

Speech at the EU-China Science and Technology Week

Dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen, Good morning,

It is my pleasure to be invited by the Joint Research Center of the European Commission to attend the EU-China Science and Technology Week on behalf of the China Atomic Energy Authority (CAEA). First of all, I would like to extend warm congratulations for the successful opening of the S&T Week and my greetings go to friends and colleagues from home and abroad. I will take this opportunity to introduce China's international cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy and China-EU cooperation in this field.

With over half a century's efforts, China has already established a complete nuclear industry system, with fairly strong capability in terms of technical R&D and equipment manufacturing, which could meet its rapid expansion of nuclear energy. In the process of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, China upholds the principle of "seeking international cooperation based on mutual benefits and win-win". China attaches importance to all-directional international cooperation in both multilateral and bilateral forums, and is actively dedicated to peaceful uses of nuclear energy and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Under the principle of mutual respect of sovereignty, equality and mutual benefits, China has signed the inter-governmental agreement on peaceful uses of nuclear energy with more than 20 countries such as France, Russia and the United States, to name just a few, conducting cooperation in areas of nuclear energy research and development, nuclear fuel supply, nuclear equipment manufacturing, nuclear personnel training. China has cooperated with developed countries in the forms of exchanged visits, equipment and technology introduction, economic and trade cooperation. China highly values mutually beneficial cooperation with developing countries, and provides assistance and support to the best of its ability.

In the multilateral arena, China has been actively participating in all activities of the IAEA (the Agency). Since its accession in 1984, China has been dedicated to the achievement of the two missions of the IAEA Statute, and fruitful cooperation has been carried out with the Agency and its Member States. China is also active in major international projects such as GIF and ITER, making its due contribution to the research

and development of next-generation nuclear energy technologies.

China's cooperation with the EU in the field of science and technology goes back to the early 1980s, and remarkable progress had been made during the EC Framework Program (FP) 4 and FP 5. While in the nuclear field, China has already carried out lots of fruitful cooperation with EU members such as Germany, Belgium, the UK and France under the framework of bilateral agreement on peaceful uses of nuclear energy. With the Euratom, China has conducted extensive technical exchanges and experts mutual visits.

On 24 March 2008, China and the Euratom signed R&D Cooperation Agreement on Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, which has laid a solid foundation for in-depth cooperation in this field. After the signature of the Agreement, as one of the implementing governmental agencies, the CAEA worked with relevant organizations of the Euratom to study and discuss the best modes for further and wider cooperation. In October 2008, Director General of JRC, Mr. Roland Schenkel led a delegation to visit CAEA and met with our Secretary General Wang Yiren. They agreed to prioritize cooperation in areas of advanced nuclear energy system, second and third-generation nuclear power technology, innovative nuclear fuel cycle, radioactive waste management, nuclear security and safeguards, radiation protection, nuclear education and training.

In February 2009, and March 2010, two sessions of China-Euratom nuclear fission research cooperation workshops were held. Experts from both sides had extensive discussions and decided to submit applications of 5 cooperation projects to answer the coordinated call of the Euratom Work Programme 2010, and other 12 projects will be applied in the next year.

In May 2010, CAEA Secretary General Mr. Wang Yiren paid a reciprocal visit to Euratom, and both sides agreed to establish a regular meeting mechanism and two subcommittees, namely one on nuclear fission coordination projects and the other on nuclear security and safeguards, to guide and oversee cooperation. We could see that encouraging progress has been scored with substantial achievements within only 2 years. This can not be achieved without the attention paid by the higher-level officials of both sides and the sincerity and enthusiasm for cooperation of the nuclear experts

and their hard work. Both sides are also considering expand cooperation in areas of nuclear safety, nuclear emergency response and nuclear fusion, etc.

“Better city and Better life” is the motto of this Shanghai Expo. To live a low-carbon and environmental-friendly city life, nuclear energy, which is clean, reliable and safe source of energy, will surely play a practical role. I am convinced that, under the guidance of the China-Euratom R&D Agreement on peaceful uses of nuclear energy and its cooperation mechanism, and with mutual efforts of both sides, our cooperation in this field will be expanding and further contribute to all-directional and multi-facet cooperation between China and the European Union.

Thank you very much for your attention. My best wishes for the complete success of the EU-China S&T Week.