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OF THE COMMUNIST
PARTY OF CHINA**

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Jiang Zemin, on behalf of the 15th CPC Central Committee, makes a report to the 16th National Congress of the CPC.



Jiang Zemin (left) and Hu Jintao, the general secretaries of the 15th and 16th CPC Central Committees, respectively.



On November 8, 2002, the 16th National Congress of the CPC is inaugurated at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.



Delegates cast their votes.



The members of the Politburo Standing Committee of the 15th and 16th Party Central Committees.



The newly elected Politburo Standing Committee members of the 16th Party Central Committee.



On November 14, 2002, the 16th National Congress of the CPC is brought to a successful conclusion.

Contents

Build a Well-off Society in an All-Round Way and Create a New Situation in Building Socialism with Chinese Characteristics — Report to the 16th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, November 8, 2002 <i>Jiang Zemin</i>	1
Resolution of the 16th National Congress of the Communist Party of China on the Report of the 15th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China <i>(Adopted by the 16th National Congress of the Communist Party of China on November 14, 2002)</i>	70
Constitution of the Communist Party of China <i>(Amended and adopted at the 16th National Congress of the Communist Party of China on November 14, 2002)</i>	76
Resolution of the 16th National Congress of the Communist Party of China on the “Amendment to the Constitution of the Communist Party of China” <i>(Adopted by the 16th National Congress of the Communist Party of China on November 14, 2002)</i>	115
Work Report of the CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection to the 16th Party National Congress <i>(Adopted at the 16th National Congress of the Communist Party of China on November 14, 2002)</i>	119

Resolution of the 16th National Congress of the Communist Party of China on the Work Report of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection <i>(Adopted at the 16th National Congress of the Communist Party of China on November 14, 2002)</i>	153
List of Members of the 16th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (198 members)	155
List of the Alternate Members of the 16th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (158 members)	158
List of Members of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection of the Communist Party of China (121 members)	161
Communique of the First Plenary Session of the 16th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China <i>(Adopted at the First Plenary Session of the 16th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on November 15, 2002)</i>	163
Profiles of Members of the Leading Organs of the 16th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China	167

BUILD A WELL-OFF SOCIETY IN AN ALL-ROUND WAY AND CREATE A NEW SITUATION IN BUILDING SOCIALISM WITH CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS

— Report to the 16th National Congress of the Communist
Party of China, November 8, 2002

Jiang Zemin

Comrades,

Now I would like to make a report to the Congress on behalf of the 15th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC).

The 16th National Congress of the CPC is the first of its kind held by our Party in the new century. It is a very important congress convened by our Party in the new situation in which we have begun to take the third step in the strategic plan for socialist modernization.

The theme of the Congress is to hold high the great banner of Deng Xiaoping Theory, fully act on the important thought of the “Three Represents,”* carry forward our

*The Party must always represent the requirements of the development of China’s advanced productive forces, the orientation of the development of China’s advanced culture, and the fundamental interests of the overwhelming majority of the people in China — *tr.*

cause into the future, keep pace with the times, build a well-off society in an all-round way, speed up socialist modernization and work hard to create a new situation in building socialism with Chinese characteristics.

As mankind entered the 21st century, we started a new phase of development in the course of building a well-off society in an all-round way and speeding up socialist modernization. The international situation is undergoing profound changes. The trends toward world multipolarization and economic globalization are developing amidst twists and turns. Science and technology are advancing rapidly. Competition in overall national strength is becoming increasingly fierce. Given this pressing situation, we must move forward, or we will fall behind. Our Party must stand firm in the forefront of the times and unite with and lead the Chinese people of all ethnic groups in accomplishing the three major historical tasks: to propel the modernization drive, to achieve national reunification and to safeguard world peace and promote common development, thereby bringing about the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation on its road to socialism with Chinese characteristics. This is a grand mission that history and the era have entrusted to our Party.

I. The Work of the Past Five Years and the Basic Experience of 13 Years

The five years since the 15th National Congress of the CPC have been a period in which we have held high the great banner of Deng Xiaoping Theory and kept blazing new trails in a pioneering spirit, and a period in which we have continued to forge ahead triumphantly on the road to socialism with Chinese characteristics in spite of difficulties and risks.

At the 15th National Congress, Deng Xiaoping Theory was established as the Party's guiding ideology, the Party's basic

program for the primary stage of socialism was put forward, and the objectives and tasks for China's cross-century development were specified. Acting in the spirit of the Congress, the Central Committee held seven plenary sessions at which it made decisions and plans on such major issues as agriculture and rural work, the reform and development of state-owned enterprises, the formulation of the 10th Five-Year Plan (2001-2005) and the improvement of the Party's work style. Over the past five years, we have traversed an extraordinary course and scored tremendous achievements in reform, development and stability, domestic and foreign affairs and national defense, and in running the Party, state and army.

The national economy has maintained a sustained, rapid and sound development. By pursuing the principle of stimulating domestic demand and adopting a proactive fiscal policy and a sound monetary policy in good time, we overcame the adverse effects the Asian financial crisis and world economic fluctuations had had on China, and maintained a relatively rapid economic growth. The strategic adjustment of the economic structure has been crowned with success. The position of agriculture as the foundation of the economy has been further strengthened. Traditional industries have been upgraded. High- and new-technology industries and the modern service sector have grown at a quickened tempo. A large number of infrastructure projects in such areas as water conservancy, transportation, telecommunications, energy and environmental protection have been completed. Significant headway has been made in the large-scale development of China's western region. Economic returns have further improved. The national revenue has kept growing. The Ninth Five-Year Plan (1996-2000) was fulfilled, and the 10th Five-Year Plan has seen a good start.

Reform and opening-up have yielded substantial results. The socialist market economy has taken initial shape. The public sector of the economy has further expanded, and steady

progress has been made in the reform of state-owned enterprises. Self-employed or private enterprises and other non-public sectors of the economy have developed fairly rapidly. The work of building up the market system is now in full swing. The macro control system has been improving constantly. The pace of change in government functions has been quickened. Reforms in finance, taxation, banking, circulation, housing, government institutions and other areas have continued to deepen. The open economy has developed swiftly. Trade in commodities and services and capital flow have grown markedly. China's foreign exchange reserves have risen considerably. With its accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO), China has entered a new stage in its opening-up.

Notable progress has been registered in improving socialist democracy and spiritual civilization. Continued efforts have been made to improve democracy and the legal system. New steps have been taken in political restructuring. The patriotic united front has grown stronger. Further progress has been made in the work relating to ethnic, religious and overseas Chinese affairs. Fresh progress has been made in keeping public order through comprehensive measures. Science, technology, education, culture, health, sports, family planning and other undertakings have all moved ahead. Media and publicity work as well as ideological and moral education have kept improving. The people's cultural life has become increasingly rich and colorful.

New strides have been taken to strengthen national defense and army building. Efforts have been redoubled to make the People's Liberation Army (PLA) more revolutionary, modernized and regularized. Our national defense capabilities and the army's operational capability for self-defense have further improved. The army, the armed police and the militia are playing an important role in defending and building up our motherland.

On the whole, the people have reached a well-off standard of living. The income of urban and rural residents has gone up steadily. The urban and rural markets are brisk, and there is an ample supply of goods. The quality of life of ordinary people is on the rise, with considerable improvement in food, clothing, housing, transportation and daily necessities. There has been marked progress in building the social security system. The seven-year program to help 80 million people get rid of poverty has been in the main fulfilled.

Fresh progress has been made in the great cause of national reunification. The Chinese Government has resumed the exercise of sovereignty over Macao. The principle of "one country, two systems" has been implemented and the basic laws of the Hong Kong and Macao special administrative regions have been carried out to the letter. Hong Kong and Macao enjoy social and economic stability. Personnel, economic and cultural exchanges across the Taiwan Straits have kept increasing. The fight against "Taiwan independence" and other attempts to split the country has been waged in depth.

New prospects have been opened up in our external work. In light of the developments and changes in the international situation, we have adhered to our correct foreign policy and related principles. We have carried out both bilateral and multilateral diplomatic activities extensively and taken an active part in international exchanges and cooperation. China's international standing has risen still further.

Party building has been strengthened in an all-round way. All the Party members have steadily intensified their study of Deng Xiaoping Theory. We have put forward and penetratingly expounded the important thought of the "Three Represents." Good results have been produced in intensive education in the need to stress study, political awareness and integrity, and in the study of the "Three Represents." An all-out endeavor has been made to build up the Party ideologically,

organizationally and in work style. Our ideological and political work has been strengthened. New steps have been taken in the reform of the personnel system. The endeavor to build a clean and honest government and combat corruption has been going on in depth and yielding fresh and notable results.

Facts prove that the major policy decisions taken by the Central Committee at and since the 15th National Congress are correct and accord with the fundamental interests of the overwhelming majority of the people. Our achievements are the outcome of the united endeavors of the whole Party and the people of all the ethnic groups of the country. They provide a more solid foundation for the future development of the cause of the Party and state.

We must be clearly aware that there are still quite a few difficulties and problems in our work. The income of farmers and some urban residents has increased only slowly. The number of unemployed has gone up. Some people are still badly off. Things have yet to be straightened out in the matter of income distribution. The order of the market economy has to be further rectified and standardized. Public order is poor in some places. Formalism, the bureaucratic style of work, falsification, extravagance and waste are still very serious among some leading cadres who are Party members, and corruption is still conspicuous in some places. The Party's way of leadership and governance does not yet entirely meet the requirements of the new situation and new tasks. Some Party organizations are feeble and lax. We must pay close attention to these problems and continue to take effective measures to solve them.

Our achievements over the past five years have been scored through reform and opening-up, especially through our practice since the Fourth Plenary Session of the 13th Central Committee in 1989. These 13 years have witnessed a highly volatile international situation and a magnificent upsurge of China's reform, opening-up and modernization efforts. From the late 1980s to

the early 1990s, there occurred serious political disturbances in China, drastic changes in Eastern Europe and the disintegration of the Soviet Union. Socialism in the world suffered serious setbacks. China was faced with unprecedented difficulties and pressure in its efforts to develop the socialist cause. At this crucial historical juncture bearing on the future and destiny of the Party and state, the Party Central Committee relied firmly on all the comrades in the Party and the Chinese people of all ethnic groups, and unswervingly adhered to the line prevailing since the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Central Committee, and thus successfully brought the overall situation of reform and development under control and safeguarded the great cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics. After Comrade Deng Xiaoping made remarks during his tour of the south, the 14th National Congress decided to establish a socialist market economy as the goal of reform, thus ushering in a new stage for reform, opening-up and the modernization drive. To develop a market economy under socialism is a great pioneering undertaking never tried before in history. It is a historic contribution of the Chinese Communists to the development of Marxism. It has given expression to our Party's tremendous courage to persist in making theoretical innovation and keeping pace with the times. The shift from the planned economy to the socialist market economy represented a new historic breakthrough in reform and opening-up, and brought about entirely new prospects for China's economic, political and cultural progress. After the demise of Comrade Deng Xiaoping, we held high the great banner of Deng Xiaoping Theory and made pioneering efforts to advance the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics into the 21st century in an all-round way.

Over the past 13 years, with clearly defined objectives, we worked with one heart and one mind, and scored historic achievements. In 2001, China's GDP reached 9.5933 trillion yuan, almost tripling that of 1989, and representing an average

annual increase of 9.3 percent. China reached sixth place in the world in terms of economic aggregate. On the whole, the people made a historic leap from having only adequate food and clothing to leading a well-off life. As is universally recognized, the past 13 years have been a period in which China's overall national strength has risen by a big margin, the people have received more tangible benefits than ever before, and the country has enjoyed long-term social stability and solidarity, a good government and a united people. China's influence in the world has grown notably, and the cohesion of the nation has increased remarkably. The hard work of our Party and people and their great achievements have attracted worldwide attention, and will surely go down as a glorious page in the annals of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

A review of these 13 years shows that we have traversed a tortuous course and that our achievements are hard won. We have responded confidently to a series of unexpected international incidents bearing on China's sovereignty and security. We have surmounted difficulties and risks arising from the political and economic spheres, as well as from nature. We have withstood one trial after another, and overcome all kinds of interference, thus ensuring that our reform, opening-up and modernization drive have forged ahead always in the correct direction, like a ship braving surging waves. We have attained these successes by relying on the correct guidance of the Party's basic theory, line and program, on the high degree of unity and solidarity of the Party, and on the tenacious work of the whole Party and the people of all ethnic groups around the country.

Here, on behalf of the CPC Central Committee, I wish to express our heartfelt thanks to the people of all ethnic groups, the non-Communist parties, people's organizations and patriots from all walks of life, to our compatriots in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the Macao Special Administrative Region and Taiwan as well as overseas Chinese, and to all