

1 October 2021

HE Ambassador Qun Wang
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of the
People's Republic of China to the United Nations
Geroldgasse 7, 1170 Wien
Austria

Your Excellency,

On the occasion of the **72nd Anniversary of the establishment of the People's Republic of China**, on behalf of the **Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)**, it is my great honour to extend our **warmest greetings, congratulations and best wishes** to the **Government and people of China**. This is an important and significant day, and OPEC, **proud of the strength of its relationship with China**, is delighted to celebrate the **enduring bonds of friendship between our Organization and your great country**.

I would also like to express my gratitude to Your Excellency, for the two letters sent to me, dated **23 September 2021**, regarding the significance of this year's celebrations and sharing a copy of the sagacious and inspiring speech delivered by **His Excellency, President Xi Jinping, at the General Debate of the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, on 21 September 2021**.

As Your Excellency stated in your letter, this year marks two auspicious anniversaries in the history of China. In July, the **Communist Party of China celebrated its 100th Anniversary**. It was my great pleasure and honour to share goodwill remarks on behalf of **OPEC** for this **momentous milestone**. This October will also mark the restoration of the **People's Republic of China's** seat in the **United Nations**. We extend our warmest congratulations on these two anniversaries.

The relationship between China and OPEC is one forged in mutual values, faith in the principles underpinning international relations, a commitment to dialogue, cooperation, respect among nations and working together to reach win-win outcomes. The **OPEC-China International Energy Dialogue** is now in its sixteenth year. **The**

Fourth High-Level Meeting of the OPEC-China Energy Dialogue took place on **7 December 2020**. We were delighted, Excellency, that you took the time out of your busy schedule to attend and participate in this extremely fruitful and productive discussion. We are currently discussing with the **National Energy Administration of China** the preparations for the **Fifth High Level Meeting of the OPEC-China Energy Dialogue**, which will hopefully take place later this year.

Excellency, I have carefully studied **President Xi's remarks** to the **UN General Assembly** that you kindly shared with us. As ever with **President Xi's speeches**, I found his words wise, motivating and invigorating. I believe they offer a framework for how we should conceptualize the OPEC-China Energy Dialogue.

Firstly, OPEC fully subscribes to the words of the President, when he said, ***“We must beat COVID-19 and win this decisive fight crucial to the future of humanity.....We should always put people and their lives first, and care about the life, value and dignity of every individual. We need to respect science, take a science-based approach, and follow the laws of science.”*** Across a range of policies, from environmental matters to data sharing, OPEC is committed to listening to what science tells us and acting accordingly. This **respect for science and data is a distinguishing feature of the OPEC-China cooperation.**

As an Intergovernmental Organization consisting exclusively of **Developing Countries**, we were pleased that **President Xi** emphasized the equitable distribution of vaccines throughout the world and ensuring no country is left behind to face COVID-19 alone. When **President Xi** stated, ***“We should care about the special needs of developing countries,”*** this struck a particular resonance with **OPEC**. We fully support what the President said about sustainable development more broadly, ***“Facing the severe shocks of COVID-19, we need to work together to steer global development toward a new stage of balanced, coordinated and inclusive growth.”***

We are similarly committed, like China, to a post-pandemic **revitalization of the global economy**. This undergirds OPEC's work under the **‘Declaration of Cooperation,’** as we act in unison with 10 non-OPEC oil producing countries to take collective decisions in the interests of stability in the global oil market. We are

committed to take the necessary actions to contribute to the oil market stability necessary to support global economic growth.

On this day of joy for the Chinese people, it is particularly pertinent to consider the following words of **President Xi**: “**The Chinese people have always celebrated and striven to pursue the vision of peace, amity and harmony....China is always a builder of world peace, contributor to global development, defender of the international order and provider of public goods. China will continue to bring the world new opportunities through its new development.**” Allow me to assure you, Excellency, that OPEC shares the hopes and aspirations of the Chinese people and you can rely on us as a partner as we seek to play role our in working towards sustainable development for all.

Excellency,

In your letter, you outlined the active ways the **Permanent Mission of China to the UN in Vienna** has increased the profile of your great country across the agencies and organizations based in this city. OPEC has been a beneficiary of this. We are extremely pleased with the frequency of exchange, regular discussions, knowledge exchange and productive meetings we have with you and your team. You are a great champion of the **OPEC-China Energy Dialogue**, something for which we are extremely appreciative.

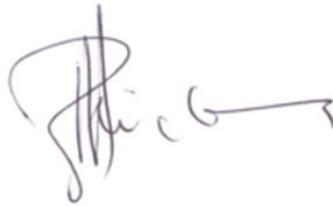
A telling example of this was your address to a special session of OPEC and non-OPEC Countries’ **Joint Technical Committee on 4 February 2020**, when the world was in the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic. This typified your dedication to openness and dialogue among all stakeholders, particularly in the energy industry. OPEC is committed to strengthening this cooperation.

Allow me to conclude, by highlighting the utmost importance OPEC attaches to its relationship with China. We are grateful to you and your team, the NEA and all of the authorities in China who have done so much to usher in the **current golden era in OPEC-China relations**.

Once again, congratulations on your **National Day**. May Chinese people throughout the world enjoy the day and continue to fulfil the **Chinese Dream of National Rejuvenation**.

Long live the People's Republic of China!

Long live the great, glorious and heroic Chinese people!



Mohammad Sanusi Barkindo

Secretary General