**Ambassador Khalil Hashmi’s closing remarks at the first Pakistan-China TVET Forum**

(Beijing: 19 December 2024)

**Distinguished Guests,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**A very good afternoon to all of you**

* As we draw towards the conclusion of this program, I appreciate all the stakeholders participating and expressing their keen interest to engage with each other;
* The discussions were insightful and sketched a clear picture of where we stand today and what we need to do further;
* I am happy to see quite a few cooperation documents being signed;
* Our collective efforts have already started to materialise in the shape of Kaiwu Workshop established in NUTECH;
* I am confident that the spadework we have already done, the efforts we made today and the hard work we will put in in future will bring more partner institutions together;
* As we embark on this journey of collaboration, I urge all participants to engage in open and constructive dialogue and identify opportunities for collaboration and innovation;
* I hope this forum be a turning point in our efforts to create a skilled workforce that can drive industrial excellence and sustainable development leading to robust economic and social growth;
* Let us remember that the future of our nations lies in the hands of our youth;
* By investing in their education and skill development, we are investing in the future of Pakistan, China, and the region as a whole which President Xi Jinping envisions when he mentions the idea of ‘Destiny of Shared Future for Mankind’;
* Organizing an event of this scale requires the collaboration and dedication of numerous partners;
* Allow me to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, the Ministry of Education of China, the Ministry of Human Resource and Social Security of China, and the many representatives of vocational training institutions and private sector organizations who have made this event possible;
* I once again thank you all for your presence and your commitment to this noble cause. Together, let us work toward a future where every individual has the opportunity to thrive and every nation has the chance to prosper;
* In the end, I would also like to reiterate the significance of institutionalizing this forum. This first forum was just a starting point, with a lot of follow-ups and an addition to our annual calendar.
* As the Chinese proverb goes: “***A single spark can start a prairie fire***”
* Today’s forum is that single spark, which would ignite many new chapters.
* Long live Pakistan-China Friendship! Thank you.