

PROTOCOL

of the 11th Meeting of the Joint Commission
for scientific and technological cooperation implementing the Agreement between the
Government of the Republic of Austria and the Government of the People's Republic of China
on Scientific and Technological Cooperation
of 24 April 1984

Vienna, 26 September 2016

In accordance with Article 3 of the Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Republic of Austria signed on April 24, 1984, the 11th Meeting of the Joint Commission on scientific and technological cooperation (hereinafter referred to as "the Commission") was held in Vienna on September 26, 2016.

The Austrian delegation was headed by Director General Teresa INDJEIN, Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Austria.

The Chinese delegation was headed by Deputy Director General Jiachang CHEN , Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China.

The list of the two delegations is attached as Annex 1.

The Commission adopted the following agenda:

1. Exchange of information on science and technology
2. Discussion and adoption of the Work Programme
3. Selection of projects for the period 2016 – 2018
4. Discussion on future bilateral and multilateral S&T cooperation
5. Next meeting and call for proposals for the period 2018-2020
6. Adoption and Signing of the Protocol

Exchange of information on science and technology

The Commission exchanged views on science and technology policies of the two countries and welcomed the constantly increasing cooperation in science and technology between China and Austria.

The Commission welcomed the existing relationship between the Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy as well as the Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology of the Republic of Austria and the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China.

The Commission declared its intention to further intensify bilateral scientific and technological cooperation activities by supporting the mobility of scientists in the framework of joint research projects. It emphasized the particular importance of successful partnerships within bilateral, cooperative projects in the field of science and research for an effective joint participation in international cooperation activities on a larger scale.

The Commission took positive note of the visit of Mr. Reinhold MITTERLEHNER, Federal Minister of Science, Research and Economy of the Republic of Austria to China in October 2014. Federal Minister MITTERLEHNER and Mr. WAN GANG, Minister of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China had fruitful discussions on the further strengthening of Austrian-Sino relationship regarding higher education and science & research in Beijing. Federal Minister MITTERLEHNER and Minister WAN GANG expressed their satisfaction with the progress made in cooperative activities in the field of Traditional Chinese Medicine between Austria and China and agreed to support a follow-up bilateral TCM research-programme for another three years "Sino-Austrian TCM research on lifestyle related diseases". Federal Minister MITTERLEHNER and Minister WAN GANG reached consensus on deepening the cooperation between Austrian and Chinese scientific institutions, especially in the fields of environment, renewable energy, biotechnology and health. Federal Minister MITTERLEHNER had the opportunity to visit some of China's most recognized research institutions, amongst them Tongji University and the Center for Excellence in Quantum Information and Quantum Physics, both located in Shanghai.

The Commission also took positive note of the 30th anniversary of bilateral research cooperation between the two countries in 2015 and welcomed the anniversary publication that was printed on this occasion by the Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy of the Republic of Austria.

Discussion and adoption of the Work Programme 2016 – 2018

The Commission discussed and adopted the “Work Programme for the Years 2016-2018”. The Work Programme includes the forms and aspects of cooperation, general administrative regulations, the administration of the exchange of scientists and experts as well as financial regulations.

A copy of the “Work Programme for the Years 2016 – 2018” is attached to the protocol of the Meeting (Annex 2).

Discussion and approval of Austrian-Sino Cooperation Projects 2016 – 2018

The two sides ran the joint call for proposals in the first half of 2016; the relevant reviews were completed by September 2016. Based on the reviews, the Commission discussed and identified 22 cooperation projects for the years 2016 —2018.

According to the respective financial regulations as stipulated in the Work Programme (Annex 2) 11 joint funded projects are listed in Annex 3.

The 11 projects listed in Annex 4 will be funded by the Austrian Side if matched funding is provided by the respective Chinese research institutions with their own resources.

Next Steps of the Sino-Austrian Cooperation

Both sides showed interest in enhancing scientific, technological and innovative cooperation especially in the fields of Low Carbon Technology, Environmental Technology, New materials, Renewable Energy, Agricultural Research, Health Research including Traditional Chinese Medicine.

The Commission expressed its satisfaction regarding the cooperation of the two countries, in particular the successful cooperation between the Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy and the Federal Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology of the Republic of

Austria and the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China. The Commission also appreciated the excellent cooperation between the Austrian Science Fund, the International Institute for Applied System Sciences (IIASA) and the National Natural Science Foundation of China, the Austrian TCM Research Cluster and the China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences, as well as the cooperation between the Austrian Academy of Sciences and the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. The Commission proposed to intensify multilateral scientific and technological cooperation between the Republic of Austria and the People's Republic of China under the Framework Programme of the European Union "Horizon 2020". Both sides agreed to encourage their researchers to jointly participate in EU-projects.

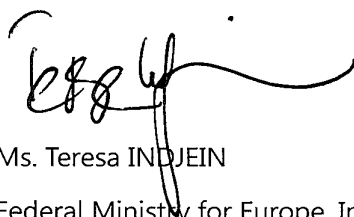
Next Call for proposals for the period 2018-2020 and date for the next meeting

Both sides agreed to hold the 12th Meeting of the Joint Commission in 2018 in China. The exact date will be discussed and determined through diplomatic channels. The next call for project proposals will be opened at the latest in 2018.

This protocol, including the Work Programme take effect upon signing by both parties and will remain effective until 31 December 2018. It will remain effective beyond this date until new protocols and Work Programme become effective for a maximum period of another year.

Signed in Vienna on 26 September 2016, in two English original copies.

Head of the Austrian Delegation



Ms. Teresa INDJEIN

Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration
and Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Austria

Head of the Chinese Delegation



Mr. Jiachang CHEN

Ministry of Science and Technology
of the People's Republic of China

**Work Programme
for the Years 2016 – 2018**

Adopted on the occasion of the Eleventh Meeting of the Joint Commission for Scientific and Technological Cooperation, held in Vienna on September 26th, 2016, implementing the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Austria and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Scientific and Technological Cooperation, concluded in Beijing on April 24th, 1984.

Vienna, 26 September 2016

1. Forms of Cooperation
2. Aspects of Cooperation
3. General Administrative Regulations
4. Administration of the Exchange of Scientists and Experts
5. Financial Regulations

1. Forms of Cooperation

- 1.1 According to Article 1 of the Agreement, joint cooperation projects will be carried out between Austrian and Chinese institutions. A joint cooperation project is an agreed activity with clearly defined objectives to be achieved within a specific time frame. Each project will normally be of two years' duration, implemented through exchanges of people, information and joint R&D activities.
- 1.2 For the preparation and realization of joint cooperation projects financial support is given for mobility of researchers participating in the cooperation projects.
- 1.3 The costs arising from joint cooperation projects should be balanced between the two sides.

2. Aspects of Cooperation

- 2.1 The delegations agreed to provide mobility funds for cooperation projects in the following research fields:
- Low Carbon technology
 - Environmental Technology
 - New Materials
 - Renewable Energy
 - Agricultural Research
 - Health Research including TCM

Cooperation projects with the potential to lead to future bilateral and multilateral co-operations within Austrian, Chinese, and European research and innovation programmes will be favoured.

- 2.2 The financing of mobility costs within the framework of this Agreement is also particularly intended to support the participation of young scientists and to pay attention to a balanced involvement of female and male researchers (gender equality).

3. General Administrative Regulations

3.1 Responsible Institutions:

3.1.1. In Austria:

The implementation of the work programme lies within the responsibility of the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD-GmbH), ICM - Centre for International Cooperation and Mobility

Ebendorferstrasse 7, 1010 Vienna

Telephone: +43 1 53408-457

Fax: +43 1 53408-499

Email: wtz@oead.at

Internet: <http://www.oead.at/wtz>

The Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD-GmbH) is an institution commissioned by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy.

Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy

Department for International Research Co-operation

Rosengasse 2-6, 1014 Vienna

Telephone: +43 53120 6714

Fax: +43 1 53120 996714

Email: stephan.neuhaeuser@bmwfw.gv.at

Internet: <http://www.bmwfw.gv.at>

3.1.2. In China:

The management of international cooperative projects lies within the responsibility of: China Science and Technology Exchange Center (CSTEC)

Tel: 0086-10-68513370

E-mail: dongkq@cstec.org.cn

<http://www.cstec.org.cn>

China Science and Technology Exchange Center (CSTEC) is commissioned by the Ministry of Science and Technology(MOST), P.R.China

Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)

Department of International Cooperation

Tel: 0086-10-58881350

E-mail: lig@most.cn

<http://www.most.gov.cn>

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Republic of Austria

Department for science and technology

Tel: 0043-1-714 314 951

E-mail: zhoushunjie@gmail.com

3.2 Selection procedure of cooperation projects

3.2.1 The upcoming calls for proposals will be published on a biennial basis by the responsible institutions (3.1) at least six months prior to the meetings of the Joint Commission for Scientific and Technological Cooperation.

3.2.2 Submitted project applications have to include:

1. Topic
2. Names and addresses of the co-operating Austrian and Chinese institutions, Austrian and Chinese co-ordinators and research team members
3. Description of the proposed research subject and objectives, including the methodological part
4. Work plan, start date and duration of the cooperation project
5. Proof of qualifications of the coordinators
6. Involvement of young and female scientists (if applicable)
7. Project budget description
8. Further cooperation perspective

- 3.2.3 A joint project proposal has to be prepared jointly by the Austrian and Chinese researchers and has to be submitted to the national institutions responsible for implementing the work programme (3.1).
- 3.2.4 Only project applications received by all respective responsible institutions (3.1) will be eligible for evaluation. The responsible institutions agreed to send the list of eligible proposals received on their side within 20 working days after the closure of the call and the results of national evaluations at least 10 working days before the selection meeting to all participating responsible institutions.
- 3.2.5. Applications will be considered on the basis of the following evaluation criteria:
- Scientific value of the intended research project
 - Feasibility of the joint research plan and adequacy of the scientific method
 - Competence and expertise of the scientists/research teams involved
 - Relevance to the call
 - Added value expected from the bilateral research collaboration
 - Potential for further or future international cooperation
 - Promotion of young and female research talent
- 3.2.6 The final list of cooperation projects to be supported will be adopted by the Joint Commission or through exchange of letters. In well-founded exceptional cases, additional joint research projects may be added to the final project list after adoption by mutual agreement.
- 3.3. At the end of the second year of the project, the project leaders have to submit a jointly prepared final report on the progress and results of their research activities to the Austrian and Chinese institutions responsible for the implementation of the work programme (3.1).
- 3.4 The exploitation, possible patent registration and publication of project results are subject to the national laws which are in force in Austria and China.

4. Administration of the Exchange of Scientists and Experts

- 4.1 The cooperating partners have to agree on the date and duration of a stay at the host institution at least three weeks prior to the intended date of visit.
 - 4.1.1 The Austrian project leader will notify the Chinese scientist in question at the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD-GmbH).
 - 4.1.2 The Chinese project leader will notify the Austrian scientist in question at the section for science and technology of the Embassy, People's Republic of China, in Vienna.
- 4.2 Each side will facilitate the access to its scientific institutions, libraries, archives and museum collections for the project partners of the other side that are sent in the framework of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Austria and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Scientific and Technological Cooperation. Furthermore, both sides guarantee the free exchange of scientific information and documentation in conformity with their national laws and financial regulations.

5. Financial Regulations

- 5.1 Each side will cover the travel costs of persons sent and the accommodation costs of persons hosted.
- 5.2 In Austria
 - 5.2.1 For short-term stays of up to fourteen days planned in the framework of approved projects, the following rate in Euro (€), including overnight costs, will be granted:
 - € 90,- per day
 - 5.2.2 For stays longer than fifteen days planned in the framework of approved projects, the following monthly rates in Euro (€), including overnight costs, will be granted:
 - € 1.300,- per month

5.2.3 Chinese scientists will receive payment personally at the local offices of the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD-GmbH) or directly at the Austrian host institution.

5.3 In China

5.3.1 For stays of Austrian scientists and experts

The Chinese parties of the approved projects cover the costs of their Austrian partners during their stay in China and the international travel expenses of their own staff to and from Austria for the implementation of the projects as planned.

5.4 The sending side will assure that the scientists and experts sent have necessary and adequate health insurance coverage.