



“The Hamburg Summit: China meets Europe”

Keynote Speech

by

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Hamburg
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Distinguished President Fritz Horst Melsheimer,

Distinguished Mayor Olaf Scholz,

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning! The “Hamburg Summit: China meets Europe” meets us once again in this golden autumn. Since its birthday in 2004, the Hamburg Summit has come to its 10-year-old celebration. During these 10 years, the global economy has encountered unprecedented challenges, China and Europe need to cooperate with each other, more than ever, to solve the problems in development. The Hamburg Summit, which insists on open and equal, has become one of the most important non-government exchange platforms for both sides to deepen understanding, enhance mutual trust and promote cooperation.

As the co-host of the summit, the China Association of Trade in Services (CATIS) has always been treating the Hamburg Summit as the window for dialogue between Chinese enterprises and Europe, and the bridge for service trade cooperation between China and Europe. Under the background of the scientific and technical innovation keeps promoting the global industrial upgrading, the competition of world trade shows more in competition of service trade, service trade has become the new engine for economic growth and the focus of great powers, the role of service trade cooperation in China-Europe economic and trade contact is going to be more and more important.

Now, China is in the key period of deepening the reform, upgrading and transforming, developing services industry and service trade has become the important strategic force. In 2013, the proportion of value added of services industry reached 46.1% which took over the Secondary industry for the first time, and services industry became the first industry of China national economy. In 2013, the total export-import volume of services reached USD 539.64 billion, the year-on-year growth reached 14.7%, the proportion of service trade in foreign trade reached 11.5%, up by 0.7% comparing to 2012. In the first half of 2014, the increasing speed of value added of services industry kept higher than that of the Secondary industry, the proportion of services industry in GDP reached 46.6%. From January to July this year, the attraction of foreign investment in services industry kept increasing rapidly, the actually utilized foreign investment reached USD 39.72 billion, 55.8% of the national total volume. The rapid growth and annually growth of attraction of foreign investment of the services industry guaranteed the steady increase of service trade. In the same period, the total export-import volume of services reached USD 335.7 billion, the year-on-year growth reached 14.3%, high value-added services such as financial services, information services, consulting services were growing fast.

The State Council of China issued the Guidance on Boosting the Development of Productive Services and Promoting the Transformation and Upgrade of Industrial Structure this August. This guidance drew up the plan for supporting the development of productive services, and pointed out 11 sectors (R&D, third-party logistics, financial leasing, energy conservation and environmental protection services, e-commerce, service outsourcing, etc) as priorities. The Suggestions on Supporting Steady Growth of Foreign Trade issued by the General Office of the State Council of China also expressed that the development of service trade was an

important force for optimizing the structure of foreign trade, and would support the rapid development of service trade from aspects of public finance, taxation, finance and facilitation. In the meanwhile, China is now continuously increasing the opening up of services industry. The building of the Shanghai Free Trade Zone is a good opportunity for cross-border e-commerce. What will happen from now on bears immense opportunities for the development of China's service trade.

CATIS is the only national social body for trade in services in China, and its members cover all 12 sectors of trade in services. CATIS has been focusing on establishing long-term and steady relationship with governments and organizations worldwide, and building communication and exchange platform for enterprises worldwide. China and Europe have great cooperation potential in service trade, we hope more Chinese enterprises go to Europe and more European enterprises come to China!

I wish the 2014 Hamburg Summit a great success! Thank you!