



## 2015 China-Europa Forum

### 《Facing Climate Change: Rethinking Our Global Development Model, Act II》

And

### "China-EU Green Platform" Activities

1 – 5 December 2015

In response to climate change and in order to strengthen the dialogue of European and Chinese cooperation and exchanges concerning green energy and the circular economy, more than 100 European and Chinese delegates attended a satellite meeting titled “Facing Climate Change: Rethinking Our Global Development Model, Act II”. This took place at the Climate Generation Area, Le Bourget, on December 1 and was jointly organised by the China-Europa Forum (CEF), the Vanke Group, SEE Conservation, Entreprises pour l’Environnement (EpE) and the European Committee of the Regions within the framework of the UN Climate Summit (COP21) in Paris.

In the evening the China-Europa Forum, the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI) and Paris Sciences Po, held a joint seminar at Sciences Po where Mr WANG Shi, Chairman of the Vanke Group, delivered a keynote speech entitled "China Enterprise Carbon Path".

The difference with the “2014 Climate Change Conference” organised in Paris by the China-Europa Forum was that the satellite meeting focused on business contacts and exchanges between the two sides. Nearly 100 Chinese entrepreneurs from Vanke Group, SEE Conservation and Guangzhou Sun Yat-Sen University’s low-carbon course attended the event. From the point of view of participation of Chinese civil society in the United Nations climate summit, the scale of Chinese private enterprises at the 2015 Climate Change summit was a record and marked a major upgrade of Chinese enterprises joining international activities in the face of climate change.

The satellite meeting also launched a series of 2015 "China-Europe Green Platform" activities. From December 1 to 5, with the support of the French Entreprises pour l'Environnement (EpE) and the Belgian Chinese Chamber of Commerce, the China-Europa Forum organised in both Paris and Brussels a series of business-to-business activities and field visits to ecology parks and green-energy sites with the objective of promoting close exchanges between Chinese and EU entrepreneurs in their common efforts for the transition to sustainable societies.

## Part I - China-Europe Climate Satellite Meeting (1 December 2015, Paris)

The satellite meeting was held on December 1 from 3 pm to 6 pm and included four sessions: The opening session; Facing Climate Change – presenting The Common Text; a thematic panel on environmental legislation and the circular economy for a transition towards sustainable societies; and the China-Europe Green Award ceremony. Time was limited and all sessions were kept compact. The meeting room was full with the aisles and entrance hall packed as well. The occasion was a popular one throughout.

The following summary contains extracts from each session.



### The Opening Session: Joining Forces to Address Global Environmental Challenges

#### ✧ Arab Hoballah, Chief of Sustainable Lifestyles, Cities and Industry, UNEP

"Resource-efficient cities are key drivers for climate mitigation...

**Mitigation and adaptation to climate change require serious attention to the promoting and scaling up of resource efficiency in all sectors and all countries. Energy transition will be the result of a mix of actions of which energy efficiency is a large part. Indeed, abatement of the greenhouse gases (GHGs) that cause global warming and climate change can be achieved by: a) using energy more efficiently; b) by**

**shifting to means of energy supply that cause fewer emissions; c) by better management of biomass resources to reduce emissions where they occur and to create sinks for carbon where possible; d) by changing behaviour towards lower-energy lifestyles. All of these changes in the sources and use of energy can make a fundamental contribution to the achievement of patterns of sustainable consumption and production (SCP)."**

Regarding the respective critical roles of China and Europe in facing the CC challenges, he said: **"At the time when all are looking to China to reduce climate challenges, it is great to see so many Chinese companies committed to promoting sustainability and looking for solutions in the context of sustainable lifestyles and societies."**



#### ✧ **WANG Shi, Chairman of the Board of the Vanke Group, China**

Mr Wang spoke of his experience of twice attending the China-Europa Forum, saying "the role of China's NGOs and enterprises is increasingly prominent in the climate change summit. In connecting China and the international community they have played a very active role."



#### ✧ **Michel Lebrun, Former President of the European Committee of the Regions, Member of the ENVE Commission and Rapporteur on Resource-Efficient Europe**

"Climate change is one of the greatest threats of our time. This challenge cannot be resolved by acting alone... China and Europe are the world's largest trading partners and they should also join forces to address global environmental challenges together. **This conference and our partnership are useful in this endeavour.**"

He indicated that **cooperation with the China-Europa Forum was extremely valued and represented the willingness of European and Chinese cities to build ties and cooperation together in order to build a more sustainable world addressing the important challenges relating to economic development, climate change and environmental issues.**

**"We, the cities of China and Europe, will work together to build strong ties and cooperation on climate, economic development and the environment. We are ready for it.** My hope is that negotiators will take our partnership as a best practice and understand that we must be integrated into the COP agreement as we are together ready to shift to more sustainable models of development... **At the Committee of the Regions we are strongly committed to deepening our partnership with the China-Europa Forum.** We want to further build dialogue and trust between our two sides of the world."



#### ✧ **WANG Zhenyao, Director of the China Philanthropy Research Institute**

"Does the 2015 UN Climate Summit (COP21) mean the arrival of a major turning point in human civilisation? A decade ago NGOs, enterprises and thinkers were already having to appeal to governments to maintain the urgency of the fight against climate change. Now governments, civilian organisations, enterprises and thinkers have formed an active dialogue and cooperation model..."

"This is a turning point for our entire political, economic and social civilisation. No significant differences in civilisation are arriving. When this time comes are we ready? Do we have a clear idea of how to guide the emergence of a new civilisation? I believe there is a need to prepare the idea across three aspects: First, the executive structure; is that to be established upwards? When leaders reach an overall consensus, the social organisations, enterprises and thinkers also need reconstruction."



Second, the cross-border challenge is beginning; do we already prepare more cooperation projects? Not only those between governments, but how many cooperation projects are to be established between civil organisations, enterprises and thinkers? Third, with the arrival of a new civilisation, are we ready for a wide range of interpretations and the formation of a new ideology?"

#### ✧ Claire Tutenuit, General Delegate at Entreprises pour l'Environnement (EpE)



**"What we need is to do is get to zero net emissions before the end of this century.** The entire world will need to emit basically zero or to compensate for what they have left as emissions. This is a **real change in the development model and an industrial change of unprecedented speed and magnitude."**

She stated that the industrial world needed greater performance in low carbon, in efficiency, in innovation than ever before. This was true across all sectors: industry, mobility, agriculture and forestry, building, energy... "We need both efficiency and innovation... We all

need cooperation; **there is no single solution that can be developed without taking into account the progress that is made in other sectors.** I think the **real-estate sector** is one of the best examples - in energy management, in the way buildings are constructed and also in the way these are connected with cities, and how mobility will act.

She recommended the following keys to success:

- 1) **Commitment and cooperation between sectors, actors and regions**
- 2) **Innovation and technology: new sources of energy, new storage (i.e. carbon capture and storage), carbon re-use.**
- 3) **Tools for making efficient decisions: carbon pricing and regulation.** We will not nail decarbonisation without carbon pricing.
- 4) **Consumer/citizen support for climate policies: we need climate alliance.** COP21 is the occasion for building a world alliance.

#### ✧ Michèle Pappalardo, Federator Vivapolis

"The city, where most CO2 emissions are produced (75% to 80% of GHG according to the IPCC) must change its model – without the city we can not fight effectively... Vivapolis works together with China in three cities - Shenyang, Wuhan and Chengdu. I am very confident about the prospects for cooperation in all aspects of the sustainable city: mobility, air, water, construction, organisation of the city."

The Vivapolis Town has the four following characteristics:

- 1) It puts people at the heart of a project, offering them the best living conditions and making the city attractive: health, mobility, activities, services, etc.
- 2) It is very efficient and therefore competitive. It is sober in use of natural resources, including through integration of the various functions of the city. It is "green" and "intelligent"





3) It has strong governance, both participatory and cross

4) This is not a "model" but a process. It adapts to geographical, climatic, cultural, historical and economic aspects.

#### ✧ **TONG Shumeng, Chairman of the Board, Beijing Oriental Patek Investment Co., Ltd**

"As we know the problem of climate change is not only an environmental issue but also a social and political issue. It is a very complex and very large problem. We need to reach a consensus with all parties to resolve this. We believe that, in addressing climate change, cooperation between governments, business, media, NGOs, international organisations and the public needs to be built. The China-Europa Forum is undoubtedly a very good platform... We think that the new year will be an important one in improving China's environment. The Chinese Government's "12th Five-Year Plan" marked a decision to invest two trillion yuan each year in environmental protection and sustainable development. This means that a total of 10 trillion yuan is to be used in environmental protection and sustainable development. This is a very good opportunity. We will mobilise more enterprises and more forces to contribute to sustainable development."



#### ✧ **Denez l'Hostis, President of France Nature Environment (FNE)**

- The place and role of civil society and civilian organisations: There will be no success if the entire population is not associated with this energy revolution and ecological transition because success is dependent on our daily habits and behaviour.
- We do not believe that technological innovation can solve everything. We call for a greater effort by both China and Europa to play an important role. One year ago I said at the December conference in Paris that China was not the problem but the solution. China has the capacity to show a positive path to the world. That may still take some years, but positive elements are present.
- Finally, we believe that the development of the carbon market in China is extremely positive and that France would do well to learn from the development of this. It has already taken some decisions regarding a higher cost of carbon.



### 🌍 **Facing Climate Change – Session Presenting The Common Text**

How should we face climate change? At the session in which The Common Text was presented the China-Europa Forum, China Urban Realty Association, Jia Cui Environmental Promotive Centre/UNEP, and SEE Conservation outlined their proposals for confronting Climate Change.

## ➤ «The Common Text» presented by the China-Europa Forum

The Common Text was circulated for the first time to all partners of the 4<sup>th</sup> China-Europa Forum in February 2015. The drafting, revising, panel discussions and online discussions through to the definition of The Common Text has taken more than a year. From 2 to 5 December 2014, the China-Europa Forum, bringing together representatives of Chinese and European civilian organisations in Paris, Geneva, Brussels, Lyons, Marseilles, Rouen, Lille and other European cities, organised 12 thematic workshops in response to the challenges of climate change. These provided for systematic analysis of important fields relating to sustainable development, the strengthening of common approaches on 12 themes, and the amendment and enriching of The Common Text.



### The Common Text is divided into two parts

1. **Position and Responsibilities:** This chapter calls for a fresh China-Europe dialogue in order to enter a new era in the fight against climate change, for each to accept historical differences in their respective development paths, to rethink this development model and transform it, to act as responsible partners and to initiate on a global scale a transition to a sustainable society.
2. **Joint Initiatives:** This chapter presents a series of initiatives covering European and Chinese civil societies, citizen responsibility, corporate responsibility, NGO responsibilities and city planners. It calls:
  - On Chinese and European citizens to mobilise in order to reduce their energy consumption and individual carbon footprints in professional and domestic life
  - For each family to engage in a low-carbon lifestyle to the extent of its means
  - For governments to put in place legal and financial frameworks in order to encourage companies to mobilise for a low-carbon sustainable society
  - For the strengthening of cooperation between Chinese and European entrepreneurs in projects which fight against climate change
  - For the adoption of a development strategy for our businesses with the long-term focus on reducing energy consumption and the associated carbon footprint
  - For commitment to investing more in reducing unsustainable consumption levels, and in technology and low-carbon innovations that lead to job creation and sustainable solutions
  - For active involvement in all programmes relating to the mitigation and adaptation of climate change and the implementation of CSR policies
  - For the creation of platforms for dialogue on renewable energy in order to establish common objectives for the development of a circular economy
  - For cities, local authorities and regional authorities to be recognised for their role in the transition to a sustainable model of life and sustainable society
  - For law and a climate and environment justice system to be developed internationally considering protection of the environment as having a matrix value aimed at ensuring the integrity of the planet

- For the development of a statement of worldwide citizen responsibility based on international law.

The leaders of the Chinese version of The Common Text (**Zhou Yongzhang**, Director of the Guangzhou Centre for Research on Resources and Environment of the Earth at Sun Yat-sen University; **ZHENG Baowei**, Director of the Research Centre for Journalism and Social Development at Renming University of China and the China Centre for Climate Change Communication; **HUANG Haoming**, Deputy Board Chairman and Secretary-General of the China Association for NGO Cooperation) and **Nicolas Imbert**, Director of Green Cross France and Territories, gave a short introduction and presented their shared experiences concerning the drafting, listening, exchanges and discussions, and the diversified participation of the final version of The Common Text.

### ➤ China Urban Realty Association White Paper

**Li Jie**, Secretary-General of the China Urban Realty Association, introduced the development practices of real-estate developers in the China Urban Realty Association over a period of 16 years. The association currently has 64 enterprises members, she said.



"In order to address climate change the China Urban Realty Association endeavours to explore the development strategy of the green low-carbon town, to promote green building and to build green communities while leading the industrial chain, green development and smart community. Today we have launched the "China Urban Development enterprise green low-carbon development strategy." The research goals of the White Paper include: Review of green low-carbon development processes and excellent green participation cases; defining the company's low-carbon development path and core principles; and proposing green urbanisation initiatives to government, enterprises and the public. The green core principles of corporate development include four points: To promote green building; to build green communities; to lead the whole industry chain for green development; and systematic smart management.

### ➤ UNEP Text - The Sustainable Cities and Communities Guidelines (Overview)

In November 2009 a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Jia Cui (China) Environmental Promotive Centre (JCEP) was signed in order to establish and cooperate in the undertaking of the "Sustainable Urban Development and Liveable Garden Community China Programme" (SUC). The "SUC Global Initiative for Resource-Efficient Cities China Programme" was officially launched in January 2015.

This "Draft Framework for Guidelines for Sustainable Cities and Communities" was developed in accordance with the MOU and cooperative agreement between UNEP and JCEP/JCIM. This document focuses on producing guidance on sustainable



development of cities and communities relating to developing countries. In an early phase Chinese cities and communities are taken as a reference for developing the guidelines.

The SUC guidelines consist of three sections: “SUC Evaluation Criteria”, “SUC Management System” and “SUC Technical Guidelines”. The simple framework of “Evaluation Criteria” was to be completed by July 2015; “Management System” and “Technical Guidelines” would be further developed from June 2015. The full SUC Guidelines will be completed and published by December 2017 and be upgraded and improved afterwards.

“SUC Evaluation Criteria” is divided into Evaluation Criteria for Sustainable Cities and Evaluation Criteria for Sustainable Communities. The cities criteria cover nine first-level KPIs (Safe and Affordable Cities, Transportation and Accessibility, Land Use Efficiency, Cultural and Natural Heritage, City Resilience, Healthy Eco-Environment, Safe and Sustainable Public Spaces, Resource Efficiency, City Management and Policy) and 30 secondary indicators. The communities criteria cover six first-level KPIs (Sustainable Buildings, Inclusive Community Facilities and Services, Liveable Community Landscapes, Economic Productivity, Safety, Proud and Educated Community) and 20 secondary indicators.

This document focuses on releasing first-level and secondary indicators as well as descriptions of secondary indicators. Some third-level indicators have been developed. SUC MS and TG will be developed in a later phase of the programme.

The full version of SUC Evaluation Criteria, Management System and Technical Guidelines will be completed and published globally by the end of 2017.

### ➤ SEE Text: «China’s Enterprises Declaration on Promoting Innovations for Sustainability»

#### ZHOU Zhou, Chairman of the Board, Tico Group

"The SEE Conservation’s entrepreneur members fully appreciate the necessity and urgency of Chinese enterprises’ responsibilities and objectives for sustainable development. Based on the 17 objectives of the United Nations we have defined the influence and role of entrepreneurs and corporates in sustainable development and jointly drafted the **"Beijing Business Sustainability Declaration"** which outlines from six different emphases the direction of a future sustainable development strategy for Chinese entrepreneurs. On 6 November 2015 the "Beijing Declaration" was officially launched and entrepreneurs members signed it as a positive and supportive response."

#### “Beijing Business Sustainability Declaration”

- We recognise that promoting sustainable development is vital to improving human well-being and should be given due consideration by all countries and economic entities. We acknowledge that it means both opportunities and challenges to the private sector and are willing to take on the challenges. We emphasise the need to integrate social, economic and environmental considerations into our business decision-making processes to maximise the opportunities.





- We understand that sustainable economic growth in developing countries, including China, is important to the world economy and sustainability agenda. We endeavour to boost sustainable industrialisation and urbanisation throughout our business practices in China and across the world.
- We are committed to ending poverty, increasing employment and providing lifelong learning opportunities. We aim to achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation. Meanwhile we encourage and welcome government efforts to deliver more sustainability-oriented policies that support green activities, socially inclusive job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation.
- We strive to improve resource efficiency in production and consumption to dissociate economic growth from environmental degradation, with effective resource use and energy efficiency, a greater share of renewable energy and adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies. We will also leverage our supply chain and customers to reduce the ecological footprints of our products and services throughout a product's entire lifecycle.
- We are concerned about climate change and its damage to the world. We call on businesses from different countries to take innovative actions to address this global challenge. We urge all governments to accelerate the development of effective and favourable global climate policy frameworks to support and facilitate low-carbon business efforts.
- We acknowledge the importance of the public-private partnership in promoting sustainable development and commit to working with governments and civil society to create inclusive, equitable, economically productive and robust societies.

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## 🌍 Thematic panel: Environmental Legislation and the Circular Economy for a Transition Towards Sustainable Societies (Extracts)

**Yvan Razafindratandra**, lawyer at the Paris Bar (Cabinet Phusix) and moderator of the thematic panel, introduced the session. "On the one hand the linear economy uses and wastes a lot of resources and energy from nature's reserves. On the other, the ambition of the circular economy is to restrict extraction, use resources and energy in a smart way and limit rejection... In Europe and in China, from a legal point of view, the turning point has been taken at the same time. In China the law on the circular economy was adopted on 29 August 2008. In France the directive of 18 November 2008 has rebuilt the regime regarding waste management. The Chinese and European approaches are a little different, particularly because the field of application of the Chinese law is far wider than that of the European directive, and some of the key notions such as recycling do not have exactly the same definition. What is interesting is to see, however, is that the turning point came at the same time even if the approach is different."



➤ **Michel Lebrun, former President of the European Committee of the Regions, Member of the ENVE Commission and Rapporteur on Resource-Efficient Europe**

As rapporteur for the European Union Committee of the Regions' opinions on "A Resource-Efficient Europe" and on "The Review of Key Waste Targets", **Michel Lebrun** briefly presented the following four recommendations from the Committee of the Regions:

- **Environmental legislation is key to our well-being and our economy:** This concerns work in areas such as improving air quality, waste management, water management, preserving biodiversity and assuring proper environmental impact assessments.
- **Subnational governments and cities are key actors for boosting a circular economy:** Cities have high resource use, but also a high potential for innovation. Cities are able to take a multi-actor, integrated approach to promoting the circular economy and resource efficiency. In Europe more and more cities and subnational governments are signing up to commitment schemes such as the "Zero Waste Cities" movement.
- **A circular economy needs a binding legal framework of ambitious targets and for eco-design:** We believe that if we want all cities in Europe to optimise waste management and to implement innovative actions for a circular economy, a supportive, overarching legal and policy framework is required. The Committee of the Regions requests from the European Union:
  - Ambitious and binding waste targets for waste prevention, re-use and recycling
  - A limit to incineration and a phase-out of landfilling
  - Legal provisions which require eco-design, the polluter pays principle and extended producer responsibility
  - Creation of a level playing field and the stimulation of large markets in the circular economy.
- **A circular economy can support our fight against climate change:** Materials and products which are not consumed, or which stay longer in the loop of the circular economy, contribute to less energy being used and less CO2 emitted in the production phase.

➤ **Wang Weidong, Associate Partner of Zhong Lun Law Firm, Supervisor of the 2005 Committee**

"When I was a child we had blue sky and clear rivers. We did not have much pollution in Beijing 30 years ago. But then, when I attended high school, we started to see sandstorms in Beijing. It was terrible - every Spring. So we planted trees and a few years later the problem was solved. And then, when I came back to China from the US 10 years ago there were more cars (five million), more high-rise building and more people. All that development came with a with a new problem - air pollution. You have probably heard about the air pollution in Beijing on the news. When we had the problem of sandstorms in Beijing we won, we solved the problem. **I believe that we are going to win again.** Today, however, we come to Paris to talk not about Beijing's problems but those of the world. We are faced with a common problem: climate change."

**Wang Weidong** explained China's achievements in environmental protection:

- China had made great contributions in the area of **environmental legislation**. It had a number of policies and laws aimed at reducing carbon emissions and also increasing carbon sinks. Last year China amended a very important law, the **Environmental Protection Law**. This was the harshest law in the country's history and made environmental protection a national policy. It also imposed severe penalties for violations.

- **Carbon emissions trading system:** I believe that Europe has a very good system for carbon emission trading. The US has a similar system. **China has started a system with pilot programmes in seven cities and provinces** and this so far been very active. **In 2017** China will launch a national cap-and-trade scheme.
- **Public participation:**
  - Disclosure of information
  - Public participation in law-making
  - Public's interest delegation

➤ **Pierre Calame, Co-Founder of the China-Europa Forum**

"I am moved by what I have heard throughout the afternoon. It has shown tremendous momentum based on the awareness of the need to think differently about our world. This is not primarily a state momentum but a surge of businesses, cities and civil societies.

The question we must ask ourselves today, and which is the next horizon for the China-Europa Forum, is the following: Is it enough, this wonderful momentum? My guess is that it is not. Our official delegations have begun the final stage of negotiations to reach an agreement in Paris. You all know, however, that on the one hand the current voluntary commitments of states do not allow us to remain within the global warming limit of 2° to which the international community has formally engaged, and on the other hand, with international law as it is, whatever the speeches we hear the states will not be legally bound to keep their word. Together we must continue these rich exchanges. We must be able, and those who are in this room are in a position to do so, to promote fundamental changes in international regulations."

**He proposed three courses:**

- We must move towards a *Universal Declaration of Human Responsibilities*. Many courts already consider that the commitments by companies to social and environmental responsibilities are enforceable. We need to go in that direction for states too, for cities and for all other stakeholders
- The current carbon emission control system does not allow us to achieve the objective of limiting temperature increases. We must work towards *global quotas allocated to each country*. This includes embodied energy - that is to say, the energy which is not seen because it is the energy required to produce and transport the goods and services that we consume
- The dialogue between Chinese and European companies is essential. They play a major role in global production and consumption chains, but international trade agreements, such as the World Trade Organisation, are not at all based on the promotion of sustainable supply chains. This is what European and Chinese companies should now collectively promote.

➤ **Deng Feng, Executive Director of the 2005 Committee**

"I have three points.

**First**, the target proposed by the states at the Climate Change Conference: Some of the objectives are very difficult, but my own personal feeling is that the goals of just the governments are not enough - we also need to rely on technology and innovation. I think these technologies and innovations are feasible and that it is possible

to achieve these goals. What we need to do is decide how to enable these technologies and innovations to reach the market faster.

**Second**, China and Europe could have a lot of opportunities for cooperation in the technology sector. Europe has a lot of good technology, such as new materials, smart control, unmanned manufacturing, power networks and so forth. China has a huge market as well as also a good production infrastructure. It could be possible to join European technology with Chinese production capacity and to quickly industrialise, first in the Chinese market then the world.

**Third**, technology alone is not enough - we have to change our lifestyle completely. No matter how much technology and efficiency improves, if waste continues we will never solve the problem of climate change. Changing lifestyle, reducing waste - government, business, non-profit organisations must all work together.

#### ➤ Uwe Weber, Team Leader, Switch-Asia Network Facility:

**Uwe Weber** explained that the Switch-Asia Network Facility was **the largest EU programme supporting sustainable production and consumption in Asia**. Its focus is to help in the achievement of sustainable development goals and to implement activities supporting the 10-year Framework of Programmes. China was the largest part of its work.

"We have dispensed more than 180 million euros in Asia of which almost 30 million was in China. The 30 million went into projects which support the **green economy, cleaner production, sustainable consumption and all groups of activities**. We have 80 projects with around two million euros of funding and 16 of them are in China.

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#### 🌍 Conclusion & the China-Europe Green Award Ceremony

**Michel Rocard**, former Prime Minister of France, and **Paul Tran Van Thinh**, Chairman of the China-Europe Forum Association, were among the participants.



Before the awards ceremony **Mr Rocard** said: "Who would have thought just 10 or 15 years ago that these large entities such as China, with a population of 1.3 billion, and the EU, with 500 million, would be able to have these encounters and dialogues emerge from their lands? The China-Europa Forum began in a small way, but it was necessary that it started and the fact that it started is in

itself a sign of willingness in our authorities. Not only there was no prohibition but there was a multiplication of encounters. (There is some) astonishment at all we have just seen - this blossoming of initiatives, technical and management exchanges and the development of common funding... We are living in times that I find quite extraordinary and I would say that it is not a coincidence that Chinese culture with its 5,000 years of history and European culture with 3,000 years of history and hundreds of wars, find themselves compatible enough to make those China-Europe forums possible is a sign of significant progress... I am very pleased to participate in this awards ceremony. This event represents the fifth in 10 years. That too is encouraging."



**Paul Tran Van Thinh:** "I just want to say that China and Europe each have an interest in taming their relationship, in endeavouring to tame things because we can do everything and overcome everything together, including the fight against waste and the fight for the environment. We must continue and spread this everywhere in order to avoid that the Earth is left in a poor condition for future generations."

The second presentation ceremony of **the China-Europe Green Award**, initiated by the China-Europa Forum and the China Philanthropy Research Institute, was a highlight of the satellite meeting. The awards aim to encourage cities, companies, institutions and individuals to participate actively in the ecological transition and to create the momentum and material conditions necessary for implementation. They also aim to provide tomorrow's solutions through the sharing between Europe and China of knowledge, experiences and technology relating to the ecological transition.

**Chen Yan**, Executive President of the China-Europa Forum, and **WANG Zhenyao**, Director of the China Philanthropy Research Institute, co-chaired the ceremony and announced the list of **Champion Cities, Enterprises and Foundations in Ecological Transition**.

#### **Chen Yan, Executive President of the China-Europa Forum**



The first China-Europe Green Award jury is composed of experts from the National Centre for Climate Change Strategy and International Cooperation of China (NCSC), CASS, Peking University and European FPH. Through a rigorous process the Jury selected four awards: Champion Cities, Enterprises and Foundations in ecological transition, and the China-Europe "Green" Partnership. The selection results are as follows:

#### **Champion Cities in Ecological Transition**

Macau Special Administrative Region, Zhuhai City, Shenzhen City, Zhenjiang City, Guiyang City, Chengdu in Sichuan Province, Jilin Changbai Mountain Nature Reserve, Haikou City, Zhoushan Islands District of Zhejiang, Xiamen City.

#### **Champion Enterprises in Ecological Transition**

Vanke Group, Tencent Technology (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd; ENN Group; Dalian Wanda Group; Alibaba Group; China Minsheng Banking Corp. Ltd; Broad Technology Group; Haier Group; Hainan Airlines Group; Legend Group.

#### **Champion Foundations in Ecological Transition**

Beijing Entrepreneurs Environmental Protection Foundation; Yili Public Welfare Foundation; Yunnan Green Environment Development Foundation; Trina Charity Foundation; LAO NIU Foundation; China Environmental Protection Foundation; Alibaba Foundation; China Green Foundation; SEE Conservation; the China Green Carbon Foundation.

#### **China-Europe Green Partnership**

Wuhan City / China – Bordeaux/ France, Green Partner towns.

#### **WANG Zhenyao, Director of the China Philanthropy Research Institute**

"The winners of the Champion Cities, Enterprises and Foundations in Ecological Transition and the China-Europe Green Partnership with their wise vision and broad-mindedness have consciously upheld the human mission and

social responsibility over a period of years and have contributed to projects in the construction of urban infrastructure development, enterprise development strategies and foundation work. They are focused on many sectors and equitable ways of building planning systems, of working hard and of encouraging emission reductions in China and the world. They have made an outstanding contribution to environmental protection.

The 10 **Chinese Champion Cities in Ecological Transition** have green urban development as an important strategy with their government leaders exploring a path of green development in line with international standards.

The 10 **Chinese Champion Enterprises in Ecological Transition** have been committed to green development for many years. By promoting environmental protection their business leaders also consciously committed to social responsibility by creating the green environmental protection development model and set a good example for China's economic transformation.

The 10 **Chinese Champion Foundations in Ecological Transition** have been involved in charity for many years in promoting environmental protection, energy conservation and combating desertification by investment projects covering regions in China and the world. Many projects have even become an integral part of the government development strategy and have been praised by Chinese society and world counterparts.

Today, among the guests at this meeting, are a number of civil leaders noted for their hard work over many years. They join us in Paris to share ideas, wisdom and projects in order to contribute to the world summit on climate change."

**Michel Rocard** and **Paul Trân Van Thinh** together presented the awards to the LAO NIU Foundation, SEE Conservation and the Yili Public Welfare Foundation, the three winners present at the satellite meeting.

The founder of the LAO NIU Foundation, **NIU Gensheng**, said he was delighted to receive the award. "Our foundation has four philanthropic sections. Environmental protection and tree planting is the largest section and represents 40% of the foundation's funding. We spent several hundred million yuan to transform four million acres of the Loess Plateau into a green area, because if the mountain is not green the water may not

be clear, if the water is not clear the sky is not blue. In the past we were involved in food and clothing, and now I think it is necessary to look to protection of the environment. Environmental protection is more important than food and clothing."



**Wang Limin**, Secretary-General of SEE Conservation, said he was very pleased to receive the award. "I think that this is our commitment. SEE Conservation is committed to participating in the Climate Change Conference. We do our best and that is our approach as an action organisation. In 2004 SEE Conservation established the SEE Ecological Association, the commitment of Chinese entrepreneurs. We are committed to doing the best thing in ecological protection. At an operational level we will unite entrepreneurship and protect blue skies and clear water. We still have a long way to go, as we also encourage better public welfare activities."



## Part II. "China-EU Green Platform" activities - promoting close exchanges between Chinese and EU entrepreneurs for the transition to sustainable societies

In 10 years the China-Europa Forum (CEF) has built up a wide network through its partners in various sectors of society: NGOs, universities, and political, social, economic and scientific institutions. Based on a broad awareness of environmental protection in China and Europe as part of the global dynamics of the fight against climate change, the CEF launched this project with support from its partners on both sides in order to consolidate cross-cultural dialogue and multi-actor participation, and to focus on China-EU cooperation in the fields of environment and sustainable development.

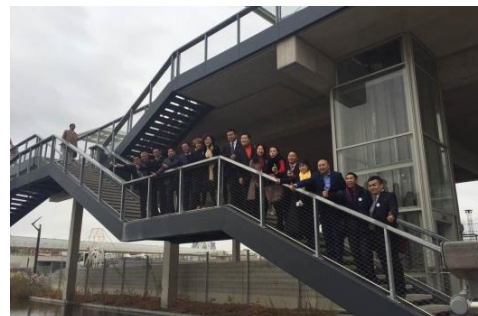
From 1 to 5 December 2015 a series of "China-Europe Green Platform" activities were held in Paris and Brussels. Through field visits, exchanges and dialogue these enhanced understanding between entrepreneurs and created the base for further cooperation.

### ➤ December 1, Paris : Visit to the Paris "Clichy-Batignolles" eco-district

Organisers: China-Europa Forum – Paris City

The Chinese delegation included the Shenzhen Business Elites Union, Guangzhou Sun Yat-sen University's low-carbon class, the Guangdong Energy Conservation Association and the SEE Conservation Foundation. The delegation set the first day of field visits in motion with a visit to the Paris eco-district *Clichy Batignolles* co-organised by the CEF and the City of Paris. Corinne Martin, Communications Director, introduced the eco-district designed as a model of urban sustainable development. Energy efficiency in buildings, biodiversity, geothermal energy and social diversity are at the core of the district's project. Following the presentation of the project, the participants had the opportunity to visit the site.

In the afternoon members of the Guangzhou delegation visited a Climespace (Paris urban cooling system) plant with Laurence Poirier-Dietz, Climespace's director, and Jacques Saint-Marc, Chairman's delegate of the "First Sustainable Development Agreement China-France" 2008-2013 inter-ministerial committee. Climespace is the first such cooling system in Europe and one of the most important in the world. It provides cooling for many Paris buildings: museums, palaces, company headquarters, etc. The group visited the *Canada plant* which is located below ground next to the Grand Palais. Climespace is a leader in sustainable cooling: In winter the plant uses water from the River Seine to cool its refrigeration units and reduce its electricity consumption.



### ➤ December 2, Paris: Visit to Saint-Gobain "DomoLab", Saint-Gobain's first innovation centre for habitat. Organisers: China-Europa Forum, Entreprises pour l'Environnement (EpE)

The Chinese delegations included the Shenzhen Business Elites Union, Guangzhou Sun Yat-sen University's low-carbon class, the Guangdong Energy Conservation Association and the SEE Conservation Foundation. Members were welcomed to the *Domolab*, Saint-Gobain's first innovation



centre for habitat, at Aubervilliers. They discovered the company's solutions in sustainable habitat by experiencing sensations of thermal, visual and acoustic comfort and discomfort. Nicolas Nié, Saint-Gobain's General Delegate for Asia-Pacific, presented Saint-Gobain's activities in China, where it offers high technology and high energy-saving products in the construction of low-energy buildings.

➤ **December 2, Paris: Cocktail Reception: Meeting between Chinese and French Entrepreneurs**  
**Organisers: China-Europa Form, Entreprises pour l'Environnement (EpE)**

A cocktail reception followed the visit to Saint-Gobain. Jean-Claude Breffort, Saint-Gobain's Senior Vice-President, explained Saint-Gobain's commitment to the fight against climate change. He spoke of the necessity for industry, which is both "part of the problem but also part of the solution", to adopt a sectorial approach to taking up the challenge. China Vanke group CEO Wang Shi also reaffirmed the role of industry in the fight against climate change and encouraged Chinese entrepreneurs to put social responsibility at the core of their business activities. "I am calling on my Chinese colleagues, as providers of solutions to the problems that we have created in China and abroad, to take up their responsibility on the international stage," he said.



All speakers talked of the need for cooperation. Julien Colas, Head of the Energy and Climate Division at Entreprises pour l'Environnement (EpE), said: "An efficient fight against climate change will not be possible with confrontation of world forces. It is by acting collectively that we can take up the challenge of climate change and related challenges."

The co-founder of the China-Europa Forum, Mr Pierre Calame, placed this challenge in the context of the construction of a lasting peace, which is at the core of the dialogue between societies that is supported by the China-Europa Forum: "How can a lasting peace be built? By ensuring that our societies have a clear awareness of their common destiny." Companies had a key role: "This forces large companies to go beyond their normal skills to promote international agreements protecting the climate and to focus their efforts on the development of sustainable industries."

➤ **December 2, Paris: Visit to Schneider Electric's showroom: The International Customer Lounge (ICL)**

The activities continued with a visit to Schneider Electric's showroom, International Customer Lounge (ICL), by the Shenzhen Business Elites Union, Guangzhou Sun Yat-sen University's low-carbon class, the Guangdong Energy Conservation Association and the SEE Conservation Foundation. ICL's goal is to offer an immersion into the heart of Schneider Electric's solutions via dedicated areas and presents the group's solutions and innovations for efficient energy





management. With a presence in China for 28 years, Schneider's main activities in the country are industry energy efficiency and industrial automation as Wang Jie, Vice-President of the Schneider Electric China, explained.

➤ **December 3, Paris: Visit to Vinci Group – Vinci Ambition for Green Growth; Innovations in the Building, Transportation and Road Sectors. Organiser: China-Europa Forum**



The programme ended with a visit to the Vinci group. The Chinese delegation discovered the commitment of Vinci in terms of sustainable development and some of its spectacular achievements such as the Foundation Louis Vuitton. Christian Caye, Vinci Sustainable Development Representative, also presented *La Fabrique de la Cité*, a think-tank promoting discussion on urban innovation with an international and interdisciplinary approach by bringing together urban development stakeholders.

➤ **December 3, Paris:** The signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Creation of the "China-EU Institute for Sustainable Development" took place in the evening during a cruise on the River Seine in Paris. This "China-EU Institute for Sustainable Development" project was in the making for years and was initiated by the China-Europa Forum and the Research Centre for Earth Environment & Resources, Sun Yat-sen University, FAZE Urbanisation and Wellbeing Institute (Guangzhou) and the JunZe think-tank Research Centre. The signing of the memorandum in Paris marked the project entering into a substantive stage of operation. Chen Yan, Executive President of the China-Europa Forum, Zhou Zhang, Director of the Research Centre for Earth Environment & Resources, Sun Yat-sen University, and Wei Wei, Secretary-General of FAZE Urbanisation and Wellbeing Institute (Guangzhou) attended the ceremony on behalf of their organisations. YAN Jun, Director of the JunZe think-tank Research Centre was unable to attend but had previously signed in Guangzhou.



➤ **December 4, Brussels: The Guangzhou business delegation of 25 professionals from the environment sector travelled to Brussels, Belgium, to participate in three business activities**

• **Visit to the European Parliament**

After attending the satellite meeting at Cop21, the Guangzhou business delegation of 25 professionals from the environment sector set course for Brussels.

On the morning of December 4 the delegation, led by Zhou Zhang, Director of the Research Centre for Earth Environment & Resources, Sun Yat-sen University, visited the European Parliament. There was a presentation by a parliamentary officer on the history and functions of the European Parliament, the EU Council, the European Commission and the China-EU relationship followed by mutual exchanges and interaction. The delegation then visited the Hemicycle-European parliament plenary hall.



## • Belgian–Chinese Business Lunch

At midday on December 4 the Belgian-Chinese Chamber of Commerce (BCECC), China-Europa Forum and the Flanders Cleantech Association offered a networking lunch and B2B event at the Brussels Plaza Hotel. The Guangzhou delegation of 25 professionals, from various sectors including solar energy, low-carbon industry and technologies and energy conservation, met more than 70 representatives of the Belgian energy business, the clean-energy association, the Flemish Government and the Walloon region.

Bernard Dewit, Chairman of the BCECC, hosted the meeting and Carine Van Hove, director of the Flanders Cleantech Association, gave a presentation on Flanders energy development, skills and advantages.

On behalf of the delegation Zhou Zhang briefed the meeting on attending the climate change conference in Paris as well as the creation of the "China-EU Institute for Sustainable Development" with the China-Europa Forum and future activities under the EU-China green platform.

This business-to-business meeting was also the occasion for the Belgian-Chinese Chamber of Commerce (BCECC) and Flanders Cleantech Association to set up a future-oriented cooperation agreement - a Memorandum of Understanding between the Belgian-Chinese Chamber of Commerce, the Flanders Cleantech Association and the Research Centre for Earth



Environment & Resources of Sun Yat-sen University with the aim of promoting bilateral exchanges and cooperation on green energy development and low-carbon business projects. The coming years may therefore see more concrete opportunities for cooperation between companies from both countries.

After the formal signing of the bilateral Memorandum of Understanding, a successful B2B took place between the Chinese and the Belgian companies.

## • Field visit to Sustainable Construction – Green Building in Brussels (Tour & Taxis)



After the business luncheon the Guangzhou delegation went to Brussels Environment at Tour & Taxis to attend a presentation session about strategy implementation and passive building initiatives in the Brussels Region. The delegation then visited the new Brussels Environment passive building constructed in November 2014. With its 16,500m<sup>2</sup> of office space, 700m<sup>2</sup> of solar panels, 9000m<sup>2</sup> of wall and roof insulation, the building is the largest passive construction in

Belgium. It has a BREEAM certificate with an "Excellent" level. BREEAM is the gold standard in terms of sustainable construction and has become the method of evaluation used to describe the de facto environmental performance of a building.



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## Conclusion

From 2012 the China-Europa Forum (CEF) began adjusting its development strategies by focusing more on sustainable development, climate change, environmental protection and other environmental issues linked to human survival. Under the premise of maintaining the overall vision we looked to strengthen innovation and advocacy capacity in the Europe-China dialogue.

At the end of 2014 we held a successful Climate Change Conference in Paris which marked the key change of the CEF. In summing up, the conference said: "The Forum calls for new forms of cooperation that are more specific and more advocating."

The satellite meeting on climate change held in December 2015 in Paris was attended by more than 100 European and Chinese delegates, and a series of activities organised under the EU-China green platform marked the success of the Forum's transition. Within a very limited meeting time, the presentation of The Common Text showed to the world the results of comprehensive China-EU social dialogue on climate change. Through the discussion on the circular economy, environmental legislation and other topics the participants shared the latest thoughts on global environmental problems and its countermeasures; through the presentation of the China-Europe Green Award, initiated by the China-Europa Forum and the China Philanthropy Research Institute, based on a reference of European systematic thinking and an evaluation system of addressing climate change and achieving ecological transformation, we wish to encourage cities, companies, institutions, foundations and individuals to participate actively in the ecological transition and to introduce a forward-looking European green transition concept into China.

In the fields visits to the Paris ecological park, visits to low-carbon sites and passive buildings in Brussels, and business-to-business activities between Chinese, French and Belgian enterprises, we are pleased to see that Chinese entrepreneurs are showing a strong interest in study visits and business exchanges. Many said they saw more clearly the similarities and differences between China and Europe in the field of sustainable development thanks to visits to Saint-Gobain, Schneider, Vinci and other enterprises. The business exchanges and visits by the Guangdong delegation in Brussels offered the Chinese entrepreneurs very interesting experiences and provided the opportunity for future mutual contact and cooperation. Through positive feedback from French, Belgian and Chinese entrepreneurs everyone looks forward to organising more of this type of business-to-business contact between enterprises with in-depth exchanges and experiences shared on-site. This is the first series of activities on a large scale organised under the "**China-Europe Green Platform**" following small-scale business activities in July 2015 within the framework of the World Summit on Climate and Territories in Lyons.

The successful visit and exchange activities confirm the necessity of strengthening the role of the China-Europa Forum. This multiple dialogue platform transcending borders and cultures reflects the need to strengthen bilateral business exchanges and case-sharing in the sustainable development field between Chinese and European organisations and enterprises. This increases the confidence of the China-Europa Forum in continuing efforts with its partners in this direction.

A key project within the framework of the "**China-Europe Green Platform**", the Green Awards ceremony held in Paris and jointly created by the China-Europa Forum and the China Philanthropy Research Institute, has received increased attention and has also become our most pleasing major event. As WANG Zhenyao, Director of the

China Philanthropy Research Institute, pointed out: “The winners of the Champion Cities, Enterprises and Foundations in ecological transition and the China-Europe Green Partnership with their wise vision and broad-mindedness have consciously upheld the human mission, social responsibility over a period of years and have contributed to projects in the construction of urban infrastructure development, enterprise development strategies and foundation work. They are focused on many sectors and equitable ways of building planning systems, of working hard and of encouraging emission reductions in China and the world. They have made an outstanding contribution to environmental protection.”

We look forward to the awards bringing more vision and new behaviour to more cities, businesses and foundations in the field of sustainable development and the systematic implementation of environmentally friendly decisions by addressing climate change. We also look forward to the China-Europe green awards and activities bringing, at the same time, examples of China's green projects to Europe this year as well as introducing more European low-carbon developments, innovative ideas and outstanding examples to China. Finally, we look forward to expanding the China-Europe bilateral dialogue and to strengthening and expanding the public space for the green platform through the activities, development and impact of the green awards in order to confront climate change and promote the Chinese-European green transformation.

( End )

**Co-organizers:**

*China Philanthropy Research Institute; France Nature Environnement; Jia-Cui (China) Environmental Promotion Center; Green Cross France et Territoires ; Faze Urbanization and Public Good Institute (Guangzhou); Western Returned Scholars Association of China ; China Urban Realty Association; Shenzhen Business Elites Union (SBEU); Research Center for Earth Environment & Resources, Sun Yat-sen University*