



CHINA'S BID *for* BBNJ SECRETARIAT

Xiamen
A Garden City
on the Sea



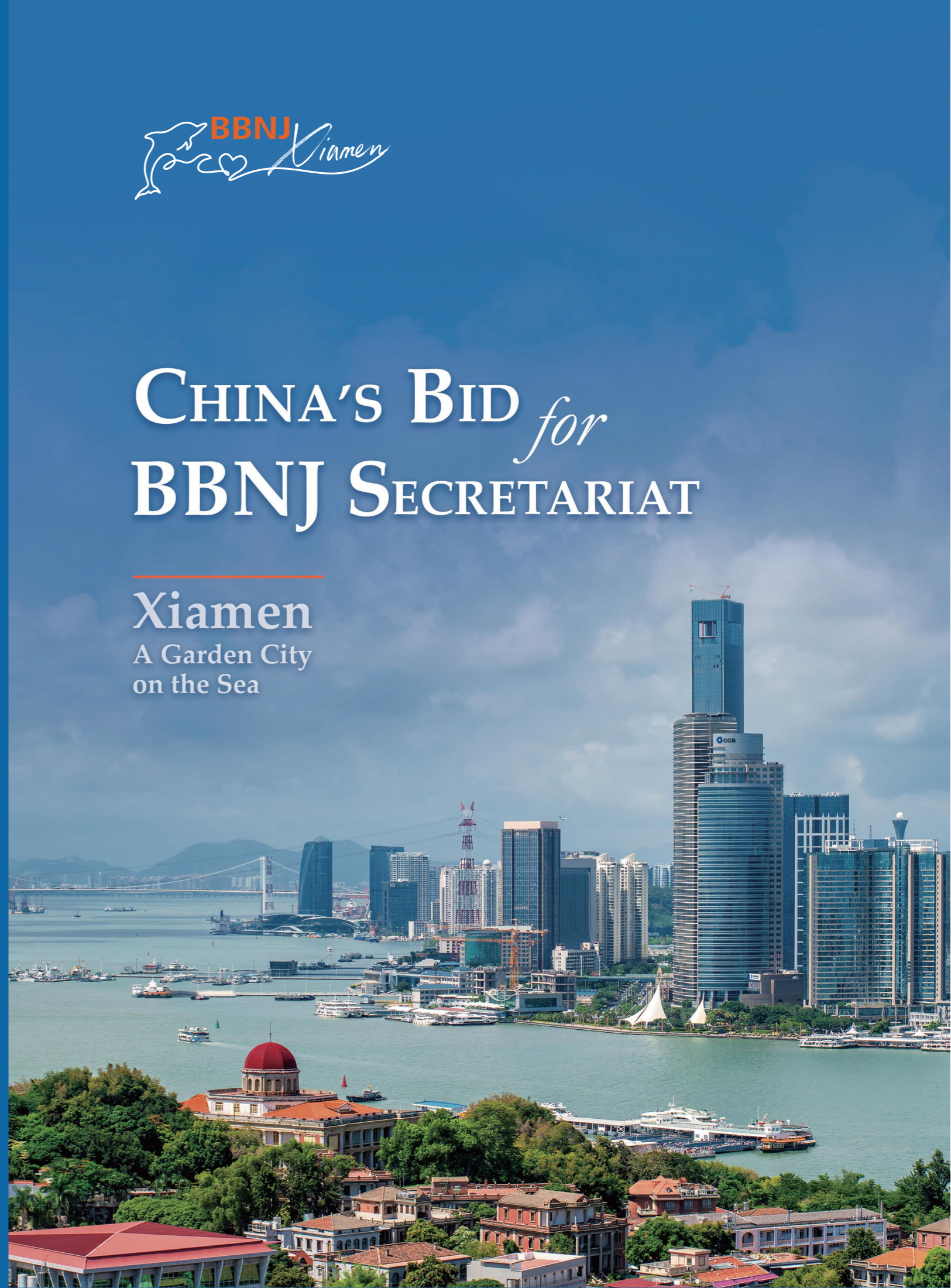
China's Bid



We Are Xiamen



Toward the Ocean





WELCOME MESSAGE



Wang Yi

Minister of Foreign Affairs
The People's Republic of China

Oceans are the common home of humanity. Promoting the sustainable development of oceans is a lofty mission of the international community. I extend my congratulations on the entry into force of the BBNJ Agreement on January 17, 2026, which is a triumph of multilateralism marking a new chapter in global ocean governance.

The BBNJ Agreement is a milestone international treaty under the auspices of the United Nations. Its effective implementation is vital to the well-being of all humanity. To better fulfill the commitments and mission of the Agreement, and uphold the fundamental interests of the international community, we need a Secretariat commensurate with its significance and promising future. We believe that Xiamen, China is the best and most ideal choice for the Secretariat.

China has all along championed true multilateralism, firmly defended the UN-centered international system and the international order based on international law, and worked with all parties to build a community with a shared future for humanity. China has attached great importance to the conservation and sustainable use of the ocean, and has been deeply involved in global ocean governance. Building on this, China is ready and able to make still greater contributions to the BBNJ Agreement.

Known as *a garden city on the sea*, Xiamen is a beautiful and livable city with a long history situated on China's southeast coast. For millennia, it has been a key link of the Maritime Silk Road, and nurtured an open and inclusive maritime culture. Today's Xiamen, with its world-renowned innovation environment, flourishing blue economy and pleasant living conditions, is a pivotal hub for international maritime cooperation. Its unremitting pursuit of sustainable marine development is fully consistent with the objectives of the BBNJ Agreement.

To ensure the Secretariat's immediate operational readiness, Xiamen has prepared a state-of-the-art and modern office building at a premium location and reserved space to meet its future needs. In addition, the Chinese Government promises to offer all-round preferential treatment and support for the operation of the Secretariat and the parties' involvement in BBNJ-related work.

We look forward to hosting the BBNJ Secretariat in Xiamen.

Give China this opportunity, together we will create a legend for the world.



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The BBNJ Secretariat serves as an administrative hub for the Agreement's function, and is expected to enhance universal participation and practical cooperation. We envision that the BBNJ Secretariat will support equal and inclusive dialogues, promote information dissemination and sharing, and build interactive platforms.



Dedicated to multilateralism and Human-Ocean Harmony, China is a major contributor to marine scientific research and an active builder of blue partnerships. We are committed to ensuring both the conservation and the sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction through effective implementation of the BBNJ Agreement.



Xiamen is proudly presented as the Chinese candidate city to host the BBNJ Secretariat. Nurtured by the sea, the city has cultivated a rich and diversified maritime culture over its millennium-long history. Now it is recognized as *a garden city on the sea* for its ecological appeal, and has evolved into a powerhouse of innovation and an engine of technological advancement. Xiamen, with its fame for openness, livability, connectivity and amenities, extends its arms to friends from across the globe.



To ensure the swift functioning of the BBNJ Secretariat, the Chinese host candidate offers a 15-storey modern office building plus two premium villas, all ready for use and spacious enough to accommodate the growth of the Secretariat. Financial support, visa and entry facilitation, and tailor-made arrangements for privileges and immunities are also promised. All colleagues involved in the BBNJ Agreement will enjoy a safe, seamless and splendid life in Xiamen.



SUMMARY

VISION

The Secretariat is not only the administrative hub for the operation of the Agreement, but also a platform for facilitating universal participation and deepening practical cooperation. Guided by multilateralism, the Secretariat should adhere to objectivity and neutrality, and pursue high ambitions and take concrete actions, so as to better realize the Agreement's objectives and enhance the common well-being of all humanity.

Dialogue

Supporting Equal and Inclusive Dialogues

- Promote the equal participation of all Parties in the Agreement, especially developing States Parties, and jointly explore optimal approaches to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity
- Ensure participation of stakeholders and observers in line with the Agreement
- Assist decision making based on solid science, respecting diverse knowledge systems and incorporating traditional knowledge

Sharing

Promoting Information Dissemination and Sharing

- Manage the Clearing-House Mechanism (CHM) to meet the needs of all parties, and facilitate their access to and use of the mechanism, giving full recognition to the special requirements of developing States Parties and the special circumstances of small island developing States Parties
- Leverage the CHM to promote knowledge dissemination and sharing, and to provide links to existing data and knowledge resources, so as to deepen understanding of the ocean and assist Parties in making sound decisions
- Through the well-functioning of the CHM, support the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of marine genetic resources, facilitate capacity-building and the transfer of marine technology, and promote science-based decision making for marine protection, so as to ensure that the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity better benefit all humanity

Collaboration

Building Interactive Platforms

- Function in a Party-driven, efficient, cost-effective, green and accountable manner, and evolve to meet the growing needs of the Agreement
- Cooperate and coordinate with the secretariats of other relevant international bodies
- Take measures as authorized to assist Parties in cooperating and communicating with other States, among relevant legal instruments, frameworks and bodies with the aim to forging consensus and synergy





Why
CHINA



Implementing the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in good faith, China supports the International Seabed Authority, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf—all established pursuant to the Convention—to discharge their duties according to law. China is a Category A Council Member of the International Maritime Organization. It takes an active part in the work of regional fisheries management organizations.

As the Presidency of the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, China facilitated the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. It ensures that at least 30 percent of areas of terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine areas be effectively conserved and managed by 2030. China initiated the establishment of the Kunming Biodiversity Fund as a cornerstone investor, making unique contribution to the conservation of biodiversity across the globe.

Multilateralism

A Staunch Supporter of Multilateralism

China firmly upholds the international system with the United Nations at its core, the international order based on international law, and the basic norms governing international relations based on the purposes and principles of the UN Charter. China will work with other countries to advocate the common values of humanity, safeguard the common well-being of humanity, and build a community with a shared future for humanity.

Committed to true multilateralism, China supports the building of a more just and equitable global governance system. It is a member of almost all universal intergovernmental organizations and a party to over 600 international conventions and their amendments. China has been among the first countries to meet the United Nations Millennium Development Goals and has taken the lead in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



Harmony

A Dynamic Practitioner of Human-Ocean Harmony

China's extensive coastal areas are home to over 28,000 marine species, ranking among the top worldwide. We are dedicated to the efficient development of marine resources, the science-based planning of marine spaces and the preservation of the ocean's reproductive capacity.

We care for the ocean as we do for our lives. From mountain tops to the ocean, China has formed a comprehensive conservation and governance framework. It has drawn ecological red lines covering a coastal and marine area of 150,000 square kilometers and established 353 marine protected areas. Restoration initiatives have also been launched throughout the bays, beaches, nearshores and islands. These efforts have safeguarded and rehabilitated coral reefs, seagrass beds and

other typical ecosystems. China is one of the few countries experiencing a net increase in mangrove coverage. Here, the role of the ocean in carbon sinks has been significantly enhanced.

As a champion in global ocean governance, China places high on its agenda the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity. China has implemented voluntary fishing moratoriums on the high seas. It supports the establishment and operation of Antarctic marine protected areas based on law and science. Engaging in the development of green shipping corridors, China has formulated and implemented ship sewage discharge control measures stricter than international standards.



Science and Technology

A Major Contributor to Marine Scientific Research

China highly values marine sci-tech innovation and empowerment. It launched the *Hadal Science and Technology Program*, accomplishing a manned submersible diving to 10,000 meters in the Mariana Trench. A large-scale depository has been established to preserve marine microbial samples. China's deep-ocean drilling vessel *Meng Xiang* is poised to lend its support to advancing the *International Ocean Drilling Program*.



In response to the UN Ocean Decade and the International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development, China has co-initiated 10 Big Science Programs. It released the world's first multimodal large model for deep-sea typical habitats, marking a significant breakthrough in the integration of deep-sea science and artificial intelligence. China's manned deep-sea submersible *Jiaolong* and dozens of scientific research vessels, including *Shenhai Yihao*, are available to the international community for joint cruise, which contributes to the access to and sharing of the research outcomes.

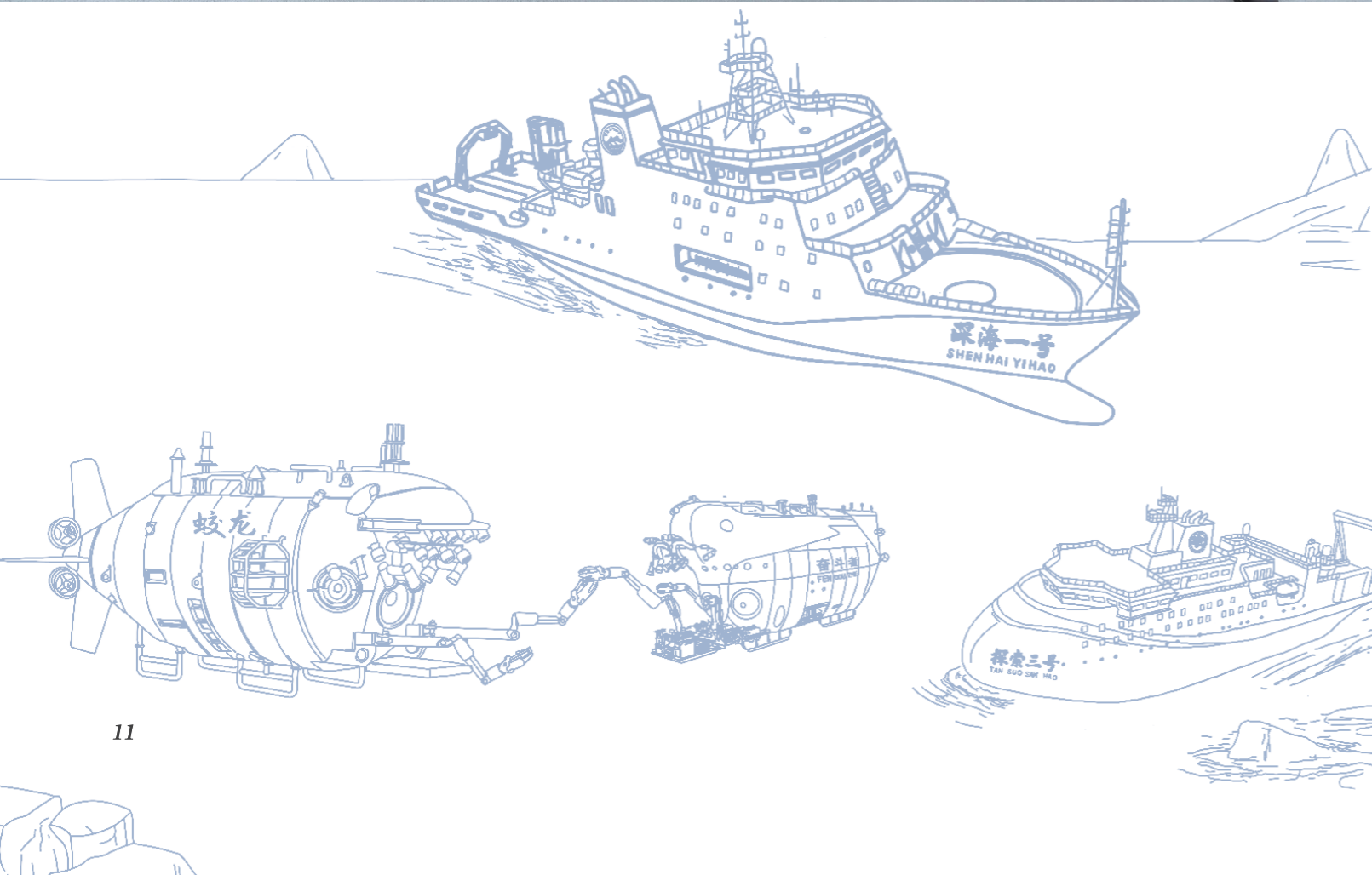


Partnership

An Active Builder of Blue Partnerships

China aims at fostering equal, win-win and concrete blue partnerships. It has forged marine cooperation ties with over 90 countries and international organizations. Under this umbrella, more than 40 joint marine research centers and laboratories have been established. The Thematic Forum on Maritime Cooperation of the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation was convened in 2023. By initiating multiple marine cooperation funds, China supports the delivery of cooperation projects on marine scientific research, ecological conservation, disaster prevention and reduction as well as capacity building.

As a steadfast member of the Global South, China is committed to extending the benefits of marine scientific knowledge to other developing countries. It has launched the *Marine Scholarship of China Program* and organized training courses on marine science, technology and management. Tens of thousands of professionals from more than 50 developing countries have benefited from these initiatives and further contributed to the better understanding, conservation and sustainable use of marine resources in their home countries.



Practitioner

A Strong Promoter of the BBNJ Agreement

China participated in the whole process of negotiations on the BBNJ Agreement and contributed to the conclusion of the Agreement by consensus. China is among the first batch of signatories to the Agreement. From the first day of entry into force of the Agreement, China has been a Party to the Agreement.

China firmly supports the objectives of the BBNJ Agreement and strives to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, for the present and the long term, through effective implementation of the BBNJ Agreement and further international cooperation and coordination.

Taking marine environmental protection as a priority, China is ready and able to make significant contributions to both the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction.

China is well-prepared in legislation, policy, science and technology, and talent development. It is willing to enhance exchanges, coordination and cooperation with all parties to contribute to the effective implementation of the BBNJ Agreement.



Why
XIAMEN







The name Xiamen (厦门) comes from two Chinese characters rich in symbolic meaning as reflected in a poem:

厦 “Xià” A GRAND MANSION (厦, XIA) SHELTERS GUESTS FROM FIVE CONTINENTS;

门 “Mén” A BROAD GATEWAY (门, MEN) EMBRACES WAVES OF TEN THOUSAND MILES.

Along the Pacific Rim, Xiamen is located on the southeast coast of China. Celebrated as *a garden city on the sea*, this dazzling pearl has long been a nexus on the ancient Maritime Silk Road. This city of Human-Ocean Harmony spans 1,699 square kilometers and features a scenic coastline that runs for 265 kilometers.

As one of China's earliest Special Economic Zones, Xiamen is a buzzing hub of international trade and a vibrant melting pot of cultures. Blessed with abundant sunshine, mild year-round weather and effortless livability, the city weaves green vigor, local heritage with international vibes.



Past

Nurtured by the Sea



Since ancient times, Xiamen has been a vital trading port fueling national prosperity, a maritime gateway of China’s external cooperation, and a window for inter-cultural dialogue. As a city where the mountains embrace the sea and the East meets the West, Xiamen is known for diversity, openness and inclusiveness as embodied in its maritime wisdom, trade tradition and folk customs.

Maritime Legacy

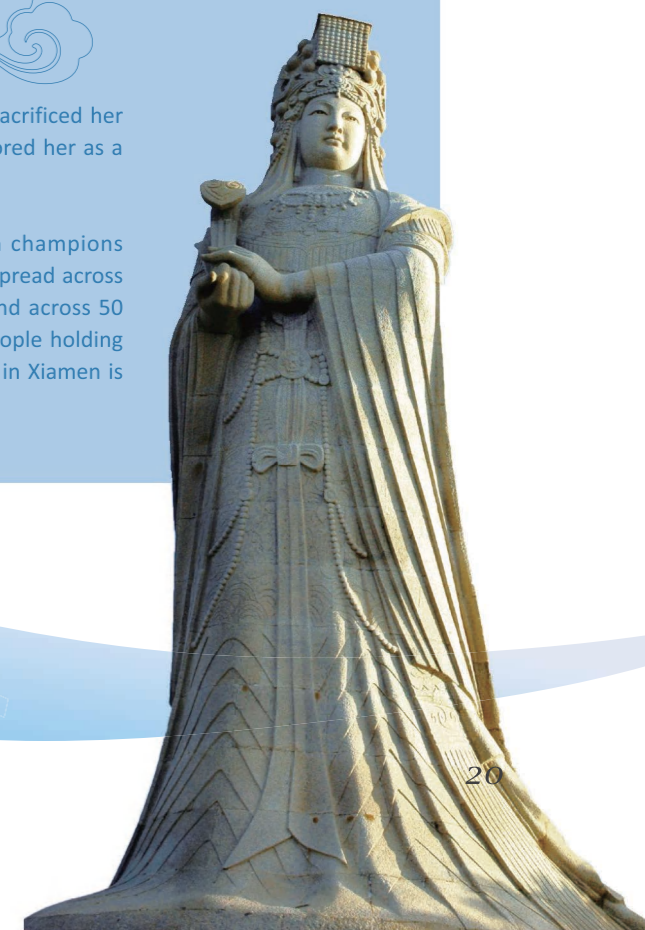
The story of Xiamen begins from an island. Early settlers made their home by the sea, farming the waters and dwelling on boats. This age-old bond with the ocean has been preserved as a living tradition across millennia. Mazu customs and Ong Chun ceremony are inscribed on UNESCO’s Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Local folk practices as such demonstrate the city’s profound, time-honored ties to the ocean.



Mazu, Goddess of the Sea

Back in the 10th century, a young girl named Lin Mo sacrificed her life while rescuing ships in distress. Local people honored her as a symbol of maritime safety and called her “Mazu”.

For more than a millennium, Mazu culture—which champions virtue, benevolence, and compassion—has gradually spread across the globe. Today, over 11,000 Mazu temples are found across 50 countries and regions, with more than 300 million people holding her in high esteem. Yintong Heavenly Empress Palace in Xiamen is one of the most revered ancestral Mazu temples.



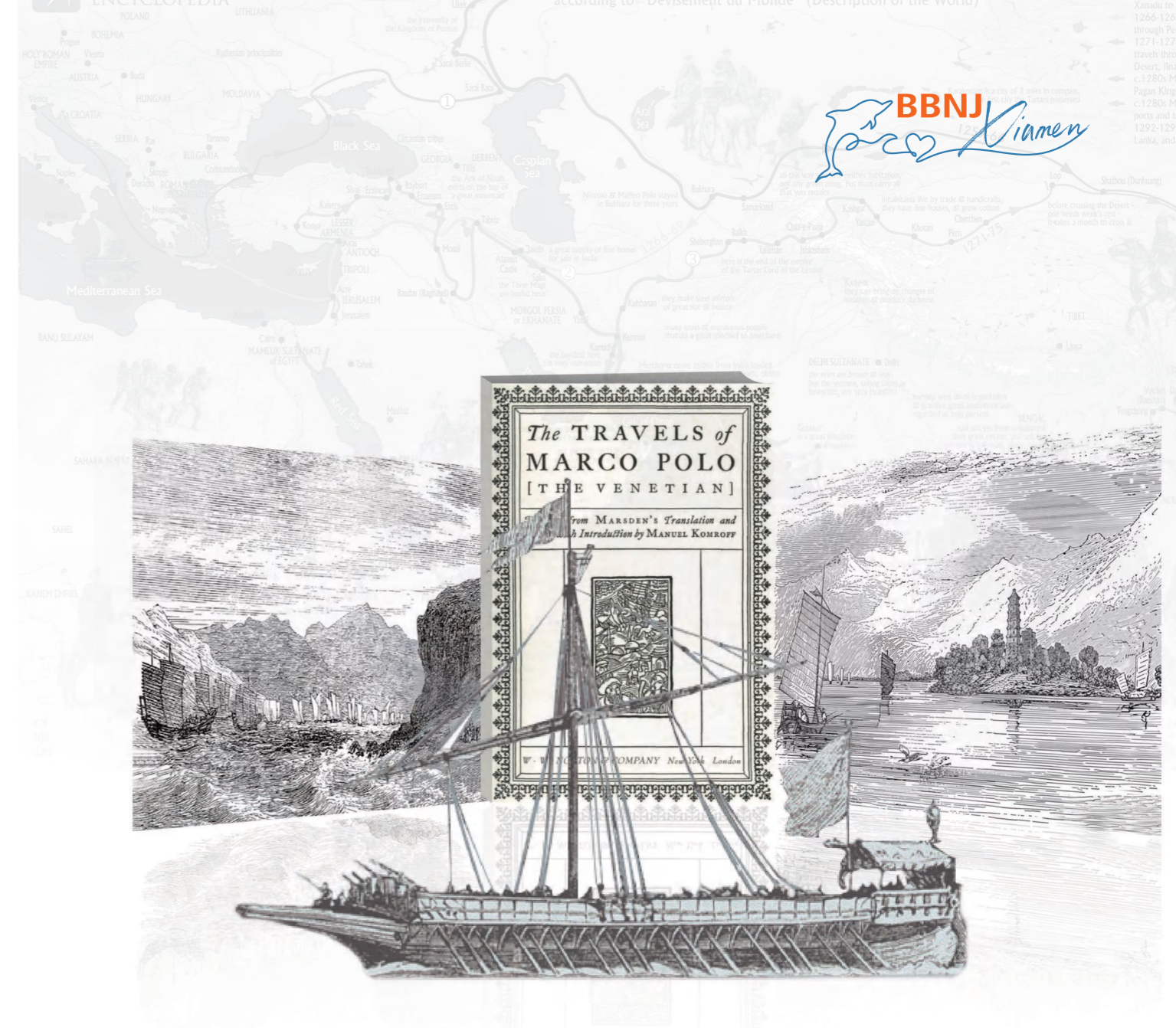
Pulse of Maritime Silk Road

As early as the Song and Yuan dynasties (960-1368 CE), Xiamen was already exporting Chinese porcelain overseas via the Maritime Silk Road. In the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911 CE), the opening of Xiamen as an official foreign-trade port catalyzed its rise to a vital hub for global commerce. Merchant vessels carried local tea, porcelain and cane sugar to the world, bringing back spices and handicrafts. This exchange of goods became a conduit for cultural exchange, molding over time Xiamen's character into one of openness and inclusiveness.

Fusion of Diverse Cultures

Gulangyu Island in Xiamen, a world-renowned UNESCO World Heritage site hailed as an "Island of Music" or the "Piano Island", brings together a diverse array of architectural styles including Classical Revival, Southeast Asian arcades, traditional Minnan (Southern Fujian Province) courtyard houses, and the Amoy Deco Style. It is therefore acclaimed as the "World Architecture Expo".

In Xiamen, time-honored cultural traditions like Nanyin Music and Gezi Opera blend seamlessly with modern art expressions such as symphonies and operas, painting a vivid tapestry of cultural diversity.



Port of the Orient in the Eyes of Marco Polo

In 1291, the legendary Italian traveler Marco Polo journeyed south from the then capital of China—Dadu (present-day Beijing), arriving at the Haven of Zayton on China's southeastern coast, the area where today's Xiamen is located. He then set sail from Zayton, voyaged along the Maritime Silk Road, and ultimately returned to his hometown in Venice.

As recorded in *The Travels of Marco Polo*: "...you arrive at the very great and noble city of ZAYTON...At this city you must know is the Haven of Zayton, frequented by all the ships of India, which bring thither spicery and all other kinds of costly wares...for hither is imported the most astonishing quantity of goods and of precious stones and pearls...it is one of the two greatest havens in the world for commerce." The Port of Xiamen, as it stands today, was an integral part of the Haven of Zayton back then.

The logo for 'Present Thriving by the Sea', featuring a red square seal with Chinese characters on the left, followed by the word 'Present' in a large blue serif font and 'Thriving by the Sea' in a smaller blue serif font below it. A blue wave graphic is positioned behind the text.

A Garden City

Looking up you will be amazed by the clear blue skies, while looking around you will find yourself surrounded by pleasant greenery. This is a feeling shared by every Xiamen resident and all those who have set foot in the city. Xiamen is a garden city known for its ecological appeal featuring Human-Ocean Harmony. Its urban areas are interwoven with mountains, seas, lakes and islands, fostering a conducive environment for humans to coexist and thrive in harmony with nature. The city has been crowned with the *UN Habitat Scroll of Honor Award*, *Biodiversity Charming City* and *LivCom Award*, among others. Since 1994, Xiamen has developed a scalable model for integrated coastal zone management.

“It’s one ocean. We are dealing with the same challenges. A city like Xiamen needs to be in the lead for finding the solutions to those challenges,” observed Mr. Peter Thomson, the United Nations Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for the Ocean.





To protect the Chinese white dolphins and other rare marine species, Xiamen established a 70-square-kilometer national nature reserve in its offshore waters. Mangrove coverage has increased fivefold through ecological restoration projects over the past two decades. A citywide mechanism to remove floating marine debris has been set up in all its coastal waters.

A Beautiful Encounter with Chinese White Dolphins in Xiamen

For centuries, the legend of “White Dolphins Saving the Fisherwoman” has been shared across Xiamen’s coastal villages, fostering a warm, innate fondness for these graceful sea creatures.

Xiamen Bay has long been a cozy, caring homeland for these dolphins. To guard these gentle beings, the city has set up a national-level nature reserve and a rescue and breeding center for them. This is why the population of Chinese white dolphins in Xiamen Bay has stayed steady and even been growing. The people of Xiamen cherish these dolphins so deeply. When the dolphins rise and leap through the waves, no one can resist stopping to catch the moment in quick snapshots, then share them with pride, as if introducing a beloved neighbor.



A Powerhouse of Innovation

Xiamen is a promising land of innovation and entrepreneurship. The city’s innovation ecosystem is bolstered by a robust array of policy incentives tied to its multiple identities as a Special Economic Zone, a Pilot Free Trade Zone and a BRICS Partnership on New Industrial Revolution Innovation Center. By continuously channeling its innovative dynamism into ocean development, Xiamen pioneers the growth of emerging sectors such as marine bioproducts, high-end equipment and advanced materials, as well as marine information and digital industries.

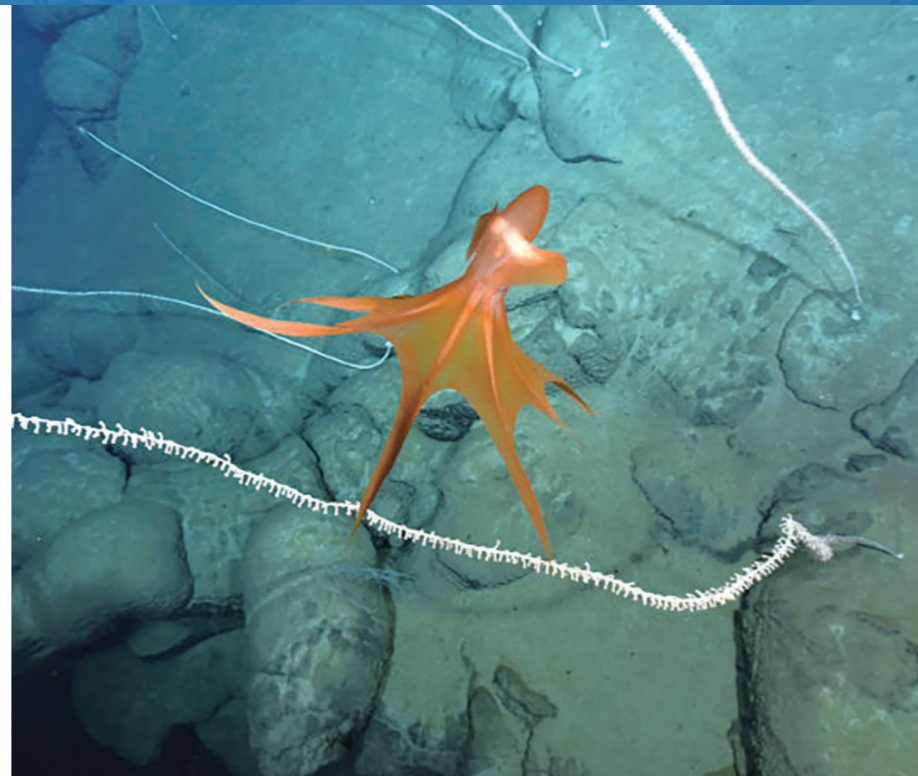
Driven by innovation, the blue economy accounts for 30 percent of the city’s GDP. The Port of Xiamen ranks 11th in the UNCTAD Port Liner Shipping Connectivity Index and 14th worldwide in container throughput, steadily enhancing its standing as an international shipping center. The city is among the front runners in digital and smart port development. Cruise economy, coastal tourism and modern fishing port economy show a synergistic growth momentum.



An Engine of Technological Advancement

Xiamen is a leading city in marine science and technology. Recognized as the birthplace of China's marine science and an Asian-Pacific research hub with global influence, Xiamen integrates its innovation ecosystem deeply into the international networks of marine science cooperation. It brings together nearly 5,000 scientists and has established 30 research and development platforms including the *Marine Culture Collection of China*. Over 1,000 new patents have been approved since 2020.

The *Global Ocean Negative Carbon Emissions (Global-ONCE) Program*, initiated by Xiamen University, has stimulated broad international collaboration among 104 research institutions from 35 countries under the framework of the UN Ocean Decade. Xiamen applies advanced technologies, such as the Internet of Things, big data, artificial intelligence and cloud computing, to protect marine biodiversity. As the homeport of world-class R/V *Tan Kah Kee (Jia Geng)* and *Xiang Yang Hong 03*, Xiamen is capable of conducting deep-sea and offshore scientific investigation, consolidating data and applying the research outcomes.





Livability

In Xiamen, where the city is cradled by the sea and the sea is woven into the city, people enjoy an enriching, green and wholesome way of life, blending urban pulse with the calm of nature and culture.

What to explore in Xiamen?



- ✓ savor a wealth of delicacies including unparalleled fresh seafood
- ✓ gather around a tea table in the open air for lively conversations
- ✓ jog along the Island Ring Boulevard, one of the world's most scenic marathon routes with unobstructed vistas
- ✓ wander through the Mountains-to-Sea Trail and the Xiatanwei Mangrove Park
- ✓ set sail on a yacht from Wuyuan Bay Marina to embrace nature immersion
- ✓ enjoy symphonies by Xiamen Philharmonic Orchestra at a waterfront music square
- ✓ watch captivating performances by the Little Egret Folk Dance Ensemble at the Banlam Grand Theater
- ✓ indulge in a rich calendar of stage plays, musicals, and international sports events





Amenities

Equipped with multiple premium event facilities like the International Conference Center and the International Expo Center, Xiamen stands as an ideal host for international conferences and exhibitions. It has a distinguished legacy of hosting high-level events including the BRICS Xiamen Summit, the 4th APEC Ocean-Related Ministerial Meeting, the 3rd China-Pacific Island Countries Foreign Ministers' Meeting, the 10th China-Central Asia Cooperation Forum, and the East Asian Seas Congress 2024. The World Ocean Week in Xiamen, the city's flagship maritime event, has been held annually for 20 consecutive years.

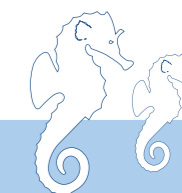
Connectivity

Xiamen Gaoqi International Airport operates direct flights to a wide range of international and regional destinations, including Amsterdam, Bali, Bangkok, Busan, Dili, Doha, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur, Los Angeles, Malé, Manila, Melbourne, Osaka, Paris, Penang, Phnom Penh, Seoul, Sihanoukville, Singapore, Sydney, Tokyo and Vancouver, as well as Hong Kong and Macao of China.

Connections between Xiamen and New York are available via Fuzhou Changle International Airport, supported by a 30-minute transfer flight between Xiamen and Fuzhou.

Xiamen Xiang'an International Airport, which will be China's largest smart green airport, is scheduled to open in late 2026, with planned new routes serving Addis Ababa, Dhaka, Dubai, London, New Delhi and more. It will become a new hub in Asia-Pacific with global reach, dramatically expanding Xiamen's connections to the world.

Within four hours by high-speed train, one can travel from Xiamen to the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area or the Yangtze River Delta, both being world-class city clusters. The efficient public transport network composed of stretching metro lines, BRT and shared bicycles ensures easy mobility citywide.



A 20-Year-Long Dialogue of Human-Ocean Harmony



In 2004, the idea of holding an annual ocean-themed forum was floated at an international environmental conference convened in Xiamen by the UNEP.

In 2005, Xiamen International Forum for Coastal Cities was held, which was elevated into the World Ocean Week in Xiamen (WOW) in 2007, presenting to the world an annual platform for global dialogues on blue governance.



With each passing edition, WOW continues to engage with timely and forward-looking themes. These include the prevention and mitigation of land-based source of pollution, the protection of islands, and the building of a marine community with a shared future.

Twenty years into its making, WOW has become an impactful platform for global ocean partnership, attracting 2 million-plus attendances from over 130 countries and regions and 50 international organizations.



To ensure the rapid set-up and swift functioning of the Secretariat, China is committed to providing the Secretariat with a fully equipped, sufficiently sized office space that not only meets current needs but also allows ample room for future expansion, as well as supporting its day-to-day operations. China will also offer a full range of preferential treatments and facilitation measures, designed to ensure an agreeable environment for the Secretariat staff and delegates to work and live in Xiamen.

Office Conditions

Nestled at the heart of the garden city on Lingshiguan Road, our proposed Secretariat facilities are located right in the coastal central business district, along a picturesque Pacific coastline, in an area of international flair, with world-class venues fully equipped.



Modern Office Building



Premium Villas



International Conference Center +

Our
OFFER



A Package of “1 + 2 + N”

China takes great pleasure in offering BBNJ Secretariat a well-rounded, tailor-made, premium office space package as follows:



- “1”: A sleek 15-storey modern office building spanning a total floor area of 12,000 square meters, fully equipped to meet all daily office operational needs



- “2”: Two elegant three-storey premium villas spanning a total floor area of 1,414 square meters, designated to serve as the official residence for the Head of the Secretariat and a versatile multi-functional center



- “N”: Amenities within walking distance, including the International Conference Center, a venue suitable for hosting the Conference of the Parties, which features an on-site array of flexibly sized meeting rooms accommodating dozens to 1,600 attendees, enabling the concurrent holding of conferences of all scales.

Also available are a diverse range of hotels for delegate accommodation, along with parks, green spaces, coastal trails and other urban public amenities, all nestled within this garden city. There are over 210,000 rooms available in the numerous star-rated hotels, budget lodging and boutique guesthouses across the city, offering tailored accommodation and conference solutions of any scale and style.

Functions

Meeting Present and Future Needs

The 15-storey modern office building can accommodate hundreds of staff members and meet the needs of hosting meetings or events of different scales simultaneously. Equipped with barrier-free facilities, optical fiber networks, 5G wireless networks and an intelligent management system, it can provide a safe and stable data processing and storage system, as well as customized technical and equipment support services.

- Adequate office space for the Secretariat

Ensuring both the initial office needs of the Secretariat at its establishment and the office space required for its future development.

- Reserved office space for subsidiary bodies

Serving not only the five existing subsidiary bodies under the BBNJ Agreement, but also any subsidiary bodies that may be established in the future.

- Sufficient space for the CHM

Providing ample room for expansion even when large or numerous pieces of equipment need to be installed during the establishment and operation of the CHM.

- Supporting facilities for all Parties

Including reception halls, meeting rooms, multi-functional seminar rooms, a library, exhibition halls and dining facilities.



Contributions

- Providing the 15-storey modern office building and the two three-storey premium villas to the Secretariat on a long-term, free-of-charge basis
- Supplying office equipment for the initial operation of the Secretariat
- Waiving utility fees for the Secretariat for the first five years



Support for Performing Duties

Financial Contributions

- China will contribute to the voluntary trust fund established by the BBNJ Agreement, to facilitate the participation of representatives of developing States Parties, in particular least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, in the meetings of the bodies under the Agreement
- China will contribute to the special fund established by the BBNJ Agreement to support capacity-building and other related activities of relevant countries

Visa and Entry Facilitation

- Diplomatic passport holders from 160 countries, service passport holders from 139 countries and ordinary passport holders from 77 countries are exempted from visa application
- Building on its existing visa privilege policies, China will further provide convenient visa services free of charge for officials of the Secretariat and their family members, as well as representatives of the Parties coming to China for meetings
- 24-hour fast-track services will be available at international airports to facilitate the entry, exit and domestic transfers of Secretariat officials, their family members and delegates attending meetings in China
- The *One-Stop Service Center for Overseas Guests* at Xiamen Airport offers multilingual services, providing convenient first-stop services covering customs clearance, communication, culture and tourism

Privileges and Immunities

China will conclude a headquarters agreement with the Secretariat of the BBNJ Agreement at the earliest possible date, ensuring that the Secretariat enjoy legal capacity in the territory of China and be granted such privileges and immunities as are necessary for the exercise of its functions; and ensuring the broad and equal participation of all parties in the work of the BBNJ Agreement. These treatments may be applied to:

- *The Secretariat of the BBNJ Agreement, its officials and their spouses and minor children*
- *Members of the subsidiary bodies of the BBNJ Agreement*
- *The Parties, observers and other accredited personnel participating in meetings related to the BBNJ Agreement*



Living Environment



Sound Public Security

China is one of the safest countries in the world, and Xiamen is one of the safest cities in China. Xiamen provides high-standard and professional security measures for hosting international conferences and large-scale events.

**According to the Global Safety Report 2025 released by Gallup, China ranked third globally in the list of Where People Felt the Most Safe in 2024 and fourth in the Law and Order Index.*



Thoughtful Exclusive Services

China will assign a professional team to provide one-stop services for Secretariat officials and their family members, covering accommodation, employment, medical care and school enrollment for their children.



High-Quality Medical Care

Xiamen boasts first-class medical resources in China, with multiple hospitals in the vicinity of the Secretariat, offering high-end medical services aligned with international standards.



Abundant Educational Resources

Xiamen offers a comprehensive education system for international students covering preschool education, basic education and higher education. More than 200 schools are eligible to enroll international students, and many international schools offer IB programs and AP courses, which are effectively connected with the international education system.



Human-Ocean Harmony

A chance for China, a legend for the world