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# US-China trade war looms as talks end without deal

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China on Sunday warned the US that trade negotiations would be void if it imposes tariffs on Chinese goods, as the latest round of talks organised to avert a trade war between the two largest economies ended here.

The Chinese and US teams, led by Chinese Vice Premier Liu He and US Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross, held economic and trade consultations in Beijing, an official statement here carried by Xinhua news agency said on Sunday.

"To implement the consensus reached in Washington, the two sides have had good communication in various areas such as agriculture and energy,

and have made positive and concrete progress while relevant details are yet to be confirmed by both sides," the statement said.

"The attitude of the Chinese side remains consistent," it said.

But at the same time, it warned that the outcome of the talks should be "based on the prerequisite that the two parties meet each other halfway and will not engage in a trade war".

"If the US introduces trade sanctions including tariff increases, all economic and trade achievements negotiated by the two parties so far will be void," said the Chinese government statement. To meet the people's ever-growing needs for a better life and the requirements of high-quality econom-

ic development, China is willing to increase imports from other countries, including the US, which will benefit people of both countries and the rest of the world, it noted.



US Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross (left), with Chinese Vice-Premier Liu He in Beijing on Sunday

PHOTO: REUTERS

finalised, both countries worked to implement the consensus reached from earlier trade talks in Washington in various fields such as agriculture and energy, which Beijing says will be void if the US imposes in trade sanctions to keep up pressure. The US has not released its statement on the talks.

Ross earlier that talks between the world's two largest economies had been "friendly and frank". The 50-member strong US raised topics including additional Chinese purchases of US exports.

Last month, Trump had threatened punitive measures if China doesn't cut down the trade deficit by \$100 billion in a month and \$200 billion by 2020.

"Reform and opening-up as well as expanding domestic demand are China's national strategies. Our set pace won't change," it said.

While details are still being