

US and China must maintain dialogue over key issues

As a former legislative councillor, I am a staunch supporter of enhancing Sino-US ties on a comprehensive front. I am pleased this year's two-day Sino-US Strategic and Economic Dialogue, in Washington, concluded on a positive tone with both sides pledging to keep tensions under control and work towards overcoming differences.

Much credit should go to the members of both delegations, with Vice-President Joe Biden, Secretary of State John Kerry and Treasury Secretary Jack Lew for the US, and vice-premiers Liu Yandong (劉延東) and Wang Yang (汪洋), and State Councillor Yang Jiechi (楊潔篪) for China.

There were frank and often heated exchanges on issues such as the South China Sea and cyber-hacking, yet both sides avoided being confrontational.

Reliable media reports on the meeting showed that, firstly, on strategic results there were 127 "outcomes" in nine areas, such as enhancing bilateral cooperation, addressing regional and global challenges, and cooperation on climate change, maritime affairs and health.

Secondly, on economic affairs, there were more than 70 important outcomes. Jacob Lew was reported to have said progress was made in three "most significant" areas – the exchange rate, market access and the bilateral investment treaty, and on information communication technology.

Thirdly, on people-to-people exchanges, the areas covered were education, science and technology, culture, health, sports, women and youth affairs.

Wang Yang was reported to have said that the talks laid the foundation for a successful state visit to the US by President Xi Jinping (習近平) in September.

Hong Kong, under the "one country, two systems" principle and the rule of law, is a major international port and financial hub, and a worldwide trading and logistics centre. It is vital for China's and Hong Kong's economy that sea lanes in the Pacific remain open at all times for trade and travel. Presidents Xi and Barack Obama should address this issue when they meet in September.

Mr Obama could clarify the US role regarding China's initiatives, such as the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) that could further cooperation between the world's two largest economies.

In the "one belt, one road" and the AIIB initiatives, Hong Kong is expected to play a supporting role. They are long-term national economic goals.

Financial Secretary John Tsang Chun-wah recently blogged that the AIIB hoped to set up an office here next year. This would be good news for Hong Kong.

重要議題對話 中美必須保持

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作為前立法局議員，我一向堅定不移支持中美在各方面均加強聯繫。今年在華盛頓舉行兩天的中美戰略與經濟對話結束，雙方都態度積極，承諾繼續把緊張局勢置於控制之下，以及共同以克服困難為方向。

雙方代表團應記一功。美方是副總統拜登、國務卿克里和財政部長杰克盧；中方則是副總理劉延東與汪洋，以及國務委員楊潔篪。

有些討論開門見山，彼此亦各有堅持，如南海和網絡黑客問題，但雙方均避免有對抗性。

據可靠媒體報道，會議首先在九個範圍達成 127 項協議，例如加強雙方合作、應對地區與全球挑戰，以及在氣候變化、海洋事務和衛生上合作。

第二，經濟事務上也有 70 項重要成果。據報道，杰克盧指出在三個「最重要」範圍有進展，分別為貨幣匯率、市場進入和雙邊投資協定，以及信息和通訊技術。

第三，人材交流方面則包括教育、科學與技術、文化、衛生、體育，以及婦女和青年事務。

據報道，汪洋指出，會談為國家主席習近平於今年九月到美國進行國事訪問奠下了成功的基礎。

香港在「一國兩制」的方針下奉行法治，是主要的國際商埠和經濟重鎮，也是全球貿易和物流中心。太平洋航道暢通無阻，利便貿易和遊運，對中國及香港的經濟都極為重要。習近平主席和奧巴馬於九月會面時應討論這個議題。

奧巴馬先生可以澄清美國在中國的計劃上有何角色，例如亞洲基礎建設投資銀行，俾中美這兩個全球最大的經濟體系能進一步合作。

在「一帶一路」和亞投行的計劃上，香港應有其支援作用。這兩個計劃也是國家的長遠經濟目標。

財政司曾俊華最近在網誌上說，亞投行希望明年在本港成立辦事處。這對香港來說是喜訊。

土瓜灣張有興