

**Thematic Forum on Clean Silk Road of
The Third Belt and Road for International Cooperation
Chair's Summary**

The Thematic Forum on Clean Silk Road of the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation is held Beijing on 18 October 2023. Organized by the National Commission of Supervision of China, the Thematic Forum is attended by 200 delegates, including heads of anti-corruption agencies of Belt and Road partner countries and regions, six international organizations, as well as representatives of the business and academic communities. Under the principle of wide consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits and in the Silk Road spirit of “peace, cooperation, openness, inclusiveness, mutual learning and mutual benefit”, the attendees reaffirm the commitment to jointly building a clean Silk Road, review the Clean Silk Road achievements and contributions, outline the vision and prospects for a Clean Silk Road, and explore ways to tackle corruption, prevent and combat cross-border corruption, enhance business integrity and compliance, and bolster international anti-corruption cooperation.

We recall that in the past 10 years since the Belt and Road Initiative was proposed, building a clean Silk Road conforms to the call and expectation of the people in all countries for fairness and justice. It has become a shared pursuit of Belt and Road partner countries. The governments, businesses and all walks of life in Belt and Road partner countries have followed the principle of wide consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits. Guided by the Beijing Initiative for the Clean Silk Road, they have worked in unison and made great strides in building the Clean Silk Road. As a result, the BRI has delivered real benefits to people in all countries. We have introduced anti-corruption and clean governance rules and laws, grounding our efforts to build a Clean Silk Road in the rule of law. Informed by shared values on fighting corruption, we have made proactive efforts to create a fair and transparent business environment and protect the lawful rights and interests of all parties. We have focused on key cooperation projects to deliver the Clean Silk Road commitment on the ground. We have helped each other to foster integrity cultures across our societies to ensure the results of integrity building are shared by all. We have organized training programs on anti-corruption, integrity and compliance

to enhance Clean Silk Road capacity building. We have joined hands to ensure high-quality Belt and Road cooperation.

We reiterate our commitment to upholding equity and justice, punishing wrongdoing while promoting good conduct, practicing true multilateralism, firmly safeguarding the UN-centered international system, strongly supporting the UN Convention Against Corruption as the principal channel for international anti-corruption cooperation, and actively implementing the Political Declaration of the UN General Assembly Special Session against Corruption, so as to make the international anti-corruption governance system more equitable, effective and inclusive. We commit ourselves to the basic principle of mutual respect for sovereignty, security, and development interests as we resolutely oppose the erroneous practice of abusing "long-arm jurisdiction" or even interfering in the internal affairs of other countries on the grounds of anti-corruption. We are resolved to deliver our anti-corruption commitment, fulfill international obligations, remove various obstacles to the pursuit of persons sought for corruption and asset recovery, effectively prevent the cross-border flow of corruption offenders and illicit assets, jointly crack down on cross-border corruption

crimes, and refuse to become safe haven for corruption offenders and assets.

We believe that broad prospects lie ahead for cooperation in building a Clean Silk Road and that synergy with relevant international cooperation mechanisms against corruption will effectively ensure high quality Belt and Road cooperation. We support the APEC Beijing Declaration on Fighting Corruption, G20 High-Level Principles on Cooperation on Persons Sought for Corruption and Asset Recovery, the BRICS Initiative on Denial of Safe Haven to Corruption, and the initiatives of other international cooperation mechanisms on strengthening international law enforcement cooperation against corruption. We support the continued, leading role of the Beijing Initiative on the Clean Silk Road and welcome more parties to join it.

We underscore the commitment to improving the business environment along the Belt and Road, promoting government information openness and transparency, standardizing the transaction of public resources, eliminating the space for rent-seeking, creating market-oriented, law-based business

environment consistent with international standards, urging enterprises to build clean and compliance management systems, and encouraging companies, financial institutions and related specific industries to fulfill the due anti-corruption compliance and reporting obligations, foster corporate integrity cultures, and resolutely reject commercial bribery.

We pledge to actively pursue international judicial and law enforcement cooperation against corruption, efficiently handle requests for mutual legal assistance, streamline international anti-corruption cooperation and extradition procedures, and recover illicit assets across borders through the international legal framework and non-conviction-based confiscation, civil and administrative means. It is necessary to severely crack down on the international transfer of corruption assets, attach no strings to asset recovery cooperation, and support the source countries in managing and using the returned assets. We call for enhanced international cooperation on asset recovery under the United Nations framework, without any strings attached to asset recovery cooperation, and reaffirm the right of the source countries to manage and use the returned corruption assets. We support the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law

Enforcement Authorities (GlobE Network) and look forward to a greater role of the GlobE Network.

We underscore the important role of anti-corruption education and training and will continue to strengthen cooperation with international organizations such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, the International Anti-Corruption Academy, the New Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and the OECD to carry out anti-corruption education and training and share useful experiences in enhancing integrity and the rule of law. China will continue to organize BRI anti-corruption workshops and contribute China's efforts to global anti-corruption governance.

We commend the in-depth discussions and fruitful results of the Thematic Forum. We launched the High-Level Principles on Belt and Road Integrity Building. We released the Belt and Road Integrity Building: Achievements and Outlook. We propose that the anti-corruption agencies of Belt and Road partner countries sign cooperation documents. We encourage Belt and Road partner countries to take an active part in BRI anti-corruption workshops. We look forward to a greater role of the Corporate

Integrity and Compliance Evaluation System for the Belt and Road Initiative.

We thank the anti-corruption agencies of Belt and Road partner countries and relevant international organizations for their support to the National Commission of Supervision of China. We suggest the Thematic Forum on Clean Silk Road be held on a regular basis to implement the anti-corruption consensus of the leaders of Belt and Road partner countries and build a partnership for fighting corruption featuring equality, respect for differences, exchanges and mutual learning, and common progress, so as to set the direction for Belt and Road integrity building.