



European Chamber Pearl River Delta Chapter Chairman Alberto Vettoretti with EU Commissioner for Consumer Protection Meglena Kuneva

## Kuneva visits Guangdong, Chamber

### IN FOCUS

European Commissioner for Consumer Protection Meglena Kuneva made a two-day visit to Guangdong in June, accompanied by the head of the Delegation of the European Commission to China, Ambassador Serge Abou. She met with government officials and representatives from the China Exit-Entry Inspection and Quarantine Bureau (CIQ), and visited a local quality-control and testing centre.

During the VIP Dinner organised by the European Chamber Pearl River Delta on the evening of June 11, Commissioner Kuneva explained the European Union's policy and approach to global governance of product safety and to shared global responsibilities. Participants of the dinner included Wang Xin, Director General of China General Adminis-

tration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (Aqsiq), Li Yanhui, Director General of Guangdong CIQ and other high-ranking representatives from Aqsiq and CIQ. Li Qingxiang delivered a speech calling for enhanced cooperation with Europe on safety and product quality. Company representatives from various industries, including toys, pharmaceuticals, automotive, electrical appliances, testing and certification companies were present at the dinner. The company TUV Rheinland has been actively supporting this event.

The European Chamber organised VIP meetings between Commissioner Kuneva and the European consulates-general in Guangzhou, as well as with senior managers from the above-mentioned industries on June 11.

Since November 2006, Commis-

sioner Kuneva has been responsible for the EU's Consumer Protection Policy for the European market, which in terms of sales volume is by far the largest single market in the world, with a population of over 500 million. Previously she was Bulgaria's Minister for European Affairs, Deputy Foreign Minister, and the Chief Negotiator for Bulgaria's accession to the European Union in 2006.

The Commissioner Kuneva's visit to China aimed to take stock of progress with regard to the commitments made during her visit to China in July 2007 to strengthen EU-China product safety controls. Future cooperation has progressed, in particular on the revision of the current EU-China memorandum of understanding on consumer product safety and the preparation of the first EU-China-US trilateral summit on product safety in Brussels this November.