



United States Department of State

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Ambassador Mary Ann Peters  
Chief Executive Officer  
The Carter Center  
One Copenhill  
453 Freedom Parkway  
Atlanta, Georgia 30307

Dear Ambassador Peters,

Please accept my sincere congratulations on the occasion of the 40th Anniversary Forum on United States-China Relations. The Carter Center has long played a vital role in offering the policy community important perspectives on what has emerged as America's single most consequential bilateral relationship.

Four decades after President Carter welcomed Deng Xiaoping to the United States, ties between the United States and China have expanded to an extent nearly unimaginable at that time. Our economic, cultural, political, and people-to-people ties have grown exponentially. I hope that this anniversary will serve as a reminder that Chairman Deng's and President Carter's visions for reform and opening are a model for constructive engagement that is still worth reflecting on in our time.

As we have since 1979, America seeks progress in our relationship with China. We are committed to a constructive and results-oriented relationship. It is my sincere hope that the discussions at the Forum will help lead the way to reflect on Deng Xiaoping and Jimmy Carter's legacies. My best wishes for the success of your work.

Sincerely,

Laura Stone  
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary  
Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs