

Dienstag, 22. November, 15:00-15:30 Uhr

Teilnahme an der deutsch-chinesischen Agrarwoche als Auftakt des High-Level Forums: Sino-German Cooperation on Food Security

## Speaking points

Dear Vice-Minister MA,

Dear Deputy Director Peng (Tingjun),

Dear Parliamentary State Secretary (Ophelia) Nick,

Ladies and Gentleman – Good morning to Germany, good afternoon to you all in China

### Bilateral Cooperation:

- 2022 is the year of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and the People's Republic of China.
- The Sino-German Agricultural Center, the DCZ, and the Sino-German Agricultural week are a few decades younger – but nevertheless an **experienced and well-known platform** of cooperation for China as well as for Germany:
  - It is a **unique cooperation** where topics of high concern for Germany and China are addressed.
  - It is a partnership in which both sides contribute and exchange their expertise necessary for the sustainable development of agriculture.
  - In this way, the DCZ can also be regarded as an important component of the German-Sino cooperation in general.

- Because when we talk about agriculture,
  - we are not only talking money and economy.
  - We are also talking people, livelihood and culture.
- That is why the DCZ is of such **high value for our two countries**.
- Our bilateral cooperation in the agricultural field is manifold – it comprises the exchange
  - of knowledge,
  - of techniques,
  - of experts
  - and also of agricultural goods and food.
- China continues to be an attractive market for the German agricultural sector and our high quality products.
- At the same time, Chinese products and technology have advanced very fast over the last years.
- Our cooperation can and should be based on a level playing field and reciprocity.
- There is much that we can learn from each other.
- Today the world needs **to address urgent matters**.

### **Food Security**

- We have to answer the questions that define where we are headed:
  - How can we **secure food for our people and a growing world population while at the same time protecting our environment** and the climate?

- How can we **ensure animal welfare** and offer create better lives for farmers and people in rural areas?
- How can we **strengthen trade** and **save resources**?
- That is why we want to **work towards sustainable food systems** in our countries and worldwide.
- Strong countries like China and Germany have a responsibility (for their own people and globally)
  - to strengthen the role of agriculture in climate mitigation and
  - to address this year´s main subject “food security”.

### **Visit of chancellor Scholz / war in UKR**

- This topic was also discussed between German Chancellor Olaf Scholz and President XI at the beginning of November.
- **Both sides recognized their responsibility as important donor countries** for food security and the global supply bottlenecks as a result of the war in the Ukraine.
  - Not only Ukraine but the world suffers from the aggression of RUS.
  - Some agricultural markets, especially the wheat market, are currently extremely under stress due to increased global demand and while the RUS war in the UKR limits global supplies.
  - Prices have risen and are very volatile.

## G 20-Declaration

- In Bali the leaders of the G20 committed to take further coordinated measures to meet the challenges in addressing the world's food security issues, including price increases and food and fertilizer shortages.
- Also they emphasized that they will take immediate action
  - to save lives,
  - to prevent hunger and malnutrition,
  - and to call for accelerated transformation towards sustainable and resilient farming and food systems and supply chains.
- They committed to protecting the most vulnerable from hunger and to address the global food crisis.
- The topic **has to be and will be gain further importance.**
- Multilateral cooperation must be strengthened in order to master crises in the long term.
- **We count on our cooperation with China as a strong country.**

## Outlook:

- Despite of these challenges, we are **hopeful about the future.**
- Both in Germany and in China a lot of committed people work on these issues.
- Despite the challenges that we are facing due to the persistent Zero-Covid-restrictions in China ongoing dialogues, meetings and platforms help to continue the bilateral cooperation.

- The German Embassy will continue to support the DCZ and its important role as a bridge builder.
- Let us continue to learn from each other – like we are doing today and during this week.
- Thank you.