



**JIMMY CARTER**

August 5, 2020

To Participants of the Virtual Meeting on U.S.-China Relations

Rosalynn joins me in welcoming you to the joint Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) and The Carter Center virtual meeting to address how best to stop the deterioration of the relationship between our nations. I am pleased that both the new President at CPAFFC, Ambassador Lin Songtian, and our CEO, Paige Alexander, will address you on this important subject.

There are many issues on which the United States and China could work together including reversing the threat of climate change, preventing nuclear proliferation, sharing information and coordinating efforts on terrorism, political violence, human trafficking, and piracy. And most urgently, a collaboration to effectively address the COVID-19 pandemic and rebuild shattered economies and communities.

As you know, in late 1978, Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping and I made the decision to establish diplomatic relations between our two countries. This engagement has enabled us, as well as the Asia Pacific region and the world, to enjoy unparalleled peace and prosperity. While our nations have their differences, I trust you will use this discussion to determine which differences must be overcome to foster our bilateral relationship.

We send you our best wishes for a productive meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jimmy Carter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.