPC Central Committee (CPCCC), has made a series of major deployments and introduced a series of policy measures focusing on winning the battle against poverty and implementing the strategy for rural revitalization. The practice of agricultural and rural reform development has proved that the guidelines and policies formulated by the CPCCC are completely correct, which will continue to be carried out in the next period.

The year 2020, it urges efforts on completing the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects and winning the battle against poverty. The CPCCC believes that, to achieve the above two goals, the last obstacles of poverty alleviation should be eliminated, and the weak links in the work on agriculture, rural areas and rural people should be strengthened. Rural people will play a key role in building a moderately prosperous society. The work on agriculture, rural areas and rural people in 2020 will largely decide the quality of China's anti-poverty campaign and success of its goal to become a moderately prosperous society in all respects. The whole party must be fully aware of the special importance of the work on agriculture, rural areas and rural people in 2020, with unremitting efforts to achieve the overall victory of the first centennial goal.

The general requirements of the work on agriculture, rural areas and rural people in 2020 are to follow the guidance of Xi Jinping's Thought of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics in the New Era, fully implement the spirit of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the second, third and fourth plenary sessions of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, as well as the Central Economic Work Conference, and effectively complete the goal of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects according to the relevant standards. Strong measures should be taken to complete the two key tasks of winning the battle against poverty and strengthening the weak links in the work on agriculture, rural areas and rural people, maintain agriculture in stable production and sufficient supply, increase farmers' income, and promote high-quality agricultural development. Strong measures should also be taken to secure harmony and stability in rural areas, and enhance the sense of fulfillment, happiness, and safety for the rural people, ensuring a successful conclusion of the battle against poverty and ensuring the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects in rural areas has been completed simultaneously and comprehensively.

I. Win the battle against poverty

(I) Efforts should be made to fully complete the tasks of poverty alleviation. Decisive achievements have been made in poverty alleviation with most of the poverty-stricken population lifted out of poverty

and China has vowed to fully realize poverty elimination target this year. It should adhere to targeted poverty alleviation and take more forceful and elaborate measures, on the basis of realizing “no worries over food or clothing”, to comprehensively ensure “compulsory education, basic medical care, and housing safety are guaranteed”, address the safety problem of drinking water, and secure the remaining poor people are lifted out of poverty on time. It is necessary to further focus on areas in deep poverty such as the “three regions and three prefectures”, get targeted at prominent problems and weak links, and pay special attention to policy implementation. For counties and administrative villages in deep poverty with a large number of poor people, a high incidence of poverty and having difficulty in poverty alleviation, elite forces should be provided for strong support and supervision. For special poor groups, the comprehensive social security policies should be implemented in detail, such as subsistence allowance, medical insurance, old-age insurance, assistance and support for people in extreme poverty, and temporary assistance, so as to ensure full coverage. In doing so, the country will increase support for areas in deep poverty by adding poverty alleviation funds. The supportive policies, including the linkage between increase and decrease of urban and rural construction land, as well as microcredit for poverty alleviation, should be optimized. Efforts to strengthen party building and poverty alleviation should be deeply boosted.

(II) Efforts should also be made to provide institutional guarantees to prevent people from returning to poverty after being lifted out of it. All the local authorities should conduct a comprehensive survey of the people who have been lifted out of poverty, carefully search for omissions, and make rectification, clearing, checking and cancellation. The country should summarize and promote the experiences of all the local areas, improve the monitoring and early warning mechanism, strengthen dynamic monitoring of instable households lifted out of poverty and marginal households, and provide timely assistance to those returning to poverty and newly impoverished in a bid to consolidate poverty relief results. In-depth efforts should be made to strengthen industrial poverty alleviation, employment poverty alleviation as well as consumption poverty alleviation, and increase follow-up support for the relocation of impoverished residents. Returning farmland to forests and grasslands in poor areas should be expanded. Making great efforts to foster the aspiration and wisdom of the poor population can be beneficial to stimulate their internal driving forces.

(III) Work on examination, acceptance and publicity should be well performed. Standards and procedures for poverty eradication should be strictly implemented, and poverty alleviation with false numbers should be firmly prohibited, so as to ensure that the achievements in poverty alleviation can stand the test of history. Measures should be taken to strengthen regular supervision, find problems timely, and urge the rectification. To tell the world a vivid story about China's poverty alleviation, it is necessary to carry out a general survey on poverty alleviation, conduct good performance in publicity, fully demonstrate the magnificent practice in the new era, publicize the historic achievements in poverty alleviation, and reveal the institutional advantages behind the great achievements in poverty alleviation.

(IV) The country should keep the poverty alleviation policies on stable footing. Even though the poor counties have been lifted out of poverty, the responsibilities, policies, assistance, and supervision still exist. The responsibilities for poverty alleviation should be strengthened, to continuously enforce the main support policies in poor counties. Further steps should be made to intensify cooperation on poverty alleviation in the eastern and western regions, provide partner assistance fixed-point poverty alleviation, strengthen social poverty alleviation, stabilize the working groups, and reinforce the primary support. It is also necessary to conduct special campaigns against corruption and working style issues related to poverty alleviation. For counties that have steadily thrown off poverty, according to their actual conditions, all provinces (including autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the central government) may arrange special funds for poverty alleviation to support the poor population in non-poverty counties and non-poverty villages.

(V) Research should be conducted to promote poverty alleviation. China will see an immense change after it accomplishes its poverty elimination tasks, it said, urging that poverty reduction work should center more on addressing relative poverty and become normalized. The country should establish long-term mechanisms to promote the steady transformation of poverty alleviation strategies and working systems. It should strengthen the “top-level design” to tackle relative poverty and make overall arrangements for the implementation of the strategies for rural revitalization while accelerating its pace to introduce the guideline, connecting poverty alleviation efforts with rural vitalization strategies.

II. Speed up to improve infrastructure and public services in rural areas for building a moderately prosperous society in all respects according to the relevant standards

(VI) Efforts should be made to strengthen the construction of rural public infrastructure. To improve quality and expand coverage of the “four good rural roads”, it requires to promote the demonstration at the provincial and municipal levels. On the basis of completing the tasks open to hard-packed roads and buses in the established villages, the construction and renovation of hard-packed roads in the villages will be supported for natural villages (groups) with a large population in an orderly manner. The country should increase support for rural road maintenance through the reform of taxes and fees on refined oil products and transfer payments, accelerate the legislative process of rural highway regulations, and strengthen the safety management of rural road traffic. The plan to upgrade the power grid in the “three regions and three prefectures or the villages near the border should be finished. The fiber-optic network and the 4G mobile communications network can be generally covered in administrative villages. The planning for the village should be well-designed to implement the responsibility for the management and protection of rural public infrastructure, with the management and protection fees included in the government budget.

(VII) Efforts should be made to ensure safe drinking water. The task of consolidating and enhancing safe drinking water in rural areas should be comprehensively completed. The country should coordinate the development of drinking water infrastructure in rural areas and promote large-scale water

supply projects in areas with relatively concentrated populations. In areas where conditions are permitted, urban pipe networks will be extended to rural areas to promote the integration of urban and rural water supply. The Central Government should increase support for the maintenance of safe drinking water projects in the central and western regions and the former Central Soviet Areas, strengthen the protection of drinking water sources in rural areas and monitor water quality.

(VIII) Efforts should be made to strengthen rural environmental protection. The rural toilet revolution should be promoted by classification. For example, in the eastern regions, as well as in the suburban areas of cities in the central and western regions, it is necessary to complete the harmless rebuilding of rural household toilets, while other regions should set goals and tasks practically. All the local areas should choose the appropriate technology and rebuilding mode to make a pilot first, and then make promotion if feasible. At the same time, management of the domestic waste should be comprehensively promoted for carrying out pilots of local classification and source reduction. Also, gradual implementation should be applied to control rural domestic sewage and priority should be given to solve domestic sewage in townships and central villages, including improvement of the black stinking water. To promote the construction of “Beautiful Homes”, the country should support farmers to clean up and make their villages greener. The local governments should subsidize the maintenance of public facilities in rural living environments where conditions are permitted.

(IX) Efforts should be made to improve the quality of rural education. Rural education will be further improved by strengthening the building of boarding schools in townships, coordinating the layout of small-scale rural schools, and improving the conditions and education quality in rural schools. The country should enhance the construction of teaching staff in the countryside, implement the mechanism of “management by counties and appointment by schools” for teachers in the stage of compulsory education, and arrange teachers from county towns to support rural education in a planned way. As for the benefits, the policy that the average salary of primary and secondary school teachers should not be lower than or should be higher than that of local civil servants should be guaranteed, the appraisal and appointment of teachers’ professional titles qualification should be inclined to rural school teachers, and qualified rural school teachers should be brought into the local housing security system. Also, it is necessary to continuously promote the special actions to address school dropouts and receive an education in rural compulsory education and consolidate the achievements in popularization of compulsory education. The country should increase the supply of degrees and ensure access to education for children living with their migrant working parents. Also, more importance should be attached to preschool education in rural areas and increase supplies of inclusive preschool education resources through multiple channels as well as special education in rural areas. Actions can also be taken to vigorously boost the national general language ability of rural teachers in the central and western regions and intensify mandarin education for preschool children in poor areas. At last, the country should expand the enrollment of vocational schools in rural areas and improve the quality of vocational education.

(X) The country will beef up efforts on improving medical and health services in rural areas. Efforts should be made to get the county-level hospitals run well, develop standardized township hospitals, upgrade village clinics, and eliminate gaps in medical services. Steady steps should be taken to promote the establishment of a close-type county medical and health community. The construction of rural medical staff should be strengthened, and it is appropriate to simplify the recruitment procedures for medical graduates with a bachelor's degree or above or general practitioners who are former residents through normalized training. Fresh medical graduates from colleges and universities who have been recruited to work in the central and western regions and in remote rural areas should be compensated for their tuition fees and state student loans. It is allowable to make the best use of the authorized resources available to primary health institutions, and priority should be given to township hospitals to hire qualified village doctors. The construction of primary disease prevention and control teams should also be strengthened for major and infectious diseases. For instance, screening for cervical cancer and breast cancer among rural women of the right age will be included in basic public health services.

(XI) The country will also beef up efforts on ensuring the social security in rural areas. It is appropriate to increase fiscal subsidies and individual contributions in basic medical insurance for urban and rural residents. As for the improvement in basic medical insurance, the serious disease insurance, and medical assistance services for both urban and rural residents, the local government should conduct “one-stop service, one-window handling, and one-system settlement” at the prefecture level. Efforts on social assistance should be made to enhance dynamic and accurate management for subsistence allowances recipients in rural areas and increase subsistence allowances. The care and service system for the left-behind children, women and the elderly people in rural areas should be also completed. In the meanwhile, the country should develop rural mutual assistance to provide for the aged, build up multi-form day care centers, and improve nursing services for the disabled elders and the severely disabled.

(XII) Efforts should be made to improve public cultural services in rural areas. The country will promote the basic public cultural services extending to rural areas and expand the coverage of rural cultural projects for public benefits. Urban literary and art organizations and workers are encouraged to speed up projects of culture going to the countryside on a regular basis. The country will carry out the project of training rural cultural talents, support the development of local literary and art groups, assist the inheritors of rural intangible cultural heritage and folk artists to receive apprentices and pass on their skills, and develop excellent opera and folk art, ethnic minority culture and folk culture. Efforts will also be made to protect towns (villages) with rich historical and cultural heritage, traditional villages, ethnic villages, traditional buildings, agricultural cultural heritage, as well as old and famous trees. It will be a successful feast to hold the Chinese Farmers' Harvest Festival themed “Celebrate a bumper harvest and welcome a moderately prosperous society”.

(XIII) Efforts should also be made to address prominent problems in rural ecological environment. The country will vigorously promote the utilization of livestock and poultry manure, and

basically complete the construction of large-scale farm manure treatment facilities. Further efforts will be made to reduce the amount of pesticide and chemical fertilizer, strengthen the treatment of agricultural film pollution, and promote the comprehensive utilization of straw. Efforts will also be made to ban fishing in key waters of the Yangtze River Basin all the year round, and stop fishermen from fishing. The country will promote the effective management model of black soil protection, boost the management of erosion gully, and launch an action plan for the conservation tillage of black soil in the northeast. The country will also steadily promote the management and control of soil pollution on farmland and its rehabilitation and utilization, continue to implement comprehensive treatment for groundwater over-exploitation in North China and launch a pilot project to comprehensively improve rural water system.

III. Ensure supplies of important agricultural products and promote the increases in farmers' income

(XIV) Efforts should be made to maintain the stability of grain production. As food security is a top priority, China will ensure the stability of grain production, that is to maintain the stability of policy, planting areas and output. The country will strengthen the assessment of the responsibility system of provincial governors for food security, and maintain the stability of grain planting areas and output in all provinces (including autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the central government) this year. Agricultural subsidy policy will be further optimized. And improvement will be made in minimum purchase price policy of rice and wheat, so as to stabilize farmers' basic income. The country will promote trials of full cost insurance and income insurance for rice, wheat and corn, and strengthen support for the promotion of high-yield soybean varieties and intercropping between corn and soybean. Efforts will be made to prevent and control major diseases and insect pests, such as *Spodoptera frugiperda*, and to promote service models such as unified prevention and control, land cultivation for households lack of labor force and land under trusteeship. The country will increase incentives for major grain-producing counties and give priority to the allocation of land indicators for processing agricultural products. Support will be given to major grain-producing counties to carry out high standard farmland construction with newly added farmland indicators for inter-provincial adjustment, and the benefits arising from such adjustment will be used for construction of high standard farmland according to regulations. The country will deepen the implementation of high-quality grain projects. Efforts should be made to expand the scale of grain to and promote the integrated model of planting and breeding with focus on the ecotone between agriculture and pasture in the north. Efforts will also be made to improve the policy of cotton target price in Xinjiang, expand diverse import channels and increase imports of agricultural products that meet domestic demand. The export of competitive agricultural products should be expanded and special actions to comprehensively combat smuggling of agricultural products should be carried out.

(XV) Hog production should be restored in quickened manner. To ensure stable hog production and supply is a major issue in the current economic work. China will work to return hog production capacity

to normal levels by the end of 2020. In order to ensure the pork supply, the country will secure the system of overall responsibility by provincial governors, the practice of holding city mayors responsible for the “food basket” and the system of overall responsibility by county heads. Efforts should be made to adhere to the combination of breeding increase and prevention and control of epidemic diseases, promote standardized scale breeding of hog, improve epidemic prevention services for small and medium-sized scattered farmers, and ensure feed production. The country will strictly implement various policies and measures to support hog production, work to overcome bottlenecks in environmental assessment, land use and credit, stop people from randomly expanding the areas that are restricted or prohibited from raising and solve the problem of cities and counties with no hogs. The country will also strictly implement the reporting system and prevention and control measures to combat African swine fever, accelerate the research and development of vaccines, improve the construction of animal epidemic prevention system, ensure personnel and funds for epidemic prevention, and implement special employment plan for animal epidemic prevention in major hog production counties. Measures should be made to guide the transfer of slaughtering and processing of hogs into centralized breeding areas, gradually reduce long-distance transportation of live hogs and promote the transformation from "transporting hogs" to "transporting pork". Market monitoring and regulation should be strengthened to maintain the stability of the pork supply and price, crack down on market disruption, and promptly launch a linkage mechanism between social assistance and security standards and rising prices. In order to optimize the structure of meat consumption, support should be given to the production of dairy, poultry, cattle and sheep products. The country will promote green and healthy aquaculture and strengthen the construction and management reform of fishing ports.

(XVI) Efforts should be made to strengthen the construction of modern agricultural facilities. The country should plan to implement a number of major projects to invest the development of modern agriculture in advance, support the early implementation of such projects, and effectively expand agricultural investment. The country should also speed up the construction of high-standard farmland with the focus on functional areas for grain production and protection areas of production for major agricultural products, revise construction plans, determine investment standards, improve the mechanism of project construction, acceptance, supervision and inspection, ensuring that all projects can be successfully implemented. Efforts should be made to finish the renewal of large and medium-sized irrigated areas and water-saving renovation on schedule, improve the ability to prevent floods and control droughts, and better save water. Efforts should also be made to speed up the commencement of a number of major water conservancy projects and supporting facilities, accelerate the follow-up preliminary work of the South-North Water Diversion Project, and promote the construction of such projects. The construction of cold chain logistics facilities for storage and preservation of agricultural products will get started. The country should improve the overall planning, multilevel layout and standard setting of cold chain logistics of agricultural products, provide investment within the central budget to support the construction of major cold chain logistics bases, support family farms, farmers' cooperatives, supply and marketing cooperatives, postal express enterprises, and support industrial leading enterprises to construct facilities for sorting and packaging, cold storage and preservation,

storage and transportation, and primary processing in their production areas, where different electricity price of agricultural production for fresh storage facilities in rural areas are implemented. Based on existing resources, the country will build big data centers for agricultural and in rural areas, accelerate the application of modern information technologies such as IoT, big data, blockchain, artificial intelligence, the fifth-generation mobile communication network, and smart weather in agriculture. A national digital pilot program will also be launched in rural areas.

(XVII) Efforts should be made to develop rural industries to increase people's wealth. The country will call for the integrated industrial development in rural areas propelled by a whole industry chain based on local resources and advantages, establish and improve the mechanism for farmers to share the value-added benefits of the industry chain, along with industrial clusters with a competitive edge, thus promoting further integration of primary, secondary and tertiary industries in rural areas. The country will speed up the construction of modern agricultural industrial parks at the national, provincial, municipal, and county levels, support the construction of demonstration parks for the integrated development of rural industries, and set up rural "mass entrepreneurship and innovation" bases. Measures should be taken to focus on the building of family farms, farmers' cooperatives and other new agricultural business entities, improve industrialization of agriculture, and integrate small farmers into the agricultural industry chain through order-based agriculture, equity dividends, trusteeship services and other methods. Agricultural structures should be optimized to feature more high-quality agricultural products and better certification of healthy food, organic produce and source of production, to build famous brands of local agricultural products, and to increase the supply of high-quality green agricultural products. Rural markets should be developed; e-commerce penetration in rural areas should be enhanced; support should be given to supply and marketing cooperatives, postal express enterprises and other enterprises to extend the coverage of logistics service networks, to strengthen the construction of rural e-commerce service stations, and to promote the two-way flow of agricultural products into cities and industrial products into the countryside. The country will strengthen the quality and safety supervision of the agricultural products in the whole process, establish and improve the system of oversight of food and produce, so as to ensure food safety for people. The country will also guide and encourage industrial and commercial capitals to invest in the countryside, protect the legitimate rights and interests of entrepreneurs, formulate statistical classification of agriculture and related industries and strengthen statistical accounting, making it comprehensively and accurately reflect the value of the whole industrial chain of agricultural production, processing, logistics, marketing, service, etc.

(XVIII) Ensure stable employment of migrant workers. Support policies such as tax and fee reduction for relevant enterprises should be implemented; double efforts should be made to help enterprises maintain the stability of employment, relax control over application for unemployment insurance to maintain the stability of employment, and raise the subsidy standard of skill improvement for migrant workers. If migrant workers are unemployed, they can register for unemployment in their permanent residence and enjoy equal public employment services. The country will introduce and implement regulations to ensure that migrant workers' wages are paid. Focusing on government investment projects

and engineering construction, the country will investigate migrant workers' wage payment, implement the blacklist system of unpaid wages for migrant workers', and implement various measures to eradicate unpaid wages. Skill training, including domestic service, elderly care, hospital care, catering and cooking, e-commerce will be carried out to create regional service brands. Local governments are encouraged to set up public welfare positions such as village cleaners, water plumbers, road protectors and ecological forest protectors. A pilot program will be launched to protect workers from occupational injuries in new fields. In-depth efforts should be made to implement leadership cultivation of innovation and entrepreneurship in rural areas, and allow migrant workers who go back home to start businesses eligible for one-off entrepreneurship subsidies.

IV. Strengthen grassroots governance in rural areas

(XIX) Governance and the leadership of the Communist Party of China in rural communities should be strengthened. Grassroots party organizations in rural communities are the basis of the party's overall work and combat effectiveness in rural areas. Grassroots party organizations in rural communities should adhere to the *Regulations of the Communist Party of China on Rural Grassroots Organizations*, organize the masses to develop rural industries, enhance collective economic strength, and deliver common prosperity for all; they should call for the masses to participate in rural governance, enhance their sense of ownership, and maintain rural harmony and stability; they should educate the masses to get rid of stereotypes, promote public order and good customs, and form a civilized rural environment; they should maintain close ties with the masses and better serve the masses, thus unite the masses tightly around the party and lay a solid foundation for the party's governance in rural areas. Record management system of county-level party committee for secretaries in village party organizations should be implemented to establish a normalized mechanism for a county-level joint review among the members in the village party branch and the party committee, rectify the weak and lax village party organizations, and give full play to the leading role of the party organizations in governing various rural organizations. The country will strictly supervise and manage secretaries of village party organizations, establish and improve the village affairs supervision mechanism coordinated by the CPC Committees and organization departments, with the participation and guidance of departments of civil affairs, agriculture and rural areas. And it will also implement the "four discussions and two disclosures". Great efforts should be made to intensify the inspection for rural grassroots, strengthen the communication and cooperation between supervision organizations of the grassroots discipline inspection and the village affairs supervision committee to form a joint supervision force. The country will double its efforts to cultivate party members among young farmers and continue to send major secretary to villages in poor areas, with weak and lax leadership, and weak collective economy. The country will strengthen funding support for the operation of village organizations, improve business mechanisms for encouraging village cadres to start business and delegate elites to work in township leading groups, especially the secretaries of the party committee in township. In rural areas, propaganda activities such as "listening to the party, being grateful to the party, and following the party" should be carried out.

(XX) Rural governance work system should be improved. Efforts should be made to link counties with rural areas. Focus on social governance and services will be given more to the grassroots, and more resources will be provided for towns and villages to improve the efficiency of rural governance. County-level rural governance serves as "front-line headquarters" and should strengthen overall planning, implement leadership responsibility, consolidate the work orientation of the grassroots, and enhance the work ability of the masses. A system for leading cadres at the county level and principal heads of departments directly under the county level in charge of village affairs should be established. Township is the service center for rural people. It is necessary to strengthen management service, integrate examination and approval, service, law enforcement and other aspects, establish and improve a unified management service platform, to realize one-stop handling. Efforts should be made to improve the living environment, homestead and collective asset management, people's livelihood, and social services in rural areas. Administrative village is the basic unit of governance. It is important to strengthen self-management, self-service, self-education and self-supervision, improve the democratic system at the grassroots level, improve rural rules and regulations, and boost the institutionalization, normalization and standardization of rural autonomy. The country will carry out a pilot demonstration of the construction of a rural governance system that combines self-governance, rule of law and rule of virtue, promote typical cases of innovation experiences in rural governance. Much attention should be paid to the important role of family education and tradition in rural governance.

(XXI) Efforts should be made to mediate and resolve rural conflicts and disputes. The country should adhere to and develop the "Experience of Fengqiao" in the new era, and further strengthen people's mediation so that small matters can be settled within the village, big matters can be settled within the country, and contradictions will not be reported. Channels for expressing demands of the rural people should be unimpeded to properly handle the reasonable demands of the rural people in time. Measures should be taken to rectify behaviors that infringe on the interests of peasants, resolve contradictions in aspects of land contracting, land acquisition and house demolition, wage payment of migrant workers, environmental pollution, etc. Measures should also be made to implement the system of regular visits to the grassroots by leading cadres, especially city and county leading cadres. Various legal services such as "one legal adviser for each village" should be organized and carried out. Risk assessment for major decision-making matters that are directly related to the vital interests of rural people and prone to causing risks in social stability should be conducted in advance.

(XXII) Further efforts should be made to promote construction of safe country. In-depth measures should be taken to promote the special campaign of crime crackdown, severely crack down on criminal acts such as illegal encroachment on rural collective assets, poverty alleviation funds for benefiting farmers and violation of the personal rights of women and children in rural areas, promote the fight against corruption and grassroots "swat flies", and establish a long-term mechanism to prevent and rectify "village tyrants". Religious affairs in rural areas should be under management according to law; illegal religious activities should be curbed; heresy infiltration into rural areas and the spread of feudal

superstition should be prevented. The country should strengthen public security in rural areas, promote grid management and services, take actions to control fake and shoddy food in rural areas, crack down on illegal practices in manufacturing and selling fake and inferior agricultural means of production. It is important to strengthen the ability of disaster prevention and mitigation in rural areas and conduct comprehensive investigation and rectification of potential safety hazards in rural areas.

V. Strengthen safeguard measures to improve weak links in rural areas

(XXIII) Priority should be given to investment guarantee in “agriculture, rural areas, and rural people”. The country should increase more investments into “agriculture, rural areas, and rural people” from the central and local governments, and continue to tilt the investment within the central budget toward agriculture and rural areas, so as to ensure that the financial investment is compatible with strengthening the weak links concerning “agriculture, rural areas, and rural people” of a moderately prosperous society in all respects. Local governments should arrange a certain scale of the general bond expenditure to support relocation of impoverished residents and construction of rural revitalization projects. All regions should encourage the issuance of local government special bonds to boost rural revitalization. The central and provincial departments should optimize the use structure of agricultural funds according to the needs to strengthen the weak links. The country should introduce policies on adjusting and improving the use scope of land transfer income to further improve the proportion of agricultural and rural investment in accordance with the requirements of “what being earned from the rural people should be made full use to the rural people”. Adjustment should be made to improve the scope of subsidies for purchasing agricultural machinery and more autonomy should be given to the provincial government. Research should be conducted to study the policies after the current round of grassland ecological protection compensation policy expires. The country should encourage the issuance of monetary, fiscal and policy support for rural work to boost rural revitalization, provide low-cost financial support, improve risk tolerance, and optimize measures for precise rewards and subsidies. It is appropriate to expand the line of reload for supporting agriculture and supporting microcredit as for the financial institutions with institutional legal person and business in the county. The country should deepen the reform of rural credit cooperatives and uphold the status of county legal persons, strengthen assessment and guidance, and reasonably improve the deposit loan ratio of counties with serious capital outflow. Commercial banks are encouraged to issue special financial bonds such as bonds for “agriculture, rural areas and rural people” and small and micro enterprises. Preferential tax policies should be implemented to secure microcredit for peasant households. New agricultural entities such as qualified family farms are eligible to enjoy preferential credit and tax policies. The period of agricultural loan should be set to match the agricultural production cycle. It is necessary to play the role of the guarantee system of national agricultural credit and expand the guarantee business for new types of agricultural business entities. It is also important to promote the legal and compliant mortgage and financing of greenhouses, breeding houses, large agricultural machinery and land management rights in accordance with the law. The country will steadily expand pilot reforms of inclusive finance in rural areas, encourage local governments to carry out credit rating evaluation of county farmers and small and

medium-sized enterprises, accelerate the establishment of the inclusive finance combining the online and offline system, and with risk sharing of “bank guarantee”, and launch more mortgage free, guarantee free, low interest rate and sustainable inclusive financial products. Attention should be paid to the implementation of agricultural insurance premium subsidy policies and urging insurance institutions to settle claims in full amount and on time. The country should optimize the pilot model of “insurance + futures” and advance the listing of futures and options related to agricultural products.

(XXIV) Efforts should be made to solve the problem of land use for rural development. The country should stick to the protection red line of cultivated land and permanent basic farmland, improve the land policy system for the development of rural industries, clarify the types of land and the ways of land supply, and implement classification management. Auxiliary facilities built for agricultural cultivation and breeding, such as fresh-keeping and cold storage, air drying and storage, agricultural machinery warehouse, sorting and packaging, waste treatment, management and nursing room, should be included in the agricultural land management, to determine the upper limit of the land scale for auxiliary facilities according to the actual production. Cultivated land can be used for agricultural facilities land. The country should strengthen supervision over agricultural facilities land, prohibit non-agricultural construction in the name of agricultural facilities land and carry out pilot projects for comprehensive land rectification in all rural areas to optimize rural production, living, and ecological spatial layout. Based on the premise of conforming to the national land space planning, the rural collective construction land saved by means of village remediation and land consolidation should be preferentially used for the development of rural industrial projects. The newly organized county-level national land space planning should be arranged with no less than 10% of construction land indicators, focusing on guaranteeing land for rural industrial development. When formulating annual land planning at the provincial level, at least 5% of newly increased construction land indicators should be arranged to ensure the land in key rural industries and projects. Rural collective construction land can be directly used for the development of rural industries by means of stock ownership and lease. The country should conduct comprehensive review of the examination and approval of rural collective construction land, simplify the examination and approval procedures, and delegate the examination and approval authority to lower levels in accordance with the reform requirements of “streamlining administration and delegating power, strengthening regulation and optimizing service”. The country should promote the reform of “multi-examination integration, multi-certificate integration” in rural construction examination and approval, and formulate policies to support the integration of land use for the development of rural primary, secondary and tertiary industries.

(XXV) It is Encouraged to promote talents to go to the countryside. The country should cultivate more talents with agricultural knowledge who love and tend to root in the countryside, and promote the application of more scientific and technological achievements to the fields. It also stresses efforts to encourage rural migrant workers, college graduates, veterans and entrepreneurs to start businesses in rural areas. Measures should be taken to integrate and utilize various resources such as agricultural broadcasting schools, agricultural research institutes, agricultural related colleges and universities, and

leading agricultural enterprises to accelerate the construction of the high-quality education and training system for rural people. Efforts should be made to implement the system for overall training and utilization of talents in the county. The country should organize and call for urban scientific researchers, engineers, planners, architects, teachers and doctors to serve in the countryside. In principle, teachers in urban primary and secondary schools and doctors should have more than one year's work and service experience in rural grassroots before they are promoted to senior professional titles. The setting of agricultural related disciplines should be optimized and Early admission for agricultural related disciplines in urgent demand should be implemented. The county should promptly formulate proposals to promote the revitalization of rural talents.

(XXVI) Support should be given to strengthen the application of more technological achievements in rural areas. The country has vowed to step up breakthroughs in key agricultural core technologies and deploy a batch of major science and technology projects to seize the commanding height of science and technology. The country should strengthen the research and development of agricultural biotechnology, vigorously boost the self-dependent innovation projects in seed industry, implement protection and utilization engineering of national agricultural germplasm resources, and promote the construction of Nanfan Scientific Research and Breeding Base. The country should accelerate the development and application of heavy smart and compound agricultural machinery, and support the mechanized transformation of farmland in hilly areas. Efforts should be made to deepen the implementation of the sci-tech special commissioner system, and further develop and expand the team of sci-tech special commissioners. Long-term and stable support methods should be adopted to strengthen the construction of modern agricultural industry technology system, expand the coverage of characteristic agricultural products with advantages, and allocate scientific and technological resources to the entire agricultural industry chain. Meanwhile, the building of agricultural innovation platforms such as science and technology centers should be strengthened. The construction of innovation platform bases such as the National Agricultural High-tech Industry Demonstration Zone and the National Agricultural Science and Technology Park, should also be strengthened. The country should also speed up the construction of modern meteorological service system for agriculture.

(XXVII) It also stresses key reforms in rural area. The country will improve the basic rural operation system, advance reform of the rural land system and make specific policies on extending the current round of rural land contracts for another 30 years upon expiration based on trials. The country should encourage the development of various forms of moderate scale management, improve the agricultural socialized service system for small farmers and formulate the supporting system for rural collective operation construction land to enter the market. Efforts should be made to strengthen the management and supervision of township approval for homestead to prevent land occupation out of control, and promote the right registration to use the homestead. Further efforts should be made to deepen the pilot reform of the rural homestead system with the focus on exploring the “right separation” of ownership, qualification and use of homestead. China will press ahead with pilot reforms of the rural collective property rights system nationwide, and carry out the work such as the confirmation of collective

membership, the quantification of collective assets converted into shares, the reform of the joint stock cooperation system, and the registration and tagging of collective economic organizations in an orderly manner. The country will explore ways to expand the development of rural collective economy, strengthen collective asset management, deepen the comprehensive reform of supply and marketing cooperatives and improve their ability to serve the rural people. Measures should be taken to accelerate the reform of agricultural reclamation, state-owned forest farms, collective forest rights system, grassland contract management system, and agricultural water prices. The country urges the deepening of reform in agricultural administration to perfect the law enforcement system and improve law enforcement capabilities.

The key to the better work of “agriculture; rural areas and rural people” lies in the Party. Party committees and governments at all levels should thoroughly study and implement the important discourse by Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee on the work related to “agriculture, rural areas and rural people”, fully implement the spirit of the Fourth Plenary Session of the 19th CPC Central Committee, attach great importance to system construction and governance capacity construction on the work concerning “agriculture, rural areas and rural people”, maintain the stability of the rural basic policies, and improve the framework and policy system on the work concerning “agriculture, rural areas and rural people” in the new era. The country should implement the *Regulations of the Communist Party of China on Rural Work*, strengthen the Party’s overall leadership over the work of “agriculture, rural areas and rural people”, adhere to giving the priority to the development of agriculture and rural areas, strengthen the five-level secretary system holding the responsibility for rural rejuvenation, implement the requirements of the county Party Secretary whose major efforts should be given to the work of “agriculture, rural areas and rural people”, strengthen the construction of the Party committee’s rural work institutions, vigorously cultivate the working team of “agriculture, rural areas and rural people” with knowledge of agriculture and love for rural areas and rural people, and improve the treatment of rural cadres. Policies should fit local conditions and farmers' wishes. Officials should avoid formalism and bureaucracy in policy implementation with best efforts and within their capabilities to solve the most urgent issues one by one, and prevent simplification and “uniformity” of policy implementation. It is necessary to take the implementation of the policies concerning “agriculture; rural areas and rural people” since the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China as an important part of the central inspection.

We will rally closer around the Party Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping as its core with firm confidence, create new progress and work hard to win the battle against poverty, strengthen areas of weakness concerning agriculture, rural areas and rural people, secure a decisive victory in building a moderately prosperous society in all respects and make the due contribution to the realization of the first centennial goal!

END TRANSLATION

Attachments:

No Attachments.