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Directorate-General for Trade

Directorate B - Services and Investment, Intellectual Property and
Public Procurement
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NOTE TO THE FILE

Subject: Report of the 23rd round of negotiations for the EU-China Investment Agreement

Participants: EU team led by Director Maria Martin-Prat, DG TRADE B
China team led by Deputy DG Li Yongjie, MOFCOM

The **23rd round** of the EU-China investment agreement negotiations took place in **Beijing** on **23-24 September 2019**, preceded by a full week of technical discussions.

Following the agreement at the EU-China Summit on 9 April 2019 to make a decisive progress in the negotiations by the end of 2019 in order to pave the way for the conclusion of an ambitious agreement by 2020, the round was prepared by a full week of intensive technical discussions, which allowed the Chief negotiators to focus on key outstanding issues and to give further guidance to the experts for the follow up. Discussions have advanced further on specific disciplines related to **financial services, capital movements and national treatment-related commitments**. Considerable time was spent at technical level on **state-to-state dispute settlement**, where tangible progress was made. **On sustainable development**, the exchanges continued, in particular, on various aspects of investment and environment. Last but not important, in-depth negotiations were held on the **basis of the offers** exchanged in July 2018, with a view to identify the next steps in this area.

Next steps:

- The 24th round is foreseen to be held in the first half of November. The details to be confirmed.
- In parallel, the Parties are committed to continuously monitor the progress in the negotiations through the political mechanism established at the EU-China Summit and to report to leaders by the end of the year on the progress made.