

# The People's Republic of China

## Positions on the Peacebuilding Commission

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### **I: Organizational Committee - The conflict over the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan**

The People's Republic of China has held a prolonged interest in establishing sustainable peace between all parties in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. As such, China reaffirms its commitment to the resolutions agreed upon in the Security Council that call for an end to this conflict, so that a more permanent peace can be established. As Foreign Ministry spokesman Ma Zhaoxu previously stated, "China hopes that the relevant parties find a solution acceptable to all through consultations and dialogues based on the universally recognized principles of international law and the relevant UN Security Council resolutions".<sup>1</sup>

As China has previously stated with international support, a ceasefire between all involved parties must exist before peacetalks can begin.<sup>2</sup> China foresees the present peace as a great step toward further cooperation. However, it also realizes the fragility of newfound peace and, as such, it must be treated with care if the involved parties hope to continue this peace process and bring about a true end to the conflict. The foundation for this peace that has already been laid out in previous Security Council resolutions must be built upon.<sup>3</sup>

The People's Republic of China proposes a peace coalition be established with the assistance of the OSCE Minsk group that will include representatives from Armenia, Azerbaijan and the Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh, as well as mediators and observers from other involved states. Through this coalition, a series of both short term and long term goals will be developed and reached which will serve as the foundation for a lasting peace between the involved parties. These goals include:

- 1) The current cease fire between the involved parties must be continued. Lasting peace cannot exist while violence is still a factor in the region.
- 2) Humanitarian aid and assistance must be given to the people in the Nagorno-Karabakh region, no matter their nationality. China has already led this effort by offering over \$2 million in humanitarian aid to the Nagorno-Karabakh region in 2012.<sup>4</sup>
- 3) An agreement must be reached on the territorial lines of the Nagorno-Karabakh region in which territorial integrity already established by the international community is adhered to. This will serve as the key pillar towards future peace between the involved states.
- 4) After territorial lines have been agreed upon, the coalition will work together to build the economic relationships between the two parties in the hopes that mutually beneficial economic cooperation will further protect this new fragile basis for peace.

### **II: Working Group on Lessons Learned, Central African Republic**

The People's Republic of China views the Peace Building Commission's efforts in the Central African Republic to this date as principally effective. In order for the Central African Republic to further itself as an important developing state, it must first develop economic ties with its international neighbors. China has helped advance this economic partnership with the importation of 9.4% of Central African Republican traded goods since 2007.<sup>5</sup> As Chinese Security Council representative Li Baodong stated in June of this year, China will continue to "strengthen and push forward our economic and trade cooperation," as must the international community.<sup>6</sup>

The UNHCR reported over 192,000 internationally displaced persons in the Central African Republic in

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<sup>1</sup> Zhaoxu, Ma. "On the Elections in the Nagorno-Karabakh Region." Foreign Ministry Statement. Beijing. 2009. Address.

<sup>2</sup> "UNHCR | Refworld | Resolution 884 (1993) Adopted by the Security Council at Its 3312th Meeting, on 11 November 1993." UNHCR. Web. 27 Sept. 2012. <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/3b00f1617.html>

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> "China." *Global Humanitarian Assistance*. Global Humanitarian Assistance, Web. 27 Sept. 2012. <http://www.globalhumanitarianassistance.org/countryprofile/china>

<sup>5</sup> "Central African Republic." *African Economic Outlook*. World Trade Organization. Web. 02 Oct. 2012. <http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.org/en/countries/central-africa/central-african-republic>

<sup>6</sup> United Nations Security Council. *UN Security Council Press Statement. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China*. 15 June 2012. Web. 19 Sept. 2012. <http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/wjz/wjz/zwbdt/1942618.htm>

2012.<sup>7</sup> Of that, almost 50% were left completely without aid. The solution to this is equal parts economic assistance from Northern states and an increase in over-reaching international cooperation. While projects such as the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Process (DDR) are only receiving 5% of their necessary funding, the international community can only expect a return equal to what is put in.<sup>8</sup> In 2007-2011, over 51% of Chinese humanitarian aid went to Africa in response to this exact issue.

Dealing with 192,000 IDPs is not simply an economic problem but also one of humanitarian aid and international cooperation. This is why China has been focused on humanitarian aid, with the building of hospitals and schools in the region since the Central African Republic mission began. In order to most effectively apply the lessons gained from the Central African Republic mission, future aid must be supplied by the international community based off of a diversified structure to most effectively help those in need.

### III: Country-Specific Configuration, Burundi

The People's Republic of China has long been devoted to the delicate peace-building process and reconstruction of the Republic of Burundi. As Chinese Ambassador Yu Xuzhong stated earlier this year, "We will continue to [support] Burundi as much as we are able."<sup>9</sup> While Burundi has made significant steps towards sovereignty and self-sufficiency since reconstruction efforts began in 2006, there still lie areas that need to be more adeptly addressed. The PRSP (Poverty Reconstruction Strategy Papers) have assisted Burundi in more than doubling its GDP per Capita in the last five years, but Burundi still lies at the fifth lowest international ranking.<sup>10</sup>

As stated previously by the Peacebuilding Commission, the international community must "Promote innovative practices for economic development, including South-South cooperation and support of regional integration dynamics."<sup>11</sup> China has already begun to lead these regional efforts with the maintenance of the China-assisted Mugere Hydropower Station, and has strongly encouraged South-South economic cooperation by assisting in the development of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC).<sup>12</sup> When dealing with the situation in Burundi, an emphasis must be placed on the development of human capital. Forty-six percent of the Burundi population is currently below the age of 14, and as such it is almost impossible to develop human capital and help facilitate the economy into a more self-sustainable system.

The effective implementation of a Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) will help further develop stronger ties between the two main ethnic groups, and eventually assist in mending their cultural and political differences. Historically, this solution has been shown to decrease tension and improved reconciliation efforts in South Africa, Chile and Rwanda.<sup>13</sup> As such, it would be constructive to implement the same type of system within Burundi.

The HIV/AIDS epidemic in Burundi is currently affecting between 4.1% and 8.8% of the population. As such, there is a significant need to assist Burundi in putting an end to the spread of these diseases, and it must be done through increased funding for prevention and treatment projects, such as the Jiangxi Province Center for Disease Control program implemented in China, which has drastically reduced the spread of HIV/AIDS through the means of education.<sup>14</sup> China has consistently fought against the spread of HIV/AIDS both domestically and abroad and has shown its commitment to end this fight by increasing government funding for research by 120% in the last five years.<sup>15</sup> If the international community recommits to the MDG goal of reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015 through the increased implementation of education and funding, this issue will greatly enhance the quality of life for the people of Burundi and move their peace process forward.

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<sup>7</sup> UNHCR. "Central African Republic." *UNHCR*. United Nations Human Rights Council, Web. 27 Sept. 2012. <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49e45c156.html>

<sup>8</sup> United Nations Peacebuilding Commission. Department of Public Information. *Security Council Press Statement on Central African Republic*. UN.org. 6 June 2012. Web. 19 Sept. 2012. <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2012/sc10665.doc.htm>

<sup>9</sup> Forum on China-Africa Cooperation. *Chinese Ambassador Yu Xuzhong on Signing Humanitarian Aid Pledge*. FOCAC Forum on China-Africa Cooperation. 24 Apr. 2012. Web. 23 Sept. 2012. <http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/zflw/eng/zfgx/t710656.htm>

<sup>10</sup> "International Human Development Indicators - Burundi." *International Human Development Indicators*. United Nations Development Programme, Web. 27 Sept. 2012. <http://hdrstats.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/BDI.html>

<sup>11</sup> United Nations. United Nations Peacebuilding Commission. *Conclusions of the Fourth Biannual Review of the*. N.p., 24 Mar. 2012. Web. 26 Sept. 2012. [http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=PBC/4/BDI/3](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=PBC/4/BDI/3)

<sup>12</sup> "Forum on China-Africa Cooperation." *Forum on China-Africa Cooperation*. FOCAC, n.d. Web. 27 Sept. 2012. <http://www.focac.org/eng/>

<sup>13</sup> "The Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission." *www.justice.gov.za*. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Web. 07 Oct. 2012. <http://www.justice.gov.za/trc/report/execsum.htm>

<sup>14</sup> "Update: Successful HIV/AIDS Awareness Programs in China." *www.worldbank.org*. The World Bank. Web. 03 Oct. 2012. <http://go.worldbank.org/IGY7KDXR70>

<sup>15</sup> "Global Report - 2010." UNAIDS, 2010. Web. 27 Sept. 2012. [http://www.unaids.org/globalreport/Global\\_report.htm](http://www.unaids.org/globalreport/Global_report.htm)