



General Assembly

Distr.: General
9 August 2019

Original: English

Human Rights Council

Forty-first session

24 June–12 July 2019

Agenda item 3

**Promotion and protection of all human rights,
civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Letter dated 26 July 2019 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council

The delegation of China is delighted to learn that almost 50 countries, including many members of the Human Rights Council, have sent to you and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights a letter in which they commended the human rights progress made in Xinjiang, China, and the counter-terrorism and de-radicalization achievements there. We would like to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the countries that support China's position regarding Xinjiang.

China has always advocated for constructive dialogue and cooperation in the field of human rights and supported the work of the Human Rights Council so that it is conducted in an objective, transparent, non-selective, constructive, non-confrontational and non-politicized manner, so as to contribute to the sound development of the international human rights cause.

A few days ago, certain western countries, for political purposes, sent you and the High Commissioner a letter in which, with disregard for facts and truth, they made unwanted accusations and attacks against the human rights progress and counter-terrorism and de-radicalization measures in Xinjiang, China. China is deeply dissatisfied with and firmly opposed to such acts of politicizing human rights issues and interfering in China's internal affairs. We urge these countries to respect facts, to cast away prejudices, to abide by the purposes and principles of Charter of the United Nations and to stop politicizing human rights issues and interfering in China's internal affairs under the pretext of Xinjiang-related issues.

As we have emphasized time and again, Xinjiang is an internal affair of China that bears on its sovereignty, security and territorial integrity. On Xinjiang-related issues, no one is in a better position to judge than the Government of China and the Chinese people. Faced with the severe threats of terrorism and extremism, the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of China has taken a series of counter-terrorism and de-radicalization measures in accordance with the law, including setting up vocational education and training centres. These measures have dramatically turned the security situation around and guaranteed the human rights of people of all ethnic groups in Xinjiang. The entire Chinese people, including people of various ethnic groups in Xinjiang, wholeheartedly endorse and support these measures.

GE.19-13747(E)



* 1 9 1 3 7 4 7 *

Please recycle The recycling symbol, consisting of three chasing arrows forming a triangle.



Today, Xinjiang enjoys development, stability, unity and harmony. In the past three years, not a single violent and terrorist incident has taken place in Xinjiang. People there are living a happy life with a strong sense of fulfilment, happiness and security. China has invited groups of foreign diplomats, journalists and scholars to visit Xinjiang, including many who have written to you. All of them said that the Xinjiang they saw was completely different from what had been described by the Western media. The fabrication and accusations by a small group of countries can neither diminish the huge progress made in the human rights field in Xinjiang nor erase the great success of counter-terrorism and de-radicalization or the reality of social prosperity and people's happy life in Xinjiang, China.

China welcomes those with a truly objective and fair mind to visit Xinjiang and to appreciate its beauty, abundance, truth, hospitality and progress. Under the strong leadership of the Communist Party of China, the people of all ethnic groups in Xinjiang, together with their fellow countrymen in the rest of China, will step across the threshold of a moderately prosperous society by 2020 and embrace a brighter future.

I request that the present letter be recorded as a document of the forty-first session of the Human Rights Council, and that it be published on the OHCHR website.

(Signed) **Chen Xu**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of China
