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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 20 July 1995 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On 18 July 1995, Nicaragua and 14 other countries addressed a letter (A/50/145) to you in which they requested the inclusion on the agenda of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly of an item relating to the "Consideration of the exceptional situation of the Republic of China on Taiwan in the international context, based on the principle of universality and in accordance with the established model of parallel representation of divided countries at the United Nations". Upon instruction of my Government, I hereby solemnly state our position as follows:

1. The Chinese Government and people express their utmost indignation at the request concerning the so-called Taiwan's "representation" in the United Nations made by Nicaragua and some other countries. This move not only constitutes a serious infringement upon China's sovereignty and a gross interference in its internal affairs, but also gravely contravenes the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). The Charter clearly stipulates that the United Nations and its Members shall refrain from any action against the sovereignty, territorial integrity or political independence of any of its Members or any State. Therefore, we are firmly opposed to any attempt to create "two Chinas", "one China, one Taiwan", or "one country, two seats" both in and outside the United Nations by any country under whatever pretext. We strongly urge Nicaragua and some other countries to redress immediately their error of interfering in China's internal affairs and stop forthwith all activities that infringe upon the fundamental interests of the Chinese people.

* A/50/50/Rev.1.

2. Taiwan has been an inalienable part of China since ancient times. Both the 1943 Cairo Declaration and the 1945 Potsdam Proclamation clearly declared the return of Taiwan to China from the rule of Japan after the War, thus reaffirming once again China's sovereignty over Taiwan. Though the two sides of the Taiwan Straits have been in a state of temporary separation since October 1949, the status of Taiwan as a part of the territory of the People's Republic of China has never changed, nor has the Government of the People's Republic of China ever given up its jurisdiction over Taiwan. The 160 countries that have established diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China so far all recognize that there is but one China in the world and the Government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legal Government representing China in its entirety.

3. On 1 October 1949, the Chinese people overthrew the rule of Kuomintang and founded the People's Republic of China. From that time on, the lawful seat of China at the United Nations should belong to the People's Republic of China. Only because of the unjustifiable obstruction by some countries was it usurped by the Kuomintang clique entrenched in Taiwan Province for as long as 22 years. On 25 October 1971, the General Assembly, at its twenty-sixth session, adopted by an overwhelming majority resolution 2758 (XXVI), which states in unmistakable terms that "the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China are the only lawful representatives of China to the United Nations and that the People's Republic of China is one of the five permanent members of the Security Council". It is on the basis of this resolution that all the lawful seats and rights of the People's Republic of China at the United Nations and all its agencies have been restored to it. It is also on the basis of this resolution that the proposal on the so-called "dual representation" sponsored by a few countries at that session failed to be put to vote and was thus rendered invalid. The question of China's representation at the United Nations was thus settled once and for all and in a just manner politically, legally and procedurally.

However, in their attempt to create "two Chinas", "one China, one Taiwan", and "one country, two seats" in the United Nations, the Taiwan authorities have brought up once again the issue of the so-called "dual representation". This is a brazen attack on and a vicious attempt to overthrow resolution 2758 (XXVI), and is therefore absolutely impermissible. As for Taiwan's admission into a few regional organizations like the Asian Development Bank and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, it is a special arrangement made through agreement and understanding between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the parties concerned based on the one China principle, which states in explicit terms that the People's Republic of China joins the organizations as a sovereign State whereas Taiwan does so as a region of China and in the name of "Chinese Taipei". Therefore, this special arrangement should never be a "formula" to be followed by the United Nations and other intergovernmental international organizations. Only after the peaceful reunification of China can the Taiwan compatriots, together with other Chinese people of all ethnic groups, truly and fully enjoy the dignity and honour attained by their great motherland in the world. What should also be pointed out is that the question of Taiwan bears no analogy at all to the questions of Germany and Korea that were brought about as a result of the international agreements at the end of World War II. It is

purely an internal affair of China, in which no other country has the right to interfere.

4. The United Nations is an intergovernmental international organization composed of sovereign States. Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations provides in explicit terms that only sovereign States are entitled to become Members of the United Nations. Taiwan has never been a sovereign State, but rather a province of China. Therefore, the principle of "universality" is not applicable to it at all. Taiwan thus has no qualifications whatsoever to join the United Nations. Since 1993, the Taiwan authorities have been noisily clamouring for their so-called "return" to the United Nations and instigating an extremely small number of United Nations Members to propose for the consideration of the General Assembly the question of the so-called Taiwan's "representation". In this year marking the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, the Taiwan authorities, with no sense of shame, have even gone so far as to openly offer 1 billion United States dollars in exchange for United Nations membership. This is a blasphemy to the Charter of the United Nations and an insult to the general membership and will be held in contempt by all the justice-upholding countries. Decisions have been made by the General Committee at the forty-eighth and forty-ninth sessions of the General Assembly respectively not to include the so-called Taiwan's "representation" on the agenda of the General Assembly, which has reflected the strong will of the overwhelming majority of United Nations Members in safeguarding the Charter and the relevant General Assembly resolution. We are convinced that Nicaragua and some other countries will come to the same disgraceful end this year in trumpeting Taiwan's "return" to the United Nations.

5. The explanatory memorandum annexed to document A/50/145 presumptuously claims that the examination by the United Nations of Taiwan's "exceptional situation in the international context" "completely conforms with the principles and spirit of preventive diplomacy". This is an apparent attempt to confound black and white and mislead the public. It must be pointed out that the question of Taiwan is an internal affair of China, which must be settled by the Chinese people themselves. The involvement by any foreign forces is an interference in China's internal affairs. The attempt by the Taiwan authorities to "return" to the United Nations and create "two Chinas", "one China, one Taiwan" and "one country, two seats" not only obstructs the peaceful reunification of China, but is also bound to cause tensions in the Taiwan Straits and pose a threat to peace, stability and development in the Asia-Pacific region and the world as a whole. This completely runs counter to the spirit of preventive diplomacy.

6. It is the common aspiration and sacred mission of the entire Chinese people, including the compatriots in Taiwan to settle the question of Taiwan and accomplish the peaceful reunification of their motherland. Over the past decade and more, the Chinese Government and people, guided by the basic principle of "peaceful reunification under one country and two systems" initiated by Mr. Deng Xiaoping, have made unremitting efforts to safeguard State sovereignty and territorial integrity and advance the grand cause of peaceful reunification of the motherland. President Jiang Zemin made an important speech entitled "Continuing to promote the reunification of the motherland" on 30 January 1995, in which he made an eight-point proposal, producing a wide and positive impact

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at home and abroad. We are convinced that the Chinese Government and people, in their just cause of maintaining State sovereignty and territorial integrity and accomplishing the peaceful reunification of the motherland, will continue to enjoy the full understanding and support of the United Nations and of Governments and people of various countries in the world. The Taiwan authorities, stubbornly clinging to their erroneous position of splitting up the motherland, are carrying out activities that impair the steady development of relations across the Straits, thus undermining peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region. These activities are bound to meet with wide opposition from the international community.

I have the honour to request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under item 53 of the preliminary list of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly.

(Signed) QIN Huasun
Permanent Representative of the
People's Republic of China
