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**Bay Area Chinese and Tibetan Friendship Congratulates Liu Xiaobo
on Nobel Peace Prize**

(October 8, 2010) The Bay Area Chinese and Tibetan Friendship (BACTF) would like to congratulate Liu Xiaobo, the Nobel Peace Laureate of 2010, and the Norwegian Nobel Committee, which made a just and courageous choice despite Chinese pressures and threats.

We feel that the award to Liu Xiaobo will be a source of great inspiration and encouragement to all those Chinese citizens who fought with him and still continue to fight for a China in which civil rights and fundamental democratic freedom are applied.

The Nobel Peace Prize to Liu Xiaobo also gives new hope to all those who support the Tibetans and their struggle which has been referred to in many of Liu's writings, in particular, in his "Twelve Suggestions for Dealing with the Tibetan Situation", signed by him shortly after the March 2008 Uprising. This document calls on the Chinese leadership "to hold direct dialogue with the Dalai Lama" and addresses the mistakes committed in Tibet as well as the failed nationality policies enacted by the Chinese government.

Conscious of the importance and the particular significance of this moment, BACTF calls for the release of Liu Xiaobo so that he may go in person to Oslo to accept the Peace Nobel Prize.

"We believe that Chinese and Tibetans should dialogue on Liu Xiaobo's writings and use them to build a better together for now and for the future," said Tsering Vassallo, Tibetan president. "This Nobel Peace Prize to Mr. Liu is a victory for both the Chinese and Tibetan peoples," she added.

BACTF looks forward to keeping a constructive dialogue going between ethnic Chinese and Tibetan peoples.

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