



Activity Title and Number: EU-China Seminar on Food Safety Liability Insurance; A288-C1

Beneficiary: China Insurance Regulatory Commission (CIRC)

Location and Date: Beijing; 14 January 2014

Stakeholders: Insurance Association of China, European Union Chamber of Commerce in China

Brief Activity Report

Relevance and Impact

Following the recent food safety scandals widely reported in the media, the Legislative Affairs Commission of the National People's Congress is in the process of revising China's 2009 Food Safety Law. One of the main concerns is preventing systemic risks in the food safety area by making food safety liability insurance compulsory. CIRC has been asked to develop a new food accident liability insurance scheme to be included in the amended Food Safety Law. Accordingly, CIRC sought advice and expertise from the EU and Member States to inform the development of the scheme

To support these efforts, EUCTP II held the EU-China Seminar on Food Safety Liability Insurance in Beijing which aimed to share European experiences, knowledge and best practices in this field. With China planning to amend its Food Safety Law in 2014, the seminar was a timely input to a pressing issue.

Activity Description

About 65 participants from the Property Insurance Regulation; Development and Reform; Policy Research and International Departments of the CIRC attended the seminar. Both JIANG Bo, Director General of CIRC's International Department and Thibault HEUZE, First Secretary and Financial Counsellor, Economic and Financial Affairs Section at the Delegation of the European Union in China underlined the importance of food safety as a matter of public health. European experts provided insights on the establishment of the existing EU Food Safety regime, the operation of the EU's Product Liability Directive, and food safety liability and traceability. A CIRC official also gave a presentation outlining CIRC's plan for introducing a Food Safety Liability Insurance Scheme in China. Fruitful discussions between experts and participants followed.



JIANG Bo Director General of International Department at the China Insurance Regulatory Commission opens the seminar

Results and Dissemination

The Seminar:

- ✓ Illustrated the need for a more coordinated and integrated approach to building up a food safety regime in China, including insurance; and
- ✓ Provided expertise to feed into the development and implementation of China's first Food Safety Liability Insurance Scheme.