

President Chen Yiyu Visits Greece, Spain and Germany



Prof. Chen Yiyu, President of NSFC, led a delegation to visit Greece, Spain and Germany from May 21 to June 1, 2011.

During his visit in Greece, Prof. Chen met with Anna Diamantopoulou, the Minister of Education in charge of science and technology affairs. Prof. Chen introduced China's science and technology structure and the important role of NSFC in the system. The Minister expressed great interest in collaboration with China in science and technology. Both sides agreed to actively promote Sino-Greece collaboration in science and technology and hope to sign the NSFC-GSRT bilateral cooperation agreement during the Minister's upcoming visit to China in July, 2011. At the Minister's invitation, the delegation attended the General Assembly of the Directors of Greek Research and Technology Centers and gave a comprehensive introduction about NSFC. The delegation also visited the National Hellenic Research Foundation and the National Centre for Scientific Research (Demokritos), where they learned Greece's latest progress in science and technology.

In Spain, Prof. Chen Yiyu met with Prof. E. Bouboukas, Vice President of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and discussed future substantial cooperation. They agreed to organize bilateral workshops in water resources and plant molecular biology, and meanwhile explore the opportunities to fund the substantial joint research projects by scientists from the two countries. The two sides also agreed

to sign a new Memorandum of Understanding to provide guidance for future funding activities. The delegation visited the subordinate institutes of CSIC such as National Museum of Natural Science, Royal Botanical Gardens, National Institute of Microelectronic, Institute of Environmental Diagnose and Water Research and Institute of Earth Sciences Jaume Almera.

In Germany, Prof. Chen met with Prof. Matthias Kleiner, President of DFG. Both sides exchanged their latest progress and discussed the ongoing Sino-German-Finnish Joint Call on immunology and other relevant issues concerning Sino-German Center and Sino-German interdisciplinary cooperation and research projects.

Members of the delegation include officials from NSFC Bureau of International Cooperation, Department of Earth Sciences, and Department of Engineering Material Sciences.

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The 4th Plenary Session of the 6th NSFC General Assembly Held in Beijing

The 4th Plenary Session of the 6th NSFC General Assembly was held in Beijing on March 23rd, 2011.

At the opening ceremony, NSFC President Chen Yiyu delivered NSFC's Work Report entitled "Keep Opening up New Prospect for the Development of the Science Fund by Highlighting Strategic Orientation and Creating Environment for Innovation". NSFC Vice President Sun Jianguang delivered the "Report on Formulating the Twelfth Five-Year Plan for the National Natural Science Foundation". Professor Zhu Daoben Chairman of NSFC Supervision Committee, delivered the Work Report of NSFC Supervision Committee. Mr. Qi Chenyuan, Director General of the Department of High-tech Industry of the National Development and Reform Commission, and Mr. Zhao Lu, Director-General of the Department of Education, Science and Culture of the Ministry of Finance gave speeches respectively. Members of General Assembly and Supervision Committee attended the meeting. Participants of the meeting also included representatives from State Council Legislative Affairs Office, State Council Research Office, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, National Audit Office, Chinese Academy of Science, Chinese Academy of Engineering, and China Association for Science and Technology. NSFC Vice President Wang Jie chaired the opening ceremony.

The Plenary Meeting examined and approved by voting all work reports and the "Twelfth Five-year Plan for The National Natural Science Foundation of China. President Chen, Vice Presidents Wang Jie, Shen Wenqing, Sun Jianguang, Shen Yan, Yao Jiannian, He Minghong, Deputy Secretary General and Director-General of General Office Gao Ruiping attended the meeting and participated in group discussions. President Chen delivered the concluding report at the closing meeting chaired by Vice President Shen Wenqing.