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**Macroeconomic policy questions****Sustainable development****Agriculture development, food security and nutrition****Prevention of armed conflict****The situation in the Middle East****Question of Palestine****International cooperation in the peaceful uses of  
outer space****Strengthening of the United Nations system****Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and  
other organizations****Security Council  
Seventy-eighth year****Letter dated 28 March 2023 from the representatives of China and  
the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the  
Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly**

We have the honour to forward you the joint statement of the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China on deepening comprehensive partnership and strategic cooperation for a new era, as well as the joint statement of the President of the Russian Federation and the President of the People's Republic of China on the plan to promote key elements of Russian-Chinese economic cooperation until 2030, both dated 21 March 2023 (see annexes).\*

We should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annexes as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 16, 18, 24, 30, 32, 33, 45, 126 and 127, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dai Bing  
Chargé d'affaires a.i.  
Deputy Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China

(Signed) Vassily Nebenzia  
Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation

\* Circulated in Chinese, English and Russian only.



**Annex I to the letter dated 28 March 2023 from the representatives of China and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly**

[Original: Chinese and Russian]

**Joint statement of the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China on deepening comprehensive partnership and strategic cooperation for a new era**

At the invitation of the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, the President of the People's Republic of China, Xi Jinping, paid a State visit to the Russian Federation from 20 to 22 March 2023. The Heads of State held talks in Moscow. The President of the People's Republic of China, Xi Jinping, also held a meeting with the Prime Minister of the Russian Federation, Mikhail Mishustin.

The Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China, hereinafter referred to as "the Parties", hereby declare the following.

**I**

Russian-Chinese relations of comprehensive partnership and strategic cooperation for a new era, thanks to the consistent efforts of the Parties, are stronger than ever before and continue to develop steadily. The Parties confirm that bilateral relations are developing in accordance with the principles and spirit enshrined in the Treaty on good-neighbourliness, friendship and cooperation between the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China of 16 July 2001, the joint statement issued on 28 June 2021 by the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China on the twentieth anniversary of the signature of the Treaty on good-neighbourliness, friendship and cooperation between the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China, and the joint statement issued on 4 February 2022 by the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China on international relations for a new era, and global sustainable development.

The Parties note that Russian-Chinese relations are not like the military-political alliances formed during the cold war era; they surpass that form of inter-State collaboration, are not of a bloc or confrontational nature and are not directed against third countries. Russian-Chinese relations are mature, stable, self-sufficient and strong, have withstood the test of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and the turbulent international environment, are not subject to external influence, and demonstrate vitality and positive energy. The friendship of the two peoples, handed down from generation to generation, has a strong foundation, and comprehensive cooperation between the two States holds enormous promise. It is in the interests of Russia for China to be stable and prosperous, and it is in the interests of China for Russia to be strong and successful.

Considering each other to be key partners, the Parties have consistently shown respect for each other and have interacted as equals, representing a model of relations between major States in today's world. With their leaders playing a leading role in diplomacy, the Parties maintain intensive communication at all levels, carry out in-depth interaction on important issues of mutual interest, build mutual trust and continually enhance the quality of high-level bilateral relations. They express their readiness to further deepen inter-State relations and develop dialogue mechanisms in various fields.

The Parties note the rapid nature of the changes taking place in the world, the profound transformation of the international architecture and the irreversibility of such historical trends as peace, development, cooperation and mutual benefit. They acknowledge the accelerating process of establishing a multipolar world order, the strengthening of the positions of countries with emerging markets and of developing countries, and the growing number of regional Powers that have an impact on global processes and are determined to uphold their legitimate national interests. At the same time, hegemonism, unilateralism and protectionism are still widespread. Attempts to replace the universally recognized principles and norms of international law with a “rules-based order” are unacceptable.

The viability of the multipolar model and the sustainable development of States depend on the universal openness of that model and on consideration of the interests of all countries without exception, in an inclusive and non-discriminatory manner. Russia and China call on all countries to promote universal values such as peace, development, equality, justice, democracy and freedom, to engage in dialogue rather than confrontation, to adopt an inclusive rather than exclusive approach, to coexist peacefully, to cooperate for mutual benefit and to promote the peaceful development of the world.

Under these circumstances, the Parties maintain close foreign policy coordination and cooperation at multilateral platforms, resolutely advocating equality and justice and promoting the building of a new type of international relations.

The Parties emphasize that strengthening and deepening Russian-Chinese relations of comprehensive partnership and strategic cooperation for a new era is a strategic choice that is independent of external influence, based on the national context of each Party. It meets the fundamental interests of the two States and their peoples, reflects contemporary development trends and is not affected by external factors.

The Parties intend:

- Guided by the agreements reached between the Heads of State, to ensure that bilateral relations consistently move in the right direction;
- To provide strong mutual support in defending each other’s core interests, above all sovereignty, territorial integrity, security and development;
- Adhering to the principle of mutual benefit, to continuously deepen and expand practical cooperation in the process of modernizing for the purpose of joint development and prosperity, in order to bring even greater benefit to the peoples of Russia and China;
- To promote mutual understanding and rapprochement between the peoples of the two countries, and to continuously reinforce the social and civic foundation of the friendship between the two States, passed down from generation to generation;
- To promote a multipolar world order, economic globalization and the democratization of international relations, and to promote global governance in a more equitable and judicious manner.

## II

The Parties note that each State has its own historical, cultural and national characteristics and has the right to choose its own path of development. There is no “superior democracy”. The Parties oppose the imposition by one State of its values on other States, the drawing of ideological lines, the creation of a false narrative about

the so-called confrontation between democracies and autocracies, and the use of democracy and freedom as a pretext and political tool to exert pressure on other States. Russia attaches great importance to, and will study with interest, the Global Civilization Initiative of China.

The Parties note that the universal realization of human rights is a common aspiration of humankind. Each State has the right to choose its own path of development in the field of human rights. Different civilizations and countries should respect and accept each other, communicate and borrow the best. The Parties will unswervingly promote human rights at the national and global levels.

China supports the implementation by Russia of its 2030 national development goals. Russia supports the implementation by China of its modernization goals according to the Chinese model.

The Parties oppose the interference of external forces in internal affairs.

Russia reaffirms its commitment to the “one China” principle, recognizes that Taiwan is an integral part of the People’s Republic of China, opposes the independence of Taiwan in any form and firmly supports the actions of China to protect its State sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The Parties agreed to encourage the sharing of experience in the legislative field and in the development and application of legislation governing engagement with foreign entities, in order to legally support the development of Russian-Chinese relations and international cooperation between the two countries.

The Parties will continue to strengthen the dialogue of trust between the Administration of the President of the Russian Federation and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and their subdivisions, and will promote contacts between the political parties of the two countries through consultations among senior representatives on strategic security and on public security, justice and law enforcement issues.

The Parties agreed to discuss holding annual meetings of interior and public security ministers, to increase law enforcement cooperation in order to counter “colour revolutions”, to fight the “three forces of evil”, including the Eastern Turkestan Islamic Movement, and to combat cross-border organized crime, economic crimes and drug-related crimes.

The Parties will regularly conduct joint maritime and air patrols and joint exercises, develop exchanges and cooperation, including through all existing bilateral cooperation mechanisms, and deepen mutual trust between the armed forces of the two countries.

The Parties attach great importance to ensuring the security of, and protecting the rights and interests of, persons and institutions of the two countries located abroad. They will continue to promote the establishment of appropriate bilateral and multilateral mechanisms and specialized dialogue and to continuously expand formats and areas of cooperation related to ensuring the security of citizens, projects and institutions abroad.

### III

The Parties intend to make coordinated and purposeful efforts to effectively raise the level of, and ensure the truly strategic nature of, practical cooperation in all fields, in order to strengthen the material basis of Russian-Chinese relations and improve the well-being of the peoples of the two States.

The Parties will help to consolidate growth trends in bilateral trade and to gradually improve its structure; implement the road map for the high-quality development of Russian-Chinese trade in goods and services; support the development of e-commerce; identify new growth areas; increase the scope and efficiency of trade and economic cooperation; and work on minimizing the negative impact of external risks to such cooperation and on ensuring the sustainability, stability and security of supply and logistics chains. The Parties intend to deepen interregional cooperation, expand its geography and scope, and increase exchanges and cooperation between small and medium-sized businesses.

The Parties will progressively promote investment cooperation in various fields, improve the business environment and legal support, introduce innovative forms of engagement, and deepen cooperation in the digital economy and in sustainable, including “green”, development. The Parties will continue to develop a new version of the Russian-Chinese Investment Cooperation Plan.

The Parties welcome the joint statement of the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation and the Ministry of Commerce of the People’s Republic of China dated 5 December 2022 on the start of negotiations to update the Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the People’s Republic of China on the promotion and reciprocal protection of investments dated 9 November 2006, and will continue negotiations on this issue in order to achieve a greater level of investment protection, simplify the conditions for attracting investments and provide a more stable, fair, transparent and predictable business environment for both investors and their investments

The Parties will continue to strengthen mutually beneficial cooperation in the financial sector, including to ensure the continuity of settlements between the economic entities of the two countries, and to support the expansion of the use of national currencies in bilateral trade, investment, lending and other trade and economic transactions.

The Parties intend to implement an even closer partnership in the energy sector and to support Russian and Chinese enterprises in carrying out energy cooperation projects in the oil and gas, coal, electricity, nuclear and other fields, as well as initiatives that contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, including those associated with the use of low-emission and renewable energy sources. The Parties will jointly protect international energy security (including critical cross-border infrastructure) and the stability of energy production and supply chains. They will promote fair energy transitions and low-carbon development, taking into account the principle of technological neutrality, and will jointly contribute to the long-term, healthy and stable development of the global energy market.

The Parties will continue to develop practical cooperation in civil aviation, the automotive industry, shipbuilding, metallurgy and other areas of mutual interest.

The Parties will strengthen cooperation in transport, improve cross-border infrastructure, increase the capacity of border crossing points and ensure their stable operation. The Parties intend to continue supporting the development of rail and sea freight traffic between China and Europe in transit through the territory of the Russian Federation and to increase its efficiency.

The Parties will deepen mutually beneficial cooperation in outer space in areas of mutual interest, including under the programme for the development of cooperation in outer space activities between the “Roskosmos” State space activities corporation and the Chinese National Space Administration for the period from 2023 to 2027.

The Parties will promote the creation of favourable conditions for, and increase and diversify supplies of agricultural products and foodstuffs to, the national markets of Russia and China.

The Parties welcome the holding in 2023 of the Seventh Russian-Chinese EXPO in Yekaterinburg, Russian Federation.

China supports the promotion of integration processes within the Eurasian Economic Union and Russia supports the Belt and Road Initiative. The Parties are making active joint efforts to link the development plans of the Eurasian Economic Union with the Belt and Road Initiative in order to strengthen interconnectivity in the Eurasian region and will continue to work on the implementation of the Agreement of 17 May 2018 on trade and economic cooperation between the Union and its member States, on the one hand, and the People's Republic of China, on the other hand.

The Parties reaffirm their focus on the parallel and coordinated establishment of the Greater Eurasian Partnership and the construction of the Belt and Road, with a view to developing bilateral and multilateral integration processes for the benefit of the peoples of the Eurasian continent.

The Parties attach great importance to the implementation of the 2015 medium-term road map for cooperation between the Russian Federation, the People's Republic of China and Mongolia and the 2016 programme for the creation of the Russia-Mongolia-China economic corridor, to further deepen comprehensive cooperation in this trilateral format. They are stepping up efforts to consistently link this promising mechanism with cooperation within the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Eurasian Economic Union and other regional organizations and mechanisms. The Parties will make efforts to advance work on the study and approval of the project for the construction of a new gas pipeline from Russia to China through the territory of Mongolia.

The Parties agreed to strengthen exchanges and cooperation to combat money-laundering, including through multilateral formats.

#### IV

The Parties oppose the politicization of international humanitarian cooperation and discrimination against representatives of culture, education, science and sports on any grounds, including citizenship, language, religion, political and other beliefs, and national or social origin.

The Parties intend to make active efforts to restore and build on the momentum of Russian-Chinese face-to-face exchanges and cooperation in the humanitarian sphere, and to consistently strengthen the friendship between the peoples of the two States and the social foundation of bilateral relations.

The Parties will deepen cooperation in education; help to improve the quality and efficiency of education for Russian citizens in China and for Chinese citizens in Russia; encourage inter-university cooperation; support the activities of Russian-Chinese specialized associations of universities and the association of Russian and Chinese pre-university educational institutions; promote joint educational institutions and programmes and exchanges in secondary vocational education; deepen cooperation in language teaching; and develop two-way exchanges between students and cooperation on digital education.

The Parties will deepen mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of scientific and technological innovations; expand the sectoral exchange of personnel; realize the

potential for cooperation in basic and applied research; implement the results of scientific and technological developments in production; focus efforts on joint breakthrough research in advanced fields of science and technology and on global development issues, including those related to climate change mitigation and adaptation; and introduce new models of cooperation in such technological and manufacturing areas as artificial intelligence, the Internet of things, fifth-generation communication networks, and digital and low-carbon economies.

The Parties will increase exchanges and strengthen mutual contacts between their museums, libraries, art galleries, theatres and other cultural institutions, as well as the literary and artistic associations of the two countries. The Parties will expand cooperation in the field of tourism and encourage the establishment of a comfortable tourist environment.

The Parties will deepen cooperation in health care; expand ties in scientific research and higher medical education; increase contacts and cooperation in controlling and supervising the distribution of medicines and medical devices; enhance cooperation in such areas as disaster medicine, infectious diseases, oncology and nuclear medicine, maternal and child health, ophthalmology and psychiatry; and strengthen relevant work within the framework of such multilateral platforms as the World Health Organization (WHO), BRICS (Brazil, Russian Federation, India, China and South Africa), the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Group of 20 (G20) and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum.

The Parties will continue to develop cooperation in the area of public health and disease control to counter threats of epidemics. They will jointly oppose attempts at international organizations to adopt legally binding mechanisms that limit the sovereignty of countries in preventing and controlling infectious diseases and in preventing and responding to biological threats.

The Parties highly appreciate the positive results of the Years of Russian-Chinese Cooperation in Physical Culture and Sports in 2022–2023 and will continue to strengthen all-round cooperation in this area, contributing to the joint development of physical culture and sports in the two countries. China supports the Russian initiative to hold the Games of the Future international multi-sport event in Kazan in 2024. The Parties oppose the politicization of sports and hope to use the unique role of physical culture and sports to promote solidarity and peace.

The Parties welcome the relevant initiatives and decisions of the International Olympic Committee and the Olympic Council of Asia, jointly uphold Olympic values and are ready to create venues with favourable conditions for competitions involving eligible athletes from all countries.

The Parties will continue to strengthen cooperation in such areas as scientific research of the seas and oceans, protection of the marine environment, natural disaster prevention and management at sea and the development of marine equipment. The Parties will continue to deepen practical cooperation in the fields of polar scientific research, environmental conservation and the organization of expeditions, and will make a greater public contribution to the global management of the seas and oceans.

The Parties intend to work together to increase the level of cooperation in emergency response; to establish cooperation in such areas as aviation rescue technologies, the monitoring and forecasting of emergency situations and the training of personnel; to conduct joint exercises of emergency rescue teams to respond to disasters, including in border regions; and to develop cooperation and information exchange with regard to search and rescue at sea.

The Parties intend to foster cooperation and the mutual exchange of information on policies with respect to the radio, television and audiovisual content on the Internet;

and to step up cooperation in such areas as the joint production and mutual broadcasting of television programmes and the use of technical developments to promote the joint development of the industry.

The Parties agree to strengthen exchanges between media outlets, think tanks and publishers, and to cooperate in social sciences and archives, literature and the arts.

The Parties intend to foster cooperation on spiritual and moral guidance for youth; to provide children and youth with opportunities for personal fulfilment and entrepreneurial, innovative, creative and other creative activities; and to expand direct contacts and joint youth projects between Russia and China.

The Parties will continue to deepen engagement through bilateral events in the areas of volunteerism, entrepreneurship, creativity and creative industries, and the development of the children's movement, including through further coordinated work at multilateral youth platforms within the United Nations, BRICS, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia and G20.

## V

The Parties reaffirm their readiness to resolutely defend an international system in which the United Nations plays a central role, the world order is based on international law and the fundamental norms of international relations are based on the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. They oppose all forms of hegemony, unilateral approaches, power politics, cold war thinking, bloc confrontation and the creation of narrow frameworks directed against certain countries.

In that context, Russia welcomes the vision of China to build a "community with a shared future for humankind" with a view to strengthening the solidarity of the international community and uniting efforts to respond to common challenges. China appreciates the constructive and consistent efforts of Russia to build an equitable multipolar system of international relations.

The Parties support building an open world economy; advocate for a multilateral trading system in which the World Trade Organization (WTO) plays a central role; promote the liberalization and facilitation of trade and investment; call for an open, fair, just and non-discriminatory development environment; and oppose unilateral approaches, protectionism, creating barriers and obstacles, decoupling and supply chain disruption, unilateral sanctions and maximum pressure policies.

Russia welcomes the Global Development Initiative and will continue to participate in the work of the Group of Friends in support of it. The Parties will continue to encourage the international community to focus on and enhance its contribution to development issues and will jointly contribute to the success of the Sustainable Development Goals Summit, ensuring the early implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Parties are deeply concerned about significant international security challenges and believe that the fates of all nations are interconnected and that no State should ensure its security at the expense of the security of other States. The Parties call upon the international community, based on the principle of collective deliberation and joint action, to actively participate in global security governance, effectively enhance global strategic stability and ensure universal, comprehensive and sustainable security through appropriate international mechanisms, including arms control, disarmament and the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. To



this end, the Parties reaffirm the need for comprehensive work to update and improve the international security architecture in order to make it more resilient to crises. A central pillar of international security in the new era should be strictly observing the agreed upon principles and parameters of peaceful coexistence, which would minimize the potential for conflict in inter-State relations. Conflicts between permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, which have a special responsibility for maintaining peace and global stability, must be avoided to the maximum extent possible.

The Parties condemn terrorism in all its manifestations; advocate establishing a unified global counter-terrorism front under the central coordinating role of the United Nations; oppose politicization and double standards in the fight against terrorism and extremism; and condemn the practice of interference in the internal affairs of States under the pretext of combating international terrorism and extremism, as well as attempts to use terrorist and extremist groups for geopolitical purposes. The Parties support an objective, unbiased and professional investigation of the explosions at the Nord Stream gas pipelines.

The Parties are determined to continue working closely together on regional and global security issues, including within the framework of the Global Security Initiative, to swiftly exchange views and coordinate positions on significant issues of global and regional significance and to make efforts to protect peace and security throughout the world.

The Parties have established effective cooperation within bilateral and multilateral frameworks for combating the COVID-19 pandemic and protecting the lives and health of the two nations and the peoples of the world. The Parties support deepening information exchange on the COVID-19 pandemic and strengthening coordination on such platforms as WHO. The Parties are jointly resisting plots and attempts to politicize the origin of the virus.

## VI

The Parties will continue to work together closely to strengthen the role and influence of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in ensuring peace, security and stability within its area. Together with other States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, they intend to make efforts to improve its current work in order to effectively confront new challenges and threats and to deepen mutually beneficial multilateral relations in the areas of trade, the economy, and cultural and humanitarian ties in Eurasia.

Russia commends China on successfully hosting the fourteenth BRICS summit. The Parties are ready to work together with other participants of that association to implement the agreements reached during previous BRICS summits; deepen practical cooperation in all spheres; actively contribute to discussions on expanding BRICS and increasing the number of shareholders of the New Development Bank; dynamically develop cooperation in the BRICS Outreach/BRICS Plus format; and advocate for the interests of developing countries and countries with emerging markets.

The Parties intend to foster cooperation within the framework of the Russia-India-China and Russia-China-Mongolia formats and to strengthen engagement in platforms such as the East Asia Summit, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Regional Forum and the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus. Russia and China will continue to enhance coordination on deeper engagement with ASEAN and intend to continue working to strengthen the Association's role as a key element of the regional architecture.

The Parties consider it necessary to further build the capacity of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as a universal intergovernmental forum in the humanitarian sphere, and to promote the preservation of a truly multilateral, mutually respectful and professional dialogue within UNESCO, aimed at effectively seeking the agreement of member States and advancing a unifying agenda. The Parties will encourage increased cooperation between UNESCO and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization on issues of mutual interest, including building on the memorandum of understanding on cooperation between the secretariat of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the secretariat of UNESCO.

The Parties are determined to strengthen coordination within G20 and other multilateral mechanisms; to encourage G20 to respond to current challenges in the international financial and economic sphere; and to improve global economic governance in a fair and rational manner in order to better reflect the structure of the world economy, which includes increasing the representation and voting power of countries with emerging markets and developing countries. The Parties support the accession to G20 by the African Union.

The Parties intend to strengthen coordination within the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum for the comprehensive and balanced implementation of the forum's Putrajaya Vision 2040, which provides for the creation of an open, dynamic, resilient and peaceful Asia-Pacific community.

The Parties intend to strengthen cooperation on supporting a multilateral trading system that is based on WTO rules and on combating trade protectionism, including through the imposition of illegitimate unilateral restrictions on trade; to strengthen dialogue on the WTO agenda, including its reform to enhance the role of WTO in global economic governance, particularly to help restore the dispute settlement mechanism by 2024; and to implement the agreements reached as a result of discussions on joint initiatives in the field of investment facilitation and e-commerce.

The Parties strongly condemn the politicization of multilateral platforms and attempts by certain countries to add non-core issues to their agendas, to the detriment of the implementation of the priorities of these frameworks.

## VII

Underscoring the importance of the joint statement of the leaders of the five nuclear-weapon States on preventing nuclear war and avoiding arms races, the Parties reaffirm that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought. The Parties call on all countries that have signed the joint statement to follow its key tenets in practice, including effectively reducing the risk of nuclear war and any armed conflict between nuclear-weapon States. Against the backdrop of deteriorating relations between the nuclear Powers, measures to reduce strategic risks must be organically integrated into overall efforts to reduce tensions between States, establish more constructive relations and minimize the grounds for security tensions to emerge. None of the nuclear Powers may deploy nuclear weapons outside their national territories and all nuclear weapons deployed abroad must be withdrawn.

The Parties reaffirm that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is the cornerstone of international nuclear disarmament mechanisms and of the international non-proliferation regime. The Parties reaffirm their commitment to their obligations under the Treaty and will continue to coordinate efforts to preserve and strengthen the Treaty in the interests of maintaining international peace and security.

The Parties are gravely concerned about the implications for, and risks to, strategic stability in the Asia-Pacific region in connection with the establishment of the tripartite security partnership (AUKUS) between the United States of America, the United Kingdom and Australia and their plans to build nuclear submarines. The Parties strongly urge the members of this partnership to strictly fulfil their obligations not to proliferate weapons of mass destruction or their means of delivery and to support regional peace, stability and development in the region.

The Parties express serious concern over plans by Japan to release into the ocean this year radioactive contaminated water accumulated after the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station and emphasize that Japan must be transparent in its contacts with neighbouring countries, other States concerned and international agencies, including by holding full consultations on the issue. The Parties insist that Japan dispose of the radioactive contaminated water in an appropriate scientific, transparent and safe manner, and have agreed to long-term monitoring by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the States concerned in order to ensure effective protection of the marine environment as well as the rights and interests of the people of all nations to protect their health.

The Parties reaffirm the importance of an early resumption of the full and effective implementation of the agreement on the Iranian nuclear programme and of Security Council resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#), and in this regard called upon all parties concerned to take political decisions that would contribute to a positive outcome of the negotiations on the resumption of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

The Parties reaffirm the need to strictly comply with and consistently strengthen the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, including through its institutionalization, and to adopt a legally binding protocol with an effective verification mechanism. The Parties express grave concern over the biological military activities of the United States of America, carried out on its national territory and beyond, which pose a serious threat to the security of other States and entire regions. They demand that the United States of America provide clarification in that regard, not carry out any biological activities contrary to that Convention and not impede the creation of a mechanism for verifying compliance with the obligations under the Convention.

The Parties are committed to the goal of a world free of chemical weapons and are deeply concerned about the politicization of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. The Parties insist that the United States of America, as the only State party to the Chemical Weapons Convention that has not completed the process of destroying its stockpile of chemical weapons, expedite its elimination, and call on Japan to complete the destruction of chemical weapons abandoned in China as soon as possible.

Russia and China express concern about increased efforts by the United States of America to build a global missile defence system and deploy its elements in various regions of the world, combined with the build-up of high-precision non-nuclear weapons for disarming strikes and other strategic capabilities, as well as the desire of the United States of America to deploy land-based medium- and shorter-range missiles in the Asia-Pacific and European regions and to transfer them to its allies. The Parties call on the United States of America to stop undermining international and regional security and global strategic stability in order to secure its unilateral military advantage.

Russia and China oppose attempts by certain countries to transform outer space into an arena for armed confrontation and will oppose activities aimed at achieving military superiority and using outer space for military operations. The Parties reaffirm

the need to launch negotiations as soon as possible on the basis of the Russian-Chinese draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects, a multilateral legally binding instrument that would provide fundamental and reliable guarantees against an arms race in outer space, the placement of weapons in outer space and the threat or use of force against or by space objects. The Parties support globalization of the international initiative/political commitment on no first to placement of weapons in outer space in order to strengthen international peace, ensure equal and indivisible security for all and increase the predictability and sustainability of the activities of States related to the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes.

The Parties attach great importance to the regulation of artificial intelligence and are ready to step up exchanges and cooperation on this topic.

The Parties oppose the militarization of information and communications technologies and restrictions on their development and cooperation in this area; support the creation of a multilateral, equitable and transparent global system of Internet governance, while ensuring the sovereignty and security of all countries in this area; welcome the work of the open-ended working group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021–2025 as the only United Nations process in the field of international information security; and believe that it is necessary to develop new standards for the responsible behaviour of States in cyberspace, and in particular to adopt a universal international legal instrument. The Russian proposals for a convention on international information security and the Chinese global data security initiative will make a significant contribution to the development of such an instrument. The Parties support the work of the Ad Hoc Committee to Elaborate a Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Criminal Purposes.

## VIII

The Parties are taking effective measures, expanding cooperation and making an important contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation, the organization and operation of carbon trading systems, the implementation of voluntary climate projects and the sharing of experience on global warming reduction and adaptation at the national and regional levels.

The Parties reaffirm their commitment to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and to the goals, principles and provisions of the Paris Agreement, in particular the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. They adhere to true multilateralism and promote the full and effective implementation of the Paris Agreement. The Parties emphasize that increased financial support from developed countries to developing countries is essential in order to strengthen measures to reduce global warming and address the issue of unequal access to finance. The Parties oppose the creation of barriers to international trade under the pretext of combating climate change and the use of climate issues for political purposes.

The Parties highly appreciate the results achieved at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, chaired by the People's Republic of China, and hope that these will make a positive contribution to the advancement of global biodiversity governance. The Parties are steadily promoting international cooperation and exchanges in the field of biodiversity, actively implementing the goals of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and jointly promoting the harmonious development of humans and nature, thereby contributing to global sustainable development.

## IX

The Parties believe that the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations must be observed and international law respected. Russia appreciates the objective and unbiased position of China on the Ukrainian issue. The Parties are opposed to any States and their blocs impairing the legitimate security interests of other countries in order to gain military, political or other advantages. China appreciates the willingness of Russia to make efforts to relaunch peace talks as soon as possible.

Russia welcomes the willingness of China to play a positive role in a political and diplomatic settlement of the Ukrainian crisis and the constructive considerations outlined in the position paper on a political settlement of the Ukrainian crisis compiled by China.

The Parties note that, in order to resolve the Ukrainian crisis, it is necessary to respect the legitimate security concerns of all countries, prevent the formation of bloc confrontation and cease actions that contribute to further fomenting the conflict.

The Parties emphasize that responsible dialogue is the best way for a sustainable solution to the Ukrainian crisis and that the international community should support constructive efforts in this regard.

The Parties call for an end to all steps that contribute to the escalation of tensions and the prolongation of hostilities, and to avoid further degradation of the crisis, including its transition into an uncontrollable phase. The Parties oppose all unilateral sanctions imposed in circumvention of the United Nations Security Council.

The Parties insist that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) must comply strictly with commitments concerning the regional and defensive character of that organization. They call on NATO to respect the sovereignty of other States, their security and interests and their civilizational, historical and cultural diversity, and to treat the peaceful development of other States objectively and without prejudice. The Parties express great concern over the continued strengthening of NATO military and security ties with the countries of the Asia-Pacific region and the undermining of regional peace and stability by the organization. The Parties oppose the formation of closed exclusive bloc structures, bloc politics and opposing camps in the Asia-Pacific region. The Parties note the negative impact on peace and stability in that region by the Indo-Pacific strategy of the United States of America, driven by a cold war mentality. Russia and China are committed to building an equitable, open and inclusive security system in the Asia-Pacific region that is not directed against third countries in order to maintain peace, stability and prosperity in the region.

The Parties believe that protecting peace and stability in North-East Asia is in the interest of all States concerned. The Parties oppose the undermining of peace and stability in the region by military force emanating from outside the region and call on the countries involved to abandon cold war thinking and ideological prejudices, show restraint and not take steps that undermine regional security.

The Parties express concern over the situation on the Korean Peninsula and urge all States concerned to show calm and restraint in their efforts to reduce tensions. The United States of America should respond with real action to the legitimate and reasonable concerns of North Korea and create conditions for the resumption of dialogue. The Parties have consistently insisted on the need to ensure peace and stability on the Peninsula, including its denuclearization by means of joint initiatives, and are promoting the establishment of a mechanism for maintaining peace and security on the Peninsula. They consider pressure from sanctions to be unacceptable and futile, and that dialogue and consultation are the only way to solve the problems

of the Peninsula. The Parties will continue close contacts and engagement in order to continuously advance the process of political settlement on the Peninsula, in accordance with the idea of “advancing in parallel” and the principles of phased and simultaneous progress. The Parties call on all States concerned to actively respond to the joint efforts of Russia and China in favour of peace and negotiations and to play a constructive role in this process.

The Parties advocate defending peace and stability in the Middle East, support the countries of the region in strengthening strategic independence and resolving pressing problems through dialogue and consultation, and oppose interference in the internal affairs of the countries of the region. The Parties welcome the normalization of relations between Saudi Arabia and Iran achieved through dialogue. The Parties support a comprehensive and just settlement of the Palestinian question based on the two-State principle. The Parties support the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Syria and are promoting a comprehensive political settlement process organized and led by Syrians themselves. The Parties defend the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Libya and are promoting a comprehensive political settlement process organized and led by Libyans themselves. The Parties will strengthen contacts in connection with the security initiatives put forward by each of them in the Gulf region and will work to integrate them, in order to jointly build a collective security architecture for the Gulf region.

The Parties note the positive contribution of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) to regional security. They note the potential to foster cooperation between CSTO and the People’s Republic of China in order to ensure peace and stability in the region.

The Parties are ready to strengthen mutual coordination to support the countries of Central Asia in ensuring their sovereignty and national development. They do not accept attempts to import “colour revolutions” or external interference in the affairs of the region.

The Parties will strengthen contacts and coordination on issues related to African States, maintain a favourable and healthy atmosphere of international cooperation in Africa, support the efforts of African States to independently resolve the problems of the continent and contribute to the common cause of peace and development on the African continent. Russia and China will continue the practice of holding consultations on issues related to Latin America, pay attention to strengthening mutual contacts and dialogue in the development of bilateral relations with the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, and continue to promote stability and prosperity in the region.

The Parties are in favour of preserving the Arctic as a territory of peace, stability and constructive cooperation.

21 March 2023

**Annex II to the letter dated 28 March 2023 from the representatives of China and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly**

[Original: Chinese and Russian]

**Joint statement of the President of the Russian Federation and the President of the People's Republic of China on the plan to promote key elements of Russian-Chinese economic cooperation until 2030**

Following the Russian-Chinese high-level talks held in Moscow during the State visit of the President of the People's Republic of China, Xi Jinping, to the Russian Federation from 20 to 22 March 2023, at the invitation of the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin,

The Heads of State of the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China,

Holding a detailed exchange of views on topical issues of bilateral practical cooperation and the development of Russian-Chinese relations of comprehensive partnership and strategic cooperation for a new era,

Firmly adhering to the principles of mutual respect and equality, and the sovereign development of the two countries on a mutually beneficial and long-term basis,

Seeking to give additional impetus to the comprehensive deepening of bilateral cooperation by promoting the high-quality development of Russian-Chinese trade and economic cooperation,

Guided by the intention to maintain the trend of dynamic growth in trade in goods and services between the two countries and the desire to ensure a significant increase in its volume by 2030,

Declare the following:

Bilateral economic cooperation between the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China, hereinafter referred to as the Parties, shall be built around the following eight key areas:

1. Increasing the scale and optimizing the structure of trade, including through the development of e-commerce and other innovative tools; consistently promoting the high-quality development of bilateral investment cooperation; deepening engagement in the digital economy and in sustainable, including "green" development; establishing a conducive business environment; and mutually enhancing the level of trade and investment facilitation.

2. Fully developing an interconnected logistics system; ensuring the rapid movement of goods and passengers in bilateral traffic by all modes of transport: rail, road, air, river and sea; implementing the transit potential of the two countries in a mutually beneficial way; prioritizing the elimination of bottlenecks; improving infrastructure on the Russian-Chinese border step by step and in stages, especially key border checkpoints; and enhancing the efficiency of customs clearance and inspection procedures.

3. Increasing the level of financial cooperation, including by expanding the use of national currencies in accordance with market needs and gradually increasing their share in bilateral trade, investment, lending and other areas of trade and

economic cooperation; continued cooperation and exchange of experience in the area of payments, including on implementing modern-day transformations and innovations; and strengthening cooperation on financial markets and supporting further interaction between the credit rating agencies and insurance companies of the two countries within the existing legal framework.

4. Strengthening a comprehensive energy partnership and ensuring mutual and global energy security, including in order to facilitate the global energy transition, by strengthening long-term cooperation in key energy sectors, promoting the implementation of strategic projects, expanding forms of cooperation and intensifying partnerships in the areas of energy technology and equipment.

5. Ensuring coordination in order to develop long-term cooperative relationships for the mutually beneficial supply, based on market principles, of basic commodities and mineral resources, including metals, chemical fertilizers and chemical industry products; and enhancing mutually beneficial cooperation to create industries for the advanced processing of resources in the territories of Russia and China.

6. Promoting exchanges and qualitatively expanding cooperation in the fields of technology and innovation in order to ensure the technological leadership of Russia and China.

7. Achieving a higher quality level of industrial cooperation; establishing new production chains with the participation of industrial companies in Russia and China, based on the harmonization of industry standards and technical requirements; and increasing the added value of manufactured products.

8. Significantly increasing the level of cooperation in agriculture to ensure the food security of the two countries, deepening cooperation in trade in agricultural products, steadily expanding mutual access for agricultural products based on guarantees of their safety and expanding investment cooperation in agro-industry.

The Parties also intend to continue deepening humanitarian cooperation and to consistently expand exchanges in education, science and technology, culture, tourism, sports, health and other areas; and to unlock the potential of regional and cross-border cooperation between the two countries, increase its practical impact and develop mutually beneficial cooperation between the Russian Far East and north-east China.

The two Heads of State hereby instruct the Governments of the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China:

Guided by the priority areas identified, to strengthen mutual coordination and promote cooperation between the two countries; and to prepare and approve the relevant plan and review its implementation at the 28th regular meeting of the Heads of Government of Russia and China.

21 March 2023