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UCLG–ASPAC Committee
on the Belt and Road Local Cooperation
BRLC Briefing

The proposal of setting up UCLG-ASPAC Committee on the Belt and Road Local Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as BRLC) was initiated jointly by Hangzhou Municipal Government and Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries. On May 14 2017, BRLC was inaugurated in the Parallel Meeting on “People-to-People Bonds” at the first Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation and the Secretariat was located permanently in Hangzhou.

In keeping with the vision of openness, cooperation, shared benefits and win-win outcomes, BRLC has formulated a series of goals and tasks, including building a global network, addressing critical issues facing local governments, sharing experience, fostering capacity building, promoting cooperative exchanges and partnerships, and organizing training workshops, seminars, forums and study visits.

Since its establishment, BRLC has successfully conducted a series of activities yielding fruitful results. In the future, based within the framework of UCLG, BRLC will continue to translate the Belt and Road Initiative into exchanges and cooperation among local governments with various practical programs and activities, and to build a cooperative platform to share experience and resources for mutual benefits and win-win results in the fields of economic development, culture and education, and urban and rural governance.
Hangzhou, with an area of 16,600 km² and a total population of 9 million, is the capital of Zhejiang Province and the hub for economy, culture, science and education, as well as one of the central cities in the Yangtze River Delta Region. It was the host city of G20 Summit in 2016 and is going to host the 2022 Asian Games.

Endowed with rich historical and cultural heritage, Hangzhou is known as one of the seven ancient capital cities in China. It is home to three World Cultural Heritage Sites—the West Lake, the Grand Canal and the Archaeological Ruins of Liangzhu City. Back in the 13th century, the famous Italian traveler Marco Polo applauded Hangzhou as “the most noble and magnificent paradise city in the world”.

As an economically dynamic city, its GDP reached 1.35 trillion yuan in 2018, increased by 7.1%. The city has ranked first for continuous 14 years for headquartering the largest number of the private enterprises out of China’s top 500, including a number of world famous industry leaders such as Alibaba, Wanxiang Group, Wahaha, Geely, and etc.

Besides, Hangzhou is a leading tourist destination blessed with breathtaking natural landscape, listed among the top “52 places to go” in the world by New York Times. Last year, it received 160 million tourists from home and abroad.

As citizens’ quality of life improves continuously, Hangzhou is recognized as the happiest city and the most secure city for years.
President Xi Jinping proposed to build a "Silk Road Economic Belt" in Kazakhstan.

The initiative to establish BRLC was approved in the UCLG-ASPAC Executive Bureau Meeting.

BRLC was inaugurated with the Secretariat located permanently in Hangzhou.

The First BRLC General Assembly was held.
Main Activities

Inauguration Ceremony

Study Tour

BMW Next Mobility Youth Camp

From June to November, 2017, the BMW Next Mobility Youth Camp was organized in collaboration with BMW China, bringing together young talents from home and abroad to envision boldly for sustainable urban mobility.
Main Activities

Hangzhou International Sister City Mayors Conference

Hangzhou International Sister City Mayors Conference on City & Innovation was organized. Mayors from around the world held insightful discussions on urban development and cooperation based on the concepts of innovation, harmony, sustainability and sharing.

Visit to Hefang Street

Tree-Planting in Friendship Forest

2017 10

Culture and Branding Forum

E-commerce Forum
Main Activities

First Session of BRLC

BRLC hosted the first session of the Committee, introducing the Constitution and organization structure, and reporting on the main work in 2017 and the work plan in 2018.
2017 UCLG World Council Meeting

Mr. Xu Liyi, Mayor of Hangzhou was delivering a keynote speech at the Opening Ceremony.

BRLC hosted the 2017 UCLG World Council Meeting and Big Data & Smart City Forum.

Over 300 participants representing 103 cities, local government associations, and international organizations from 36 countries and regions attended this event.
Main Activities

2017 UCLG World Council Meeting

Mobility is at a turning point, experiencing an important transition. The future of transportation depends on it.

Case Sharing

Volunteers at Information Desk

UCLG World SG Emilia Salz visited BRLC Secretariat
2018 04

Islamabad BRLC Committee Meeting

BRLC organized a thematic promotion during the UCLG-ASPAC Executive Bureau Meeting in Islamabad. Representatives from two cutting-edge innovative enterprises, Hexing Electrical Company and Jollychic Corporation, were also invited and did brief road shows to explore business opportunities via UCLG network.
Main Activities

E-Commerce Training Workshop

In collaboration with Alibaba Group, BRLC organized the first E-Commerce Training Workshop, attracting nearly 40 participants from 15 countries who were either government officials in charge of E-Commerce or representatives from E-Commerce startups. The training helped participants to understand the trend of development and to learn Hangzhou's experience and opportunities.
Main Activities

3rd Overseas Chinese New Media Forum

At the third Overseas Chinese New Media Forum, People’s Daily (Overseas Edition) and 165 overseas Chinese-Language media outlets signed a strategic cooperation agreement with BRLC.
In mid-September 2018, the Secretariat of BRLC attended the 7th UCLG ASPAC Congress in Surabaya, Indonesia and hosted the 2018 Annual Meeting as well as Hangzhou Thematic Exhibition. Several Hangzhou-based enterprises, including Alibaba Group and Hikvision, made promotional presentations during the meeting.
Computing Conference

In late-September 2018, BRLC organized 26 foreign delegates to observe the Computing Conference. The Computing Conference is the top global science event hosted by Alibaba Group, depicting the trend of development in the most cutting-edge technologies, such as Cloud Computing, Big Data and Artificial Intelligence.
Main Activities

The First BRLC General Assembly

In December 2018, BRLC convened its first General Assembly, to reflect on the past achievements, to approve the Constitution, the leadership, and the future work plan. It also hosted Seminar on “AI Facilitates Urban Governance” to exchange ideas and experience on the “City Brain” and AI application. It gathered about 150 delegates representing more than 60 local governments, LGAs and other institutions from over 20 countries.
2019 Conference Observation

In late April, 2019, BRLC organized the 2050 Conference Observation, inviting nearly 80 youth representatives from 26 countries to visit and observe in Hangzhou. During the 2050 conference, BRLC hosted one of the reunion forums with the theme of "City, Technology, and Me". The 2050 Conference 2019 is a non-profit event, which is jointly initiated by Dr. Wang Jian, Chairman of Alibaba Group Technical Committee and Founder of Alibaba Cloud, and the global volunteers. Themed on “Tech Brings Youth Together”, it involved 100 youth reunions and 100 New Gen Forums, and attracted over 20,000 youths from all over the world.
BRLC 2019 Special Session

On May 21st, the BRLC 2019 Special Session was successfully held during the 2019 UCLG ASPAC Executive Bureau Meeting to report on recent work of BRLC. More than 60 representatives of BRLC members, UCLG ASPAC city members and representatives of observation cities at home and abroad attended the meeting.
Forum on Innovation and Entrepreneurship

On June 14th, the Forum on Innovation and Entrepreneurship was co-organized by BRLC, Hangzhou Talents Office and Hangzhou Youth League Committee. The Hangzhou International Entrepreneurs Club was established. The first batch of over 50 entrepreneurial talents from 27 countries in Hangzhou joined the Club.
BRLC Council Meeting

On September 4th, the BRLC Council Meeting was held in Hangzhou. The Council Meeting reviewed and approved the supplementation of leadership and members. Leeds, Krosten and Zhytomyr were admitted as new BRLC members.
BRLC E-Commerce Training

On October 29-31, BRLC hosted the second BRLC E-Commerce Training with UCLG ASPAC Secretariat in collaboration with Alibaba Business School, attracting 40 participants from 8 countries.
Other Activities

Since the establishment, BRLC Secretariat has actively participated in UCLG statutory meetings including 2017 VII Metropolis World Congress, UCLG-ASPAC statutory meetings, 2018 UCLG Retreat and etc., and furthered its working relations with various UCLG regional secretariats.
List of Founding Members of UCLG-ASPAC Committee on the Belt and Road Local Cooperation (BRLC)

1. Asia
   The Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, China
   Hangzhou, China
   Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka
   Baguio, the Philippines
   Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, Thailand
   Beijing, China
   Buk-gu District, Daegu, Republic of Korea
   Catbalogan, the Philippines
   Dumaguete, the Philippines
   Changchun, China
   Changsha, China
   Chongqing, China
   Daegu, Republic of Korea
   Fuzhou, China
   Gaumukhi Rural Municipality, Nepal
   Guangzhou, China
   Guri City, Republic of Korea
   Hatuwagadhi Rural Municipality, Nepal
   Jilin, China
   Jinan, China
   Kirtipur, Nepal
   Marsyangdi Rural Municipality, Nepal
   Medan, Indonesia
   Nanning, China
   Quzhou, China
   Siping, China
   Sunkoshi Rural Municipality, Nepal
   Vientiane Capital City, Laos
   Wuhan, China
   Xiamen, China
   Yiwu, China
   Zhengzhou, China
   Xi’an, China
   Bangladesh Municipal Association, Bangladesh
   China-Japan Innovation Exchange Association, Japan
   Gifu China-Japan Cultural Exchange Association, Japan
   Local Council Association of Punjab, Pakistan
   Malaysia-China Friendship Association, Malaysia
   Maldives Local Government Association, Maldives
   NARMIN, Nepal
   Sri Lanka-China Society, Sri Lanka
   Sri Lanka Local Government Association, Sri Lanka
   The Republic of Kiribati Local Government Association,
   The Republic of Kiribati
   China-Africa Business Council Hangzhou Office

2. Europe
   City of Oulu, Finland
   City of Split, Croatia
   Comune di Carpenedolo, Italy
   Heidelberg, Germany
   Kazan, Russia
   Limerick, Ireland
   Lugano, Switzerland
   Maribor, Slovenia
   Montichiari, Italy
   Orzinuovi, Italy
   Brescia, Italy
   Oulu Region, Finland
   THBA, the Hague, Holland
   Zhytomyr, Ukraine
   Korosten, Ukraine
   Leeds, the United Kingdom
   Manerbio, Italy
   Ponte di Legno, Italy
   Salo, Italy
   Valdobiadene, Italy
   Istituto Italiano OBOR, Italy
   Italy-China Link Association, Italy
   The Smart City Association, Italy

3. Oceania
   New Zealand Belt and Road Association, New Zealand

4. Africa
   Ajeromi-Ifelodun, Nigeria
   Ministry of Information and Communication, Rivers State, Nigeria

5. Latin America
   Curitiba, Brazil
   La Paz, Bolivia
   Paramaribo, Suriname
   Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
   Wanica, Suriname