The First Meeting for the China-Czech Cooperation Center under the “Belt and Road” Initiative Meeting Minutes

In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding on Jointly Coordinating and Monitoring the Implementation of Bilateral Cooperation Plan and Projects under the Framework of the Belt and Road Initiative (hereinafter referred to as the “Memorandum of Understanding”) signed on May 12, 2017 between the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic and the National Development and Reform Commission of the People’s Republic of China, the International Cooperation Center (ICC) of the National Development and Reform Commission of the People’s Republic of China and the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MIT) of the Czech Republic (hereinafter referred to as “Two Sides”) held the first meeting of the China-Czech Cooperation Center under the “Belt and Road” Initiative (hereinafter referred to as the “China-Czech Cooperation Center”) on July 17, 2017 on the sidelines of the China Investment Forum (CIF 2017).

The representatives of the Western Region Development Department of the National Development and Reform Commission of the P.R.C, the Office of the President of the Czech Republic, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic and the representatives of enterprises attended the meeting.

The two sides agree that China and the Czech Republic have gained great achievements in cooperation on jointly building the “Belt and Road”, China-Czech cooperation is ahead of China’s cooperation with other
Central and Eastern European countries (CEE), and have set a good example for CEE countries and other European countries with regard to the implementation of the “Belt and Road” initiative. In particular, the singing of the Memorandum of Understanding marks a new stage of China-Czech cooperation under the Framework of the “Belt and Road” Initiative.

The two sides agree to divide bilateral cooperation projects into three distinct categories according to the level of their maturity. The two sides recognize the following three categories: A) projects under implementation, B) projects in the pipeline, and C) potential projects.

Drawing on the Memorandum of Understanding, the two sides reviewed progress of bilateral cooperation, and in particular, reviewed implementation of the 22 projects (categories A and B) contained in the Attachment to the Memorandum of Understanding, analyzed existing problems and discussed the potential projects. The two sides have reached consensus that, in the next step, both sides should give priority to the 22 projects in China-Czech Major Cooperation Projects. The two sides agree they will make it their priority to promote those projects and will strive to make it possible for the expedient completion of those projects.

The two sides discussed additional 8 cooperation projects in categories A and B (Attachment 1). The two sides will make a positive effort to promote those additional bilateral cooperation projects.

In addition, the two sides agree that the following two projects (CRRC and Skoda Transportation, CEFC and TSS Group) will be included in the category C (potential projects) but shall not be made public unless moved to the category A or B. The two sides reiterate that
all the above-mentioned cooperation projects should be carried out on the purely commercial basis. The meeting minutes of the first meeting of China-Czech cooperation center and any future documents signed by the two sides shall not be legally binding concerning category A, B, C.

The two sides discussed the purpose, organizational framework and operation mechanism of the China-Czech Cooperation Center (Attachment 2), and agree that the China-Czech Cooperation Center is an effective vehicle for the implementation of the Bilateral Cooperation Plan under the Framework of the “Belt and Road” Initiative (hereinafter referred to as “Cooperation Plan”). The aim is to establish a highly efficient working mechanism to strengthen communication and coordination of the implementation of the Cooperation Plan. In particular, the Center shall strive to promote the implementation of cooperation projects and provide efficient platform and mechanism for the implementation of Cooperation Plan.

The meeting minutes were signed in Prague, the Czech Republic on July 18, 2017. It is written in three copies, and each copy is written in Chinese, Czech and English.

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Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Czech Republic

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