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SCO Qingdao Summit boosts S&T cooperation between Qingdao and SCO members



From June 9 to 10, 2018, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Heads of State Council Meeting was held in Qingdao, China. Leaders of the member states talked about the implementation of the agreements reached at 2017 Astana Summit and priority missions of future development in the context of increasing international political and economic conflicts. The agreement of all sides has been manifested in the Qingdao Declaration. In upholding the missions and principles of the SCO Charter and

the Shanghai Spirit, the member states will gradually accomplish the tasks in the *Development Strategy of SCO until 2025*. With India and Pakistan included as full SCO member, SCO cooperation will have greater potential as the organization will become a distinct regional organization with tremendous impact and prestige. All sides reiterated the will to continue strengthening cooperation in policy exchange, infrastructure connectivity, trade, funding, development security, energy and agriculture. The *2018-2022 Action Plan to Implement Treaty for Long-term Good-Neighborly Relations, Friendship and Cooperation between SCO States* was endorsed at the Summit.

The 18th Summit in Qingdao represents a great opportunity to develop international S&T cooperation of Qingdao and advance innovative development with SCO member states. Qingdao S&T Bureau said that it will conscientiously analyze the S&T supply capacity and needs of member states and expand international S&T cooperation through developing ASRTU joint graduate school program.

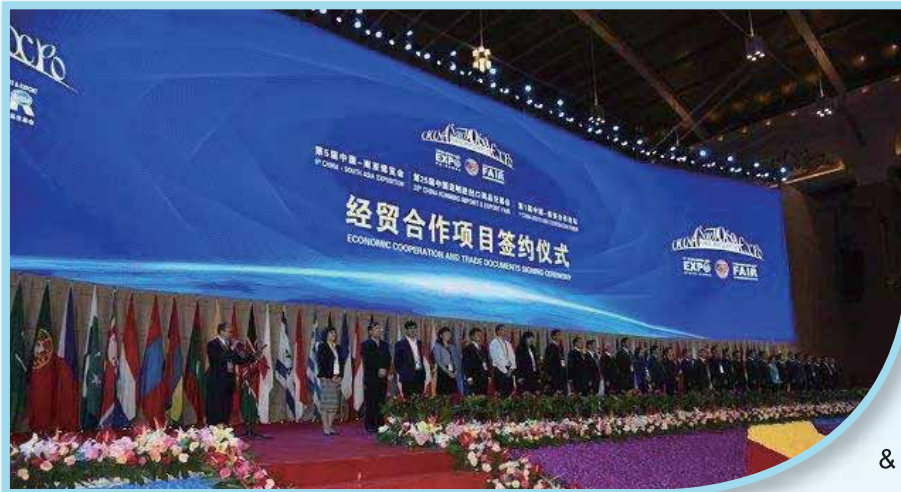
In recent years, Qingdao has been working hard to build itself into a pivotal city of the New Eurasian Land Bridge and strategic pivot of maritime cooperation and has established long-term stable cooperation with 29 well-known science universities of Russia and Belarus.

After the Summit, Qingdao will establish ASRTU China-Russia students' innovation base and talent exchange base with the reliance on ASRTU, realize cross-regional coordination and facilitate student exchange between China and Russia; expand ASRTU joint graduate school and increase the number of overseas students dispatched to each other; set up six major platforms of innovation cooperation including young students' innovation platform and ASRTU academic exchange platform.



(Source: www.qingdao.gov.cn, June 19, 2018)

3rd Forum on China-South Asia Technology Transfer and Collaborative Innovation Held in Kunming



The Third Forum on China-South Asia Technology Transfer and Collaborative Innovation, co-sponsored by the Ministry of Science and Technology of China and Yunnan Provincial People's Government, was held in Kunming from June 14 to 16, 2018 under the theme "Innovation Drives Development & Collaboration Wins the Future".

As an important side event of the 5th China-South Asia Expo, the forum consisted of a series of activities including high-level dialogue, business-to-business (B2B) technology matchmaking, bilateral B2B matchmaking, Workshop on Sub-center Development of China-South Asia Technology Transfer Center (CSTTC), China Innovation Tour by South Asian Young Talents and field visits to science parks. The forum further facilitated China-South Asia regional cooperation and technology transfer, explored mechanisms for regional S&T cooperation, discussed cooperation platforms to be built and shared by all participants, and gave a new boost to the common development of the countries in the region.

Government officials from different countries attended the high-level dialogue held on June 14 and gave speeches, including Zhang Jianguo, Vice Minister of Science and Technology of China and Administrator of State Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs, Li Xiuling, Deputy Secretary of CPC Yunnan Provincial Committee, Shahzad Aryobee, Minister of Communications and Information Technology of Afghanistan, Girirajmani Pokharel, Minister of Education, Science and Technology of Nepal, Sarath Amunugama, Minister of Science, Technology, Research, Skills Development & Vocational Training and Kandyan Heritage of Sri Lanka, and Muhammad Mudassir Tipu, Consul General of Pakistan to Chengdu. A total of more than 800 people representing governments, industries, universities and research institutes of China and South Asian countries attended the forum.

In his keynote speech, Vice Minister Zhang Jianguo introduced China's progress in science, technology and innovation (STI) cooperation, reviewed achievements in regional STI cooperation and talent exchanges in recent years, and spoke positively of the pragmatic cooperation in people-to-people exchanges, technical training and joint research within the framework of the China-South Asia Science and Technology Partnership Program. He emphasized that the Chinese government attaches great importance to STI and is committed to implementing the innovation-driven development strategy and strengthening open cooperation in innovation capacity building. He added that China is committed to advancing "Belt and Road" STI cooperation with South Asian countries, strengthening cooperation and exchanges in priority areas including people-to-people



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exchanges in S&T, establishment of joint laboratories, science park cooperation, and technology transfer to share the achievements and experience of S&T development and promote community of collaborative innovation. The ministers of science and technology and other representatives of South Asian countries attending the forum introduced their national S&T development, their S&T cooperation with China and related measures and initiatives to promote regional innovation-driven development.

During the high-level dialogue, Vice Minister Zhang Jianguo, Deputy Party Secretary of Yunnan Li Xiuling, and the Ministers of Science and Technology of South Asian countries witnessed the signing of S&T cooperation projects and jointly launched the China Innovation Tour by South Asian Young Talents. After the forum, Vice Minister Zhang Jianguo met separately with the ministers of Afghanistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka and Michiko Enomoto, Chief of ESCAP Asia-Pacific Center for Technology Transfer and exchanged in-depth views with them on bilateral STI cooperation.

(Source: MOST, June 15, 2018)

2nd APEC-PPSTI APEC Centers Cooperation Conference Held



From June 14 to 15, 2018, the Second APEC-PPSTI APEC Centers Cooperation Conference — Technology Innovation and Collaboration was held at the Conference Center of Suzhou Industrial Park. The conference was attended by representatives of eight PPSTI APEC centers / long-term mechanisms, the Education Network of the Human Resources Development Working Group, China Focal Point of Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group, APEC Marine Sustainable Development Center, APEC Sustainable Energy Center, member economies including Australia, China, Korea, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand and the United States, APEC Secretariat, and the private sector. Chen Linhao, Deputy Director General of Department of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Science and Technology of China and Zhang Dongchi, Director General of Suzhou Municipal Bureau of Science and Technology, delivered welcome remarks.

Taking place after the inaugural conference held in Pohang in Korea in June 2016 and organized by APEC Center for Technology Transfer, the conference focused on three topics, including “Capacity-building of APEC Centers/Long-term Mechanisms: Sharing and Discussing Capacity Building Synergy”, “APEC Centers/Long-term Mechanisms Collaboration: Initiatives and Discussions” and “Embracing the Digital Future: Sharing Smart Technologies for Healthy and Sustainable Living”, where the attendees discussed how the APEC centers could strengthen cooperation to better serve the mission of APEC PPSTI and contribute more to APEC STI cooperation.

The conference concluded with the adoption of the Suzhou Statement which covers extensive contents including policy recommendations on STI, capacity-building of APEC centers, encouraging conducting joint projects among APEC centers and cross-fora collaboration as well as cooperation with private sector especially in digital technology.

Background: The eight APEC centers under APEC’s Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation (PPSTI) include: Asia Pacific Center for Theoretical Physics, APEC Center for Technology Foresight, APEC Cooperation for Earthquake Science, APEC Center for Technology Transfer, APEC Climate Center, APEC Mentoring Center for the Gifted in Science, APEC Research Center for Advanced Biohydrogen Technology, and APEC Research Center for Typhoon & Society.

(Source: MOST, June 21, 2018)

China and UN invite countries for China's space station cooperation

On May 28, the Permanent Mission of the PRC to the UN and other international organizations in Vienna and UNOOSA held a launching ceremony for China's space station cooperation, which marked the official start of the international space station cooperation. All countries were welcome to be involved and utilize the station to cooperate on outer space experiments.



Mr. Shi Zhongjun, Ambassador of the Permanent Mission of the PRC to the UN and other international organizations in Vienna remarked that China upholds the outer space cooperation of openness, peace and win-win outcomes, embraces involvement of all sides and jointly explores the space for common interests.

Ambassador Shi said that according to the 1967 Outer Space Treaty the outer space exploration and utilization is a shared undertaking of mankind and should contribute to pursuing benefits for mankind. China's space station belongs to not only China but also the world at large. In upholding the idea of a community of shared destiny, China will build the station into a family in outer space for mankind. China hopes that countries could enhance mutual trust through space station cooperation and build a role model of sincere cooperation and mutual benefit, so that the outer space can become the new frontiers for improving people's livelihood.

The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs Director, Simonetta Di Pippo, spoke highly of China's huge achievements in space development, believing that China's manned space program will bring extensive benefits to mankind as it represents one of the world's most complex space programs with the most advanced technologies.

Simonetta Di Pippo said that China's inspiring program will disseminate its helpful technologies and experience to other countries, enhance international manned space cooperation and capacity building, advance the recognition of space technology application, help countries, especially developing ones go into space and contribute to meet the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. She called for active participation by UN member states in the cooperation.

The some 120 attendees were experts from China Manned Space Engineering Office and Technology and Engineering Center for Space Utilization CAS, representatives from international organizations such as UNIDO Director General Li Yong and diplomats in Vienna from over 60 countries like France, India, South Africa, Nigeria, Malaysia and the US. Many of the representatives learned about the details in cooperating on



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the space station and expressed the willingness to get involved.

A video was shown at the ceremony to generally review China's manned space development and present progress of space station building. A photo exhibition was held to illustrate the achievements in space development and international cooperation from various perspectives.

On the same day, the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs sent an official note to all countries, inviting them to submit applications for cooperation projects by August 31 this year. In the next phase, specific cooperation projects will be implemented by relevant organizers after China and the UN jointly reviewing the applications.

It was planned that the space station be completed and put in place by 2022. In 2016, the UN and the China Manned Space Engineering Office signed an MOU on utilizing China's space station for international cooperation, agreeing on providing experimental opportunities for all countries through the station and in-orbit flight opportunities for astronauts and payload specialists from other countries.

(Source: Xinhua Net, May 29, 2018)

Minister Wang Zhigang meets with Prince Andrew Duke of York >>>



On May 31, 2018, Wang Zhigang, Minister of Science and Technology and Secretary of CPC Leading Group of MOST, met with Prince Andrew Duke of York in Beijing. They exchanged views in an in-depth manner on cooperation in science, technology, innovation and entrepreneurship.

Prince Andrew presented the Pitch@Palace he initiated and expressed the hope that innovation and entrepreneurship cooperation could be advanced based on that. Minister Wang briefed on S&T development in China and the work of MOST in advancing innovation & entrepreneurship and translation of research findings. He said that MOST is willing to support Pitch@Palace in China and enhance its impact in national hi-tech zones. China embraces the presence of overseas tech-based enterprises and start-up companies in China's hi-tech zones. Minister Wang said that in 2017 China and the UK issued the first joint strategy for science, technology and innovation cooperation, hoping that the two sides implement the agreement to open up space and provide convenience for innovative enterprises of both countries. As agreed by both, Pitch@Palace will be developed into a bilateral exchange project with high starting point, so as to facilitate broader cooperation in innovation and entrepreneurship and embrace the golden era of bilateral innovation and entrepreneurship cooperation.

Pitch@Palace is a globalized incubation platform for public good initiated by Prince Andrew in 2014. Pitch@Palace China 1.0 was held in 2017. One important part of Prince's visit was to attend the final of Pitch@Palace China 2.0.

(Source: MOST, June 12, 2018)

Vice Minister Li Meng Visits Greece, Sweden and Denmark



From May 17 to 26, 2018, Li Meng, Vice Minister of Science and Technology of China, led a delegation to Greece, Sweden and Denmark, where he co-chaired a meeting of the Sino-Hellenic Joint Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation, attended the Ninth Clean Energy Ministerial and the Third Mission Innovation Ministerial, and visited relevant agencies.



During the visit to Greece, Vice Minister Li Meng co-chaired with Costas Fotakis, Alternate Minister of Education, Research and Religious Affairs of Greece, the 12th meeting of the Sino-Hellenic Joint Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation, where the two sides signed the *Minutes of the 12th Meeting of the Sino-Hellenic Joint Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation* and the Action Plan of Sino-Hellenic Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation and agreed to further deepen



cooperation in areas including environmental and sustainable development, energy, agricultural produce, cultural heritage protection, electronic information, new materials, life science and science park. The two sides stated that the Belt and Road Initiative put forward by President Xi Jinping has provided new strategic opportunities for the bilateral cooperation and agreed to strengthen people-to-people exchanges in science and technology and cooperate on joint laboratories, science

park and technology transfer within the framework of the Belt and Road Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation Action Plan, thereby substantiating the comprehensive strategic partnership between China and Greece. The meeting was also attended by Kostas Gabroglou, Minister of Education, Research and Religious Affairs of Greece. The Chinese delegation led by Vice Minister Li Meng also visited two most influential multidisciplinary research institutions in Greece — National Centre of Scientific Research “Demokritos” and Foundation for Research & Technology – Hellas — and discussed with them on advancing cooperation in priority areas including nanomaterials, microelectronics, and computational science.

During the visit to Denmark, Vice Minister Li Meng met with Minister for Development and Cooperation Ulla Tørnæs and Permanent Secretary in Ministry of Higher Education and Science Agnete Gersing and visited Niels Bohr Institute and Center for Quantum Devices at University of Copenhagen, all along accompanied by Chinese Ambassador to Denmark Deng Ying. The two sides had discussions on STI



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policy and innovation-driven development and agreed to further promote joint research and personnel exchange and collaboration between research institutes of the two countries and strengthen cooperation in polar research, sustainable development and disruptive technologies to contribute S&T deliverables to the comprehensive strategic partnership between China and Denmark. Vice Minister Li Meng introduced China's STI policy and reorganization of the Ministry of Science and Technology of China, expounded on the concept of green development, shared China's measures of leading high-quality development, and emphasized China's dedication to strengthening open collaboration in innovation capacity building. The Danish side introduced its Partnering for Green Growth and the Global Goals 2030 (P4G) initiative.

During the visit to Sweden, Vice Minister Li Meng visited the KTH Royal Institute of Technology and its Robotics Lab, where he proposed promoting bilateral research collaboration in artificial intelligence, and then visited Hammarby Smart City, where the two sides agreed to promote exchanges and cooperation between innovative Chinese cities and Hammarby.

(Source: MOST, June12, 2018)