

Minutes on potential cooperation between CSIR AnHui Province, China

08 October 2013, at 15:0 The Gateway CSIR Pretoria B3

Present:

Berenice Lue Marais (BLM) – Strategic Partnerships (Chairperson)

Dr Daniel Visser (DV) – Acting Executive Director CSIR Biosciences

Sipho Mtsweni (SM) – Universities and Research Institutions

Themba Belle (TB) – Provinces

Eunice Ndeke (EN) – Funding agencies

Huang Wei (HW) – Counsellor Embassy of the Republic of China

Dr Zhang Dong (ZD) – Second Secretary Embassy of the Republic of China

Record of proceedings	Action
<p>1 Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>1.1 BLM welcomed all to the meeting and introduced the CSIR participants.</p> <p>1.2 The purpose of the meeting was to discuss potential cooperation between CSIR and AnHui Province, China.</p>	

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<p>1.3 ZD noted that China wants to work with CSIR because CSIR is known as a World leading organisation in Research, development, and commercialisation.</p> <p>1.4 AnHui Province is interested in setting up collaboration between CSIR and corresponding institutions in China.</p> <p>1.5 Need to look at technology transfer</p> <p>1.6 BLM informed the delegates that in 2010 CSIR hosted a delegation from the Chinese Academy of Sciences to discuss possible collaboration.</p>	
2 Presentation and discussions of CSIR areas of focus	
<p>2.1 BLM presented the CSIR overview, Research Impact Areas, Flagship Programmes and supporting technologies.</p> <p>2.2 Research Impact Areas are Health, Defence and Security, Energy, Industry, Natural Environment, Built Environment.</p> <p>2.3 The Flagship programmes are Water Sustainability, Health and Nutrition, Safety and Security.</p> <p>2.4 Supporting technologies include Materials, Sensors, Photonics, Robotics, ICT, Modelling and Research Facilities.</p> <p>2.5 DV - CSIR biosciences is the regional hub for SANBIO hub for NEPAD Southern Africa Network for Biosciences.</p> <p>2.6 SANBIO projects are running in three Africa countries.</p> <p>2.7 The National Research Foundation (NRF) provides funding mainly for human capital development and CSIR is a research implementing agency.</p>	

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<p>2.8 The NRF is a coordinating body of the Department of Science and Technology and the CSIR is a player within the National System of Innovation.</p> <p>2.9 HW mentioned that in China the funding from Government allocated to small enterprises is limited. He noted that the situation is similar to the South Africa.</p> <p>2.10 Research at China is mostly demand side driven. China and South Africa could share this challenge.</p> <p>2.11 BLM informed the delegates that Energy research at CSIR is not well developed. CSIR is currently looking for a champion to lead Energy research.</p> <p>2.12 DV explained that CSIR has capabilities in bio/solar energy, Algal biodiesel and capabilities for biogas could be pulled together. Other potential areas are nanomedicines, point of care health delivery systems and herbal medicines for commercialisation.</p> <p>2.13 CSIR is also involved in supporting government to develop National development and growth policies.</p>	
<p>3 AnHui Province – potential areas for collaboration</p>	
<p>3.1 ZD – Social development is a key focus area for AnHui Province. China has formed a joint Science and Technology committee to advance bilateral collaboration between China and South Africa. A delegation from China recently visited DST to discuss collaboration. A return visit to China will be soon be organised.</p> <p>3.2 HW mentioned that China is interested in biosciences, energy, water recycling, wireless systems and internet of things as well as commercialising technologies. CSIR has</p>	

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capacity in these areas	
4 Closing remarks	
<p>4.1 SM will find out whether Meraka (John Isaac) and MSM (Brian North) are interested in collaboration and provide feedback.</p> <p>4.2 DV will discuss with Biosciences researchers</p> <p>4.3 BLM to forward CSIR overview presentation to HW and ZD</p>	<p>SM to consult relevant units</p> <p>DV to discuss with biosciences researchers</p> <p>BLM to forward CSIR overview presentation to HW and ZD</p>
5 Closure	
TM thanked all for their participation and closed the meeting at 16h35.	