

**Welcome Remarks by Mayor of Chongqing Municipal
Government, Mr Huang Qifan, at the Opening Ceremony of the
“World Export Development Forum”**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Good afternoon! The World Export Development Forum 2010 is now being held in Chongqing - a city in Western China. As the host, we feel greatly honoured. The Chongqing Municipal Government extends a warm welcome to all the distinguished guests here. After a new round of global financial crisis, the current global economy is gradually recovering. Under the context of economic globalisation, the economics of all countries are more closely linked to one another than before. All countries are actively seeking the way out and China is also making similar efforts. Chongqing is fast becoming an economic centre in the upstream region of the Yangtze River and a crucial base for growth in Western China. According to the requirements of the Scientific outlook on Development put forward by the Central Government, we are making efforts in changing the way of development with this new round of Western Development so that the social-economic development grows in an optimal and rapid manner. For the last three years, Chongqing's economy has been maintaining an average growth rate of about 15% annually. This year, the growth rate of the first 7 months has exceeded 17%. We are confident that this development trend will continue in the next 5 years. With international

financial crisis in the background, we diligently carried out proactive financial policy and moderately loose monetary policy to boost the growth of domestic demand following the state's direction of expanding domestic demand. For example, Chongqing's fixed asset investment has maintained an annual growth rate above 30% in recent years. It is estimated that this year's total investment in the fixed assets will reach 100 billion US dollars. It is mainly used in enhancing the functions of state's core city, improving the fundamental facilities related to people's livelihood, key industries and ecological protection programs, etc.

We have changed the way of achieving economic growth by pushing forward systematic reform in driving domestic demand development. We took rural migrant workers as a starting point to push forward household registration system reform. In the coming two years, over 3 million rural migrant workers will be registered as urban residents. Subsequently, 700,000 people will be registered each year. In 2020, 10 million people will be registered. This will increase the urbanisation rate of Chongqing to about 65% which will significantly promote the rural migrant workers' expense in city. It is estimated that it can increase several tens of billion RMB sales turnover each year. We will also input 75 billion RMB to build public rental housing of 30 million square meters for low-income earners in 3 years. It can basically solve the housing problem of 2 million middle and low-income earners. It can also drive the domestic demand to a great extent. We made efforts in pushing

the rural forest tenure reform and the financing reform of Chongqing. For farmers with labour capability in the two winged areas, their income will be increased by over 10,000 RMB per household after three years. By increasing the residents' income and their spending power, the urban and rural residents' income can keep growing at a double-digit rate which increases the total volume of retail sales for consumer goods by about 20% each year.

In the recent years, the total industrial sales of the whole city increases by approximately 25% each year. In the coming years, we can still maintain this growth rate. In the industrialisation process, we actively cooperate with multinational companies all over the world to bring in technology, capital and management concepts so as to establish a better equipped modern industrial system. For example, United State's Ford and Cisco, Britain's BP, Japan's Isuzu and other multinational companies have already achieved considerable progress in Chongqing and become the pillars of Chongqing industry. We also accelerated the construction of inland opening highland and establishment of state level open strategic platform. Setting up 1,200 square kilometres of "Liangjiang new area" in Chongqing, we set up Xiyong Integrated Bonded Zone and Lianglu Cuntan Bonded Port. We invited foreign investment through various channels from far and wide. The actual utilization of foreign investment has been increased by 6 times in the last three years from 1 billion USD in 2007 to the estimated 6 billion USD this year. We also pushed forward comprehensive development of improvement trade, service trade and

general trade. Especially in the aspect of improvement trade, we converted the pattern of horizontal collaboration which is brand manufacturers leading the assembly enterprises and spareparts enterprises into the vertical integration. The finished goods and parts are produced altogether in Chongqing. This improved the whole industrial chain in the improvement trade and resulted in significant growth in import and export. It is expected that both import and export of Chongqing will increase by over 50% in this year and the coming three years. In 2012, it will exceed 30 billion USD and reach 100 billion USD in 2015. At the same time, we supported local enterprises like Chongqing Steel Group, Chongqing Oils & Grains Group, Chongqing Machinery & Electric Group, Bosai Minerals Group etc., to invest overseas so as to bring in foreign products imported to China.

The total overseas investment of these projects approved by the state this year has reached 4 billion USD. When these overseas projects are completed in the coming years, they will trigger the import of products from Australia, Brazil and other countries to China. It is estimated that the annual import volume will reach several billion USD. This will strengthen the economic linkage between Chongqing and other countries and promote mutual understanding. To enhance Chongqing's global connection, we are making great efforts in setting up foreign communication channels. For example, Chongqing has now built the second airport runway and the second airport terminal. Passenger throughput and shipping capacity have reached 30 million

person-times and 200,000 tons per year respectively. Next year, we will further invest 20 billion RMB to build the third and fourth airport runways. When they are put into service, it will increase the passenger throughput and shipping capacity to over 50 million person-times and 1 million tons per year respectively, making it a world class aviation hub. As another example, we have strengthened cooperation by opening a new Euro-Asia Continent Bridge. The south line runs from Chongqing to Xinjiang Alataw Pass and then to Europe which will be shortened by several thousand kilometres and the transportation time will be 24 days faster than that of by shipping from coastal areas. It will become another bridgehead of import and export trade between China and Europe.

Ladies and Gentleman, let us express our wholehearted gratitude to the International Trade Centre of the United Nations for their arrangement of holding this forum in Chongqing. This is a precious opportunity for friends from different countries and regions to be closely in touch with this fast developing city. The rapidly developing Chongqing is willing to strengthen the communication and linkage with countries all over the world. Entrepreneurs of all countries are welcome to invest and develop in Chongqing ! Let us work together for creating a new world of harmony prosperity and progress. Finally, wish this World Export Development Forum achieve a great success and all the friends a pleasant stay in Chongqing. Thank you.