

## **Written Statement at the Tenth Multi-stakeholder Forum**

### **On Science, Technology and Innovation for**

### **The Sustainable Development Goals**

*Yin Hejun, Minister of Science and Technology of China*

**Dear Chair,**

**Your Excellencies,**

Amid accelerating transformations unseen in a century, the world faces unprecedented global challenges, including economic and technological inequities, as well as pressing sustainable development issues. At the 76<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly, Chinese President Xi Jinping proposed the *Global Development Initiative*, calling on countries to jointly address these challenges, and improve global governance. This offers China's solutions to advancing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and fostering a global community of development.

As the world's biggest developing country, China earnestly acts on its responsibility in advancing global sustainable development. Guided by a people-centered approach, the Chinese government strives to achieve higher-quality, more efficient, equitable, sustainable and secure development. Over the years, China has worked to build robust institutional frameworks to stimulate innovation across the board and pursued the *strategy of reinvigorating the nation through science and education, workforce development strategy*, and *innovation-driven development strategy*, to increase the overall performance of national innovation system. With the

acceleration of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda as a top priority, we are committed to leveraging the crucial, transformative power of science, technology and innovation for sustainable development.

Since 2016, China has established 11 national innovation demonstration zones for sustainable development, serving as testing grounds for region-specific solutions powered by science, technology and innovation. They offer proven solutions for promoting the transformation of resource-dependent regions, green growth in key ecological zones and smart governance for megacities. Science, technology and innovation has significantly contributed to the *Healthy China initiative*, providing robust support for disease prevention and treatment, public health, maternal and child healthcare, and helping close health disparities. The diffusion of digital technologies is reshaping the patterns of resource allocation and empowering vulnerable groups, serving as a key driver for gender equality and inclusive growth. China has made substantial efforts to develop technologies for marine ecosystem conservation and sustainable utilization of marine resources and actively participated in the *UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development*. Chinese scientists have launched international big science programs such as Deep-time Digital Earth and Ocean Negative Carbon Emissions. All these efforts aim to offer public goods to address major scientific issues of global concern from earth evolution to climate change. China's science, technology and innovation has been integrated into all aspects of sustainable development--economic, social, cultural and ecological, giving strong boost to high-quality development while offering replicable experience and models for global sustainable development.

At present, a new round of technological revolution and industrial transformation is gaining momentum. For us to tackle common challenges facing sustainable development, we need international cooperation and open sharing more than ever

before. In November 2023, China proposed *International Science and Technology Cooperation Initiative*. In November 2024, China, Brazil, South Africa and African Union launched the *Initiative on International Cooperation on Open Science*. These two initiatives call on all stakeholders to work together to foster an open, fair, equitable and non-discriminatory environment for global development in science and technology, and share more innovation gains with Global South. China has been vigorously advancing *Belt and Road Science, Technology and Innovation Action Plan*. We have launched a cooperation program on technology transfer for poverty alleviation, and scaled up sci-tech assistance to other developing countries, ensuring that technological advances benefit people across the world. China is deeply engaged in global green, low-carbon cooperation. By launching *International Cooperation Program on Carbon Peak and Neutrality*, we demonstrate our firm commitment to delivering on the 2030 Agenda. Amidst the burgeoning development of AI, we uphold a people-centered approach, champion “AI for good”, and put equal emphasis on development and security. We support the United Nations’ leadership in coordinating global AI efforts and have launched *AI Capacity-building Action Plan for Good and for All* to work with all stakeholders in ensuring AI’s healthy and equitable development for all.

Dear colleagues,

Open and sustainable science, technology and innovation is a key driver for robust, balanced and inclusive global growth. It helps accelerate the delivery of the UN 2030 Agenda, and bears on the common well-being of humanity. We will work with all stakeholders to deepen cooperation in open innovation, explore best practices of S&T-driven sustainable development, and advance balanced economic and social development of the world, contributing to the building of a community with a shared future for mankind.

Thank you all.