

Joint Press Release

Strengthening Sino-Nordic Cooperation

A meeting between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China and the Nordic Council of Ministers was held in Beijing on 25 May 2017. Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Wang Chao of the People's Republic of China and Secretary General Dagfinn Høybråten of the Nordic Council of Ministers co-chaired the meeting.

Both sides spoke highly of the significant progress of Sino-Nordic cooperation. They are of the view that such cooperation is important and has huge potential for growth. China and the Nordic region have an unprecedented opportunity to advance their relations. To further expand and deepen cooperation is in line with the development strategies and needs of both sides and serves the mutual interests. The two sides agree that they will work together to strengthen existing cooperation and develop new initiatives, so as to advance the cooperation to a new height. In this context, the two sides will prioritize the following areas.

1. Entrepreneurship and business. The two sides will strengthen cooperation and enhance collaboration in green growth, maritime economy and bio-economy.

2. Sustainable development. In view of the Nordic countries' advantage and China's needs, the two sides will strengthen cooperation in energy conservation, emission reduction, clean energy and the development of green and eco-smart cities.

3. Science, research and education. The two sides will leverage existing cooperation and platforms such as the Sino-Nordic Arctic Cooperation Symposium, and further explore possibilities for exchanges.

4. People-to-people exchanges. The two sides will improve the existing cooperation platforms such as the Sino-Nordic Young Champions Forum and the Sino-Nordic Think Tank Roundtable, and strengthen cooperation in such fields as sports, culture, arts and tourism.

5. Welfare solutions. The two sides will increase exchanges and cooperation in the areas of public health, population ageing and labor market policies.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China and the Nordic Council of Ministers agreed to have meetings in due time so as to plan and direct their cooperation in a timely fashion.