

Talking Points:

Mr. WANG Xinxian,

Vice Chairman of CDPF and Congressman of National People's Congress of China

1. Full affirmation of what PEN-International has achieved, and expressions of thanks to its personnel.

Through Dr. DeCaro's efforts, the PEN-International Organization has played a positive role in accelerating deaf higher education, and international exchanges and cooperation in China. China's deaf higher education has obtained significant benefits from those exchanges and cooperation:

- schools have acquired new equipment; and,
- faculty members have been trained.

Cooperation and exchanges have widened our vision in:

- the field of advanced educational theories and practices,
- the utilization of special education technology and methods, and,
- the development of sign language exchanges.

At the same time, we have made many new friends, so we can say that the exchanges and cooperation have yielded satisfactory results.

You (Dr. DeCaro) are an old friend of the Chinese people:

- leading PEN-International, and,
- offering advice for deaf higher education development in China.

I represent the CDPF (China Disabled Persons Federation) and Chinese deaf people and their relatives and friends in expressing appreciation for your many years of vigorous support and diligent work. At the same time, I want to thank the Sasakawa family and The Nippon Foundation of Japan for funding PEN-International. I also want to express appreciation for the contributions of Director Bao and the other Chinese special education college directors. Thank you for your positive participation and cooperation to extend PEN-International, and for laying such great groundwork for development in the future.

2. Expectations for future cooperation.

China started its deaf higher education program quite late. We need continued support and assistance in areas such as:

- new educational ideas,
- establishing majors, and,
- teacher development and training (and the like)

We hope that PEN-International will continue to support the development of deaf higher education in China and will expand cooperation with our 4 colleges for deaf men and women, as it has done previously. At the same time, we want PEN-International to cooperate with the CDPF:

- to help support high school education, and,
- to support postsecondary deaf education in the west of China, such as teacher training.

Regarding concrete and specific ways to cooperate, the directors who are present here at this meeting and the CDPF Education and Employment Department are prepared to hold discussions with PEN-International. CDPF will support this cooperation vigorously, and will help guarantee that PEN-International develops smoothly in China.