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## **Latest Progress of International Science and Technology Cooperation**

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### **China Accelerates Integration into the Global Science, Technology and Innovation System**

On 24 September 2016, Vice Minister of Science and Technology Yin Hejun said in a speech at the plenary session of the Pujiang Innovation Forum 2016, China had established cooperative relations in science and technology with 158 countries and regions, and signed 110 intergovernmental agreements on scientific

and technological cooperation. More than 200 Chinese scientists have taken leadership positions in international cooperation organizations. And active steps have been taken to attract high-level international talents to China for entrepreneurship and innovation activities. With the broadening and deepening of international science

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and technology cooperation, China is joining the global science, technology and innovation system at a faster pace.

Vice Minister Yin said, with the rapid development and intensive application of modern information technologies like the internet, cloud computing and big data, the world is increasingly interconnected. Innovation resources such as talent, knowledge, technology and capital are spreading more quickly around the world, with improved distribution, the trend toward the networking and globalization of scientific and technological innovation is deepening. Under such circumstances, opening-up and international cooperation must be highlighted in pursuing innovation.

Vice Minister Yin pointed out that the 13<sup>th</sup> Five-Year period will be an important phase for China to

complete the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects and join the ranks of innovative countries. It will be a critical period for China to advance the implementation of innovation-driven development and comprehensively deepen reform of the science and technology system. China will plan and promote innovation from a global perspective, implement an international strategy in pursuing scientific and technological innovation, actively integrate into and allocate resources in the global innovation network, explore new models, means and mechanisms of opening-up and cooperation in science and technology, and become more deeply involved in global innovation governance.

(Source: Science and Technology Daily,  
25 September 2016)

## China-US Cooperation

### **7th China-US Innovation Dialogue Held in Beijing**

On 5 June 2016, the 7th China-US Innovation Dialogue was held in Shangri-La Hotel, Beijing. Dr. Wan Gang, Minister of Science and Technology of China, and Dr. John Holdren, Assistant to the US President for Science and Technology and Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, co-chaired the meeting. More than ten government officials and scholars from both countries spoke at the meeting.

During the day-long meeting, the two sides had discussions on five topics, i.e. national innovation strategies, innovation ecosystem, innovation of small and micro-sized businesses, financial and technological support for innovation, and the role of data in spurring innovation.

(Source: Science and Technology Daily,  
5 June 2016)

### **Senior US Science and Technology Officials Visit Zhongguancun Innoway**

On 7 June 2016, as part of the 7th China-US Innovation Dialogue, Dr. Wan Gang, Minister of Science and Technology, President of the China Association for Science and Technology and Vice Chairman of the CPPCC

National Committee, accompanied Dr. John Holdren, Assistant to the US President for Science and Technology and Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy on a visit to Zhongguancun Innoway in Beijing. Zhongguancun Innoway is a showcase of China's "Mass Innovation and Entrepreneurship" and innovation eco-system. Dr. Wan told Dr. Holdren that every time he came to Zhongguancun, he was impressed by young people's passion for innovation and entrepreneurship.

Kai-Fu Lee, Founder and Chairman of Sinovation Ventures, introduced to Dr. Holdren the package of services that young business starters could receive from his company. In the reception hall on the northern section of Zhongguancun Innoway, Dr. Holdren watched how people could register companies, bring in incubators and search for business resources here, and commended the one-stop innovation and entrepreneurship services provided by the company.

(Source: Science and Technology Daily,  
7 June 2016)

### **8th CERC Steering Committee Meeting Held in Beijing**

The 8th Steering Committee Meeting of the China- U.S.

Clean Energy Research Center (CERC) was held in Beijing on 1 July 2016.

Yin Hejun, Chinese Vice Minister of Science and Technology chaired the meeting. Wan Gang, Minister of Science and Technology of China; Ernest Moniz, U.S. Secretary of Energy; Nur Bekri, Administrator of the National Energy Administration; and Max Baucus, U.S. Ambassador to China, attended and spoke at the meeting. About 150 delegates representing the governments of both countries as well as universities, research institutes and enterprises of the CERC consortia were present at the meeting.

The representatives of the participating institutions from both sides reported the progress of cooperation carried out by relevant consortia on building energy efficiency, advanced coal technology, clean vehicles, water and energy as well as the working groups on intellectual property and the energy efficiency of medium- and heavy-duty trucks. The business members of the alliances had a round-table discussion on the role of companies in CERC cooperation.

The Ministry of Science and Technology, the National Energy Administration and the Department of Energy signed the Amendment to the Protocol for Cooperation on a Clean Energy Research Center. Representatives from the four CERC consortia on building energy efficiency, advanced coal technology, clean vehicles, water and energy signed the Joint Work Plan 2016-2020 respectively. The participants applauded the progress made by CERC. The two sides shared the view that CERC has created a new model of cooperation and produced rich fruits. With 44 major outcomes achieved in the first phase, CERC has grown into a landmark project of science and technology cooperation between the two countries, and its experience is worth replicating. The two sides both look to new progress in demonstration project and technology industrialization during the second phase of the CERC cooperation.

Since the launch of CERC in 2009, bilateral cooperation on building energy efficiency, advanced coal technology, clean vehicles, water and energy has received the endorsement and support of leaders of both countries. The two documents issued after the meeting between

President Xi Jinping and President Barack Obama in November 2014, i.e. the Fact Sheet of the China-US Presidential Meeting in Beijing and the U.S.-China Joint Announcement on Climate Change, both included an important section on the phase 2 cooperation of CERC (2016-2020). Secretary Moniz acknowledged that the long-term goal of CERC is to achieve stable growth, the two sides should work together to generate sustained values for both countries.

(Source: Science and Technology Daily,  
1 July 2016)

### **China-US Innovation Park Launched in Qingdao**

On 21 July 2016, the launch ceremony of China-US International Innovation Park was held in Qingdao, Shandong. Through cooperation with dozens of top-level American universities, including the University of Chicago, the John Hopkins University and the University of California, Berkeley, the innovation park will bring in world-leading mature projects for research incubation, cultivation and market-oriented conversion.

The innovation park in Shandong will follow the model of “base + fund” in its operation. It will be led by Shandong University and Qingdao city, with the input of American universities and the participation of private capital, and promote cooperation in biology, medicine, materials, energy, ocean, environment, information, transportation and other fields of science and technology. It will attract innovation professionals and enterprises from around the world and provide end-to-end industrial services for the conversion and application of products and services.

With a total investment of 5 billion RMB, the project aims to support 100+ China-US cooperation projects and high-quality maker projects, convert and invest in 150+ projects and attract 200+ business projects in high-tech industries by 2020.

(Source: Science and Technology Daily,  
21 July 2016)

### **China and the US Pledge Continued Cooperation on Agricultural Science and Technology**

On 28 August 2016, the 14 session of the Joint Working Group of China-US Agricultural Science and Technology Cooperation was held in Zhuhai, Guangdong.

Vice Minister of Science and Technology Xu Nanping and Under Secretary of the US Department of Agriculture Catherine Woteki attended and addressed the meeting.

Vice Minister Xu reviewed the progress made by the two countries in agricultural science and technology cooperation since 2002. Over the past 14 years, this long-term mechanism has played a remarkable role in promoting effective cooperation between the two governments. The scientists of the two countries, who are the main players in such cooperation, have made pioneering efforts to increase the diversity of cooperation. The two sides have achieved a group of practical and ground-breaking outcomes, some of which are already being industrialized. In the next stage, China is ready to work with the US to strengthen the cooperation mechanism of the joint working group, and encourage the scientists and businesses of the two sides to engage in more practical cooperation; build an international platform for scientific and technological innovation, and leverage

the initiative of the scientists in driving cooperation. It is hoped that breakthroughs could be made in the following three areas: to produce original and leading outcomes in basic research; to produce disruptive and innovative outcomes in technology research; and on major bottleneck issues of agricultural science and technology not just for the two countries but also for the world. The two sides should focus their efforts to overcome the difficulties and ensure full delivery of important outcomes.

Under Secretary Woteki introduced the US outcomes of cooperation in bio-agriculture, water saving and gene pool collection, and expressed the optimism in the future of bilateral cooperation

The outcomes of this meeting have been included in the Fact Sheet of the 8th China-US Strategic and Economic Dialogue and the Fact Sheet of the 7th China-US Consultation on People-to-people Exchange.

(Source: Science and Technology Daily,  
28 August 2016)

## China-EU Cooperation

### **President of European Research Council Talks about China-EU Science and Technology Cooperation**

During the EuroScience Open Forum 2016 (ESOF2016), the journalist of Science and Technology Daily conducted an exclusive interview with Jean-Pierre Bourguignon, President of the European Research Council. Mr. Bourguignon had served as President of the Société Mathématique de France and President of the European Mathematical Society in the past and assumed the presidency of ERC in January 2014. He has visited China 37 times.

Established in 2007, ERC is an independent research fund of the EU in support of basic research. It provides funding for the three key European programs, i.e. research kick-off program, joint program and high-level program, with the aim of realizing Europe's pursuit of excellence in scientific research. Every year, ERC selects and supports ambitious and creative researchers to engage in research projects in Europe and also attracts the world's best

talents to conduct research in Europe.

Mr. Bourguignon spoke highly of China's long-term commitment to science and technology cooperation with the UK and the EU.

In 2016, the EU and the National Natural Science Foundation of China signed an agreement on cooperation, which paved the way for Chinese scientists to access the European team funded by ERC. The EU hopes the agreement could be useful. According to Mr. Bourguignon, the number of Chinese scientists benefiting from this agreement at the moment is still too small. Therefore, the primary objective of the EU this year is to use its own leverage to encourage more Chinese scientists to access research teams in Europe this year. In addition, the EU will also make efforts to encourage more European scientists to visit China within the framework of the agreement.

Mr. Bourguignon pointed out that from the perspective of China-EU science and technology cooperation,

cooperation on Horizon 2020 will acquire some new features. The EU sets out a new framework programme every seven years. Currently, Horizon 2020 is smoothly under way. The Chinese research teams that take part in any research project of the Horizon 2020 programme will get financial support from both the EU and the Chinese government. The two sides have identified a host of priority areas, including agriculture (food), biotechnology, information communication technology, space, aerospace, energy, health, transportation, water resources, energy conservation and emission reduction, advanced manufacturing, new material and sustainable urbanization.

(Source: Science and Technology Daily,  
11 August 2016)

### **1st China-CEEC Conference on Innovation Cooperation Held in Nanjing**

The 1st China-Central and Eastern European Countries (CEEC) Conference on Innovation Cooperation was held on 8 November 2016 in Nanjing. Dr. Wan Gang, Vice Chairman of the CPPCC National Committee, President of the China Association for Science and Technology and Minister of Science and Technology, attended and addressed the conference. Minister Wan Gang pointed out in the speech that the launch of the China-CEEC

cooperation mechanism in 2012 opened new prospects for China-CEEC relations. The conference, which is held within the new framework of regional cooperation underpinned by the principles of openness, inclusiveness, balance and shared benefits, provides a good opportunity for discussion on the strategic vision and plan for all-round science, technology and innovation cooperation as well as specific actions and projects of cooperation, and it is thus a conference of special significance. He expressed the hope to hold the conference in more CEECs to make the cooperation between the two sides more sustainable and forward-looking, and support the building of a new type of science and technology partnership that is open, inclusive and mutually beneficial. Representatives of government departments, research agencies and well-known universities and high-tech companies from China and CEEC had discussion on such topics as improving the national science and technology systems, cultivating the environment for innovation and promoting innovation in science and technology.

The conference issued the Nanjing Declaration on China-CEEC Innovation Cooperation, and inaugurated the China-CEEC Virtual Technology Transfer Center.

(Source: Science and Technology Daily,  
8 November 2016)

## **Regional Cooperation**

### **International Workshop on Belt & Road Science and Technology Cooperation Held in Beijing**

The International Workshop on Scientific and Technological Innovation along the Belt & Road was opened in Beijing on 7 November 2016. 350 scientists from 37 countries and regions discussed how to build a Belt & Road community of shared interests, shared responsibilities and shared future through scientific and technological innovation and international cooperation. The workshop was held under the theme “collaborative innovation for coordinated development”.

The workshop was jointly initiated by the national science academies of China, Russia, Uzbekistan,

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Pakistan and Poland, the Tribhuvan University of Nepal, the University of Ruhuna of Sri Lanka, the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development and the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World.

During the two-day meeting, the participants had an in-depth discussion on such topics as scientific and technological innovation and coordinated development, environment and sustainable development, science and technology think tanks and international cooperation, basic science, capacity building and professional cultivation, advanced & applicable technologies and innovation.

At the end of the meeting, the participating scientists issued a declaration, which stressed the need of enhancing science and technology cooperation, promoting coordinated development, and conducting multiple forms of international science and technology cooperation in line with the major development needs and common science and technology challenges of the countries and regions along the Belt & Road, with a view to building their innovation capacity and overcoming the major challenges and urgent issues confronting their development. It also called for the launch of targeted international cooperation programmes to address the existing science and technology challenges.

The declaration also pointed out the need to build a platform for collaborative innovation and put in place a long-term mechanism for science and technology cooperation. The R&D institutions of countries and regions along the Belt & Road have agreed to set up working groups in support of these cooperation mechanisms, create an international scientist alliance to promote the relevant cooperation activities, and hold the international workshop on scientific and technological innovation along the Belt and Road every two years.

(Source: Science and Technology Daily,  
7 November 2016)

## China-Japan Cooperation

### **China-Japan Young Scientists Exchange Program Launched**

To promote people-to-people exchanges between China and Japan in the field of science and technology, and broaden the popular basis for expanding bilateral relations and science, technology and innovation cooperation, the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology has formally launched the China-Japan young scientists exchange program, and invited young researchers and young science and technology regulators to China for a brief field visit.

The first Japanese delegation of 78 members visited China from 9 to 15 October 2016. The members include officials responsible for science, technology and innovation policies from six governmental departments, i.e. the Cabinet Office, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, as well as first-line research personnel and R&D managers from 8 public R&D institutions, including the

Institute of Physical and Chemical Research and Japan Science and Technology Agency and 23 universities, including the University of Tokyo, Osaka University, Hokkaido University and Kumamoto University.

During their stay in Beijing, the Japanese delegation invited the leaders of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Science and Technology to give speeches on China-US relations and the 13<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan for Science, Technology and Innovation; had a roundtable with the Ministry of Environmental Protection, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS); and visited the Sino-Japan Friendship Center for Environmental Protection, Tsinghua University, CAS Institute of Policy and Management, CAS Institute of Physics and Zhongguancun Science Park. After the visit in Beijing, the Japanese delegation was divided into two groups, and visited national high-tech parks and high-tech companies in Tianjin and Shandong respectively, and interacted with the local universities.

(Source: Science and Technology Daily,  
9 October 2016)

# China-South Africa Cooperation

## **A New Era for China-South Africa Cooperation on Science and Technology**

China-South Africa Hi-Tech Exhibition Held in Johannesburg

On 14 October 2016, the China-South Africa Hi-Tech Exhibition jointly sponsored by China's Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) and South Africa's Department of Science and Technology (DST) opened in Johannesburg, the economic capital of South Africa. More than 200 representatives from 60 enterprises in eight Chinese provinces and municipalities, including Beijing, Shanghai and Zhejiang, took 170 projects to the exhibition. Meanwhile, South Africa arranged for the participation of over 50 enterprises and institutions. Hou Jianguo, Vice Minister of MOST, Phil Mjwara, Director-General of DST, Tian Xuejun, Chinese Ambassador to South Africa, and Daan Du Toit, Deputy Director-General of DST, co-chaired the opening ceremony.

The Chinese exhibits covered areas ranging from life science, traditional Chinese medicine, environmental protection, new energy, electronic information to advanced equipment manufacturing, including the full-scale model of third-generation nuclear power station presented by China's State Power Investment Corporation (SPIC), the model of wide-bodies commercial aircraft independently designed by the Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China (COMAC), and the latest research findings and technology products developed by innovative enterprises, universities and R&D institutions of Chinese provinces and municipalities.

Vice Minister Hou said at the opening ceremony that the high-tech exhibition is an important follow-up action of the consensus between the Chinese and South African leaders on advancing bilateral cooperation and a major platform for deepening exchanges and connectivity between the companies and R&D institutions of the two countries. In December last year, Chinese President Xi Jinping and South African President Jacob Zuma co-chaired the Johannesburg Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation to discuss important issues concerning

cooperation and development together with other African leaders. The summit ushered in a new era for China-Africa cooperation, especially win-win cooperation and common development of China and South Africa, and created new and historic opportunities for China-South Africa cooperation on science and technology.

Huang Wei, Counsellor for Scientific and Technological Affairs of the Chinese Embassy in South Africa, said, as part of the China-Africa Science and Technology Partnership Program, the exhibition is the first major exchange activity hosted by the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology in South Africa. Its program included the exhibition of science and technology projects, one-on-one business talks and thematic workshops. The exhibition of science and technology projects presented the innovation outcomes achieved by the companies, higher learning institutions and R&D institutes of the two countries through models, physical objects, pictures, posters and multimedia demonstration. The thematic workshops featured keynote speeches and discussions on such subjects as science, technology and innovation policies, botanicals, new energy and advanced manufacturing by the scientists and industrial leaders of the two countries.

According to the introduction of Counsellor Huang, China and South Africa signed the agreement on intergovernmental scientific and technological cooperation, and set up the joint committee on scientific and technological cooperation in 1999. Since then, the two sides have been engaged in pragmatic and in-depth cooperation in such fields as bio-technology, new materials and advanced manufacturing technologies, information technologies and systems, environmental protection, mining technologies, resource exploration, space technologies and indigenous knowledge systems. Cooperation between the two sides has contributed to the economic growth and improvement of people's livelihood in both countries. To date, the two countries have held five Joint Committee meetings and jointly provided eight rounds of funding for 89 Joint Committee projects. The

universities, research institutes and science councils of South Africa have also established contact or engaged in cooperation with their Chinese counterparts. China-South Africa scientific and technological cooperation is built on the complementarity of the two countries' respective

strengths, and it also has a demonstrative effect on the scientific and technological cooperation between China and other African countries.

(Source: Science and Technology Daily,  
17 October 2016)