

# 第十一届世界自由贸易园区大会 11<sup>th</sup> World Free Zone Convention

November 11, 2011, Shanghai

World Free Zone Convention

Shanghai Free Trade Zones Administration

## Communique of the 11th World Free Zone Convention

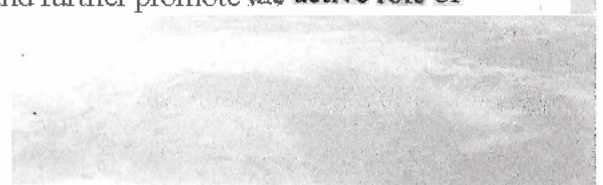
### Innovating the Functions of Free Trade Zones Raising the Facilitation Level of International Trade

The free trade zone (FTZ) is an important tool for promoting economic development in various countries and regions as well as strengthening the economic link around the world. The FTZ's business model has been constantly upgraded and improved. With increasing coverage in all countries and regions, zones have played a unique role in the rapid growth of international trade, thus accommodating the need of global economic transformation in different phases.

At present, there are more than 1,200 FTZs in the world, their names and concepts differing from each other and their specific policy modes differing also. The wide coverage of the zones has fully demonstrated that the special economic zones represented by FTZs have met current economic needs and demonstrated the historical vitality of the zone concept, having been playing an indispensable role in the promotion of development and the advance of globalization. Nowadays, although the integrated economic development of the countries all over the world is overwhelming and irresistible, trade protectionism is reemerging, which will undoubtedly impair the positive function of international trade as the driver for global economic growth. Protectionism threatens to become a negative factor that impedes the recovery of the global economy. It is necessary and also likely that FTZs located in all countries and regions can play a greater role in enhancing the facilitation of international trade and raising the level of global economic development by improving the regional investment and trade environment.

Therefore, from the platform of the 11th World Free Zone Convention held in Pudong, Shanghai, we propose to:

(I) **Vigorously** advocate and carry forward the value philosophy of FTZs' promotion of transnational investment and international trade; take the initiative in meeting the need of economic globalization and market-oriented **development** of transnational enterprises while enhancing the traditional strengths of FTZs; actively respond to developments arising from excessive international investment and trade protection, eliminate trade discrimination, foster more opportunities for **international** trade, increase job demands, and further promote **the active role of** FTZs in driving economic growth around the world.



## 第十一届世界自由贸易园区大会 11<sup>th</sup> World Free Zone Convention

(II) Actively promote the functional innovation of FTZs. Further expand the business functions of FTZs in fields such as trade in commodities and services in investment promotion, science and technology R&D, patent and trademark protection, and shipping finance while taking practical steps to promote the facilitation of commodity trade; encourage the growth of new-type international business models; improve the function of FTZs in regional economic progress and the integrated development of the global economy.

(III) Create a facilitation environment to serve enterprises. Proactively carry out various facilitation measures on trade investment in FTZs, advance the establishment of service mechanisms conducive to fair competition and create a cost-effective and high-efficiency environment for international trade and investment services according to the arrangements agreed among all countries and regions for systems of commodity trade and services trade, with an aim to serve corporate needs.

(IV) Establish and expand multi-level communication and cooperation mechanisms. Conduct exchanges and discussions among the FTZs in the world on key fields and important issues arising out of the development of FTZs by various means of research, inquiry, exchanges of visits, communication and consultation, while adhering to the principles of cooperation and win-win so as to build mutual support and cooperation in respect of the functional expansion of zones, methods of innovation in supervision & operation and regional collaboration.

(V) Promote the FTZs' sustainable development. Plan the regional development and footprint of FTZs in a reasonable way; encourage the application and development of green & low-carbon technology in the zones; build energy-saving and environment-friendly collection and distribution systems; guide the sustainable development of industries in the zones; and establish new-type FTZs that are green, low-carbon, energy-saving and environment-friendly.

