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GJ-2023-038

The Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations Office at Geneva and Other International Organizations in Switzerland presents its compliments to the World Meteorological Organization, and has the honour to inform the latter that the Government of the People's Republic of China has decided to present the candidature of Dr. ZHANG Wenjian, former Deputy Administrator of the China Meteorological Administration and now Assistant Secretary-General of WMO, for Secretary-General of WMO at the election to be held during the Nineteenth World Meteorological Congress, which will take place in Geneva, Switzerland from 22 May to 2 June 2023.

Dr. ZHANG has rich experience of international meteorological cooperation. He began to serve as Assistant Secretary-General of WMO since September 2016, supervising Department of Infrastructure and Department of Member Services and Development, and budget and finance matters. Previously, he served as Director of Department of Observation and Information Systems and Director of WMO Space Programme since 2008. Being with WMO for over 14 years has rewarded him with exceptional strategic vision, outstanding leadership skills and rich management experience, in particular, a sense of dedication to serving Members. He has made extraordinary support and contributions to the elaboration and implementation of WMO development strategies, especially in promoting WMO unified data policy and data exchange, enhancing integrated surface and space-based earth system observation, unifying meteorological observation standards, improving meteorological forecasting technology, and promoting meteorological service tools and capacity building for Members.

China has long been committed to strengthening its cooperation with WMO and its Members and facilitating global meteorological partnership and development by supporting the WMO programmes and projects. As the second largest contributor to WMO regular budget, China also contributes to WMO by hosting important WMO global and regional centres including the World Meteorological Centre (Beijing), Global Meteorological Information Centre, Regional Training Centres, etc., and sharing the FENGYUN satellite data and application among 126 WMO Members. In the past ten

years, China offered nearly 400 long-term meteorological scholarship and nearly 11000 participants attended the international training courses organized by WMO Regional Training Centres in Beijing and Nanjing. Around 35 countries have benefited from China's meteorological aid projects. China will continue to contribute to the global meteorological development, especially in developing countries, Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States with other partners.

The nomination of Dr. ZHANG Wenjian as a candidate demonstrates China's strong support to WMO and China's firm commitment to global disaster risk reduction. The Government of the People's Republic of China firmly believes that, if appointed, Dr. ZHANG Wenjian will further promote the implementation of WMO's new development strategy and its governance reform, and help enhance WMO's role in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals process and improve Members' hydrometeorological service, safeguarding their economic and social development by furthering its contribution to the Early Warnings for All, meteorological disaster risk reduction and climate change response.

The Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations Office at Geneva and Other International Organizations in Switzerland avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the World Meteorological Organization the assurances of its highest consideration.



the World Meteorological Organization
GENEVA