



On the occasion of the China International Higher Education Exhibition Tour 2003, I thank the organizers for their work in organizing this highly popular event. The China International Higher Education Exhibition Tour (Ciheet) has always been a successful meeting place for overseas education institutions and their future students. Therefore, I would like to welcome the large delegation of higher education institutions from the Netherlands taking part in this event. These Dutch institutions are led by the Netherlands Organization for International Co-operation in Higher Education (Nuffic) and the Netherlands Education Support Office (Neso) Beijing, with the active support of the Netherlands Trade Agency (EVD).

Education will no doubt play an increasingly important role in China's development. We have already witnessed China's new initiatives to allow for more private education and to increase opportunities for international co-operation in higher education. An increasing number of Chinese students already have come to study in the Netherlands. I hope that many Chinese students will find their way to the Holland Pavilion at the Ciheet 2003 to be informed about higher education possibilities in the Netherlands.

I wish the participants of the exhibition every success.

Dr. Ph. de Heer
Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands,
Beijing

