

United States Department of Transportation

The Department of Transportation has Memorandums of Cooperation on Science and Technology with the Ministry of Communications, Ministry of Railways, Civil Aviation Authority of China, and we expect to sign an agreement with the Ministry of Construction in 2006.

This accord with the Ministry of Construction will provide the framework for cooperation between the Department of Transportation and the Ministry of Construction. The agreement is a vehicle to facilitate both countries desire to cooperate and share information in urban public transportation.

Transportation in China is organized among four ministries. The Ministry of Communications, has the responsibility for maritime and highways, and that agreement was renewed in December 2003. Rail activities are the responsibility of the Ministry of Railways. In 2000 we renewed our cooperative activities with the Ministry of Railways. Aviation is handled by the General Administration of Civil Aviation (CAAC). FAA has a 16-year history of close working cooperation with CAAC in a wide variety of aviation programs. CAAC is reorganizing and severing its control over airlines and airports, and will soon look more like the FAA as a safety regulatory agency.

The Department of Transportation meets regularly at the expert level and annually at the Ministers level to discuss cooperative efforts. These efforts exist in maritime, aviation, highways, rail, and mass transit, and have been extremely successful.

In addition to collaborative engagement under the S&T Agreement, the Department of State has engaged China on the following issue:

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) led by Alice Wong took a small U.S. FAA Air Traffic Organization team to initiate a dialogue on Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), an augmentation of Global Position System (GPS) civil aviation application with the air Traffic Management Bureau of the General Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) in June of 2005. They discussed the potential GNSS technical cooperation between the FAA and CAAC. The CAAC very much want to cooperate with the FAA. The benefit for the FAA is to have a more compatible and interoperable systems around the world so as to ensure the safety of U. S. citizens travel to and from China, and to facilitate the acceptance of U.S. manufactured GPS receivers onboard of U.S. airlines and airplanes worldwide. By being a member of Galileo enterprise, China hopes to learn and develops its own dual-use space-based positioning, navigation and timing constellation system one day.

FAA hopes to collaborate on the following areas with CAAC in the near term: operational implementation of GNSS augmentation, R&D on GNSS test-beds, operational testing and acceptance of Galileo, and development of GNSS training classes.