

## Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for Digital Industry & High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation

### 【Basic Information】

#### Moderators:

#### Addresses and Keynote Speeches Sections:

Tang Xiaodong Vice Mayor of Suzhou

#### High-level Dialogue Section:

Xing Houyuan Former President and Senior Research Fellow of the China Outsourcing Institute

#### Addresses:

Sheng Qiuping Vice Minister of the Ministry of Commerce of China

Fang Wei Vice Governor of Jiangsu Province

Wu Qingwen Mayor of Suzhou

Jiang Zengwei President of Global Alliance for Trade in Services (GATIS)

Low Yen Ling Minister of State for Ministry of Trade and Industry and Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, Singapore

Peng Sen President of China Society of Economic Reform (CSER), Former Vice-chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission of China (NDRC)

#### Report Release:

Ao Li Chief Engineer of China Academy of Information and Communications Technology (CAICT)

Ma Yide Dean of the School of Intellectual Property, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences (UCAS)

## Keynote Speeches:

Jiang Xiaojuan	President of the China Society of Industrial Economics (CSIE), Professor and Doctoral Supervisor at the University of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), Former Deputy Secretary-General of the State Council of China
Paul Cheung	Director and Professor in Practice, Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI) of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore
Wu Shenkuo	Doctoral Supervisor of Law School of Beijing Normal University, Deputy Director of the Research Center of the Internet Society of China
Frank Meng	Chairman of Qualcomm China

## High-level Dialogue:

Ye Chen	Deputy Managing Director of Atos China
Guan Dian	Co-Founder of PatSnap
Ethan Ge	Vice President of Digital Application Development and China Strategy Officer of Azenta Life Sciences
Vivian Zhou	PwC China General Business Advisory Partner
Tom (Tao) Hsu	Vice President, VIA Group; Chief Administrative Officer, VIA Technologies (China) Co., Ltd.

## 【Brief Introduction】

On the afternoon of November 6, 2023, the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for Digital Industry & High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation of the sixth Hongqiao International Economic Forum (HQF), was hosted by the Ministry of Commerce of China, Jiangsu Provincial People's Government and GATIS at the National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai). Sheng Qiuping, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Commerce, delivered a video speech. Fang Wei, Vice Governor of Jiangsu Province, Wu Qingwen, Mayor of Suzhou City, and Jiang Zengwei, President of GATIS, attended the parallel session and delivered speeches. During the event, the *Research on High-level Opening up of Digital Markets* and the *Report on Innovation in the Digital Economy and Intellectual Property (IP) Advancement Indexes of Major Cities in China* were released. Discussions and dialogues were held around the theme of “exploring mechanism innovation and deepening digital industry cooperation”, and with the focus on optimizing the development ecosystem of digital trade and fostering players in the digital trade market and other related aspects.



## [Addresses]



Sheng Qiuping, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Commerce of China, addressed via video the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for Digital Industry & High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation

Sheng Qiuping, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Commerce of China, pointed out that the Ministry of Commerce is earnestly implementing the requirements outlined in the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) to “develop digital trade and accelerate the construction of a trading powerhouse”. The Ministry is also following President Xi Jinping’s instructions to “accelerate the cultivation of new drivers for the digitization of services trade, implement pilot reforms on basic data systems, and promote the development of digital trade through reform and innovation”. The Ministry actively promotes the rapid development of digital trade, and focuses on improving top-level design and strengthening platform construction. Simultaneously, efforts are made to enhance planning coordination, deepen international cooperation, actively advance the process of accession to the Digital Economy Partnership Agreement (DEPA) and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), and promote digital trade cooperation with relevant organizations, countries, and regions to create an enabling environment featuring coexistence, joint contribution, collective governance, and shared benefits.





Fang Wei, Vice Governor of Jiangsu Province,  
addressed the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for  
Digital Industry & High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation in Shanghai

Fang Wei, Vice Governor of Jiangsu Province, noted that the global process of digitization, intelligentization, and greenization in services trade is accelerating. New technologies, business forms, and models are emerging continuously. Jiangsu Province regards digital trade as a key direction for the development of services trade. Based on industrial digitization and digital industrialization, the province is exploring a distinctive path for the development of digital trade with Jiangsu characteristics. The goal is to establish 30 digital trade bases and nurture over 50 digital trade enterprises with exports exceeding 100 million US dollars by 2025. Singapore has clear advantages in financial services, shipping logistics, digital economy, and other fields. Jiangsu expects to set for further deepening cooperation with Singapore in the areas of services trade and digital trade, and providing better services for the overall development of China-Singapore friendly relations.



Wu Qingwen, Mayor of Suzhou,  
addressed the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for  
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Wu Qingwen, Mayor of Suzhou, stated that in recent years, Suzhou has continued to advance high-level opening-up and actively carried out three rounds of pilot projects for the innovative development of services trade. The scale of services trade has steadily expanded, and the structure has continued to improve. In early July of 2023, President Xi Jinping visited Suzhou and his first stop was the Suzhou Industrial Park, a cooperative project with Singapore. President Xi emphasized the need to continue expanding international cooperation and transform the Suzhou Industrial Park into a world-class high-tech park that is open and innovative. Suzhou adheres to cooperation with Singapore as a long-term strategy for development and fully leverages the role of the Suzhou Industrial Park as a pathfinder and pioneer to promote the comprehensive expansion of cooperation in all fields.



Jiang Zengwei, President of GATIS,  
addressed the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for  
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Jiang Zengwei, President of GATIS, said that the current global scale and connotation of digital trade continue to expand. The innovative development of digital technologies has given rise to new models, business forms, and highlights in services trade, while also accelerating the integration and optimization of the agricultural, manufacturing, and traditional service industry chains, supply chains, and value chains. All parties need to strengthen cross-border cooperation in digital infrastructure, deepen exchanges and enhance consensus and trust in the formulation of standards and rules related to data flow, market access, taxation, intellectual property rights, and personal privacy data protection, and collectively create an open, cooperative, inclusive and secure environment for the development of digital trade.





Low Yen Ling, Minister of State for Ministry of Trade and Industry and Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, Singapore, addressed the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for Digital Industry & High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation in Shanghai

Low Yen Ling, Minister of State for Ministry of Trade and Industry and Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, Singapore, expressed that both Singapore and China recognize the crucial importance of enhancing capabilities in the digital field to support the next phase of growth. For example, Singapore has the “Smart Nation” plan, and China has formulated a comprehensive “Digital China” plan, which are very similar. Countries should strive to enhance their respective digital ecosystems, work together to optimize the overall cross-national and cross-border digital ecosystem, and strengthen exchanges in the digital economy. Singapore and China will enhance their experience exchanges in regulations and policies of the digital economy, and explore further cooperation in digital trade, cross-border data flow, and digital identity.



Peng Sen, President of CSER and Former Vice-Chairman of NDRP, addressed the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for Digital Industry & High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation in Shanghai

Peng Sen, President of CSER and Former Vice-Chairman of NDRP, pointed out that the development of the digital economy faces two profound issues. Firstly, at the macro level, the growing trend of the digital economy has given rise to macro-level innovations in institutional mechanisms and the establishment of governance rules. Secondly, at the technical level, there is a need for the construction of the foundational elements of the digital economy, particularly the establishment of a data element market. These two issues are interconnected yet distinct. To address these challenges, it is crucial to properly balance the relationship between an effective market and an active government, firmly uphold an effective market, leverage the role of an active government, and actively participate in the formulation of international rules for the digital economy and digital trade.



Tang Xiaodong, Vice Mayor of Suzhou,  
attended the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for Digital Industry &  
High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation in Shanghai and moderated the addresses and keynote speeches

## 【Report Release】



Ao Li, Chief Engineer of CAICT,  
attended the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for  
Digital Industry & High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation in Shanghai and participated in report release

Ao Li, Chief Engineer of CAICT, delivered a speech titled “Research on High-level Opening up of Digital Markets”. The research, based on an investigation of the Suzhou Industrial Park conducted by CAICT, shared experience in promoting cooperation and opening-up in the development of digital economy and trade. The key points include: 1) aligning closely with the national strategy for opening-up and leveraging the unique international cooperation advantages of the region; 2) focusing on digital technology application scenarios and promoting the mutual recognition and alignment of policies and regulations; 3) tailoring a top-notch digital business environment around the development needs of digital enterprises; 4) grasping the development laws of the digital era and planning for new developments in the digital industry; 5) concentrating on innovation in digital market systems and promoting coordinated efforts among relevant departments.





Ma Yide, Dean of the School of Intellectual Property of UCAS, attended the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for Digital Industry & High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation in Shanghai and participated in report release



Ma Yide, Dean of the School of Intellectual Property of UCAS, presented the *Report on Innovation in the Digital Economy and Intellectual Property (IP) Advancement Indexes of Major Cities in China*. The report, jointly published by GATIS, UCAS, Tongji University, and Nanjing University of Science and Technology, focuses on the role of IP in promoting innovation activities in urban digital economies, protecting the outcome of digital economic innovation, obtaining returns from digital economic innovation, and maintaining a competitive advantage in the digital economy.



## 【Keynote Speeches】



Jiang Xiaojuan, President of CSIE, Professor and Doctoral Supervisor at the University of CASS, Former Deputy Secretary-General of the State Council of China, attended the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for Digital Industry & High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation in Shanghai and delivered a speech

Jiang Xiaojuan, President of CSIE, Professor and Doctoral Supervisor at the University of CASS, Former Deputy Secretary-General of the State Council of China, stated that China has enormous potential for the development of services trade. The import of high-level producer services can drive the transformation and upgrade of manufacturing and meet diverse consumer demands, and increasing the export of services is a crucial path for the entire economy to shift towards a green and low-carbon export structure. With the advantages of low cost, high efficiency, and product and service iteration, China has a significant edge in developing services trade. Systematic innovation is necessary to drive services trade and accelerate development. This involves promoting market-oriented reforms in the service industry, reaching intergovernmental digital trade agreements, and shaping a global digital trading environment through large-scale digital enterprises.



Paul Cheung, Director and Professor in Practice of ACI of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore, attended the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for Digital Industry & High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation in Shanghai and delivered a speech

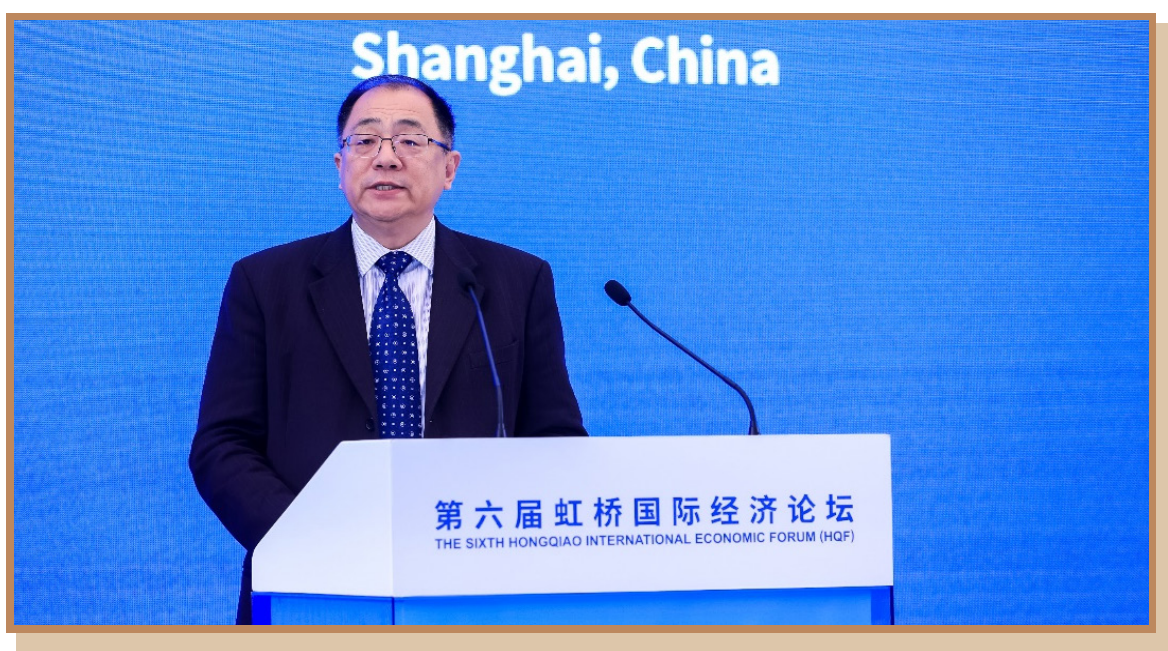
Paul Cheung, Director and Professor in Practice of ACI of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore, introduced the latest trends in digital delivery trade in Singapore and ASEAN countries. Cross-border data flow is crucial for digital delivery trade. For example, cross-border trade in digital services such as cloud computing, digital marketing, financial services and global supply chain management relies heavily on cross-border data flows. Currently, ASEAN countries adopt three models of cross-border data management: open, conditionally open, and localized management. Due to the inconsistency in management approaches, there is a lack of interoperability in data. Moreover, he emphasized the importance of trade agreements such as RCEP, CPTPP, and DEPA in promoting digital delivery trade.





Wu Shenkuo, Doctoral Supervisor of Law School of Beijing Normal University and Deputy Director of the Research Center of the Internet Society of China, attended the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for Digital Industry & High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation in Shanghai and delivered a speech

Wu Shenkuo, Doctoral Supervisor of Law School of Beijing Normal University and Deputy Director of the Research Center of the Internet Society of China, mentioned that different countries and regions have diverse governance processes and demands, including protecting individual data rights, ensuring the realization of administrative and judicial rights, maintaining national security and social order, and gathering data resources to support industrial development. Specific cross-border data rules of specific countries and regions have rich or profound reflection of international situations. It is crucial to actively create a symbiotic community ecosystem from a global perspective, continuously optimize the level of the data supply chain in various aspects such as system terminals and business processes, and achieve effective joint contribution, collective governance, and shared benefits within a broader integration.



Frank Meng, Chairman of Qualcomm China, attended the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for Digital Industry & High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation in Shanghai and delivered a speech

Frank Meng, Chairman of Qualcomm China, believed that digital technologies such as 5G and artificial intelligence (AI) are driving the development and innovation of digital trade. The ultra-high-speed transmission capability of 5G significantly improves the efficiency of information flow, making cross-regional collaboration more efficient. Meanwhile, 5G connectivity opens up more possibilities for innovation in areas like smart transportation and smart cities. If 5G provides the foundational connectivity for the innovative development of digital trade, AI injects more intelligence into digital trade, offering deeper insights into data, higher levels of intelligence and automation in operations, as well as more personalized customer support and interaction. This advances digital trade towards a more intelligent and competitive future.

## 【High-level Dialogue】



Xing Houyuan, Former President and Senior Research Fellow of the China Outsourcing Institute, attended the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for Digital Industry & High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation in Shanghai and moderated the High-level Dialogue section

Xing Houyuan, Former President and Senior Research Fellow of the China Outsourcing Institute, expressed that mechanism innovation and institutional innovation are different concepts. Mechanism innovation pertains to institutions, enterprises, organizations, or society. For digital trade, mechanism innovation encompasses two major scopes. One is addressing internal operational mechanism innovation for enterprises engaged in digital trade within the enterprises. The other is a broader dimension involving societal or market operational mechanism innovation, within regional, national, or global markets. The development of digital trade requires a more open order, and platforms that operate in a more harmonious and cooperative manner.





Ye Chen, Deputy Managing Director of Atos China, attended the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for Digital Industry & High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation in Shanghai and participated in the High-level Dialogue section

Ye Chen, Deputy Managing Director of Atos China, stated that in the current large-scale digital transition environment, no enterprise can stand aloof, and no individual can have complete mastery of technology. Cooperation with domestic and international partners is expected to jointly create an ecosystem. There are various ways to collaborate in the digital transition, one of which is the so-called Proof of Concept (POC) approach. It can help clients complete certification at minimal cost, rapidly build multiple capabilities, and achieve their goals. Challenges faced by internal corporate innovation currently include issues such as application and data localization, information security, data flow, cultural clashes, and challenges related to trade regulations and processes.



Guan Dian, Co-Founder of PatSnap,  
attended the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for  
Digital Industry & High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation in Shanghai and participated in the High-level Dialogue section

Guan Dian, Co-Founder of PatSnap, observed that PatSnap was born as a digital company. Regarding institutional innovation, one aspect is looking outward more from internal innovation, understanding what my clients need, and guiding innovation based on customer requirements. The second aspect is seeking more cooperation in the ecosystem, and collaborating externally with universities and laboratories. The globalization of data services requires data localization for enterprises, which can be very costly. If all laws and regulations related to data can be more standardized internationally with consistent standards, the operating costs for business operators would be significantly reduced. There is an expectation for more opportunities for opening-up and dialogue, clearer policy guidance, and more cooperation with other countries.



Ethan Ge, Vice President of Digital Application Development and China Strategy Officer of Azenta Life Sciences, attended the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for Digital Industry & High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation in Shanghai and participated in the High-level Dialogue section

Ethan Ge, Vice President of Digital Application Development and China Strategy Officer of Azenta Life Sciences, expressed that digitization is part of Azenta's DNA. Azenta has different digital application deployments in various countries, such as the United States, Germany, the United Kingdom, and China. This system has achieved excellent digital isolation in compliance with regulations in each country before regulations were officially implemented. Vertically, AI has a profound impact on various enterprises, including biotech enterprises, and deserves attention. Horizontally, this year marks the 300th anniversary of the birth of Adam Smith, the founding figure in economics. In an era when the anti-globalization trend is recurring, it is hoped that by revisiting his theories, countries can adopt a global mindset.





Vivian Zhou, PwC China General Business Advisory Partner, attended the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for Digital Industry & High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation in Shanghai and participated in the High-level Dialogue section

Vivian Zhou, PwC China General Business Advisory Partner, stated that from the perspective of the digital transition of professional services, digitization and greenization have become a major theme in the development of PwC's professional services. Since more than a decade, PwC has been digitally transforming its internal process management and business management. So far, a series of management functions such as administration, human resources, and finance have achieved paperless and online platform-based end-to-end management and operations. From the perspective of the business itself, through the digital integration of business, including the combination and integration of robots and AI in compliance business, PwC accelerates the efficiency of business processing.



Tom (Tao) Hsu, Vice President of VIA Group and Chief Administrative Officer of VIA Technologies (China) Co., Ltd., attended the Parallel Session on Exploring International Digital Governance and Creating Opportunities for Digital Industry & High-level Dialogue on Digital Trade Innovation in Shanghai and participated in the High-level Dialogue section

Tom (Tao) Hsu, Vice President of VIA Group and Chief Administrative Officer of VIA Technologies (China) Co., Ltd., said that digital trade is shaping the future world for young people. The innovation that the “metaverse” represents is derived from games of young people and is gradually integrating into our lives. It is necessary to encourage unrestricted innovation, let young people lead innovation, and be bold and fearless of mistakes and failures. The key to digital trade is how to balance innovation and compliance. In face of more and more technical barriers, the challenge is to innovate while ensuring compliance. In the future development of digital trade, it looks forward to open, inclusive, and innovative platforms.