

中国—瑞士自由贸易协定——中瑞经贸合作的新动力

China-Switzerland Free Trade Agreement – A new impetus to China-Switzerland trade and economic cooperation



● *By Zhang Shaogang, Director-general of the Department of International Trade and Economic Affairs, Ministry of Commerce of P. R. China*

2014年7月1日，中国—瑞士自由贸易协定（以下简称中瑞自贸协定）正式生效，迄今已顺利实施一周。中瑞自贸协定是中瑞经贸关系的里程碑，开启了中瑞双边贸易零关税的新纪元，正推动双边经贸合作不断迈上新台阶。

一、中瑞自贸协定的诞生

中瑞之间产业和贸易结构互补性强，且互为重要经贸伙伴，合作潜力巨大，这为双方商签自贸协定奠定了坚实基础。

在中瑞两国领导人的共同关心下，中瑞双方于2011年1月宣布启动中瑞自贸区谈判。此后经过9轮谈判，2013年5月24日，在中国国务院总理李克强和瑞士联邦主席于利·毛雷尔见证下，中国商务部部长高虎城与瑞士联邦委员兼经济部长约翰·施耐德-阿曼在瑞士伯尔尼签署了关于完成中瑞自贸区谈判的谅解备忘录。2013年7月6日，高虎城部长与约翰·施耐德-阿曼联邦委员代表两国政府在北京正式签署中瑞自贸协定。此后，双方高效推进协定生效工作，在完成各自内部法律程序后，使协定于2014年7月1日正式生效。

On July 1st 2014, the China-Switzerland Free Trade Agreement (hereinafter referred to as "China-Switzerland FTA") came into force, and has been implemented successfully for one year. The China-Switzerland FTA is a milestone for China-Switzerland economic and trade relations, marking a new era of zero tariff in China-Switzerland bilateral trade and driving the bilateral economic and trade cooperation to a new level.

The birth of the China-Switzerland FTA

China and Switzerland are highly complementary in the industrial and trade structure, and have huge potential for cooperation as important trading partners, which laid a solid foundation for the negotiation of free trade agreement.

Led by leaders from both countries, China and Switzerland announced the launch of China-Switzerland free trade area negotiation in January 2011. After 9 rounds of negotiations, on May 24th 2013, witnessed by Premier Li Keqiang and Ueli Maurer, President of the Swiss Confederation, Gao Hucheng, China's Minister of Commerce and Johann Schneider-Ammann, Federal Councillor and Head of the Department of Economic Affairs, signed a memorandum of understanding on completion of China-Switzerland free trade area negotiations in Berne, Switzerland. On July 6th 2013, on behalf of the governments of the two countries, Gao Hucheng and Johann Schneider-Ammann officially signed the China-Switzerland Free Trade Agreement in Beijing. Since then, both parties worked efficiently on the respective internal legal procedures, and the agreement entered into force on July 1st 2014.

A New Impetus to China-Switzerland economic and trade cooperation

1. The rich contents of the China-Switzerland FTA

China-Switzerland FTA is the first bilateral free trade agreement that China signed with continental European countries or top 20 economies. With wide coverage, high opening level and many preferential measures, this high quality and mutually beneficial free trade agreement is one of most comprehensive FTAs that China signed in recent years.

First, the China-Switzerland FTA has a big portion of zero tariff items, giving each other more favourable market access conditions. Products with eliminated or reduced tariff take 96.5% and 99.99% of the total imports of Switzerland and China respectively. Second, the China-Switzerland FTA covers many new rules and policies such as government procurement, environment, labour and employment cooperation, intellectual property and competition, well demonstrating China's determination to speed up the

二、中瑞经贸合作新的强大动力

（一）中瑞自贸协定内容丰富。

中瑞自贸协定是中国与欧洲大陆国家和全球经济前20强国家达成的第一个双边自贸协定。协定覆盖面广、开放水平高、优惠措施多，是高质量、宽领域、互利共赢的自贸协定，也是近年来中国对外达成的水平最高、最为全面的自贸协定之一。

首先，中瑞自贸协定零关税比例很高，将相互给予对方更加优惠的市场准入条件。中瑞双方最终取消和削减关税的产品，占自对方进口总额的比例分别达96.5%和99.99%。其次，中瑞自贸协定涉及政府采购、环境、劳工与就业合作、知识产权、竞争等许多新规则和新议题，示范效应强，展现了中国加快建设高标准自由贸易区的决心。再次，中瑞自贸协定为中瑞双方搭建了良好的合作平台，有利于中瑞双方进一步深化务实合作。中瑞双方在协定中设立了“经济技术合作”章节，规定了合作的具体领域和内容，包括可持续发展、政府采购、劳动和就业、钟表、卫生、电影、旅游、中医、质量监督检验检疫和知识产权等。

（二）中瑞自贸协定意义重大。

中瑞自贸协定是中国加快实施自贸区战略的一个重大成果。在当前全球经济低速增长、贸易保护主义有所抬头的情况下，中瑞自贸协定展现了中国继续扩大开放、坚决反对贸易保护主义的决心和信心，表明中国将以更加开放的姿态参与国际竞争与合作、积极参与经济全球化和区域经济一体化，有利于凝聚各方共识，继续推进全球贸易自由化进程。

中瑞自贸协定有利于进一步深化中瑞经贸合作。中国是世界第二大经济体，也是最大的发展中国家，正处在工业化、信息化、城镇化和农业现代化加快推进的关键阶段。中国还是全球第二大市场，今后5年将进口超过10万亿美元的商品，市场容量巨大、前景广阔。瑞士地处欧洲中心位置，是欧洲的一个重要国家，拥有较高的国际地位和广泛的影响力，制造业先进、对外贸易发达，市场容量较大。中瑞产业结构和贸易结构互补性强，合作潜力大，中瑞自贸协定的达成，必将进一步提升双方的经贸合作水平，实现双方优势互补、共同发展。

construction of high-quality free trade area. Third, the China-Switzerland FTA has built a good platform of cooperation for both countries to further bilateral pragmatic cooperation. The China-Switzerland FTA has a chapter of "Economic and Technical Cooperation", stipulating the specific areas of collaboration, including sustainable development, government procurement, labour and employment, horology, public health, films, tourism, traditional Chinese medicine, quality supervision, inspection and quarantine and intellectual property rights.

2. Great significance of the China-Switzerland FTA

The China-Switzerland FTA is a great achievement in acceleration of China's free trade area strategy. In this global circumstance of low economic growth and rising trade protectionism, China-Switzerland FTA demonstrated China's determination and confidence in further opening and strong opposition to trade protectionism, pronouncing that China will take a more open attitude in international competition and cooperation, actively participate in economic globalization and regional economic integration, and will forge consensus and facilitate the global trade liberalisation process.

China-Switzerland FTA will drive the China-Switzerland economic and trade cooperation further. China is the world's second largest economy, and also the largest developing country. It is at a key stage of accelerating industrialisation, informatisation, urbanisation and agricultural modernisation, China is the world's second-largest market, with huge capacity and prospect where goods of more than USD 10 trillion will be imported in the next 5 years. Switzerland, located in the centre of Europe, is an important country with high international standing and extensive influence. It has advanced manufacturing, strong foreign trade and large market capacity. China and Switzerland are highly complementary in the industrial and trade structure, and have huge potential for cooperation. The establishment of China-Switzerland FTA will definitely promote bilateral economic and trade cooperation between the two countries, complementing each other to develop together.

The China-Switzerland FTA will also facilitate the economic and trade cooperation between China and the European Union (EU). As an important member of the European Free Trade Union, Switzerland keeps a close cooperation with the EU in economy, trade as well in as other regions, and has strong radiation to the whole European market. The implementation of the China-Switzerland FTA will further strengthen the economic and trade cooperation between China and other European



2011年4月，伯尔尼古尔腾山，参加中瑞自贸协定首轮谈判的代表

Gurten, Bern in April 2011, both delegations of the 1st round of FTA negotiations

中瑞自贸协定还将有利于深化中欧之间的经贸合作。瑞士是欧洲自由贸易联盟重要成员，与欧盟在经贸等领域合作密切，对整个欧洲市场有很强辐射作用。中瑞自贸协定的实施，将进一步密切中国与其他欧洲国家的经贸合作，对其他欧洲国家产生较大示范效应，带动中欧经贸关系加快发展。

三、中瑞自贸协定实施成效显著

中瑞自贸协定自2014年7月实施以来，已展现了其对中瑞经贸合作的积极推动作用。据瑞方统计，中瑞自贸协定实施一年来，双边贸易增长显著，瑞士对华出口增长2.3%，自华进口增长4.1%。而同期，瑞士出口总额仅增长0.9%。据中方统计，中瑞自贸协定实施一年来，中方对瑞士出口的电器及电子产品、计算机与通信技术产品、电话机、金属制品、箱包、灯具、家具等均呈快速增长态势；同期，中方自瑞士进口的机械设备、手表、生命科学技术产品、医药品、金属加工机床、汽车零配件、农产品和化妆品等也增长较快。

考虑到中瑞自贸协定于去年下半年才开始实施，随着实施的推进，协定框架下关税的进一步削减，协定对双边贸易的促进作用还将进一步显现。

中瑞自贸协定是中瑞经贸合作新的起点。我们相信，中瑞双边经贸合作将以此为契机，驶入高速发展的快车道。中方将与瑞方密切合作，及时解决协定实施过程中出现的问题，确保协定继续顺利实施。同时，加大对协定的推介，增加双方企业对协定的了解，提高协定的利用率，让双方企业和民众更大程度享受到市场开放带来的实实在在的好处，共同谱写中瑞经贸合作的新篇章！

countries, setting a paradigm for other European countries and accelerating the development of China-EU economic and trade relations.

Remarkable achievements from the China-Switzerland FTA

Since the China-Switzerland FTA was implemented in July 2014, it has already demonstrated positive impetus to China-Switzerland economic and trade cooperation. According to Switzerland's statistics, in the one year since the China-Switzerland FTA was implemented, the bilateral trade has grown significantly, with Switzerland's exports to China growing by 2.3% and imports from China growing by 4.1%. In the same period, the gross exports of Switzerland increased by only 0.9%. According to China's statistics, China's fast growing exports to Switzerland include electrical and the electronic products, computer and communications technology products, telephones, metal products, luggage and bags, lighting fixtures and furniture; while the imports from Switzerland of mechanical equipments, watches, life science and technology products, medical products, metal processing machineries, automobile spare parts, agricultural products and cosmetics are also growing fast.

Taking into account that the China-Switzerland FTA was only implemented in the second half of last year, with the advance of implementation and the further reduction of tariffs under the agreement framework, the FTA's promotion to bilateral trade will be more pronounced.

China-Switzerland FTA is a new beginning for China-Switzerland economic and trade cooperation. We believe that the bilateral economic and trade cooperation will come to the fast track at this opportunity. China will cooperate closely with Switzerland to resolve arising issues to ensure smooth implementation of the agreement. Meanwhile, we will keep promoting the FTA and increase the awareness of the FTA in enterprises of both countries to make it more utilized, bring more benefits of the open market to the enterprises and the public, and start a new chapter in China-Switzerland trade and economic cooperation!



2013年7月6日，中国商务部长高虎城与瑞士联邦委员兼经济、教育与科研部长约翰·施耐德-阿曼在京共同签署中国与瑞士自由贸易协定。
新华社拍摄。

On July 6th 2013, Mr. Gao Hucheng, Minister of Commerce of China and Mr. Johann Schneider-Ammann, Swiss Federal Councillor and Head of the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research signed the Free Trade Agreement between China and Switzerland in Beijing. Photographed by Xinhua News Agency.