

Remarks at the Opening Ceremony of the 8thChina-Japan-ROK Youth Forum

Amb. LU Shumin, President of UNA-China

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Your Excellency Ambassador Akasih Yasushi, Vice-President of
UNA-Japan,

Your Excellency Ambassador Lee Ho-Jin, Vice-President and
CEO of UNA-ROK,

Your Excellency Ambassador Park Soo Gil, President of
WFUNA,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear Students,

Good morning!

It gives me great pleasure to welcome all of you to Beijing and
to the 8th China-Japan-ROK Youth Forum. On behalf of the
United Nations Association of China (UNA-China), I would like

to express my best wishes for a successful Forum and fruitful exchanges among all students!

Distinguished guests,

Dear young friends,

China, Japan and ROK are neighbors connected by mountains and waters. Close relations between China, Japan and ROK can be traced back to thousands of years ago. Today, a sound, sustained and friendly relationship among the three countries is essential to peace and stability in Asia and the world at large. This year marks the 45th anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic relations between China and Japan, and the 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and ROK. As a Chinese saying goes, *“Friendship, which derives from close contact between the people, holds the key to sound state-to-state relations.”* All of us have responsibilities to contribute to the promotion of friendly relations among the three countries.

Distinguished guests,

Dear young friends,

Young people are the future of the nation and the world. They

are the key holders to a peaceful and prosperous future in this region and friendly relations among China, Japan and ROK.

Today, the world is experiencing unprecedented transformation. The traditional and non-traditional risks persist and sometimes flare up. The global economy is undergoing profound adjustment, with a slow, unstable global economic recovery, and the rising of de-globalization, and trade protectionism. To meet these challenges, the only way is the international cooperation.

Against this background, we are now gathering here with a great sense of responsibility and shared aspiration to build a better world for all, a world of peace, stability and prosperity, and leaving no one behind. We share a good will for and the commitment to friendship and cooperation. We believe that in a world of unprecedented interdependence, peace, development and win-win cooperation would form an irresistible trend and is good for our shared future. Let me share with you my vision of a better world. I would define it by three “Cs”: **Community, Consensus, Cooperation.**

Firstly, **Community.**

The vision of a community of shared future for mankind is rooted in the time-honored oriental civilization. In my view, the

community of shared future means that countries should treat each other as equals, promote an open, innovative and inclusive development that benefits all, increase inter-civilization exchanges to enhance harmony, inclusiveness and respect for differences, and build an eco-system that puts nature and green development first. Currently, Asia is now at a new starting point. It is time for us to vigorously build an Asian community.

Secondly, **Consensus.**

As an old Chinese saying goes, “*The ocean is vast, as it admits all rivers.*” In the age of globalization, the strength of any individual country is limited in dealing with poverty, hunger, climate change, environment degradation and other global issues. So it is important to mobilize ideas as well as resources of each and every country to address the problems and challenges all together. Therefore, we should support the governments to pursue a win-win approach instead of a zero-sum game one to inter-state relations and try to expand common interests. In terms of the security threat in this region, I believe peace can only be achieved when all countries’ security concerns are taken into consideration. And dialogue and consultation are the best ways to prevent confrontation and conflict.

Thirdly, **Cooperation.**

Cooperation is always easy to say than to do, but it is the decisive precondition to create a community. And better cooperation lies in the friendly communication. Just as another Chinese saying goes, *"A single flower does not make spring; One hundred flowers in full blossom bring spring to the garden"*. Young people are more open and short of stereotype ideas. I suggest our young friends learn from and communicate with each other in a genuine and friendly manner, so as to understand each other better.

Likewise, the intensified dialogue among China, Japan and ROK on a broad range of issues, are crucial to the bilateral and trilateral relations. We can take advantage of the opportunity of the 45th anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic relations between China and Japan, and the 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and ROK to improve relations and upgrade the regional cooperation. To promote inclusive and open development, China launched the Belt and Road Initiative, which focus on intensive consultation and joint participation with other countries in an effort to achieve shared benefits. I hope our young people in three

countries can contribute to people-to-people communication, trilateral trade and investment and regional connectivity, and share the benefits of this Initiative.

Distinguished guests,

Dear young friends,

Chuang Tzu, an ancient Chinese philosopher said, “*if not deep enough, water cannot carry a big boat.*” We should continue to build friendship and partnership with each other, uphold the principle of amity, sincerity, mutual benefit and inclusiveness, and foster an amicable, secure and prosperous neighborhood. It is said people want to go fast, go alone; people want to go far, go together. I believe, we all want to go together and to go far. Let us work together to enable the large boat of China-Japan-ROK friendly cooperation to ride the wind and forge ahead!

In the end, I wish the 8th China-Japan-ROK Youth Forum a great success!

Thank you!