

Minutes of the First Yunnan-Bangladesh Cooperation Dialogue

“Kunming Statement”

October 15, 2009 Kunming, China

The First Yunnan-Bangladesh Cooperation Dialogue was held in Kunming China on 15 Oct. 2009. The meeting was sponsored by Yunnan Development Research Center of the Provincial Government (YDRC) and Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS) and was attended by the Yunnan Delegation of scholars and government officials from the YDRC, Foreign Affairs Office, Commercial Department, Communication and Transportation Department, Education Department, Culture Department, Tourism Administration, Kunming Municipal Government and Yunnan University headed by Mr. Tong Zhiyun, Deputy Secretary-General of Yunnan Provincial Government and Director of YDRC, and Bangladesh Delegation headed by Major General ANM Muniruzzaman, President of BIPSS.

Based on “Strengthening Bilateral Interaction and Promoting Pragmatic Cooperation in All-around Way”, the participants conducted detailed discussion on various issues ranging from communication, business, education, culture, tourism, etc. The meeting succeeded in a friendly atmosphere and achieved the targets, and the followings were agreed:

1. The First Yunnan-Bangladesh Cooperation Dialogue is of great significance to the promotion of the friendly cooperation between China and Bangladesh. Yunnan plays an important role in cooperation between China and Bangladesh, which is the base for the long-term and stable cooperation mechanism.
2. It is urgently needed to improve the land connectivity between Yunnan and Bangladesh; the two parties shall facilitate to develop the road from Kunming to Chittagong and the BCIM Car Rally, which was proposed by the BCIM Forum.
3. There are huge potentials of complementary between Yunnan and Bangladesh in natural resources and economy for mutual cooperation. It is urged to promote mutual open-up, anti-protectionism, tariff and non-tariff reduction, trade facilitation, establishment of official or private trade agencies for further business cooperation.

4. It was agreed that the multi-layered, multi-formed practical cooperation need to be promoted in terms of education, culture and tourism initially to improve mutual understanding and trust and lay a humanity foundation for the long-term cooperation.

5. It was also agreed to jointly establish a 'Core Group' comprising YDRC and BIPSS, to provide a steady and effective platform to guide and coordinate further work to develop BCIM cooperation for the next five years.

6. It was expected that the friendly cooperation relationship and mutual-benefit mechanism between Bangladesh and Yunnan could be established by making full use of the BCIM Forum, China-South Asia Business Forum and the Sister City of Kunming and Chittagong.

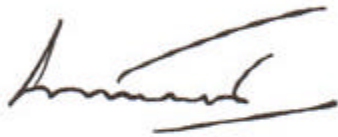
7. It was decided that the Yunnan-Bangladesh Cooperation Dialogue will be an annual event, and the Second Yunnan-Bangladesh Cooperation Dialogue will be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh in April, 2010.

8. The entire participation expressed their appreciation to YDRC and BIPSS for the excellence of the meeting

**Yunnan Development Research Center
of the Provincial Government (YDRC)**

**Bangladesh Institute of
Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS)**

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