

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
AFFAIRS, EDUCATION AND RESEARCH OF
THE SWISS CONFEDERATION AND
THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE OF
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
ON THE ENHANCEMENT OF THE
SWITZERLAND - CHINA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

The Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research of the Swiss Confederation and the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"):

RECOGNIZING the long-standing friendship and strong economic ties between the Swiss Confederation and the People's Republic of China;

RECALLING *the Joint Statement on Establishing Innovative Strategic Partnership Between the Swiss Confederation and the People's Republic of China* issued in April 2016;

RECALLING *the Free Trade Agreement between the Swiss Confederation and the Peoples Republic of China* (hereinafter referred to as "the FTA") signed in Beijing, China on 6 July 2013, and entered into force on 1 July 2014;

NOTING that the FTA has proven to be an effective instrument to enhance bilateral trade and investment;

RECALLING the discussions held at the second meeting of the Switzerland - China FTA Joint Committee on 14 September 2016 in Beijing, China;

RESOLVED to further deepen and strengthen bilateral relationship and enhance

economic and trade relations in a new era;

HAVE REACHED the following consensus on the occasion of the official visit to Switzerland by H.E. XI Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China:

1. The Parties will engage to explore possibilities of further enhancing the FTA comprehensively;
2. The Parties mandate officials on both sides to start the joint study process at an early time;
3. Future working plans are subject to the outcome of the joint study process.

Done in duplicate in Berne, Switzerland, on 16 January 2017, in the French, Chinese and English languages, all three texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English version shall prevail.

For the Federal Department of Economic
Affairs, Education and Research of

the Swiss Confederation

For the Ministry of Commerce of

the People's Republic of China



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