

# Xi, Trump agree to ease trade tension

China and US to manage differences based on mutual benefit and respect, seek stable ties

By **AN BALJIE**  
and **CAO DESHENG** in Buenos Aires  
and **MO JINGXI** in Beijing

**P**resident Xi Jinping and his United States counterpart, Donald Trump, agreed on Dec 1 to continue bilateral trade negotiations, stop the imposition of new tariffs and exchange visits at an appropriate time.

They also agreed to expand cooperation and manage differences on the basis of mutual benefit and respect, as well as to jointly push forward a coordinated, cooperative and stable China-US relationship.

They reached the consensus during a working dinner after the G20 Leaders' Summit in the Argentine capital, Buenos Aires. It was the first face-to-face meeting between the two leaders since Trump's visit to China in November last year.

According to a statement released after the meeting, Xi said that for the world's two largest economies it is normal to have some differences in areas of economy and trade.

However, the key is to appropri-

ately manage differences and find solutions acceptable to all, he said.

The two leaders instructed their economic and trade teams to step up negotiations toward the removal of all the earlier imposed additional tariffs and to reach a mutually beneficial agreement, the statement said.

China will open its market and expand imports based on its new round of reform and opening-up, and the demand of the domestic market and the Chinese people to ease related issues in economy and trade, the statement said.

Both sides agreed that joint efforts should be made to push bilateral trade and economic ties back onto a normal track as soon as possible to realize win-win cooperation.

Xi said that both China and the US should shoulder increasing responsibility for world peace and stability.

A good bilateral relationship is in line with the fundamental interests of the people of both countries, as well as the international community's common aspirations, the president added.

Cooperation is the best choice for



**President Xi Jinping** meets with his United States counterpart, Donald Trump, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on Dec 1. They had a working dinner and agreed to maintain close contact. LI XUEREN / XINHUA

China and the US, and both sides should push forward the long-term, sound and stable development of bilateral ties to better benefit people in both countries and the world, he said.

Xi and Trump agreed to maintain close contact with each other through various means and to exchange visits again at an appropriate time.

The two sides also agreed to strengthen educational and people-to-people exchanges and to enhance cooperation in law enforcement and

against illicit drugs, including the new synthetic drug fentanyl.

During the meeting, Xi reiterated China's stance on the Taiwan question and the US side said it would continue to adhere to the one-China policy, according to the statement.

Both sides also exchanged views on the Korean Peninsula issue.

According to the statement about the meeting, China supports a second meeting between Trump and Kim Jong-un, leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

During a briefing on Dec 1, State

Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi told reporters: "In a friendly and candid atmosphere, the two presidents had profound discussions that lasted for two and a half hours. The time was much longer than the schedule."

According to Wang, the meeting "charted the course for China-US relations for some time to come".

*Xinhua contributed to this story.*

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## China confident about talks with US

Both sides to follow a clear road map, Beijing to implement specific parts of new consensus

By **ZHONG NAN**  
and **JING SHUIYU**

The Ministry of Commerce said on Dec 5 that the latest meeting between the presidents of China and the United States on economic and trade issues was successful, and the country has confidence in implementing the leaders' consensus.

The economic and trade teams of both sides will follow a clear schedule and road map in the 90-day window that was agreed upon for talks, a ministry spokesperson said.

China will start by implementing specific parts of the newly reached consensus as soon as possible, according to the spokesperson.

Wei Jianguo, a former vice-minister of commerce, said both China and the US recognize that it is

completely normal to have certain disparities in economic and trade issues, but the key is to appropriately manage the differences and find solutions acceptable to both parties.

The two nations should continue to maintain close contact and make more joint efforts to deepen bilateral ties, said Wei, who is now vice-president of the China Center for International Economic Exchanges.

China should stick to its established agenda of further opening-up in a timely manner, and make enhanced efforts to protect intellectual property rights, he said.

"A higher level of opening-up will drive high-quality development, and facilitate further economic integration between China and the US," he said.

"We should make the economic

and trade pie bigger, and help the US see that China's development will bring more benefits to the US."

Business leaders from both China and the US believe that healthy and stable China-US economic and trade ties are in the fundamental interests of the two countries and the world.

Pushing bilateral relations back to a normal track as soon as possible will also meet people's expectations in both nations, they said.

Cooperation has always been the only correct choice between China and the US, they said during the 11th dialogue between business leaders and former senior officials from China and the US.

The dialogue, led by former vice-premier Zeng Peiyan and Thomas Donohue, president of the US Chamber of Commerce, concluded

on Dec 4 in Washington.

US representatives who attended the meeting said both nations should eliminate potential tension-causing factors and avoid trade conflicts.

The US business community supports the idea of strengthening cooperation with China, attaching importance to the hard-won achievements of four decades of diplomacy between the two countries and looking forward to substantive results in the next negotiations and consultations.

US business leaders also said the two countries should look for areas of cooperation with common interests and further promote market opening.

Stable bilateral business ties help US companies generate sales revenue in China because the nations' trade structures are fairly complementary, said Sang Baichuan, a pro-

fessor at the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing.

Otherwise, it would cut their market share amid competition and affect stock prices, Sang added.

US equities markets dropped on Dec 4, and volatility may continue before the situation eases. All three major indexes erased more than 3 percent at the close.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell nearly 800 points, or 3.1 percent, posting its worst day since Oct 10. The S&P 500 lost 3.2 percent, falling below its 200-day moving average.

The Nasdaq Composite declined 3.8 percent to drop back into correction territory.

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