

Appendix to the CEWP Joint Statement: Organisation of the China-Europe Water Platform

The China Europe Water Platform (CEWP) will promote the policy dialogue between China and Europe about challenges, possible solutions and activities related to the water, food security and energy nexus. The CEWP will be implemented within the framework of the EU Water Initiative (EUWI) and China's framework of cooperation with EU in the water sector. Participation is open to representatives of the Government of China, EU Member States, European Commission, EU Delegation to China and Mongolia, international organisations, NGOs; water utilities and business community are also welcome to join CEWP activities.

The CEWP is not a funding mechanism but a political initiative aimed at promoting policy dialogue on water sector reforms and improvements, encouraging capacity-building, technical and business cooperation. It is a partnership among equal partners.

Key Areas for Cooperation in CEWP

Supplementing the objectives as stated in the Joint Statement, the added value of the CEWP includes:

- Gaining information on the water sector in Europe and China (e.g. policy development, implementation, advanced technologies, etc.);
- Cooperation on piloting or testing of new European and Chinese technologies in China and in Europe and sharing technology development;
- Facilitate access to cooperation for China to European countries and vice versa for European countries to China where no bilateral cooperation exists and thus enlarge overall cooperation in the water sector;
- Provide a platform for Chinese and European researchers for joint research to scale up research and heighten the academic standards;
- Create a bridge for business groups from both China and EU to liaison and jointly develop and implement concrete solutions to specific projects.

Organisation and Implementation of CEWP

General organisation

China and one of the EU Member States will act as lead countries of the CEWP. They will be overall responsible for the successful implementation of the CEWP for a period of three years. A number of co-lead countries may be appointed with the responsibility for leading specific activities under the Work Programme. The cooperation among the various stakeholders involved in the CEWP will be assisted by two secretariats hosted in the respective lead countries, as laid down in the Joint Statement, and implemented with mutual funding made available by both leading sides for co-funded activities in accordance with the relevant rules and procedures of both sides, and which can be further supplemented by other public and private funds.

First period 2012-2015

As from 2012, date of the launch of the CEWP, Denmark will act as lead country of the CEWP on behalf of the EU Member States for a period of three years. Hence, Denmark represented by the Ministry of Environment and China represented by the Ministry of Water Resources will act as lead countries for the first period of three years.

Portugal represented by the Portuguese Ministry for Agriculture, Sea, Environment and Spatial Planning will act as co-lead country. Other countries could express their interest in co-lead for one or more themes under the Work Programme.

Denmark and China have agreed to provide funding for the two secretariats.

CEWP Joint Steering Committee

A CEWP Joint Steering Committee will be established to oversee the implementation of the CEWP – in particular its Work Programme adopted at an annual basis by the Committee.

The Steering Committee will have equal representation from the two sides and consist of representatives of the Government of China and EU Member States. Each side will have representatives, from governments, river basin authorities, research institutes and business groups. A representative from each side will be appointed as the Co-Chairs of the Committee.

The meetings of the Joint Steering Committee will be jointly chaired by Co-Chairs. The secretariat will assist the Steering Committee, e.g. by preparing draft Work Programmes for adoption by the Steering Committee or by assisting in any other way required by the Steering Committee.

Meetings and Reporting

The lead EU country in close cooperation with China and other co-leader countries will call for and prepare the meetings of the CEWP Joint Steering Committee. A minimum of one meeting of the CEWP Joint Steering Committee is to be held every year. Meetings of the CEWP Steering Committee may be held back-to-back to annual conferences in China and in Europe (e.g. Yangtze Forum and International Yellow River Forum, EU-China Summit, Stockholm Water Week).

All activities carried out within the framework of the China Europe Water Platform are properly reported to the CEWP Steering Committee and subsequently, accordingly to the existing procedures, to the EUWI Coordination Group and Chinese government.

CEWP will also be represented by Co-Chair(s) in the EUWI Coordination Group and Multi-Stakeholder Forum.