PART VII

PRIORITIZING AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTING RURAL REVITALIZATION IN ALL AREAS

We will follow the socialist path of rural revitalization with Chinese characteristics and implement the strategy of rural revitalization across the board. We will work to ensure that industry supports agriculture and that cities drive the development of the countryside to foster a new relationship between industry and agriculture and between urban and rural areas that is characterized by mutual reinforcement, coordinated development, and common prosperity. In such a way we will accelerate the modernization of agriculture and rural areas.
We will further strengthen the role of agriculture as the foundation of the economy and deepen supply-side structural reform in agriculture by pursuing quality-oriented approaches in an effort to promote the revitalization of rural industries.

Section 1
Improving Overall Agricultural Production Capacity

We will consolidate the foundation of our grain production capacity to ensure the security of supplies of grain, cotton, edible oil, sugar, meat, milk and other important agricultural products. We will adhere to the strictest systems for the protection of farmland. We will work to guarantee our cultivation capacity and the improvement of farmland quality as we work to ensure that China’s total arable land area does not fall below the red line of 120 million hectares. We will prohibit the use of farmland for purposes other than agriculture and grain production specifically. We will standardize the measures for offsetting the use of cultivated land for other purposes and prohibit the practice of using high-quality farmland to offset low-quality farmland and using rice paddies to offset dry fields. Centering on grain-producing areas and protected areas for major agricultural products, we will build agricultural belts for national food security, carry out projects to develop high-quality cropland, and build contiguous areas of such cropland to cover a total of 71.66 million hectares. We will also implement programs to protect chernozem soils in northeast China and increase its
fertility. We will upgrade water-saving facilities and refine management in large and medium-sized irrigation areas, and carry out key water-efficient irrigation projects in tandem with comprehensive water pricing reform. We will strengthen R&D into large to medium-sized, intelligent and complex agricultural machinery and its applications to increase the level of mechanization in the plowing, sowing, and harvesting of crops to 75%. We will strengthen the protection and utilization of germplasm resources and the construction of seed banks to ensure the security of germplasm resources. We will tackle key technological issues related to superior seed varieties, as we promote an orderly industrial application of bio-breeding technology and foster internationally competitive leading seed enterprises. We will improve the agricultural science and technological innovation system, create new ways of spreading agricultural technology, and develop smart agriculture. We will step up animal epidemic prevention as well as crop disease and pest control, and improve agro-meteorological services.

Section 2
Deepening Structural Adjustment in Agriculture

We will optimize the layout of agricultural production and build belts for industrialized production of superior crop varieties and areas which enjoy an edge in terms of specialty agricultural products. We will coordinate the production of food, cash, and fodder crops and the development of the farming, forestry, livestock, and fishing industries by optimizing the structure of farming, vigorously developing modern animal husbandry, and promoting eco-friendly and healthy aquaculture. We will actively develop protected agriculture and boost the development of the forestry and fruit-growing industries based on local conditions. We will move forward with the implementation of the quality food project. To promote the green transformation of agriculture, we will intensify environmental protection and
governance over places producing agricultural products as we develop water-saving agriculture and dry farming. We will take further action to reduce the use of pesticides and fertilizers, address the pollution caused by plastic mulch in farming, and increased the amount of mulch to be recycled. We will promote the comprehensive utilization of crop straws and the recovery of resources from livestock and poultry manure. We will improve the system of standards for green agriculture and strengthen management over the certification of green food, organic agricultural products, and agricultural products with geographical indications. We will strengthen oversight of the quality and safety of agricultural products throughout the whole production process and improve the traceability system. We will develop modern agriculture industrial parks and agricultural modernization demonstration zones.

Section 3
Diversifying Rural Businesses

We will develop county economies, integrate primary, secondary, and tertiary sectors in rural areas, extend the agricultural production chains, and develop distinctive modern rural industries that benefit local people. We will promote the integration of farming, breeding, and processing, and reconstruct related industrial chains. We will upgrade the development of processing industries and services for agricultural production, and boost the development of industries with distinctive local features, such as farm-based recreation, agritourism, and village homestays. We will step up the construction of storage and cold chain logistics facilities for agricultural products, improve platforms to support rural property rights transactions, the distribution of goods, inspection, testing and certification, and build intelligent standardized workshops and other facilities to guide the development of rural secondary and tertiary industrial clusters. We will
improve the benefit-linking mechanism to ensure that farmers may benefit more from the development of rural industries by “turning resources into assets, funds into shares, and farmers into shareholders.”