

Digital Single Market

Blog post

Monday, 1 October, 2012

Collaboration between China and the EU in the field of Information Communication Technologies make steady progress

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Published Monday, 1 October, 2012

Updated Wednesday, 16 March, 2016

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Back in 2011 a series of agreements that strengthen China-EU collaboration in the field of Information Communication Technologies were concluded by [China's Ministry of Industry & Information Technology](#) [1] and the [European Commission's Information Society & Media Directorate-General](#) [2].

I was in [Chengdu](#) [3] on the 30th November 2011 where I had the pleasure to chair the meeting between a delegation from the [European Commission](#) [4] and the Chinese authorities represented by Vice Minister [Yang Xueshan](#) [5] and his team. The meeting was organised in the context of the [3rd EU-China Information Technology, Telecommunications and Informatisation bilateral dialogue](#) [6] and was very useful and productive.

On the one hand, we saw there is a great potential to work together to promote sustainable urbanisation via the development of "green smart cities". On the other hand, we both recognised that the introduction and the use of ICT to make our cities greener and to help address some of the challenges of urban life are crucial.

Among these challenges, there are increasing demands from citizens for better service provision, such as the deployment of digital services for improving education, health systems, government services and assistance to the elderly and disabled. The issues of addressing energy efficiency, pollution and road transport safety through the deployment of smart mobility services were also high

in the agenda.

China and the EU have agreed to work together to measure the ICT sector's environmental impact. This will be done through a series of pilot schemes, starting in 2012, with the active involvement of Chinese and European cities, enterprises and other interested parties.

At the same time, we have agreed to pursue our existing collaboration in particular technological areas, notably the Internet of Things. Both we and China reaffirmed our commitment to a more rapid adoption of the new addressing system for the Internet, IPv6. We have been urging all other stakeholders to do likewise.

Finally, we decided to continue exchanging our experiences related to the development of a regulatory system for electronic communications based on market competition, to deepen the collaboration to resolve market access issues related to the ICT sector, and to develop exchanges on Internet security, in particular on legislation, standards and awareness raising.

The next meeting is planned to take place in Brussels by the end of 2012 and I look forward to meeting again with our Chinese counterparts and to advancing these issues to the benefits of both parties.

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[3] <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chengdu>

[4] http://ec.europa.eu/index_en.htm

[5] http://www.chinavitae.com/biography/Yang_Xueshan

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