

## GASME STATEMENT

The Third Global SME Summit, hosted by the Global Alliance of SMEs (GASME), was held in Shanghai Expo Center, Shanghai, China, on November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The 44<sup>th</sup> U.S. President Barack Obama was invited as a guest speaker and delivered a keynote speech.

With 'New Dynamism, New Journey' as the subject, the summit covered topics ranging from the world economic outlook and China's new era of modernization, the restructuring and business upgrading, world trends in artificial intelligence and corporate social responsibility. Over 2,600 participants from manufacturing, financial, information technology and e-commerce, real estate, service sectors attended the summit.

Recently, a rumor has gone viral online that people who have taken photos with President Obama during the summit are all WeChat sole-traders. This is absolutely not true. We clarify hereby that the photo session is only open to the sponsors of the event, who are outstanding entrepreneurs from different industries and have been approved by the authorities from both the United States and China. A close investigation into photos released on the Internet reveals that some people in the photos are indeed our approved sponsors, who are managers of online marketing platforms or training organizations; others, however, are not our approved sponsors, whose photos are falsified PS. These fakes have damaged the reputation of GASME, President Obama, and the international community. Therefore, we shall take legal actions against those who have fabricated and distributed these fake photos. We also reserve the right to pursue legal actions against the media, enterprises and individuals who have disseminated rumors and defamed GASME and the summit.

Secretary-General of GASME

Date: December 8th, 2017