

## **Cooperation-exchange**

applications, the evaluation system was subjected to severe bottleneck limitation. Thus, the competitions within these projects became more intensive, and the success ratio reduced to 5.9%.

Through a long time preparation, NSFC launched her formal cooperation procedure with Macao Science and Technology Development Fund (MSTDF). This also formally activated the evaluation system for MSTDF. Moreover, MSTDF displayed their willingness to start bilateral discussions with NSFC on co-sponsored projects.

Sponsored by NSFC, 11 bilateral scientific conferences between Taiwan region and the mainland were held in 2005. Till this time, the bilateral exchanges still kept mainly in a form of conference. However, the major regional cooperative project—"Micro-Structure Design for Multiple Phase Materials" sponsored by NSFC progressed smoothly, and new designs of major cooperative projects were on schedule to extend the cooperation and exchange channels between Taiwan region and the mainland.

### **Sino-German Center for Research Promotion (SGCRP)**

Under the guidance of the Joint Committee, the work in SGCRP progressed smoothly. 40 bilateral workshops were sponsored by SGCRP in 2005. And 1/4 of them were hosted in Germany.



Nov. 24, 2005, the 8th Joint Commission meeting was held in Xiaman

Totally 38 cooperation and exchange projects were sponsored by SGCRP in 2005. And the promise for the 3<sup>rd</sup>

year's investment in nutrition science projects and fuel cell projects was redeemed. Under the support of SGCRP, Chinese research scholars and their German cooperation colleagues got intensive investment in their joint projects of different areas co-sponsored by DFG, EU, Chinese Ministries and NSFC. Furthermore, 3 new joint research groups were ratified by SGCRP in 2005.

25 excellent Chinese PHD candidates were selected for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time by SGCRP to participate in Nobel Prize Laureates meeting held in Lindau, Germany in 2005. These young students were also arranged for a one-week visiting in Germany. This activity promoted the process in fostering young scientists in China and induced active responses in China and overseas. *Nature* magazine and *People's Daily* all reported this event.

Approximately 1000 scientists were sponsored by SGCRP directly in 2005. And 450 of them came from Germany. Moreover, 4 exhibitions for the achievements of Sino-German cooperative projects were held in 4 different districts in Germany, this further extended the influence, coming from SGCRP and NSFC, on German academy.

### **International conferences as well as international and regional cooperative projects in State Key Labs**

In 2005, NSFC sponsored 666 Chinese scientists for their overseas academic conferences with a total expense of 6.809 million RMB; and set up 389 international academic conferences and meetings in China with a total expense of 15.8053 million RMB. Furthermore, accompanied by the fast pace in research cooperation, in May 2005, NSFC modified her investment policy, cancelled international conference abroad, and move her focus to those international and regional research cooperations.

In the past year, 27 international and regional cooperation projects in state key lab were approved by NSFC with a total funding of 1.3 million RMB. 7 excellent state key labs evaluated in 2005 were involved in this funding. The support of NSFC helped their international-stage research activities and promoted their leading roles.