Chapter Creating a New Model of Primary-Level Social Governance

We will enhance the Party-led urban and rural community governance system featuring a combination of self-governance, the rule of law, and the rule of virtue, and improve systems for democratic consultation at the primary level so as to create communities of social governance in which everyone fulfills their respective responsibilities and shares in the benefits.

Section 1 Consolidating the Foundations of Primary-Level Social Governance

We will improve the framework for primary-level social governance in which Party organizations take the lead, village (neighborhood) committees play the main role, and the people are the primary focus. We will delineate the powers and responsibilities of primary-level governments and local selfgovernance organizations in accordance with the law, establish a system of listing the powers and responsibilities of county (district) functional departments and townships (sub-districts) with regard to community governance in both urban and rural areas, and implement a work access system, thereby alleviating the burdens on organizations at the primary level, particularly the village level. We will step up standardization of local self-governance organizations, and ensure that their functions, size, and the range of affairs they address are determined appropriately. We will strengthen mechanisms for primary-level self-governance, develop self-governance organizations such as villagers' (residents') assemblies,

councils and supervisory committees, and improve organizational forms and institutionalized channels for villagers (residents) to participate in social governance.

Section 2 Improving Mechanisms for Community Management and Services

We will shift the focus of social governance and services down to the community level and channel resources accordingly, and improve the management capacity of urban and rural communities so that they are able to provide more targeted and refined services. We will delegate authority for review and approval as well as public service-related matters to the community level, build an open community-level administration and services platform featuring grid-based management, refined services, the support of IT, and the sharing of resources, and promote organic integration and precise alignment in public services settings related to employment and social security, elderly care and child care, assistance and support for people with disabilities, health and medical care, housekeeping, logistics, shopping assistance, public security and law enforcement, dispute mediation, and psychological support. We will enhance the functions of neighborhood committees in urban communities, press homeowner associations and property management companies to perform their duties, and improve regulation of property management services in communities. Efforts will be made to cultivate full-time and professional teams of urban and rural community workers.

Section 3 Actively Guiding the Participation of Nongovernmental Sectors in Primary-Level Governance

We will give full play to the role of people's organizations and social organizations in social governance. We will open and properly regulate channels through which market entities, new social strata, social workers, and volunteers can participate in social governance, and fully stimulate the vitality of primary-level governance. We will foster standardized industry associations and chambers of commerce, public-welfare and charitable organizations, and social organizations in urban and rural communities, and increase policy support as well as in-process and ex-post supervision in areas including financial subsidies, procurement of services, tax preferences, and support for talented personnel. Efforts will be made to support and develop institutions providing social work services and volunteer service organizations, expand the ranks of volunteers, build more platforms for volunteer service, and improve the volunteer service system.