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A letter of application, a curriculum vitae, three letters of recommendation, and samples of publications should be sent no later than October 1, 1994 to: Mr. Gerald W. Stover, Director of Human Resources, SAIS, 1740 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. SAIS and the Johns Hopkins University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer and Educator and encourages applications from people of color and women.

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Social Security in the People's Republic of China

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Social security has become an important issue in the discussions that accompany economic reforms in socialist countries. In the People's Republic of China it became apparent some years after economic reforms began to be implemented that it would be necessary to reform both urban and rural forms of social security. In the cities, enterprise reforms have greatly influenced the ability of each enterprise to maintain adequate levels of social welfare programmes for their employees. Employment reforms threaten the security of the working places. The emergence of non-public enterprises has exposed the limits of the present system. In the countryside, decollectivization promoted economic production and altered the economic structure to a great extent, but at the same time it has destabilized the collective welfare systems in many places. Recent social developments are also greatly influencing the conditions under which social security is provided in China. Demographic changes, especially the rapid ageing of the population, have begun to increase the burden on families as well as on the society at large. The ability of families to perform their traditional role as provider of assistance to needy and aged members is further being afflicted by the changes in social values. In short, the reforms of the last decade have brought forth great challenges to both the private family and the former state-sponsored system of social security in the cities and in the countryside.

The present volume is a collection of papers presented at the "Workshop on Social Security in China" held in February 1993 in Hamburg. Some of the participants are themselves designers of reform plans in Hainan and Beijing and are currently engaged in implementing these plans. The majority of the authors, however, are academics from China, Europe and the United States. The articles examine the options for reform at the macro-level, social legislation, family care, reform of selected sectors of social security such as old age, unemployment or social services in urban areas as well as social welfare arrangements and health insurance in rural areas. They introduce the regulations and plans of reform for Hainan Province, which constitute the first effort to institute province-wide comprehensive social security reforms, and the current social security situation in a high-technology development zone in Beijing, and they assess the problems that have emerged in the course of implementing the reforms. Some articles are based on extensive field investigations. The paper on social security in Taiwan draws attention to some points which merit consideration in the process of designing further reform in the PRC system.

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