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Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations

Letter dated 15 August 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to the letter addressed to you by Burkina Faso and a very few countries on 10 August 2006 (A/61/194), I have been instructed to solemnly state China's position, as follows:

1. The above-mentioned countries, instigated by the Taiwan authorities and in defiance of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), have once again requested the issue of the so-called "Taiwan's participation in the United Nations" to be considered at the coming session of the General Assembly. They have also requested the consideration of the so-called "proactive role for the United Nations in maintaining peace and security in East Asia". This is an act that completely reverses right and wrong and confounds black and white. It is a gross encroachment on China's internal affairs. The Chinese Government and people strongly condemn and firmly oppose such an act.

2. Taiwan has been an inseparable part of China's territory since antiquity. Both the 1943 Cairo Declaration and the 1945 Potsdam Proclamation reaffirmed in unequivocal terms China's sovereignty over Taiwan as a matter of international law. Over the past 50 years, although the mainland and Taiwan are not yet reunited, the fact that the two sides belong to one and the same China has never changed. This is the status quo of cross-Straits relations, and is an objective reality that nobody can change. To date, more than 160 countries have established diplomatic relations with China. They all recognize the one-China principle and that Taiwan is a part of China. This is also the principle that the United Nations has consistently adhered to.

3. In 1971, at its twenty-sixth session, the General Assembly adopted, by an overwhelming majority, the historic resolution 2758 (XXVI), which stipulated unequivocally that the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China were the only legitimate representatives of China to the United Nations. Thus, the issue of China's representation in the United Nations was solved once and

* A/61/150.



for all. Since Taiwan is a region of China, China's representation in the United Nations naturally includes Taiwan. There is simply no such issue as "Taiwan's representation in the United Nations". Resolution 2758 (XXVI) not only demonstrated the aspirations of the vast number of Member States, but also reflected the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and enhanced the universality of the United Nations. Any attempt to distort or even deny resolution 2758 (XXVI) is futile.

4. The United Nations is an intergovernmental organization composed of sovereign States. As a part of China, Taiwan is not eligible to participate, in whatever name and under whatever pretext, in the United Nations and its specialized agencies. No sovereign State in the world would allow one of its provinces or regions to participate in the United Nations, an organization whose membership requires statehood. The General Committee of the successive sessions of the General Assembly since 1993 has flatly rejected the inclusion of the so-called issue of "Taiwan's participation in the United Nations" in the agenda of the General Assembly. This has fully demonstrated the determination of the vast number of Member States to safeguard the Charter of the United Nations and resolution 2758 (XXVI). It also shows that the Taiwan authorities will never receive international support in their attempt to split China by raising the so-called issue of "Taiwan's participation in the United Nations".

5. The question of Taiwan is a purely internal matter of China. The position of the Chinese Government on the question of Taiwan is firm and clear. We have consistently adhered to the fundamental principle of "peaceful reunification and one country, two systems" and the "Eight-point Proposal on the Development of Cross-Strait Relations and the Promotion of the Peaceful Reunification of the Motherland". Since the beginning of 2005, the Chinese Government has taken a series of important steps to further promote cross-Strait exchanges and cooperation and achieve peaceful and stable development of cross-Strait relations. In April 2006, the "Cross-Strait Forum on Economic and Trade Affairs" was held successfully in Beijing. President Hu Jintao set forth four-point guidelines on enhancing the peaceful development of cross-Strait relations, including adherence to the 1992 Consensus, bringing more specific benefits to the compatriots on both sides of the Strait, reinforcing mutually beneficial and win-win exchanges and cooperation, and conducting consultations on an equal footing. We have announced policies and measures on how to further strengthen cross-Strait exchanges and cooperation and improve the well-being of the Taiwan compatriots, which have had a positive impact on the peaceful and stable development of cross-Strait relations. These policies and measures have been warmly acclaimed by the Taiwan compatriots and widely approved by the international community. It has been amply proved that the entire Chinese people, including the compatriots across the Strait, ardently favour increasing cross-Strait exchanges, jointly maintaining peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait and generating benefits to people on both sides.

6. Over the past year, thanks to the joint efforts of the compatriots on both sides of the Strait, the situation in the Taiwan Strait has witnessed more positive elements in curbing the secessionist activities for "Taiwan independence", and cross-Strait relations have gained momentum towards peace and stability. However, the Taiwan authorities have obstinately acted against the aspirations of the people on both sides of the Strait, stuck to their secessionist position for "Taiwan independence", tried their utmost to disrupt and damage the development of cross-

Strait relations, and accelerated their secessionist activities in the world in an attempt to create “one country on each side” and “one China, one Taiwan”. Since the beginning of 2006, Chen Shui-bian has once again dished out a set of well-planned proposals for “Taiwan independence”, brazenly announced his decision to end the function of the “National Unification Council” and cease the application of the “National Unification Guidelines”, and speeded up his efforts to push for “de jure Taiwan independence” through “constitutional re-engineering”. The root cause for the tension in the Taiwan Strait is yet to be removed, and the secessionist activities for “Taiwan independence” remain the biggest obstacle to cross-Strait relations. If not curbed in time, they will create serious tension in cross-Strait relations and threaten peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region. The Chinese Government and people resolutely oppose “Taiwan independence” and will not tolerate “Taiwan independence” secessionists to split Taiwan away from China under any name and by any means.

7. Respect for State sovereignty and territorial integrity and non-interference in a country’s internal affairs are important principles of the Charter of the United Nations, cherished by all countries. China has strictly followed those principles in its relations with other countries. China has never done anything harmful to the interests of the above-mentioned co-sponsor countries, but those countries on the question of Taiwan, have been repeatedly undermining the national interests of China and hurting the feelings of the Chinese people. This has also gravely obstructed the work of the General Assembly and wasted United Nations resources. We strongly urge those countries to change their positions, strictly abide by the Charter of the United Nations and resolution 2758 (XXVI), and identify themselves with the great number of Member States on the Taiwan question. We highly appreciate the right position adopted by the United Nations and the vast number of Member States in abiding by the one-China principle. We have every reason to believe that in our just cause of safeguarding State sovereignty and territorial integrity, the Chinese Government and people will continue to receive their understanding and support.

I have the honour to request that the present letter be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under item 106 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) **Liu Zhenmin**
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and Acting Permanent Representative of the
People’s Republic of China to the United Nations