

ERAC-SFIC 1358/15

**NOTE**

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Subject: Mandate of the SFIC Working Group on China

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Delegations will find annexed to this Note the mandate of the SFIC Working Group on China, as renewed by the SFIC plenary on 9 June 2015.

**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 – and the Chinese research and innovation strategy, 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.
3. The Working Group shall contribute to and take account of the EU Multi-Annual Roadmap 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 2014<sup>1</sup>. The SFIC plenary on 9 June 2015 decided to extend the mandate of the Working Group for an additional year until 9 June 2016. This period can be extended after assessment and approval by the SFIC Plenary.
5. The SFIC Rules of Procedure (ERAC-SFIC 1351/14) are applicable to this Working Group.

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<sup>1</sup> ERAC-SFIC 1355/14.