HEALTH SECTOR COOPERATION BETWEEN CHINA & DENMARK,
Annual report for 2018

In January 2019, Permanent Secretary of the Danish Ministry of Health, Mr. Per Okkels, and Vice Minister of the National Health Commission, Mr. Li Bin, signed the SSC project in Beijing.

Project description
The Strategic Sector Cooperation between Denmark and China in the field of health aims at increasing access to care through effective management of health systems in China.

The Danish-Chinese Government-to-Government cooperation consists of two sub-projects, signed in Beijing in January 2019, marking the formal launch of the cooperation.

Sub-project 1 establishes collaboration on regulatory development and policy exchange in the field of medicines and medical devices. The sub-project focuses on four main areas of cooperation: Authorisation of medicines, Laboratory testing of medicines, Medical devices and Inspections.

Sub-project 2 focuses on quality and capacity development in the primary healthcare sector with attention to integrated care solutions. The objective of the sub-project is to address the role of the primary healthcare sector in early detection and treatment of diseases.

Within this theme, two main topics of cooperation have been selected: 1) Mental health disorders with emphasis on detection of disorders such as depression and anxiety and 2) Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD’s).

The methodology of the SSC-project is multifaceted, focusing both on facilitation of workshops, development of new guidelines, review of legal frameworks etc.

Main achievements in 2018
An SSC inception project was carried out during 2018 in order to identify relevant partners and themes of the full SSC project. In this process, a variety of potential themes of cooperation where discussed in order to ensure that the final selected themes of cooperation intersect with Danish regulatory and technical strongholds.

Relations with relevant stakeholders where intensified in 2018. Among others, the Chinese Centre for Medical Device Evaluation (CMDE) under the National Medical Products Administration (NMPA) has been involved as the fourth sub-agency partner.

Within sub-project 2 on primary healthcare, mental health hospitals in the cities of Guangzhou and Wuxi have been included as partners with the aim to establish a pilot-project developing an internet based telepsychiatry solution with inspiration from the Centre for Tele-psychiatry of the Region of Southern Denmark.

To further establish high-level support for the SSC-project, the Danish Minister of Health visited Guangzhou and Beijing in April 2018.

Key activities in 2019 (Sub-project 1)
Exchange forums on: i) Quality in clinical trials, ii) Approval of chemical generics, iii) Medicines assessment training in Denmark, iv) Control of radiopharmaceuticals, v) Workshop on Medical Devices etc.

A total of 10 activities with involvement of the Danish Medicines Agency and Chinese NMPA sub-agencies are planned.

Key activities in 2019 (Sub-project 2)
Field trip to Denmark to develop a pilot project on internet based detection and treatment of common mental health disorders.

Seminar in China to share experiences in developing national goals within the field of psychiatry/mental health.

Further developing activities for Sub-project 2.

Status: Full SSC project under implementation.
SP1 Partners: China National Medical Products Administration (NMPA) and the Danish Medicines Agency (DKMA).
SP2 Partners: National Health Commission (NHC), Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Peking University Sixth Hospital, Guangdong Province and Jiangsu Province. From the Danish side the Ministry of health (MoH), the Danish Health Authority and the region of Southern Denmark.
Contacts:
Sector Counsellor Mads Friborg madfri@um.dk, Royal Danish Embassy in China.
Claus Holm Rasmus-sen chr@sum.dk, Ministry of Health, Denmark.