

*UK Visa Office*

*Visa Application Centre, China*

*18 April 2024*

*Dear Visa Office,*

*Invitation for collaborative visit of Dr Qingquan Hong*

I am writing to support the visa application of my esteemed colleagues, Doctor Qingquan Hong from Nanjing University, who intend to visit the United Kingdom to attend a conference (the "International Ra/Rn Workshop") I am hosting and discuss ongoing collaborative research with me.

Dr Qingquan Hong and I have been working jointly since 2018, focusing on the examination of the supply of bioessential trace minerals in the ocean, to better understand how this supply supports a healthy ocean ecosystem and ocean carbon storage. Dr Hong has provided training and equipment to help me set up these methods in my lab at the University of Southampton. The next phase of our collaboration is to carefully evaluate the data and review the results and so that we can disseminate our findings in open-access, peer-reviewed journals.

Specifically, Dr Qingquan Hong will be attending a conference organised by myself at the University of Southampton from June 10th to June 14th, 2024. Following the conclusion of the conference, I have invited them to stay until June 20th to engage in further discussions regarding our current research, instrument calibration, and planning for future cooperation. This period of collaboration is crucial for the progression of our joint projects and the exchange of expertise in our respective fields.

My research funding through the UK's National Environmental Research Council will cover accommodation and subsistence for Dr. Hong in Southampton during their collaborative visit after the conference, which I will arrange through my university, with Dr Hong's own research funding covering costs during the conference and travel to/from the UK. I will personally ensure their well-being and compliance with all visa requirements during their visit.

I kindly request that you give favourable consideration to the visa applications of Dr Qingquan Hong so that we may continue our collaborative efforts and contribute to the advancement of science and research in the United Kingdom.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

*Yours Sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amber Annett". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a light grey rectangular background.

*Amber Annett*

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