

Written Statements of the World Eco-Design Conference on the 45th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council

After years of continuous efforts, the National Human Rights Action Plan of China has achieved remarkable results in economic, social and cultural rights, environmental rights, protection of the rights of particular groups, and participation in global human rights governance. All sectors of society have made concerted efforts to safeguard public rights and interests, solve people's livelihood problems and improve the quality of the ecological environment.

In order to implement the National Human Rights Action Plan of China and contribute to the realization of SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 15: Life on Land and SDG 17: Partnerships for Goals, the World Eco-Design Conference (WEDC) launched the low-carbon development project of Eco-Design Town (formerly Tangwei Village) with the support of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the United Nations Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries (UN Technology Bank). The WEDC embraces the concept of respecting and promoting diversified human ecology through design, creating environmental ecology for sustainability by design, and promoting healthy industrial ecology with the power of design.

To promote the realization of SDG 4: Quality Education, the WEDC co-established the Wanqu Open University of Design (WOUD) with Eindhoven University of Technology (TU/e), Zhejiang University (ZJU) and other famous universities at home and abroad, and jointly trained 100 postgraduates worldwide every year; Co-initiated the International Design Education (IDE) Program with the UN Technology Bank, which enrolls 50 students from the least developed countries (LDCs) to study industrial design engineering every year; Co-launched the Eco-Design Leading Talent Training Program (EDLTTP) with the UNIDO, and jointly trained nearly 100 representatives from more than 40 countries in the Asia-Pacific and Africa, of whom 48% are female; Organized six sessions of Summer Public Welfare Design Camp for three consecutive years, with a total of more than 500 children attended. To promote the realization of SDG5: Gender Equality, the WEDC recognizes the significant positive impact of gender equality and the empowerment of women, promotes gender balance in academic and publishing opportunities, and ensures that women and men have equal access, participation in, and benefit from its programs. In the past 5 years, the WEDC has been on the progress to achieving Digital Design·Women Empowerment through the Program for Digital Design and Women's Poverty Alleviation, the One Village One Product (OVOP) Program, the IDE Program and the UNIDO-EDLTTP. The beneficiaries of the programs cover rural women in China, young women in the LDCs, and female workers of government, academia, and private sector of the world as well as the UN agencies.

To promote the realization of SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, and SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, the WEDC promote the establishment of the China's First Eco-Design Town, and the permanent site of WEDC, the National Eco-Industrial Design Institute (EIDI), the Designers' Village, the Yadong River, the Eco-Design Avenue and the General Aviation Airport have been completed and officially put into used. These changes have fully promoted the employment of the surrounding villagers and realized the comprehensive development of rural industries.

To promote the realization of SDG 15: Life on Land, the operation team of Eco-Design Town embraces the concept of ecological development and applies massive ecological, low carbon, environmental friendly technologies. In line with the ecological landscape, the team carries out micro reconstruction of the Yadong River, takes the mountains, water, forests and

grass along as a life community to protect, so as to restore the biodiversity of the river. At the same time, the team strictly protects the original natural environment, uses measures such as re-greening of the damaged forests and enrichment of the non-commercial forests, so as to repair mountain soil erosion areas, and make the proportion of blue-green space stable over 70% to maintain ecological balance.

To promote the realization of SDG 17: Partnerships for Goals, the WEDC has continuously strengthened its partnership with the UN agencies, especially the UNIDO, the UN Women and the UN Technology Bank, making China's contribution to the international cause of human rights, advancing development through cooperation, promoting human rights through development, and expanding South-South cooperation to help reduce poverty, improve living conditions and promote common development.

The low-carbon development project of Eco-Design Town enjoys economic, social and environmental benefits. It is highly sustainable, and of great practical significance to the promotion of the cause of human rights. So far, the effective promotion of the Eco-Design Town project is also benefited from China's efforts in human rights and rights of habitation, etc. China has acceded to 26 important international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) and other four core United Nations human rights treaties. China has been deeply involved in the work of multilateral human rights mechanisms, and has been elected as a member of the United Nations Human Rights Council for five times. China advocates strict adherence to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and the basic norms governing international relations, adheres to the principles of impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity, and attaches equal importance to and systematically promotes all measures of human rights. China has promoted the adoption by the Human Rights Council of resolutions titled "the contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights", "promoting mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of human rights", and "the negative impact of legacies of colonialism on the enjoyment of human rights", and has made joint statements on behalf of developing countries on "the implementation of the right to development", "poverty reduction and promotion of human rights", etc., on many occasions, contributing wisdom and strength to global human rights governance. In addition, China has established human rights dialogue and consultation mechanisms with more than 20 countries and regional organizations, committing to developing human rights on the basis of equality and mutual respect.

The Eco-Design Town is a project vigorously promoted by the People's Government of Guangdong Province, which effectively safeguards people's "environmental rights" such as living environment and ecological environment. The protection of "environmental rights" is an important feature of China's human rights protection, and has been included in the National Human Rights Action Plan of China since 2019. It not only conforms to the development trend of the international environment and human rights, but also contributes the Chinese strengths to the realization of the goals of the 2023 Agenda for Sustainable Development.