

**Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on the Third Review and Appraisal of the Madrid
International Plan of Action on Ageing
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Name of speaker: (Mr.) (Ms.) CAO JIAN

Country/Organization: China National Committee on Ageing

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Agenda Item No: Country Statement

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Country Statement

Mr. Cao Jian-China National Committee on Ageing

Honorable Mr. Chairman, Ladies and gentlemen: Good afternoon!

In 2017, the United Nations conducted its third global appraisal of the implementation of the "Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA)" initiated in 2002. The Chinese government has attached great importance to this work and taken a top-down measure to assess the implementation of the Plan of Action in China over the past 15 years, with a focus on assessing the implementation during the third five-year (2012-2017) period.

In 2000, China became an ageing society. The population ages very fast. By the end of 2016, the number of older persons aged 60 and above reached 231 million, accounting for 16.7% of the total population in China. China is the only country in the world with an aged population of over 200 million. The elderly population in China is set to reach a huge number with rapid growth momentum. The Chinese government attaches great importance to the issue of population ageing and has carried out top-level design and effective overall planning for the development of undertaking for the aged, giving a strong impetus to the development of China's ageing cause.

I China's State Mechanism of Undertakings for the Aged

First, the Law of the People's Republic of China on Protection of the Rights and Interests of the Elderly was promulgated. Second, establish a diversified age working network. In 1999, China National Working Commission on Ageing (CNWCA) was officially established. Currently, CNWCA has 32 member units which are composed of 32 departments of the State. The committee members come from the deputy ministerial leader of each member unit. So far, a top-down network for work on ageing from the central to the local has been established. Third, establish a sound legislation policy system for ageing. The laws and regulations system on ageing characterized by the "Law on the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Elderly People" has taken shape. Fourth, strengthen scientific research and international cooperation with regards to ageing. China has established a good basis for exchange and communication with governments of other countries and some international organizations.

II The accelerated development of China's ageing undertakings

First, the Chinese government has continued to improve the old-age security system. Both the coverage and the protection level of the pension insurance have continued to increase.

Second, the Chinese government has insisted on creating social support and living conditions conducive to the health of older persons. A sound medical and health care system for older persons is continuously being formed with an increasing number of professional rehabilitation and care institutions.

Third, the Chinese government has actively promoted the construction of a livable environment for older persons. Since 2012, when China enacted the “Regulations on the Construction of a Barrier-free Environment”, a number of policies and measures on barrier-free construction have been introduced.

Fourth, the Chinese government has vigorously developed the care services for the aged. Policy system is continuously improved. Capital support has continued to increase. The elder care service market has also become more liberalized. Service quality supervision has been further tightened. The provision of elder care services has been significantly enhanced.

Fifth, the Chinese government has attached great importance to protecting the rights and interests of older persons. China has continued to strengthen work on the protection of rights of older persons and achieved fruitful results in terms of the judicial protection of older persons.

Sixth, the Chinese government pays much attention to the culture and education undertakings of older persons. The infrastructure of the entertainment and culture activities for older persons has been constantly strengthened.

Seventh, the Chinese government has constantly promoted older persons’ social participation.

Eighth, home-based older persons supporting policies are encouraged and consolidated.

III A bright prospect for the development of China’s ageing undertakings

The development trend of population ageing in China in 21st century has become clear. In the future, the Chinese ageing undertakings need to be further promoted in the following aspects.

First, develop a multi-pillar, full-coverage, equal and sustainable social security system which includes social insurance system, social welfare system and social assistance system.

Second, establish a social system for old age support which is based on family care, supported by the community services, supplemented by institutions, integrated by medical treatment and nursing service.

Third, strengthen work in health education, disease prevention, and rehabilitation care, and build a health support system for older persons.

Fourth, enrich older persons’ spiritual and cultural life and construct social participation system for them, including fostering an active view on ageing and a prosperous ageing culture and strengthening the tapping of the elderly human resources.

Fifth, cultivate the products and services market for older persons and establish a develop system for ageing industry.

Sixth, continue to create a livable environment for older persons. Promote the accessibility of barrier-free facilities. Construct safe, green and convenient living conditions. Carry forward a social atmosphere of respecting, supporting and helping older persons.