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MORIS; 3 Proposed Pensions for Civil Servants and Employees of Public Service Units; 4 Rural-Urban Migrants and Informal Sector Workers; 4 Voluntary Individual Retirement Insurance Scheme (VIRIS)-Key Parameters; 10 Stylized Example of Annuitized Monthly VIRIS Benefits Based on Different Contribution Histories  
5 Commonalities and Differences between the Proposed VIRIS Design and the NRPS and URPS6 Occupational and Personal Pension Arrangements; Financing Options; 7 Description of Pension Costs and Possible Financing; A Reform Process: Cross-Cutting Analysis and Institutional Reform Issues; Conclusion; 8 Summary of Proposed Design Parameters; Notes; References; Appendix A: Pension Needs for Nonwage Rural and Urban Citizens; Introduction; Rationale and Expectations; A.1 Measuring the Poverty of the Rural and Urban Elderly; A.1 Percentage of Poor Rural Households by Age of Household Head  
A.2 Trends of Population Aging in Rural and Urban China, 2008-2030A. 3 Old-Age Dependency Ratios in Rural and Urban China, 2008-2030; A.2 Primary Sources of Support for China's Elderly; A.4 Rural Saving Rates by Income Quintile; A.5 Pension Coverage Rate of Active Labor Force, Various Countries, Mid-2000s; A.6 Pension Coverage in OECD Countries; China's Experience with Rural Pensions; A.7 Coverage among the Economically Active Population, Latin America, 1990s-2000s; A.3 Rural Pension Indicators, 1993-2007  
A.4 Rates of Return on Accumulations and Bank Deposits versus Inflation Rate, Various Years

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Sommario/riassunto

Comprehensive reform of China's pension and social security system is an essential element of achieving its objectives of a harmonious society and sustainable development. Over the past few years, the Government has considered various options and initiated several significant measures. In 2009 the authorities established a national framework for rural pensions, the Rural Pension Pilot Program (RPPP) and in 2011 a Pilot Social Pension Insurance for Urban Residents announced. In this process, it has articulated principles for a reformed urban pension system (indicated by 12 Chinese characters )

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