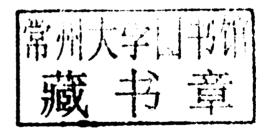
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Foreword by the Foreign Minister

The year 2010 was an eventful one in China's peaceful development. We successfully hosted the Shanghai World Expo and the Guangzhou Asian Games and Asian Para Games; overcame natural disasters such as the devastating earthquake in Yushu, Qinghai and the massive mudslide in Zhouqu, Gansu; and at the same time maintained steady and sound economic and social development. We successfully held the 5th Plenum of the 17th CPC Central Committee. The plenum deliberated on and adopted the Proposal for Formulating the 12th Five-Year Plan for China's Economic and Social Development, a new blueprint for China's development.

The year 2010 was one of both challenges and progress in China's diplomacy. Under the leadership of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council, we focused on serving the country's economic and social development. We made full use of international summits to push forward the reform of international economic governance mechanisms. We made innovations in diplomatic theory and practice, and approached all elements of our work in a holistic and coherent way. We effectively addressed all manner of foreign-related sensitive issues and emergencies, thus safeguarding national sovereignty, security and development interests and fostering a sound external environment for domestic development. We deepened win-win cooperation and continually expanded political, economic, cultural and people-to-people exchanges with major countries, neighboring countries and developing countries. We are playing an increasingly important role in multilateral cooperation and the handling of hot-spot issues. We have closer connections, interactions and cooperation with the rest of the world, and our international influence is in the ascendant.

China's development, prosperity and progress will provide a strong driving force and broad stage for our diplomatic work under the new circumstances. Meanwhile, it is becoming more evident that diplomacy must rely on, serve and promote development. Diplomacy must make even greater contributions to the sound and fast development of China's economy and society.

Rich in details and statistics, the 2011 edition of *China's Foreign Affairs* provides a panoramic overview and systemic update of the

international situation and China's diplomacy in the past year. I hope you will find this volume informative and helpful.

楊潔篪 12 January 2011

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Chapter 1

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS IN 2010

1. An Overview

In 2010, the international situation continued to undergo new major changes. The international financial crisis was curbed but its impact was still reverberating, bringing about complicated and profound changes in the international balance of power, international relations and the international landscape. China's development attracted wider attention and faced unprecedented opportunities and challenges. The main features in the international developments were as follows:

(1) The World Economy Recovered Slowly and the Development Issue Remained Pronounced

In 2010, the world economy embarked on the track of recovery on the whole, but the momentum was not strong. The recovery was neither firmly established nor balanced and there were significant uncertainties. International financial markets suffered from persistent volatility; the exchange rates of major currencies fluctuated drastically; bulk commodity prices hovered at high levels; and protectionism was on the rise. All this brought new uncertainties to world economic recovery. The development issue caught much attention. Major economies made more efforts in reviewing and adjusting their economic growth patterns and management models. Competition and adjustment intensified as countries tried to put themselves in an advantageous position for new development. The world economic structure entered a period of adjustment and major changes were brewing in the world economic configuration, but new sources of economic growth were not available yet.