

# Embassy of the People's Republic of China

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ZHOU WENZHONG  
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Chairman Robert Kraft,  
Chairman Ulice Payne Jr.  
China Council of Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce,

I am pleased to know that the China Council Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce (MMAC) is holding its first annual conference and wish to extend my warm congratulations to you as well as good wishes to everyone present here.

Established not long ago, the China Council is already playing an active role in promoting business cooperation and people-to-people exchanges between China and Milwaukee. Thanks to your efforts, more and more Chinese people cast their sights on Milwaukee for reasons more than your famous Bucks basketball team, and more people in Milwaukee get to know China better and more companies find opportunities for business success over there.

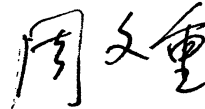
After 28 years of reform and opening-up, China's economy has grown rapidly and the living standards of the Chinese people have improved remarkably. An open and transparent business environment up to international standards is taking shape in China. All these offer businesses of other countries golden opportunities for greater success. According to the White Paper published by the American Chamber of Commerce in China in 2006, 64% of the American companies in China reported profit and 90% reported revenue increase.

In the coming 15 years, China will give top priority to establishing a harmonious society while maintaining the momentum and pace of economic development. A harmonious society, simply speaking, is a relatively well-off society in which everyone has a share in the benefit brought about by the sustainable economic growth and guaranteed by the rule of law. To achieve this strategic goal, China will commit itself to greater openness to the world and further integration into the global business community. China will pay equal attention to the quality and quantity of foreign investments in China and give incentives to technology or knowledge-intensive and environmental-friendly investments. I firmly believe that American businesses, a pioneer in invention and innovation, will have an even brighter future in China.

The relationship between China and the United States is on the whole stable and continues to make new progress thanks to the concerted efforts of both countries. A sound China-U.S. relationship has strategic significance to the maintenance and promotion of peace, stability and prosperity in the world. It is also important to the well-being and everyday life of the peoples of our countries. Last April, President Hu Jintao paid a successful visit to the United States. He reached important agreement with President Bush on developing the bilateral relations between our countries. To follow up on our presidents' agreement, Secretary Gutierrez visited China this month and Secretary Paulson will co-chair the first round of strategic economic dialogue between our countries in Beijing in December, just to name a few. The society and business communities are also doing their best to push forward our exchanges and cooperation in all fields.

I hope the China Council of MMAC and everyone present here tonight will continue to work hard for the development of China-U.S. relations in the economic as well as other areas. I wish everyone health and success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized Chinese characters '周文重' (Zhou Wenzhong).

Zhou Wenzhong  
Ambassador