

1950

Meetings

**Dates of Meeting:**

15-07-1950 – 17-07-1950

**Type of Meeting:**

1<sup>st</sup> National Civil Affairs Conference

**Place of Meeting:**

Beijing

**Attendance:**

Xie Juezai

**Major Agenda Items:**

Relief

**Speeches/Reports:**

Xie Juezai: 17-07-1950 [Report on the Work of People's Democratic Government Construction](#)

**Other Decisions and/or Actions:**

1.laid down the following duties for Civil Affair Departments: the formation of democratic government, preferential treatment, resettlement of demobilized personnel, social relief, work relief, hardship subsidy, land administration, household registration, nationality matters, division of administrative areas, territorial boundary mediation, registration of societies, marriage registration, mobilization of civilian workers (in public works projects), resettlement and migration, rehabilitation of vagrants, and reconstruction of old base areas where the early communist guerrillas operated. In addition, CADs oversaw religious and overseas Chinese affairs.

2. it was proposed that China's disaster relief policy be defined as "pulling through by hard working, resource saving, mutual assistance, work relief and other necessary relief"

*Earthquake lessons from China: Coping and rebuilding strategies Chen, Kevin Z, Zhang, Qiang, Hsu, Claire Intl Food Policy Res Inst. 2016 page 5*

**Remarks:**

- In this period, CAD relief work was epitomized by the following slogan 'achieve self regeneration through productive work, overcome the hardships by thrift, practise mutual aid among the masses, substitute work for handouts, and to supplement by necessary relief.  
*Wong Marginalization and Social Welfare in China page 44*
- a basic philosophy was already taking shape: individuals and collectives must take primary responsibility in resolving their own difficulties through hard work and self-reliance: the role of the government would be secondary and remedial."  
*Authority and Benevolence: Social Welfare in China Joe C. B. Leung, Richard C. Nann Chinese University Press, 1995 Page 116*