** TOWARDS FAIR, AFFORDABLE AND ADEQUATE PENSIONS - PARAMETRIC REFORM AND REDISTRIBUTION**

**THROUGH PUBLIC PENSION SCHEMES**

**INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP**

**Component 1**

**PARIS, 14 SEPTEMBER 2017**

**BACKGROUND NOTE**

1. As part of its 2017 Programme of activities, the Component One of the EU-China Social protection reform project has undertaken, with its main partner, the Chinese National Development and Reform Commission, to conduct detailed analysis on the envisaged parametric reforms of the public pension system in China. This analysis would be based on works of eminent Chinese experts, confronted notably to recent parametric reforms in a number of European countries as described by respective national experts. It was also decided to conduct a separate analysis of the redistributive effect of envisaged parametric reforms in China, so that the Government receives all appropriate conclusions and recommendations from the Project on the parametric reforms it is in the process of considering.
2. Prof. Zhou Hong, Prof. Li Shi and their teams were in charge of conducting the analysis and simulation from the Chinese side. From the European side, experts from the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Poland and Sweden contributed national reports. While ad hoc documentation was also received from Finland and from Sweden.
3. In a first round of discussions, national Chinese and European experts could exchange over a week in China at the end of August 2017 on their respective analysis, findings, and experiences. The present workshop represents therefore the second step in this collaborative process where, in addition to the afore mentioned experts, specialists, academics and decision makers from the European Union, the OECD, and more academic circles will join in the debate.
4. It is expected that, at the end of the International workshop, the Chinese side will have gained an even clearer version of the possible contents and consequences of envisaged parametric reform, so that it may deliver a sound advice to the highest national authorities.
5. As for the European side, it will have gained a first-hand in-depth knowledge of the Chinese pension reform process in the making, and will have sharpened the analysis of its own situation, through confrontation and exchanges with a number of Chinese and other partners.
6. The EU-China Social protection reform project Component One is part of a four years cooperative effort in partnership with Chinese stakeholder, where the European side is composed of institutions from seven countries under the coordination of the National Institute for Social Security, INPS, from Italy. As for the Component One – Support to policy formulation, in partnership with NDRC – its responsibility is incumbent upon Expertise France. Project activities are reported in its bilingual website, <http://www.euchinasprp.eu> .

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