

**Press Conference, May 14, 2007**  
**China International Exhibition Centre, Beijing / PR China**

Statement

Werner H. Lauk,  
Minister, Head of Economic and Commercial Department,  
Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Beijing

**AchemAsia 2007**

Every year the chemical industry and engineering in China establishes new sales records. China already is the world's biggest producer and / or consumer in many sectors. Sectors not yet dominated by China will experience China's rise in the foreseeable future. It is estimated that by 2015 the domestic demand for synthetics will value one fourth of the turnover worldwide. Whilst the commodity sector is mainly dominated by domestic suppliers premium segments are foreign invested companies' business.

Attractiveness of China's chemical sector's development is unique worldwide. Due to the booming exports and a steadily growing domestic market future prospects remain optimistic.

Meanwhile China has become the most important sales market for German producers of chemical engineering technology. Especially producers of pumps and fittings benefit from two digit growth rates.

These outlooks apply also for the biotechnology sector with an increasing growth potential and therefore similar market opportunities for German companies.

With a trade volume of more than 1,76 billion US\$ (2006) China now occupies third place of all trade nations worldwide and demands for new inputs are rising accordingly.

The presence on the spot is essential for companies who want to participate in China's success story. Becoming or remaining a global player means growing with the Chinese market. At this stage investments by German enterprises rank among highest investments effected by foreign companies of the chemical sector.

With the opening of ACHEMASIA 2007 German and other foreign as well as domestic exhibitors face now an excellent opportunity and forum to present their potential and to promote their high quality products and innovative technologies on the Chinese market.

I congratulate the organisers DECHEMA Society for Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology and Chemical Industry and Engineering Society of China (CIESC) for once again staging this remarkable and renown exhibition and I trust that "Achemasia 2007" will be profitable for both exhibiting companies and visiting customers, thus further enhancing the excellent relations between China and Germany.