



Council of the  
European Union

076108/EU XXVI. GP  
Eingelangt am 26/09/19

Brussels, 26 September 2019  
(OR. en)

12504/19

ENV 800  
ASIE 38

**NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Delegations

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Subject: The 7th High-Level Dialogue Conference of the China-Europe Water Platform (Guimarães, Portugal, 6 - 9 November 2019)  
- Information from the Portuguese delegation

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Delegations will find in the Annex an information note from the Portuguese delegation on the abovementioned subject, to be dealt with under ‘Any other business’ at the Council (Environment) meeting on 4 October 2019.

**The 7th High-Level Dialogue Conference of the China-Europe Water Platform  
(Guimarães, Portugal, 6 - 9 November 2019)**

**- Information from the Portuguese delegation -**

The 7<sup>th</sup> China Europe Water Platform (CEWP) High-Level Conference Dialogue 2019, jointly organised by the Portuguese Ministry of Environment and Energy Transition and the Chinese Ministry of Water Resources, will take place in Guimarães, Portugal, from 6 to 9 November 2019.

Both regions face similar challenges regarding the environment and sustainable development and the meeting will be attended by high-level representatives on both sides. China's Minister of Water Resources has confirmed his presence and will be accompanied by a large delegation including several business representatives.

China and Europe continue to be committed to enhancing cooperation and dialogue, undertaking joint efforts to achieve the water goals within the 2030 Agenda, and thus laying down a solid foundation to pursue other Sustainable Development Goals.

Recognised as an important cooperation and partnership initiative, the CEWP aims to promote policy dialogue, collaborative research and business cooperation in the field of water. Since its beginning, the annual high-level conferences have become important occasions for the exchange of best practices on water governance, and also for the provision of strong guidance for several bilateral cooperative activities.

The China Europe Water Platform was launched in Marseille, France, in 2012, building on a rich cooperation and broad exchange of experiences. China-Europe water cooperation has frequently been on the agenda at China-Europe leaders' summits, gaining momentum in the framework of China-Europe cooperation and increased participation and recognition from EU Member States.

The 7th High-Level Conference theme will be ‘Water and Innovation’, including sub-topics such as the ecological security of rivers and drought management in an era of climate change. As a consequence of the high-level commitment, ministers, senior officials and top experts from China and Europe will engage in dialogue, including the exchange of information and best practices, with a view to addressing challenges and effectively exploring problem-solving solutions.

Back-to-back with the High-Level Dialogue Conference, a business forum and exhibition, technical workshops and seminars will also take place, with total attendance expected to reach 200 participants.

The technical workshops and seminars will focus on technology demand, innovation and water governance measures, which will be discussed in the context of water management and ecological security, rural water and food security, water and urbanisation, water and energy, as well as new and emerging issues.

The business forum and exhibition will strive to address challenges such as water shortage, water pollution, or water resource stresses in an era of climate change, providing valuable information on the roles and opportunities for China-Europe business cooperation.

Complete information about this meeting including registration procedures can be found on the following website:

<https://www.cewppt2019.pt>

Interested parties should not hesitate to contact [cewppt2019@sg.mate.gov.pt](mailto:cewppt2019@sg.mate.gov.pt)

Portugal considers this an excellent opportunity for Member States to actively engage or strengthen their participation in China-Europe cooperation in the field of water, and is eager to host Member State delegations in the city of Guimarães.