

**OECD FORUM 2006**  
**BALANCING GLOBALISATION**  
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**Access to education**

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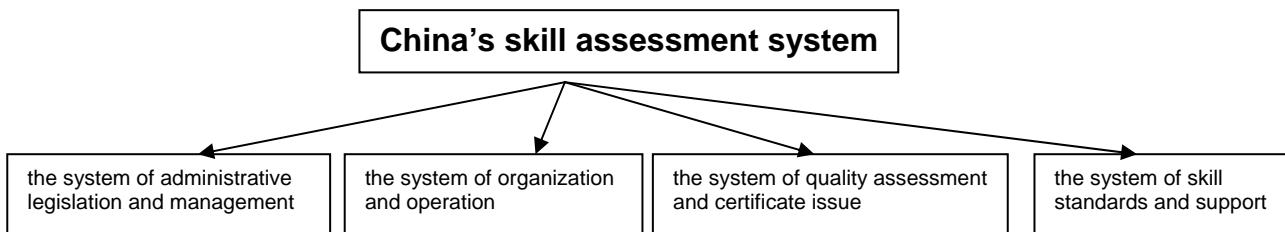
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I'm honored to get the chance to make a speech here. First of all, I'd like to take this occasion to express our great thanks to Chairman Mr. John West and all the leaders in OECD. I'd like to extend our sincere greetings, on behalf of the staff of Tianjin Academy of Educational Science in China, to the delegates and our friends at the Forum.

**China's Skill Assessment System**

Skill assessment in China is basically to check skill level and technical proficiency, which is carried out by test and examination institutions to make objective measurement and assessment of labors' level of technical knowledge and practical ability.

China's skill assessment system was formally set up in 1994 and has now become an integrated working system supported by four branches, they are the system of administrative legislation and management, the system of technical standards and support, the system of organization and operation, and the system of quality assessment and certificate issue (See Figure 1).



**(Figure 1)**

**The System of administrative legislation and management** relies on legal support, especially the laws and regulations on skill assessment, mainly including Labor Law, Law of Vocational Education, Regulations of Skill Qualification Certificate, Regulations of Skill Assessment.

**The system of skill standards and support**, on which skill assessment is based, mainly includes skill classification, skill standards, developing training courses for skill certificate and so on.

**The system of organization and operation** consists of the guiding centers for skill assessment, the institutes for skill assessment, the staff of administration and assessment, and state examination data base.

**The system of quality assurance and certificate check issue** is the basis of skill assessment quality assurance. Upon this strict requirement, skill assessment is done by united proposition management, united test administration, united assessing condition, united assessing teacher's qualification, and united certification management.

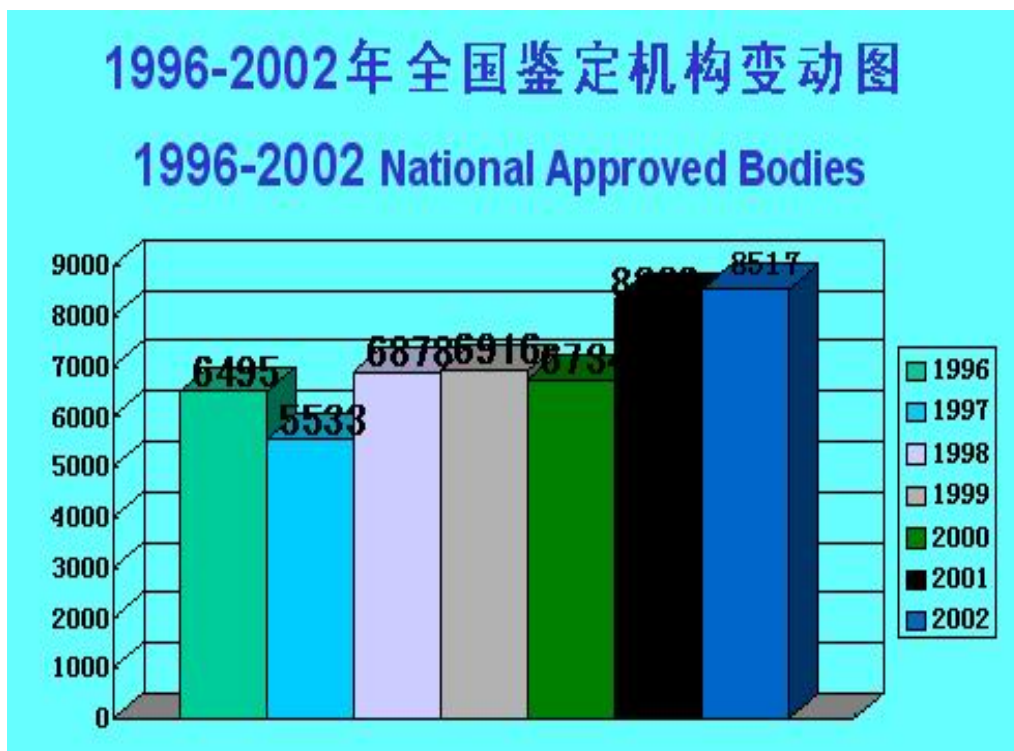
Up to now, 8500 institutes for skill assessment have been set up distributing all around China. There are over 2000 types of occupations and jobs which can be used for skill assessment. The newest statistics shows that, by the end of 2002, there are more than five million peoples who have got various grade of different vocational certificates (See Figures 2, 3, 4 & 5).



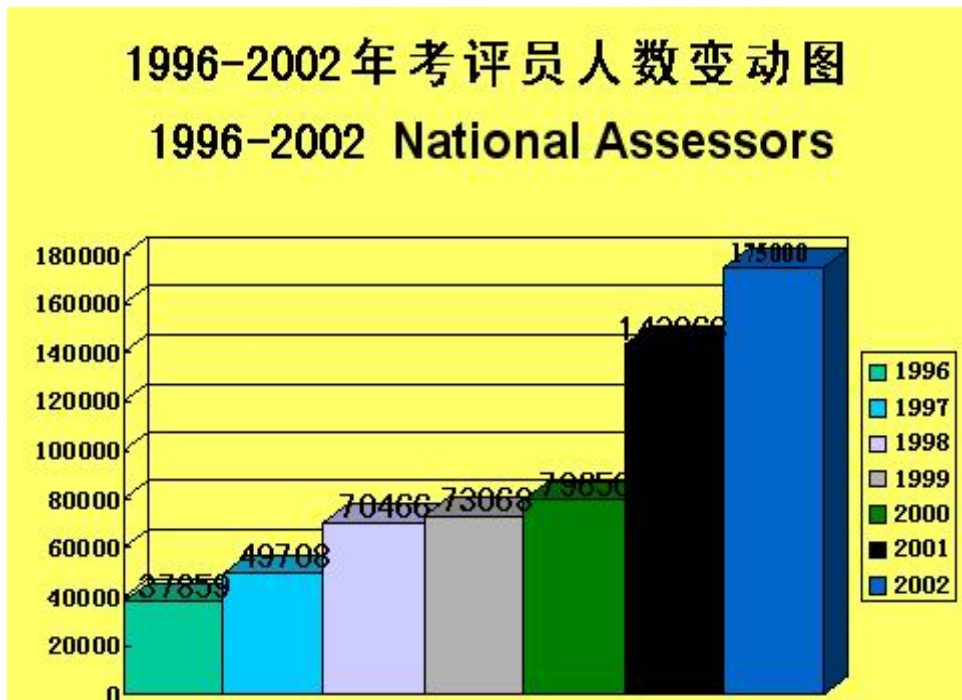
(Figure 2)



(Figure 3)



(Figure 4)



**(Figure 5)**

It is the fact that the number of the applicants for skill assessment has been yearly increased since 1996. It was greatly increased in year of 2001. The quality of China's skill assessment has been improved to a great extent and the system of skill assessment has become more and more scientific and standard.

At present, many foreign training organizations, examination institutions and some large transnational corporations in China carry out skill assessment in various occupations and jobs. Seven of them have been registered formally in China Labor and Social Security Department (See Table 1).

**已注册国外职业资格证书名单**  
List of Qualified Certifications of the Registered Foreign Institutions in China

证书名称 Certificate	颁证机构 Issue Organization	注册时间 Time of Issue	注册号 Register
商贸零售 Retailing	英国伦敦城市行业协会(C&G) City and Guilds of London Institute	2000/3/21	劳引字[2000]001号
企业行政管理(NVQ) Administration	英国伦敦工商会考试局(LCCIEB) London Chamber of Commerce and Industry Examinations Board	2001/10/26	劳引字[2001]002号
特许金融分析师(CFA) Chartered Financial Analyst	美国投资管理与研究协会(AIMR) Association for Investment Management and Research	2002/9/25	劳引字[2002]001号
国际商业美术设计师(ICAD) International Commercial Art Designer Certificate	国际商业美术设计师协会(ICADA) International Commercial Art Designer Association	2003/3/6	劳引字[2003]001号
国际交流英语考试(TOEIC) Test of English for International Communication	美国教育考试服务中心(ETS) Educational Testing Service	2003/3/18	劳引字[2003]002号
商务管理证书 Business / Management Certificate	英国剑桥大学国际考试委员会(CIE) Cambridge International Examinations	2003/7/22	劳引字[2003]003号
旅游管理证书 Travel and Tourism Certificate	英国剑桥大学国际考试委员会(CIE) Cambridge International Examinations	2003/7/22	劳引字[2003]004号

**(Table 1)**

(Source of data: Skill Assessment Center in State Labor and Social Security Department)

The latest quarterly statistics of the employment in the labour market of 90 cities in China from State Labour and Social Security (2003) shows that 43 percent of the employment demand definitely the requirement of skill levels, mainly for rank 4 or rank 5, while 38 percent for elementary ones. The employment concentrates on three occupations in food industry (31.4% of the total), manufacturing industry (25.4%) and social service (17.2%), which reaches 74 percent of the total amount of the employment. 44 percent of the applicants for employment possess certificates of rank 4 or 5 and 40 percent possess elementary qualifications. The skill structure of employment just matches the requirement in the labour market. The rate of employment of each level has been increased in comparison with that of last year. It is clear that both applicants and employers attach much importance on skill assessment.

Now China has a deeper understanding of the basic condition of foreign vocational qualification and certification and the development of vocational skill examinations, through the "Cooperation Items with Vocational Certification between China and England" and "Cooperation Items with Vocational Certification between China and Germany". And it is also gained by bilateral-communication with South Korea, America, Japan, France, Canada etc, and multi-communication with some International Organizations such as International Labor and Work Organization, World Bank etc. So in new vocational standards formulation, new vocational standards should be taken in order to keep up with foreign advanced standards and introduce directly a few foreign advanced vocational

standards and certification for some important products and labor service, or designing a way of international (multi or bilateral ) acknowledgement.

Therefore, China plans to make experiments in some places, where higher vocational education and training are well-developed. The characteristics of people who have wide knowledge, compound skill and compound technical ability are reflected by some changes in the scope of the current five-grade government vocational qualification, and the support provided for them to get into the labor market successfully.

Thank you!