

Parallel Session on Empowering Businesses with Open Innovation

【Basic Information】

Moderators:

Addresses Section:

Zhu Kai

Director-General of the Bureau of International Cooperation,
the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration
Commission of the State Council of China (SASAC)

Panel Discussion Section:

Jiang Yufei

News Anchor, Business Channel (Yicai), Shanghai Media Group

Addresses:

Gou Ping

Vice Chairman of SASAC

Guo Tingting

Vice Minister of the Ministry of Commerce of China (MOFCOM)

Richard Kozul-Wright

Director of the Globalization and Development Strategies
Division of the United Nations Conference on Trade and
Development (UNCTAD)

Panel Discussion:

Sun Yongcai

Chairman of CRRC

Li Zixue

Chairman of ZTE

Liao Zengtai

Chairman of Wanhua Chemical Group

Wu Xiaoru

President of iFLYTEK

Anne-Laure Parrical de
Chammard

Member of the Executive Board and Executive Vice President of
Siemens Energy AG

Henry Ding

Senior Vice President of 3M and President of 3M China

Gao Xudong

Professor at the School of Economics and Management,
Tsinghua University

【Brief Introduction】

On November 6, 2023, the Parallel Session on Empowering Businesses with Open Innovation of the Sixth Hongqiao International Economic Forum (HQF), was hosted by SASAC and MOFCOM at the National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai). Gou Ping, Vice Chairman of SASAC, Guo Tingting, Vice Minister of MOFCOM, and Richard Kozul-Wright, Director of the Globalization and Development Strategies Division of UNCTAD attended the parallel session and delivered speeches. Six representatives of Chinese and foreign enterprises, along with a scholar, delved into how to better build an open innovation system, create an open innovation environment, strengthen open innovation cooperation, and promote future development from the dimensions of policy systems, innovation ecology, corporate governance, etc.



第六届虹桥国际经济论坛
THE SIXTH HONGQIAO INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC FORUM (HQF)

开放创新赋能企业发展分论坛

Parallel Session on Empowering Businesses with Open Innovation

主办单位：国务院国有资产监督管理委员会

Hosted by: State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council, PRC

商务部

Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China

2023年11月6日
November 6th, 2023

中国·上海
Shanghai, China



【Addresses】



Gou Ping, Vice Chairman of SASAC,
addressed the Parallel Session on Empowering Businesses with Open Innovation in Shanghai

Gou Ping, Vice Chairman of SASAC, observed that openness is the only way to achieve the world's prosperity and development, and innovation is a crucial driving force in leading global development. In putting into practice the important instructions made by President Xi Jinping, SASAC guides central state-owned enterprises (SOEs) to open doors to make innovations, proactively integrate into the global innovation network, continuously expand international sci-tech exchanges and cooperation, and actively contribute to world sci-tech progress, industrial development and economic growth. SASAC will continue to promote central SOEs to collaborate with all parties, deepen technological innovation cooperation with a more open and inclusive attitude, alleviate development difficulties through collaboration, gather innovative momentum through collaboration, and seek shared benefits through collaboration, thus making new contributions to boosting global economic and social development.



Guo Tingting, Vice Minister of MOFCOM,
addressed the Parallel Session on Empowering Businesses with Open Innovation in Shanghai

Guo Tingting, Vice Minister of MOFCOM, stated that MOFCOM will focus on empowering business development with the achievements of open innovation. First, it will promote the construction of an internationally competitive open innovation ecosystem by implementing the overall plan for the comprehensive alignment of the Shanghai Pilot Free Trade Zone with international high-standard economic and trade rules and the advancement of high-level institutionalized opening-up, facilitating the removal of access restrictions for foreign investment in the manufacturing sector, and introducing national and free trade zone negative lists for cross-border services trade. Second, it will more actively integrate into the global innovation network by advancing the construction of “Silk Road E-commerce” cooperation pilot zones, continuing to implement the BRI technological innovation action plan, and driving the high-quality BRI cooperation. Third, it will deepen open cooperation in emerging fields such as digital and green development.



Richard Kozul-Wright, Director of the Globalization and Development Strategies Division of UNCTAD, addressed the Parallel Session on Empowering Businesses with Open Innovation in Shanghai

Richard Kozul-Wright, Director of the Globalization and Development Strategies Division of UNCTAD, expressed that transitional development is not an easy task, which requires learning and innovation to avoid being locked-in in the the low-end of global/ regional value chains or falling into the middle-income trap. China's rapid development lies in two key points: first, China managed the balance between integration into the global economy and domestic policy space very well; second, the effective role of the government was brought into play in economic policy making. In terms of innovation, the Chinese government has adopted multiple policy measures, including setting government long-term technology development plans, investing in fundamental science research, encouraging commercializing R&D outcomes, and establishing high-tech industrial parks, etc. Science, technology and innovation is the constant key theme across different stages of China and the key to its successful transition, which have strong implications for other developing countries.



Zhu Kai, Director-General of the Bureau of International Cooperation of SASAC, attended the Parallel Session on Empowering Businesses with Open Innovation in Shanghai and moderated addresses

[Panel Discussion]

Sun Yongcai, Chairman of CRRC,
attended the Parallel Session on Empowering Businesses with Open Innovation in Shanghai and participated in panel discussion

Sun Yongcai, Chairman of CRRC, said that CRRC has always adhered to open innovation to empower high-quality corporate development. From the perspective of corporate practice, open innovation can lead to develop high-quality products, establish high standards, and expand high-end markets. CRRC has 118 institutions globally, including 18 overseas R&D centers, enabling the establishment of common high-standard technology system and service system with a global perspective. CRRC consistently adheres to the enterprise vision of connecting the world for the benefit of humanity, and promotes digitized, green, intelligent, internationalized and brand-based development, with products in 116 countries on five continents. In terms of transnational management, a company should use talent with global vision, adhere to localized management, fully integrate with local culture, and build up close and friendly relationships with communities.



Liao Zengtai, Chairman of Wanhua Chemical Group, attended the Parallel Session on Empowering Businesses with Open Innovation in Shanghai and participated in panel discussion

Liao Zengtai, Chairman of Wanhua Chemical Group, noted that Wanhua excels in technological innovation, adheres to an open innovation business strategy, and boasts a large number of globally leading technologies and products. Wanhua advocates openness and collaboration for innovation and does not follow a closed-door approach. In response to the national carbon peaking and carbon neutrality (dual carbon) strategy, Wanhua collaborates with relevant energy enterprises to develop low-cost technologies, such as processing 40 °C circulating water into 105 °C high grade energy, which meet the annual heating needs of 100 million square meters in five districts of Yantai City. It has saved 2.6 million tons of coal annually, bringing significant social and economic benefits. In an era of knowledge explosion, the capability of individual enterprise is limited, hence collaboration with various resources is a must to contribute to society. Open innovation is crucial for talent development and technological progress, and requires extensive collaboration, and a willingness to share in order to establish a virtuous cycle. It is also crucial to establish sound systems and mechanisms, and respect human nature, market rules and scientific laws.



Henry Ding, Senior Vice President of 3M and President of 3M China, attended the Parallel Session on Empowering Businesses with Open Innovation in Shanghai and participated in panel discussion

Henry Ding, Senior Vice President of 3M and President of 3M China, expressed that 3M is an innovation-driven company that constantly promotes innovation through self-iteration. To integrate the concept of innovation into the operation of the enterprise, the key is to cultivate a culture, foster the curiosity of employees, provide the space and time for innovation, and encourage employees to take the initiative to participate in the practice of innovation. Core competitiveness is also crucial for innovation. For any company, it should determine how to build and enhance one's own core competitiveness and create new ones. Regarding the selection of destinations for multinational investments, 3M emphasizes the scale and openness of target markets, as well as the supporting upstream and downstream industry chains. China excels in these aspects, making it highly attractive to multinational companies like 3M.



Li Zixue, Chairman of ZTE,
attended the Parallel Session on Empowering Businesses with Open Innovation in Shanghai and participated in panel discussion

Li Zixue, Chairman of ZTE, observed that open innovation plays a crucial role in ZTE's development, as without it, progress in the information and communication field would be unattainable. From the perspective of external demand, the information and communication sector needs to address communication issues between people, between people and things, and between things. Trust is essential for communication. From the perspective of internal driving force, products in the information and communication sector iterate rapidly. Innovative technologies drive product evolution. New and competitive products will contribute to a broader market landscape once they have had market effects. The circulation will bring continuous resource support to product innovation.



Anne-Laure Parrical de Chamard, Member of the Executive Board and Executive Vice President of Siemens Energy AG, attended the Parallel Session on Empowering Businesses with Open Innovation in Shanghai and participated in panel discussion

Anne-Laure Parrical de Chamard, Member of the Executive Board and Executive Vice President of Siemens Energy AG, emphasized that internationalized companies need to continuously assess localized projects with an international perspective. From an innovation standpoint, talent is crucial. Siemens Energy consistently integrates localized innovation with cutting-edge international innovation. Additionally, Siemens Energy actively pursues collaboration with industry partners, including universities to conduct localized innovation. Through localized talent development and project localization, Siemens Energy captures market dynamics and integrates them into its global strategic layout. For instance, given the advantages in installed power capacity and infrastructure construction, Siemens Energy believes that China is an indispensable partner for achieving energy transition.



Wu Xiaoru, President of iFLYTEK,
attended the Parallel Session on Empowering Businesses with Open Innovation in Shanghai and participated in panel discussion

Wu Xiaoru, President of iFLYTEK, said that talent is the most important element for innovation, and there should be effective mechanisms to enable talent to play a better role. As an innovative company born from universities, iFLYTEK still faces the challenges of interacting with universities and research institutes, cultivating talent, and establishing sound development mechanism. He believes that efforts should be put in the following three aspects. Firstly, make unremitting efforts. Cooperation among industries, universities and research institutes is the foundation for innovation, and unremitting efforts should be made to achieve that end. Secondly, set up mechanisms. For instance, iFLYTEK is collaborating with Tsinghua University, the University of Science and Technology of China, and other high-level institutes on talent development. By breaking down boundaries through joint laboratories, internships and other means, the company enables the free flow of talent, and cultivates high-quality interdisciplinary talent for businesses. Thirdly, build a shared ecosystem. The premise of co-creation is sharing, and a shared ecosystem can better stimulate the endogenous power for innovation.



Gao Xudong, Professor at the School of Economics and Management, Tsinghua University, attended the Parallel Session on Empowering Businesses with Open Innovation in Shanghai and participated in panel discussion

Gao Xudong, Professor at the School of Economics and Management, Tsinghua University, said that open innovation was first proposed by Professor Henry Chesbrough, and now there are changes. For example, it has changed from the pure open technological innovation to innovation encompassing not only continuous technological innovation but also innovations in business models, management, and other aspects. The meaning of openness has also expanded, which can be both opening up domestically and opening to the outside world. Being open or being closed is always a question for any organization, be it a small enterprise, or a large country, or even the whole world. On one hand, we must fully understand the time and momentum of the internationalization of open innovation, and on the other hand, we must be aware of the risks and challenges involved, which need to be addressed in a concerted manner at the national level, the industrial level, the enterprise level, as well as the international level.



Jiang Yufei, News Anchor, Business Channel (Yicai), Shanghai Media Group,
moderated panel discussion of the Parallel Session on Empowering Businesses with Open Innovation