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Letter dated 24 September 2019 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the written statement of the delegation of the People's Republic of China in exercise of the right of reply to the remarks made by Donald Trump, President of the United States of America, to the General Assembly on 24 September 2019 (see annex).

I should be most grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 8.

(Signed) **Zhang Jun**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations



Annex to the letter dated 24 September 2019 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

[Original: Chinese and English]

Statement of the Delegation of the People's Republic of China in Exercise of the Right of Reply to the Remarks Made by the President of the United States of America in the General Debate on 24 September 2019

The Chinese delegation hereby exercises the right of reply in response to the remarks made by the United States during the General Debate of the 74th Session of the UN General Assembly.

In the remarks, the United States ignored basic facts, and China expresses firm opposition to this.

Over the past 40-plus years, China has kept to reform and opening-up and to the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics. It has made widely-recognized achievements. 800 million Chinese were lifted out of poverty, contributing over 70% to the global poverty reduction. China has become the world's second largest economy and largest trader in goods. Since 2002, China has been contributing nearly 30% to the global growth on annual average as a key engine driving the world economy. Being the largest developing country, China is among the first to attain the UN Millennium Development Goals, and is at the forefront in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and meeting the climate challenge. These achievements have not fallen from the sky, but are the results of the hard work of the Chinese people.

As the largest developing country, China is steadfast in honoring its commitments made upon joining the WTO and fulfilling its obligations as a WTO member on tariff, trade in services, intellectual property rights (IPRs) and transparency. No country has been taken advantage of because of China's WTO membership. Rather, the whole world has benefited from China's big market. There is no such thing as hurting other countries' interests.

China abides by WTO rules, complies with its obligations under relevant international treaties on intellectual property, and treats and protects the IPRs of Chinese and foreign companies in an equal way. Last year, China spent 35.8 billion US dollars on purchasing intellectual property, ranking the fourth in the world. No Chinese law requires mandatory technology transfer by foreign investors. The newly-promulgated Foreign Investment Law explicitly prohibits forced technology transfer by use of administrative means. This is necessary for China to foster a first-class environment for business and innovation, and more importantly to achieve high-quality development of the Chinese economy.

The United States, by unilaterally starting a trade war against China, has violated WTO rules. The trade war hurts China's interests, disrupts normal international economic and trade order and brings recessionary impacts to the world economy. China does not want to fight a trade war. However, China will never concede on issues of principle. The two sides should find a solution acceptable to both sides through equal dialogue and consultation.

Hong Kong affairs are China's internal affairs and no foreign interference will be tolerated. The Chinese government follows the principle of "one country, two systems", "Hong Kong people administering Hong Kong" and a high-degree

autonomy. We are determined to uphold China's sovereignty, security and development interests and maintain Hong Kong's prosperity and stability. The Joint Declaration between China and the United Kingdom is an important document concerning the return of Hong Kong to China and the relevant interim arrangements. Implementation of the part involving the United Kingdom has been completed. No country or organization has the right to interfere in Hong Kong affairs by using the Joint Declaration as an excuse.

We have noted that in the remarks, the US stated that it wants partners and peace, not adversaries and wars. China stands ready to work with the United States to, on the basis of equality and mutual respect, resolve differences through dialogue, seek mutually-beneficial cooperation and jointly advance the China-US relationship based on coordination, cooperation and stability. This serves the interests of both China and the US, and meets the shared expectation of the international community.
