

**ASEM Seminar on Urban Water Management and Hunan
(Chenzhou) Expo on the Sustainable Utilization of Water
Resources and Green Development Successfully Held in
Chenzhou, China**

The 4th ASEM Seminar on Urban Water Management and Hunan (Chenzhou) Expo on the Sustainable Utilization of Water Resources and Green Development was held in Chenzhou on November 26-27. The two-day event also witnessed the Inaugural Conference and the First Work Conference of the Expert Advisory Committee of Hunan (Chenzhou) Sustainable Development Innovation Demonstration Zone and the 5th Meeting of the ASEM Water Academic and Development Committee. Mr. Leon Faber, Deputy Executive Director of Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), and Mr. Károly Kovács, Chairman of the Hungarian Water Partnership (HWP) attended the opening ceremony and delivered speeches via an online conferencing platform.

The event was sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology of Hunan Province, the People's Government of Chenzhou Municipality, and the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and organized by the ASEM Water Resources Research and

Development Center (ASEMWater) and Chenzhou Sustainable Development Innovation Center, with partners including Hungarian Water Association (HWA), Hungarian Water Partnership (HWP), Romania-based ECO-Innovation Cluster for Sustainable Environment (CLEMS), Shiga Prefecture (Japan), European Water Association (EWA), and Thailand's Department of Water Resources (DWR). It received about 100 participants from 17 ASEM members including government officials, experts, and entrepreneurs. In the three plenary sessions focusing on governmental level actions, economic development and awareness raising, and industrial R&D innovation in sustainable water management, 17 experts from 13 countries made compelling presentations, and *Dongjiang Lake Summary* was released at the Seminar. More than 150 enterprises from home and abroad exhibited their best practices and technologies in “water protection, water management, water utilization, and water conservation” on the virtual Expo.

Zhu Zhongming, Vice Governor of Hunan Provincial People's Government, stressed that we should give full play to the Expert Advisory Committee and deepen exchanges and cooperation with ASEM members to improve synergetic innovation; with these efforts, we can make major technological breakthroughs in ecology to promote the sustainable utilization of water resources and green

development; we will contribute more replicable Hunan practices of the sustainable development of water resources to China and the world at large.