附件2

**Press Release of the Concluding Press Conference of**

**the 125th Session of Canton Fair**

The concluding press conference of the 125th session of the Canton Fair was held in the Canton Fair Complex on May 5. Xu Bing, Deputy Secretary General and Spokesperson of the Canton Fair and Deputy Director General of China Foreign Trade Centre, introduced the general situation of this session to journalists from home and abroad.

Xu introduced that in the 125th Canton Fair we have followed the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, and implement the spirit of the 19th CPC Congress, the second and third plenary sessions of the 19th CPC Central Committee. To accomplish Canton Fair’s mission in the new era and achieve stable and high quality growth of foreign trade, we’ve followed the outline of political Party building, implemented strict Party discipline in all our work, and integrated party building with daily business to improve both. With the attention and care of the central government, the State Council, under the leadership of the Ministry of Commerce and Guangdong Province, and with the support of local commerce departments and concerted efforts of all the staff, we’ve completed all the tasks and the fair was carried out smoothly. Specifically we’ve made achievements in stabilizing the size, improving the quality and shifting the growth source of foreign trade.

Xu introduced that buyer attendance of the 125th Canton Fair totaled 195,454 from 213 countries (regions), a decline of 3.88% over the 123rd session.

In terms of buyer attendance of all continents, the number of buyers from Asia totaled 110,172, taking up 56.37% of the total; Europe 33,075, accounting for 16.92%; Americas 31,143, accounting for 15.93%; Africa 14,492 with 7.67% share, and Oceania 6,072 with 3.11% share.

Buyer attendance from China’s top 10 trading partner countries and regions in 2018 accounted for 64% of the total, 2.56 percentage points higher over the same period of last year. The number of buyers from “Belt and Road” countries stood at 88009, accounting for 45.03% of the total.

Buyer attendance of the top 20 countries and regions accounted for 61.44% of the total, 0.44 percentage points higher over the last year. The top 10 countries and regions in terms of buyer attendance are Hong Kong, India, the United States, South Korea, Thailand, Russia, Malaysia, Taiwan Province, Japan and Australia.

101 out of the Top 250 Global Retailers in 2019 attended the Fair. Among them were 5 of the Top 10 retailers: Wal-Mart, Costco, Schwartz, Amazon, and Aldi. Leading companies of various sectors sent professionals to source as usual. The number of buyers sent by headquarters of multinational companies remained stable.

Regular buyers with more than 10 times’ attendance totaled 47588.

Buyer attendance proportion in terms of industries is: electronics and household electrical appliances accounting for 40.14% of the total, daily consumer goods 32.63%, home decorations 28.7%, gifts 28.18%, and textile and garment 26.35%.

The accumulated export transaction of this session totaled 199.524 billion RMB Yuan (or 29.73 billion US dollars), a decrease of 1.1% over the 123rd session.

Machinery and electrical products contributed to the highest transaction of 16.03 billion USD, accounting for 53.9%; transaction volume of light industrial products stood at 7.61 billion USD, accounting for 25.6% of the total; textile and garment 1.62 billion USD, accounting for 5.4%.

The transaction volume in brand zone reached 8.56 billion US dollars, accounting for 28.8% of the total.

The transaction with “Belt and Road” countries totaled 10.63 billion dollars, a year-on-year increase of 9.9%, accounting for 35.8% of the total.

Of all orders, the proportion of mid- and short-term orders was high while that of long-term orders was still low. 42.3% are short-term orders within 3 months, 33.4% are mid-term orders covering 3-6 months and 24.3 % are long-term orders over 6 months.

Xu introduced that in this session we extended service and function of Canton Fair and give full play to its role of a comprehensive platform, thus support exhibitors to explore and diversify international market and develop foreign trade advantages. **Firstly, provide new impetus to quality growth of foreign trade.** The exhibition size and major exhibiting groups remained stable. We’ve stuck to the principle of “innovative, specialized, targeted and delicate”, launched global promotion and buyer invitation in a targeted manner, and ensured the quality of buyers and diversified buyer origin. We saw a large attendance of 82375 new buyers, an increase of 0.64% and accounting for 42.15% of the total; which helps exhibitors meet new customers and expand overseas presence. For some exhibitors, over 80% of customers are met at the Canton Fair and more than 70% of orders came through the Fair. Exhibitors have accelerated innovation and quality improvement, kept investing in technology and R&D, product innovation and branding, and brought more and more high-tech, high quality and high value added products and self-owned brands. Despite the diversified export channels nowadays, Canton Fair remains as the most important channel for Chinese companies and products to develop global market. Canton Fair’s role of facilitating exhibitors to build global marketing network and develop diversified markets is irreplaceable; it is a stabilizing force for foreign trade development, especially for stabilizing and expanding export. 110 design institutes participated in the fair, and provided promotion and design service for 18040 companies /times. 300 exhibitors and 500 products have participated in the selection of 2019 CF Awards, many of whom are leading companies of their industries. The previous Awards winners have attracted wide attention; the CF Awards display hall receives 2300 visitors daily. Through design show, design matchmaking and CF Awards selection, Canton Fair has guided companies to improve product design and innovation capacity, thus facilitated building brand image and developing new competitive edge. **Secondly bring more Chinese opportunities for overseas exhibitors**. The International Pavilion in this session has attracted 650 exhibiting companies from 38 countries and regions; many overseas industry leading exhibitors have participated with high-end, intelligent and environmentally friendly products which meet the demands of the Chinese market. According to overseas exhibitors, the Canton Fair International Pavilion is a “fast track” to develop the Chinese market, and they have met many Chinese customers, reached cooperation content with Chinese companies and built long term partnership. **Thirdly, promote opening up of localities.** At this Canton Fair we’ve organized 8 regional industrial clusters of 6 provinces and cities to participate and displayed men’s and women’s wear, sport and leisure clothes, carpet and tapestry, fashion accessories and fitting in “industrial cluster street”. We’ve provided space for 27 foreign trade transformation and upgrading bases and regional industrial bases for their achievements and feature products. Also we’ve organized 74 promotion events and trade matchmaking activities for 39 provinces and cities. We’ve made use of the vast amount of Canton Fair buyer resource, encouraged local featured industries, companies and brands to go global. These efforts have promoted the development of open regional economy and received great appraisal from these localities, exhibitors and buyers. **Fourthly, enrich the content of conferences and forums**. In this session, we held 128 conferences and forums, including 26 thematic forums, covering fields such as regional market, foreign trade situation, global bulk commodities, supply chain and distribution, fashion and trend, etc; a total sum of over 3000 audiences attended these forums. Canton Fair forums combined the current trend and industrial development and brought forward high-end information with insight and strategic value for companies as well as pragmatic solutions, creating an open platform for international exchanges. Various parties discuss the topics such as expanding trade mode, bringing trade vitality and driving quality and sustainable trade cooperation.

The Canton Fair Complaint Station handled 377 IPR cases, with 508 exhibitors filed and 246 determined as constituting alleged infringement. Compared with the previous session, the number of cases handled decreased by 6, the number of filed enterprises decreased by 2, and the number of alleged infringement down by 22. The Station also dealt with 62 trade disputes, 21 more than the last session; 43 of them were successfully solved after mediation and in 10 disputes the mediation agreement was implemented onsite by both parties.

Xu states that we continue to advance “Smart Canton Fair” to provide intelligent services for exhibitors and buyers before, during and after the show; our intelligent services have been further improved. As a direct data display and smart service, the Canton Fair big data board displays data of public interest, shows Canton Fair in all aspects. We’ve launched PEAP for wifi connection and improved user experience of surfing the Internet. By April 30, wifi users totaled 230019, an increase of 40.76% over the last session. On-site Internet service was used over 225000 times. Exhibitor & Product system has been visited for over 211,000 times by people from 219 countries and regions. “Highlight products” were widely welcomed, which was visited for nearly 49000 times by users from 186 countries; product clicks were 1.6 times that of products in other sections, which facilitated brand companies to develop global market. Transaction statistics reporting function on mobile phones was applauded by exhibitors; by April 30, the proportion of those who report transaction amount on mobile phones has increased from 37.18% to 92.05%.

Xu mentioned that in this session we’ve implemented *Canton Fair Green Development Plan 2.0* comprehensively. More efforts have been made in system building of green standards, brand promotion of green booths, professional material usage, design and innovation, and waste control, to improve the quality and efficiency of green development. *Evaluation Guide of Green Booth* has passed the initial review of national standard committee. We’ve held the Canton Fair “Green Space” show i.e. Canton Fair Green Awards Ceremony and awarded 84 winners of the 124 session. We’ve also initiated the selection of 125th Canton Fair Green Awards; 403 custom-built booths have signed up for the competition and 537000 votes on Wechat registered. The environment of the Complex has been further improved: the amount of solid waste has been reduced and onsite display results enhanced.

In this session, we welcomed 770 exhibitors (accumulatively) from poor areas, covering 15 product categories and 45 sections; among these, 170 exhibitors from 22 trading delegations participated in the Traditional Chinese Specialty section, covering 5 product categories or 15 kinds of product. We’ve successfully held the promotion event for Traditional Chinese Specialty section and built a platform for cooperation and networking of these exhibitors and buyers through display, runway show, taste tour and etc. Exhibitors noted that Canton Fair provided a new platform for them to develop the global market and a new chance to step out of poverty. Through Canton Fair, they’ve understood market demand and industrial trend, met customers, made orders and developed new markets. By communicating with their peers, they’ve also broadened perspective, developed the awareness of exploring overseas markets, and enhanced their internal growth impetus, laying solid foundation for winning the hard battle of poverty alleviation and boosting foreign trade development of poor areas.

Xu said that in this session we have strengthened our regulations on booth usage, dealt with 22 companies in violation of such regulations. By disqualifying exhibitors, deducting the number of general booths of the trading delegation that the violating exhibitor is in, disqualifying this trading delegation for being commended, and publishing the result of such punishment on Canton Fair Bulletin, we’ve maintained the quality and negotiating order of Canton Fair. We’ve also established the concept of secure development. According to the multi-pronged approach of security ensured by people, technology and objects, we’ve strengthened coordination of security forces of our own and those out-sourced, bettered many kinds of emergency precaution plans, implemented security measures, improved security related technology, established a comprehensive security and precaution system, and strived to guarantee security with stricter requirements, higher standards and more solid measures. This session was held smoothly and securely, with no incidents of criminal or public order cases, terrorist attack, fire, food poisoning, major epidemic, or traffic congestion. We created a secure and comfortable environment for customers from home and abroad to negotiate and achieve orders.

(Canton Fair Press Center)