

## ANSO-MMU-SAJOREC International Conference in Kenya



The ANSO-MMU-SAJOREC International Conference took place on 4-6 Sep., 2019 at the Maasai Mara University (MMU) in Kenya. This conference was co-organized by ANSO, MMU and Sino-Africa Joint Research Centre (SAJOREC) with the theme of "Biodiversity in Drylands and Wetlands: Challenges and Opportunities in the 21st Century". More than 150 scientists and experts from 10 African countries attended the meeting, sharing their research on climate change, rare species conservation and protection, and providing suggestions and ideas on further China-Africa cooperation on biodiversity conservation.

Prof. Chunli Bai, President of ANSO and CAS, extended a welcome speech at the opening ceremony, expressing that CAS is committed to giving continuous strong support to the international S&T exchange among China, Africa and other parts of the world under the ANSO platform, and to sharing and showcasing the experiences and

the best practices in biodiversity conservation.

Prof. Jinghua Cao, the Executive Director of ANSO, gave a keynote presentation introducing the background, vision and tasks of ANSO as well as ANSO progress and challenges. He emphasized that ANSO has made great progress in developing actions and programs in collaborative research, scholarship and fellowship, training program, academic ambassadors initiative, and the creation of regional centers, and will keep on developing the ANSO network by adding new members and developing new cooperative partners. Prof. Bulitia Godrick Mathews, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the Maasai Mara University, expressed that the conference is a milestone event in the history of the Maasai Mara University and will bound to play a major role in promoting cooperation between China and Africa in green development and climate change.



## I. Chinese, African Science Academies Ink Deal to Strengthen Collaboration

CAS signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Nairobi-based African Academy of Sciences (AAS) to boost cooperation on Sep. 2, 2019. Prof. Chunli Bai, president of ANSO and CAS, hailed the signing of an MOU with the pan-African science body that is geared towards promoting collaborative research, education and training and technology transfer.

"CAS highly values our relationship with Africa. The signing of the MOU is a milestone for the partnership between our academy and Africa. In the future, our academy is committed to work closely with AAS, and CAS fully supports AAS to be a member of ANSO" said Bai.



Prof. Felix D. Dakora, the President of the African Academy of Sciences (AAS), expressed the enthusiasm of joining ANSO, saying that there are lots of common interests between Africa and China, our joint efforts will focus on eco-environment protection and regional sustainability under the ANSO framework.

The Sino-Africa scientific collaboration focuses on areas of key importance to advancing sustainable development in the continent such as food and water security, public health, biodiversity, wildlife conservation and eco-environment. The advanced training for the next generation of African scientists has been an integral component of the collaboration between Chinese and African science academies.

Source: Xinhua

## II. CAS Presents Fine Resolution Cropland Dataset and Drones for Anti-Poaching to Zimbabwe

CAS presented the latest 10m-resolution Zimbabwe's cropland data to the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement of Zimbabwe on September 5, 2019. The data was generated in collaboration with the University of Zimbabwe, including raster dataset and statistics, such as cropland area at the national, provincial and district levels.

President Bai also handed over 6 drones for all-weather comprehensive anti-poaching system to Zimbabwe on behalf of CAS. This China-developed system will help improve the anti-poaching of Zimbabwe. Moreover, CAS donated water analysis technology equipment to the Maasai Mara University, hoping to accelerate scientific research process on wetlands and drylands – home and habitat for human and wildlife.



### III. ANSO Representative Attends the International Summit for Innovation and Development of Biomedicine Industry

The International Summit for Innovation and Development of Biomedicine Industry was held in Shenzhen on September 11-12, 2019. More than 500 participants including a number of well-known scientists, medical doctors, experts, medical companies and venture capital fund representatives from the US, France, China, Hong Kong and other parts of the world attended the meeting, jointly discussing the de-



velopment of the research, innovation and technology on biomedicine at the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA). The meeting aimed at seeking ideas and input on how to make GBA a world center in biomedicine.

Prof. Cao, the Executive Director of the ANSO Secretariat and Head of the Preparatory Group for the Development of CAS-Hong Kong Institute of Science and Innovation, attended the panel discussion on "How to effectively promote biomedicine research and industry in the Pingshan District?" Cao pointed out that the active international cooperation in STI and resources-sharing are the key driving forces for achieving the goal, especially for a region with general poor conditions. He also gave a brief introduction on the CAS efforts in developing drug research in Central Asia and the efforts in developing the Hong Kong institute which aims at utilizing and optimizing resources from both Hong Kong and the mainland China.

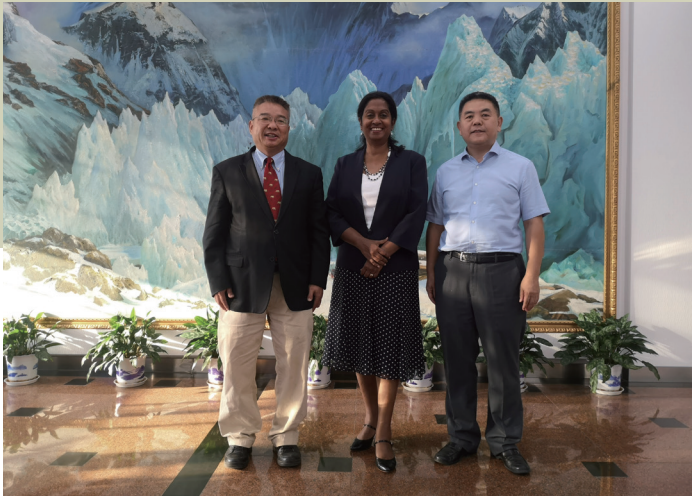
### IV. The Hindu Kush Himalayan Monitoring and Assessment Programme Report and All for Action by ICIMOD

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), a member of ANSO, produced a study entitled *The Hindu Kush Himalayan Monitoring and Assessment Programme (HIMAP)*.

The Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH) is one of the greatest mountain systems in the world, which provides numerous benefits to people living beyond its borders. HIMAP is a long-term, integrated science-policy initiative that aims to support policy change and sustainable solu-

tions to some of the region's most immediate challenges. Under HIMAP, experts from the region have come together to develop the first *HKH Assessment*, published in early 2019 by Springer, as the first in a series of monitoring and assessment reports. The assessment addresses the social, economic, and environmental pillars of sustainable mountain development and will serve as a basis for evidence-based decision-making to safeguard the environment and advance people's wellbeing. The HKH Call to Action has been developed as a roadmap based on the key findings of *the HKH Assessment Report*.

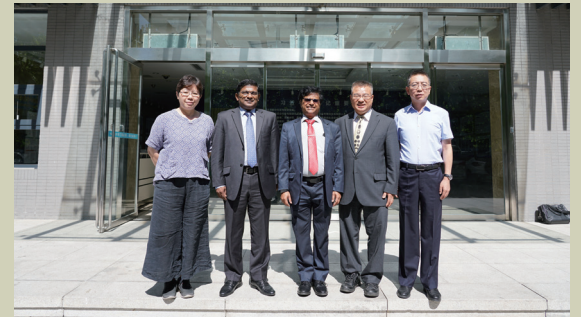
## V. ANSO Secretariat Meeting with Representative from UNCTAD



On September 19th, 2019, Prof. Jinghua Cao, Executive Director of ANSO Secretariat, held a meeting with Dr. Shamika N. Sirimanne, Director of Division on Technology and Logistics from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). They introduced their organizations, works of interests and priorities for collaboration. ANSO and UNCTAD share similar mission and goals in promoting socio-economic development for Global South through S&T capacity building and technology transfer. Both sides agreed to organize and carry out trainings in areas such as the application of remote sensing technology in safeguarding food-water-energy security, and eco-environmental protection. Dr. Sirimanne invited ANSO officials and Chinese scientists to participate in UNCTAD's annual conference in March 2020.

## VI. Vice Chancellor of University of Ruhuna Visits ANSO Secretariat

Representatives from the University of Ruhuna, Vice Chancellor Prof. Sujeewa Amarasena and his colleague Prof. Tilak Priyadarshana visited ANSO Secretariat, On 18 Sep. 2019, accompanied by Prof. Dongxiao Wang, Director of the China-Sri Lanka Joint Center for Education and Research.



Prof. Jinghua Cao, the Executive Director of ANSO Secretariat, extended a warm welcome to the delegates. Prof. Alikun, Assistant Executive Director of ANSO Secretariat, gave a brief introduction of ANSO and its recent progress. As the representative of ANSO Founding Member, Prof. Sujeewa Amarasena expressed strong intention to work with ANSO in the fields of the public health, food security and natural disasters mitigation. Participants discussed the possibility of developing an ANSO regional center in Sri Lanka. Prof. Sujeewa Amarasena also expressed strong willingness and support in strengthening cooperation on infectious disease control and prevention, clean water, fruits processing, clean energy as well as joint research and talent cultivation.

The two sides agreed to have more active interaction and develop further cooperation in future.

## Upcoming Events

NOV.

6<sup>th</sup> | **Beijing | China**  
The 2nd ANSO  
Governing Board  
Meeting

NOV.

7<sup>th</sup> | **Beijing | China**  
International  
Conference  
on Frontier Sciences

NOV.

9-10<sup>th</sup> | **Hangzhou | China**  
The 1st ANSO Young  
Scientists Forum



Contact Us

ANSO Secretariat  
No.16 Lincui Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100101, China  
+86-10-8424 9454  
anso-public@anso.org.cn  
<http://www.anso.org.cn/>

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