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Special Issue: Latest Progress in International S&T Cooperation

- **Liu Yandong Chairs First Meeting of China-Israel Joint Committee on Innovation Cooperation**
- **Win-Win Innovation Cooperation**
- **China-Brazil High-level Dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation Takes Place**
- **China-Brazil S&T Cooperation Moves to Higher Levels**
- **SMILE Project Selected for China-Europe Joint Science Satellite Mission**
- **China and U.S. Expand Clean Energy Cooperation**
- **China-Sri Lanka S&T Cooperation Picks up Pace**

Innovation Cooperation with Israel

Liu Yandong Chairs First Meeting of China-Israel Joint Committee on Innovation Cooperation

The first meeting of China-Israel Joint Committee on Innovation Cooperation was co-chaired by Chinese Vice Premier Liu Yandong and then Israeli Foreign Minister

Avigdor Lieberman in Beijing on January 29, 2015. Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu sent letters of congratulation for

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the convening of the meeting. At the meeting, Vice Premier Liu Yandong said that deepening innovation cooperation is an important agreement reached by leaders of the two countries and that China-Israel innovation cooperation is strongly based and complementary with a huge potential. The new round of scientific revolution and industrial transformation provide a major opportunity for innovation cooperation between the two countries. The China-Israel Joint Committee on Innovation Cooperation was established by the two governments to promote bilateral innovation cooperation in science, technology, education, culture and local development and inject new impetus into the China-Israel relationship. Vice Premier Liu Yandong expressed the hope that the two sides will plan the innovation cooperation in a long-term perspective and pragmatic spirit, expand the forms and fields of cooperation, pool resources, establish a long-term mechanism, implement the Three-year Action Plan on Innovation Cooperation, and promote pragmatic

cooperation between the two countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. She said it is also important to maintain close people-to-people exchanges between the two countries and build a strong foundation for their innovation cooperation, thus contributing to the steady sound development of the bilateral relationship. Israeli Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman said that innovation cooperation is an important part of the Israel-China relationship and that Israel will make concerted efforts with China to give full scope to the joint committee mechanism and promote new progress in Israel-China innovation cooperation. After the meeting, Liu Yandong and Avigdor Lieberman signed the Three-year Action Plan, unveiled the China-Israel Changzhou Innovation Park, and witnessed the signing of relevant cooperation agreements between the two countries.

(Source: Science and Technology Daily,
January 30, 2015)

Win-Win Innovation Cooperation

The first meeting of China-Israel Joint Committee on Innovation Cooperation took place at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing on January 29, 2015. After the meeting, Chinese Vice Premier Liu Yandong and then Israeli Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman signed the Three-year Action Plan on Innovation Cooperation.

At the meeting, the Ministry of Science and Technology of China and the Ministry of Economy of Israel signed the Joint Declaration on China-Israel Center for Innovation Cooperation, agreeing to jointly establish the China-Israel Center for Innovation Cooperation which aims to construct an information sharing network and partnership building platform to help enterprises on each side better understand the IPR protection system and administrative system of the other country and provide effective support for Chinese and Israeli enterprises regarding IPR protection issues arising from their innovation cooperation.

The two sides said that they will fully leverage existing platforms including China (Beijing) International

Technology Transfer Convention, China (Jiangsu) Conference for International Technology Transfer and Commercialization, China International Medical Equipment Fair, Mobile Asia Expo, WATEC Israel and China BioPharma Convention and organize Chinese and Israeli enterprises to explore partnership building through these platforms. They agreed to further increase financial support for collaborative R&D of industrial technologies and increase the projects financed every year to 50. Necessary measures will also be taken to promote bilateral high-tech trade in such fields as medical equipment, communications, water technology, clean energy and 3D printing and encourage Chinese and Israeli enterprises to establish joint R&D centers.

As part of the meeting, Liu Yandong and Avigdor Lieberman jointly unveiled the China-Israel Changzhou Innovation Park. With the demonstration of the Changzhou Innovation Park, the two countries will launch other China-Israel innovation parks when conditions are ripe. The establishment of China-Israel

innovation parks in China's high-tech development zones will create a favorable environment for the large-scale commercialization of Israel's innovation results and the development of innovative Israeli enterprises in China.

Moreover, the two sides agreed to construct relevant platforms to promote innovation cooperation and exchanges. Israel accepted China's invitation to attend the Pujiang Innovation Forum as the country of honor. In the coming three years, China and Israel will jointly organize a series of events, including Life Science Conference, Brain Science Seminar and seminars in other priority

fields, and invite Israeli and Jewish Nobel laureates worldwide to attend these events. The two sides confirmed their support of communication between Chinese and Israeli researchers through exchange of visits, academic seminars and young scientist summer camps. Israel's Center for International Cooperation (MASHAV) will provide training for the Chinese sides in such aspects as agricultural science and technology, education innovation, innovation and entrepreneurship, and public health.

(Source: Science and Technology Daily,
February 02, 2015)

Cooperation with Brazil

China-Brazil High-level Dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation Takes Place

The Second China-Brazil High-level Dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation took place in Brasilia on June 19. China's Minister of Science and Technology Wan Gang and Brazil's Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation Aldo Rebelo addressed the meeting and signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Bilateral Cooperation in Science and Technology Parks.

In his address, Minister Wan Gang spoke highly of the achievements of China-Brazil innovation cooperation and said that the two sides should follow up with the agreement between the leaders of the two countries on "gradually increasing the technology content of China-Brazil cooperation and making good use of the mechanism of China-Brazil High-level Dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation" to make bilateral S&T cooperation a new driver of economic transformation and social development in China and Brazil. Minister Wan Gang added that China is implementing the Strategy of Innovation-driven Development, which is in line with Brazil's effort to improve its industrialization level. The two countries should optimize allocation of resources, share experience and opportunities, and collaborate on innovation based on international platforms of S&T cooperation to achieve common development.

Minister Aldo Rebelo said that this dialogue takes

place as a new round of scientific and technological revolution is driving profound changes in industries, adding that Brazil gives a high priority to S&T cooperation with China and is willing to strengthen cooperation with China in fields of common interest. During the dialogue, nearly 100 representatives from governmental bodies, research institutes, universities and enterprises of the two countries had in-depth discussions on extensive topics including new energy and new materials, agricultural technology and food safety, innovation platform and innovation environment. The representatives unanimously agreed that China and Brazil are highly complementary and have huge potential in S&T cooperation.

At the end of the dialogue, Minister Wan Gang and Minister Aldo Rebelo signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Bilateral Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation in Science and Technology Parks. The document aims to encourage and promote bilateral cooperation on science, technology and innovation, startup incubation, and other related fields, and strengthen the building of a market-driven ecosystem of technology innovation.

(Source: Science and Technology Daily,
June 21, 2015)

China-Brazil S&T Cooperation Moves to Higher Levels

The Second China-Brazil High-level Dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation took place in Brasilia on June 19 and ended with the signing of a memorandum of understanding on cooperation in science and technology parks.

China and Brazil are the largest developing countries in the Eastern Hemisphere and Western Hemisphere

respectively and are at a similar level of social and economic development. With different priority fields of R&D and technological strengths, the two countries are highly complementary and have huge potential of S&T cooperation. In accordance with the principle of "leveraging complementary advantages and mutual benefits", the two countries have carried out effective and

fruitful cooperation in fields including space technology, agriculture and forestry, medicine and health, and energy and mineral resources.

In 2012, China's National Center for Nanoscience and Technology and the Brazilian Nanotechnology National Laboratory jointly announced a nanotechnology cooperation plan to increase application of nanotechnology in agriculture and meteorology and conduct long-term research on environment, energy efficiency, emissions reduction and new materials. In the same year, the China-Brazil Joint Laboratory on Agricultural Sciences was launched, which was China's first overseas joint laboratory on agricultural sciences, marking the two countries' commitments to driving bilateral cooperation on agricultural sciences to jointly respond to challenges from climate change and food security.

In 2013, State Grid Corporation of China and the Brazilian government reached an agreement on cooperation in fields including UHV transmission, electrical equipment manufacturing and smart meter development. In the same year, China's Lenovo Group announced a USD 100 million investment in a new R&D center in Brazil to develop enterprise software. The center, located in the famous University of Campinas (Unicamp) Science and Technology Park, is mainly focused on R&D

of software and high-end servers.

In 2014, Brazil announced the launch of the Brazil National Institute of Amazonian Research (INPA) data center and the Brazilian National Research and Education Network (RNP) data sharing center, which both used cloud computing technologies and equipment donated by China's Huawei Technologies Co. Ltd. In the same year, under the witness of Chinese and Brazilian leaders, Baidu launched the Portuguese version of its search service. China's Qihoo 360 Technology Co., Ltd. also entered into cooperation with a Brazilian computer security technology company to provide the latter with core technologies of its next-generation Internet security series of products.

Even more excitingly, at the end of 2014, the China-Brazil Earth Resources Satellite 4 (CBERS-4) jointly developed by China and Brazil was successfully sent into space, becoming the fourth satellite successfully sent into orbit in the two countries' long-term space cooperation. Chinese President Xi Jinping and Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff exchanged congratulatory messages on the successful launch. The two countries' space authorities also signed a Letter of Intent on subsequent satellite cooperation projects.

(Source: Science and Technology Daily,
June 22, 2015)

SMILE Project Selected for China-Europe Joint Science Satellite Mission

On June 4, the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and the European Space Agency (ESA) jointly announced the winner of the China-Europe joint science satellite mission – the Solar Wind Magnetosphere Ionosphere Link Explorer (SMILE) project jointly proposed by the CAS State Key Laboratory of Space Weather and the University College London.

The SMILE project will use innovative X-ray and ultraviolet imagers to get a global view of the interaction between the sun's supersonic solar wind and Earth's magnetosphere for the first time, which will be important for understanding solar activity's effects on the earth's plasma environment and space weather, with great research and application significance. In April this year, a joint scientific review committee comprised of European and Chinese scientists had a technical review of proposals in terms of their scientific value, advancedness, urgency, competitiveness and supplementation with other projects. By virtue of its unique exploratory method and inherent important technology breakthroughs, the SMILE project stood out from 13 candidates and became the latest large-

scale international space collaboration project following the Double Star mission in 2003. Both sides attached great importance to the SMILE project. As the first full-collaboration mission between China and Europe with the two sides working together in the entire process from project definition to implementation to data utilization, the SMILE project marks a new milestone in comprehensive and in-depth collaboration between Chinese and European scientists.

On January 19 this year, CAS and ESA released a joint call for proposals. As of March 16, a total of 13 proposals had been received, covering broad fields including space astronomy, solar physics, solar system exploration, and basic space plasma physics. At the 11th China-ESA Space Science Bilateral Meeting held in late May, the two sides unanimously agreed to adopt the SMILE project as a project of China-Europe joint science satellite mission. As a new important member of China's space satellite lineup, the SMILE satellite is scheduled to be launched in 2021.

(Source: Science and Technology Daily,
June 5, 2015)

China and U.S. Expand Clean Energy Cooperation

On June 3, the 7th Steering Committee Meeting of China-U.S. Clean Energy Research Center was held in Washington, DC. The meeting aimed to implement the Main Consensus and Outcomes of the Meeting of Heads of State of China and the U.S. in Beijing and the China-U.S. Joint Presidential Statement on Climate Change and further promote China-U.S. clean energy cooperation in response to global climate change.

The meeting was co-chaired by Chinese Minister of Science and Technology Wan Gang and U.S. Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz and attended by nearly 100 representatives from relevant governmental departments, universities, research institutes and enterprises of the two countries, including National Energy Administration Deputy General Director Shi Yubo, who made a speech at the meeting. At the meeting, participants summarized the outcomes of the first phase (2011-2015) of the CERC program, and Chinese representatives from Tsinghua University, Huazhong University of Science and Technology and the Technological Development Promotion Center of Ministry of Housing and Urban-

Rural Development and U.S. representatives from University of Michigan, University of Michigan and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory made reports on the goals of three consortia of clean vehicles, advanced coal technology and building energy efficiency in the second phase (2016-2020) of the CERC program. Besides, the Intellectual Property Working Group and Chinese and U.S. representatives for the new field of cooperation - Energy and Water – in the second phase made reports on their activities and plans.

At the meeting, the two sides highly rated the progress of the CERC program and unanimously agreed that with its innovative cooperation model and fruitful results, CERC has become a landmark project of China-U.S. cooperation on science, technology and innovation and that its experience deserves emulation and replication. The two sides expected the program to generate more fruitful and significant results in demonstration and technology industrialization in the second phase.

(Source: Science and Technology Daily,
June 03, 2015)

China-Sri Lanka S&T Cooperation Picks up Pace

At the Third China-South Asia Expo opened on June 12, the Ministry of Higher Education and Research of Sri Lanka and the Ministry of Science and Technology of China signed the Memorandum of Understanding on China-Sri Lanka Joint Laboratory of Biotechnology and China-Sri Lanka Scientist Exchange Program to build long-term stable partnerships between Chinese and Sri Lankan research institutes, promote China-Sri Lanka research collaboration in biotechnology and cooperation on researcher exchange and development, transfer of applicable technologies, and promotion and application of biotechnology in agriculture, industrial sector and health care, and drive technological progress and development of relevant industries in the two countries.

The China-Sri Lanka Scientist Exchange Program aims to expand channels for exchange of scientists and researchers of the two countries, strengthen their mutual understanding and friendship, and strengthen the foundation and momentum of the bilateral cooperation in science and technology. The two sides will carry out relevant activities within the framework of the program, such as joint academic symposiums, short-term visits of researchers, and exchange of visiting scholars. In recent years, Yunnan province and Sri Lanka have maintained frequent high-level exchanges, which have strongly promoted China-Sri Lanka cooperation, with the China (Yunnan)-Sri Lanka Agricultural High-tech Demonstration Park being the latest major case of cooperation.

The China (Yunnan)-Sri Lanka Agricultural High-tech Demonstration Park is located in Colombo with a total area of 2 hectares, including a core display area of

1,600 m², i.e. the greenhouse farming demonstration zone which grows vegetables, flowers and Chinese medical herbs. The park is set to play an important role in driving the economic and social development in the local area and surrounding areas. The project involves extensive cooperation on such aspects as soil improvement for tea production, experimental cultivation of rice varieties, breeding of vegetable varieties, development of flower resources, and production of fresh cut flowers, and will introduce agricultural universities, research institutes, leading enterprises and senior experts in China and other countries for technology transfer and R&D in the park to build it into a base of agricultural technology transfer, demonstration and training with a multi-level cooperation mechanism and training system, with plans to expand the model of agricultural technology cooperation to other South Asian countries.

Meanwhile, in view of Sri Lanka's pressing need for specialized talent in such fields as grain, vegetable, flower, tea and medicinal material technology and for R&D infrastructure, the Rural Science and Technology Service Center of Yunnan Provincial Science and Technology Department, the Industrial Technology Institute of Sri Lanka and Yunnan Modern Ethno-medicine Engineering Technology Research Center plan to establish the China-Sri Lanka Joint Laboratory of Biotechnology to help Sri Lanka investigate outdoor resources such as natural drugs, flowers and teas, preserve specimens and create a germplasm repository.

(Source: Science and Technology Daily,
June 19, 2015)