

**A Message from H.E. Mr. HUANG Runqiu,
Minister of Ecology and Environment
of the People's Republic of China
on the occasion of
the International Day for Biological Diversity in 2026**

Biodiversity is vital for sustaining our planet and serves as the foundation for human survival and development. The theme for this year's International Day for Biological Diversity is "Acting Locally for Global Impact". It is a call for action for all sectors of society to contribute their utmost, engage in collaborative governance, and advance toward a beautiful future of harmonious coexistence and shared prosperity.

Guided by the principles of Xi Jinping Thought on Ecological Civilization, China has made significant progress in developing ecological civilization. The promulgation of the world's first comprehensive legal code dedicated to ecology and environment, the Ecological and Environmental Code marks a transition in biodiversity conservation from fragmented legislation to a systematic rule of law. Through coordinated efforts, we have promoted the protection and restoration of ecosystems by implementing the "Three-North Shelterbelt Programme", the "Shan-Shui Initiative", major biodiversity conservation projects and national greening demonstration projects. Thanks to these initiatives, we have achieved a sustained "double reduction" in desertification and sandy land, while also increasing the area of mangroves. The Kunming Biodiversity Fund has supported a total of 31 projects, benefiting 45 developing countries. This tangible support for the developing world in conserving biodiversity and achieving the global targets set out in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework is a significant step forward. Through unremitting efforts, China's development of ecological civilization has undergone historic, transformative and comprehensive changes. The building of a Beautiful China has entered a new phase, and our approach to biodiversity has shifted from merely preventing loss to systematic recovery, contributing China's strength to curbing and reversing the global trend of biodiversity loss.

The greatest truths are often the simplest, and practical action is paramount. China stands ready to work with all parties to honor our commitments through action, move forward together and protect the beauty of our landscapes and the vitality of all living things through collaborative efforts. Together, let us build a global home where people and nature can coexist in harmony!