

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

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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British Ambassador becomes Champion of Generation U.K.: China Network



MS BARBARA WOODWARD, CMG OBE,
BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND OFFICIAL
CHAMPION OF THE GENERATION UK-
CHINA NETWORK

British Ambassador to China Barbara Woodward was officially announced as the Champion of the British Council-run [Generation U.K.: China Network](#). Bringing together U.K. nationals with experience of China to support ongoing engagement with the country, the Network revolves around an interactive and events-focused LinkedIn group, for which the British Council aims to have 20,000 members by 2020. By engaging with the Network and its Leading Lights – established U.K. nationals who represent the forefront of their respective fields and have benefited from experience in China – members can develop their international skills, knowledge, and experience of China to best support their careers and the U.K.'s international competitiveness. As Champion of the Network, Ambassador Woodward will provide support in terms of raising awareness for the initiative and advocating for greater engagement, building trust and understanding of it, and making sure it lives up to its potential and ambitions. In addition, Ambassador Woodward will also attend and speak at some of the Network's high-level events and share insights with members. (May) Read more [here](#).

British Ambassador to China speaks at luncheon in Shanghai

On 28 April 2016, British Ambassador to China Barbara Woodward spoke at an exclusive luncheon in Shanghai, organised by the British Chamber Shanghai and the China-Britain Business Council (CBBC). Ambassador Woodward highlighted three major events in the coming months: the E.U.-China Business Summit in July, the G20 in Hangzhou in September (which includes a bilateral meeting between Prime Minister David Cameron and Premier Li Keqiang), and the 2016 U.K.-China Economic and Financial Dialogue (EFD) in London in the autumn. Commending the business community and the energy of the partnerships in Shanghai, Ambassador Woodward also stressed the opportunity to get involved and participate in the British Business Awards (BBA) 2016 in order to highlight achievements and celebrate British business success in China. For more information about the BBA or to apply for the awards, please visit www.britishbusinessawards.cn. (April) Read more [here](#) and [here](#).



British Council opens doors to interns for Internship Programme for China 2016

The British Council is opening its doors to interns for the Internship Programme for China 2016. This opportunity to work with the British Council's teams in Beijing will give interns the chance to experience work in a lively and international organisation performing key work. As part of their internship, they will be linked to one of the British Council's busiest business units, where they will have the chance to be involved

in important projects and initiatives, receiving guidance from a line manager and contributing towards the British Council's goal of enhancing educational opportunities and cultural relations. The application closing date is 15 June 2016. (May) Read more [here](#).

CBBC and HKTDC sign agreement to support U.K. companies

The China-Britain Business Council (CBBC) and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) began a new era of cooperation by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The signing came after the successful Belt and Road Summit in Hong Kong, organised by HKTDC, in which CBBC participated. The partnership seeks to leverage Hong Kong's strategic regional position as a commercial, financial, logistics, business services, and trade fairs capital in order to significantly increase the number of British companies that CBBC helps to make business connections and inroads into Hong Kong, mainland China, and other Asia-Pacific markets. The MOU will incorporate high-value infrastructure projects as well as prioritise a number of key sectors, including creative and design, education and training, green and environmental technology, financial and professional services, food and drink, logistics and maritime services, life science, and retail and luxury. Both organisations will put together promotional programmes and outreach events, such as trade missions, road shows, webinars, and seminars. These will update British companies on business opportunities under the Belt and Road initiative in mainland China and other Asia-Pacific markets and promote Hong Kong as a commercial hub for British companies that wish to expand their business in Hong Kong, in mainland China, and in the broader Asia-Pacific region. (May) Read more [here](#).



CBBC leads group of U.K. companies on visit to three cities in southern China



On 09-10 May, Stephen Phillips, Chief Executive of the China-Britain Business Council (CBBC), and CBBC Executive Director Jeff Astle led a diverse group of U.K. companies to Fuzhou and Xiamen in Fujian province in southern China, discussing opportunities with the Vice-Governor of Fujian and the Vice-Mayor

of Xiamen, particularly in retail and professional services. The visit took in a tour of the new pilot free trade zone in Fuzhou, where CBBC has opened a new desk and a U.K. Brand Pavilion. On 12 May, Jeff Astle led a further U.K. group to Shenzhen in Guangdong province. (May) Read more [here](#).

CBBC presents China-Britain Belt and Road Case Studies Report 2016

In collaboration with Tsinghua University, the China-Britain Business Council (CBBC) presented a new report, the China-Britain Belt and Road Case Studies Report 2016: Global Partnerships in Action, which uses real examples of China-U.K. cooperation in order to bring to life the true potential of the Belt and Road. The report lists 21 examples of U.K.-China cooperation in Europe (U.K., Romania, Russia), the Middle East (Iraq), Asia (Pakistan, Bangladesh, China, Indonesia) and Africa (Nigeria, Tanzania) on projects worth more than US\$27billion. It includes case studies from some of the U.K.'s most renowned companies, such as HSBC, BP, LME, Linklaters, and KPMG – demonstrating the complementarity of U.K. and Chinese expertise across the globe. As this report demonstrates, partnerships between British and Chinese companies, playing to their unique strengths, are already shining examples of cooperation along the Belt and Road. (May) Read more [here](#).



CBBC releases Made in China 2025 report

The China-Britain Business Council (CBBC) released its new report “Made in China 2025: China Manufacturing in the 21st Century”, compiled with the support of U.K. Trade and Investment (UKTI). The CBBC and UKTI were joined by Chinese government partners and leading British and Chinese companies at events in Beijing and Shanghai to discuss the implications of the Made in China 2025 plan. The Made in China 2025 report focuses on 10 priority sectors for China, highlighting areas of opportunity for U.K. companies. The sectors include advanced rail and equipment, aviation and aerospace equipment, agricultural machinery and technology, power equipment and technology, low and new-energy vehicles, new materials, high-end manufacturing control equipment and robotics, biopharmaceuticals and high-end medical equipment, advanced marine equipment and high-tech vessels, and integrated circuits and new generation information technology. In Beijing, Kirk Wilson, Executive Director of the CBBC, presented the report to companies and media at the British Ambassador’s Residence. (May) Read more [here](#) and [here](#).



CBBC establishes U.K. Brand Pavilion and CBBC desk in Fuzhou Free Trade Zone



The China-Britain Business Council (CBBC) established a presence in its 15th location in China with the official opening of its new Fujian desk and a U.K. Brand Pavilion within the Fuzhou Pilot Free Trade Zone. The U.K. Brand Pavilion, located in a new 'International Brand Exhibition Centre for 21st Century Maritime Silk Road Countries', enables U.K. companies to showcase their brands, products, and services and expand further into China with the support of the CBBC's business advisors, local partners, and government contacts. (May) Read more [here](#).

China chooses London for its first ever sovereign RMB bond issued outside China

China chose London for its first ever sovereign Renminbi (RMB) bond issued outside of China, underlining London's status as the leading western RMB hub and a leading global financial centre. Issued in London by the Chinese government, the bond is worth RMB 3 billion (approximately £300 million). The issuance cements London's position as the leading western RMB hub and reinforces the UK's ever-strengthening economic and financial relationship with China. (May) Read more [here](#).

China hosts Women-20 (W20) in Xi'an

On 24-25 May, the Chinese government hosted Women-20 (W20) in Xi'an – a fully-fledged G20 outreach



group launched during the Turkish Presidency of the G20 in 2015 to focus on promoting gender-inclusive economic growth. The W20 harnessed support to increase women's participation in the global economy and greater prosperity in the world. As reported by McKinsey, realising gender equality could add an extra US\$12 billion to global GDP by 2025. This year marked the launch of Inspiring Women in China, which connects schools and colleges with employers and the world of work. Volunteers, from Apprentices to CEOs, pledge just one hour a year to volunteer to talk to young people

about their job and career route. Started in the U.K. in 2013, the purpose is to raise aspirations and break down gender stereotypes around career choices among even quite young children. Led by the British Council, volunteers are signing up to speak to students across the country. The Chinese patron of Inspiring Women is Ms. Yang Lan, who runs a major media group and has a network of 200 million followers, while

the U.K. patron is British Ambassador to China Barbara Woodward. To register for the Inspiring Women programme, please email InspiringWomen@britishcouncil.org.cn.



Commenting on the W20, British Ambassador to China Barbara Woodward said, “The W20 in China provides a unique opportunity to renew our collective commitment to women’s equality and achievement. Supporting the Inspiring Women programme is one avenue through which we can do that. I would encourage people to sign-up and give just one hour of their time to help break down gender stereotypes for young women.”

Clare Pearson, Chair of the British Chamber of Commerce in China, said, “The W20 is a great opportunity to promote gender inclusive growth, engage the G20 leaders on gender equality, and monitor progress on the target to reduce the labour force gender gap by 25% by 2025. Evidence shows that if women were fully integrated into the economy, economic growth would be increased worldwide. I am keen to support initiatives such as Inspiring Women, which encourage women’s economic empowerment and break down stereotypes of women’s roles.

Read more [here](#).

China moves into U.K.’s top 10 most valuable inbound visit markets

VisitBritain announced that records were set in 2015 for inbound visits, with strong growth from Britain’s major inbound markets, including the U.S. and Europe, and double-digit growth from newer markets China and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The latest figures from the Office for National Statistics show stellar growth from China, with visits up 46% on 2014 to 270,000 and spend up 18% to £586 million, moving China into the U.K.’s top 10 most valuable inbound markets. U.K. Tourism Minister David Evennett said, “Our tourism industry is world-class, and these impressive figures show that our nations and regions are increasingly benefitting from this thriving sector. Britain boasts some of the best attractions in the world and drawing more visitors in from key markets like China and the U.S. is fantastic news for the whole country and shows our tourism strategy is working.” VisitBritain Director Patricia Yates said, “Tourism is a fiercely competitive global industry so it is fantastic to see Britain competing strongly in our most valuable source



markets such as the U.S. as well as in the markets that are crucial for our future such as China. Our innovative digital marketing campaign using the hashtag #OMGB continues to drive tourism across our nations and regions, spreading its economic benefits across the U.K. (May) Read more [here](#).

Chinese Ambassador to U.K. speaks at briefing of AMR review final report

Chinese Ambassador to the U.K. Liu Xiaoming spoke at the briefing of the Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)



review final report in London. In his remarks, Ambassador Liu said, “At present, China and the U.K. are engaged in close exchanges and cooperation in tackling AMR. This includes policy consultations, training programmes, public education, and R&D of new drugs. Through our co-established platform of the Newton Fund, our two governments have jointly pledged a total of £9 million to support scientists from both countries to cooperate on relevant research. The first projects are now under evaluation by the National Natural Science Foundation of

China and the Research Councils U.K. China is going to host the G20 summit in September. Currently, China and the U.K. are coordinating with other member countries on an expert-level with regard to how the G20 would respond to tackling this global challenge.” (May) Read more [here](#).

Chinese Ambassador to U.K. speaks at Cyber 2016 at Chatham House



Chinese Ambassador to the U.K. Liu Xiaoming spoke at Cyber 2016 at Chatham House, where he discussed China and the Internet, cyberspace governance in China, and China’s cooperation with the world on cyber-security. (May) Read more [here](#).

EIB and AIIB agree to strengthen cooperation

The European Investment Bank (EIB) and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) agreed to broaden cooperation to support investment in strategically important projects, seek to jointly finance projects, and increase cooperation in countries where both institutions are active. The EIB and the AIIB have already established a strong track record of cooperation, including through the sharing of technical and financial

expertise. The new framework, which was signed by AIIB President Jin Liqun and EIB President Werner Hoyer at the AIIB's headquarters in Beijing, will build on this cooperation, including through streamlining the joint financing of projects and ensuring regular dialogue between the two institutions. (May) Read more [here](#).

European Chamber invites experts to join E.U.-China Aviation Partnership Project

The E.U. Chamber of Commerce in China is inviting experts to join the talent pool for the E.U.-China Aviation Partnership Project (APP). The APP was launched in February in Beijing. This project is funded by the Partnership Instrument of the E.U. and supported by the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC). On the European side, it is implemented by the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) working together with the European Chamber as the local implementing partner. Opening a new chapter in E.U.-China aviation relations, this five-year, €10 million project will link technical cooperation with policy dialogue between the European and Chinese aviation authorities. The E.U.-China APP will focus on seven areas of mutual interest. Dedicated activities will be implemented in these areas, including regulatory cooperation, safety promotion exercises, workshops, training, and technical exchanges. The areas are as follows: aviation safety and security, general aviation, air traffic management/air navigation services and airports, airworthiness, environmental protection, economic policy and regulation, and legislation and law enforcement. The E.U.-China APP will be a great opportunity for experts from industry, associations, consultancies, and other organisations to bring together their expertise, techniques, programmes, or models that serve to strengthen the mutual interest of E.U.-China aviation relations, as well as to establish partnerships with European and Chinese aviation authorities. The Aviation and Aerospace Working Group welcomes corporate and individual applications to be included in the talent pool for the E.U.-China APP. (May) Read more [here](#).

European Chamber meets with WIPO and SIPA

The E.U. Chamber of Commerce in China met with the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) and the Shanghai Intellectual Property Association (SIPA) to jointly discuss the planning of the 13th Shanghai International IP Conference. The conference, which is set to take place in November, is Shanghai's key IP event, held annually to promote public awareness of IP and create a platform for best practice sharing in IP enforcement among government officials and industry professionals alike. SIPA, WIPO, and the European Chamber reflected on their collaboration on past editions of the Shanghai International IP Conference and reiterated their continued commitment to enhancing international awareness for intellectual property rights. (May) Read more [here](#).



E.U. and China collaborate on biodiversity protection

The E.U. Delegation to China launched a new action on Innovative Funding Mechanisms (IFM) for biodiversity protection in China., a one-year project funded under the E.U.'s Partnership Instrument to

exchange experiences between China and Europe. The action will provide meaningful and relevant inputs to the forthcoming Convention on Biological Diversity Conference of the Parties that will be held in Cancun on 04-17 December 2016. The kick-off seminar took place at the Institute of Geography and Resources of the Chinese Academy of Science and boasted the presence of several international and Chinese experts. It was followed up by an experts' meeting on the same topic with the objective to deepen the discussion on how to mobilise resources to support biodiversity and ecosystems services in the region. (May) Read more [here](#).

New U.K. visa centres to open in Changsha, Kunming, and Xi'an

U.K. Visas and Immigration (UKVI) announced that the U.K. is set to extend its network of visa application centres in China from 12 to 15 in anticipation of record demand this year. The new centres will be located in Changsha, Kunming, and Xi'an and will start welcoming applicants from June 2016. The three new centres will be ideally located to improve the service's geographical presence and make it even more accessible to as many Chinese people as possible. They will offer many of the premium services available elsewhere, including the popular 3-5 day priority visa service. The U.K.'s commitment to expand the network was announced by Prime Minister David Cameron during President Xi Jinping's U.K. state visit in October. The U.K. is also enlarging its existing visa application centres in Beijing and Guangzhou in preparation for the peak application period. The launch dates of the new centres are as follows: 10 June (Xi'an), 15 June (Kunming), and 01 July (Changsha). Customers applying online will be able to book appointments at the new centres from the beginning of June. (May) Read more [here](#).

Scottish Development International appoints new Head of Greater China

David Leven was appointed as the new Head of Greater China for Scottish Development International (SDI), based in Shanghai. He took up the new post at the beginning of April after Mark Dolan, who led the SDI team in Greater China for the past three years, relocated back to Scotland. In his role as Head of Greater China for SDI, David will develop trade and investment activity between Scotland and Greater China and manage SDI's operations in Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. (May) Read more [here](#).

U.K.-China IP Forum held in Shenzhen

On 29 April 2016, the U.K.-China (Shenzhen) Intellectual Property (IP) Forum was held in Shenzhen,



organised by the China-Britain Business Council (CBBC) and the British Chamber of Commerce Guangdong and hosted by the British Consulate-General Guangzhou, the U.K. Intellectual Property Office, the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (Shenzhen Sub-Council), and the Guangdong Innovative Talents Promotion Association. Shenzhen was chosen for this year's forum for its status as one of China's most innovative cities – it has recorded the highest number of patent applications in China for 11 consecutive years. The programme was

also designed to reflect the growing two-way nature of IP protection: traditionally it has been foreign companies calling for stronger oversight, whereas now more and more Chinese companies are calling for the same as they seek to move up the value chain and need to protect their brands and products at home and overseas. The forum therefore covered topics directed at both U.K. companies in China and Chinese companies going global. Participants and speakers represented a cross-section of the British and Chinese governments, industry, and legal firms. The forum was moderated by Tom Duke, the U.K. IP Attaché to China at the British Embassy in Beijing. (April) Read more [here](#).

U.K.-China Manufacturing Conference held in Guangzhou

On 19 May 2016, the U.K.-China Manufacturing Conference was held in Guangzhou. The event



incorporated the launch of the China-Britain Business Council's (CBBC) new report, *Made in China 2025: Opportunities for U.K.-China Partnership*, and looked at the theme of 'Accelerating MIC 2025'. The event was organised by CBBC and the Guangdong Board of Investment Promotion and sponsored by the Department of Commerce of Guangdong province with support from the British Consulate-General in Guangzhou, U.K. Trade and Investment (UKTI), and the Lancaster China Catalyst Programme. (May) Read more [here](#).

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