

PRESS RELEASE

for immediate release

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EU Gateway sets the stage for Business Missions in China

EU Gateway to China Programme will be launched on 21st March 2017

On **21st March 2017**, Mr. Hans-Dietmar Schweisgut, EU Ambassador to China, will announce the formal launch of the EU Gateway to China Programme, a business facilitation programme, financed by the European Union that was added to the EU Gateway | Business Avenues roster in 2016.

Four Business Missions will be held across China in support of establishing long-lasting business collaborations between European and Chinese companies. The first Business Mission on the Clean Technologies sector will take place during $20^{th} - 24^{th}$ March 2017.

Mr. Hans-Dietmar Schweisgut shared his views on the first Business Mission: "Stimulating cooperation between Chinese and

European clean technology companies will greatly support the globally agreed Sustainable Development Goals, which include improving energy efficiency, increasing air quality, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and fostering an environmentally sustainable economy."

According to China's 13th Five-Year Plan, the number of business collaborations between European SMEs and Chinese companies is steadily growing.

Ms. Jasmine Zhang, EU Gateway to China sector expert, elaborated on the rapid growth of the clean technology market sector in China. "Over the past five years, China has emerged as the world's largest producer and consumer of clean technologies, while the country's investment in clean technology and renewable energy has exceeded the combined total invested by Europe and the US. China's clean technology industry has been growing rapidly, reaching 4.5 trillion RMB in 2015, a 16.4% increase from 2014."





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A total of 40 EU Clean Technologies companies will present their products, technologies and innovative solutions during the Exhibition Days from 21st – 22nd March at the Kempinski Hotel Beijing Lufthansa Center. All interested Chinese companies are welcome to visit the exhibition and register for one-to-one business meetings on the EU Gateway to China website, <u>www.eu-gateway.cn</u>.

