

Welcome speech on the occasion of 'Swiss Innovation Week Business Workshop'

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Chairman of CCPIT Shanghai Sub-Council

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Dear Mr. Syz & Mr. Kleiber,
Ladies and Gentlemen:

Good morning!

I feel greatly honored to attend the 'Swiss Innovation Week Business Workshop'. First of all, please allow me on behalf of the CCPIT Shanghai Sub-Council, Shanghai Chamber of International Commerce to extend my warmest welcome and sincere gratitude to the Swiss friends and the Chinese representatives present today.

The business contacts and cooperation between China and Switzerland have been frequently exchanged for the past few years. So far there are about 600 Swiss enterprises having set up the plants or representative offices in China, amongst which 200 Swiss companies have invested in Shanghai. As is known to all, Switzerland is a country with a long tradition of top-quality industry and academic institutions. Besides its traditional industry, Switzerland has taken the lead in the field of life science, environmental protection and public transportation. Later on you will have the opportunity to hear the presentation delivered by the Swiss expertise.

In order to let you have the better understanding of Shanghai, I would take this opportunity to brief on the recent economy development. Shanghai is one of the most developed regions of China, which plays a vital role in the social development and economic construction. It will become the international trade, finance and shipping center. The growth rate of GDP in Shanghai has kept over 10% for the past decade. Last year the GDP exceeded 4500 US dollars per capita that remains the same level

of a middle-developed country.

Shanghai is a major trade port and communication hub of China. The government is striving to the development of its infrastructure and continuously improving the soft investment environment. At present Shanghai is keeping a close relationship with over 160 countries and regions. From January to April this year, the total import and export volume of Shanghai is 20.7 billion US dollars, among which the volume between Shanghai and Switzerland reaches 120 million US dollars. The trade volume that Shanghai exported to Switzerland is about 21 million US dollars. And the volume that Shanghai imported from Switzerland is around 105 million US dollars. It signifies that there is a large space for the mutual development in trade. Through the seminar this time, I wish that the Shanghai entrepreneurs would learn more about advanced Swiss achievements; facilitate technology transfer and economic collaboration between each of us hence to promote the bilateral relationship.

As the largest international trade promotion organization in Shanghai, CCPIT Shanghai Sub-Council, Shanghai Chamber of International Commerce has devoted to facilitating the economic exchanges with other countries all over the world. It has played a key role in promoting foreign trade, utilizing foreign capitals and absorbing foreign know-how. We would spare no efforts to the economic development between China and Switzerland.

Finally I wish the Swiss Innovation Week a great success.

Thank you!