

China Science & Technology NEWSLETTER

No.7

April.15 2018

Department of International Cooperation Ministry of Science and Technology(MOST), P.R.China

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Technology Cooperation Held in Dushanbe

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Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2018 Held in Hainan >>>



From April 8 to 11, the Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2018 was held in Hainan. President Xi Jinping delivered a keynote speech at the opening ceremony. He remarked that the world is undergoing a new round of major development, great change and profound adjustment. Humankind still faces many instabilities and uncertainties. The new round of technological and industrial revolution brings fresh opportunities and presents unprecedented challenges. We should have a vision of green, low-carbon and sustainable development, and respect, accommodate and protect nature. We need to increase exchanges and cooperation, share experience and jointly meet challenges in climate change, environment protection, energy conservation and emission reduction. We must pursue further progress along the path of sustainable development featuring increased production, higher living standards and healthy ecosystems. China will adopt the following major measures to pursue further opening: first, we will significantly broaden market access; second, we will create a more attractive investment environment; third, we will strengthen protection of intellectual property rights; fourth, we will take the initiative to expand imports.

According to the *Asia Competitiveness* Report released by the Forum, the Belt and Road Initiative should provide new approaches and methods for tackling the challenge of anti-globalization. It can become not only an effective policy and tool for adapting to and resolving problems arisen out of globalization, but also the platform and approach for sharing experience of economic and social development and achievements.

In many of the sub-forums, the popular concepts of AI, VR/AR, big data, cloud computing, 5G and block chain have been labelled as disruptive technologies. Science and technology has prevailed at the Forum.

(Source: Xinhua News Agency, April 10, 2018)

16th CIEP Held in Shenzhen >>>

From April 14 to 15, the 16th Conference on International Exchange of Professionals (CIEP) was held in Shenzhen. Leaders attending the opening ceremony were Wang Zhigang, Minister of Science and Technology, Zhang Jianguo, Administrator of the State Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs (SAFEA), Huang Danhua, Vice Chairman of SAFEA and Wang Weizhong, Member of the Standing Committee of CPC Provincial Committee and Secretary of the Party Committee of Shenzhen. Founded in 2001 by SAFEA under the approval of State Council, CIEP is the comprehensive international conference for exchange of professionals featuring the greatest scale and highest level in China. As the only platform open exclusively to foreign expert organizations, training entities and specialists, CIEP integrates talent, wisdom, technology, project, funding and management. During the Conference this year, over 4,000 overseas professional organizations, training entities, universities, tech-based enterprises and human resource agencies from more than 50 countries participated in the exhibition, while more than 8,500 foreign experts and overseas high-caliber talents and 5,000 innovative and entrepreneurial projects got involved.

Administrator Zhang Jianguo remarked that CIEP is dedicated to building a cooperation platform for exchange and cooperation between talents home and abroad, serving national economic and social development and contributing to exchange and cooperation of professionals across the world. MOST and SAFEA will work proactively on introduction and production of innovative figures of all kinds, comprehensively implement measures for facilitating issuance of foreigners' work permit in China and visa, and create a sound environment for innovative and entrepreneurial activities by foreigners.

Secretary Wang Weizhong said that talent represents the top resources and innovation the primary driving force. The prioritized development of talents should be regarded as the core strategy of urban development in the new era and a global vision should be adopted for attracting professionals. We should work for building up a whole-process innovation chain integrating basic research, technology breakthrough, industrialization of S&T outcomes and science financing, so that various kinds of figures can give full play to their innovation vitality and creativity. Efforts should also be made in accelerating the building of National Innovation Demonstration Zones for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, taking the lead to establish socialist modern pilot regions and developing toward an innovation-driven international city with great competitiveness and impact.

As this year for the first time Germany was determined as the country of honor, sub-conferences have been set up in Germany and HK and a great number of German expert organizations, research institutes, universities, tech-based enterprises and high-caliber experts have been invited. In the meantime, 135 out of 1,460 projects collected from nine overseas divisions came to the final, namely



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the Innovation & Entrepreneurship International Competition in Shenzhen. The total bonus stood at 10.91 million yuan, and one single project can win as much as 1.4 million yuan.

The opening ceremony also witnessed the granting of certificates to foreign experts in the One Thousand Talent Program. This year, we have invited over 100 foreign organizations for experts in economic technologies, science, education, culture and health and foreign training agencies. Effective partnering activities have been carried out between US IEC, France ECTI, Israel MATAT and Australia AICA on the one hand and Chinese talent introduction agencies, universities and enterprises on the other hand. At the new Exhibition and Exchange on Achievements of One Thousand Talent Program, innovative and entrepreneurial achievements of experts under the Program have been showcased. Moreover, a number of recruitment activities have been held, including those for foreigners, medium- and high-end talents, elites, overseas returnees and high-caliber talents from HK etc.

This year, effectiveness was highlighted in matching of projects. A number of activities have been conducted, including the comprehensive pavilion of talent introduction, exhibition and partnering of overseas returnees' projects, investment, partnering and exchange on software personnel, partnering of international vocational education and highly skilled personnel. In the venues of Longhua District, partnering activities of China-Italy, China-UK, China-US Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition and International Investment and Partnering Conferences on Technology Transfer and Innovation were held successfully.

During the Conference, Minister Wang paid a site visit to the exhibition and the State Key Lab of Nanophotonics and Optical Information Technology in Shenzhen University. Minister Wang said that Shenzhen is born out of innovation, develops based on innovation, so it should stick to the path of innovation, facilitate all-dimensional innovation through STI, strengthen basic research and applied basic research and make innovation a strong underpinning for Shenzhen's development. In recent years, the Shenzhen Municipal Party Committee and government have been upholding the talent-first strategy, stepping up its efforts in attracting overseas talents and stimulate the vitality for innovative and entrepreneurial activities. By March 31, 2018, Shenzhen allocated a total bonus of 1.12 billion yuan to 3,264 people under the Peacock Program, and work on issuance of foreigners' work permit. At present, 16,000 foreign high-caliber talents are working in the city, a total of 14 foreign experts have been included in the One Thousand Talent Program and a total of 100,000 foreign students have been attracted for further studies. For three consecutive years, we have been holding the Innovation & Entrepreneurship International Competition in Shenzhen, attracting application of over 3,000 outstanding projects from 24 countries.



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>>> 2018 China-ASEAN Year of Innovation Opening Ceremony & China-ASEAN Innovation Forum Held in Beijing

On April 12, 2018, the 2018 China-ASEAN Year of Innovation Opening Ceremony & China-ASEAN Innovation Forum was held in Beijing. The event was jointly sponsored by the Ministry of Science and Technology of China, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore and the ASEAN Secretariat. Premier Li Keqiang of the State Council of China and Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong of Singapore, the country holding the rotating presidency of ASEAN and serving as coordinator in China-ASEAN relations, respectively sent their congratulatory letters to the event. Attending the meeting were Wang Zhigang, Minister of Science and Technology of China, Koh Poh Koon, Senior Minister of State in the Ministry of National Development and the Ministry of Trade and Industry of Singapore, Minister Mohamad Nasir of the Ministry of Technology, Research and Higher Education of Indonesia, Minister Boviengkham Vongdara of the Ministry of Science and Technology of Laos, Ms. Kanyawim Kirtikara, Thai Deputy Minister of Science and Technology and Vice Minister Win Maw Tun of the Ministry of Education of Myanmar. The opening ceremony was presided over by Huang Wei, Vice Minister of Science and Technology.

Minister Wang Zhigang said that China and ASEAN countries are good neighbors enjoying geographical proximity and cultural affinity, and good partners for close cooperation and common development. The 2018 China-ASEAN Year of Innovation is an important agreement reached by leaders from China and ASEAN. Under the frameworks of China-ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation, bilateral S&T cooperation mechanisms and China-ASEAN Science and Technology Partnership Program, fruitful cooperation models have been established, including the science personnel exchange, joint research platform, technology transfer and science park, which have contributed to industrial development and livelihood improvement in both China and ASEAN countries. Minister Wang remarked that the Chinese government gives great prominence to STI, and the 19th National Congress of the CPC called for accelerated efforts in building an innovative country. Innovation has been highlighted as the primary driving force of development and the strategic underpinning of a modern economic system. At the recently concluded “two sessions”, it was decided that MOST be reshuffled. STI will play a more critical role in underpinning and leading economic and social development. As China is implementing the innovation-driven development strategy, we will uphold the new concept of innovative, coordinated, green, open and shared development





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and advance open STI cooperation with harder efforts, wider scope and greater depth. Minister Wang said that in the new era China stands ready to match innovation development strategies with ASEAN countries, jointly implement the Belt and Road STI Action Plan and China-ASEAN S&T Partnership Program and take STI cooperation as the principal driver, so as to contribute to building of China-ASEAN community of common destiny.

In their speeches, Minister Koh Poh Koon, Minister Muhammad Nasir and Minister Boviengkham Vongdara all spoke highly of the tangible progress which China and ASEAN countries have made in their bilateral and regional STI cooperation in recent years. They also put forward measures and initiatives to strengthen STI cooperation and promote regional innovation and development.

At the China ASEAN innovation Forum held after the opening ceremony, Chinese Vice Minister of Science and Technology Huang Wei, Myanmar Vice Minister of Education Win Maw Tun, Thai Deputy Minister of Science and Technology Ms. Kanyawim Kirtikara, and other participants made speeches on innovation cooperation platforms built by government, people-to-people exchanges in science and technology, exchange in policies for science and technology innovation, and cooperation in innovation among industry, academia and research institutes and other topics.

(Source: MOST, April 12, 2018)

>>> Minister Wang Meets with Thai Science Minister

On April 3, 2018, Wang Zhigang, Minister of Science and Technology, met with the Thai delegation headed by Suvit Maesincee, Minister of Science and Technology of Thailand. The two sides had an in-depth exchange of views and reached multiple consensuses on advancing bilateral inter-governmental science and technology cooperation, strengthening regional innovation cooperation, and aligning the two countries' development strategies.

Minister Wang remarked that as this year marks the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening-up and the 40th anniversary of the signing of the China-Thailand Agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology, the bilateral science and technology cooperation has maintained a strong momentum and should make new accomplishments in the new era in serving the bilateral relations and supporting the two countries' economic and social development and livelihood improvement. He added that this year also represents the China-ASEAN Year of Innovation and China stands ready for pragmatic cooperation with the focus on creating cooperation highlights under regional innovation cooperation mechanisms and Belt and Road STI initiatives.

Minister Wang briefed the Thai side on China's science and technology development plans outlined at the 19th CPC National Congress and the recently concluded annual NPC and CPPCC sessions. He said that China has put science, technology and innovation higher on its agenda, highlighting innovation as the primary driving force of development and strategic underpinning of economic modernization, and that China is comprehensively strengthening basic research, applied basic research and technological innovation, with a view to making science, technology and innovation an important engine and support for the country's development in the new era.

Maesincee expressed appreciation for China's efforts. He said that Thailand cherishes the close cooperative relationship established over the years and is committed to deepening and broadening the bilateral science and technology cooperation on the platform of the China-Thailand Joint Committee for Cooperation in Science and Technology. He gave a briefing on Thailand's Industry 4.0 and Eastern Economic Corridor plans and expressed the hope of carrying out bilateral cooperation in collaborative research, S&T achievement transformation and application demonstration based on alignment between the plans and China's Belt and Road Initiative, so as to achieve alignment of the two countries' development strategies and drive economic development for the benefit of the two peoples.

(Source: MOST, April 8, 2018)

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>>> 1st Session of China-Laos Inter-governmental Joint Commission on Science and Technology Cooperation Held in Beijing

On April 11, 2018, the 1st Session of the China-Laos Inter-governmental Joint Commission on Science and Technology Cooperation was successfully held in Beijing. The meeting was co-chaired by Minister Wang Zhigang of the Ministry of Science and Technology and Minister Boviengkham Vongdara of the Ministry of Science and Technology of Laos. According to the *Agreement on Science and Technology Cooperation between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos* signed by the heads of state of the two countries in November 2017, the two sides has set up an Inter-governmental Joint Commission on Science and Technology Cooperation. The session is one of the means for the implementation of the consensus reached by leaders of the two countries.

At the meeting, Minister Wang Zhigang remarked that China and Laos are both socialist countries under the leadership of communist party with long-standing traditional good-neighborly relations. The Nineteenth Congress of the Communist Party of China stressed that innovation represents the primary driving force for development and a strategic underpinning for building a modern economic system. Adhering to reform and opening-up is one of the basic principles for China to develop and innovate on science and technology, and China's science and technology opening and cooperation with other countries will get stronger and wider instead of slowing down. Standing at a new historical starting point, we are willing to work with the Lao side to further match each other's development strategies, specify pragmatic projects for cooperation in fields of mutual interest, strengthen cooperation in the creation of a favorable environment for innovation, mobilize the enthusiasm of universities, research institutes, enterprises and other main entities in both countries, release the innovative enthusiasm and potential of their scientific and technological personnel, and generate more benefits for the peoples of the two countries.

Minister Boviengkham Vongdara expressed his appreciation for the remarks made by Minister Wang Zhigang. He expressed gratitude to the Chinese side for assistance in recent years to the Lao side in training S&T talents and building STI capability and science through STI cooperation projects, S&T and management training courses and other channels. Minister Boviengkham Vongdara put forward key fields of cooperation, including strengthening the exchanges and training of S&T talents, building joint laboratories and promoting STI cooperation in the Lancang River - Mekong River region. He also expressed the hope to work with the Chinese side to further bilateral cooperation in science and technology innovation and promote the development of friendly relations between the two countries under the framework of the Joint Commission on Science and Technology Cooperation.

At the meeting, the two sides exchanged views in an in-depth manner on S&T people-to-people exchange, co-building of joint laboratories and technology transfer centers, cooperation in science parks, and other key topics under the framework of the Belt and Road Science and Technology Innovation Action Plan. Both sides agreed to use the areas of cooperation as the carrier at the next stage, pragmatically promote bilateral cooperation in science and technology innovation, and better serve the economic development and

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livelihood improvement of the two countries. The two sides agreed that the 2nd Meeting of the China-Laos Inter-governmental Joint Commission on Science and Technology Cooperation be held in Laos in due time.

(Source: MOST, April 12, 2018)



>>> 12th Session of China-Slovenia Inter-governmental Committee on S&T Cooperation Held in Ljubljana



On March 26, 2018, the 12th Session of China-Slovenia Intergovernmental Committee for Cooperation in Science and Technology was held in Ljubljana, capital of Slovenia. The meeting was co-chaired by Chen Linhao, Deputy Director General of the Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Technology of China, and Tit Neubauer, Head of International Cooperation and EU Office, Ministry of Education, Science

and Sport, Slovenia.

The Chinese side briefed the Slovenia side on the basic content and implementation progress of the strategic deployments made at the 19th CPC National Congress on accelerating the building of an innovative country, the *Outline of the National Strategy of Innovation-Driven Development and the 13th Five-Year Plan for National STI Development*, China's involvement in international science and technology cooperation and, in particular, the four STI initiatives put forward by China at the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation and the China-CEEC Conference on Innovation Cooperation within the framework of "16+1 Cooperation". The Slovenia side gave an introduction about Slovenia's science, technology and R&D policy, research management system, and involvement in international science and technology cooperation, with the focus on its efforts to implement the Smart Specialization Strategy and build excellence centers and national competitiveness centers. The two sides also conducted productive discussions on the launch of research collaboration projects.

The two sides summarized the implementation of the projects determined at the 11th meeting of the Committee and discussed and approved new bilateral inter-governmental science and technology exchange projects in extensive areas including physics, chemistry, biology, agriculture and food technology, information and communication technology, environmental protection, and materials science. *After the meeting, the two sides signed the Agreement on the 12th Session of the Inter-governmental Committee between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Slovenia on Cooperation in Science and Technology.* The two sides agreed to hold the 13th Session of the Committee in China in 2020.

>>> 1st Session of China-Tajikistan Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation Held in Dushanbe



In March 1993, China and Tajikistan signed an inter-governmental agreement on science and technology cooperation. In August 2017, under the witness of the heads of state of the two countries, the Memorandum of Understanding between the *Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China and the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan on the Establishment of the China-Tajikistan Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation* was signed in Beijing. On

March 29, 2018, the 1st Session of the China-Tajikistan Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation was held in Dushanbe, capital of Tajikistan. The meeting was co-chaired by Chen Linhao, Deputy Director General of the Department of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Science and Technology, and Farhod Rahimi, President of the Tajikistan Academy of Sciences. At the meeting, the two sides briefed each other on the current policies for science and technology innovation and the status of science and technology development in their respective countries. The Chinese side specifically introduced the current policies in science and technology innovation unveiled at the 19th Congress of the Communist Party of China and the achievements during the 12th Five-Year Plan Period. The two sides exchanged views and reached consensus on further deepening China-Tajikistan cooperation in science and technology innovation under the framework of the China-Tajikistan Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation. Both agreed to foster closer people-to-people exchanges in the field of science and technology, continue to deepen regional cooperation in science and technology between the two countries, promote cooperation in practical projects, and push forward the establishment of joint laboratories and long-term cooperation platforms based on specific projects. Both parties stated that they would continue to cooperate closely under the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and other multilateral frameworks and promote pragmatic cooperation in science and technology.

Under the framework of the current China-Tajikistan Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation, Gansu-Tajikistan Advanced & Applicable Technology Exhibition was held. Representatives of 15 universities, research institutions and enterprises in Gansu province participated in the exhibition and showcased 43 advanced and applicable technologies involving the fields of solar lighting, agriculture and agricultural machinery, water resource utilization, water purification membrane, rapid food safety inspection, water-saving drip irrigation, and cold water fish culturing. During the visit to Tajikistan, the delegation also visited the China-Tajikistan Joint Laboratory on Clean Transformation and High-efficiency Comprehensive Utilization of Coal Power and Tajikistan Sub-Center of the Research Center for Central Asia Ecology and



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Environment of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

The successful holding of the 1st Session of the China-Tajikistan Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation opened up a new chapter of science and technology cooperation between the two countries. According to the bilateral agreement, the 2nd Session of the China-Tajikistan Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation will be held in China in 2020.

(Source: MOST, April 12, 2018)