

**China-U.S. Relations: Trade Diplomacy, and Research**  
**November 14-17, 2005**  
**Beijing, China**

**Research Roundtable Summary**

**Session Title:** China-U.S. Collaboration on Green Food and Agro-Product Pathway (GFP) to Expedite Bi-lateral and International Agro-Trades

**Co-Chairs (name and affiliation):**

U.S.: Professor Douglas K. Loh, Texas A&M University

Chinese: Professor Yi Li, Peking University and Mr. Zhiwei Guo, Ministry of Science and Technology

**Other Collaborators:**

China Rural Technology Development Center, Ministry of Science and Technology

Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences

Beijing Triple Sky Modern Agricultural Science and Technology Corporation

L-3 Technology Corporation

FreightDesk Technologies Corporation

University of Houston

**Session Summary (include summary of field of research):**

After two days of packed agenda, the China - U.S. Food Safety and Green Pathway Research Roundtable has resulted in the following three consensuses:

1. Promote capacity building at each node along the farm-to-table supply chains, including Good Agricultural Practice (GAP), Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP), Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), Sanitary Standard Operating Procedures (SSOP), Hazard Analysis of Critical Control Points (HACCP) and Green Food Pathway (GFP);
2. Promote effective inter-node connections along the farm-to-table supply chains with an emphasis on the development of a holistic Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Platform;  
and
3. Develop stakeholder participation mechanisms to expedite collaboration in above areas.

## **Findings/Recommendations:**

Based on the consensuses, this roundtable finds that it is of great mutual benefits to further enhance collaborations related to rural construction, food safety and green food pathway by ways of exchange activities, and joint programs on training, extension and technology transfer. The roundtable recommends the following action plans to implement these consensuses:

1. Texas A&M takes the lead to establish an international Green Food Pathway Alliance or GFPA as the facilitation and coordination mechanism;
2. GFPA and China Rural Technology Development Center or CRTDC co-initiate the conceptualization and development of a China – U.S. Rural Construction Technology Innovation and Transfer Center consisting of, but not limited to, the following three platforms:
  - An administrative and management platform;
  - A technology innovation and transfer platform; and
  - A project investment/financing platform

## **Future Collaborations and Justification:**

1. Future Collaborations:

Through the Technology Innovation and Transfer Center, accelerate the commercialization of practical technologies pertaining to rural construction, food safety and green food pathway with priorities placed on, but not limited to, the following categories:

  - Holistic agro-environmental monitoring and improvement technologies and systems;
  - ICT platform for science and technology information exchange, market information exchange and value-chain management;
  - Accelerator –based food irradiation facilities and systems;
  - Food quality and safety testing and certification systems;
  - Green technologies for agricultural development and small township construction
2. Justification  
China will start its 11<sup>th</sup> five year national development program in 2006. The main thrust of the program is on New Rural Construction and on Technology Innovation. With its

focus on both of these priorities, the recommended collaborations shall have a very conducive environment for their implementations.

**Other Information:**

Since 2002 Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology and the Texas A&M University System have been jointly operating The China – U.S. Joint Secretariat for Science and Technology Collaborations in Agriculture and Social Development. Conveniently housed by and located in CRTDC of Ministry of Science and Technology, the secretariat has been used to help organize collaborative activities, including this research roundtable. It will continue to be used to expedite the recommended follow-ups to the roundtable.

With the support from many key stakeholders, including USDA, University of Houston, L-3 and others, GFPA has been fortuitously established and housed at Texas A&M University. This professional and academic association is now in a position to help advance the collaborations.