

Joint Statement of the 4th Meeting of the UK-China High-Level People to People Dialogue

On 6 December 2016, the 4th meeting of the UK-China High-Level People-to-People Dialogue was held in Shanghai, China. The UK Secretary of State for Health, the Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP and Chinese Vice-Premier, Madame Liu Yandong co-chaired the meeting.

The two sides confirmed that 2016 had been a year of delivery for the Global Comprehensive Strategic Partnership for the 21st Century, agreed during the historic State Visit of Chinese President Xi Jinping to the UK in October 2015, and re-affirmed during UK Prime Minister Theresa May's visit to China for the G20 Summit in Hangzhou in September of this year.

The two sides recognised the contribution made by the UK-China High-Level People-to-People Dialogue, since its establishment in 2012, in promoting mutual understanding and building trust between the UK, China and both our peoples. They committed the dialogue to advancing the goals of both countries in building social equity, enhancing opportunities and ensuring the benefits of the bilateral partnership are spread to all parts of society.

During this fourth meeting, the two sides acknowledged successful cooperation since last year, including but not limited to:

Education

- Continuing government support for our young people to travel to each other's countries to study, intern and learn each other's languages, including through the Generation UK-China programme and the launch of the Mandarin Excellence Programme in England. At school level, the flagship Maths Teachers Exchange Programme is now in its third year, with nearly 300 teachers in England, China and their pupils directly benefitting. In higher education, cooperation has deepened through the quality assurance of joint programmes, as well as new education collaborations in innovation and entrepreneurship including consortium initiatives with China's E9 Excellence League, regional collaborations on the World Class University initiative with Jiangsu Province as well as the UK's Russell Group with China's C9 Group.

Science and Innovation

- In September 2016, a series of UK-China science, technology and innovation cooperation activities including the 8th UK-China Joint Commission Meeting on Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation, the Country of Honour (the UK) Forum of 2016 Pujiang Innovation Forum and the “UK-China Innovation is GREAT Showcase Day” were held in China. Over 1000 representatives from universities, research institutes and enterprises of both sides attended a number of workshops, keynote speeches and showcases focusing on the key fields of graphene, energy, space, creative, big data and digital manufacturing. The two sides also held the UK-China Entrepreneur Competition.
- The two sides strengthened space collaboration and continued their close cooperation as partners on the Square Kilometre Array project. Since its launch in 2013, the UK-China Research and Innovation Partnership Fund has committed £200 million to 37 programmes and supported over 220 partnerships in personnel exchanges, scientific research cooperation and the transformation of research achievements. During the People to People Dialogue, the two sides signed the MoU on UK-China Research and Innovation Cooperation.

Culture and Creative Industries

- The 2015 UK-China Year of Cultural Exchange: the first bilateral programme celebrating the strength and depth of collaboration between the UK and China in the arts and creative industries reaching a face-to-face audience of over 2 million people in both countries.
- Major artistic collaborations in the UK and China to mark the 400th anniversary of the deaths in 1616 of William Shakespeare and Tang Xianzu and their respective legacies.
- Increasing media personnel exchanges and co-productions between UK and China. A number of films and TV programmes co-produced and screened. Successful launch of UK-China Film and Television Conference and UK-China Creative Industry Showcase.

Health

- Ground-breaking cooperation on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) contributing to successful outcomes at the G20 and UNGA to tackle this global health threat.
- The signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Public Health England and the China Centre for Disease Control, as well as subsequent new collaboration on HIV/AIDS, health emergencies, non

communicable diseases and climate change and health.

Sport

- Successful and high-impact collaboration in sports. A global first in schools-based football, with a UK-China Football Coach Training Framework, involving the joint training of over 1500 Chinese coaches to date. Successes have also included the implementation of the UK-China “Tomorrow’s Star” Youth Football Development Programme; and the introduction in the UK of training courses for Health Qigong coaches and Taijiquan students. Other firsts have included the UK-China University Rowing and University Rugby Friendly matches in the summer of 2016.

Tourism

- Increasing flows of visitors in both directions following the launch of a reciprocal 2 year multi entry visit visa. In October 2016 the UK and China agreed to more than double the number of passenger flights allowed to operate between the 2 countries and to remove all capacity limits on all-cargo services, creating new opportunities for trade and investment between our two countries.

Youth

- The 6th year of the Young Leaders Roundtable led by the Great Britain China Centre and All-China Youth Federation bringing together young political leaders to work on shared challenges and drive opportunities for young people on both sides to exchange views and explore cooperation.

Region to Region collaboration

- The launch of the Regional Leaders Summit, the first taking place in Sheffield in the UK in March 2016 and the second in Shanghai in November 2016. The two sides welcomed the participation of the-First Minister of Northern Ireland at this year’s People to People dialogue and commended Northern Ireland’s partnership work with Liaoning province.

Following agreement between Vice Premier Liu Yandong and Secretary of State Jeremy Hunt at the 2015 People to People Dialogue, the two sides also noted with satisfaction joint work on gender parity and the economic empowerment of women, in particular through the G20/W20, and through the launch by the British Council of the Inspiring Women initiative in schools in China.

The two sides also looked ahead to future domestic and global challenges and opportunities for the coming decade, focussed on the three key themes of i) balanced social and economic development; ii) the contribution of women and young people to support economic progress; and iii) the power of creativity and innovation to drive growth.

They agreed to:

- Further drive an active programme of cultural professional exchanges in each country, enhancing cultural skills to support greater international connections between UK and Chinese arts organisations and practitioners. Continue to support professional development of museums, galleries, performing arts and festivals.
- Increase collaboration between respective radio, film and television industries as part of both countries' desire to foster the global appreciation of UK and Chinese culture, including through the signing of the Television Co-Production Agreement.
- Support our shared ambitions for future economic prosperity, including by encouraging and building the conditions for our education sectors to co-operate with ambition, on cutting-edge innovation, transnational education, on entrepreneurship and enterprise, on language development and language assessment and on building a skilled and globalised workforce for the future. This drive underpinned by a shared commitment to build more high quality international study and work opportunities for our young people.
- Further deepen the UK-China Science, Technology and Innovation cooperation. Formulate a strategy to guide future cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation to resolve global challenges and drive economic growth.
- Drive forward enhanced collaboration between the UK and China on health to tackle emerging

diseases and health risks in each other's and in third countries, including those on the African continent.

- Extend bilateral tourism cooperation, promotion and exchanges at all levels to develop tourism and maximise economic growth throughout both countries. Further improve the welcome and hospitality offered to visitors from each other's countries including through bilingual signage.
- Support route development increasing direct flights between regional airports in both countries and promoting business and leisure tourism throughout the two countries.
- Promote further and deeper exchanges and co-operation in the field of sports. Further deepen cooperation of schools based and professional football and traditional sports. Take forward a programme of co-operation in relation to the Beijing Winter Olympics and Paralympics 2022. Encourage co-operation in Chinese traditional sports, and expand our collaborations in schools-based and professional elite football through the Tomorrow's Star Agreement.
- Build on region-region and local level links to ensure the clear benefits of UK-China cooperation are available to all our people, including through enhancing our growing network of partnerships at the provincial, county and city level. The two sides will work together to hold the 3rd UK-China Regional Leaders Summit in the UK in 2017.
- Drive new activity under a shared theme of the "spirit of youth" to connect with over 1,000,000 people in China and the UK in 2017.
- Re-assert women's equality and empowerment as a fundamental principle underpinning UK-China collaboration and take steps to ensure that gender equality and the empowerment of women are integral to mainstream thought and processes with a particular focus on business, media, civil society and education.
- Increase collaboration on social policy, by sharing experience to improve access to public goods and spread the benefits of growth, in order to create the best opportunities for people across our two countries.

Signed on December 06, 2016 in Shanghai in duplicate in English and Chinese, both texts having equal validity.

Liu Yandong
Vice Premier of the State Council
People's Republic of China

Jeremy Hunt
Secretary of State for Health
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland