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## PROTOCOL

of the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Austrian-Chinese Joint Commission for Scientific and Technological Cooperation, held in Vienna on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019, 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 24<sup>th</sup> April 1984.

Vienna, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019

The 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Austrian-Chinese Joint Commission for Scientific and Technological Cooperation in accordance with Article 3 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" concluded in Beijing on 24<sup>th</sup> April 1984, took place in Vienna on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

The Austrian delegation was headed by Mr. Heribert BUCHBAUER, Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research of the Republic of Austria.

The Chinese delegation was headed by Mr. YE Dongbai, Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China.

The set-up of the two delegations can be found in Annex 1.

The Joint Commission adopted the following agenda:

1. Exchange of information on science and research
2. Discussion and adoption of the Work Programme
3. *Date and timeframe for the Call 2019*
4. Selection of projects to be supported for the period 2020-2021
5. Adoption and Effectiveness of the Protocol

#### **Ad 1 Exchange of information on science and research**

Both sides supplied information on current developments of their national research policies. The Joint Commission expressed its confidence that the implementation of the bilateral programme will further contribute to the development of beneficial links between scientific institutions and scientists of both countries and will enable them to use their scientific potential more efficiently and fruitfully in regional as well as multilateral projects. Both sides reached an understanding to encourage their researchers to jointly participate in national, international and EU projects.

#### **Ad 2 Discussion and adoption of the Work Programme**

The Joint Commission discussed and adopted the Work Programme for the years 2019-2021. The Work Programme includes regulations about 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 2019-2021 is attached as Annex 2 of this Protocol.

### **Ad 3 Date and timeframe for the Call 2019**

The Joint Commission agreed that the launch date for the next call for projects for the period 2020-2021 will be coordinated by OeAD and CESTEC. The call for project applications with duration 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 will be published in parallel in Austria and China.

The Parties also agreed to send the list of eligible proposals received on their side after the closure of the call and the results of national evaluations as soon as possible.

### **Ad 4 Selection of projects to be supported for the period 2020-2021**

Both parties have reached an understanding to take the decision on the selection of projects to be supported via diplomatic channel.

### **Ad 5 Effectiveness of the Protocol**

This Protocol will remain effective until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021. It will remain effective beyond this date until a new Protocol becomes effective for a maximum period of another year.

Done in Vienna on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019, in two English original copies.

For the Austrian delegation



Ms. Barbara WEITGRUBER  
Federal Ministry of Education, Science  
and Research of the Republic of Austria

For the Chinese delegation



Mr. YE Dongbai  
Ministry of Science and Technology of the  
People's Republic of China



Mr. Heribert BUCHBAUER  
Federal Ministry of Education, Science and  
Research of the Republic of Austria

**Work Programme  
for the years 2019-2021**

Adopted on the occasion of the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Joint Commission for Scientific and Technological Cooperation, held in Vienna on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019, 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 24<sup>th</sup> April 1984.

Vienna, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019

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 between the Government of the Republic of Austria and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Scientific and Technological Cooperation" the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research and the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology will support joint research projects.
- 1.2 A joint cooperation project is an agreed activity with clearly defined objectives to be achieved within the duration of two years in topics defined under 2.1.

## **2. Aspects of Cooperation**

- 2.1 The delegations agreed to provide funding for cooperation projects in the following fields:
- Quantum Information Science
  - Information and Communication Technology
  - Intelligent Production
  - Medicine and Health Research (including TCM)
  - Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Technology
  - Food, Agriculture and Biotechnologies
  - Environment, Smart Cities and Sustainable Urbanisation
- 2.2 Joint cooperation projects with the potential to lead to future bilateral and multilateral cooperation within Austrian, Chinese, and EU's research and innovation programmes will be favoured.
- 2.3 The funding within the framework of this Agreement is also particularly intended to support the participation of young and female researchers.

## **3. General Administrative Regulations**

- 3.1 Responsible institutions for the implementation of the work programme

### **3.1.1 In Austria:**

Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD-GmbH)/ICM - Centre for International Cooperation and Mobility  
Ebendorferstrasse 7, 1010 Vienna, Austria

Phone: +43 1 53408-457

Email: [wtz@oead.at](mailto: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 Education, Science and Research.



Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research of the Republic of Austria  
Department for International Research Cooperation  
Rosengasse 2-6, 1010 Vienna, Austria  
Phone: +43 53120 7223  
Email: [stefanie.nagel@bmbwf.gv.at](mailto:stefanie.nagel@bmbwf.gv.at)  
Internet: <http://www.bmbwf.gv.at>

### 3.1.2 In China

CSTEC (China Science and Technology Exchange Center)  
54 Sanlihe Road, Beijing, 100045, P.R. China  
Phone: +84 010-68573441  
Email: [linxy@cstec.org.cn](mailto:linxy@cstec.org.cn)  
Internet: <http://www.cstec.org.cn>

Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China  
Department of International Cooperation  
15B, Fuxing Road, Beijing, 100862, P.R. China  
Internet: <http://www.most.gov.cn/eng/>

## 3.2 Selection procedure of joint cooperation projects

3.2.1 The upcoming calls for applications will be published on a biennial basis by the responsible institutions (3.1) 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 cooperating Austrian and Chinese institutions, Austrian and Chinese Principal Investigators and research team members
3. Description of the proposed research subject, objectives and methodology
4. Work plan, start date and duration of the cooperation project
5. Proof of qualifications of the Principal Investigators (academic CV)
6. Information about the involvement of young and female scientists (if applicable)
7. Project budget details
8. Further cooperation perspective

3.2.3 A project application has to be prepared jointly by the Austrian and Chinese researchers and has to be submitted to both national institutions responsible for implementing the work programme (3.1).

3.2.4 Only project applications received by both responsible institutions in Austria and China (3.1) will be eligible for evaluation. The responsible institutions will exchange the list of eligible applications received on their side after the closure of the call and the results of national evaluations before the selection meeting.

- 3.2.5 Evaluation criteria for applications:
- 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
  - Added value expected from the bilateral research collaboration
  - Potential for further or future international cooperation
  - Promotion of young and female researchers
- 3.2.6 The final list of cooperation projects to be supported will be provided by the respective responsible institutions (3.1) and adopted by the Joint Commission.
- 3.3 At the end of the first year of the project a brief project progress report has to be submitted and approved as a precondition for further funding.
- 3.4 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).
- 3.5 The exploitation, possible patent registration and publication of project results are subject to the national and international laws and regulations 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 Principal Investigator will notify the incoming Chinese project members in question at the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD-GmbH).
- 4.1.2 The Chinese Principal Investigator will notify the incoming Austrian project members in question at the China Science and Technology Exchange Center (CSTEC).
- 4.2 Each side will facilitate the access to its scientific institutions, libraries, archives and museum collections for the project partners as well as the free exchange of scientific information and documentation in conformity with their national laws and financial possibilities.
- 5. Financial Regulations**
- 5.1 In Austria:  
The Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research will cover the costs for mobility (travel and accommodation) as well as material costs of the participating Austrian research teams. Further project related costs including personnel costs, research and equipment expenses are covered by the research institutions at which the researcher is employed – for example:
- Universities, Universities of Applied Sciences

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- The Austrian Academy of Sciences and Austrian research institutions in the field of basic research

5.2 In China:

The Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology will cover the total project related expenses – including personnel costs, research and equipment expenses as well as costs for mobility (travel and accommodation) – of the participating Chinese research teams.

- 5.3 The sending side will assure that its outgoing scientists and experts have necessary and adequate health insurance coverage.