

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE
Briefing for meeting Chinese Consul General Mr Zhang Biao

ANNEX A

SUMMARY PAGE

Welcome

A warm welcome to Scotland on your first European posting. We value the good working relationship we have with Consulate General, which I'm sure will continue under your tenure. We are also immensely proud of the Chinese community here in Scotland.

New flight route

We are looking forward to reinvigorating the China-Scotland relationship and we're delighted that the direct airlink between Edinburgh and Beijing will resume in June. We hope welcome back Chinese tourists to Scotland.

(Hainan Airlines will start direct flights between Beijing and Edinburgh from 26 June until 8 October. The previous connection between Edinburgh and Beijing, operated on a triangular route with Dublin, stopped in 2019.)

[REDACTED]

We'd also like to celebrate the connections we have with alumni. The number of Chinese students studying at our universities continues to increase (**22,455** Chinese students in 2021-22). We value their contribution greatly.

Cycling World Championships

We're delighted that there will be strong participation by the Chinese team in the Cycling World Championships in August.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE
Briefing for meeting Chinese Consul General Mr Zhang Biao

Biodiversity and Climate

Co-operation between Scotland and China to tackle biodiversity loss and climate change, is a fundamental pillar of our bilateral relationship.

I'd like to congratulate China's leadership at COP15.

We were delighted that Kunming City (Yunnan Province) signed the Edinburgh Declaration on biodiversity in June 2022.

[REDACTED]

Giant Pandas return

Later this year will see the return to China of the Giant Pandas. Not only have they been incredibly popular with visitors, but they have enabled the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland and the University of Edinburgh, to make a valuable contribution to giant panda breeding research and international efforts to protect the species. They will leave a tremendous legacy.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE
Briefing for meeting Chinese Consul General Mr Zhang Biao

ANNEX B

SCOTLAND AND CHINA

Higher education

- 22,455 Chinese students in AY 2021-22. (*figure includes mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Macau)
- Around 29% of Scotland's funding secured in Horizon 2020 involved a Chinese partner (€257m out of €874m)
- Five Confucius Institutes at Scottish Universities.

Schools education

- To support schools to develop and embed the teaching of Mandarin, SG has been providing the University of Strathclyde with an annual grant towards the programmes run by the Confucius Institute for Scotland's Schools (CISS) and Scotland National Centre for Languages (SCILT)
- There are 40 state-funded school hubs across Scotland plus three specialised Hubs, including one at Edinburgh Zoo.

Climate and Biodiversity

- Kunming City signed Edinburgh Declaration on biodiversity
- Jiangsu and Sichuan Provinces are members of the Under 2 Coalition.

Trade and investment

- Total value of exports in 2019 – £685m and 14th largest export market (excluding oil and gas)
 - Value of exports to China in 2019 included Salmon (£59m), Whisky (£89m), Textiles (£5.3m) and Oil (£3.9bn)
 - 15 Chinese-owned businesses in Scotland, employing an estimated 1,770 people and a turnover of £1.25 billion
 - Investments include: Huawei's Research and Development lab at the University of Edinburgh on data science and data management; and Ctrip's £1.4bn purchase of Skyscanner.
- [REDACTED]

Energy investment

- **Scotland's only oil refinery** is owned and operated by a JV comprised of **PetroChina** and **INEOS – Petrolneos**. [REDACTED]
- China's State Development and Investment Corporation (SDIC), via its subsidiary business SDIC Red Rock Power Ltd have:
 - 100% ownership of Afton Wind Farm – an operational 50 MW onshore wind farm in East Ayrshire
 - 25% ownership of Beatrice Offshore Wind Farm – an operational 588 MW offshore wind farm 15km off the Moray Firth Coast

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

Briefing for meeting Chinese Consul General Mr Zhang Biao

- 100% ownership of Benbrack Onshore Wind Farm – a late-stage development in Dumfries and Galloway, which has consent for up to 18 turbines and generation capacity up to 72 MW.
- 50% ownership of Inch Cape Offshore Wind Farm – an offshore wind development 15km off the Angus Coast.
- China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) bought the **North Sea's largest oil producer, Nexen in 2013**, and invested £500 million in 2017 extending the Buzzard oil field to 2030, preserving 200 jobs.
- **Sinopec** (China Petroleum & Chemical Corporation) is in a JV with Repsol – Repsol Sinopec Resources UK Ltd – which is based in Aberdeen and **holds interests**.
- In 2019, state-owned **China Three Gorges** acquired for £35 million **10%** of the now operational **Moray East Offshore Windfarm** – currently Scotland's largest offshore windfarm.

Pre Covid Tourism

- In 2019 China was Scotland's fastest growing international inbound travel market with 172,000 visits to Scotland from China – valued at £142 million
- In 2019 there were 146,000 Holiday and Visiting Friends and Relatives visits to Scotland from China – valued at £88 million (latest tourism figures available).

Culture

- A cultural delegation from Scotland (organised by the Asian Arts Awards) will visit Beijing in May.



OFFICIAL SENSITIVE
Briefing for meeting Chinese Consul General Mr Zhang Biao

ANNEX C

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE
Briefing for meeting Chinese Consul General Mr Zhang Biao

ANNEX D

BIOGRAPHY

Mr. Zhang Biao



Born in March 1970.

Graduated from China Foreign Studies University, master's degree.

Served in Department of West European Affairs, Department of North American and Oceanian Affairs, Department of Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Affairs and General Office of MFA.

Posted in Australia, the United States, Tanzania and Eritrea.

Served as Counsellor, General Office of MFA before taking post as Consul General of China in Edinburgh.

Married with a daughter.