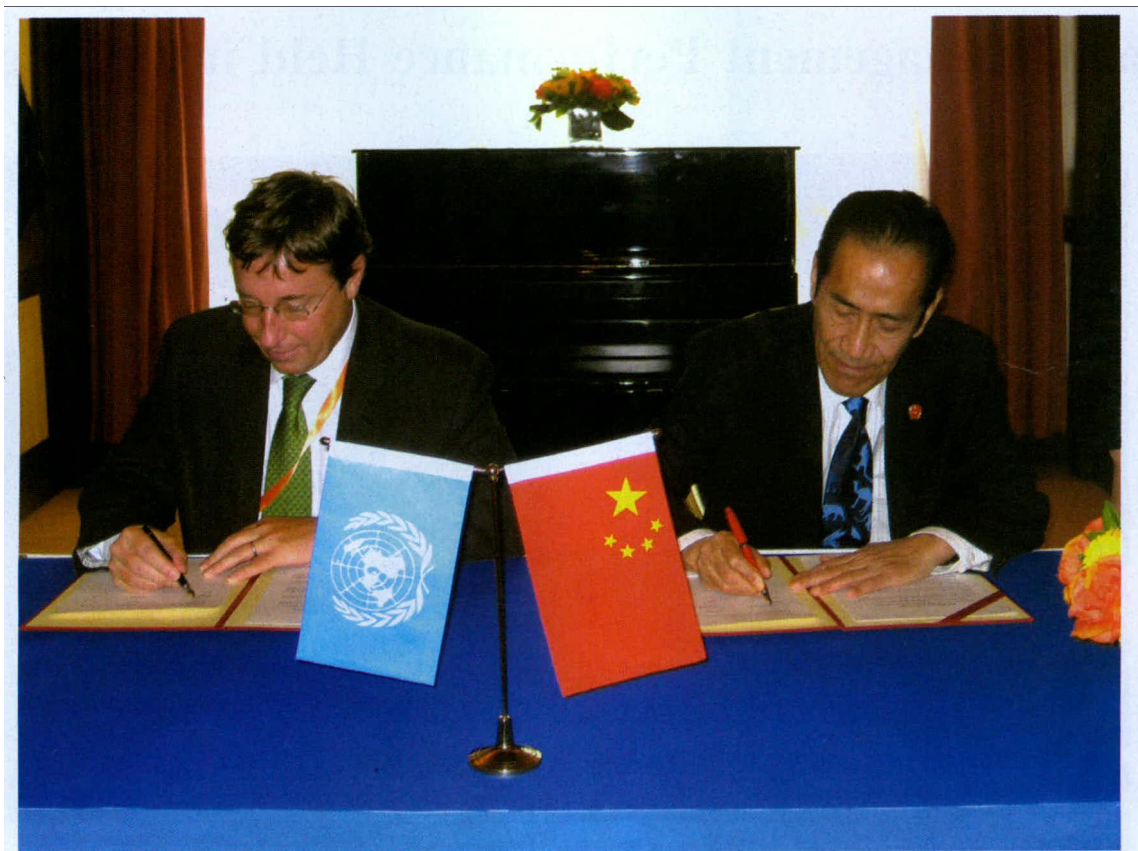


MOU between NSFC and UNEP signed in Beijing



The Memorandum of Understanding between NSFC (National Natural Science Foundation of China) and UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme) was signed in Beijing Hotel on November 11, 2010. Prof. Chen Yiyu, President of NSFC and Mr. Achim Steiner, Deputy Secretary General of UN and Executive Director of UNEP affixed their signatures on the MOU on behalf of respective agencies.

Before the signature, Prof. Chen Yiyu met with Mr. Steiner and expressed thanks for his attendance on annual meeting of the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development. Prof. Chen briefed the foreign guests about the progress of NSFC and expressed that NSFC had all along attached importance to the research of environment issue and conducted all-around and effective funding in many fields. Mr. Steiner thanked Prof. Chen for attending the signing ceremony. The two sides all agreed that full preparations had been made since Prof. Chen led a delegation to visit UNEP headquarters in September, 2009 and as a result of the successful visit, the signing of the MOU was assured and natural. The two sides also hoped to develop cooperation and exchanges in the field of environment and made contribution to the collaboration between China and Africa by making the best use of the reached consensus.

UNEP participants include Zhang Shigang, coordinator of UNEP China Office, Wang Zhijia, Special Coordinator, Division of Regional Cooperation and Liu Jian, Director of International Ecosystem Management Partnership. NSFC attendees are Chai Yucheng, Executive Deputy Director-general, Department of Earth Science, Chang Qing, Executive Deputy Director-general of Bureau of International Cooperation, Yu Zhenliang, Department of Life Science and staff from Division of Asia and Africa.