

Polska



Meeting of the China-CEEC Business Council

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- This is a great challenge and a great opportunity at the same time to strengthen the position of our country within the multilateral relations between Europe and China. The Business Council is to be a practical tool for information exchange and a platform for implementation of the economic undertakings – stressed Bożena Lublińska - Kasprzak, the President of Polish Agency for Enterprise Development (PARP).

The decision to establish the China-CEEC Business Council was taken at the summit of the Heads of Governments of CEE countries and China, kept in Beograd in December 2014. This is another initiative which underlies a broad and comprehensive cooperation between China and Europe under “16+1” formula.

- Poland welcomes and contributes to these initiatives because they are perceived as sources of many opportunities not only in the bilateral relations of EEC countries and China, but in expanding the relations within the group of these countries, in particular for the joint initiatives with regard to China – said Janusz Piechociński, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Economy.

The Business Council includes the business environment institutions from the CEE countries and China. The inaugural meeting of the Council in Katowice was attended by 16 institutions from 13 CEE countries and China.

The main objective of the Business Council is to stimulate economic cooperation in the area of mutual investment, trade and technology cooperation, and to balance the trade between its members. The Business Council will particularly seek to promote and develop mutual economic relations at the level of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

- The China-CEEC Business Council will positively contribute to establishing multilateral contacts under “16+1” formula, organization of joint economic seminars, exchange of information on business conditions with China and among our countries, report major events associated with the trade promotion under “16+1” formula – said Deputy Prime Minister Janusz Piechociński.

At the meeting its attendants had an opportunity to share their experience and present the profiles of represented institutions. At the first meeting of the Council the attendants could discover more about each other and adopt the procedures relevant to the activities of newly established structure. Each institution presented its experience of CEE-EEC-China economic cooperation as well as the future joint economic undertakings.

The meeting also provided an opportunity for advancing the most recent initiatives and events which will contribute to strengthening of relations between the countries represented in the Council. Witold Stępień, Marshall of Łódź Voievodeship, encouraged the attendants to take part if the Forum of Regions Poland-China which would be held by the end of June and would provide an opportunity to establish business contacts between the Chinese and European entrepreneurs. Apart from the representatives of the business environment institutions the meeting was attended by the representatives of Hatrans - the operator of rail link between Łódź and Chengdu.

The inauguration of the Council activities was attended by special guests: Janusz Piechociński, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy; Wang Chao, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China; Katarzyna Kacperczyk, Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland, responsible for coordination of the cooperation under 16+1 formula; as well as ministers from a number of region countries.

The 7th European Economic Congress held between 20 and 22 April in Katowice is one of the largest business events of this kind in this region of Europe. Three-day Congress was attended by more than 6,000 guests from all over the world.

(PARP)



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