

to deal with issues like sustainable development and, I think, once again show the world that there's far more that the United States and China have in common than separates us and that when we work together, good things happen.

*Xiè xie.*

NOTE: The President spoke at approximately 9:55 a.m. in the bilateral meeting room of the

White House delegation space at the Parc des Expositions. In his remarks, he referred to Fan Jinghui, a freelance advertising consultant who was kidnapped and killed by members of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) terrorist organization on November 18. President Xi referred to the U.S.-China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade (JCCT). President Xi spoke in Chinese, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter.

## Joint Statement by President Obama and President Xi Jinping of China on the United Nations Climate Change Conference *November 30, 2015*

President Obama and President Xi met in Paris on November 30 on the opening day of the 21st Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The Presidents recognize that the Paris conference presents a crucial opportunity to enhance action to meet this fundamental climate change challenge. They recalled and reaffirmed their November 2014 Joint Announcement on Climate Change, as well as their Sep-

tember 2015 Joint Presidential Statement on Climate Change, which contains a common vision for the Paris Climate Conference. The two sides emphasized their resolve to work together and with others to achieve an ambitious and successful Paris outcome.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

## Remarks at the First Session of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Le Bourget *November 30, 2015*

President Hollande, Mr. Secretary-General, fellow leaders: We have come to Paris to show our resolve. We offer our condolences to the people of France for the barbaric attacks on this beautiful city. We stand united in solidarity not only to deliver justice to the terrorist network responsible for those attacks, but to protect our people and uphold the enduring values that keep us strong and keep us free. And we salute the people of Paris for insisting this crucial conference go on, an act of defiance that proves nothing will deter us from building the future we want for our children. What greater rejection of those who would tear down our world than marshaling our best efforts to save it?

Nearly 200 nations have assembled here this week, a declaration that for all the challenges we face, the growing threat of climate change

could define the contours of this century more dramatically than any other. And what should give us hope that this is a turning point—that this is the moment we finally determined we would save our planet—is the fact that our nations share a sense of urgency about this challenge and a growing realization that it is within our power to do something about it.

Our understanding of the ways human beings disrupt the climate advances by the day. Fourteen of the 15 warmest years on record have occurred since the year 2000, and 2015 is on pace to be the warmest year of all. No nation—large or small, wealthy or poor—is immune to what this means.

This summer, I saw the effects of climate change firsthand in our northernmost State, Alaska, where the sea is already swallowing vil-