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Some Remarks by Zhou Enlai on a Report by Nie Rongzhen

Citation:

Summary:
In the wake of a deepening Sino-Soviet split, Zhou Enlai explains how to manage Chinese bilateral technological and educational exchanges. Above all, Zhou emphasizes the importance of Chinese self-reliance in innovation and education as the country moves forward.

Credits:
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Original Language:
Chinese

Contents:
- English Translation
- Chinese Transcription
Base ourselves on independence, self-reliance and autarky.

Technical cooperation: 1. Hold on to what has been agreed upon, but don’t press further. 2. Don’t ask for too many new items or new requests, but don’t make none at all; otherwise we may bring on unintended consequences. 3. It is better not to raise very often [the topic of] routine technical cooperation.

The issue of [Soviet] specialists: 1. Generally do not retain [but] warmly send off those whose contracts have expired; when absolutely necessary and specialists are also [of] good character, we can propose an extension, but if they don’t agree, then don’t [Try to] retain [them]. 2. As a general rule, we won’t send back those whose contract terms have not expired, we will help them to do their work well, and if they want to withdraw them, we will [try] to retain them once. And if they don’t ask our agreement and withdraw them, we should express our regret. 3. Don’t ask or don’t ask very often about new [Soviet experts], but, when absolutely necessary, and they don’t agree after we raise [the issue], then just drop it.

Let’s decide the issue of [Chinese] students studying abroad after further study. Let’s separately decide the issue of technical exchanges and the protection of secrets.

Regarding science and technology: 1. Yes. We should still propose what is absolutely necessary. If they can’t do [what we propose], we should not press [further]. 2. Study. Overseas students, graduate students, trainees, and research fellows who have already gone [to the Soviet Union] should study diligently, [but] if they are not allowed to study, then they [can’t] study; [as for Soviet] experts who have come to our country, we should assign people to study diligently with them, but if they don’t teach, then [our assignees can’t] study. 3. Purchasing. All essential technical material that can be purchased must be purchased from Western countries; what cannot be purchased should be acquired through other means. 4. Intensive study. Regardless of what we acquire, what we study, and what we purchase, or how much [is involved], we must principally rely on our own intensive study. If we don’t engage in intensive study, not only will we not be able to create our own unique inventions, but, furthermore, we also will not be able to make practical use and develop what we have acquired, studied and purchased.
1960年7月11日

立自主，自力更生，立足。

科技合作：（一）是，仍然要，不要催。（二）新目，新要求，少提少要，而不是一律不要，否也引起相反果。（三）例行科技合作少提好。

家：（一）期的，一般不留，送；十分必要而家本人又好，可提出延聘，如不同意，即不再留。二、未期的，我一律不退，助他好好工作，他要撤走，留一次，不成，即不再留；如不征求同意即撤走，表示憾。三、新聘的，要少提或不提，十分必要的提出后不同意，即不再提。

留生待研究后再定。科技和保密另。

于科技：（一）要。十分必要的仍然要提，他不行，不求。二、留生、研究生、生、研究已去的，必好，不，就不；我，必派专人向他真，不教，就不。三、凡可的重要材料，西方家千百的到；不到的，另行法搞到。四、不管要到，到，到与否或者多少，主要靠自己研，自己不，不不能有特的造明，而且也不能把要到，到的用于和有所展。