

Healthy suburbs

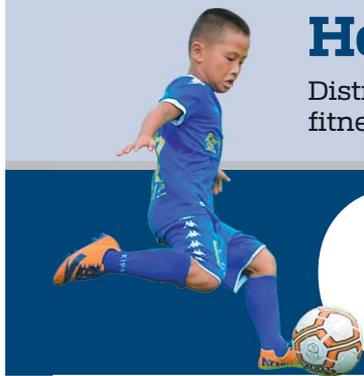
District in Qingdao benefits as fitness program spreads **SPORTS, PAGE 23**

Red Cross plans reforms to boost public's trust

CHINA, PAGE 5

Wet, wild ride

Indonesians grab bulls by the tail in rice paddy races **WORLD, PAGE 10**



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Sino-Argentine relations on upswing

Presidents agree to create a visionary blueprint for future

By **AN BAIJIE** in Buenos Aires
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China and Argentina, both influential developing nations, should jointly support multilateralism and build an open and inclusive world economy, President Xi Jinping said on Sunday.

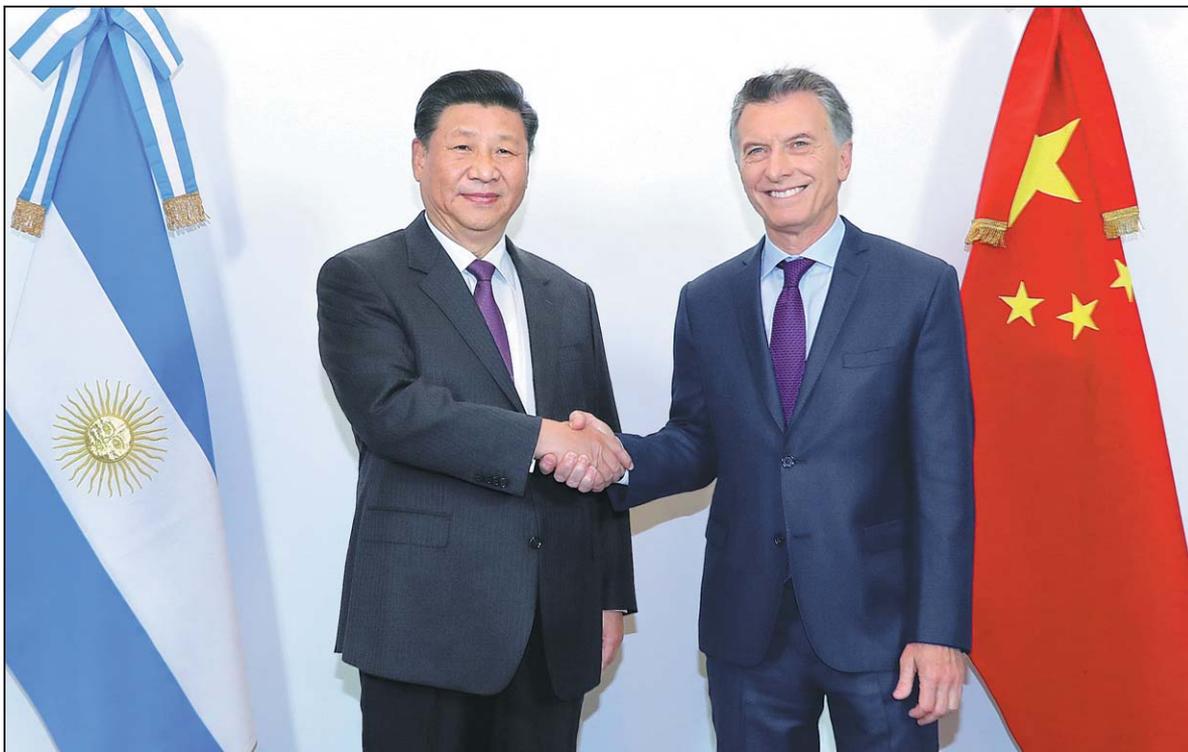
Xi made the remark while meeting with Argentine President Mauricio Macri in Buenos Aires during a state visit to the South American country after he attended the G20 Leaders' Summit on Friday and Saturday.

The two leaders witnessed the signing of a series of cooperation deals after their talks. China would like to increase its imports of products and services from Argentina and facilitate bilateral trade, Xi said.

He noted that it was the fifth meeting between the two presidents in the past two years, setting a record in China-Argentina relations.

The two leaders agreed to map out a blueprint of bilateral relations with a broad vision and to make joint efforts to create a new era for the China-Argentina comprehensive strategic partnership.

Saying that the international situation is undergoing complex changes and facing new challenges, Xi said the two countries should deepen practical cooperation in all areas and make new contributions to global peace, stability and prosperity.



President Xi Jinping shakes hands with Argentine President Mauricio Macri at the Olivos presidential residence on Sunday in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Xi paid a state visit to the nation after attending the G20 Leaders' Summit on Friday and Saturday. XIE HUANCHI / XINHUA

They should continue to support each other on issues related to core interests and major concerns, and firmly support each other's development path, Xi said.

Mentioning that Argentina's economy has experienced fluctuations this year, Xi said China will take concrete action to support the

country's financial stability. China is confident about the future of Argentina's development, he added.

Xi proposed the two countries enhance communication and cooperation under the Belt and Road framework, connect their development strategies and promote bilat-

eral cooperation in all areas.

China supports Argentina in diversifying its energy sector and would like to work with the country to carry out its flagship energy projects, Xi said, adding that China would like to participate in the country's infrastructure projects and promote interconnectivity

between Argentina and the rest of South America.

The two countries should boost exchanges of youth, culture, education, tourism and sports to increase mutual understanding between the peoples of both nations, he said.

See **Relations**, page 3

WESTERN AREAS STILL LEADING WAY ON GROWTH

Expansion eases in provinces undergoing restructuring

By **XIN ZHIMING** in Beijing and **QU QUANLIN** in Guangzhou

A company in Guangdong province whose main business is selling electrical appliances made from a traditional type of porcelain has decided to increase its market presence through the use of new technology.

A new cooker produced by Guangdong Jians Yili Electrical Appliances that uses internally circulated steam and infrared technology is able to help reduce cholesterol in food, the company said.



It has an interior made of red porcelain, known as *zisha* in Chinese. The porcelain is rich in minerals that can break down fat in food as it cooks, helping to reduce cholesterol, officials said.

"Making an electrical appliance such as a cooker able to improve health through the introduction of innovative technology is of great importance in boosting our business," said Shi Zehua, chairman of Zhuhai HMH Industry Investment, an investor in the electrical appliance manufacturer.

Guangdong Jians Yili is one of many private enterprises driving the shift in the development focus of the province, a major southern economic hub.

Guangdong has the country's largest local economy. Its GDP exceeded 7 trillion yuan (\$1.02 trillion) in the first three quarters of this year and could top 9 trillion yuan for the year — about the same as the GDP of Spain, which ranked 14th globally last year.

But Guangdong's growth rate has eased as it undergoes restructuring.

See **Growth**, page 2

Xi makes promising visit to Panama as ties move forward

By **AN BAIJIE** in Panama City and **ZHOU JIN** in Beijing

President Xi Jinping arrived in Panama on Sunday for a state visit, the first by a Chinese head of state to the Central American country.

Upon his arrival, Xi said that since the two countries established diplomatic relations in June of last year, their ties have been strong and cooperation in various fields has yielded fruitful results.

The forging of diplomatic ties conforms to the interests of the two countries and peoples, and there is

huge potential for bilateral cooperation, he said.

Xi added that he expected talks with Panamanian President Juan Carlos Varela to draw a blueprint for the development of bilateral relations in the long run, boost mutually beneficial cooperation and promote common development to benefit the two countries.

Xi and his wife, Peng Liyuan, were warmly received by Varela and his wife, Lorena Castillo de Varela, with a grand welcoming ceremony.

Chinese Ambassador to Panama Wei Qiang said that during the visit

the two nations were expected to sign a series of cooperation documents covering such areas as e-commerce, services, trade, infrastructure, financing and education.

Regarding the development of bilateral ties over the past 18 months, Wei said the relationship has been moving forward "like a really good and solid high-speed train, not only fast but also steady."

The two heads of state have played a key guiding role by steering the relationship onto a path of fast and steady progress, the ambassador said.

On the basis of the one-China policy, the two sides have been expanding cooperation in a spirit of equality, inclusiveness, mutual benefit and win-win cooperation, which has benefited both, he added.

Bilateral cooperation is underpinned by the complementarity of the two economies, Wei said, adding that Panama, known for its unique location on one of the world's busiest trade routes, has become an important regional hub for logistics, finance and transportation by both air and sea.

Panama has signed a memorandum of understanding with China on cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative, and it serves as a natural link between the initiative and Latin America, he said.

Xi arrived in Panama City after wrapping up a trip to Argentina, where he attended the 13th G20 Leaders' Summit and paid a state visit.

Xinhua contributed to this story

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A-share markets on rebound following Trump trade truce

By **SHI JING** in Shanghai and **ZHOU LANXU** in Beijing

Multiple positive news reports over the weekend bolstered the Chinese A-share market, which has undergone months of decline.

The benchmark Shanghai Composite Index posted the biggest daily gain in a month and rebounded 2.57 percent to close at 2654.8 points on Monday, while the Shenzhen Component Index picked up 3.34 percent to close at 7938.47 points. China's Nasdaq-style board, the ChiNext Index, gained 3.26 percent to close at 1372.79 points.

Eased trade tensions between China and the United States is one major reason for the pickup in the confidence of A-share investors,

according to Gao Ting, head of China strategy at UBS Securities.

President Xi Jinping and his United States counterpart, Donald Trump, agreed on Saturday to continue bilateral trade negotiations, hold off on the imposition of new tariffs and exchange visits at an appropriate time.

Gao said the market would respond positively to the latest agreement, with the sectors of electronics, telecommunications, aviation and papermaking projected to show the most significant growth. The consumption sector, which has been largely undervalued over the past few months, is forecast for an upswing, Gao said.

According to Shanghai-based information provider Wind Info, the food and beverages sector reported the biggest daily increase on Monday, 4.56 percent, followed by electronics, home appliances and telecommunications.

Yang Delong, chief economist at the Shenzhen-based First Seafrost Fund, said that one of the major concerns plaguing the A-share market

Developed nations' role at issue in climate meeting

By **HOU LIQIANG** in Katowice, Poland
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Developed countries were called upon to honor their pledges of financial support for developing countries in tackling climate change at the opening of the annual UN climate change conference on Monday in Katowice, Poland.

The 24th Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, or COP 24, is tasked with finalizing the detailed implementation guidelines for the landmark 2015 Paris climate change agreement.

"This meeting is the most important gathering on climate change since the Paris agreement was signed," said United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, addressing the opening ceremony. "We are in deep trouble with climate change. ... This is already a matter of life or death," he said.

The Paris agreement was signed by almost every country in the world at the 2015 Paris conference. It took effect on Nov 4, 2016, with a target of holding the average global temperature increase to no higher



People take part in the Claim the Climate march in Brussels, Belgium, on Saturday to demand action at the United Nations conference on climate change in Poland. FRANCOIS WALSCHAERTS / REUTERS

than 2 C above preindustrial levels. "We are still not doing enough nor moving fast enough to prevent irreversible and catastrophic climate disruption, nor are we doing enough to capitalize on the enormous social, economic and then environmental opportunities of climate action," Guterres said.

He also stressed a collective responsibility to assist the most vulnerable communities and countries, such as small island nations and the least-developed countries, by supporting adaptation and resilience.

"Making clear progress to mobilize the pledge of \$100 billion a year will provide a much-needed positive political signal," he said.

Developed countries made a pledge at the 2009 Copenhagen conference, COP 15, for \$30 billion in support in a "fast-start" fund from 2010 to 2012, and an increase in aid to \$100 billion per year by 2020.

"We cannot afford to fail in Katowice. Some might say that it will be a difficult negotiation. I know it's not easy. It requires a firm political will for compro-

mise," Guterres said.

Frank Bainimarama, prime minister of Fiji and president of COP 23, said the world must move quickly to have any hope of curbing global warming.

"The scientists have just told us the window of opportunity to act is closing very fast," he said.

He added, however, that there are other windows of opportunity to save the planet, including new technologies that enable the world to make a transition.

"There are many billions of dollars needed for the transition, and for making these technologies more accessible and more affordable around the world," Bainimarama said.

Lu Xinming, deputy director-general of climate change at China's Ministry of Ecology and Environment, said that parties should adhere to the principle of equity, find common but differentiated responsibilities and acknowledge respective capabilities in light of different national circumstances as they work out the implementation guidelines for the Paris agreement. Mapping out the detailed implementation guidelines for the Paris agreement as scheduled should be the first key task of COP 24, he said.

PAGE TWO

From page 1

Other traditional Chinese economic powerhouses, mainly in eastern areas, have had a similar growth trajectory, as seen from third-quarter data released by provincial statistical bureaus, which provide a close look at the performances of different regions.

Western areas continued to lead in terms of economic expansion, with Yunnan province in Southwest China taking first place with year-on-year GDP growth of 9.1 percent, followed by Guizhou province and the Tibet autonomous region, both at 9 percent.

All 31 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities have released their GDP figures.

Sixteen reported growth higher than the national rate, which was 6.7 percent in the first nine months; 13 registered growth lower than 6.7 percent; while the growth rate in Beijing and Jiangsu province was the same as the national figure.

Eastern restructuring

Eastern areas, which have traditionally led economic growth, have seen this ease in recent years as more emphasis has been placed on economic restructuring to strengthen their competitive edge and achieve more-sustainable development. This has seen the arrival of new growth drivers, such as the digital economy.

For example, in Zhejiang province, output in the digital economy rose by 14.8 percent in the first three quarters, much faster than the province's overall GDP growth.

In Beijing, new economy growth, such as that from information technology and the internet, reached 13.6 percent in the first three quarters, accounting for one-third of the municipality's GDP.

The capital's heavy investment in research and development is a major factor behind its prospering economy. Although it ranked 12th in terms of GDP scale among all the provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities, it was one of the top five in terms of investment in research and development.

Western growth

Three western regions, led by Yunnan and Guizhou, are in the top five of the country's fastest-growing.

They have registered high growth in recent years, taking advantage of technological advancement to speed their economic expansion.

Given their lower level of economic development, their production-related costs, such as labor and land prices, have been at relatively low levels, making them ideal destinations for industrial transfers from the more developed eastern regions, analysts said.

Moreover, some of them, such as Guizhou, have taken advantage of the fast growth in emerging industries, such as IT and the internet, to propel their economic growth, said Song Qinghui, an independent economist in Shenzhen, Guangdong.

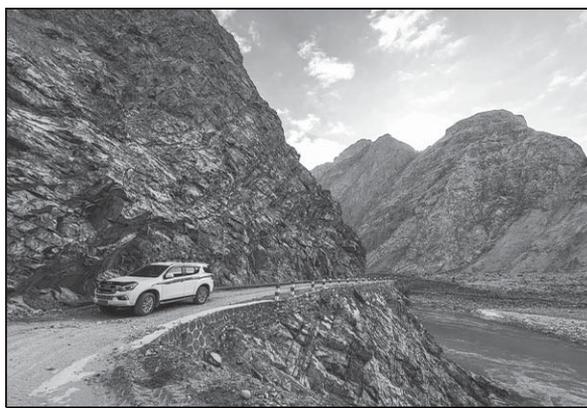
Guizhou, for instance, decided to focus on the development of big data in 2014, hoping to make it a major pillar of its economy.

Home to more than 4,000 big data enterprises, the province has become a major national big data center, with a number of multinationals, such as Microsoft, Apple, Alibaba and Huawei Technologies, establishing branches there. The big

Growth: Digital economy output rising



Left: Visitors are shown a digitalized city control center at the China International Big Data Industry Expo 2018 in Guiyang, Guizhou province.



Right: Improving local infrastructure is one of the key ways of eradicating poverty in Tashikurgan, Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region.

PHOTOS BY TAO LIANG AND HU HUH / XINHUA

