

# Overview of Sino-Swiss Dialogue

## Origins and Highlights

When meeting with Swiss President Ueli Maurer on July 18, 2013, President Xi Jinping of China indicated that “Guizhou’s geographical and natural condition is similar to Swiss. I hope both sides will strengthen exchanges and cooperation in the construction of ecological civilization and mountain economy, so as to achieve a better, faster development”. Mr. Xi Jinping’s remarks started a new chapter of cooperation between Switzerland and Guizhou Province. On July 20, Mr Maurer led a delegation to Eco-Forum Global (EFG) 2013 and addressed the sub-forum “Dialogue between Switzerland and Guizhou”.

There were three rounds of dialogue, and more than 10 specialists and entrepreneurs from Switzerland and China shared the experience of Switzerland and discussed the future path of Guizhou on “sustainable and balanced development needs core policy support”, “strategies for sustainable development in rural areas”, and “urban and rural areas realize harmonious co-prosperity”. Four experts in Zurich also presented in the discussion through live satellite connection, which made the event a spiritual and cultural feast across time and countries.



Fig. 1: Dialogue between Guizhou and Switzerland



Fig. 2: Moderator - Mr. Long Yongtu



Fig. 3: 瑞士联邦主席毛雷尔致辞



Fig. 4: Dr. Josef Hess, Vice Director of FEON



Fig. 5: Mr. Xu Kuangdi, Former Dean of CAE

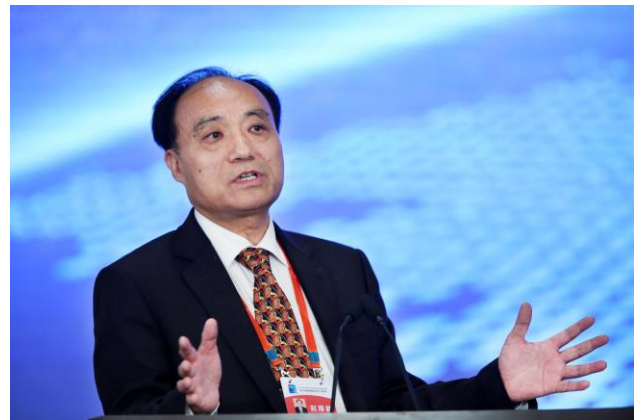


Fig. 6: Mr. Zhao Houlin, Deputy Secretary-General of ITU



Fig. 7: Mr. Robert Wiest, Former Vice President, China of Swiss Re



Fig. 8: Christian Schmid, EVP Technical at Nestle China

The dialogue with Switzerland continued in EFG 2014 and the theme was “Sino-Swiss Dialogue: Mountainous Economy, Green Development”. Due to concerns and participation of both sides, the dialogue was much more marvelous and a great success. Prior to the event, Guizhou Radio and Television went to Switzerland to make featured stories such as “Hello Switzerland” and “Dialogue between Mountains”. These elaborate programs show elegances of Switzerland to people of Guizhou. Four parallel panels were employed, centering on enhancing Sino-Swiss trade partnerships, to explore the ways to build Guizhou to be the "Oriental Switzerland". The topics covered the application of clean technologies, the sustainable development of eco-tourism, eco-civilization construction and industrial development and prospective for the Sino-Swiss FTA. Swiss artists also presented interesting and attractive Swiss folk music performance.

At the closing session, a Sino-Swiss agreement - *Mountain Economy and the Construction of Ecological Civilization Consensus* on enhancing mountainous economy and green development is announced, which highlights the efforts and achievements in a more humanized and sustainable way of developments.



Fig. 9: Opening session of Sino-Swiss Dialogue 2014



Fig. 10: Swiss folk music performance



Fig. 11: Governor Chen Min'er talk with Mr. German



Fig. 12: Panel1 - Role of the Cleantech SMEs for the development of small & middle size municipalities



Fig. 13: Panel 2 - Eco-tourism as a main driver for sustainable development in mountainous area



Fig. 14: Panel 3 - Building eco-civilization and industrial development



Fig. 15: Panel 4 - Potential and prospective cooperation for the FTA

## Sino-Swiss Dialogue 2015

### Topics & Speakers

#### Moderator:

Mr. LONG Yongtu, Member of the International Advisory Committee of the Boao Forum for Asia, Former Chief negotiator and Vice Minister of former MOFTEC

Sino-Swiss Dialogue 2015 will still adopt the theme of "Mountainous Economy, Green Development" and focus on topics of environmental protection and business cooperation. Apart from main sub-forum in the afternoon of June 26<sup>th</sup>, a B2B meeting will be held in the afternoon of June 27<sup>th</sup> by the Department of Commerce of Guizhou and CCPIT Guizhou; and a two-days seminar on Ecological Footprint Study of Guizhou will be co-organized by the Department of Environmental Protection of Guizhou, the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) and Global Footprint Network.

Discussion on environmental aspects will concentrate on the study of ecological capacity and footprint of Guizhou Province so as to understand the resources and environment of Guizhou by using the international standard of ecological footprint, and then green development targets will be set to provide decision reference to governments of different levels on how to make efficient use of existing natural resources. Swiss successful

experience from this angel will be recommended in the development of mountainous economy (efficient agriculture, intensive industries, high-end manufacturing, featured green tourism, etc.). Speakers will come from the FOEN, the Global Footprint Network and the academy of Chinese environmental sciences

Keynote speakers on business aspects include Dr. Thomas Wagner (President of Sino-Swiss Association), economic or business counselor of Swiss Embassy, a representative from Swiss company invested in Guizhou, who will share their close knowledge on topics such as the cooperation achievements between Guizhou and Switzerland, opportunities of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, green investment, and why investing in Guizhou, etc.

*(Note: keynote speakers and topics will be finally decided soon)*

## Agenda

1. Introduction of VIP guests by the Moderator, Mr. Long Yongtu;
2. Address by the officer from the Swiss Federal Government;
3. Address by the (Vice) Minister from Ministry of Commerce of China or Ministry of Environment Protection of China;
4. Speech by Mr. Chen Min'er, Governor of Guizhou Province;
5. Keynote speeches;
6. Signing ceremony of Swiss-Guizhou cooperative projects;
7. Conclusion and closing speech by the Moderator.