



**“The Hamburg Summit: China meets Europe”**

Moderation opening dinner

by

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Hamburg City Hall

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Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As conference chairman I have the honour and the pleasure to welcome you all to our second Hamburg Summit: China meets Europe or red C meets blue E.

We feel especially honoured that Mr Wen Jiabao the honourable Prime Minister of the Peoples Republic of China attends tonight's welcome dinner and will address the audience. Before his Excellency, the Prime Minister, will arrive we hear young Feng Ning, Scholarship Holder of the German Music Foundation, playing Bach and Paganini – we want to show the talent of young Chinese studying in Germany.

Your attention please for Mr Feng Ning.

## II.

Your Excellency Prime Minister Wen Jiabao,  
Professor Xu Kuangdi,  
Former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt,  
Ministers and Excellencies,  
Minister Glos,  
First Mayor von Beust,  
Vice-Mayor Yang from our sister city Shanghai,  
Members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

A very cordial welcome again. We choose two main subjects for this year's summit namely environment and logistics. There is a worldwide interest to learn more and in detail how the leaders in Beijing address these difficult topics. We read and hear of successes and progress as well as of draw backs and difficulties.

Above all China in the meantime plays an increasingly important role within WTO and IWF. We, the Hamburg business community welcome all efforts to fight protectionism of any kind including invisible market barriers. We are in favour of market economy and free trade.

I have now the honour and pleasure to ask Mr Ole von Beust, First Mayor and President of the Senate of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, the host of our Opening Dinner, followed by Dr. Karl Joachim Dreyer, President of the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce, initiator and organizer of the Hamburg Summit, to speak to us.

Mr von Beust please.