科技日報

TELLING SCI-TECH INNOVATION STORIES, ENHANCING EXCHANGES BETWEEN NATIONS

PAGE 2 - 3

AIMING TO CONQUER OBESITY

PAGE 4 | LIFE IN CHINA

Science and Technology Daily

VOL.1-NO.25 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2021 WEEKLY EDITION

China, Russia to Expedite Cooperation on Cutting-edge Technologies

Chinese President Xi Jinping said on December 15 that China and Russia should take the opportunities brought by the new round of scientific and technological revolution and industrial transformation, and expedite industrial cooperation on cutting - edge technologies.

Xi made the remarks at a virtual meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Xi pointed out that the two countries should share development opportunities and expand cooperation under new circumstances.

Russia is willing to continue strengthening cooperation with China in such fields as trade, oil and gas, finance, and aerospace and aviation, as well as major strategic projects, Putin said.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the signing of the China- Russia Treaty of Good - neighborliness and Friendly Cooperation.

A series of new achievements have been made in science and technology.

In May, Xi and Putin witnessed the ground - breaking ceremony of Tianwan nuclear power plant and Xudapu nuclear power plant via video link.

The No. 7 and No. 8 units of the Tianwan nuclear power plant and the No. 3 and No. 4 units of the Xudapu nuclear power plant are the biggest China-Russia joint projects in the field of nuclear energy.

In March 2021, China and Russia signed a memorandum of understanding on jointly establishing an international scientific research station on the moon.

The China- Russia Year of Scientific and Technological Innovation concluded last month, which saw more than 1,000 events for exchanges on scientific innovation and cooperation.

Source: XINHUA

China's first homemade cruise ship conducted floating on Dec. 17 in Shanghai. (Photo provided by Shanghai Waigaoqiao Shipbuilding Co Ltd)

China, Africa Deepen Collaboration in Sci-tech Innovation

Edited by WANG Xiaoxia

The 2021 China- Africa Innovation Cooperation Conference opened on December 12 in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei province.

Under the theme of "Embracing a brighter future through innovation cooperation," the conference focused on the implementation of the Belt and Road Initiative and promoting the joint building of a China- Africa community with a shared future.

Hosted by the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) and the people's government of Hubei province, the two- day event included a series of activities, including a China- Africa innovation cooperation forum, a China-Africa innovation cooperation outcomes exhibition, and a visit by African diplomats based in China to Hubei, to experience scientific and technological innovation.

These initiatives all serve to help China and Africa better share international innovation resources. A total of 15 scientific and technological cooperation projects with multiple African countries were inked at the opening ceremony of the conference.

Officials and diplomats from African countries expressed their interest in further strengthening China-Africa cooperation in digital, ecology, AI, cultural exchange, innovation, entrepreneurship and other areas, so as to benefit more African people with China's innovation achievements.

In recent years, China-Africa scientific and technological innovation has been flourishing, said Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin at a regular press conference on December 14.

China has been working actively to carry out the Belt and Road Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation Action Plan, implement the China-Africa Science and Technology Partnership Plan, share with African countries China's progress in science and technology, as well as experience in innovation development, said Wang.

To date, China has signed inter-government sci - tech cooperation agreements and launched related mechanisms with 16 African countries. Joint research platforms were developed and have supported over 130 bilateral research projects during the past decade, Wang added, noting the Talented Young Scientist Program of MOST has supported the research of more than 300 African young scientists in China.

With a total installed capacity of 47.5 megawatts, the Zhuying and Zhangpuying wind power plants in Chuzhou, Anhui province, were officially connected to the grid on Dec. 19. (PHOTO: XINHUA)

Editor's Pick

The Global Nature of Science, Technology and Innovation

—Ambassador Qin Gang's interview with AAAS Science & Diplomacy Magazine

Ambassador Qin Gang's interview with AAAS *Science & Diplomacy* Magazine was published on Dec. 17, 2021. Ambassador Qin spoke with Kim Montgomery, Director of International Affairs and Science Diplomacy and Executive Editor of Science & Diplomacy, on China's science diplomacy initiatives. Here is the full text of the interview.

Kim Montgomery: Since China and the United States established diplomatic relations in 1979, the U.S.- China Agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology, renewed every year since, has led to robust collaboration in science and technology. You arrived in Washington, DC as Ambassador at a pivotal time, given the tensions between the countries. What are China's priorities for the bilateral relationship and what role do you see for science, technology, and innovation?

Ambassador Qin: Since the establishment of diplomatic ties more than forty years ago, China - U.S. relations have made historic progress, despite some twists and turns and the many differences in our social systems, histories, cultures, and approaches to development. We are ready to work with the United States to respect each other, peacefully coexist, and pursue cooperation.

Scientific and technological exchanges and cooperation have played an important role in the development of China-U.S. relations and are still an important part of our bilateral relationship. Even before we officially established diplomatic relations, U.S. President Carter's science advisor visited China. In 1979, after diplomatic relations were established, Mr. Deng Xiaoping and President Carter signed the China-U.S. Agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology, the first formal cooperation agreement between the two governments. Over the past forty years, more than thirty protocols and agreements in a wide range of areas including health, climate change, ecological protection, and nuclear safety have been signed under the framework of the Agreement.

When China and the United States work together to address global issues as the ones I just mentioned, and jointly manage the uncertainties of emerging technologies, we can deliver greater benefits to our two peoples and better prepare humanity for an uncertain future. Limitations on that collaboration, including restrictions on Chinese scientists and students, are in the interest of neither side.

Montgomery: You have more than thirty years of diplomatic experience, having served as Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Director- General of Protocol, and multiple posts related to European affairs, among other positions. What role has science, technology, and innovation played in your diplomatic career?

Ambassador Qin: Throughout my diplomatic career, exchanges and cooperation in science and technology have been an important part of state-to-state relations, in line with President Xi's vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind.

When I was posted in the UK, along with learning why the first Industrial Revolution took place there and how the country had produced renowned scientists from Isaac Newton to Michael Faraday, I worked hard to promote scientific and technological cooperation between China and the UK. Under the framework of the UK-China Research and Innovation Partnership Fund (the UK's Newton Fund), China and the UK have jointly funded more than two hundred Chinese and British research institutions to carry out hundreds of cooperative projects.

Montgomery: One key aspect of science diplomacy is the use of scientific knowledge and expertise to inform diplomatic objectives. China has a rich history with centuries of integrating science into its foreign relations. How is science integrated into China's present-day diplomatic activities? How is that influenced by historical endeavors?

Ambassador Qin: With a civilization more than 5,000 years old, China has produced world-renowned scientific and technological achievements, including the four great inventions of gunpowder, paper making, printing, and the compass. Traditional Chinese culture values harmony, with evidence easily found in the science of ancient China. For instance, Mozi, an eminent scholar of the Spring and Autumn Period (770 – 476 BC), denounced unjust wars and advocated for "universal love," while also researching techniques for the defense of cities. With a tabletop simulation of those techniques, he was able to persuade the king of Chu (a state) not to attack Song (another state).

The goal of China's diplomacy today is to work towards world peace and promote global development. We value the role of science and technology in diplomacy. For example, China is ready to carry out international space cooperation with other countries on the basis of mutual respect, openness, inclusiveness, equality, and mutual benefit. We will continue to intensify international cooperation in the expansion of space station functions, space science and its applications, and the joint flight of Chinese and foreign astronauts. We have invited all United Nations member states to submit cooperative pilot projects to board the Chinese space station to provide a new model of international cooperation for future space explorations. So far, nine projects from seventeen countries have been selected, and we will soon announce the second round of opportunities.

Montgomery: Fifty years ago, U.S. President Nixon's National Security Advisor Henry Kissinger made a secret visit to Beijing, which laid the foundation for President Nixon's 1972 visit to China. During that and subsequent trips, science was one of the areas noted for future cooperation. Earlier this year, you had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Kissinger. Did you discuss how science engagements can help improve relations between countries? Did he provide any insights on present and future U.S.-China relations?

Ambassador Qin: Dr. Kissinger is a senior statesman and strategic thinker. He is also a trailblazer in China-U.S. relations, supporting their development and making historic contributions. He is deeply respected by both the Chinese and the American people. ***See page 4***

WECHAT ACCOUNT E-PAPER

Address: No. 15, Fuxing Road, Haidian District, Beijing, 100038. Telephone: 010-58884083 Price: 4.00 RMB **Visit: www.stdaily.com/English/index.shtml**
国内统一刊号:CN11—0315 邮发代号:81—97 **Submit your article to: stweekly@stdaily.com**