

Press Statement on Climate Change following the meeting between the Foreign Minister of France, State Councilor and Foreign Minister of China and the United Nations Secretary General

Foreign Minister of France Jean-Yves Le Drian, State Councilor and Foreign Minister of China Wang Yi, and Secretary General of the United Nations, António Guterres, met on the margins of the G20 summit in Buenos Aires. With the COP14 on Biodiversity having just met in Sharm el-Sheikh and with the upcoming COP24 on Climate Change to begin in Katowice, they reaffirm their strong commitment to working together and with other partners to address climate change, protect the environment, and reduce poverty and inequalities. They recognize that the above challenges require deep transformations of our economies and societies to build a shared future of sustainable development for humanity.

1. They underline their shared understanding of the global climate and environmental challenges, as highlighted by the latest IPCC report. Poverty reduction and human development are put at risk under the impact of climate change. They further underline that there are only a few years left, far less than a generation, to make the transition towards a sustainable and ecological civilization a reality.

2. France and China reaffirm their strong support for the Paris Agreement as an irreversible process and a compass for strong climate action. COP24 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) will be crucial to finalize the Paris Agreement Work Program. France and China will work together and with their partners towards COP24 to adopt a package that respect the letter and the spirit of the Paris Agreement. The modalities, procedures and guidelines need to be balanced, comprehensive, robust, and operational in order to enable the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement, reflecting the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of national circumstances. France and China renew their highest political commitment to the effective and transparent implementation of the Paris Agreement in all its aspects,

including, inter alia, mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, capacity-building and transparency of actions and support. In this regard, the two parties hope that the G20 Buenos Aires Summit will give a political impetus to the success of COP24.

3. They agree that the UNSG's Climate Summit in September 2019 will be a landmark. They will cooperate closely to make this summit a defining moment to accelerate action, increase ambition and mobilize the required resources to achieve an ecological transition.

4. France and China recall the importance of the provision of climate finance to developing countries. They have a shared commitment to making the Green climate fund (GCF) an effective financing mechanism, contributing to the need for sustainable investment and green finance to drive the transition to a low greenhouse gas emission and climate resilient economy. They commend progress made in the area of green finance, including during the One Planet summit.

5. They stress that just transition and the creation of decent work and quality jobs are crucial to ensure an effective and inclusive transition to low greenhouse gas emission and climate resilient development, and to enhance the public support for achieving the-long term goals of the Paris Agreement.

6. They agree to working together on the link between climate change and biodiversity. China appreciates France's effort on promoting the initiative on a Global Pact on the Environment, which aims to address the possible gaps of international environmental law and its implementation.