



**Peking**

**Ambassador's National Day Welcome Speech**

Distinguished Ambassadors and Excellencies, Honoured guests, ladies and gentlemen, friends: Good afternoon and a warm welcome to you all!

Today we have gathered here to celebrate Sweden's National Day. I am pleased and honored to see so many guests here today. Thank you for your support.

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Sweden's contacts with China began in the 17th century with trade. In 1950 Sweden was the first Western country to establish official diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China.

Today China is Sweden's biggest trading partner in Asia. Apart from the economic and trade exchange, both sides have benefitted from cooperation in several other areas including CSR, education, research and innovation, agriculture, urban development, climate cooperation, culture and tourism.

This year we want to highlight the importance of sustainable solutions for a green future. Sweden has been successful in joining forces with government, business and society to come up with climate smart and sustainable solutions.

I hope Sweden and China can continue working together for our mutual benefit.

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I propose a toast to the friendship between Sweden and China!