

Vice President Shen Wenqing Met with INFN Delegation



Prof. Shen Wenqing, Vice President of NSFC, met with Prof. Ding Zhaozhong and Prof. Robert Petronzio.

On Jan. 9, 2006, Prof. Shen Wenqing, Vice President of NSFC, met with delegation led by Prof. Ding Zhaozhong and Prof. Robert Petronzio, President of National Institute for Nuclear Physics, INFN. Prof. Shen introduced investment status and recent development situations of NSFC, progress and further development in the research of high-energy and its research facility improvement to the visiting delegation. Prof. Ding and Prof. Petronzio also displayed INFN's current status and their objective to this visit. They further exchanged their opinions on the China-Italy co-sponsored project – “Cosmic Rays Observation in Yangbajing, Tibet, China”.

(Lu Rongkai)

President Chen Yiyu Met with the President of Czech Science Foundation

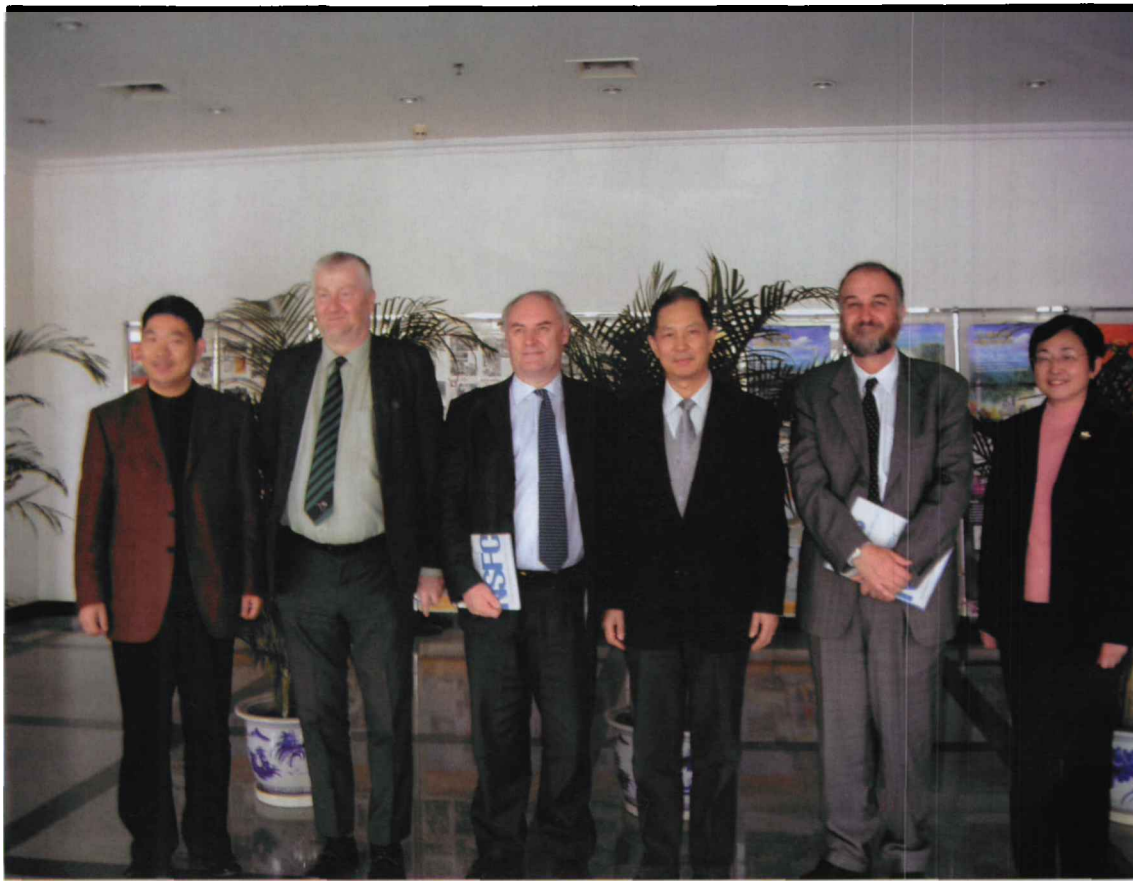


President Chen Yiyu met with Prof. Josef Syka, President of Czech Science Foundation (GACR).

On Mar. 31, 2006, Prof. Chen Yiyu, President of NSFC met with Prof. Josef Syka, President of Czech Science Foundation (GACR). Both sides briefed on their organizational situations and ideas on bilateral cooperations and exchanges, and believed that joint research and bilateral academic workshops are promising ways to further promote the cooperation between the two countries.

(Chen Huai, Liu Xiuping)

Vice President Zhu Zuoyan Met with Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) Delegation



On April 4, 2006, the CGIAR delegation headed by CGIAR President Mr. Ian Johnson visited NSFC. Prof. Zhu Zuoyan, Vice President of NSFC met the four-member delegation and made a brief introduction of NSFC.

Founded in 1971 and located in Washington D.C, CGIAR was established by such organizations as the World Bank, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), International Fund For Agriculture Development and so on as an non-profit international organization on agricultural research. At present, most of the 15 international agricultural centers under CGIAR are set in developing countries, mainly covers the fields of agriculture, forestry, stockbreeding and fisheries. The tenet of CGIAR is to promote sustainable development in developing countries, assure food security and protect the diversity of environment and biology.

China became an official member of CGIAR in 1984 and the cooperation between China and CGIAR is taken charge by the Chinese Academy of Agriculture Sciences under the Ministry of Agriculture. China has conducted very effective and fruitful exchange and cooperation with CGIAR and has signed cooperative agreements successively with 11 research centers. Currently, 7 research centers have set offices in China, 5 research centers co-founded cooperative laboratory with China and 40 cooperative programs on agriculture have been made.

(Zhang Yongtao)

A Successful Visit of NSFC Delegation to Japan



On April 5 to 12, 2006, Prof. Zhu Daoben, Vice President of NSFC led a delegation consisted of 4 people to Japan. The delegation visited 8 organizations and received a warm welcome from each of them which include Prof. Ryoji Noyori, Nobel Laureate and President of the Institute of Physical and Chemical Research (RIKEN), Prof. Hiroo Inokuchi, Consultant to the President of Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), Prof. Saburo Nagakura, President of the Japan Academy, Prof. Motoyuki Ono, President of Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), Dr. Takashi Saito, Director of Toyota Central R&D Labs, Prof. Shin-ichi Hirano, President of Nagoya University, Prof. Hiroki Nakamura, Director General of Institute for Molecular Science (IMS), Prof. Shuzo Nishimura, Executive Vice President of Kyoto University, etc.. The delegation gave presentations in 4 meetings to make propaganda of the 11th Five-Year Plan of NSFC, the Chinese Basic Research on Chemical Sciences, and the International Program of NSFC. In addition, the delegation met with more than 20 Chinese scholars at RIKEN. Many media has reported this event.

(Zhang Yinglan)

Sino-Pakistan Workshop on Chemical Sciences



Prof. Zhu Daoben, Vice President of NSFC met with Prof. Butt and Mr. Subhan ud Din at the Headquarters of NSFC.

On April 18 to 19, 2006, Sino-Pakistan Workshop on Chemical Sciences was held at the Institute of Organic Chemistry in Shanghai. And on April 24, Prof. Zhu Daoben, Vice President of NSFC met with Prof. Butt and Mr. Subhan ud Din at the Headquarters of NSFC. Prof. Chen Yongjun, Deputy Director General of Department of Chemical Sciences, NSFC, and Prof. N.M. Butt, President of Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) delivered opening remarks at the opening ceremony of the workshop, respectively. Totally 25 scientists from China and Pakistan attended the workshop.

This workshop was jointly sponsored by NSFC and PSF under the framework of S&T cooperation agreement between two organizations. The workshop was held for the purpose of displaying the new research results in Chemical Sciences of two countries, promoting the exchanges between Chinese and Pakistan scientists, and deepening the cooperation at a higher level for the future.

There were 19 presentations in the areas of Chemical Biology, Pharmaceutical and Medical Chemistry, Synthetic Chemistry, Natural Products Chemistry, Phytochemistry, Analytical Chemistry, Material Chemistry, Physical Chemistry, Inorganic Chemistry, etc. Scientists presented their most up-to-date research results and discussed prospective development of these areas. More discussion on the common interests and research directions were prosecuted on the basis of individuals.

(Zhang Yinglan)

Vice President Wang Jie Met with the Director General of CIMMYT



On May 23, 2006, Prof. Wang Jie, Vice President of NSFC, met with the delegation from International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), headed by its Director General, Prof. Masa Iwanaga.

During the meeting, both sides reviewed the cooperation between NSFC and CIMMYT, and extended the wishes to strengthen the collaboration between two organizations in the future. The agreement was renewed between NSFC and CIMMYT, represented by Prof. Han Jianguo, Director General of Bureau of International Cooperation of NSFC and Prof. Masa Iwanaga, Director General of CIMMYT, respectively. Prof. Du Shengming, Executive Deputy Director of Department of Life Sciences of NSFC, Prof. Bai Ge, Deputy Director General of Bureau of International Cooperation of NSFC, attended the meeting.

(Zhang Yongtao)

China-Thailand Workshop on Avian Influenza Held in Beijing



From April 26 to 27, 2006, China-Thailand Workshop on Avian Influenza held in the Friendship Hotel, Beijing. Prof. Wang Jie, Vice President of National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) and Mr. Lubpairee, Deputy Secretary-General of the National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT) delivered opening remarks and signed a Memorandum of Understanding of Cooperation in the Area of Avian Influenza at the workshop. More than 20 Chinese and Thai scientists participated in the workshop.

The workshop was initiated by Prof. Chen Yiyu, President of NSFC and Prof. Ahnond Bunyaratvej, Secretary-General of NRCT during the visit of a NSFC delegation to Thailand in November 2005.

(Zhang Yinglan)

Vice President Zhu Zuoyan Met with UK Scientists



On May 7, 2006, Prof. Zhu Zuoyan, Vice President of NSFC, met with and hosted a dinner for the 5 participants and some of the Chinese participants to the China-UK Workshop on Developmental Biology and Human Diseases. He gave them an introduction about the latest development at NSFC and exchanged with them the recent research advances in related scientific fields in both countries.

The workshop was jointly sponsored by NSFC and Royal Society of UK and organized by Tsinghua University. The five participants from UK are all the well known researchers in the world and the members of Royal Society of UK.

(Lu Rongkai)

President Chen Yiyu Attended NSF Beijing Office Ribbon-cutting Ceremony



On May 24, 2006, Prof. Chen Yiyu, President of NSFC attended the opening ceremony of NSF Beijing Office and cut ribbon together with Dr. Arden L. Bement, Director of NSF, U.S. Ambassador Clark Randt, and Prof. Bai Chunli, Vice President of CAS. Chinese and US media gave coverage to the event.

“China and the United States have a long history of cooperation in scientific research,” said NSF Director Arden L. Bement at the ceremony, “Over the years, the National Science Foundation has worked with many organizations in China to bring together world-class scientists and engineers from our two nations. These collaborations have not only advanced the frontiers of discovery, they have also established relationships of mutual respect and friendship.”

(Chen Huai, Liu Xiuping)

Chinese Delegation Visited IIASA



On June 21, 2006, a Chinese delegation led by Prof. Zhu Zuoyan and Prof. Wang Jie, Vice Presidents of the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) attended the “Energy Day” of the International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) in Austria. The delegation consisted of 6 people from NSFC, Energy Research Institute of the National Development and Reform Commission, Institute of Engineering Thermophysics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and Tsinghua University. More than one hundred people with about 60 from 16 IIASA National Member Organizations (NMO) and about 50 from IIASA attended the meeting. 7 talks were presented and more than 50 questions were asked at the meeting. The participants were very much involved in the discussion on the energy problems faced to the world, such as energy demand, energy strategies, energy modeling, energy scenarios and technology portfolios, as well as linkages between demographics, land use, development and energy.

From June 12 to 13, Prof. Zhu and Prof. Wang attended the IIASA Council meeting and met with the Chinese scientists who are currently working or studying at IIASA. A group photo was taken.

(Zhang Yinglan)

Vice President Sun Jiaguang Visited Spain and Greece



From June 18 to July 1, 2006, Prof. Sun Jiaguang, Vice President led an NSFC delegation of science policy for a visit to Spain and Greece at the invitation of the Spanish Council for Scientific Research (CSIC) and the Ministry of Development of Greece. The delegation visited in Spain the Ministry of Research and Education, CSIC, the Foundation of Science and Technology (FECYT), the Industrial Development Technology (CDTI), and in Greece, the Policy Planning Directorate and Research Directorate of the Ministry of Development, the National Hellenic Research Foundation (NHRF), the National Center for Scientific Research Demokritos (NCSR), as well as some universities and research institutes of both countries. During the visits, Prof. Sun and his colleagues met with the government officials in charge of science and technology, the directors of the above funding bodies and leading scientists from the research institutions. They made a deep investigation and got a good understanding about the policy and measures in the two countries to promote the basic research and innovation, and the participation of the two countries in EU framework program to enhance the national S&T capacity. The delegation also took the opportunity to give an introduction about China's S&T development, NSFC and its role in basic research and innovation in China, and NSFC's international cooperation. On the basis of exchange of ideas about bilateral cooperation, the Spanish Ministry of Science and Education, CSIC, the Greek Ministry of Development, NHRF and NCSR Demokritos have all expressed their wishes to establish or strengthen the bilateral links with NSFC. Both sides also explored the possibilities of exchange of staff and jointly organizing workshops.

(Lu Rongkai)

President Chen Yiyu Headed NSFC Delegation Visiting Russia



From June 28 to July 2, 2006, at the invitation of Prof. Vladislav Yu. Khomich, President of Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR), an NSFC delegation headed by NSFC President Chen Yiyu paid a visit to Russia. Established in 1992 and as a result of science and technology system reform and sci-tech globalization, RFBR has seen a continuous increase of funding for basic research in the federal budget for R&D in the past years. The two sides expressed wishes to further the collaboration and to explore new ways to push the cooperation more effective and fruitful. The delegation also visited the Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences. The successful visit enhances the high level communication between the two foundations. Consensus was made on a series of issues, collaborative relations are further promoted and mutual understanding strengthened between science communities of the two countries.

(Chen Huai, Liu Xiuping)

Vice President Zhu Zuoyan Visited Thailand



On Sep. 10, 2006, invited by Prof. Ahnond Bunyaratvej, the Secretary-General of National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT), Prof. Zhu Zuoyan, Vice President of NSFC, participated in the seminar on “The Challenge of International Research Cooperation” organized by NRCT held in Bangkok, and gave a presentation on “National Natural Science Foundation of China and International Cooperation”. The representatives from Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), Korea Science and Engineering Foundation (KOSEF), Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) and International Council for Science (ICSU) also attended this seminar.

(Zhang Yongtao)

Vice President Zhu Zuoyan Met with MORST Delegation



On Sep. 6, 2006, Prof. Zhu Zuoyan, Vice President of NSFC met with a delegation from the New Zealand Ministry of Research, Science and Technology (MORST) headed by Ms. Helen Anderson, Chief Executive of MORST. The delegation was visiting China at the invitation of the Ministry of Science and Technology to attend the first China-New Zealand Joint Commission Meeting on Science and Technology Cooperation.

(Chen Huai, Liu Xiuping)

President Chen Yiyu Met with CONACYT President



On Sep.12, 2006, Prof. Chen Yiyu, President of NSFC met with Dr. Gustavo Chapela, President of Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología (CONACYT) of Mexico. At the invitation of Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology, the delegation visited China on a mission of exploring channels to promote bilateral science and technology cooperation with relevant science and technology administrative agencies between China and Mexico. The meeting between top administrators of the two sides is the second time of its kind since the visit of the ex-President of CONACYT in August 2004, through which mutual understanding and communications are further enhanced. President Chapela extended his invitation to President Chen Yiyu to pay a visit to Mexico at his time of convenience to further promote bilateral cooperation and communication.

(Chen Huai, Liu Xiuping)

Vice President Zhu Daoben Met with the US Gordon Conference Delegation



On Oct. 18, 2006, Prof. Zhu Daoben, Vice President of NSFC, met with the US Gordon Conference delegation. The two sides exchanged views on current and future cooperation in the field of chemical sciences.

(Chen Huai, Liu Xiuping)

NSFC-NSF Workshop on Financial Management Held in Beijing

Apr. 25-26, 2006, the NSFC-NSF Workshop on Financial Management, co-organized by NSFC Bureau of Finance and NSF Office of Budget, Financial and Award Management (BFA), were held in Beijing. Through communications and discussions on financial management system, operational mechanisms and practical experiences, the workshop aims at enhancing financial management of science funds, improving financial management system, and promoting fund management skills. NSF representatives to the workshop include Ms. Shirl Ruffin, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Ms. Martha Rubenstein and Mr. Michael Sieverts, Director and Deputy Director of the Budget Division, BFA, Mr. John Lynskey, Deputy Director of the Financial Management Division and Dr. William Y. Chang, Director of NSF Beijing Office. Chinese representatives from the Ministry of Finance, MOST, CAS, Bureau of S&T Audit and National Audit Office were also invited to the workshop. NSFC Vice President Wang Jie addressed in the meeting on behalf of NSFC. Altogether 60 participants coming from institutions undertaking NSFC projects and relevant NSFC offices, scientific departments and affiliated offices attended the workshop.

Vice President Zhu Zuoyan Met with NSF Deputy Director



On Oct. 19, 2006, Prof. Zhu Zuoyan, Vice President of NSFC met with NSF Deputy Director, Dr. Kathie Olsen, on the occasion of the 12th China-US Science & Technology Joint Commission Meeting held in Diaoyutai State House, Beijing. Dr. Olsen passed NSF Director Dr. Bement's good wishes to Prof. Chen Yiyu and leaders of NSFC and his appreciation to NSFC's hospitality to him during the Forum commemorating NSFC's 20th anniversary held in Beijing early this year. Prof. Zhu Zuoyan expressed his welcome to Dr. Olsen's visit and retrospected the long-term friendly bilateral cooperation between the two sides. Dr. Olsen agreed that the collaborative relationship is highly effective and expressed her will to get the tie further strengthened.

(Chen Huai, Liu Xiuping)

President Chen Yiyu Met with the Director of ENOSHIMA AQUARIUM



On Oct. 25, 2006, Prof. Chen Yiyu, President of NSFC, cordially met with Ms. Yukiko Hori, Director of ENOSHIMA AQUARIUM in Japan. At the invitation of Chinese Association of Natural Science Museums (CANSM), Ms. Hori came to attend the annual meeting in Beijing. Since 20 year ago, Ms. Hori came to China and started the cooperation on protection of a rare animal Chinese River Dolphin with Institute of Hydrobiology of Chinese Academy of Sciences. Deputy Director General Chang Qing from Bureau of International Cooperation of NSFC, Prof. Qiu Huasheng from Bureau of International Cooperation of Chinese Academy of Science, and others also attended the meeting.

(Zhang Yinglan)

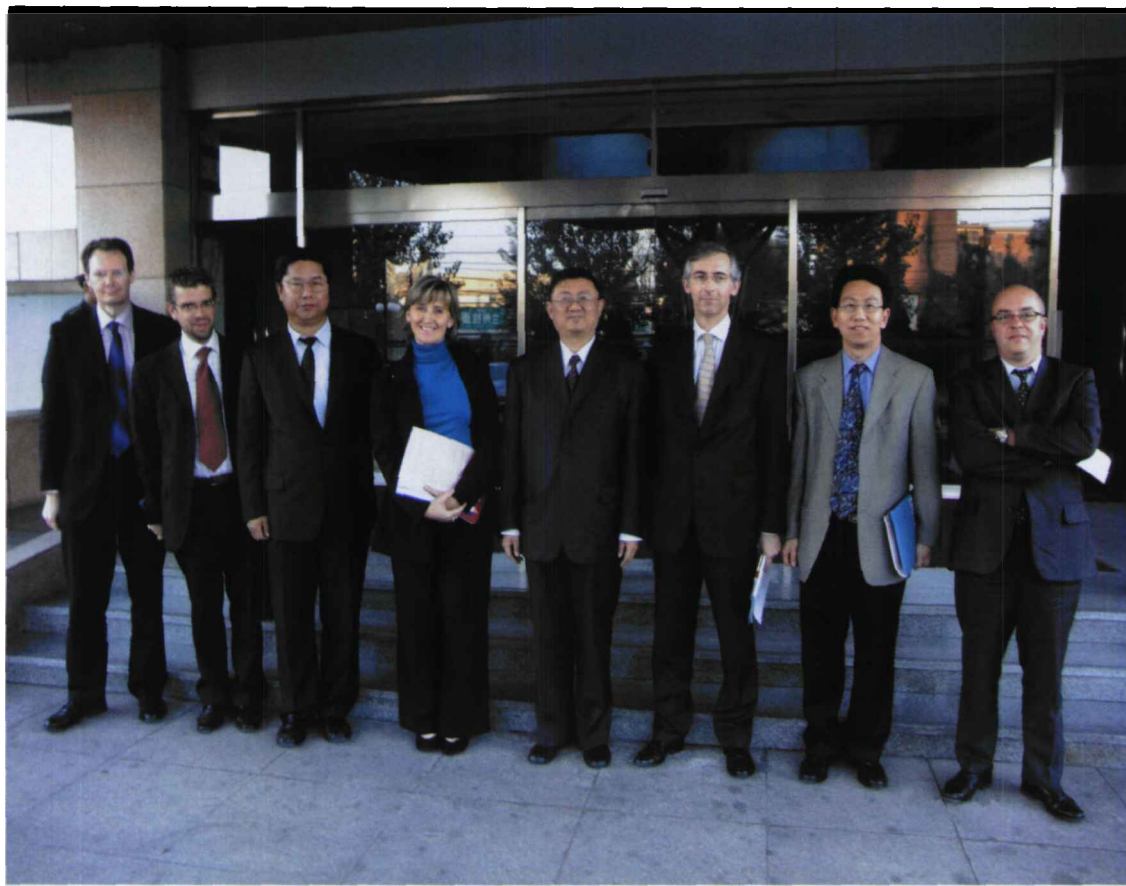
Vice President Wang Jie Met with Deputy Director of IIASA



On Oct. 26, 2006, Professor Wang Jie, Vice President of NSFC, cordially met with Professor Sten Nilsson, Deputy Director of International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), and a Chinese scholar at IIASA Dr. Cao Guiying. At the invitation of Peking University, they came to attend the BEIJING FORUM held in New Century Hotel. NSFC is the National Member Organization of China in IIASA. Since NSFC joined IIASA 4 years ago, the cooperation between Chinese scientists and IIASA scholars has been strengthened effectively. Professor Zheng Xiaoying from Peking University, Deputy Director General Chang Qing from Bureau of International Cooperation of NSFC, Deputy Director General Zhang Wei from Department of Management Sciences of NSFC, and others also attended the meeting.

(Zhang Yinglan)

Prof. Wang Jie Met with Belgian Minister



On Oct. 23, 2006, Professor Wang Jie, Vice President of NSFC, met with Ms. Marie Dominique Simonet, Minister of Higher Education, Scientific Research and International Relations of the French Community of Belgium and Minister of Research, New Technologies and External Relations of the Walloon Region.

Professor Wang first gave a brief introduction of NSFC and its cooperation with Belgium during the past few years. Both sides then discussed issues of common interest such as international evaluation, funding of young researchers as well as how to strengthen mutual cooperation under the 7th EU Framework Agreement.

The visit of Ms. Simmona to China aims to promote cooperation with China in higher education and scientific research.

(Fan Yingjie)

NSFC Delegation Visited IIASA and CIMMYT



On Nov. 12 to Nov. 21, 2006, a delegation led by Professor Wang Jie, Vice President of NSFC attended the Council meeting of International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) in Austria and visited the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) in Mexico.

The year of 2006 is the fourth year of China joining in IIASA. China has played a more and more important role in IIASA. At this Council meeting, Professor Wang Jie was elected as the Chairman of IIASA Membership Committee, hence became a member of IIASA Executive Committee.

At the invitation of Dr. Masa Iwanaga, Director of CIMMYT, the delegation paid a visit to CIMMYT on Nov. 17, 2006. The delegation visited CIMMYT working groups and exchanged ideas of cooperation with Chinese scientists. Both sides reached an agreement that two NSFC Major International Cooperation Research Projects will be implemented each year in six areas of durable disease resistance, yield potential and grain quality in wheat, disease resistance, drought tolerance, high oil content in maize. This joint effort will promote agriculture research in China by utilizing fully the resources of international organization.

(Zhang Yinglan)

President Chen Yiyu Attended the 4th Meeting of Heads of Research Councils in Asia



On Nov. 7, 2006, the 4th Meeting of Heads of Research Councils in Asia was held successfully in Beppu, Japan. Prof. Chen Yiyu, President of NSFC headed a delegation of four people to attend the meeting. Prof. Motoyuki Ono, President of Japan Society for Promotion of Science (JSPS) and Dr. Oh-Kab Kwon, Chairman and CEO of Korea Science and Engineering Foundation (KOSEF) also headed their delegations to attend the meeting. In the meeting, three organizations presented their own science and technology policies and had an active discussion. The theme for the 2007 Northeastern Asian Symposium and 2008 A3 Foresight Program was decided. Afterward, the delegations visited the Kyushu University. Prof. Chen also met the Chinese students and scholars at Kyushu University organized by the Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in Fukuoka.

(Zhang Yongtao)

President Chen Yiyu Met with German Press Delegation



On Nov. 13, Prof. Chen Yiyu, President of NSFC met with the visiting German press delegation let by Prof. Frank Steglich, Vice President of DFG, the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft.

(Fan Yingjie)

Top-level Forum-“Scientific Frontier and China’s Opportunities in the 21st Century” Held in Beijing

On May 25-26, 2006, top-level forum-“Scientific Frontier and China’s Opportunities in the 21st Century” was held by NSFC in Beijing. Roughly 200 attendees, covering leaderships of scientific foundations from 7 different countries including USA, Germany, Japan and Russia etc., as well as scientists including 7 Nobel Price Laureates, and Chinese researchers in different disciplinary areas, were present in the forum. State Councilor Chen Zhili delivered a keynote speech in the forum. Prof. Chen Yiyu, President of NSFC, addressed his talk in the beginning. State Councilor Chen Zhili pointed out that, the implementation of science foundation was a successful practice in China’s reformation process of science and technology; an effective foresighted strategic measure to esteem and protect scientific initiation, and to promote the development of fundamental research, and nation’s innovation capability; and a milestone in China’s scientific development history.

Vice President Sun Jianguang Met with CNRS President



On Nov. 20, 2006, Prof. Sun Jianguang, Vice President of NSFC met with and hosted lunch for Prof. Catherine Brechignac, President of National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS). Prof. Sun first extended his warm welcome to the delegation. Prof. Han Jianguo, Director General of NSFC Bureau of International Cooperation, then gave a brief introduction on NSFC and its international cooperation, followed by the presentation of Mr. Jean-Jacques Gagnepain, Consultant of CNRS President on reform of the French Science system and the 3 newly established research funding organizations. The discussion thereafter focused on issues concerning further bilateral cooperation and exchange based on the existing agreement, in particular after the establishment of the new science system in France.

CNRS is one of NSFC's four cooperative partners in France and a sound working relationship has been maintained ever since the agreement was signed. Prof. Brechignac, who was appointed as President of CNRS at the beginning of this year, came to China this time to learn about the Chinese scientific development so as to further promote bilateral scientific cooperation.

(Fan Yingjie)

Vice President Sun Jianguang Led NSFC Delegation Visiting Brazil and Egypt



During Dec.10-21, 2006, Prof. Sun Jianguang, Vice President of NSFC, led an NSFC delegation visiting Brazil and Egypt, on a mission to learn river and ocean engineering of the two countries and to explore possible cooperative channels. The delegation visited the Federal Rio University and several laboratories under it, the Itaipu Dam in Foz Iguacu, the Iguacu Municipality, the Egyptian Water Center and 6 institutes under it. On Dec. 12, the delegation visited the Federal Rio University and held discussions with Prof. Jose Luiz Fontes Monteiro, Provost of the University.

(Chen Huai, Liu Xiuping)