



INSTITUT MERIEUX

la Lettre

#07 NEWSLETTER
JUNE 2014



On March 26, 2014, we had the exceptional privilege of welcoming His Excellency Mr. Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China, to our laboratories at Marcy l'Étoile.

This meeting took place within the framework of his state visit to France, from March 25 to 28, celebrating fifty years of Franco-Chinese diplomatic relations.

For Institut Mérieux, its companies and for every one of us, it was an immense honor and a mark of recognition for our commitment to serving public healthcare in China, a country in which we were pioneers and established a presence ahead of our competitors, more than 35 years ago.

Mr. Xi Jinping and his wife were accompanied by a number of Chinese ministers, by Mr. Laurent Fabius, French Minister of Foreign Affairs, and by Ms. Geneviève Fioraso, French Secretary of State for Higher Education and Research, as well as by political representatives from the Rhône-Alpes region.

This visit was an opportunity to look back on the historic engagement of our family, our companies and Fondation Mérieux in China, spanning nearly 50 years, and on the public healthcare programs that we are running with the Chinese authorities.

You can relive the highlights in this special edition of the Institut Mérieux newsletter.

I am delighted and proud of the relations that we have established over the years with this great country: long-standing relations based on respect and trust. These relations are extremely important for the future of Institut Mérieux.

I would like to thank everyone who worked alongside us to ensure that this visit was so intense and a perfect success.

Alain Mérieux

WELCOME TO PRESIDENT XI JINPING
热烈欢迎习近平主席

Marcy l'Étoile was the first stage in President Xi Jinping's visit to France. He went on to visit the Franco-Chinese Institute in Lyon, then flew to Paris for the following stages of his state visit.

As 2014 is the Chinese year of the horse, the Marcy l'Étoile site was decked out with a colorful Franco-Chinese duo of horses: the French half of the pair was one of the horses from the statue by Quiesse, on show at Marcy l'Étoile.





8.20 am/ Arrival of Mr. Laurent Fabius, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ms. Geneviève Fioraso, Secretary of State for Higher Education and Research, Mr. Jean-François Carenco, Prefect of the Rhône-Alpes region, Mr. Gérard Collomb, Senator and Mayor of Lyon, received by Messrs. Alain and Alexandre Mérioux and their wives.



This lightning visit, lasting just **45 minutes**, will go down in the annals of Institut Mérioux's history

A Chinese delegation of **90 people**

Nearly **90** accredited French and Chinese **journalists**

50 French guests

150 bioMérioux employees present along the route taken by the President during his visit



9.00 am/ Arrival of the presidential delegation.



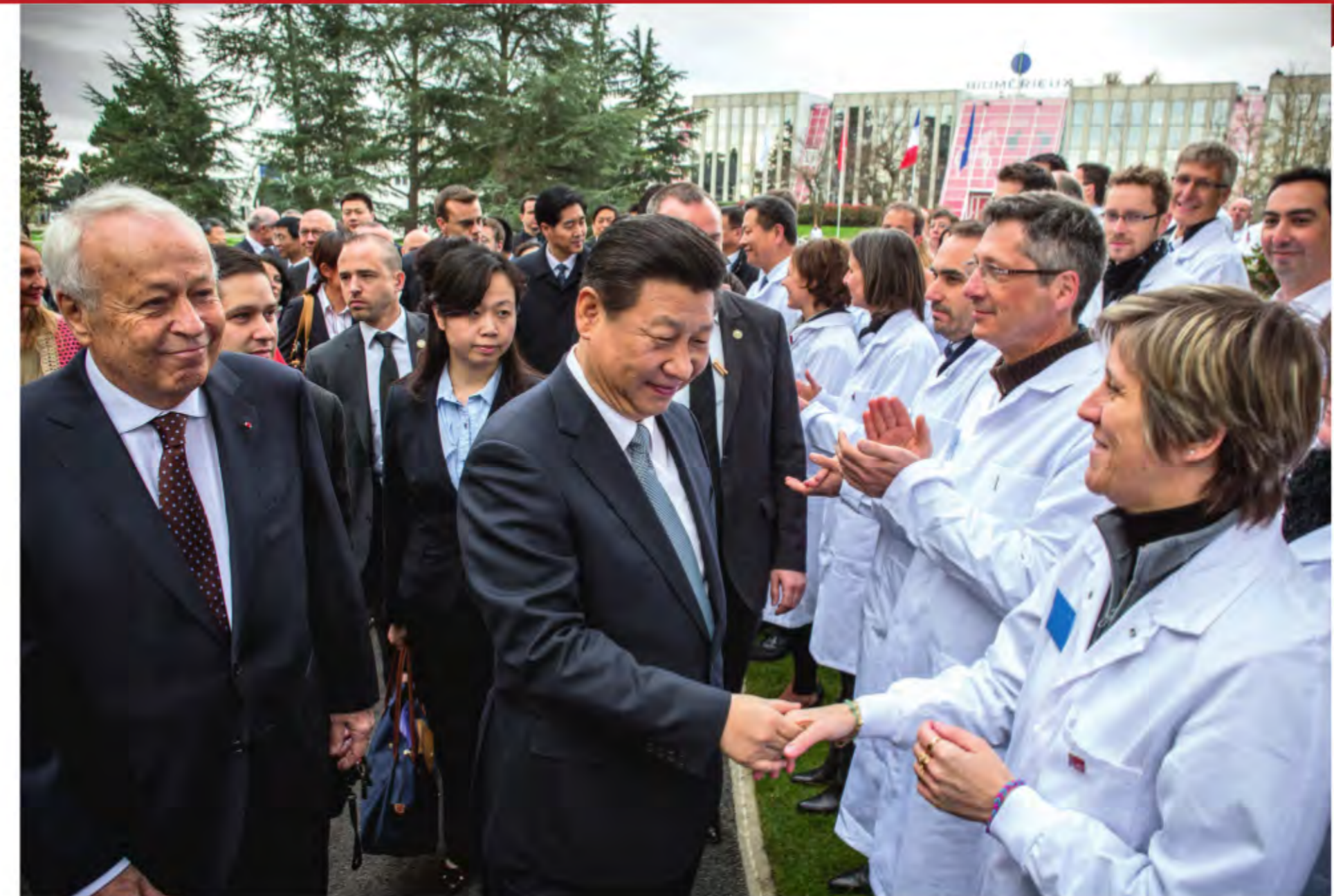
Mr. Alain Mérioux introduced the following business leaders: Mr. Serge Weinberg, Chairman of Sanofi ; Mr. Laurent Buelle, Chairman and CEO of Plastic Omnium ; Mr. Thierry de la Tour d'Artaise, Chairman and CEO of the SEB Group ; Mr. Jean-Pascal Tricoire, Chairman and CEO of Schneider Electric; Mr. Jean-Michel Hubert, French Coordinator of the P4 laboratory project at Wuhan...



After having greeted the bioMérioux employees present along the route taken on his visit, President Xi Jinping greeted Mr. Gérard Collomb, Senator and Mayor of Lyon, Mr. Jean-Jack Queyranne, President of the Rhône-Alpes Regional Council, and Mr. Bernard Accoyer, Member and former President of the French National Assembly.



... And then his senior staff: Mr. Jean-Luc Bélingard, Chairman of bioMérioux ; Mr. Philippe Archinard, Chairman and CEO of Transgene ; Mr. Philippe Sans, CEO of Mérioux NutriSciences ; Mr. Benoît Miribel, Director General of Fondation Mérioux.





9.05 am/ Private interview and signing of a scroll to commemorate this visit.

SPEECH BY MR ALAIN MÉRIEUX

Your Excellency, Mr. Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China, Madam, Mr. Fabius, Minister of Foreign Affairs, representing Mr. Hollande, President of France, Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends,

On behalf of my family and all of our staff, I wish you a warm welcome.

We are extremely honored, Mr. President, by your visit to our laboratories at Marcy l'Étoile, where my grandfather, Marcel Mérieux, who studied under Louis Pasteur, established his serotherapy activities in 1917.

Your visit is an honor for our family, our staff, and our country. This visit is particularly significant as it takes place during the year in which we commemorate 50 years of diplomatic relations between the People's Republic of China and France.

My love of China was passed on to me by my father-in-law, Paul Berliet, who, in 1965, was more concerned by the presence of his trucks at a trade show in Beijing than by his daughter's wedding! I had the privilege of accompanying him during the visit of Mr. Deng Xiaoping to the Berliet plants at Vénissieux in 1975. In 1978, I traveled to Beijing for the first time, where I was welcomed by our Chinese medical and veterinary colleagues, for a presentation on our vaccinology activities. Following on from my father, Dr. Charles Mérieux, I have managed our family's companies, dedicated to human and veterinary vaccines, for 25 years. They are currently among the world's leaders in this field.

As part of my political role as First Vice President with the Rhône-Alpes Regional Council, from 1986 to 1998, I undertook to establish and maintain a special relationship between our region and the municipality of Shanghai, with particular emphasis on ensuring excellent links between Chinese and French universities.

Along with others in our family, my son, Christophe, a doctor, was also drawn to your country. He developed relationships based on trust and friendship with his medical and scientific colleagues in China. It was at his instigation that two research laboratories were created, with the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences in Beijing and with the Fudan Cancer Hospital in Shanghai.

We were extremely touched when, upon Christophe's death, the President of the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences asked to name the Beijing research laboratory, dedicated to the detection of emerging pathogens, after him. We will never forget this gesture of esteem and friendship.

Through our family's Foundations working in the field, as well as our scientific and industrial activities, we are proud to follow in the footsteps of Louis Pasteur and to accompany our Chinese colleagues in providing solutions to top priority healthcare issues in your country:

- the emergence of new pathogens
- healthcare-associated infections
- resistance to antibiotics
- tuberculosis
- cancer immunotherapy
- food safety.

I was also very proud, in 2008, to co-**preside the Franco-Chinese group on emerging infectious diseases, in order to establish a P4 high-security laboratory at Wuhan.** This research laboratory was modeled on the P4 laboratory in Lyon, created by Fondation Mérieux and named for my brother, Jean. Today, we aim to establish close links between the P4 laboratories of Wuhan and Lyon, as we must fight against new infectious agents together, without borders.

I was honored, Madam, to meet you in Berlin and again in Beijing, within the context of your remarkable activities in China in the fight against Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS.

Mr. President, I have come to know and love your country over the last 35 years, and I admire the path that it has followed. In December 2005, I met you for the first time in Hangzhou. Today is our fourth encounter. Each time that we have met, you have demonstrated trust and friendship. We are deeply touched and intend to remain worthy of such a privilege.

Your visit, Mr. President, Madam, dear friends, is an exceptional honor for which our family and staff are infinitely grateful.

We thank you most sincerely.



9.15 am/ Speech by Mr. Alain Mérieux, followed by that of President Xi Jinping and the projection of a film retracing the historic engagement of Institut Mérieux and Fondation Mérieux at the service of public healthcare in China.



"Through our family's Foundations working in the field, as well as our scientific and industrial activities, we are proud to follow in the footsteps of Louis Pasteur and to accompany our Chinese colleagues in providing solutions to top priority healthcare issues in your country..."

SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY XI JINPING

"Over the last few decades, France and China have worked together on the prevention of tuberculosis, the control of infectious diseases, and the prevention of new diseases. This cooperation has been tight, varied and very fruitful."

President,
Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Minister of Higher Education and Research,
Prefect of the Rhone-Alpes region,
Elected Representatives,
Dear Members of the Mérioux family,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Friends,

I am delighted to have the opportunity to visit the Mérioux laboratories today. I would like to thank Mr. Mérioux and his colleagues for organizing this event, and for their warm welcome.

The history of the Mérioux family truly reflects the history of mankind's long fight against viruses. In the space of a century, the Mérioux family has successfully developed many vaccines which have greatly contributed to improving public health and to the development of the pharmaceutical industry.

Last year marked bioMérioux's 50th anniversary. From a firm with just 15 members of staff bioMérioux has grown into a multinational company which now employs more than 7,000 people.

Your company is a global leader both in the field of bacteriology and in the diagnostics of infectious diseases.

bioMérioux's presence in China is developing rapidly. Its Chinese subsidiary is the corporation's third largest, and Shanghai has become one of its three strategic centers. This is emblematic of China and France's close cooperation, and it heralds a promising future.

China attaches particular importance to developing the field of health care; ensuring our people's health and security lies at the very heart of our government policy.

Our country is about to undertake a series of health care reforms, thereby making the improvement of public health and the bettering of our health care system top priorities. China will also strengthen its capacities for the prevention of infectious diseases in order to improve the standard of our people's health.

Thus, over the next few years China will make great strides in the field of public health. This progress will benefit the Chinese people but also the world at large.

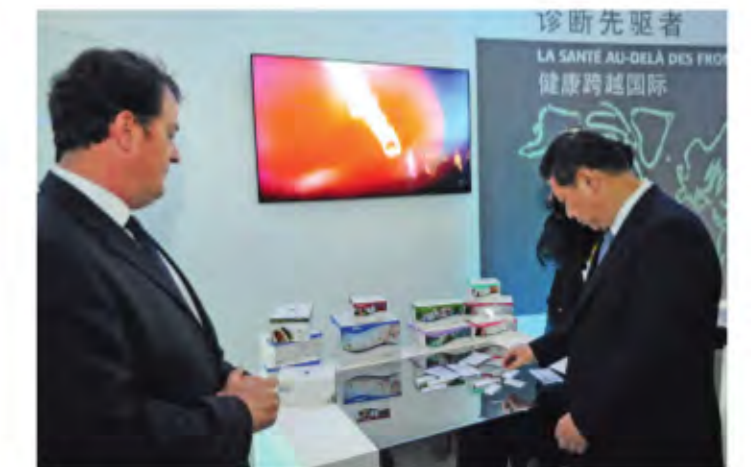
It is a pleasure for me to note how much Fondation Mérioux and its research center have contributed to our countries' extensive cooperation in this field.

Over the last few decades, France and China have worked together on the prevention of tuberculosis, the control of infectious diseases, and the prevention of new diseases. This cooperation has been tight, varied and very fruitful.

In this respect, the new P4 laboratory in Wuhan can be viewed as a model of such medical and scientific cooperation. We hope that we will each develop our own assets to foster even greater cooperation between our two countries, so that we may deliver many more and increasingly tangible results, and ensure the good health and security of both our peoples.

Thank you.

9.32 am/ Visit to the bioMérioux showroom and presentation by Jean-Luc Bélingard and Alexandre Mérioux of diagnostics solutions to Chinese healthcare challenges, including bacterial resistance, healthcare-associated infections and food safety.





9.45 am/ Departure of the delegation to the Franco-Chinese Institute in Lyon.



During this visit, various documents were provided to the guests. These included a presentation of Institut Mérieux and its companies, as well as a brochure setting out the commitments made by Institut Mérieux and Fondation Mérieux in China.

These bilingual French-Chinese documents, as well as the film shown during the visit, can be viewed on the Institut Mérieux website. www.institut-merieux.com



Publication Director: Alain Mérieux
 Chief Editor: Anne de Chiffreville
 Design and Production: Théra RCS Lyon B 398 160 242
 Photos Credits: C. Ganet, G. Amselem
 Printed in France / Institut Mérieux 348 579 509 RCS Lyon / Juin 2014