

COP15

China promotes building of a shared future for all life on earth



Participants tasted Chinese tea in the China Pavilion set up during the second phase of the COP15 at the Montreal Convention Center on December 7. (Photo by Xinhua)

“Chinese tea smells so good! Cheers!” During the second phase of the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) held in Montreal, Canada from December 7 to 19, many attendees and visitors were attracted to the Chinese Pavilion sideline activity by the aromatic Chinese tea.

The tea served here, known as Pu'er tea, came from pollution-free mountains more than 2,000 meters above sea level in southwest China's Yunnan province. The tea leaves were harvested from tea bushes that have lived for over 1,000 years. They were fermented and made into tea cakes before being transported thousands of miles to Montreal, which is now in a snowy season.

“Man and nature make up a community of life. Only by respecting nature, following its ways, and protecting it will we be able to take good care of this blue planet of ours,” Huang Runqiu, Chinese Minister of Ecology and Environment and COP15 President, said at the

leading and showing the way for the building of a shared future for all life on earth. China's experience in biodiversity conservation is worth learning and promoting,” said Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, executive secretary of CBD.

China has also taken an active part in the global biodiversity governance process. According to Huang, China has hosted nearly 40 COP15 meetings of the presidium and presided over four meetings of the open-ended working group in Geneva and Nairobi, among other locations, in collaboration with the CBD secretariat. Since the conclusion of the first phase of COP15, China has made use of gatherings such as the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and the G20 Joint Environment and Climate Ministerial Meeting to organize exchanges and high-level roundtables on key COP15 issues.

(Xinhua, People's Daily)



Last October, the first phase of the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was held in Kunming, the capital city of Yunnan province, and the parties reached the Kunming Declaration. To date, among other major measures, China has established the Kunming Biodiversity Fund and the country's first five national parks, such as the Sanjiangyuan National Park at the sources of the Yangtze, Yellow, and Lancang rivers and the Giant Panda National Park.

STORY

Vincent: getting integrated into Yunnan “terroir”

“Terroir” is a unique and graceful concept in the French language and culinary culture. It refers to the soil and climate in a certain place that gives cooking ingredients their distinctive character.

I am Vincent from Lorraine, France. I run a French restaurant called “à Table!” in Kunming. After living in this city for six years, I have obtained a deeper understanding of “terroir”.

As in other places, spring is also the best season in Yunnan, so it is the best time for me to experience the “terroir” here. My wife is a Kunming native. On every Spring Festival's Eve, when my family gather for a reunion

dinner, I can display my cooking skills to the full. I am especially good at cooking squirrel-shaped fish and fish-flavored pork shreds, so my family always ask for these two dishes for the big dinner. To celebrate last Spring Festival, I asked my wife to get ready ink and paper, with which I wrote two pairs of French couplets for our home and restaurant so that we can “eat well, sleep well, enjoy health, and have good luck” in the new year.

I love to get close to nature. I can never see enough of Yunnan's natural beauty. This wonderful place has given me a lot of inspirations about “terroir”. On weekends and holidays, I usually go hiking around Kunming with

my family and friends. I have gone camping in Lijiang, and I have even climbed the Haba Snow Mountain as a challenge to myself.

As a chef, I cannot afford to miss Yunnan's rainy season when wild mushrooms are at their best and I can enjoy the “terroir” to my French's content. By combining French cooking skills with Yunnan's flavors, I have created a few mixed-style dishes, such as braised chicken with wild chanterelles and white wine and stewed lamb leg with white boletes. It always makes me happy to see customers glutting themselves with the lip-smacking food that I cook.

(Yunnan Daily)

IN-PICS

Jianchuan wood carving has a long history in Jianchuan County, Yunnan Province. It is a traditional handicraft steeped in local ethnic characteristics. It takes many steps to turn a piece of wood into a finished product, such as conceiving, drawing, blanking, polishing, and decorating.

Duan Sixing, born in the Bai-inhabited Jianchuan County, is a representative inheritor of Jianchuan wood carving. Today, in order to pass on the wood carving skills and inject vitality into this national-level intangible cultural heritage project, Duan runs a wood carving training workshop in his hometown. (Xinhua)



TECHNOLOGY

China is willing to work with countries around the world to blaze a global digital development path that features joint building and sharing of digital resources, vibrant digital economy, efficient digital governance, flourishing digital culture, effectively guaranteed digital security, and mutually beneficial digital cooperation.

—An excerpt from the congratulatory letter Chinese President Xi Jinping sent to the 2022 World Internet Conference Wuzhen Summit.

Digital technology empowers high-quality development

Under the blue sky, containers line the seafloor row upon row. More than 70 intelligent transport robots travel back and forth, and 42 automatic rail bridges operates side by side at a fast pace... New technologies are making China's Tianjin port smarter.

Not just at the ports, digital technology can be seen everywhere in China from agriculture and industry to government's governance and social life. In 2021, the value of China's digital economy reached 45.5 trillion yuan (about US\$ 6.3 trillion).

Do you want to have green lights at all crossroads when driving? The smart transport system is making this possible. On Nanhu Avenue of Jiaxing, Zhejiang, drivers now feel that there are “more green lights,” and the traffic runs more smoothly, just because the 5G plus dynamic green wave technology accurately controls the signal interval according to the real-time traffic flow.

Thanks to digital technology, urban governance has also become smarter. In early November, the 2022 World Internet Conference (Wuzhen Summit) and the Light of the Internet

Expo was held in Zhejiang province. On a screen named the Brain of Regional Industrial Economy, visitors could click to open the page of Grid Integrated Management Center to learn about the dynamic demographic data, distribution of companies, and month-on-month changes in the number of companies in the whole district and sub-districts. Every indicator was updated in a real-time manner.

“These smart maps have been used for coordinated urban governance in Shenzhen and more than 30 other cities, said Pan Haojun, general manager of Shenzhen Zhongke Wenge Technology Co Ltd.

The broad prospect of China's digital economy has also instilled confidence in foreign companies participating in the conference. “China's steady economic development inspires Cisco to further explore the Chinese market. We will continue to invest in China with greater confidence and show the world the huge potential of the Chinese economy,” said Ming Wong, Cisco's Global Vice President and CEO of Cisco Greater China.

(Xinhua)

NEWS

Optimized epidemic prevention and control measures instill new impetus into Chinese market

In recent days, many places in China have adjusted and optimized COVID prevention and control measures to better coordinate anti-epidemic work with economic and social development. The country is stepping up efforts to ease the difficulties of businesses and taking multiple measures to promote the resumption of work and production.

China's earlier epidemic prevention and control strategy has laid a solid foundation for the resumption of work and production. For example, the Omicron coronavirus mutant has become less pathogenic; the national COVID vaccination rate has exceeded 90 percent; the medical service and disease prevention and control system has accumulated a wealth of experience and a set of effective diagnosis and treatment technologies. On December 7, China further adjusted and optimized its COVID response by releasing 10 new measures, including “COVID risk areas shall be delineated in a science-based and targeted manner” and “non-high-risk areas shall not restrict the flow of people and shall not suspend work, production, or business

activity”.

With the release and implementation of a series of policies, markets are showing signs of recovery in many places. At the entrance to the warehouse of Luxshare Precision Industry Co Ltd in Xuancheng, Anhui, our reporter saw lorries waiting in line to be loaded.

“After the optimization of epidemic prevention and control measures, lorries can enter and exit the factory and transport products more smoothly, so we've greatly improved the operation efficiency,” said Zhu Lufeng, the company's general manager. Now, the factory has been operating at full capacity since late November and is expected to exceed 1.3 billion yuan in output this year.

With a range of new policies and measures going into effect, many places are picking up speed to resume work and production. In Chongqing, for example, 6,974 of the municipality's 7,346 industrial enterprises above designated size had resumed work and production by December 4.

(Xinhua)

BUSINESS

China-Laos railway proves mutually beneficial

“Since the China-Laos railway officially went into operation a year ago, the 24 passenger and freight stations along the line have cumulatively transported 8.5 million passengers and 11.2 million tons of cargoes,” said Mao Ning, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman.

The China-Laos railway officially became operational on December 3, 2021. In the past year, more than twenty Chinese provinces, municipalities, and autonomous regions have launched international freight trains to Laos. At first, the goods transported on the railway were limited to chemical fertilizers and articles of daily use. Now it is transporting over 1,200 categories of goods, such as electronics, photovoltaic products, and cold-chain fruits. Seizing the opportunity brought by the entry into effect of the Regional Comprehensive Economic

Partnership (RCEP), China and Laos are advancing institutional arrangements concerning agricultural products in terms of trade, tariffs, and more aspects. Both countries are facilitating customs clearance and reducing tariffs to instill fresh impetus into their mutual trade in agricultural products.

Data from the Laos-China Railway Co Ltd show that the output of iron ore, cassava flour, rubber, and other products in Laos has increased sharply since the railway went into operation. During the recently concluded Fifth China International Import Expo (CIIE), the Promotion for Development Cooperation along the China-Laos Railway was successfully held, with agreements signed for investment and procurement projects worth tens of billions of yuan.

(Yunnan Daily, People's Daily)