



ECOSOCC Communiqué

CHINA TIME : ECOSOCC PRESIDING OFFICER ON OFFICIAL MISSION TO YIWU, CHINA

The Presiding Officer, Mr. Joseph Chilengi, of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council of the African Union (ECOSOCC) is on official mission to China at the invitation of the Chinese Government and the China NGO Network for International Exchanges. He is in China to co-host the 4th China-Africa People's Forum to be held in Yiwu, Zhejiang Province from 26-28th August 2015.

The China - Africa People's Forum is an institutionalized supporting event of the Forum on China -Africa Cooperation (FOCAC). China -Africa People's Forum (CAPF) is aimed at offering a dedicated platform for extensive exchanges and practical cooperation between people's organizations of China and Africa so as to inject new impetus to the China-Africa Traditional friendship.

For the first time, the Forum will be held in cooperation with ECOSOCC. In collaboration with China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE). Three sessions of the forum have been held successively in Nairobi, Kenya in 2011, in Suzhou, China in 2012, and in Khartoum, Sudan in 2014. But this year's one is the 1st to be held in cooperation with ECOSOCC.

The Forum will be held under the theme: "Enhancing people to people friendship, facilitating pragmatic cooperation and promoting world peace " as the three principles guiding China - Africa people to people's exchanges. The CAPF plays a positive role in the all-round and in depth development of the new type of China -Africa strategic partnership. The year 2015 marks the 15th anniversary of the founding of FOCAC and the transformation and upgrading of China - Africa cooperation are at a critical juncture, especially with attitudinal down grading of the Africa - EU Joint Strategy. The next FOCAC meeting is due to take place in South Africa in the 4th quarter of this year.

Against this background, the 4th CAPF focuses on voices from the people, friendship among the people and cooperation for the people. Participants will engage in discussions on new initiatives for mutually beneficial development, new forms of people to people exchanges and new ideas of win- win cooperation between China - Africa

5/11.

under the new circumstances with a view to building people's consensus, pooling people's wisdom and coordinating people's action for the further promotion of people's action for the further promotion of people to people friendship and China - Africa relations.

1. Title of the Forum: The 4th China - Africa People's Forum
2. Time and place: August 26th 2015 at Your world International Conference Centre, Yiwu, China
3. Hosts: China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE) and the Economic, Social and Cultural Council of the African Union.
4. Co-sponsors : China Foundation for Peace and Development and the Municipal People's Government of Yiwu, Zhejiang Province
5. Supporter: Chinese FOCAC Follow up Committee
6. Participants: A Senior Chinese leader will attend and address the opening ceremony. Representatives from relevant Chinese departments and ministries, NGOs, businesses, media, and think tanks. Foreign participants include African political leaders, retired statesmen, first ladies members of NGOs, media and think tanks and also representatives from the United Nations and African Union.
7. Theme of the Forum and topics for discussion:
 - a) Theme: Joining Efforts towards Building China -Africa Community of shared destinies and embracing new horizon in people to people friendship
 - I. Topics:
 - i. New opportunities for China -Africa cooperation: people's perspectives
 - ii. The building of China - Africa community of shared destinies: people's contribution.

Mr. Chilengi is scheduled to leave China on 28th August 2015.