30/06/2008 UN chief calls for stronger UN-China partnership

Text of report in English by official Chinese news agency Xinhua (New China News Agency)

[Xinhua: "UN Chief Calls for Stronger UN-China Partnership"]

United Nations, June 29 (Xinhua) - UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has expressed the hope that the partnership between the world body and China will be further strengthened during his

upcoming visit to China.

In a recent interview with UN-based Chinese journalists, Ban said China is "one of the most

important member states with global interest and global responsibility."

As one of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, China has been exercising a

"global leadership role" at the United Nations and all around the world, he said.

Ban said that during the July 1-3 visit, he will discuss with Chinese leaders global issues that are

affecting "the humanity and peace and security of the world."

The challenge of climate change will be one of the most important topics, he added, saying, "We

need strong cooperation and support of the Chinese government in our common efforts to address

this global warming issue."

China has made "very important contributions for peacekeeping operations" of the United Nations,

Ban said.

He commended China's "active contribution" to the process of resolving the Darfur issue by taking

measures such as dispatching military engineers and exerting political influences.

Source: Xinhua news agency, Beijing, in English 0051 gmt 30 Jun 08

BBC Mon AS1 AsPol rp