**Highlights of the Beijing Olympics**

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| In the precious time of spring with warmness and coziness in Pakistan, thousands of kilometres away in China, Beijing has successfully showcased a fantastic, extraordinary and excellent Winter Olympic Games 2022 which were proved as green, inclusive, open and clean to the world. |

In the past 16 days, around 3,000 athletes from 91 countries and regions competed in 109 games in Beijing, which owns the title of first-ever city hosting both summer and winter Olympic Games. 2 world and 18 Olympic records were broken. The Chinese team achieved the best ever result of 9 gold, 4 silver and 2 bronze medals in the Winter Olympics.

Furthermore, it is yet not surprising that at least 600 million and 2 billion people respectively watched Beijing Winter Olympic Games through TV and social media, making it the most watched Olympics to date. Influenced by the Games, 300 million Chinese have joined the ice and snow sports.

Besides the success of the Olympic spirits, technology seems to be another bigger winner of the great event. Robot chefs, self-driving cars, 5G signals, 100 percent cloud transmission, high-speed moving cameras, huge LED screens and Chinese own Beidou satellite navigation system raised the bar for others.

As many as 212 new technologies developed and utilized by China throughout the Games manifested China’s sci-tech capabilities and showed how the Olympic Games today could not be divorced from the development and utilization of technologies.

The wonderful work on controlling the pandemic was widely recognized. Thomas Bach, IOC president, highly praised the devotion of China by hosting the Winter Games under the pandemic and the threats of the fast-spreading Omicron variant as “extremely resilient”.

Olympic diplomacy was absolutely the focus. As many as 32 leaders of states and international organizations visited China for the Beijing Winter Olympics. Pakistan, known as the only all-weather strategic partner of China, won great respects and warmest welcome from all walks of life in China. Friendly messages from President Arif Alvi and Prime Minister Imran Khan were sent to Chinese people by Chinese media. Chinese President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Li Keqiang respectively held meetings with Prime Minister Imran Khan who visited China and took part in the Opening Ceremony of the Beijing Winter Olympics. Both countries signed Joint Declarations aiming at further strengthening time-tested friendship and strategic ties, which gave a big push to bilateral cooperation on CPEC, Gwadar Port, SEZs, agriculture, technology, trade, education, culture, tourism, medicine, anti-terrorism and coordination on international and regional affairs.

Pakistan society paid great attention and interest to the Beijing Winter Olympic games. The Institute of International Relations and Media Research, a think tank based in Lahore, held a digital poster competition on the Games successfully. Pakistan mainstream media also made wide coverage and comments on the events, let alone numerous discussions and short videos on social media.

The contribution to the solidarity and peace of the world through hosting the Games is no doubt one of the major goals of China. As Chinese President Xi Jinping pointed out, “Instead of riding separately in some 190 small boats, countries around the world should stay together in one giant ship and sail toward a brighter future, and this is why we came up with ‘Together for a Shared Future’ as the official motto for Beijing 2022.” Xi also said that China would make new and greater contributions to the Olympic Movement and promote the building of a community with a shared future for mankind.

Echoed byMuhammad Asif Noor, Secretary General of the Pakistan Shanghai Cooperation Organization Friendship Forum, the Games’ motto of “Together for a Shared Future” corresponded to China’s aspiration of building a community with a shared future for mankind. By hosting the Games, China had helped bring the world together and promoted mutual understanding and consensus between countries and peoples.

“The success of Beijing Winter Olympic Games belongs to China as well as the world. The Olympic Games not only brought warmth and hope to people from different countries who suffered in the winter of Covid-19, but also injected precious powers of peace and solidarity to the fluctuating and uneasy world.” commented by Wang Yi, State Counsellor and Foreign Minister of China with a touching mood, “China would like to build a better future with all other countries in the post-pandemic time on the same ship with unity as the sails and cooperation as the paddles.”