## Economists forecast China resurgence in 2013

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内容：BEIJING - China-s economy is poised finally to end a long downward trend in 2013, economists polled by AFP say, as the new leadership vows to retool the nation-s investmentled development model and promote a -happy life- for all. The world-s secondlargest economy is not expected to return to double digit growth, but the economists- predictions are a welcome spot of good news in a financial world assailed by the eurozone debt crisis and lacklustre recovery in the United States. After seven consecutive quarters of slowing growth, China-s gross domestic product (GDP) will rise by 8 per cent in 2013, according to the median forecast of 15 economists surveyed by AFP. The poll also projected 7.7 per cent growth for 2012. The figures would outpace the government-s 7.5 per cent growth target for 2012 - but are well below the 9.3 per cent recorded in 2011 and 10.4 per cent in 2010. Maintaining growth is allimportant for China - s communist leaders, who derive much of their claims to legitimacy from the coun try-s reformled economic rise, which has lifted hundreds of millions of people out of poverty over the past three decades. The rebound comes as China formally wraps up a onceinadecade leadership change in March when Xi Jinping, who was named Communist Party chief in November, takes over as president and Li Keqiang becomes premier in charge of daytoday administration. Xi, in his first public appearance after being chosen to lead the party, said China-s citizens -want their children to have sound growth, have good jobs and lead a more enjoyable life. To meet their desire for a happy life is our mission.- China - s stunning economic transformation has long been fuelled by heavy state investment in railways, airports, bridges and buildings, as well as an emphasison manufacturing and exports. But it is now trying to promote demand from its own increasingly well off consumers as the economy-s main driver. And the Communist Party says it recognises the need to encom pass the havenots who have failed to share in the boom as a richpoor gap opens up. The National Bureau of Statistics is due to announce GDP figures for the fourth quarter and the whole of 2012 on Friday. For the final quarter of last year, the median forecast in the AFP survey was 7.8 per cent, up from official thirdquarter growth of 7.4 per cent - which was the lowest figure since early 2009. Stronger monthly data during the fourth quarter, including industrial output and retail sales, has fanned optimism the worst is over, as did new singlemonth highs for imports and exports in December. But the economy still faces challenges such as unresolved structural problems including overcapacity and reliance on investmentdriven growth, said Yao Wei, Hong Kongbased economist with Societe Generale. -We can-t get overoptimistic over the current recovery,- she said. China - s economy averaged GDP growth of 10 per cent in the decade to 2010. -