**Remarks by Ambassador Khalil Hashmi at the**

**Opening Ceremony of the 5th Session of the Young Workers Seminar Camp from 2-6 September 2024**

**(Beijing, 03 September 2024)**

**Mr. Wei Dichun, Vice Chairman of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU),**

**Mr. Zhang Guang, Secretary General of the China Workers’ Center for International Exchange,**

**Distinguished Guests,**

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

**Good Morning and Dajia Hao,**

I would like to express my profound gratitude to the distinguished hosts for convening this young workers seminar camp and providing a great learning opportunity to our young professionals from Pakistan. Let me also convey my heartfelt thanks to the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) for their vital support towards this important activity.

This week-long seminar demonstrates the all-encompassing nature and ever-expanding scope of China-Pakistan relationship. I am delighted that Pakistan is represented here by a diverse cohort of young representatives from public and private sectors, reflecting implementation of the consensus reached between our leadership to promote people to people exchanges and nurture an inter-generational China Pakistan Community of Shared Future in the New Era.

The young professionals of China and Pakistan constitute the dynamic force that will be driving the future of our *‘All Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership’.* Given the geo-strategic challenges, it is becoming increasingly important to create opportunities like this platform for our young people to learn, reflect and contribute towards China-Pakistan Friendship while sharing among themselves each other’s success stories, especially through exchange of visits and training programs, to foster a stronger, more dynamic and a more resilient relationship between the two countries.

**Ladies & Gentlemen,**

Pakistan’s abundant young population is one of the country’s greatest assets, with our young officials, entrepreneurs, journalists and other professionals holding the key to unlocking Pakistan’s full potential and positioning it as a vibrant, progressive and resilient nation on the world stage.

Based on my experience and given the right opportunities, I have full faith that our youth has the skill, resilience and tenacity to shape the country's future. In that context, I believe that there couldn’t have been a better place than China, our great friend, to train and inspire our young professionals. China has one of the finest *(if not ‘the’ finest)* pool of young talent, which continues to make immense contribution to the Chinese nation’s great rejuvenation.

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

China's rapid economic growth, inspired by the vision of its leadership and dynamism of its people, has transformed the country into a global economic powerhouse. Inclusive growth and shared prosperity have been the hallmark of China’s unparalleled development.

Under President Xi Jinping’s visionary leadership, the ‘Third Plenum’ of the CPC’s Central Committee recently issued a landmark communiqué that envisions Chinese path to modernization through the deployment of *high-quality productive forces*. I would like to encourage my dear colleagues and young professionals from Pakistan that you must take advantage of this unique opportunity in Beijing and Guangzhou to learn more about the vision of Chinese leadership, the policies that follow from it and the outcomes that you see before you.

**Ladies & Gentlemen,**

China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) exemplifies the concepts of ‘inclusive growth’ and ‘shared prosperity’ that China has so remarkably achieved at home. Allow me to say that BRI is not just an initiative; but also a roadmap for building a shared future for the mankind, based on the values of shared community, shared destiny and principle of win-win cooperation.

Pakistan has witnessed a transformative impact of BRI – thanks to China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. CPEC is the cornerstone of our national development framework and a symbol of our strategic partnership with China. It is driven by a common China-Pakistan aspiration for regional connectivity and mutual economic integration. Over the past one decade, CPEC has been instrumental in addressing our energy shortage and enhancing our infrastructure connectivity.

Today, as we embark on CPEC 2.0, we are entering a new phase of economic development-one that is focused on industrialization, socio-economic uplift and technological advancement including both through G@G but also increasingly through B2b MODES OF ENGAGEMENT. .

CPEC 2.0 is both an extension of the initial phase and a comprehensive framework that aligns with Pakistan’s long-term economic goals, as enshrined in Pakistan’s 5Es Framework, which is centered on exports, e-Pakistan, environment, energy and equity. The second phase of CPEC is designed to create new opportunities, generate mass employment and foster innovation. With special focus on the development of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in Pakistan, we aim to attract Chinese investments, support B2B joint ventures, boost exports and enhance our industrial capacity. This phase of CPEC will be pivotal in transforming Pakistan’s agriculture and industrial landscape while ensuring human resource development to advance sustainable economic development and prosperity.

I wish to advise the participating colleagues from Pakistan that your visit to China is taking place at an opportune time as you can witness the remarkable journey of China’s modernization, especially its unique Chinese characteristics. You have the opportunity to observe China’s governance, stability, impressive industrialization and functioning of SEZs, and the innovative practices across every field that have propelled China to the forefront of global leadership. This exposure will not only broaden your horizon but also inspire you to contribute more effectively towards Pakistan’s development and progress.

I urge you to seize this moment to enrich your experiences, to learn from the successes of China, and to apply these lessons to the unique context of Pakistan.

This seminar is also an occasion to forge strong people-to-people contacts, which are the bedrock of China Pakistan relationship. The friendships and networks you build here will serve as a bridge between our two nations in the years to come.

I am confident that this seminar will equip you with the knowledge, skills, and perspectives that will help you in contributing to Pakistan’s progress and in deepening our social, political and economic ties with China.

Thank you, and my best wishes to all of you!

Long Live China Pakistan Friendship.

Xie Xie!