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БЕЛОРУССКО-РОССИЙСКИЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ

China was among the first foreign nations that recognized independence of Belarus and open its embassy in Minsk on the 20th of January, 1992, and it was China where Belarus opened its first diplomatic mission in Asia in 1993.

Currently, Belarus and China are actively cooperating in various activities.

In the last five years Belarus-China trade has been characterized by positive trends. In January-February 2011 the trade in goods rose 21.2% as compared to the same months of 2010 to make up \$424.3 million. Belarus exported \$75.5 million worth of goods (44.3% compared to January-February 2010).

The stability of the Belarusian and Chinese economies allows Belarus to increase its export to China, which became a major supplier of modern equipment and component parts to Belarus.

Belarus is interested in the import of Chinese goods, of which two-thirds are technological goods.

Belarusian main export items are heavy BelAz trucks and combine harvesters. Other important items are polyamides, synthetic fibers and flax fibers, dry fat-free milk, tractors, motorcycles, televisionsets, metal-cutting machine tools, earthmovers, fertilizers, textiles, and other goods.

The Chinese government and banks have opened credit lines to finance joint investment projects in Belarus. The Belarusian company Horizont and the Chinese Midea Group Corporation set up a joint venture Horizont-Midea. The Minsk Wheel Tractor Plant and China's Xiang Jiang opened a joint company Volat Xiang Jiang, which manufactures hydro-mechanical gear systems.

Loan agreements were signed with the China's Eximbank to finance the supplies of electric locomotives, electrification, and the creation of an intellectual transport system. The two countries have also launched construction of a residential area in the Lebyazhy District of Minsk and a multifunctional complex China Town.

Belarusian-Chinese cooperation develops not only in the sphere of science and technology but also in education. Cooperation of institutes of higher education of Belarus and China is implemented within the frames of over 100 direct agreements between the Ministries of Education of the countries.

Institutes of higher education of the Republic of Belarus invite Chinese colleagues for participation in various seminars, exhibitions, fairs and programs of bilateral cooperation.