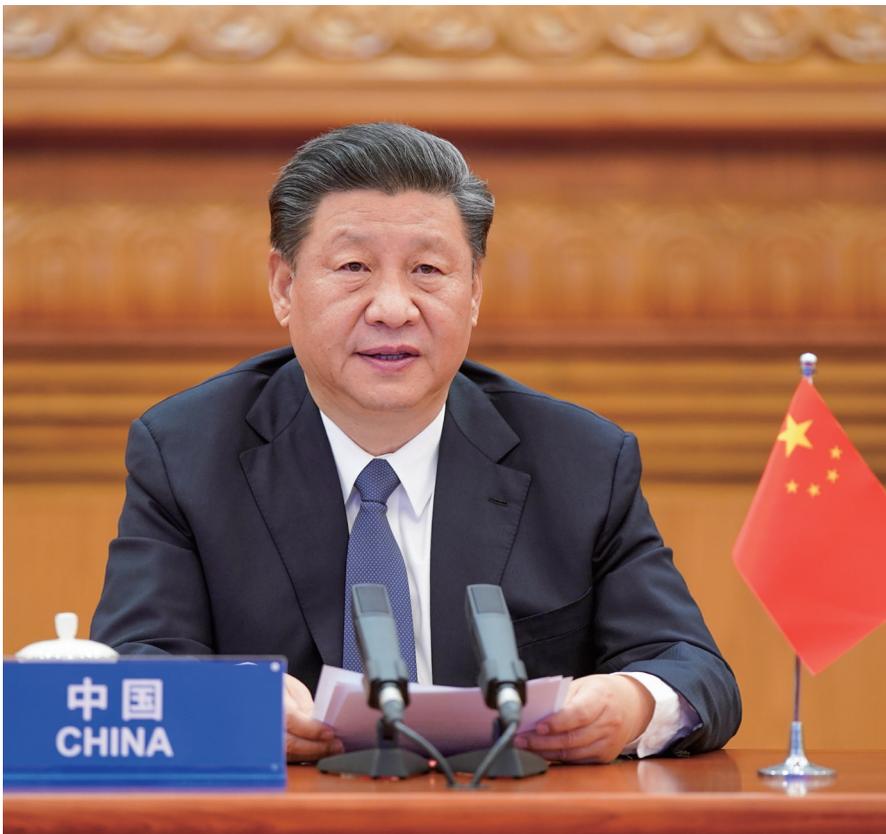


# China insight



# Xi Calls for All-Out Global War Against COVID-19 at Extraordinary G20 Summit



Chinese President Xi Jinping attends the G20 Extraordinary Virtual Leaders' Summit on COVID-19 via video link in Beijing, on March 26

Chinese President Xi Jinping delivered a speech titled "Working Together to Defeat the COVID-19 Outbreak" at the Extraordinary G20 Leaders' Summit via video link in Beijing, on March 26.

The following is an English translation of the full text of the speech:

Working Together to Defeat the COVID-19 Outbreak

Remarks by H.E. Xi Jinping  
President of the People's Republic of China

At the Extraordinary G20 Leaders' Summit

Beijing, 26 March 2020  
Your Majesty King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud,  
Dear Colleagues,

It is good to join you. Let me begin by expressing my sincere appreciation to His Majesty King Salman and Saudi Arabia for

having done tremendous work of communication and coordination to make this summit possible.

Facing the COVID-19 outbreak that caught us all by surprise, the Chinese government and Chinese people have been undaunted as we took on this formidable task. From day one of our fight against the outbreak, we have put people's life and health first. We have acted according to the overall principle of shoring up confidence, strengthening unity, ensuring science-based control and treatment and imposing targeted measures. We have mobilized the whole nation, set up collective control and treatment mechanisms and acted with openness and transparency. What we fought was a people's war against the outbreak. We have put up a strenuous struggle and made tremendous sacrifices. Now the situation in China is moving steadily in a positive direction. Life and work are quickly returning to normal. Yet, there is no way we will lower our guard or relax control.

At the most difficult moment in our fight against the outbreak, China received assistance and help from a lot of members of the global community. Such expressions of friendship will always be remembered and cherished by the Chinese people.

Major infectious disease is the enemy of all. As we speak, the COVID-19 outbreak is spreading worldwide, posing enormous threat to life and health and bringing formidable challenge to global public health security. The situation is disturbing and unsettling. At such a moment, it is imperative for the international community to strengthen confidence, act with unity and work together in a collective response. We must comprehensively step up international cooperation and foster greater synergy so that humanity as one could win the battle against such a major infectious



Chinese President Xi Jinping attends the G20 Extraordinary Virtual Leaders' Summit on COVID-19 via video link in Beijing, on March 26



President Xi Jinping learns about Huoshenshan Hospital's operations, treatment of patients, protection for medical workers and scientific research after arriving in Wuhan, Hubei Province, central China, on March 10

disease.

For that to happen, I would like to put forth four proposals.

First, we need to be resolute in fight-

ing an all-out global war against the COVID-19 outbreak. The community of nations must move swiftly to stem the spread of the virus. In this regard,

I propose that a G20 health ministers' meeting be convened as quick as possible to improve information sharing, strengthen cooperation on drugs, vaccines and epidemic control, and cut off cross-border infections. G20 members need to jointly help developing countries with weak public health systems enhance preparedness and response. I propose a G20 COVID-19 assistance initiative for better information sharing and policy and action coordination with the support of the World Health Organization. Guided by the vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind, China will be more than ready to share our good practices, conduct joint research and development of drugs and vaccines, and provide assistance where we can to countries hit by the growing outbreak.

Second, we need to make a collective response for control and treatment at the international level. This is a virus that respects no borders. The outbreak we are battling is our common enemy. All must work together to build a strongest global network of control and treatment that the world has ever seen. China has set up its online COVID-19 ►►

knowledge center that is open to all countries. It is imperative that countries pool their strengths and speed up research and development of drugs, vaccines and testing capabilities in the hope to achieve early breakthrough to the benefit of all. Discussions are also needed regarding the establishment of regional emergency liaison mechanisms to enable quicker response to public

health emergencies.

Third, we need to support international organizations in playing their active roles. China supports WHO in leading the global efforts to develop science-based and proper control and treatment and minimize cross-border spread. I call on G20 members to enhance anti-epidemic information sharing with the support of WHO and to promote control

and treatment protocols that are comprehensive, systematic and effective. The G20 platform for communication and coordination may be used to increase policy dialogue and exchange, and a high-level meeting on international public health security may be convened in due course. For China, we will be happy to join other countries and scale up support for relevant international and regional organizations.

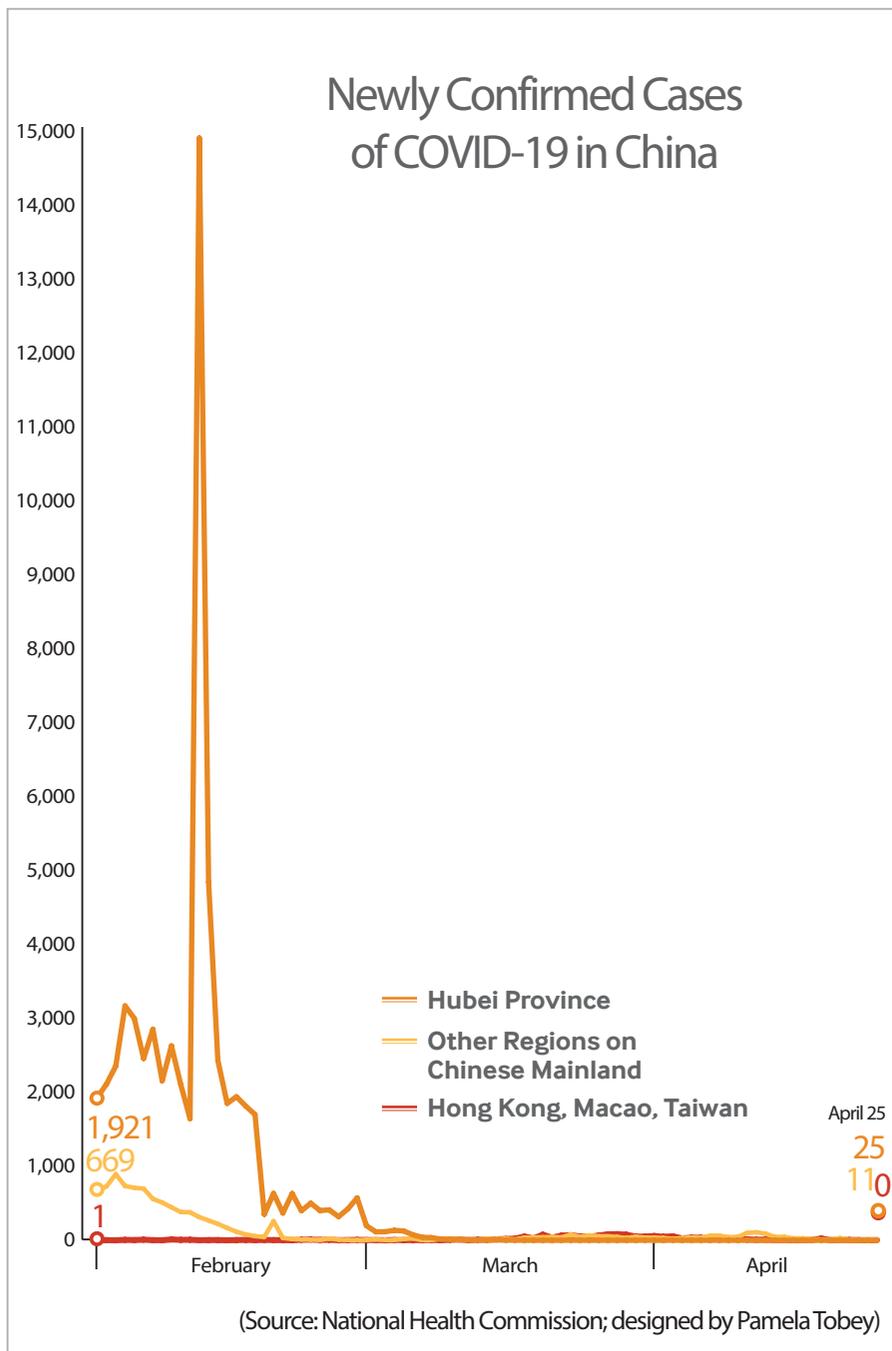
Fourth, we need to enhance international macro-economic policy coordination. The outbreak has disrupted production and demand across the globe. Countries need to leverage and coordinate their macro policies to counteract the negative impact and prevent the world economy from falling into recession. We need to implement strong and effective fiscal and monetary policies to keep our exchange rates basically stable. We need to better coordinate financial regulation to keep global financial markets stable. We need to jointly keep the global industrial and supply chains stable. What China will do in this regard is to increase its supply of active pharmaceutical ingredients, daily necessities, and anti-epidemic and other supplies to the international market. What's more, we also need to protect women, children, the elderly, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups, and provide for people's basic needs. China will continue to pursue a proactive fiscal policy and prudent monetary policy. We will continue to advance reform and opening-up, widen market access, improve the business environment, and expand imports and outbound investment to contribute to a stable world economy.

I want to call on all G20 members to take collective actions - cutting tariffs, removing barriers, and facilitating the unfettered flow of trade. Together, we can send a strong signal and restore confidence for global economic recovery. The G20 needs to draw up an action plan and promptly set up communication mechanisms and institutional arrangements for anti-epidemic macro policy coordination.

Dear Colleagues,

Now is a crucial moment, a time for us to rise up to challenge and act with swiftness. I am convinced that through solidarity and mutual assistance, we will prevail over this outbreak and we all will embrace a brighter future for mankind!

Thank you. **CI**



# World political parties issue joint open letter, calling for closer int'l cooperation against COVID-19

The Communist Party of China and more than 230 political parties from over 100 countries issued a joint open letter on April 2, calling for carrying out closer international cooperation to beat COVID-19.

This is the first joint appeal of major world political parties for strengthening international cooperation since the COVID-19 outbreak.

Today, as COVID-19 is spreading rapidly across the globe, it constitutes the most urgent and serious challenge to both the health of the humanity and world peace and development.

Faced with this unprecedented situation, we, major political parties of various countries tasked with the weighty responsibility of improving people's wellbeing, promoting national development and safeguarding world peace and stability, hereby issue our joint appeal as follows:

I. We pay our loftiest tribute to all the people, health workers in particular, who devote themselves to saving lives and protecting people's health. We extend our heartfelt sympathies and solicitude to those who are suffering from pain and whose lives are under the threat of COVID-19 as well as the bereaved families of those deceased. We also express our deep mourning for the unfortunate loss of lives in the outbreak.

II. We recognise that if the COVID-19 outbreak is not effectively and promptly contained, it will inflict even greater harm to the lives, safety and health of many more people, and exert a severe impact on the economic and social development of most countries as well as on international exchanges and cooperation. We call on all countries to put the lives, safety and health of the people above everything else and take resolute and forceful measures to put an end to the spread of COVID-19.

III. We support countries to put in place contingency plans and strategies for combating COVID-19 in light of their specific national conditions and to strengthen cooperation, with equal emphasis on containing the further spread and on patient treatment. Meanwhile, modern science

and technology must be applied to the full to ensure the quickest and best possible results.

IV. We call on the general public of all countries to comply with prevention and mitigation measures with a due sense of social responsibility. We encourage countries to fully leverage the strength of civil society organisations and volunteers with a view to unleashing the power of all social sectors to combat COVID-19.

V. We encourage all countries, while devoting efforts to epidemic control, to adopt an integrated approach to ensure economic and social development, take targeted measures to protect vulnerable groups and the SMEs, and honour their commitment to people's living standards and social progress. We call on all countries to step up the international coordination of macroeconomic policies to maintain stability of global financial market as well as that of industrial and supply chains, and to reduce or exempt tariffs for trade facilitation so as to prevent world economic recession. Countries are also encouraged

to maintain an appropriate level of international exchanges, in particular to facilitate the cross-border transportation of urgently needed medical equipment and protective materials for the fight against COVID-19.

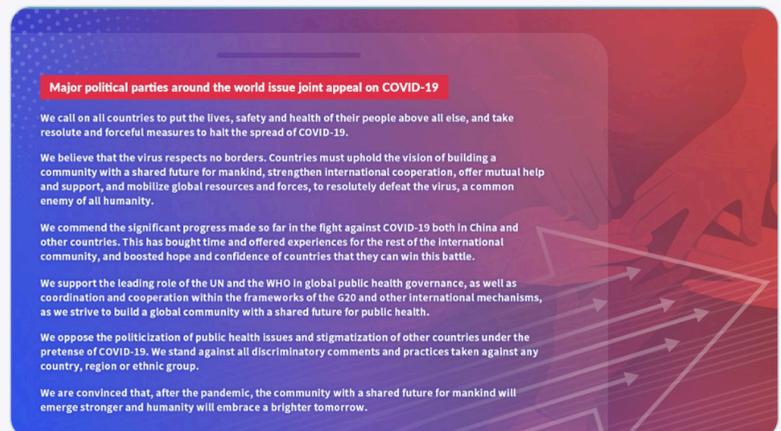
VI. We are aware that the virus respects no borders, and no country can respond to the challenges alone in the face of the outbreak. Countries must enhance their consciousness of a community with a shared future for mankind, proactively rendering mutual help and support to one another as the situation becomes more difficult. Closer international cooperation, coordinated policies, concerted actions, and mobilisation of resources and forces globally will enable us to defeat this virus, a common enemy to all of humanity.

VII. We take note of the significant progress in the fight against COVID-19 in China and some other countries, which has bought time and offered experience to the rest of the international community. We highly commend countries including China for adopting an open, transparent and responsible attitude to disclosing related



**Hu Zhaoming** 中联部发言人胡光明 @SpokespersonHZM · 4月2日

Welcome to my Twitter account. In my first tweet, I'd like to address an important development. Recently, the CPC issued a joint appeal with over 230 political parties in more than 100 countries, urging all countries to enhance cooperation against the #COVID19 pandemic.



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information in a timely fashion, sharing experience on response and patient treatment, and in particular providing medical and other supplies to the best of their ability to other affected countries. These represent a major contribution to the global fight against COVID-19, boosting the hope and confidence of countries that they can win this battle.

VIII. We welcome the Extraordinary G20 Leaders' Summit Statement on COVID-19 and support countries to strengthen the sharing of experience and medical cooperation in containing the outbreak, including joint research and development of specific medicines, vaccines and tests. We call on the provision of material, technical and other support to developing countries and countries with vulnerable public health systems. Let the sunlight of cooperation disperse the darkness of the pandemic.

IX. We call for science-based professional discussions on issues like prevention measures and the origin of the virus. We strongly oppose the politicisation of public health issues and the stigmatisation of other countries under the excuse of COVID-19.

We stand firmly against all discriminatory comments and practices against any country, region or ethnic group, and call on governments of all countries to take proactive measures to protect the health, safety and legitimate interests of foreign nationals and students they host.

X. We are of the view that the COVID-19 outbreak has laid bare the need for all countries to further foster the global governance outlook of achieving shared growth through discussion and collaboration and to support the leading role of the United Nations and the World Health Organisation in global public health governance. We call for all parties to enhance coordination and cooperation within the framework of the G20 and other international mechanisms for effective international prevention and control as we strive to build a global community with a shared future for public health.

As major political parties from countries of the world, we undertake to maintain close communication under the unusual circumstances, and ensure better performance of the due role of political

guidance for the purpose of injecting political energy into the global fight against COVID-19. We firmly believe that our current difficulties are only temporary, just as the sunlight shall eventually shine after each storm. If the international community makes concerted efforts with confidence and resolve and takes a science-based and targeted approach, it will definitely win the final victory in the all-out global war against COVID-19. It is our belief that, after the pandemic, the community with a shared future for mankind will emerge stronger and humanity will embrace a brighter tomorrow. **CI**

Please scan the QR code to follow the International Department, CPC Central Committee on Twitter @SpokespersonHZM.



## Shared Anti-Epidemic Experience

Upholding the vision of building a community with a shared future for humanity, China has been timely releasing information on COVID-19 since the onset in an open, transparent and responsible manner, unreservedly sharing with WHO and the international community its experience in epidemic response and medical treatment, and strengthening cooperation on scientific research.

Issued on March 3, by the National Health Commission (NHC), the Diagnosis and Treatment Protocol for Novel Coronavirus Pneumonia (Trial Version Seven) has been formulated based on increased clinical manifestations and pathology of the disease, as well as accumulated experience in diagnosis and treatment.

The protocol recognizes the up-to-date pandemic situation worldwide, which is seeing the outbreak contained domesti-

cally, to a certain extent, but on the rise overseas.

Compared with the previous version, updates have been made concerning transmission routes, case definitions, discharge criteria, and therapeutic measures.

The sixth edition of Protocol on Prevention and Control of Novel Coronavirus Pneumonia is based on the latest clinical discoveries and research results. It was released by NHC on March 7.

Compared with the previous version, the sixth edition revises transmission routes - adding the possibility of aerosol transmission in closed environments with exposure to high-concentration aerosol - includes more clinical manifestations, updates diagnosis criteria, and re-groups patients according to severity. Notably, it adds the treatment of plasma from recovered COVID-19 patients to treat severe

and critical cases, and elaborates on TCM treatment and doses.

When Wuhan, Hubei was being hit the hardest by COVID-19, Department of Housing and Urban-Rural Development of Hubei Province collaborated with experts from Central South Architectural Design Institute Co., Ltd. and CITIC General Institute of Architectural Design and Research Co., Ltd. jointly to produce "Technical requirements for the Design and Conversion of Makeshift Hospitals" (MHs). Hopefully, this could be beneficial to the practice of "Leave No One Unattended".

Currently, with the COVID-19 Epidemic spreading quickly around the world, the professional team summarized practice of MH design, construction and operation, which was translated into English for peers both at home and around the world to refer to.

## Diagnosis and Treatment Protocol for Novel Coronavirus Pneumonia (Trial Version 7)

As an acute respiratory infectious disease, novel coronavirus pneumonia has been included in Class B infectious diseases prescribed in the Law of the People's Republic of China on Prevention and Treatment of Infectious Diseases, and managed as an infectious disease of Class A. By taking a series of preventive control and medical treatment measures, the rise of the epidemic situation in China has been contained to a certain extent, and the epidemic situation has eased in most provinces, but the incidence abroad is on the rise.

With increased understanding of the clinical manifestations and pathology of the disease, and the accumulation of experience in diagnosis and treatment, the Diagnosis and Treatment Protocol for Novel Coronavirus Pneumonia (Trial Version 6) was revised. It is expected that the Diagnosis and Treatment Protocol for Novel Coronavirus Pneumonia (Trial Version 7) can further strengthen the early diagnosis and early treatment of the disease, improve the cure rate, reduce the mortality rate, avoid nosocomial infection as much as possible and pay attention to the spread caused by the imported cases from overseas.



Scan the QR code to find more information



In the intensive care unit at Huoshenshan Hospital, doctors fight to save a critically ill patient by inserting a tube into his windpipe to help him breathe, a process that exposes them to a high risk of infection

## Protocol on Prevention and Control of Novel Coronavirus Pneumonia (Edition 6)

In order to prevent and control novel coronavirus pneumonia (COVID-19), ensure "early detection, early reporting, early isolation and early treatment", prevent the spread of the outbreak, reduce infection rate, improve treatment rate and cure rate, reduce case fatality rate, protect people's safety and health and maintain social stability, the 5th Edition of the Novel Coronavirus Pneumonia Prevention and Control Protocol is now revised to this 6th Edition according to the policy that novel coronavirus pneumonia is classified as a category B infectious disease but regulated as a category-A infectious disease and based on the epidemic evolution across the country and research advances.



Scan the QR code to find more information



Patients do exercises at the Wuhan Sports Center converted temporary treatment center on February 18

## Technical requirements for the Design and Conversion of Make-shift Hospitals

Currently, Makeshift Hospitals (MHs) aim to receive large numbers of COVID-19 patients with mild symptom for joint treatment. With the shortest schedule and minimalist costs, MH takes full advantage of existent building, being reconstructed into temporary place for treatment to isolate source of infection and treat patients to the greatest extent. MH is of big space and large capacity. The design and reconstruction should follow the principle of safety to ensure the safety of medical staff and patients, building structure, facilities and equipment operation, firefighting as so as the environment. **CI**



Scan the QR code to find more information



Staffers deliver express packages to quarantined people at a quarantine point in Songjiang District in Shanghai, on March 30

# Key Meeting: Stop Imported Cases at Border

A meeting chaired by Premier Li Keqiang on April 2 called for stronger measures to prevent importation of COVID-19 cases via land entry points and reducing people unnecessarily crossing borders while continuing with unrelenting epidemic containment efforts.

The leading group of the Communist Party of China Central Committee meeting on coping with novel coronavirus, led by Li, said China will step up checks on key transport routes in border areas and bolster international cooperation in containment to block infection.

Local authorities must fully assume their responsibilities, refine their containment plans and ensure early detection, reporting and isolation and treatment of patients, the group said in a statement.

The meeting stressed the need for reinforced attention toward asymptomatic patients through enforcement of screening, reporting, isolation and medical measures and management of their close contacts.

China will organize epidemiological research on asymptomatic patients in Wuhan, other parts of Hubei province and other areas to learn more about the infection rate of the virus and patients without symptoms and how infectious their cases are.

The results of the research will be made public, which will also pave the way for more scientific and targeted containment measures, the group said.

The meeting decided to enforce stricter standards on hospital discharges of COVID-19 patients. Recovered patients must be placed in isolation for medical observation and receive follow-up examinations. Those who test positive again must receive treatment in a timely manner.

It also called for use of scientific and standardized practices in road quarantine checks after roadblocks are lifted leading out of Hubei, saying that the passenger and cargo transport must be unimpeded.

Authorities in low-risk areas must promote the resumption of work and services in offices and public venues like malls, farmers markets and parks with full ventilation, sanitation, disinfection and health monitoring measures, the group said.

Large gatherings must be avoided, and the protection of key groups such as the elderly, students, pregnant women and mothers of newborns must be increased, it added.

The meeting also underlined the importance of increasing support for businesses to enable the resumption of work and to maintain the stability of supply chains. **C**



Staff members of the customs check the health declaration information of newly arrived inbound passengers in Chongqing, southwest China, on March 29



A foreigner thanks a staff member at a quarantine point in Fengtai District, Beijing on March 23

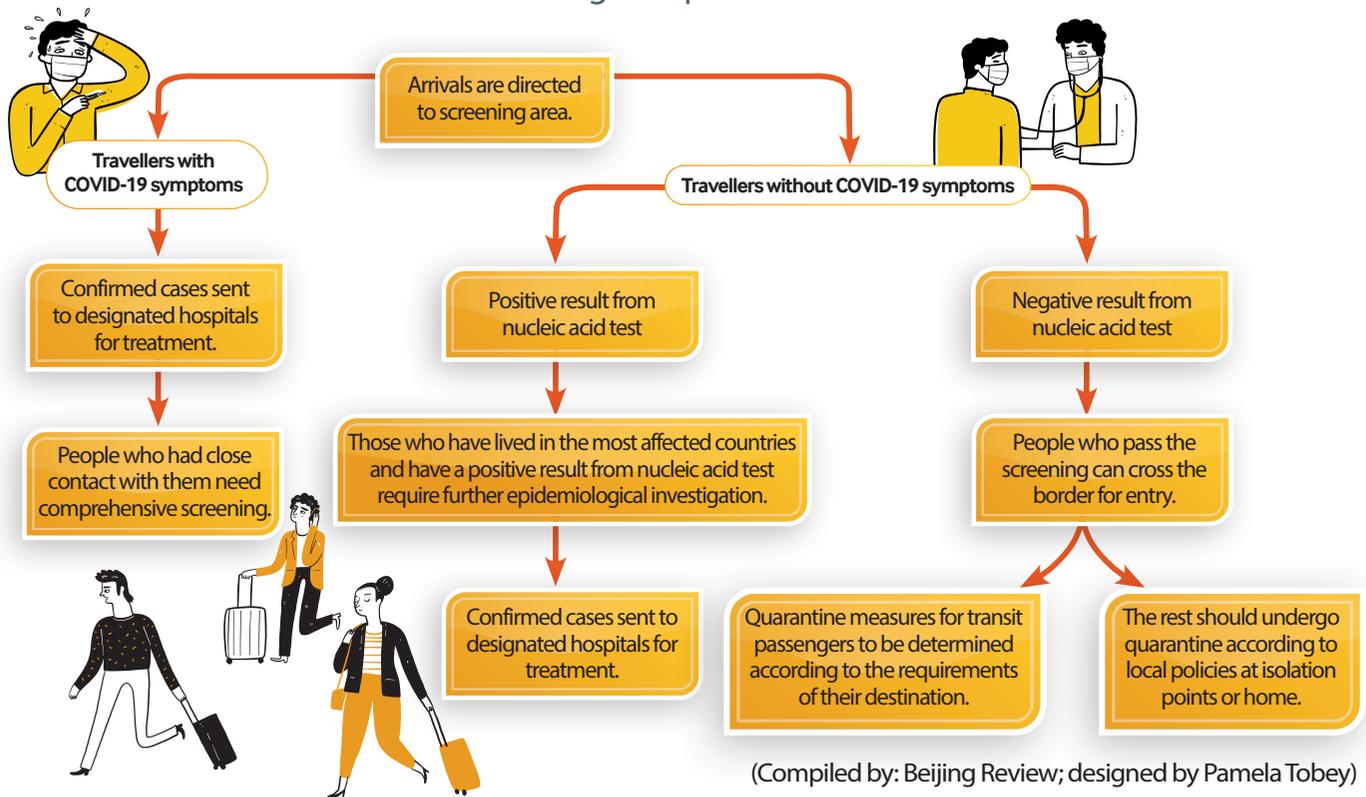


In an isolated observation point in a hotel located in Beijing, the lobby at the first floor has been turned into a temporary office on March 23



A staff member checks body temperature for a truck driver from Kazakhstan at an inspection hall of the Alataw Pass Station, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, northwest China, on April 11

## Arriving at Airports in China



# Students Return Home to China

### Hua Chunying

Not long ago, China arranged temporary flights to transfer people facing dire situations in Iran and Italy back to China in an orderly manner.

The Chinese embassies and consulates in Ethiopia, Cambodia, and other countries took immediate actions and went all-out to help the students return home safe and sound, both by contacting their host countries and coordinating with the relevant departments back in China.

In view of the current situation in the UK and the difficulties faced by Chinese students there, the foreign ministry is actively coordinating with the Civil Aviation Administration and other departments to bring home students in need by extra flight.

### Zhao Lijian

After the COVID-19 broke out in many countries, the foreign ministry, following the decisions of the CPC Central Committee, asked all Chinese diplomatic missions overseas to do their best to convey love and care to overseas Chinese students from the Party and the Government.

Considering some Chinese students, especially the underage students, are facing real difficulties, our ministry is coordinating temporary flights to take these students home in a gradual and orderly way.

Students studying abroad are children of the motherland and an important force to build China's future. The Party and the country have always attached great importance to Chinese students living abroad.

At the early stage of the COVID-19

outbreak in China, concerned about the motherland, the Chinese students overseas donated money and supplies in support of the fight against the epidemic to the homeland, which showed their precious patriotism. Currently, the pandemic is spreading at

multiple hotspots around the world. The CPC Central Committee has always cared about the health and safety of Chinese students overseas and has adopted a series of major measures.

The State Council Information Office held ▶▶

a press conference in Beijing on April 2 to brief the media on the health and security of Chinese students living overseas during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Ma Zhaoxu, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, said that regarding China's overseas students, the number of students studying overseas is quite large. According to the statistics of education authorities, the total number of China's overseas students reaches 1.6 million. Among these, 1.4 million remain abroad now.

Also, overseas students are located in different countries and regions. There are about 410,000 in the U.S., about 230,000 in Canada, about 220,000 in the U.K., about 110,000 in Germany and France, and 280,000 in Australia and New Zealand. There are also 180,000 in Japan and South Korea. These students are widespread.

Faced with the circumstances described above, the Chinese Government must take them into consideration and implement measures steadily and accurately. The goal is to try everything to ensure that our overseas students are healthy and safe.

For those students in hard hit countries who do urgently need to return home, the CPC and the Chinese government will take necessary measures in time to help them get home in an orderly fashion.

These students should cooperate with civil aviation, ports and local epidemic prevention departments before boarding flights, as well as during time spent on the planes and after crossing the border. And they need to strictly follow the epidemic prevention regulations while being responsible for public safety and their own health.

"We will continue to follow the requirements and arrangements of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council, take care of and serve overseas students and solve their problems properly," Ma said.

Following the work requirements of the State Council's Joint Prevention and Control Mechanism to contain the continuously rising imported cases from overseas, the CAAC has adopted a policy to further cut international passenger flights, stipulating that each airline operate only one flight a week per country. The move to maintain the minimum level of flights is supposed to aid homeward bound Chinese citizens abroad, especially overseas Chinese students, Lyu Erxue said, deputy head of the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC).

From March 4 to 26, the CAAC organized a total of 9 temporary flights to assist 1,466 Chinese citizens in returning home from Iran and Italy. Among them, 6 temporary flights were executed in Iran, and 976 passengers were transported home. The majority of them are overseas Chinese students. Three temporary flights have been carried out in Italy, and the fourth one is currently underway, which will transport 180 Chinese citizens back home. The specific route of the fourth flight is from Milan to Wenzhou.

At the same time, according to the unified deployment of the joint epidemic prevention and control mechanism of the State Council, the CAAC officially launched the temporary flight mission to the United Kingdom on April 2. It is expected to pick up about 180 overseas students.

To ensure the prevention of the epidemic

and control during the flight, the CAAC adopted a series of targeted prevention and control measures.

"We formulated prevention and control measures for temporary flight missions to countries with a severe pandemic, which provides practical guidance for the protection of people on board," Lyu said.

The CAAC also works closely with embassy staff and accompanying medical staff of the National Health Commission to carry out body temperature screenings and testing before boarding. In addition, special protection and disinfectant supplies are provided for each flight, and medical N95 masks will be distributed to each passenger to minimize the spread of the virus on the aircraft.

Adequate anti-epidemic measures are adopted on board, such as ventilation and disinfection. Passengers are seated in separate seats, and the cabins are partitioned to reduce the mobility of people on board.

"We will strictly disinfect the aircraft after each mission to ensure safety before performing other flight missions," he said.

In the next step, the CAAC will strictly follow the task deployments of the joint prevention and control mechanism of the State Council, promptly launch aviation support mechanisms for overseas students who need to return to China from countries that are severely affected by the pandemic, and do an excellent job in transport capacity adjustment, crew arrangements, and onboard prevention and protection to ensure the successful completion of the task of helping overseas students return home. 



Chinese Students board a plane in London to return home



Cabin crew members take a group photo with passengers on a special flight from Haneda Airport in Tokyo, Japan to Tianhe International Airport in Wuhan, Hubei Province, on February 1

# A Healing Touch



The delegates of overseas Chinese students pose for a photo with boxes of health kits at the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Frankfurt, Germany, on April 2

Since the outbreak of the epidemic overseas, protective equipment including face masks have been in short supply worldwide.

Under the joint support of the finance, education, aviation and national health sectors, each embassy and consulate immediately acted, fully mobilizing all resources to collect and send health packs to students overseas, sparing no effort to solve the practical difficulties they are facing.

In accordance with the general deployment of the Chinese government, face masks, disinfectant, sanitizing wipes and other urgently needed materials have been collected and distributed to Chinese students through various channels.

The Chinese Embassy in the UK has prepared 200,000 "health packages", try-

ing its best to ensure that every overseas student can get one. At present, Sri Lanka is running extremely short of epidemic prevention equipment and has imposed martial law. Seeing that many Chinese staying outside the capital of Sri Lanka need masks urgently, the Chinese embassy there immediately communicated with local governments and coordinated with local police to deliver masks and other emergency supplies by relay to Chinese patriots including overseas students.

At present, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has prioritized work regarding the "health packages," allocating 500,000 to countries with more Chinese students, including more than 11 million masks, 500,000 disinfection materials, and epidemic prevention guidelines. Since many countries have implemented national

lockdown or lockdown on cities, the foreign ministry and the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) have been racing against time to prioritize deliveries of the "health packages" by civil aviation planes, so as to ensure overseas students can receive them in a timely manner.

For instance, the Chinese Embassy in Japan sent out a survey through public platforms to identify needs, sending the first batch of 30,000 masks to over 4,000 students lacking protective equipment.

Before the arrival of the health packs from China, the Chinese Consulate General in San Francisco actively collected over 20,000 masks and sent them to students stranded in hard-hit areas.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and overseas embassies and consulates will consider the current situation in



A health kit provided by Chinese Embassy in France includes medicine face masks and disinfectant wipes



Staff members carry supplies of health packages at the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Osaka, on April 11

the students' host countries, continuously sending out health packs to those students stranded by the epidemic in a timely manner, sparing no effort to assist them in the fight against the epidemic, jointly safeguarding their health and safety and overcoming the current crisis.

On March 25, the CAAC embarked on a mission to transport health packs containing hygiene products to Chinese students overseas. This task was assigned in accordance with the requirements made by the Leading Group of the CPC Central Committee on Novel Coronavirus Prevention and Control, the concrete deployments of the joint prevention and control mechanism of the State Council and the general demands provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The first batch of more than 300,000 packs, weighing 300 tons, will be delivered to 46 Chinese embassies and consulates in 12 countries, namely, Italy, South Korea, France, Germany, the United States, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Sweden, Japan, Australia, Canada and Malaysia, before reaching the students.

While coordinating with China Airlines and China Eastern Airlines, the CAAC has drawn up a plan with multiple approaches, such as, transporting the health packs in the holds of passenger planes, making full use of cargo aircrafts and refurbishing passenger airliners for cargo services.

The delivery of the packs will be prioritized under the joint efforts between the CAAC and the airlines involved to ensure that the necessities can reach our embassies and consulates overseas as soon as possible, as a substantial number of international passenger flights have been suspended.

In terms of our latest plan, CAAC will finish delivering the more-than-300,000 packs with an estimated weight of around 300tons, by April 10.

Although the "health package" is small, it conveys the care and love of the motherland, the Party and our people, making overseas students feel a sense of warmth.

Many overseas students have stated that the "health packages" let them truly feel the care of the motherland and have strengthened their confidence in fighting the epidemic. They said they would protect themselves well while completing their studies, and serve the motherland as soon as possible. **C**

# China to step up prevention of epidemic rebound, imported COVID-19 cases



Resident scan health code before entering a community in Wuhan, Hubei Province, central China, on April 11

be fully recognized and should not be taken lightly.

Li, also a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, presided over the meeting.

The meeting stressed measures to target both imported cases and possible domestic epidemic rebound, calling for improving measures and mechanisms for emergency response and routine prevention and control.

The domestic epidemic prevention and control should be carried out in a precise manner, the meeting said, urging firm, solid and meticulous prevention and control efforts to prevent cross-border COVID-19 transmissions.

The meeting also called for orderly promoting the resumption of work and production while preventing and controlling the epidemic in a scientific and precise manner.

The achievements of the epidemic prevention and control work in Hubei Province and its capital city of Wuhan, the former epicenter of the outbreak, should be consolidated, said the meeting.

The meeting pointed out that Wuhan should still have a strong team of high-level medical professionals specialized in intensive care to increase the cure rate and reduce the fatality rate.

The meeting stressed preventing a rebound of the epidemic domestically, adding that once a case is found, measures should be exercised immediately over the people and places where the virus may be transmitted.

The meeting also urged to strengthen cooperation with neighboring countries and border control to battle the outbreak.

Wang Huning, also a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and deputy head of the leading group, attended the meeting. **C**



Graduate students at a senior school in Guizhou Province, southwest China, read instructions for lunch, on March 15, which ask them to practice social distancing

A leading group of China's COVID-19 response on April 26 stressed measures to prevent the rebound of the epidemic within the country and called for stepping up prevention of imported cases by land and water.

The group, led by Premier Li Keqiang, called for comprehensive and scientific study and judgment on both domestic and overseas epidemic situation development, stressing that the complexity and severity of the epidemic situations should

# All in the Same Boat



The first Chinese medical team to help Italy fight COVID-19 land at the Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport, on April 10



The first batch of medical supplies sent by China arrives in Spain, on March 17

Twelve years ago, when an earthquake struck Wenchuan, a county in southwest China, Italy was the first country to send a medical team to support the relief work. This year again, when China fought the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in January, Italy provided urgently needed medical supplies.

China reciprocated the support weeks later when Italy grappled with the COVID-19 pandemic. A charter flight carrying Chinese medical experts and supplies alighted at the Leonardo da Vinci International Airport in Rome on March 12.

"We are ready to share China's hard-won diagnostic and treatment guidelines as well as our first-hand experience," Lu Ming, a staff with the National Health Commission's International Cooperation Department and a member of the team, told China National Radio.

On March 18, the second team of Chinese medical experts arrived in Milan. They carried a banner quoting ancient Roman philosopher Seneca, "We are waves of the same sea, leaves of the same tree, and flowers of the same garden." A week later, the third team



Members of the Chinese medical expert team arrive at the Yangon International Airport in Yangon, Myanmar, on April 8. A medical team of 12 members from Yunan Province, southwest China, arrived on April 8 to assist the Myanmar government's ongoing efforts in fight against COVID-19

landed in Rome.

The Chinese experts, who specialize in respiratory and infectious diseases, intensive care and traditional Chinese medicine, visited hospitals and health labs with suggestions on prevention, control and treatment.

"We value the collaboration and information provided by our Chinese counterparts who have accumulated valuable experience in dealing with the outbreak," Nicola Petrosillo, a researcher with Italy's National Institute for Infectious Diseases, told China Central Television. Italy is in great need of Chinese experience and medical assistance, he added.

Michele Geraci, former Under Secretary of State at the Italian Ministry of Economic Development, said in an interview with Nanfang Daily, a Chinese newspaper, that people living in Italy appreciate China's help at this difficult time and the message of solidarity it conveys.

The Chinese experts have been sharing their clinical diagnosis and treatment skills with their Iranian counterparts since the end of February. Iran has designated hospitals for COVID-19 cases and adopted centralized

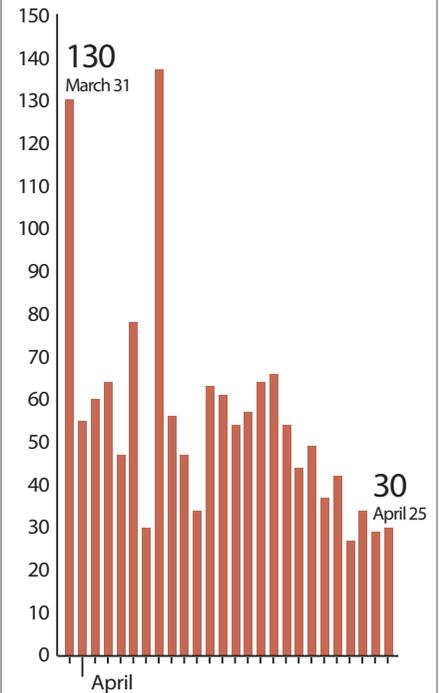
treatment, as followed in China, and the team's other recommendations.

Chinese experts have also been sent to Serbia, Cambodia, Pakistan, Laos and the Philippines to help assess the epidemic situation and local medical conditions, and assist in drawing up a roadmap for prevention and control work. The first deployment of Chinese medical professionals in the Latin American and Caribbean region has also been made at the request of the Venezuelan Government.

The international community gave great support during the most difficult period of China's fight against the disease. China, in turn, has offered technological products, solutions and its experience in fighting the epidemic to the rest of the world, according to Xu Nanping, Chinese Vice Minister of Science and Technology, at a press conference on March 26.

The three teams that went to Italy, for example, took with them test kits, intensive care unit facilities, portable ultrasound equipment, protective materials and medicines. As the blood plasma of recovered patients contains effective antibodies against the virus, the team also took such plasma with them.

### Asymptomatic Cases of COVID-19 in China



(Source: National Health Commission; designed by Pamela Tobey)

Besides, the China Silk Road Fund, a fund designed to finance the Belt and Road Initiative, has also donated masks and test reagents to the Italian Civil Protection Agency and the northwestern region of Lombardy.

Chinese experts and officials are holding international video conferences to exchange ideas with foreign health experts. Two platforms have been created to share Chinese research findings, Xu said. One of the platforms, a database, has been accessed by visitors from 152 countries and regions.

The Chinese Government has given 120 countries and four international organizations masks, protective suits, test kits, ventilators and other assistance, Hua Chunying, a spokesperson for the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said on March 31. Local governments have donated medical items to their sister cities in more than 50 countries.

The Jack Ma Foundation, the charitable organization of Alibaba co-founder Jack Ma, has donated medical supplies to 140 countries and regions. On April 6, it announced a second batch of donation for African countries with poor public health systems and limited capacity.



A chartered plane carrying 2.66 metric tons of medical supplies lands in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on April 7. The supplies, including face masks, were sent by Guangxi Province, southeast China

Some countries have requested Chinese assistance in their commercial procurement, and China has recommended qualified exporters to them, Hua said.

The Chinese authorities have also tightened regulatory measures to ensure the quality of the exported medical supplies. Exporters of medical products including COVID-19 test kits, medical face masks, protective suits, ventilators and infrared thermometers are required to provide extra documentation when they go through customs clearance since April 1.

They should declare that the products have been officially registered in China and meet the quality-control standards of their export destinations, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The customs will release the exports based on certificates of registration approved by medical product administrations.

During a phone call with Xi on March 12, UN Secretary General António Guterres said the world body appreciates China's assistance to countries facing difficulties, adding that China's support is vital to multilateralism and the UN looks forward to China playing an important leading role in international affairs.

On April 3, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi spoke with EU High Representative



A batch of medical supplies for France at an airport in Shanghai on March 16. They were sent to help France fight the rapidly spreading coronavirus pandemic. The supplies arrived in the Paris, on March 18

for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell on the phone. Borrell said the EU appreciates China's support and assistance to itself and member states and fully recognizes China's constructive role in the global response to COVID-19 and its tradition of

helping other countries in need.

Viruses respect no borders and all countries rise and fall together in times like this. Only by coming together can the international community ultimately defeat COVID-19, Borrell added. **C**

# Playing a Critical Role

China fulfills its responsibility as a major country in the global fight against COVID-19 By George N. Tzogopoulos

When the novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) emerged in the city of Wuhan, China took the unprecedented measure of locking it down. The efficiency of policies always depends on results. A few weeks after the outbreak, difficult decisions seem to be vindicated. Despite precaution and systematic controls that are still needed, life is gradually returning to normal. New cases are mostly imported ones, requiring airport checks and quarantine to prevent another contagion. The Guardian acknowledged China's success by calling Wuhan's lockdown strategy "effective". And Time magazine asserted that "China's draconian lockdown [is] getting credit for slowing coronavirus."

An important part of China's strategy was to closely collaborate with the World Health Organization (WHO). The organization's Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus has praised the country's efforts to contain the virus.

While there is much discussion at present about COVID-19 by experts and non-experts, Chinese biologists and doctors--at the beginning--had to fight against an unknown virus to save lives while protecting themselves. As Chinese President Xi Jinping said during the Group of 20 (G20) leaders' virtual meeting on March 26, the COVID-19 outbreak "caught us all by surprise." Of course, some of the criticism is fair. The Chinese Government has acknowledged mistakes. And it has expressed gratitude to countries which

immediately offered humanitarian assistance. But if there is one thing that it could barely accept, it is social stigma. Several examples can be found during the pandemic that have naturally caused anger in Beijing. The expression "Chinese virus" used by U.S. President Donald Trump is obviously the most notable one.

WHO has published a guide to prevent and address social stigma. In the context of health, it refers to the negative association between a person or group of people who share certain characteristics and a specific disease. As COVID-19 is not fully understood by most people, stereotypes tend to become a recurrent feature and are often associated with political games and the favorite theme of the Western discourse: China's development. But if we now look back at the beginning of January, we can see that the Chinese battle against COVID-19 bought time for other countries that was not necessarily harnessed.

From the very beginning, neutral observers have not joined the anti-China trend in the West but have warned that COVID-19 respects no borders. The G20 summit statement reflects this reality, but it came at a late stage. It is not the appropriate time to extensively comment on the inertia of the U.S. administration and that of other governments, in Europe and elsewhere, though.

What currently matters more is tangible action to end this nightmare. China is playing a critical role in that regard. It

is continuously providing medical help to countries in need. China-Italy relations, for instance, are reaching new heights in difficult times. Italian Permanent Representative to the EU Maurizio Massari wrote in his article for *Politico* that only China has responded bilaterally. This is also the case for China-Spain friendship. Pictures and videos of Chinese airplanes delivering medical supplies across the globe are being published almost daily.

Yet, it is not surprising that China's critics remain suspicious. Some talk about the Communist Party of China's publicity efforts. Others prefer to link the ongoing proactive stance of Beijing to its alleged responsibility for the outbreak of COVID-19. Nonetheless, countries and people suffering from the virus are full of appreciation. This is China's biggest reward and investment for the future.

In his speech at the G20 leaders' meeting, Xi reiterated China's determination to share good practices, conduct joint research and development of drugs and vaccines and provide assistance. International cooperation and greater synergies are required, he repeated.

When Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin in 1929, he could not rely on the experience of Chinese, Russian and U.S. researchers in using mold for its antibiotic activity. In the 21st century, where digital, technological and other unprecedented means are available, opportunities for collaboration should not be missed because of political myopia and ideological bias.

The Health Silk Road can join hands with international organizations including WHO, apply the principle of multilateralism, pass by safe stops such as institutes named after Pasteur in France, Koch in Germany, Lister in the UK, John Hopkins in the U.S., Oswaldo Cruz in Brazil or Haffkine in India and reach new destinations across the globe. History will judge the role of leadership. And then there will be many negative things to be remembered like rise in social stigma, but only one positive thing: contribution to public good. **CI**





Chinese Ambassador Xu Erwen (left 2) and Croatian Health Minister Vili Beros (right 2) pose with medical supplies from China in Zagreb, Croatia, on April 12. A cargo aircraft from Shanghai carrying about 60 tons of medical supplies, including 3.7 tons donated by the Chinese Government to Croatia, landed at the Franjo Tudman International Airport on April 12

## Rick Dunham

Co-Director of the Global Business Journalism Program at Tsinghua University

There's a debate in the United States. Many conservative lawmakers have been using that term call it Chinese flu, because that means that Donald Trump will not be held responsible. I don't think that there are policies of major news organizations in the United States to use the name. But when it happens, it's wrong.

A lot of the western media coverage focused on the lack of Information at the beginning and on social media controversies rather than the core issue itself.

I think that from the moment that the Chinese Government realized the seriousness of the disease, it started releasing information and then tried to tweak the information so that the methodology was generally considered acceptable and not political.

The transparency level, the number of new cases, the number of people who

died, the number of people who have recovered, I think having reliable, consistent information is crucial. I think the united states could learn a lesson from the way the Chinese Government has communicated, clearly with one voice.

I think the tonality has changed already. I have seen stories in American media saying that there are lessons that we have learned from China that can be applied to this. I think people are learning best practices from what happened in China, medically health, the importance of quickly creating health centers, hospitals.

The coronavirus is bringing out the best and the worst in people around the world. I mean the enemy is the virus... We're all citizens of the world as well as citizens of our own countries.

## Mario Cavolo

CEO M Comm Group, media commentator

I thought about H1N1 outbreak in 2009. You tell me, was it called the

America virus? In fact, there were even a few earlier cases, actually, just before in Mexico. Was it called the Mexico virus? But this isn't the question of just the name. It's the derogatory intention behind the name.

What we find mostly in social media, we find more younger generation of people there expressing their voices, what I really like and what I think is fantastic.

Every person should be proud of where they live and proud of the country that they live in. Look, how the Chinese came together and that's all over the national media. When you stop demonizing any country and just talk about it from a point of common sense, majority of Chinese citizens think we have a sense of civic duty.

There's a very specific and intentional and coordinated cold war, anti-China coordinated campaign. It's the western version, the United States version of propaganda.

I really appreciate the way that China has exceeded the reporting in terms of transparency versus the reality of being



Members of the Chinese medical team board a plane to return home after an aid mission in Venezuela in Caracas, on April 11

accused that they're not being transparent. First of all, it publicly announced the situation in Wuhan is very bad. Did they hide this? No.

Doctors came rushing by the thousands to wuhan to help, an incredible show of solidarity and unity in such an emergency. And this is where we see the advantages of an authoritarian central planning type government. When they say something needs to be done, it can be done quickly.

We can work together as much as we need to go forward in a globalized world. The requirement is maturity and wisdom to tolerate certain differences that are never gonna change.

## Samantha Bee,

Television host, political commentator

Tying coronavirus to China and Chinese people isn't just a racist dog whistle. It is a whole racist orchestra. **CI**



Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro meets with Chinese medical experts at the presidential palace on April 8



A staff member works at a workshop of China Railway Rolling Stock Corporation Qiqihar Rolling Stock Co., Ltd. in Qiqihar, northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on April 10. As of April 10, over 98 percent of industrial enterprises above designated size in Qiqihar have resumed work and production in an orderly manner under strict containment of COVID-19

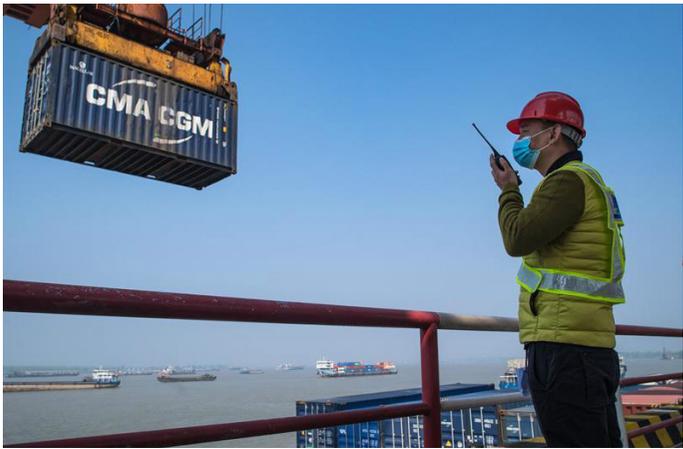
## A Positive Effect

By March 28, the resumption rate of industrial enterprises above designated size in China had reached 98.6 percent, with 89.9 percent of employees returning to work. As of March 29, the rate of work resumption of small and medium-sized companies have exceeded 76 percent.

At the press conference held by the State Council on March 30, Xin Guobin, Vice Minister of Industry and Information Technology, said overall, the country's industrial fundamentals have initially achieved stability. **CI**



A customer orders food at a restaurant in Shenyang, Liaoning Province, northeast China, on April 1

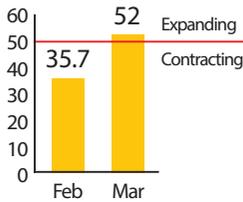


A staff member speaks to an intercom at the Yangluo Port in Wuhan, central China's Hubei Province, on April 12. Wuhan, the megacity in central China, lifted outbound travel restrictions from April 8 after almost 11 weeks of lockdown to stem the spread of COVID-19. The cargos piled up at ports due to the COVID-19 pandemic have also been shipping away since the water ports in Wuhan resumed operation

A resident shops for flowers at a flower market in Shanghai on April 10. Recently, this market has resumed an in orderly manner, where 90 percent of merchants have returned to work

## China's Progress on Business Resumption

### Purchasing Managers' Index (Manufacturing sector)

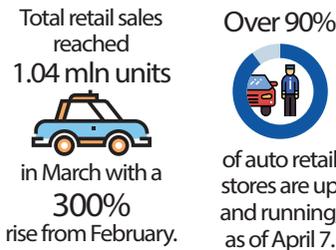


Re-entered expansion in March from contraction in February, indicating recovery in economic activity.

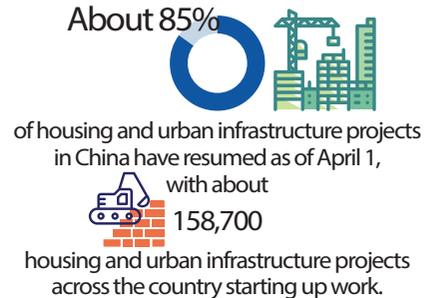
### Foreign Trade Sector



### Passenger Car Market

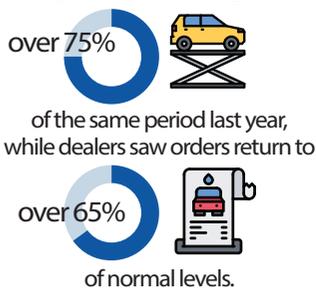


### Construction



### Major Automobile Firms

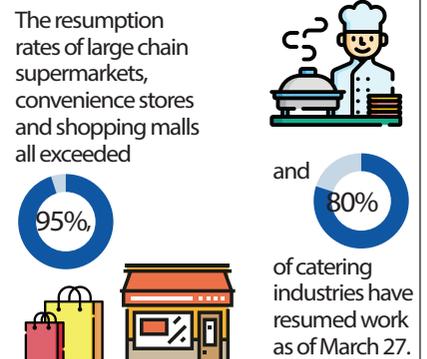
Firms have fully resumed work with daily output gradually recovering to



### Large Enterprises



### Resumption Rates



(Sources: National Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, China Passenger Car Association, National Development and Reform Commission; designed by Pamela Tobey)

# Highlights of Xi's remarks on securing a decisive victory in poverty alleviation despite the epidemic

President Xi Jinping on March 6 stressed overcoming the impact of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) to clinch a complete victory in the fight against poverty.

Xi, also General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and Chairman of the Central Military Commission, made the remarks at a symposium on securing a decisive victory in poverty alleviation.

The following are highlights of what President Xi stresses at the meeting:

- Lifting all rural residents living below the current poverty line out of poverty by 2020 is a solemn promise made by the CPC Central Committee, and it must be fulfilled on time;
- Poverty alleviation is a tough battle that greater importance must be attached to in the final push;
- Party committees and governments at all levels should advance the fight against poverty in greater determination and intensity, overcome the impact of the COVID-19 to clinch a complete victory in eradicating poverty and accomplish the great cause that is of tremendous importance both for the Chinese nation and humanity.
- This symposium, the largest of its kind since the 18th CPC National Congress, is held to mobilize all resources to win the battle against poverty, and ensure that the target of eradicating poverty is met as planned so as to build a moderately prosperous society in all respects.

## **China's poverty alleviation tasks are near completion. Here are some facts:**

- The number of impoverished people fell to 5.51 million at the end of 2019 from nearly 100 million at the end of 2012;
- The poverty headcount ratio dropped to 0.6 percent from 10.2 percent during the period, with regional overall poverty being basically eradicated.
- Upon completion of the poverty eradication task this year, China will achieve the goals set in the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 10 years ahead of schedule;
- China's farewell to absolute poverty is of great significance to both China and the world, as no country in the world has ever lifted so many people out of poverty in such a short period of time;
- The unprecedented achievements in poverty alleviation demonstrate the political advantages of the CPC leadership and the socialist system.



Villagers collect black fungus at a black fungus poverty alleviation base in Futai Village of Wuhe County, east China's Anhui Province, on March 11. The black fungus poverty alleviation base has helped 12 low-income households in the village get rid of poverty, adding 20,000 yuan (\$2,877) on average to each household every year



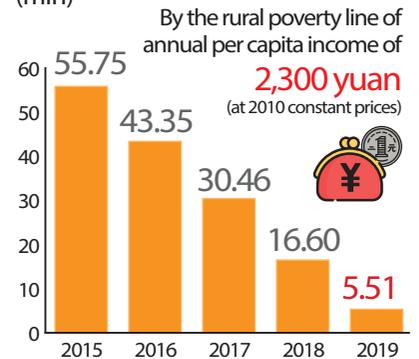
Farmers harvest carrots in Wangling Township of Binyang County, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on February 7



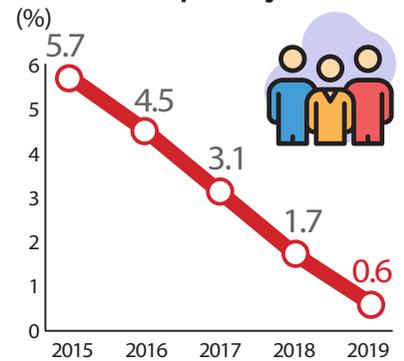
Workers examine inductors produced at a poverty alleviation workshop in Taoyuan County, central China's Hunan Province, on February 20. After taking sufficient measures of preventing the novel coronavirus, many production lines of the poverty alleviation workshop have resumed production

## China's Poverty Alleviation Achievement

### Rural population in poverty (mln)



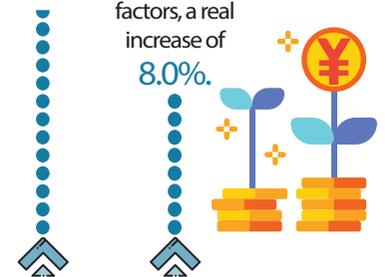
### Incidence of poverty (%)



In 2019, the per capita disposable income of rural residents in impoverished areas was **11,567 yuan**,

an increase of **11.5%** over 2018,

or, after deducting price factors, a real increase of **8.0%**.



(Source: National Bureau of Statistics; designed by Pamela Tobey)