

willingness to work together on this issue will inspire greater ambition and greater action around the world.

Yes, diplomacy can be difficult, and progress on the world stage can be slow. But together, we're proving that it is possible. And I was reflecting before we came in here with Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon about the meeting that we had in Copenhagen in my first year of my Presidency, which was quite chaotic. And I think it is fair to say that if you had looked at the outcome of that meeting, the prospects of us being here today, the prospects of a Paris Agreement seemed very far away. And yet here we are, which indicates that where there's a will and there's a vision—and where coun-

tries like China and the United States are prepared to show leadership and to lead by example—it is possible for us to create a world that is more secure, more prosperous, and more free than the one that was left for us.

So, to all of you that have participated in this extraordinary effort, thank you very much. Thank you to President Xi. Thank you to the Secretary-General.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:46 p.m. in Ru Yi Hall at the West Lake State Guest House. President Xi and Secretary-General Ban also made remarks, and no transcript was provided. Audio was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks Prior to a Meeting With President Xi Jinping of China in Hangzhou

September 3, 2016

Mr. President, I want to thank you, your Government, the people of China, and the people—Hangzhou—for the excellent accommodations and what I am sure will be a productive G-20 summit. Our meeting here is an opportunity to discuss the breadth and importance of the U.S.-China relationship. As you indicated, the event that we just came from in which we deposited our ratification of the Paris Agreement is just one example of what can happen when our two countries work effectively together.

I know that at the G-20, we're committed to working with other countries to build sustainable, inclusive economies and create opportunities for all of our people. In joining the Paris Agreement today, we're demonstrating our shared commitment to climate change. I look forward to an extensive discussion on our shared interests in advancing regional and global security, from the Korean Peninsula to the fight against ISIL. We very much welcome China's contributions to global development, peacekeeping, and refugee assistance.

And because of the hard work of our teams, across every dimension—from people-to-people ties, energy, scientific, and educational exchanges—we have seen steady progress during the course of my Presidency and during the

course of the multiple meetings that you and I have had. Consistent with the notion of a new model for relations between our countries, what I think we've been able to achieve is practical and constructive efforts where our interests intersect and a candid discussion of those areas where we differ and our ability to manage them in a way that does not put the bilateral relationship at risk. And I know that we will have, once again, candid conversations about some of those differences around issues like human rights or cyber or maritime. But our teams have been engaged. They have worked very well and diligently together.

And so I want to thank not only you, Mr. President, but also your entire Government for the constructive way in which we have worked in preparation for this meeting. And I'm absolutely committed to ensuring not only that this is a productive meeting, but that we're also setting the stage so that the next U.S. administration comes in with a relationship that is on a strong and productive footing.

So thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at approximately 6:35 p.m. in Ming Yuan Hall at the West Lake State Guest House. In his remarks, he referred to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant

(ISIL) terrorist organization. The transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secre-

etary on September 4. Audio was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Joint Statement—United States-China Climate Change Cooperation Outcomes *September 3, 2016*

1. President Barack Obama and President Xi Jinping have forged a historic partnership between the United States and China to lead in combatting climate change. From the Sunnylands meeting in 2013, to the landmark November 2014 Joint Announcement on Climate Change and the September 2015 and March 2016 Joint Presidential Statements on Climate Change, leadership by the United States and China has galvanized global action to build a green, low-carbon, and climate-resilient world and was a major contributor to achieving the historic Paris Agreement. Climate change has formed a central pillar of the bilateral relationship between the two countries. Both sides are committed to implementing the three presidential joint statements on climate change and will continue to deepen and broaden bilateral climate change cooperation, building on the concrete progress and productive outcomes achieved thus far.

2. Today, the United States and China deposited with United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon their respective instruments to join the Paris Agreement, marking a significant contribution towards the early entry into force of the Paris Agreement. The two Presidents call on all other Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to join the Paris Agreement as early as possible with the expectation of the Agreement's entry into force this year. The Presidents further express their continued commitment to work together and with others to promote the full implementation of the Paris Agreement. The United States and China will formulate and publish their respective strategies for mid-century, low-greenhouse gas emission development. The United States will release its strategy in 2016, and China will do so as early as possible. The two countries agree to hold a series of technical exchanges on the formulation of such strategies, beginning this year.

3. The United States and China are committed to working bilaterally and with other countries to advance the post-Paris negotiation process and to achieve successful outcomes this year in related multilateral fora. The United States and China commit to work together and with others to reach agreement this year on an ambitious and comprehensive HFC amendment to the Montreal Protocol, including an early first reduction step and early freeze date for Article 2 and Article 5 Parties respectively and an ambitious phase-down schedule, with increased and adequate financial support from Article 2 Parties to help Article 5 Parties with their implementation. The United States and China also intend to work together on critical research regarding the safe use of flammable alternatives and commit to collaborate on enhanced domestic action to reduce use of HFCs, improve efficiency standards, support policies to transform the air conditioning market, and remain active participants in the Clean Energy Ministerial's Advanced Cooling Challenge.

4. The two sides welcome the decision of the ICAO Council to forward to the ICAO Assembly its recommended Resolution on a global market-based measure to address carbon emissions from international aviation. Recognizing the important role of international aviation in addressing climate change, the United States and China support the ICAO Assembly to reach consensus on a global market-based measure this October, and expect to be early participants in such measure.

5. The two Presidents celebrate the achievements of the U.S.-China Climate Change Working Group (CCWG) and U.S.-China Clean Energy Research Center (CERC) in recent years and commit to further enhance bilateral cooperation on climate change under these and other frameworks. They welcome the success of the U.S.-China Climate-Smart/Low-Carbon