



MINUTES

FORTH MEETING OF THE CONSULTATIVE BOARD

ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION BETWEEN CHINA AND THE CEE COUNTRIES

5th April 2017, Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Date: April 5, 2017

Location: Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Present: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, China, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia

Absent: Albania, Croatia, Hungary

I Call to order: by Vasil Gelev

II Quorum: fourteen of seventeen countries present

III Discussion of the Annual Activities of the Association 2017



As scheduled, the 4th Meeting of the Consultative Board of APACCCEEC was held on 5th April 2017 at 10:00 o'clock in Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

As the experience shows, the scheduled time of 1-2 hours is not enough to ensure the vote and adoption of each Activity proposed in the Agenda.

In accordance with the Basic Principles for the Establishment and Operation of APACCCEEC, “if necessary, by a decision of the Chairman, the Consultative Board may conduct remote participation meetings under a written procedure. The Chairman shall forward the issues under consideration to the members of the Consultative Board at least two weeks prior to a deadline for the statement.”

Following the Basic Principles, APACCCEEC conducts remote participation meeting under written procedure by sending the Annual Activities of APACCCEEC 2017 to the Consultative Board Members after their discussion on the 4th Meeting of the Consultative Board on 5th April 2017 in Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In the document are included some of the remarks/proposals of China and CEE countries.

The period for submitting positions/remarks is 28 April 2017.

Each member of the Consultative Board shall send written position/remarks under each Activity raised within the above mentioned period.

If within the determined period no position/remark is received, it shall be deemed that the respective member of the Consultative Board has voted in the affirmative under the Activity raised.



Activity 1: Establishing of contacts and taking actions for conclusion of Memorandum of Cooperation with relevant institutions from China and CEEC.

The establishment of contacts and partnerships with relevant to APACCCEEC institutions from China and CEEC, shall make possible the synergy and cooperation in the field of investment, trade, tourism and others, which are crucial for the achievement of the aims of the Association for the Promotion of Agricultural Cooperation between China and the CEE Countries.

Realized initiative 1.1: Conclusion of Memorandum of cooperation between APACCCEEC and institutions from China and the CEE countries. For example: Chambers of Commerce, Agencies promoting the investments, Agencies promoting the small and medium enterprises and other institutions.

Deadline: unlimited

Signed Memorandum of Cooperation on 05th April 2017 with:

Bosnia and Herzegovina

- 1) Foreign Trade Chamber of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Activity 2: Discussion, adoption and organizing of important events related to the activities of the Association.

Proposal 2.1 Remarks during the 4th Meeting of the Consultative Board made from China:

Since the construction of 16+1 cooperation mechanism, Ningbo has hosted China-CEEC Expo and China-CEEC Ministerial Meeting on Promoting Trade and Economic Cooperation twice successfully. The Expo attracted tens of thousands of visitors and exhibitors to join the event and yield fruitful achievements.

Sponsored by Ministry of Commerce PRC and Zhejiang Provincial Government, undertaken by Ningbo Municipal Government, Zhejiang Provincial Department of Commerce, Trade Development Bureau of Commerce and Investment Promotion Bureau of Commerce, the 3rd China-CEEC Investment and Trade Expo will be held in Ningbo on June 8th, 2017. The Expo, taking the theme of “Win-win cooperation through releasing cooperation potential”, is going to hold meetings and forums, investment talks, trade exhibition and cultural exchanges in 3 fields nearly 16 activities.

The Chinese side distributes an Invitation for the China-CEEC Fruit, Vegetables and Meat Exhibition in the period 09-12 June 2017 (Friday to Monday) in Hall No.6 in Ningbo



International Convention and Exhibition Center, Jiangdong District, Ningbo, Zhejiang Province, China.

It is a great opportunity for companies from CEE countries to participate in it and research the future potential of the Chinese market.

Preferential Policies:

- Booth is free for exhibitors. Special decoration is partly provided.
- Services offered for exhibitors:
 - Custom clearance and transport of exhibits
 - Hotel booking and free airport pick-up service
 - Free shuttle bus. During the Expo period
 - Free English volunteers according to size and needs of exhibitor groups
 - Free lunch, coffee and snacks
- The Chinese side encourages to set CEEC Products long term exhibition in Ningbo Imported Commodity Exhibition Trade Center. To those whose annual import volume reaches 100 000 dollars (CEEC Products), the Chinese side will offer 100% rental subsidies, but will not be over 300 000 dollars per enterprise per year. They also offer 50% decoration subsidies, but won't be over 200 000 per enterprise. To those pavilions which are authorized by embassy in China or related government agencies, we will offer 100 000 operation subsidy.

Proposal 2.2: Support, coordination and participation of APACCCEEC at voluntary organized by the respective country forum about the Project "16+1 e-Commerce and Logistics Hub" in China and the CEE countries.

The purpose of the Forums shall be presentation, discussion and promotion of the opportunities that the "16+1 e-Commerce and Logistics Hub" could provide to the government structures, associations, NGOs and other stakeholders.

On the organized Forum, representatives of Chinese company and APACCCEEC shall demonstrate the advantages of the e-commerce trade and benefit of the trade and supply chain model, implemented in "16+1 e-Commerce Logistics Hub" in Bulgaria.

Officials from China and the CEEC, Consultative Board Members of APACCCEEC, companies, trade chambers, associations and other stakeholders from China and the CEE countries will be invited to the Forum.

During the forum representatives of the Chinese company will make demonstration of



the exclusively developed for the "16+1 e-Commerce Logistics Hub" Project, platform for consolidation of agricultural producers from China and the CEE countries. The companies from China and the respective country, who will take part in the Forum will be able in real time to upload their products into the platform and to start the trade on their own in China and the respective country. The "16+1 e-Commerce Logistics Hub" will use the facilities of the main ports, logistics hubs, logistics companies warehouses and other third party service in China and the CEE countries and meet the increase of demand of China's market for CEEC, and vice versa, agricultural and other goods, and rapidly build multiway platform and mechanism between the countries.

Countries, who want to organize this Forum:

NB!!! Each country cannot be visited more than once during the calendar year 2017.

Deadline for confirmation and scheduling: Please propose at least 2 options for date and venue of the Forum before/ on the 4th Meeting of CB.

NB!!! Each country must ensure suitable conference room and minimum 20 people audience from government structures, associations, NGOs and other stakeholders to present at the Forum. Informational support, coordination and participation, also transport costs, accommodation and meal for the representatives of APACCCEEC will be covered by APACCCEEC and for the representatives of the Chinese company – by them.

Deadline for the last Forum: December 2017

Proposal 2.3: Support, coordination and participation of APACCCEEC at voluntary organized by the respective country forum about the Project "16+1 Modern Agricultural Demonstration Park" in China and the CEE countries.

The purpose of the Forums shall be presentation, discussion and promotion of the opportunities that the "16+1 Modern Agricultural Demonstration Park" could provide to the government structures, associations, NGOs and other stakeholders.

The Forum has the aim to promote the Innovations in Agricultural Science and Technology and Rural development in China and their practical implementation into the "16+1 Modern Agricultural Demonstration Park" such as, but not limited to:

- Hunan Hybrid Rice Research Center
- Ningxia Hui Wolfberry production
- Internet of Things
- Brand Farming
- Rural Tourism



Representatives of Ningxia Hui, Hunan Hybrid Rice Research Centre, R&D, Agricultural IT companies, officials from China and the CEEC, Consultative Board Members of APACCCEEC, farmers, companies, trade chambers, associations and other stakeholders from China and the CEE countries will be invited to the Forum.

During the Forum representatives from Ningxia Hui, Hunan Hybrid Rice Research Centre, R&D, Agricultural IT companies will have presentations and will promote the Major Innovations in Agricultural Science and Technology and Rural Development from China, which could be successfully implemented in the "16+1 Modern Agricultural Demonstration Park" Project.

The "16 +1 Modern Agricultural Demonstration Park" Project is of significant importance in facilitating the adjustment of agricultural structure and industry upgrading. The Project should have the features of bright regional characteristics, high technology content, complete infrastructures, innovative operation mechanism and obvious radiate effect to fully play the role of demonstration park to push forward technological innovation, promote the development of the industry and increase the income of the farmers. Positioning realistic development targets, arranging function division, allocating infrastructure, and integrating intellectual, standardized and innovative technologies will ultimately enhance the ecological, economic and social benefit of the project.

Countries, who want to organize this Forum:

NB!!! Each country cannot be visited more than once during the calendar year 2017.

Deadline for confirmation and scheduling: Please propose at least 2 options for date and venue of the Forum before/ on the 4th Meeting of CB.

NB!!! Each country must ensure suitable conference room and minimum 20 people audience from government structures, associations, NGOs and other stakeholders to present at the Forum. Informational support, coordination and participation, also transport costs, accommodation and meal for the representatives of APACCCEEC will be covered by APACCCEEC and for the representatives of the Chinese company – by them.

Deadline for the last Forum: December 2017

Proposal 2.4: Based on point 8.(1) from the Riga Guidelines for Cooperation between China and CEEC “The 12th China-CEEC Agrotrade and Economic Cooperation Forum and the 5th Meeting of the Consultative Board of the Association for the Promotion of Agricultural Cooperation between China and CEECs will be held in Slovenia in 2017 in order to further promote China-CEEC agrotrade and economic cooperation.”, the Association would like to



take active participation in the organization activities and communication of the meeting of the China-CEEC Agriculture Ministers' Meeting and the 12th China-CEEC Agrotrade and Economic Cooperation Forum.

Proposal 2.5: Participation of companies from the CEE countries at the 15th China AG Trade Fair (CATF) in Beijing, China in the second half of 2017.

The Bulgarian side was informed by their Chinese colleagues that the 15th China AG Trade Fair (CATF) shall be held in Beijing, China in the second half of 2017.

Remarks during the 4th Meeting of the Consultative Board made from Bulgaria

During the bilateral meeting between Mr. Qu Dongyu, Vice Minister of Agriculture of PRC and Assoc. Prof. Svetla Yancheva, Vice Minister of Agriculture and Food of Republic of Bulgaria, the both sides agreed that during the 15th China AG Trade Fair (CATF) in Beijing, China, will be organized a Match-making forum for agricultural investment projects from China and the CEE countries. Each country shall provide maximum 2 agricultural investment projects, adapted to the specific needs and agricultural development of the respective country. The Association for the Promotion of Agricultural Cooperation between China and the CEEC does not have any draft or guideline for the agricultural investment projects, the countries should rely on them and use their own resources for the successful preparation and presentation of the Projects. Each country shall bear by itself the related costs and other additional expenses for the attendance and presentations of the Projects during the 15th China AG Trade Fair (CATF) in Beijing, China.

DEADLINE: the 5th Meeting of the Consultative Board

Proposal 2.6: Lithuania would like to propose to hold the 13th China-CEEC Agro-Trade and Economic Cooperation Forum in 2018 in Lithuania.

Lithuania firmly supports the agricultural cooperation under the China and Central and East European countries' framework (China and CEEC), which is driven by a growing practical demand from both sides, and sees a huge potential in strengthening the agri-food, trade and investment policy ties between China and CEEC. It has already brought win-win benefits to China and CEEC, proving that countries from different regions can embrace a new path in seeking cooperation and finding synergies between different initiatives.

Lithuania reaffirms their readiness to enhance existing cooperation and foster relations in new areas to benefit our citizens and boost prosperity.



Proposal 2.7: Participation of the representatives of the 16+1 secretariat centers mechanism in the 16+1 National coordinators meetings. The meetings are organized at the ministerial level, twice a year. It might be a good opportunity for the directors of the secretarial centers mechanism to import the achievements or the entities structures managed by them and at the same time to have the possibility to exchange the views on the development directions of the 16+1 format.

The following associations/ centers were entrusted with the task to be the coordinating country for different areas:

Name of the Organization	Country
The Association for the Promotion of Agricultural Cooperation between China and the CEE Countries (APACCCEEC)	Sofia, Bulgaria
China-CEEC Tourism Coordination Centre (TCC)	Budapest, Hungary
China and CEEC Forestry	Ljubljana, Slovenia
CEEC-CHINA Secretariat on Logistic Cooperation	Riga, Latvia
CEEC - China Investment Promotion Agencies Contacted Mechanism	Warsaw, Poland
CEEC - China Business Council	Warsaw, Poland
CEEC - China Secretariat for Maintain Issue	Warsaw, Poland

Based on the Riga Guidelines for Cooperation between China and CEEC the following organizations are going to be established:

Name of the Organization	Country
China-CEEC Association on Transport and Infrastructure Cooperation	Serbia
China-CEEC Center for Dialogue and Cooperation on Energy Projects	Romania
China-CEEC Technology Transfer Center	Slovakia



Proposal 2.8: Discussion and adoption of date and venue of the 6th Meeting of the Consultative Board of the Association for the Promotion of Agricultural Cooperation between China and the CEE Countries.

Based on point 8.(1) from the Riga Guidelines for Cooperation between China and CEEC “The 12th China-CEEC Agrottrade and Economic Cooperation Forum and the 5th Meeting of the Consultative Board of the Association for the Promotion of Agricultural Cooperation between China and CEECs will be held in Slovenia in August 2017 in order to further promote China-CEEC agrottrade and economic cooperation.”.

Deadline for proposals: the 5th Meeting of the Consultative Board of the Association

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Chairman Vasil Gelev declared the meeting adjourned.



APAC
BETWEEN CHINA AND CEEC

Adopted by the Consultative Board Members
on the 4th Consultative Board Meeting
on April 5, 2017