

切水不断，共赢未来

欧阳玉靖大使在中马建交 50 周年纪念论坛上的讲话参考稿

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Ladies and gentlemen, dear friends,

Good Morning!

It is a pleasure and honor to be invited to the “Malaysia-
China Commemorative Forum” and deliver an address. On behalf
of the Chinese Embassy in Malaysia, I give my warmest
congratulations to the successful convening of this forum. My
heartfelt gratitude goes to friends from China Daily, KSI Strategic
Institute for Asia Pacific, Star Media Group, Sin Chew Daily and
Malaysia-China Business Council. It is their painstaking efforts
and dedication to work that have availed this perfectly organized
event to us. Thank you!

This year marks both the 50th anniversary of China Malaysia

establishing diplomatic relations and the "Year of China-Malaysia Friendship". Having this Seminar now is both timely and of great relevance to the future development of both countries. It provides people a great platform to exchange views on important issues concerning the two countries' future development in fields of politics, economic development and cultural interactions from which we will gain valuable insight and wisdom.

Malaysia and China are good neighbors, close friends, trustworthy partners and weal-and-woe sharing brothers whose friendship dates back to thousands of years ago. Since establishing diplomatic relations 50 years ago, relations between the two countries kept progressing in leaps and bounds, which is always at the forefront of China's relations with ASEAN countries. President Xi Jinping's historic visit to Malaysia in 2013 opened a new chapter in the two countries' relations development, during which comprehensive strategic partnership was built between China and Malaysia. Ten years later, Prime Minister Anwar visited China and reached an important consensus with President Xi Jinping on building the China-Malaysia community with a shared future, both of whom drew a new blueprint for the two countries' future development.

The past 50 years have seen tremendous achievements made in various fields between China and Malaysia which can not

happen without the wise guidance of leaders, cooperation between different entities, and support of people from both countries.

High-level leadership is the fundamental safeguard in fostering leapfrog development in China-Malaysia relations. 50 years ago, with great insight and vision, Tun Haji Abdul Razak bin Dato' Hussein, the then Prime Minister of Malaysia, timely adjusted Malaysia's foreign policy and enabled Malaysia the first ASEAN founding member country to establish diplomatic relations with China, which opened a new chapter in China-Malaysia relations and ushered China-ASEAN relations into a new era. Since then, China and Malaysia began to genuinely support and assist each other in times of needs and difficulty whose relations have been recognized as an exemplary one in the region. Last year witnessed the China-Malaysia comprehensive strategic partnership being enhanced to the co-building of China-Malaysia community with a shared future. This great leap marked an epoch-setting event for both countries. Leaders came to visit each other in high frequency as relatives and friends do. On China's side, Zhao Leji, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China, Han Zheng, Vice-President of China, Wang Yi, Director of the Office of the Central Commission for Foreign Affairs and Minister of Foreign Affairs,

Wang Xiaohong, State Councillor and Minister of Public Security visited Malaysia. On Malaysia's side, Prime Minister Anwar visited China twice, Dato' Sri Haji Fadillah, Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia, Tan Sri Dato' Johari, Speaker of the House of Representatives and many other ministers visited China. I became a lot more busy than before hosting Chinese delegations from ministerial level to city level every month, for which I am happy despite busy.

Comprehensive and practical cooperation is the essential driving force upgrading China-Malaysia relations in all fields. Numbers tell best. In 1974, the China-Malaysia bilateral trade volume was less than US\$0.2 billion and last year's figure surpassed US\$190 billion, which is 950 times more than that of 1974. Now, China has been Malaysia's largest trading partner for 15 consecutive years and Malaysia remains China's second-largest trading partner and largest source of imports in ASEAN countries. Malaysia is an important Maritime Silk Road country, also one of the first to welcome and join the "Belt and Road" Initiative. BRI flagship projects such as the East Coast Rail Link (ECRL) and "Two Countries and Twin Parks" have made impressive achievements and rendered tangible benefits to people of both countries. China is now focusing on developing new quality productive forces which will provide Malaysia more

cooperation opportunities in the fields of artificial intelligence, big data, digital economy, green development, new energy vehicles and other newly emerging industries. Fruits from the above cooperation will surely bring benefits to both peoples in a profound way.

People-to-people bond is the underlying force enabling the ever-consolidated and enriched relations between China and Malaysia. Chinese and Malaysian people began friendly exchanges as early as 2,000 years ago. Admiral Zheng He five times visiting Malacca stories are well-known in both countries. After the covid-19 pandemic, more and more Chinese students came to study in Malaysia. According to Malaysian statistics, there are more than 40,000 Chinese students now studying in Malaysian universities. Chinese universities are also seeing an increasing number of Malaysian students, whose current number is more than 10,000. China and Malaysia have always been each other's hotspot tourist destination for a long time. The end of last year's mutual visa-free entry policy enabled peoples of both countries to visit each other whenever they like, which is such a great news to both. Now, tourists coming to Malaysia from China has grown to more than 250,000 per month, which is still expected to be growing. During the five-day International Workers' Day holiday alone, Chinese visitors to Malaysia

increased by more than 80 percent. Flights between China and Malaysia have now increased to more than per week. All these figure are good tellers of the ever-growing closeness between both peoples and countries.

Ladies and gentlemen, dear friends,

Hand in hand, China and Malaysia have co-created the glorious past 50 years history, which is a good record of genuine friendship and fabulous achievements. In the coming 50 years, China and Malaysia will hold hands even closer in forging ahead co-building the China-Malaysia community with a share future. We should deepen win-win cooperation in various fields on the basis of respecting each other's development path. We should bring more benefits to people on the basis of conducting more practical cooperation. We should uphold justice in international arena on the basis of respecting each other's core interests and national dignity. Let us work together to further deepen political mutual trust, strengthen communication and coordination on major issues, and consolidate the political foundation of China-Malaysia relations. Under the guidance of co-building the China-Malaysia community with a shared future and "Malaysia Madani", the two ideas of which are highly compatible to each other, we will further strengthen strategic docking, upgrade the BRI high-quality development implementation, release the potential

strength in 5G, big data, cloud computing, artificial intelligence and other newly emerging industries and create new growth points in digital economy and green development. We will further enhance humanistic exchanges by providing more opportunities to facilitate people-to-people exchanges, investing more in fields of education, science and technology, culture, public health and tourism, etc. We should also further strengthen cooperation on regional affairs and jointly build the China-ASEAN community with a shared future on a closer-bonded basis.

Looking back, we are full of pride; expecting forward, we are filled with confidence. let us work together under the strategic guidance of the leaders of both countries and make the next 50 years another glory in China-Malaysia relations.

Once again, I wish the Malaysia-China Commemorative Forum a great success!

Thank you.