

## New Team's Task: World Cooperation

A new core team – the Politburo Standing Committee – was elected in late October to assist General Secretary Xi Jinping steer China for the next five years.

China's climate pledges, its commitment to the Belt and Road Initiative, its focus on food and energy security – all these efforts will continue.

While the world cannot reverse overnight the damage human beings have done to the environment, we can actively take measures not to further damage Mother Earth and, eventually, reverse course.

No one country can do it alone. It demands the world to work together to make this happen. We need the U.S. and China to work together to move the needle.

*Anita Tang, Managing Director*



## Xi Jinping Elected General Secretary For Third Term Of Communist Party Of China

Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China, has been elected General Secretary of the 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, at the Committee's first plenary session held on Sunday, October 23.

This will be a third five-year term of election to that office, the most powerful in the CPC, by Xi, 69. His election was announced at the end of the week-long meeting of the Party in the Great Hall of the People, Beijing. Xi also was named Chairman of the CPC Central Military Commission.

Xi announced six men to serve with him as members of the Politburo Standing Committee, China's top ruling body: Li Qiang, Zhao Leji, Wang Huning, Cai Qi, Ding Xuexiang, and Li Xi (Pictured above is the seven-member Politburo Standing Committee headed by Xi Jinping). CNN observed that

General Secretary Xi revealed the new 24-member Politburo for the first time in at least 25 years includes no women.

Those selected will then go on to fill top government positions, as appointments are made in the coming months ahead of a key meeting of the country's legislature in March.

"The new lineup means Xi will also gain greater control over all aspects of the Chinese state, including the economy, which is traditionally the domain of the Premier, who heads its State Council," observed CNN. That position is expected, reported CNN, to be filled by Li Qiang, currently Shanghai Party chief.

(Page 2 of *China Call Report* has excerpts of Xi's summary of China's CPC-led attainments during the past 100 years.)

## General Secretary Xi Jinping Reports To China's 2022 CPC Congress

CPC General Secretary Xi Jinping, on October 16, opened China's 20th National Congress of the Communist Party with an almost two-hour report on what the Party-led nation had accomplished over the past 100 years, focusing on the five years since the 19th Congress, and addressed problems it faced nationally and internationally in 2022.

He celebrated achievements in raising standards of living, opening opportunities for people and nation, of strengthening the Party itself, of his tenure as its General Secretary.

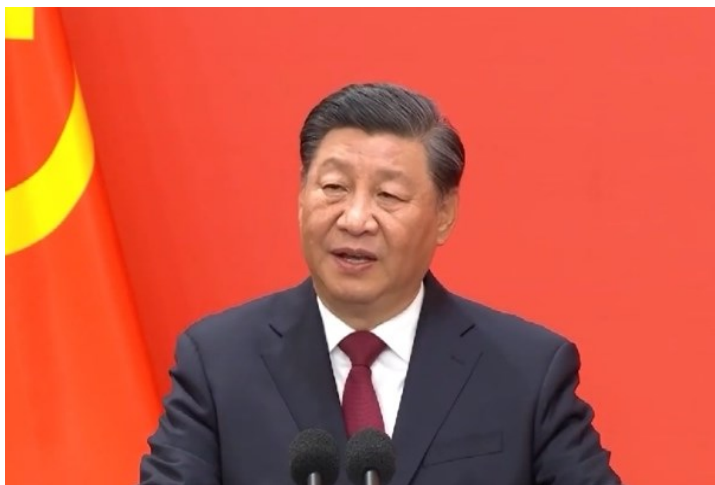
A full transcript of General Secretary Xi's report is available online at *Nikkei Asia* and elsewhere. Here are representative details of the exhortative speech he gave the Congress's 2,000 attendees from throughout China meeting in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

His theme: "Hold High the Great Banner of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics and Strive in Unity to Build a Modern Socialist Country in all Respects."

### Many Results

Results of this effort are many, he noted: "In the past decade, China's GDP has grown from 54 trillion yuan to 114 trillion yuan to account for 18.5 percent of the world economy, up 7.2 percentage points. China has remained the world's second largest economy, and its per capita GDP has risen from 39,800 yuan to 81,000 yuan. It ranks first in the world in terms of grain output, and it has ensured food and energy security for its more than 1.4 billion people.

"The number of permanent urban residents has grown by 11.6 percentage point – to account for 64.7 percent of the population. China's manufacturing sector is the largest in the world, as are its foreign exchange reserves. China has built the world's largest networks of high-speed railways and expressways and made major achievements in building airports,



ports, and water conservancy energy, information, and other infrastructure.

"We have accelerated efforts to build our self-reliance and strength in science and technology with nationwide R&D spending rising from 1 trillion yuan to 2.8 trillion yuan, the second highest in the world. Our country is now home to the largest cohort of R&D personnel in the world.

"We have grown stronger in basic research and original innovation, made breakthroughs in some core technologies in key fields, and boosted emerging strategic industries. We have witnessed major successes on multiple fronts, including manned spaceflight, Lunar and Martian exploration, deep sea and deep earth probes, supercomputers, satellite navigation, quantum information, nuclear power technology, airliner manufacturing, and biomedicine. China has joined the ranks of the world innovators.

"We have pursued a more proactive strategy of opening up. We have worked to build a globally oriented network of high-standard free trade areas and accelerated the development of pilot free trade zones and the Hainan Free Trade Port. As a collaborative endeavor, the Belt and Road Initiative has been welcomed in the international community both as a public good and a cooperative platform. China has become a major trading partner for more than 140 countries and regions. It leads the world in total volume of trade in goods, and it is a major destination for global investment and a leading country in outbound investment. Through these efforts, we have advanced a broader agenda of opening-up across more areas and in greater depth."



Beijing Daxing International Airport



## General Secretary Xi Jinping's Focus On Food Security For China Has Been Long-Standing And Beneficial

When he addressed the National Congress of the Communist Party on October 16 (co-incidentally World Food Day), General Secretary Xi Jinping urged enhancing farming to better feed China.

“The most challenging and arduous task we face in building a modern socialist China in all respects remains in our rural areas.

“We will continue to put agricultural and rural development first, pursue integrated development of urban and rural areas and facilitate the flow of factors between them,” he declared. “We will invigorate the seed industry, support the development of agricultural sciences, technology, and equipment, and define the mechanisms for ensuring the income of grain growers and for compensating major grain-producing areas.”

President Xi frequently focuses on agriculture, with good reason: “Food security is among the country’s most fundamental interests. Of all things, eating matters most, and food is the most basic necessity of the people,” he told a conference reported by *China Daily*.

In April, he made an observation that is a metaphor for China’s need to become self-reliant in securing food, a task made difficult by the prevalence of Covid-19, climate change, and conflicts curtailing shipments of grain. While inspecting a seed laboratory in Hainan Province, he observed, “To fill the rice bowls of the Chinese people and ensure the country’s grain security, China must hold seeds fast in its own hands.” He urged efforts to pursue technological breakthroughs to achieve self-dependence in the seed sector, a big task. China must feed 1.41 billion people, close to 18 percent of the world total of 7.9 billion people, with 9 percent of its arable land and 6 percent of fresh water resources.

President Xi may soon hold those seeds. In September, Xinhuanet reported that agronomists have planted some 4,000 rice varieties in an hybrid experimental rice base to acquire ideal seeds for large-scale production.

There is an exploding number of such efforts by government and university research centers and companies that make fertilizer, farm machines, or raise chickens – all to fill bowls with Chinese rice or feed pigs with Chinese soya meal. *Global Times* reported in April on one of these new efforts in a famous urban, not rural, setting to fulfill President Xi’s prophecy.

“The Beijing municipal government has an-

nounced its plan for revitalizing the local seed industry with modern agricultural technology, ranging from cattle breeding to vegetable planting as part of its latest efforts to strengthen grain production and supply.

“The Beijing government highlighted turning the city into a true ‘seed capital’ as part of the annual target for 2022. The cultivation, breeding and protection of some local species such as Beijing ducks and pigs are also included in the plan, and several demonstration zones will be built to facilitate the project.”



China is striving to establish a modern agricultural science and technology innovation system by 2025, according to the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Science, a government-backed research institution with centers across China. CAAS focuses on major fields such as seeds, cultivated land; agricultural machinery; and bio safety. It is calling for construction of key laboratories, a grain crop science center, a molecular design breeding center, a national crop germplasm resource center, a livestock and poultry bank, and an agriculture microorganism bank, Xinhuanet has reported.

General Secretary Xi’s World Food Day outline for helping China fill its rice bowls with its own grain drew on a bold effort in 1985. As Deputy Mayor of Xiamen, he led a four-man team to Muscatine, Iowa, in the U.S. agricultural heartland, to learn what was new about the growing of corn and raising of pigs and took this beneficial knowledge back to Fujian Province and its agricultural efforts.

## Royal Roots Global Supports Improving Productivity

While the world was focusing on confronting climate change a few years back, it suddenly had to change course to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic. As we finally began to get back into some normalcy and building resilience, the war on Ukraine started and is still on-going.

That, however, should not stop the world from moving forward and, more important, improving productivity which was lagging in many economies for years.

The World Academy of Productivity Science (WAPS), a think tank with the mission of promoting productivity development to achieve world peace and prosperity, has mobilized its Fellows and other productivity professionals around the world to add productivity back into the countries' growth formulas.

The Academy debuted its digital publication, International Journal of Productivity Science (IJPS), in July 2022. IJPS provides a forum for productivity professionals to share knowledge, experiences, and case studies globally across sectors, functions, activities, and operations relating to Social, Environmental and Economic Productivity. Volume 1 Issue 1 July 2022 can be accessed: <https://wcps.info/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/IJPS-VOLUME-1-ISSUE-1-JULY-2022.pdf>. The second issue is scheduled to publish in January 2023. Here includes the submission guidelines: <https://wcps.info/academy/international-journal-of-productivity-science-ijps-a-waps-publication>.

WAPS also held its inaugural online-learning program, Knowledge-Sharing Forum (KSF) event, on September 17, 2022, with theme "Productivity Strategies for Achieving Sustainable Development Goals." You can access the entire recorded session via <https://youtu.be/2DVjhibzn6A>, and email your request for a short summary to [WAPS@affairs.net.cn](mailto:WAPS@affairs.net.cn).

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KSF provides a forum for sharing knowledge and experiences, best practices, and future trends by academicians, thought leaders, subject-matter experts, industry leaders, government officials, and Fellows of WAPS around the world on productivity-related topics, challenges, and issues. The next KSF event, titled "Climate Change: Implications for You and Me," will be held on December 8. You can follow this link to register for the event: <https://tinyurl.com/WAPSWebinarReg>.

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