

Monthly Roundup: U.K.-China announcements by government, partners, and other stakeholders

CBI Beijing • December 2015

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British Consulate-General in Chongqing hosts Green is GREAT Day

The British Consulate in Chongqing, together with the Overseas Chinese Youth Association of Yuzhong District, the Western Returned Scholars Association, and Chongqing News Net, hosted a Green is GREAT Day in Chongqing to raise public awareness of climate change and environmental protection. Around 60 participant families were invited to enjoy interesting outdoor interactive games and natural handicrafts classes, which enabled participants to understand the impact of climate change from its effect on birds, insects, and plants to the biosphere, food safety, and human health. Green is GREAT Day promoted the scientific knowledge on climate change, the vital role played by COP21, and the concept of peaceful existence between people and nature. (December) Read more [here](#).



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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CBBC's China roadshow for its One Belt, One Road report and plans for 2016

The China-Britain Business Council's (CBBC) recent One Belt, One Road report with the U.K. Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) concluded that British businesses have a very real part to play in China's initiative. The CBBC's recent series of events in Beijing, Shanghai, Chongqing, Chengdu, and Guangzhou built upon the report, with the aim of helping U.K. companies understand why the initiative is one of CBBC's and UKTI's key priorities for 2016 and beyond. The roadshow was complemented by a similar series in London, Coventry, Glasgow, and Manchester, and the CBBC is now setting down extensive plans to help more British businesses get involved in the year ahead. A follow-up report on the initiative will be published in 2016, and a second series of roadshows organised to update members around the U.K. and China. One Belt, One Road will be a central theme of the CBBC's 4th annual China Business Conference on 22 March 2016 in London. Read more [here](#).



CBBC's third annual Great British Brands Festival series

The China-Britain Business Council's (CBBC) third annual Great British Brands Festival series took the CBBC and some of Britain's finest brands to eight cities over eight months in 2015. Eight success stories and reasons for British retailers to look forward to more in 2016 included the following: 1) British brands only, 2) comprehensive China coverage, 3) strong government support, 4) forum-and-festival format, 5) media exposure, 6) partnership with top e-commerce platform, 7) U.K. export boost, and 8) more to come in 2016. (December) Read more [here](#).



Chinese Ambassador to U.K. attends Huawei Winter Concert in London



Chinese Ambassador to the U.K. Liu Xiaoming spoke at CBI member Huawei's Winter Concert in London. In his remarks, Ambassador Liu congratulated Huawei for its work over the past 15 years in the research and

development of the high-speed broadband network in the U.K., making significant contributions to the local economy as well as Sino-U.K. bilateral business cooperation. Ambassador Liu also congratulated Huawei U.K. for its participation in President Xi Jinping's state visit to the U.K. in October. In addition, he commended Huawei U.K. for holding its sixth consecutive winter charity concert and continuing to give back to the local community. (December) Read more [here](#).

China Chamber of Commerce in U.K. holds first New Year reception



Chinese Ambassador to the U.K. Liu Xiaoming spoke at the very first New Year reception of the China Chamber of Commerce in the U.K. In September 2015, the China Enterprises Association in Britain was officially renamed as the China Chamber of Commerce in the U.K. (CCCUK). (December) Read more [here](#).

EBRD approves China membership application

The Board of Governors of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) approved a



request by the Chinese authorities for China to become a shareholder of the Bank. EBRD President Sir Suma Chakrabarti said, "China's membership of the EBRD will open up significant further opportunities for sustainable investment by Chinese groups in the regions where the EBRD works." In a letter applying for membership of the EBRD, People's Bank of China Governor Zhou Xiaochuan said the activities of the EBRD complemented efforts to support investment and economic connectivity in the regions which China is promoting as part of the One Belt and One Road Initiative. Mr. Zhou added, "China could greatly contribute to the EBRD as a transition bank by sharing our own experiences of transition and use the Bank as a vehicle to exchange experiences and lessons learned with the Bank's countries of operations." For its part, the EBRD sees a lot of scope for working with Chinese companies on projects in its

regions that meet the Bank's criteria for investment. There is scope for cooperation throughout the EBRD's regions of operation, ranging from central Asia to eastern Europe and North Africa. The EBRD has expressed its readiness to work with the new Beijing-based Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, including on joint projects. (December) Read more [here](#).

U.K. and Hong Kong sign MOU on health co-operation

On 15 October, the U.K. and Hong Kong signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on health co-



operation, which was witnessed by U.K. Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond and Hong Kong Chief Executive C Y Leung. The U.K. and Hong Kong have agreed to work together on healthcare policy, including on primary care systems, non-communicable diseases such as dementia, and the use of technology in healthcare as well as on healthcare protection, including antimicrobial resistance and the prevention and control of infectious diseases. Under the MOU, the U.K.

and Hong Kong will also share experience on the regulation of traditional medicines and exchange information and views on the design and development of new hospitals and the redevelopment of existing hospital facilities. British Consul General Caroline Wilson said, "The U.K. and Hong Kong share many of the same healthcare challenges, including those of a growing ageing population, the rise of non-communicable diseases such as dementia, and the need to improve primary care to reduce reliance on hospital care. We are pleased to have agreed this MOU with Hong Kong, which provides for greater co-operation on healthcare and related issues as we work to reform our respective healthcare systems."

(December) Read more [here](#).

U.K. IPO Chief Executive John Alty visits China



On 07-10 December, John Alty, Chief Executive of the Intellectual Property Office (IPO), led a delegation to China for a series of high-level bilateral meetings with his Chinese counterparts and to hold technical exchanges on a range of IP topics. Outcomes of the visit included:

- Agreement of 2016 bilateral cooperation workplans with the major Chinese IP agencies
- A package of cooperation on patents with the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO), including an agreement to renew the U.K.-China pilot Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) later in 2016, U.K. use of SIPO's Cloud Patent Examination System (CEPS) examiner tool, and a series of exchanges on topics including global worksharing and IP valuation methodologies

- A [Chinese-language factsheet](#) to help Chinese companies access information on international patent protection, produced by the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys (CIPA)
- The publication of a report on the [counterfeit goods trade in China and Southeast Asia](#)

Read more [here](#).

U.K. ratifies Articles of Agreement of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

On 03 December 2015, the U.K. became the first country from outside Asia and the first G7 member to ratify the Articles of Agreement of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). The Articles of Agreement act as the treaty at the heart of the new AIIB. Parliament has approved U.K. membership, and the U.K. deposited its formal instrument of ratification of the Articles of Agreement in Beijing. Once operational, the AIIB will support financing for infrastructure projects across Asia, using a variety of support measures—including loans, equity investments, and guarantees—to boost investment across a range of sectors, including transportation, energy, and telecommunications. The work of the AIIB will complement work already being done in the region by existing multilateral development banks, such as the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank. The U.K. was the first major Western country, and first G7 member, to announce its intention to join the AIIB in March 2015. The AIIB's investment will support economic growth and help drive up living standards in Asia which will benefit the global economy. U.K. membership will also build further links between the U.K. and the fast-growing Asian economies, creating opportunities for British companies. (December) Read more [here](#).

U.K. and China agree to promote cooperation on climate change risk assessment

At the Paris climate talks on 08 December, the U.K. Committee on Climate Change and the China National



Expert Committee on Climate Change, the two most prestigious advisory bodies to each country on climate change and energy issues, signed a Working Agreement. This project aims to improve the assessment of climate change risk and enhance the understanding of U.K. and Chinese government leaders as well as their policymaking bodies of the risks of climate change. In the Working Agreement, the two committees agreed to ongoing close cooperation on climate change risk assessment. This

includes identifying indicators of risks and carrying out cooperation and research in the following three areas: the pathways of global emissions, the direct risks faced by natural systems due to climate change, and the risks arising from the interaction of climate change with complex human systems. A high-level steering group will be formed to provide overall direction and guidance to the risk assessment process and to communicate the findings to top leaders of their own country. A work meeting will be co-organised by the two committees in January 2016 to bring experts from the U.K. and China to talk in detail on implementation of this agreement. (December) Read more [here](#).

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