

Mr. Phillip Stephens: CPC International Department, Professor Wan Yizhou from Beijing University and Professor Pan Wei also from Beijing University, and if there are any questions to any of them.

Unidentified Female: Start with Nicholas and then Teri. Nicholas.

Mr. Nicholas Fiorenza: Nick Fiorenza, Aviation Week. I was interested in hearing what the official Chinese reaction is to the U.S. plans to build up its missile defenses on the West coast of the United States. And I understand that China was actually informed of the decision I think before it was announced. Is that considered in any way to be--I mean, could it potentially be a threat to the Chinese nuclear arsenal. And also in terms of North Korea, I mean, would it encourage or what would be positive or negative in possible Chinese efforts to restrain North Korea?

Mr. Phillip Stephens: Vice Minister are you happy to take that?

The Hon. Ai Ping: Sorry. Maybe I have to explain my responsibilities mainly in the party. I'm Vice Minister of the International Department of the CPC Central Committee. So I think maybe Prof. Wang is in a better position to answer this question.

Mr. Phillip Stephens: Go ahead in the mic here.

Dr. Wang Yizhou: Okay. (Inaudible) collect some questions--

Mr. Phillip Stephens: We'll do this one, and then we can maybe pan them up on the next round.

Dr. Wang Yizhou: Okay.

Mr. Phillip Stephens: And if you want to go ahead.

Dr. Wang Yizhou: Okay. I think the China's ministry mobilization--

Mr. Phillip Stephens: Oh, do you--into the--

Dr. Wang Yizhou: Chinese ministry organization is to always in the process peacefully whether the U.S. have some new measures or not. This is one trend in past decades, and we'll continue, I think, this Chinese military modernization, not only in the coast area but also in other places, other areas functionally. Regarding to your question about U.S., some special measures, I think recent years is a fact, is a kind of the measures in U.S. military Pentagon engaging China in the Western Pacific area. So I think for both sides, political will is very important. Though the ministry aspects always have some of its own preparation, its own special hygiene process with this regard--it's a necessary response by Chinese ministry. Always so we think engagements and some good preparation to these trend is very crucial. And good things, bad things, you have to consider both.

Unidentified Female: There's one more question. So Teri next then Ralph. Go on.

Ms. Teri Schultz: Can you hear me? Okay. Hi. Teri Schultz with National Public Radio and CBS News. I'm interested also in current events on the topic of Syria and the push yesterday by France and Britain to drop the arms embargo, the European Union arms embargo. I'm interested in China's position as a member of the Security Council. Obviously, do you fear that if the embargo were dropped and more arms started going to the Syrian opposition that this would make the situation more dangerous instead of more likely to be resolved through political dialogue? Thanks.

Mr. Phillip Stephens: Okay. And then we'll take another one. If we--

Unidentified Female: (Inaudible), your question is--  
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Unidentified Male: Okay. I work for the (inaudible) radio. My name is (inaudible). I have two questions, one technical question. In your point of view, how capable is North Korea technically-wise ready to launch

a nuclear attack on another country? We know there are rockets--we know there are nuclear devices. But are they capable to bring those things together and to launch anything? So that's my technical question. My political question is concerning Syria. Wouldn't it be a good idea to offer asylum to Mr. Assad to bring this guy out of the country to change the situation by this and to make any kind of dialogue between the rebels and the government possible? And would China be, from your point of view, a country to offer officially asylum to Assad? Thank you.

Unidentified Female: Since that was your question, (inaudible).

Mr. Phillip Stephens: Yeah. Okay. So Syria and North Korea, did you want to--

Dr. Wang Yizhou: About North Korea, I think China, majority people think still need time and patience to engage this country. I don't believe technically North Korea will launch the missiles, will even explode the

nuclear weapons to this region. I think this most attention is to let other countries to give him some room. So it's a purpose for--it's self-protection, something like that. So Chinese policy is very clear. We want to soft landing. We want to gradual denuclearization, but peacefully with dialogue. This about North Korea. Another thing about Syria, China (inaudible) which in my observation, Britain and France to--how to say to give the weapons to the opposition? Because right now, it's important to have Euro and international communities diplomatic way to do. We always insist the Syria issue should by Syria people itself, the majority of Syria parties, not by outside--especially by ministry way. So I don't think that China will agree or disagree, especially about person, about the president. In this aspect, China, Russia, I think, have some similar to do things. Russia always in the first in China, we'll say, yes, this is good. And then U.S.A. continually. But in North Korea, China pay much more leadership to do arrangement along with U.S.

Ms. Teri Schultz: Can I just follow up please?

Mr. Phillip Stephens: Yeah. Yeah. Go ahead.

Ms. Teri Schultz: Just on your point about China following Russia, does that mean that you think it's okay that Russia continues to arm the Syrian regime?

Dr. Wang Yizhou: No. No, I don't mean that.

Ms. Teri Schultz: Okay. What do you mean?

Dr. Wang Yizhou: I mean--

Mr. Phillip Stephens: Do you want to come to the mic?

Ms. Teri Schultz: And also, could you point--you said you'd prefer to let--

Dr. Wang Yizhou: Yeah. Russia's points is clear, not the arms, the Syria governments. But insist the Syria issue should decide by Syria people, by Syria majority people, not necessarily mean that this (inaudible) or other leaders. No--the special position about President Assad by the Russian and Chinese

leaders make it clear that the leader of this country should decide not by outside forces, but rather than by its own people, by its own parties, whether this is a-- what kind of a suggestion? The (inaudible) other countries or country in the power, that's policy.

Ms. Teri Schultz: Are you implying that a political process is possible under these conditions?

Dr. Wang Yizhou: See some potential, I think, to do.

Unidentified Female: (Inaudible) from (inaudible) agency. I have two questions for Vice Minister. First one is that you mentioned in China's rejuvenization, and you said China has most of this golden opportunity of civilization. So were you trying to catching up (inaudible), so I wanted to know, could you fully elaborate on that point and make it clear what kind of things that we're trying to learn from the rest of the world--or we are hoping to learn from the rest of the world? And my second question is to what extent do you



think the Chinese new leadership is going to tolerate and even encourage the social media movements? Thank you.

The Hon. Ai Ping: Social?

Unidentified Female: Social media, yes.

Mr. Phillip Stephens: Do you want to go?

The Hon. Ai Ping: Well, you know, in China there is an old saying by Confucius that allows three people (inaudible) also one who can teach us something. I think nowadays for China, actually we can then--all we can benefit from other people to learn other people's strong points. Now, in the sense that when we say that we can learn something from every country, developed country, (inaudible) they are stronger in terms of education, in terms of science and technology. So even for countries in Europe, although for the moment they might have some financial difficulties, some economic problems. But in the long run, I believe that, in many aspect, we can learn from them. For social medium, we--

I think we can benefit from this, but of course there's a problem that's in social media. Some people behave not in a responsible way, and that should be--I think we should find a way to regulate so that we can bring into full play the positive side of social media, at the same time, reduce the negative side effects of social media.

Unidentified Female: Are you saying that the new media (inaudible) China?

The Hon. Ai Ping: Well, I think there are some efforts to, I mean, in terms of the legislation of the country. And we think we first need to do some investigation and consult with the experts, and then we will start a process of legislation so that we would have a legal foundation to do more regulations.

Unidentified Female: Okay we have two more back here.

Unidentified Female: (Inaudible) German. European companies feel a handicap considering the state-owned

companies. Could you elaborate about a future of those companies? Is there any planning to diminish the power in some sectors? What would be the future strategy?

Mr. Phillip Stephens: Sorry. Can you just clarify the question, the future of state-owned enterprises in China?

Unidentified Female: Yeah.

The Hon. Ai Ping: Well, you know, in China, we say that we have, while building socialism with the Chinese characteristic and the state sector; the state owned enterprises play a very important role. I wouldn't agree with the fellow panelist who spoke about the state sector just now. I think they are both economic as well as the political reasons for us to maintain a strong state sector in China.

Mr. Phillip Stephens: Thank you. Who was next?

Mr. Masloup: My name is Masloup coming from Senegal but I am based here in Brussels I work for Africa International as well as Lesico Africa. My question is

not really focused on the topics you have up in the session, it is about your views on the relation between Africa and China comparatively to the relation, the partnership between Africa and the European Union. China is very strongly present in Africa over so many years when you see now the situation in Africa, my Wei, what is your view? How do you interpret the situation in Africa? Thank you.

Mr. Wei: You know I was in Senegal last year, the second time I visit in Senegal, in the country. The first time I went in 1991. So I think China has maintained a strong relation with African countries, all starting from the 50s, 60s when African people were still fighting for their national independence. But comparatively content of the relations between China and African countries I think continues to change along with time. Nowadays, of course all African countries have had their independence, now their job is to promote economic development, social progress so that the livelihood of the people would be improved. In this

aspect we find that there are a lot of complementary between China and African countries. China, Chinese economy has been growing very fast demanding a lot of energy and raw materials and commodities. And many African countries now they are still a major producer of commodities so the Chinese as well as, I mean the amount from China and the other emerging marketing economy help to improve the market for African commodities. But at the same time we saw a more accumulated wealth, Africa is also in a stage to take off. So the economy is a lot more are improved infrastructure and the Chinese are in the position, China has the technology even the financial strength to cooperate with African countries. I think in a few days' time and the new President of China will go to South Africa to attend the meeting of the Briggs and in the scene, or one of the scenes is through South Africa other members of the Briggs or the cooperator was African, the whole continent to help to develop more

forms of a cooperation. So I see a great future in the cooperation between China and African countries.

Mr Phillip Stephens: Is there a last one or is that it?

Unidentified Female: (Inaudible)

Mr Phillip Stephens: All right great, thanks very much.