

ERAC-SFIC 1358/16

NOTE

From:	SFIC Secretariat
To:	SFIC delegations
Subject:	Mandate of the SFIC Working Group on China

Delegations will find annexed to this Note the mandate of the SFIC Working Group on China as approved by the SFIC plenary on 15 June 2016.

MANDATE OF THE SFIC WORKING GROUP ON CHINA

1. The Working Group on China has the objective to advise the SFIC (Member States, Associated Countries and the Commission) on areas for which there is potential for a more coordinated approach vis-à-vis China adding value to existing successful cooperation activities.
2. The Working Group will follow focus in particular on the following activities:
 - a) Exchanging best practices and sharing information on the areas of common interest identified in the EU/MS-China Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda, a living document to be periodically reviewed. It will take into account the Chinese research and innovation strategy (13th 5-year plan and the dedicated S&T strategy to be published by MOST), as well as on those cross-cutting issues where cooperation with China should be enhanced;
 - b) Contributing to the development of activities to enhance the EU/MS-China STI cooperation, through, for instance:
 - i. Organising an annual follow-up of EU and MS STI cooperation initiatives with China;
 - ii. Advising on targeted joint and coordinated actions (within Horizon 2020 or MS-China activities);
 - iii. Promoting the organisation of and input to EU/MS-China workshops and conferences in the priority areas of common interest.
 - c) Taking advantage and seeking synergies with specific measures in support of S&T cooperation funded by Horizon 2020 (i.e. the DragonStar+ project and the projected new centre for R&I);

- d) Taking full advantage of the opportunities and synergies offered by the Policy Service Facility;
3. The Working Group shall contribute to and take account of the EU Multi-Annual Roadmap, the planned MS/EU Policy Dialogues for China and activities in Horizon 2020, as appropriate.
4. The Working Group was set up for a period of 1 year, commencing on 19 May 2014¹. The mandate of the Working Group was extended on 9 June 2015 for an additional year². The SFIC plenary on 15 June 2016 decided to renew and extend the mandate of the Working Group for an additional year until 15 June 2017. This period can be extended after assessment and approval by the SFIC Plenary.
5. The SFIC Rules of Procedure (ERAC-SFIC 1355/16) are applicable to this Working Group.
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¹ ERAC-SFIC 1355/14.

² ERAC-SFIC 1358/15.