

Welcome Speech at ITMF Textile Machinery Workshop

Sun Ruizhe, President of ITMF and CNTAC

November 16, 2021

Dear Colleagues, Dear Friends, Good evening!

It gives me great pleasure to meet you online for the ITMF Textile Machinery Workshop 2021. On behalf of the ITMF, I would like to extend my hearty welcome and warm greetings to friends old and new.

To date, the world is experiencing the combined impacts of major changes and a pandemic both unseen in a century. The international community is being tested by the battle between multilateralism and unilateralism. The global economy is on a long and bumpy road to recovery with many turns and twists. As a highly globalized sector in the world, textile and apparel industries have been moving in the same direction, bearing the brunt of the intense volatility in raw material prices and freight rates, and managing profound changes in economic structures, public policies, and international rules. Going forward, there are growing complexity and heightened uncertainty facing the industries.

Multilateralism and concrete actions are the sure way to rise to almost any external challenge. At the ITMF, we always have been and always will be upholding the spirit of mutual respect, mutual trust, and mutual benefit, and following the principle of extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits, committed to playing a constructive role in sustainability and shared prosperity of textile and apparel industries worldwide.

First, pursue sustainable development and work in solidarity to build resilient and safe industrial and supply chains.

At the ITMF, based on data and analysis, and best practice sharing,

we have spurred interactions across different regions and between upstream and downstream industries, to explore ways for greater policy coordination and standard harmonization. This year, we became a signatory of the position paper regarding REACH Restriction Proposal on Skin Sensitizers. In parallel, we are pressing on Payment & Delivery Terms Initiative launched by STAR-Network and GIZ, and by working with OECD, we are participating in conversation and consultation on the impact of policy changes and stakeholder actions on our industry and enterprises.

Second, embrace inclusive and green development to foster a community with a shared future for mankind and Nature.

At the ITMF, we continue to steer the industrial development toward a new stage of equitable, effective, balanced and coordinated growth, facilitating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. To be specific, we step up the international cooperation to secure supplies of medical textiles in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences; we push for innovation, practice, and adaptation to climate in the industry based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and support the industry's green transition by taking the lifecycle thinking and approach. Climate Change has already been a central issue on the ITMF agenda by which industrial consensus and rules are being developed and formed.

Third, stay true to innovation, openness, and shared success to shape a better ecosystem for high-quality development.

At the ITMF, guided by the concept of sticking to justice while pursuing shared interests, innovation and cooperation are being highlighted from the height of building a community with a shared future for mankind. To this end, we actively foster collaborative networks and global market featured with fairness, openness, and creativity; we resolutely oppose trade barriers and technological

blockades; and we exchange ideas and explore opportunities in areas such as in trade, investment, and digital economy. This October, during Innovate Summit 2021, we ITMF hosted a panel discussion entitled “Impact of Covid-19: Accelerating digitalization and sustainable production in textile manufacturing”.

The ITMF Textile Machinery Workshop is an important platform for trust, understanding, creativity and partnership. It is believed that today’s meeting will bring wisdoms and insights that benefits the industry towards a sound and stable future.

This year 2021 marks the 50th anniversary of the restoration of the lawful seat of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations and marks the 20th anniversary of China's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO). To date, China is increasingly integrating into the world, serving the world, turning her global opportunities into a reality and then sharing her achievements with the world to promote the world. Opening up is the hallmark of contemporary China. And with a focus on building the new “double circulation” development pattern, we are seeing more room for opening-up and growth, which is our shared opportunity. As the important player and explorer, textile and apparel industries are entering a new era and starting a new journey.

In the following, I will share with you the new practices of China’s textile and apparel industry.