

Prof. Mamokgethi Phakeng Vice Chancellor University of Cape Town

May 5, 2021

Dear Vice Chancellor Mamokgethi Phakeng,

It is with sadness that I learnt from Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge and IARU Chair, Professor Stephen Toope about the devastating fires at the University of Cape Town recently. And it is a great relief to learn that no lives were lost during the accident, and the faculty and students are returning to campus after the extensive joint efforts and effective measures taken by the leadership and personnel of UCT.

On behalf of the Peking University community, I would like to express our sincere sympathy and solitude to the community of University of Cape Town on the terrible loss of the invaluable collections and documents. Meanwhile we hold the confidence that UCT will have a speedy recovery from the mishap, and will continue its endeavors of educational and research excellence, contributing to South Africa and the world.

As the Chinese saying goes, the fires and floods may be heartless, but the hearts of people are connected. Along with other members of the IARU community, Peking University will stand by the University of Cape Town to support and witness the quick recuperation from the damage and the creation of more achievements in the future.

Sincerely yours

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HAO Ping President Peking University