



**Welcome Remarks by Chairman, World Chinese Economic Summit and Chief Executive Officer, Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI), Tan Sri Michael Yeoh at the Luncheon of the 7<sup>th</sup> World Chinese Economic Summit on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at The House of Lord**

Ta Jie How, good afternoon

HE Zeng Peiyan, Chair of CCIEE, Vice Chairman BFA and former Vice Premier; The Lord Sheikh and Lady Sheikh Hon Dato Seri Liow Tiong Lai; Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew; Tan Sri Jeffrey Cheah

My Lords.

Excellencies

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Welcome to the House of Lords for the keynote address on the belt and road initiative by HE Zeng Pei Yan a key architect of this new initiative of the Chinese government under president Xi Jinping.

At the outset I must thank my good and old friend Lord Sheikh for once again hosting our lunch today, many other such events Lord and Lady Sheikh had hosted for ASLI in this August house over the past several years.

I wish to also welcome here the many key players of the WCES - our hon Adviser Dato Seri Liow, co-founder n patron Tan Lee Kim Yew, Advisory Council Members, distinguished speakers and corporate partners and sponsors as well as the Chairman of Asia house and chairman of ASLI.

It is a great honour for us to hear from a distinguish leader and economic thinker from china who was chairman of the state planning commission predecessor of the NDRC and former Vice premier. Thanks also to Ambassador Zhou Wenzhong and the BFA for making this happen. Today's lunch will further enhance the cooperation and ties between ASLI n BFA n we hope to be able to work more closely together in the future.

The belt and road initiative will have a major impact on the world Econ as it further strengthen relations between china and Southeast Asia to India, Middle East and Africa and from china to Europe- a vast geographical area.

ASLI fully supports this initiative as it will contribute to global and regional prosperity. To further make this initiative a greater success we would like to propose to the Chinese

government and through HE Zeng to suggest to Beijing that two proposals be given consideration:

1. To establish a Belt and Road Business council to foster business collaboration and entrepreneur exchanges.
2. To have a belt and road business travel card like the existing APEC business card facilitating visa free travel among member countries.

We hope these two specific ideas can help enhance business connectivity in the belt and road countries. Just as the AIIB will enhance infrastructure connectivity I believe that stronger people connectivity will ensure a greater success of the belt and road initiative. Once again I thank HE Zeng Peiyan for your kind presence at today's lunch and we look forward to hearing your keynote address.

Xie xie

Thank you