

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC  
AFFAIRS, EDUCATION AND RESEARCH OF THE SWISS  
CONFEDERATION AND THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE OF  
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA  
ON LAUNCHING THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE ENHANCEMENT  
OF THE SWITZERLAND-CHINA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT**

The Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research of the Swiss Confederation and the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as the "Signatories"):

**RECALLING** *the Free Trade Agreement between the Swiss Confederation and the People's Republic of China* (hereinafter referred to as the "Switzerland-China FTA"), signed in Beijing, China on 6 July 2013, and entered into force on 1 July 2014;

**RECALLING** *the Memorandum of Understanding between the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research of the Swiss Confederation and the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China on the Enhancement of the Switzerland-China Free Trade Agreement* signed in Bern, Switzerland on 16 January 2017, during the state visit by Chinese President Xi Jinping to Switzerland;

**RECALLING** *the Joint Statement between the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research of the Swiss Confederation and the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China on Strengthening Cooperation* signed on 15 January 2024, during the visit by Chinese Premier Li Qiang to Switzerland;

**REAFFIRMING** the consensus reached by President of the Swiss Confederation Viola Amherd and Chinese Premier Li Qiang during their meeting on 15 January 2024 regarding the completion of the Joint Study of the Enhancement of the Switzerland-China FTA;

**EMPHASISING** the importance of the enhancement of the Switzerland-China FTA for further strengthening bilateral economic and trade cooperation and achieving mutual benefits for both countries;

Have arrived at the following understandings:

1. The Signatories intend to officially launch the negotiations for the enhancement of Switzerland-China FTA, and mandate their respective representatives to proceed accordingly, as soon as the necessary internal procedures on both sides have been completed;

2. The Signatories intend to make concerted efforts to promote the negotiations for the enhancement with the view to achieving a comprehensive, high-level and mutually beneficial outcome at an early date.

Signed in duplicate in Beijing on the first day of July in the year 2024 in the French, Chinese and English languages, all three texts being equally valid.



**For the Federal Department of  
Economic Affairs, Education and  
Research of the Swiss  
Confederation**



**For the Ministry of Commerce of  
the People's Republic of China**