Good morning, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to extend my warm welcome to all the delegates attending the 2010 International Specialty Conference on Leapfrogging Opportunities for Air Quality Improvement in Xi’an. I would like to thank all of the participants for their interest and efforts in helping us to make this conference possible. My special thanks go to those who have traveled great distances and taken valuable time from their busy schedules to attend the conference.

Today, we come together in Xi’an. Besides the conference, I hope you won’t miss the great beauty of Xi’an’s culture. It serves as an ancient capital city beyond compare regarding the number of dynasties and span of time. Xi’an marked the starting point of the world famous Silk Road. As such, it is a melting point of many cultures and ideas. Within Xi’an, you can find a large number of historic attractions, such as the Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor with 2000 years old, a world heritage site, the Big Wild Goose Pagoda and Small Wild Goose Pagodas built in 1500 years ago, the Bell Tower, Drum Tower and City Wall built in 700 years ago. Walking around this old city is like going through thousands of years back in history. No wonder people always say” He who has not visited Xi’an can’t be said to have visited China.”

Dear friends, I wish the conference will be successful and productive, and wish you a very pleasant and memorable experience in the beautiful and historical city of Xi’an! Thank you!