



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC
BUREAU RÉGIONAL DU PACIFIQUE OCCIDENTAL

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ADDRESS BY MR HAN BOPING, VICE-MAYOR
BEIJING MUNICIPALITY, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
to the
THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE
FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC

Beijing, 8-14 September 1987

Mr Chairman, Mr Nakajima, Vice-Premier Wan Li, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear Friends,

The fact that the thirty-eighth session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific is being held in Beijing, the capital of the People's Republic of China, is a great pleasure for the people of the city. On behalf of the ten million inhabitants and the government of the city, I extend a warm welcome to you - delegates from more than 20 Member States, representatives and officials of WHO and other organizations.

Beijing has more than ten million people living in ten districts and eight counties. It is a political and cultural centre and also a centre of international communications, with dozens of universities and research institutes. It is also a city that has undergone many important changes as a result of reforms and the policy of opening up to the outside world. There have been changes in the layout of the city and improvements in the living standards of the people. As a result of all these changes, the quality of life of the people and public health have improved. We can now say that every resident's health is well taken care of and everyone has access to primary health care. We believe that in a few more years, we can develop Beijing into a city of science, civilization and health, where people will enjoy a better health service, and where health for all by the year 2000 will be achieved.

During the course of this session of the Regional Committee, participants will be able to visit some of our counties and see the primary health care centres, schools and kindergartens. I hope that when you leave Beijing, you will leave with a good impression of the

city. At the same time, since it is a developing city, there is still a big gap between Beijing and the developed cities outside China. I hope that, before you leave, you will give us your comments, so that we can improve things even further and thus serve you better the next time you come.

I wish you every success, a happy stay in Peking, and good health.

Thank you very much.