



TWO SESSIONS

Advisers make Party leadership pledge

Help develop socialist consultative democracy, says newly elected CPPCC chairman

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China's top political advisory body concluded its annual session on March 15, pledging to uphold the leadership of the Communist Party of China and further develop socialist consultative democracy in the new era.

Wang Yang, newly elected chairman of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, asked political advisers to uphold the CPC leadership and take Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era as the guiding principle for the CPPCC.

He also asked that they perform their duties for the people, improve their consultative competence, and act within the boundaries of the Constitution and laws.

"Taking a clear political stand is an essential feature of the CPPCC," he said at the closing meeting of the annual session of the national political advisory body. Wang added that CPC leadership is a fundamental political guarantee for development of the CPPCC and a basic political principle that the advisory body must observe in the new era.

A resolution on an amendment to the CPPCC Charter was also passed in a move widely thought by observers to represent an important chapter in the development of democracy in China. Xi Jinping Thought was



Wang Yang, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, speaks at the closing meeting of the first session of the 13th CPPCC National Committee in Beijing on March 15.

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incorporated into the amendment as a guiding theory of the CPPCC. The scope of the CPPCC's nature and tasks was further defined, and the idea of "socialist consultative democracy" was added to the charter.

This was the fourth amendment to the CPPCC Charter since it was adopted in 1982.

The CPPCC is an important organ for CPC-led multiparty cooperation and political consultation, described as "a new type of party system growing from China's soil".

The 13th CPPCC National Committee brings together more than 2,100 national political advisers from various political parties, people's orga-

nizations and people of all ethnic groups, as well as from all sectors of society. Over two weeks this month, they have conducted extensive discussions on the country's political, economic and social issues to pool their wisdom for decision-making.

The amendment to the CPPCC Charter also has a new chapter on

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the requirements, duties and obligations of political advisers at all levels.

Wang said on March 15 that all national political advisers should be more people-oriented and better perform their duties by doing thorough research at the grassroots level.

"In the first year after the CPPCC Charter's being amended, I hope everyone can do good 'member's homework' and submit high-quality proposals when the national political advisory body meets next year," he said.

Jiang Ying, a CPPCC National Committee member and deputy CEO of Deloitte China, said that to provide solid and practical suggestions, conducting research and undertaking field study are important.



Members of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference push buttons to vote at the closing meeting of the first session of the 13th CPPCC National Committee at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

Ideas in abundance

National political advisers produced more proposals on the economy this year as the country strives to build a modern economic system.

More than 2,100 members of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference submitted 5,360 proposals and 4,438 of them were officially accepted, according to a CPPCC release on March 15. The proposals cover a wide range of topics, including economics, politics, culture, social development and environmental protection.

Economic issues are the focus of 36.35 percent, up from last year's 34.7 percent. Some of the typical proposals are on preventing financial risks, pushing forward on supply-

side reform, developing industries in new energy vehicles or new materials and further reducing taxation for enterprises.

Social issues also received much attention, with 1,446 proposals, or 32.58 percent of the proposals accepted, in this category. They include better developing preschool education and vocational education, widening of medical care and finding ways to cope with an aging society.

As for politically related proposals, topics include upholding and reinforcing the leadership of the Communist Party of China, upholding the Constitution and improving use of the political consultative mechanism, according to the top political advisory body.