

# 中国少数民族对外交流协会

China Ethnic Minorities' Association for External Exchanges

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## China Safeguards the Right to Development of Ethnic Minorities in Accordance with the Law

1. We note that the Chinese government insists on harmonizing the principle of universality of human rights with China's real national conditions and holds that the right to subsistence and the right to development are the first and foremost basic human rights. Over the years, the Chinese government has always been committed to the philosophy of people-centered development by ensuring that the development serves the people, depends on the people, with its benefits shared by the people.

2. Ethnic minorities are an integral part of the Chinese nation. The Central Ethnic Work Conference 2021 underscored the need to make it a necessity of ethnic work in the new era to encourage all ethnic groups to work together to build a modern socialist China in all aspects, and to facilitate all ethnic groups to keep abreast of the times, engage in solidarity and work for common prosperity and development. Since the third round of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in 2018, China has seen considerable development of its ethnic minorities and ethnic areas.

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## I. Political Rights

3. We hold the view that China always remains committed to the equality of all ethnic groups, ensures that all ethnic groups play a responsible role and share responsibility for governance, and safeguards the rights and interests of all ethnic groups in accordance with the law. Thanks to its successful institutionalization of the system of regional ethnic autonomy under a unitary state structure, China has effectively safeguarded the democratic rights of ethnic minorities. China has established 155 autonomous areas. In addition, nearly 1,000 ethnic townships were founded as an important supplement to regional ethnic autonomy. As of 2020, besides *Constitution of the People's Republic of China* and *Law of the People's Republic of China on the Autonomy of Minority Nationality Regions*, 89 of the 286 laws currently in force contain provisions on ethnic affairs. To bolster the legal basis for the realization of the right to development of ethnic minorities, China's autonomous regions have enacted 139 autonomy regulations and more than 900 separate regulations.

4. China strictly abides by the provisions of *Constitution of the People's Republic of China* and laws regarding the appointment of leading officials of ethnic minorities to the leadership of the autonomous organs of autonomous areas, as well as the provisions

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regarding the election of deputies to the National People's Congress (NPC) from ethnic minorities. *Electoral Law of the National People's Congress and Local People's Congresses of the People's Republic of China* specifically prescribes that at least one deputy to the NPC should be from an ethnic group with a particularly small population. All 55 ethnic minority groups have their own deputies to the NPC and members of the Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC). Of the deputies to the fourteenth session of the NPC, 442, or 14.85%, were ethnic minority deputies, and of the members of the fourteenth session of the CPPCC, 243, or 11.2%, were ethnic minority members. Both figures are higher than the proportion of 8.89% for the ethnic minorities to the China's whole population.

## **II. Economic Development**

5. We appreciate the fact that the Chinese government has always stood up for the development of the economy and the improvement of the livelihoods of all ethnic groups, to realize shared development and common prosperity.

6. We see that the right to development of the impoverished populations of ethnic minorities and ethnic areas has been effectively safeguarded. In 2020, the ethnic minorities and ethnic areas, together

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with other areas of the country, have won the battle against poverty as scheduled, bringing all 31.21 million poverty-stricken people in ethnic regions out of poverty. This enabled the completion of building a moderately well-off society. All 420 poverty-stricken counties in China's ethnic autonomous areas were lifted out of poverty, and all 28 less populous ethnic groups with a total population of less than 300,000 were lifted out of poverty in their entirety. At the same time, the Chinese government has supported ethnic areas in effectively coordinating the consolidation of poverty eradication and rural revitalization, and in promoting the high-quality and efficient development of agriculture and animal husbandry, the livability and productivity of the countryside, and the affluence and prosperity of farmers and herdsmen.

7. We find that the economy of ethnic regions continues to grow rapidly. In 2022, the GDP of the eight provinces and regions with large ethnic populations amounted to CNY 12.7132 trillion, an increase of 22.2% compared with that in 2018 at comparable prices<sup>1</sup>, or an average annual growth of 5.1%, which is 0.2 percentage points higher than the average annual growth rate of the whole country during the same period. Besides, the income of urban and

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<sup>1</sup> Comparable price is those used in the calculation of various aggregate indicators, net of price changes.

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rural residents has risen significantly. In 2022, the disposable income of urban and rural residents in the eight provinces and regions with large ethnic populations reached CNY 41,354 and CNY 16,100 respectively, an increase of 23.8% and 41.0% compared with that in 2018. The difference ratio in income between urban and rural residents dropped from 2.92 times in 2018 to 2.57 times in 2022, making it possible to narrow the income gap between urban and rural residents.

8. In 2022, Xinjiang's GDP totaled CNY 1.7741 trillion, with an average annual growth rate of 5.0% compared with that in 2018; disposable income of urban and rural residents in Xinjiang hit CNY 38,000 and CNY 12,000, with a growth rate of 17.2% and 38.2% compared with that in 2018, respectively. In 2022, Tibet's GDP peaked at CNY 213.3 billion, with an average annual growth rate of 5.9% compared with that in 2018; disposable income for Tibetan urban and rural residents reached CNY 49,000 and CNY 18,000, with a growth rate of 44.3% and 59.0% compared with that in 2018, respectively.

### **III. Cultural Rights**

9. We note that cultural undertakings in China's ethnic minority areas are developing at a fast pace. The Chinese government strongly

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supports the development of cultural undertakings in ethnic minority regions and is constantly improving the system of public cultural services in ethnic minority areas.

10. In recent years, China has instituted policies and plans for cultural development during the 14th Five-Year Plan period, launched cultural projects such as the Inheritance and Development of Fine Traditional Chinese Culture and Cultural Project for Public Good, organized cultural events such as the Minorities Art Festival of China, the National Traditional Sport Games of Ethnic Minorities of the People's Republic of China, and the National Ethnic Minority Literature "Steed Prize", and set up platforms for distinctive festivals and celebrations, exhibitions and performances, and cultural tourism. The 11th National Traditional Sport Games of Ethnic Minorities held in 2019 brought together more than 10,000 athletes, coaches and referees from all ethnic groups, and the 6th Minorities Art Festival of China held in 2021 featured 42 plays, including the Zhuang opera, Tibetan opera, Dong opera, and other fine arts of all ethnic groups.

11. Fifteen cultural art masterpieces of ethnic minorities, including the maqam of the Uyghur, the long tune folk songs of the Mongolian, and Hua'er folk songs of the Hui, have been inscribed on the list of the world's intangible cultural heritages, accounting for

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more than one-third of the country's total. All 55 ethnic minorities have had their cultural masterpieces inscribed on the list of national-level iconic intangible cultural heritages. In the *National Rare Ancient Book Directory*, there are 1,133 books in minority scripts, accounting for about 9% of the total.

12. Fifty-two of China's ethnic minorities have their own languages, and more than 20 ethnic minorities use a total of nearly 30 scripts. China safeguards, in accordance with the law, the legitimate use of minority languages and scripts in all fields, including administration and justice, press and publications, broadcasting, film and television, culture and education. China has strengthened its efforts to protect minority languages and scripts in a scientific manner.<sup>2</sup> Spoken and written languages of ethnic minority courses are offered in primary and secondary schools in ethnic minority areas in accordance with the real condition, particularly in ethnic autonomous areas, and in areas where ethnic minority populations are relatively concentrated. Radio and television stations in minority languages and scripts have been operated in Xinjiang, Tibet and Inner Mongolia and other ethnic autonomous areas, along with a variety of periodicals in ethnic minority languages. Moreover, ethnic-minority people can

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freely access information and socialize in their minority languages on the Internet.

## IV. Social Progress

13. We note that the social security system in China's ethnic regions is constantly being improved, and people's rights to health, education and so on are being safeguarded at a significantly higher level.

14. From 2018 to 2022, 71,260,600 people in China's five ethnic autonomous regions became beneficiaries of the basic pension insurance system, an increase of 18.38%; 104,414,900 people became beneficiaries of the basic medical insurance system, accounting for about 94% or more of the total population in these ethnic autonomous regions; 12,892,400 people became beneficiaries of the unemployment insurance system, an increase of 35.59%. And there are 910,000 healthcare professionals in 80,866 health institutions in these regions, an increase of 9.45%<sup>3</sup>.

15. From 2018 to 2021, the number of ethnic minority students enrolled in higher education nationwide increased from 3,943,967 to 5,003,593, an increase of 26.87%; the number of students enrolled in senior high schools increased from 3,904,733 to 4,279,839, an

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<sup>3</sup> National Human Rights Action Plan of China (2021-2025)



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increase of 9.6%. The number of full-time teachers of ethnic minorities in regular undergraduate colleges and universities increased from 68,255 to 77,938, an increase of 14.2%; the number of full-time teachers in senior high schools increased from 193,743 to 225,084, an increase of 16.2%<sup>4</sup> .

16. Over the past five years, Tibet has seen an increase of 1.5 years in the average schooling years for the population aged 15 and over, an employment rate of over 95% for fresh college graduates, and an increase in life expectancy of 1.59 years. In Ningxia, the average schooling years for the working-age population has risen from 10 to 11 years, and average life expectancy has risen from 74.7 to 76.9 years. Guangxi has seen its gross pre-school education enrolment rate, nine-year compulsory education consolidation rate and senior high school gross enrolment rate exceed the national average level; all of the cities with subordinate districts have institutions of higher education; its life expectancy per capita and major indicators of maternal and child health are higher than the national average level; and it ranks the first in China in terms of the number of “hometowns of longevity”. Xinjiang has provided three-year rural pre-school education for free and 15-year education for free in its four southern border prefectures, continued to offer free health

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check-ups for its urban and rural residents, and achieved a standardization rate of 100% for township and village health centers and clinics.

## V. Ecological Rights

17. We believe that China's efforts in putting into practice the concept that lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets and building Chinese modernization in which human beings coexist harmoniously with nature have yielded tangible ecological progress of ethnic regions.

18. Over the past five years, Tibet has had 50% of its land area designated inside the ecological red line for protection, increased grassland vegetation and forest coverage, reduced desertified and sandy land regions, and allocated CNY 66.39 billion to honor ecological conservation, with a large number of farmers and herdsmen becoming the guardians and beneficiaries of the lucid waters and lush green mountains. Inner Mongolia has reforested more than 37 million mu<sup>4</sup> of land, planted more than 120 million mu of pastures, and managed land of more than 54 million mu for sand prevention and control, all of which ranked the first in China. With the comprehensive implementation of the river and lake head (official

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<sup>4</sup> *Statistical Bulletin on the National Economic and Social Development of the Autonomous Regions 2018, 2022*

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in charge) system and the forest head system in Xinjiang, 12.59 million mu of land have been afforested, 13.26 million mu of grassland have been restored, and 2.544 million mu of farmland have been returned to forests, with desertified land and sandy land being reduced by 2.936 million mu and 362,000 mu respectively. This is the first time that the area of desertified land and sandy land has been reduced simultaneously. Guangxi has bolstered with green transformation. By the year 2022, 8 national-level green parks, 67 green factories and 31 autonomous region-level green mines have been established in Guangxi. It also ranks the first in China in terms of the number of enterprises holding China Low-carbon Product certification and certificates.

## **VI. Shared Development**

19. We recognize the importance that the Chinese government attaches to improving the balance and coordination of regional development. Most ethnic areas are located in central and western China. Over the past five years, central and western China have on average experienced higher economic growth than the eastern part of China. The Chinese government has continuously increased its support for the old revolutionary, ethnic and border regions, with the transfer of funds to the relevant regions increasing by 66.8%

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compared with that five years ago.

20. We find that ethnic areas have achieved significant economic and social development, with substantial improvements in people's living standards and a continuous narrowing of the development gap between different regions and ethnic groups. At present, China's urbanization rate has hit 65.2%, and the industrial structure is constantly being optimized and upgraded, allowing a growing number of ethnic minorities to migrate from their traditional communities to other parts of China and engage in different trades and professions other than agriculture and animal husbandry. According to statistics, the population of ethnic minorities living in urban and scattered regions has exceeded one third of the total population of ethnic minorities.

21. To maintain and develop equal, united, mutually supportive and harmonious socialist ethnic relations, we propose that the relevant ethnic policies be more precision-oriented, and that differentiated regional support policies be formulated and implemented in response to specific regions, problems and concerns. And the ethnic areas should further enhance their capacity for development, capitalize on their resource endowments and comparative strengths.

22. We notice that the unilateral sanctions imposed by certain

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countries against industries related to China's ethnic region have had a negative impact on the maintenance and realization of the right to development and other related human rights of ethnic minorities. The United Nations is expected to draw attention to this issue and to urge the countries concerned to cease their illegal unilateral sanctions and economic coercion, and to stop infringing on the right to life, the right to development and other human rights of ethnic minority groups in their own countries and in other countries.

## **Guarantee the Right of Ethnic Minorities to Education in accordance with the Law**

23. Based on the development of the education level of Chinese ethnic minorities and ethnic areas, we report on the right of ethnic minorities to education as following due to our research.

### **First, rapid and high-quality development**

24. We find that after the founding of the New China, education level of the ethnic minorities has been improving rapidly. Since 2012, with the socioeconomic development, education in ethnic areas has moved from guaranteeing the right to education to achieving a higher goal of education equity and quality balance.

25. On the one hand, the proportion of ethnic minorities stud

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at all levels and different types of schools is higher than that of their population in the total population (8.89%). According to statistics, by the end of 2021, among all types of schools at all levels in the country, the number of ethnic minorities students reached 34.21 million. Among them, the number in preschool education, compulsory education, high school education and higher education is about 5.22 million, 19.57 million, 4.28 million and 5 million, respectively, accounting for 10.87%, 12.39%, 10.93% and 9.04% of the total number of students in the field. There are undergraduates and postgraduates in all the 55 ethnic minorities in China.

26. On the other hand, the proportion of full-time teachers of ethnic minority background has also increased year by year. By the end of 2021, there were 1.64 million full-time teachers from the ethnic minorities, accounting for 8.9% of the total.

27. We appreciate the fact that the education level of population in ethnic areas has been steadily improved. Comparing the data of the 7<sup>th</sup> national census (2020) and the 6<sup>th</sup> one (2010), the proportion of the population with junior high school education and below in 8 ethnic provinces and regions decreased by 7.73% (Xinjiang)-16.18% (Tibet); the proportion of people with junior college education or above increased by 4.57% (Xinjiang)-9.61% (Tibet), especially in Tibet. Inner Mongolia (8.13%), Ningxia (7.28%) were also higher than the national average growth level (7.17%). The

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total number of talents in 8 ethnic provinces continued to increase. From the proportion of talents to the total population, the number of people with college education or above per 100,000 people in 8 ethnic provinces and regions has increased significantly, of which Inner Mongolia (20.54%) is the highest, followed by Ningxia (20.02%) and Xinjiang (18.43%), higher than the national average (17.22%).

28. The continuous improvement of the education popularization of ethnic minorities and ethnic areas, as well as the continuous improvement of education equity, population quality and education quality, effectively guarantee the right to education of ethnic minorities and promote the economic and social development of ethnic areas.

## **Second, guarantee by laws and policies**

29. We note that after the founding of new China, education of ethnic minorities and ethnic areas was developed according to the principles of ethnic equality and unity. The fifty-third article of the Common Programme of the Chinese people's Political Consultative Conference in 1949 stipulates: "the people's government shall help the people of the ethnic minorities to develop their political, economic, cultural and educational undertakings." In the constitution, the Law on Regional Ethnic Autonomy and the Education Law, provisions are made to support and help the development of education in the ethnic minorities and ethnic areas. In the decision of the Administrative

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Council of the Central People's Government on the establishment of administrative institutions for ethnic education promulgated in 1952, it was stipulated that "ethnic education administrative institutions should be set up in the education administrative departments of the central people's government and relevant local people's governments at all levels." According to the relevant requirements, the Department of Ethnic Education was established in the Ministry of Education, responsible for the overall planning and guidance of education in ethnic minorities and ethnic areas. In addition, relevant special subsidies have been set up at the central and local levels. In 2015, the State Council promulgated the decision on accelerating the development of ethnic education, and various regions have formulated implementation plans.

30. In addition, the state has also made special provisions on promotion of educational development in ethnic minorities and ethnic areas in the relevant plans for education. For example, the Outline of the National Medium and Long Term Education Reform and Development plan (2010 - 2020) lists special chapters and proposes to comprehensively improve the education development level of ethnic minorities and ethnic areas. Public education resources should be inclined to ethnic areas. The central and local governments should further increase support for ethnic education. The 13th Five-Year Plan for the Development of National Education proposes in the part of



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"comprehensively improving the level of benefits sharing of educational development" to accelerate the development of education in ethnic areas, explain specific measures and set up a separate column.

31. The formulation and implementation of these regulations, policies and plans provide a legal basis for the protection of the right to education of ethnic minorities, and provide scientific guidance and strong support for the development of ethnic education.

### **Third, effective measures**

32. First is to strengthen the capacity building of teachers. ' state promotes the implementation of special plans such as the free normal student plan, the special post plan, the national training plan, the vocational school teacher quality improvement plan, and the rural teacher support plan, which are inclined to ethnic areas, especially the rural parts. It has also launched projects such as "assistance to Tibet teacher training", "assistance to Xinjiang teacher training", and "assistance to the training of primary and secondary school backbone teachers in border ethnic areas". The quality of millions of teachers has been improved through those programs.

33. The implementation of the teaching special talent support plan in remote and poverty-stricken areas, border ethnic areas and old revolutionary base areas, which selects teachers from high-quality schools to rural county and township schools, to achieve high-quality

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resource sharing. From 2013 to 2020, the plan sent a total of more than 170 thousand teachers, supported by 2.4 billion yuan from the central budget. In addition, the state has made full use of the resources of retired teachers, launched the program of university silver age teachers to support the western region, selected and organized a group of excellent retired teachers to support teaching and research, and improved the development level of higher education in the western region. These policies and measures greatly improve the level of teachers and the quality of education and teaching in ethnic areas.

34. Second is to strengthen the training of high-level talent. While supporting the development of education in ethnic minorities areas, the state has increased the efforts to cultivate various types of talents and implemented the ethnic minorities high-level backbone talent plan from 2006.

35. According to the enrollment quota allocation table of each year issued by the Ministry of Education, at the beginning of the implementation of the "backbone plan" in 2006, it was proposed to recruit 2,500 graduate students, and then the number of students was increasing year by year. In 2021, the quota of master degree students was increased to 4,500, and the number of doctoral students was stabilized to 1,000. At the same time, the quality of students continued to improve. The "backbone plan" has promoted the overall number of high-level talents of ethnic minorities. According to

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statistics, in 2006, there were 51,400 ethnic minorities graduate students in China. This number reached 192,800 by 2021, an increase of 275% over 2006. At the same time, the "backbone plan" further focuses on the actual needs of social and economic development in ethnic areas, and the enrollment plan focuses more on the advantageous disciplines, science, engineering and application-oriented majors of the enrollment school.

36. Third is the implementation of education pairing-assistance. Taking pairing-assistance for higher education as an example, by the end of 2020, there were 106 colleges and universities providing pairing-assistance, and 85 colleges and universities in the west were recipients, achieving the full coverage of western provinces. With the support of pairing-assistance, including 10 inland universities such as Peking University and Fudan University, the Tibet University has realized the construction of "first-rate university and discipline". With the assistance of Fudan University, the Tibet University has systematically established the discipline of ecology, and achieved its first National Natural Science Fund project. At present, its ecology has become a first-class discipline in the west region, while advanced in the country and influential in the world. From 2012 to 2022, provinces and cities with pairing-assistance relations with Xinjiang implemented 10,700 education projects there, invested more than 25 billion yuan, and continuously improved the school conditions of the

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recipient. For example, Beijing assisted Hotan District to build 9 education parks, which provide 78,000 school seats, and improve the local education development level notably.

37. We appreciated the fact that the education level of Chi ethnic minorities and ethnic areas has been constantly improved, and the right to education has been fully guaranteed. In the future, we hope the state can further promote the high-quality development of education in ethnic minorities and ethnic areas, thus better serve the economic and social development, and contribute to the Chinese style modernization.

## **Progress in Advancing Rights of Ethnic Minority Women in China**

38. Based on findings of surveys and research in recent years, believe that China has given utmost weight to the protection of the rights and interests of ethnic minority women. With adoption of laws, regulations, policies, plans and concrete measures, gender equality and women's rights to development have been fully safeguarded in ethnic minority areas, and women of all ethnic groups now enjoy higher level of participation in political, economic, social and cultural affairs. That said, we also note that China, a developing country with a vast territory, still faces difficulties and challenges in the balanced development of rights.

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## **I. Equal rights in accordance with the law**

39. We note that the Constitution of the People's Republic of China and the Law on Regional Ethnic Autonomy prescribe that "All citizens of the People's Republic of China are equal before the law" "All ethnic groups of the People's Republic of China are equal" "Women in the People's Republic of China shall enjoy equal rights with men in all spheres of life: political, economic, cultural, social and familial" "Autonomous organs of ethnic autonomous areas shall guarantee equal rights for all ethnic groups in the area". All Chinese women, including those of the 55 ethnic minority groups, now enjoy equal rights with men and with women of other ethnic groups.

40. The Law on Regional Ethnic Autonomy also contains specific provisions on the training of ethnic minority women, proposing to "pay attention to the training of cadres at various levels and specialized and technical personnel of various kinds from among ethnic minority women" to effectively protect their political, economic and other rights. The Regulations on the Work of Selecting and Appointing Leading Party and Government Cadres stipulates that "Efforts shall be made to ensure coordinated training and selection of female officials, officials from ethnic minorities, and non-Party officials". The 13th Five-year Plan on Promoting the Development of Ethnic Minority Areas and Ethnic Groups with Smaller Populations includes provisions such as "Increase training on farming techniques,

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traditional handicraft, family assets management, cultural inheritance, maternal and child health care, etc. Enhance the proportion of female participants, and improve the overall qualifications of the labor force”. All these are concrete measures for legal enforcement.

## **II. Regulations in ethnic areas**

41. We find that the government of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, for example, has formulated the Measures of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region for Implementing the Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of Women's Rights and Interests in light of local realities. It's prescribed that “state organs, social groups, enterprises and public institutions shall give particular attention to training and selection of female officials from ethnic minorities”. Other autonomous regions such as Inner Mongolia, Guangxi, Tibet and Ningxia also adopted measures for implementing the Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of Women's Rights and Interests in line with local conditions to fully safeguard the rights and interests of women from ethnic minorities.

## **III. Political rights**

42. We note that in recent years, women in ethnic minority areas in China have enjoyed higher level of participation in political activities and public affairs. The Tibet Autonomous Region, with ethnic minorities accounting for 87.8% of its population, is a good example. In the old Tibet, women were denied the right to participate

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in the deliberation and administration of state and local affairs, even though they were of noble birth and were well educated. There was no female official in the local government. But things have changed greatly. As the society advances and the people are better educated, an increasing number of women in Tibet are participating in both decision-making and management. Statistics show that by the end of 2020, women accounted for 33.3% of all the civil servants in Tibet, 27.9% of the deputies to the People's Congress, 26.7% of the members of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) Regional Committee, and over 50% of students receiving higher education, postgraduate education and adult higher education.

43. We appreciated the fact that in Xinjiang, the number of women who are engaged in the administration of public affairs keeps growing from over 10,000 shortly in the early days of the People's Republic of China to 460,600 in 2019. In early 2020, women accounted for 22.41% of Xinjiang's deputies to the National People's Congress, 27.24% of deputies to the People's Congress of the Autonomous Region, and 23.5% of Xinjiang's members of the CPPCC National Committee. Women have also improved their capabilities of participating in democracy at primary level and business management. In 2020, women took 64.7% of the seats in urban residents' committees and 30.5% in villagers committees. Ms. Ma, a deputy to the 13th People's Congress of Xinjiang Uygur

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Autonomous Region, said that it was her fourth time to be a deputy. She had actively participated in deliberation of the reports on the work of the government and decision-making process of major issues. She had submitted 17 suggestions and proposals on the development of education parks in Hotan City, replacement of coal with natural gas and other issues, which had either been adopted by the government or won timely feedback.

## **IV. Education rights**

44. The Education Law of the People's Republic of China stipulates that "citizens shall enjoy equal opportunity of education regardless of their ethnic community, race, sex, occupation, property or religious belief etc." and "the state shall help all ethnic minority regions develop educational undertakings in light of the characteristics and requirements of different ethnic minority groups". We note in our surveys many typical cases where rights to education and employment of women from ethnic minority groups have been fully secured.

45. We see that in Tibet, the compulsory education completion rate hits 95%, and the proportions of female students in higher education, postgraduate education and adult higher education all stay above 50%. Women account for 12.74% of those entitled to special allowance of the State Council, 17.78% of those entitled to special allowance of the government of the Tibet Autonomous Region, and



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27.45% of academic leaders. Ms. Min of the Training office of Graduate School of the University of Tibetan Medicine finished her undergraduate and graduate programs in Tibet, and then went to University of Oxford and Austrian Academy of Sciences for postdoctoral program. She said, “I have seen many Tibetan girls make contribution in various sectors after accomplishing their postgraduate study. In the old Tibet, it was beyond imagination for girls to receive higher education.”

## **V. Employment rights**

46. We find that Xinjiang works to guarantee equal rights to employment for women and practice equal pay for equal work. The number of women in employment thus continues to expand. In 2019, 480,900 new urban jobs were provided, among which 228,100 jobs were offered to women, accounting for 47.43% of the total. Ms. Bi, from Bilikezi specialized farmers' cooperative in handmade cross-stitch in Yopurga County of Kashgar prefecture, said that she opened her first cross-stitch shop at her doorstep 20 years ago. Over the years, with the policy support of the local government and the paired assistance from Shandong Province, the workplace of the cooperative has been expanded to 1,500 square meters with more than 50 sets of equipment. More than 2,000 embroiderers have been trained here with development of over 100 embroidery products. She also opens a store in the Dawakun Desert Scenic Area, generating a turnover of about

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RMB50, 000 every month.

## **VI. Reproductive rights**

47. We are happy to see that Xinjiang has formulated its own regulations on population and family planning based on its local realities and in accordance with the Population and Family Planning Law of the People's Republic of China as well as other laws and regulations. It is stipulated that “Couples of reproductive age shall adopt contraceptive methods out of their own will. Medical and healthcare institutions shall conduct, among the people of reproductive age, publicity and education in well-bear and well-rear, provide medical examination services for contraception, and improve safety and effectiveness of contraception.” As women’s social status improves and their perception on marriage and child-bearing changes, more and more women prefer to marry late, delay childbearing, have fewer children, and take long-acting methods of contraception. Women’s right to reproductive choice in Xinjiang has been secured effectively.

Jointly submitted by: China Union of Anthropological and  
Ethnological Sciences