

China Technology

CBO - China Brief Overnight - June 4, 2026

ByteDance's Doubao AI to launch a paid professional version; Tencent plans to partner with top Chinese smartphone brands for built-in AI assistant; BYD Executive VP confirms to enter the humanoid robot sector

Our daily product rounds up key stories from the Chinese language media overnight, focusing on developments in the technology space.

See our latest research on [Barclays Live](#).

June 4, 2026

Government/Industry News

- **EU warns of a potential trade war with China and weighs new restrictive measures on clean energy and other sectors:** According to Bloomberg, the European Commission, which handles trade matters for the EU, held a closed meeting last week with top officials to discuss next steps. The Commission said that the bloc's relationship with China was no longer sustainable. The EU may discuss new restrictive measures in June for Chinese enterprises to enter the EU's chemicals, metals, clean energy, and other sectors.
- **CAICT will hold a forum to discuss new program to promote high-quality token services:** According to 36kr, China Academy of Information and Communications Technology (CAICT) and MIIT's AI working group will hold a seminar to discuss establishing a new program to promote high-quality token services. The initiative aims to systematically plan organizational mechanisms and capability upgrades to foster high-quality development and provide a solid regulatory foundation for the standardized growth of the AI token service industry.
- **South Korea and China agreed to expand flights for the first time in seven years:** According to Reuters, South Korea and China have agreed to expand weekly flight rights between the two countries for the first time in seven years, citing Seoul's transport ministry on Thursday. The agreement will increase passenger flight rights by 56 weekly flights to 664 from 608, and cargo rights by 14 weekly flights to 68 from 54.

Company News

- **ByteDance's Doubao AI to launch a paid professional version:** According to 36kr, ByteDance's Doubao AI plans to launch a paid professional version targeting advanced productivity needs while keeping core features free. The professional version will cover

Barclays Capital Inc. and/or one of its affiliates does and seeks to do business with companies covered in its research reports. As a result, investors should be aware that the firm may have a conflict of interest that could affect the objectivity of this report. Investors should consider this report as only a single factor in making their investment decision.

Please see analyst certifications and important disclosures beginning on page 4.

Completed: 04-Jun-26, 13:04 GMT Released: 04-Jun-26, 13:09 GMT Restricted - External

China Technology
POSITIVE

China Technology

Jiong Shao, CFA

+1 212 526 5562

jjiong.shao@barclays.com

BCI, US

Lian Xiu (Roger) Duan

+1 212 526 4633

lianxiu.duan@barclays.com

BCI, US

Xinyao Song

+1 212 526 6972

xinyao.song@barclays.com

BCI, US



software development, data analysis, professional design, process automation, financial analysis and scientific research services.

- **Tencent plans to partner with top Chinese smartphone brands for built-in AI assistant:** According to IT Home, Tencent plans to collaborate with Chinese top smartphone vendors including Huawei, Honor, Xiaomi, Oppo and Vivo for agent-to-agent assistant features. For example, such features can enable users to initiate voice and video calls directly through their phones' built-in voice assistants.
- **CATL unveils a new focus on lithium-air batteries for a long-term strategy:** According to Sina News, CATL's chief scientist, Wu Kai, introduced at a forum that the company has made a new focus on lithium-air batteries as a long-term strategy, marking a strategic move toward ultimate energy-density solutions with the theoretical maximum density to reach 3500Wh/kg.
- **BYD hits monthly sales milestone of over 1,000 units in South Korea:** According to IT Home, in May BYD hit the monthly sales milestone of over 1,000 units for the first time in South Korea, surpassing Tesla and BMW to become the top EV importer in the country.
- **ByteDance outlines four key AI objectives for 2026:** According to 36kr, ByteDance has defined its four strategic AI propositions for 2026. The objectives are: world models to advance physical world simulation, its proprietary AI framework Seedance, Coding for software development, and Doubao's commercialization strategy.
- **BYD signs strategic cooperation with Sinopec covering battery charging networks and industry chain opportunities:** According to Tencent News, BYD has signed a strategic cooperation framework agreement with Sinopec covering battery charging networks and broader industry-chain opportunities. Both companies will explore cooperation in automotive after-market services, battery materials, refined oil, and energy storage, charging and testing.
- **BYD Executive VP confirms entry into the humanoid robot sector:** According to 36kr, BYD's Executive VP Stella Li said in a recent interview that the company is developing humanoid robots. The core competition for robots lies in manufacturing capabilities as well as software and hardware strengths. BYD also plans to build an open robot platform, which can both produce BYD's in-house developed robots and accommodate products developed in cooperation with other companies.
- **Moonshot AI launches a new desktop AI agent product Kimi Work:** According to 36kr, Moonshot AI has officially launched a new desktop AI agent, called Kimi Work, which can automate workflows, organize files, and operate across the web. Users can coordinate over 300 sub-agents or 4,000 skills to work on complex tasks.
- **Trip.com and China Visa Application Center to jointly build a global inbound tourism service system:** According to Tencent News, Trip.com has signed a cooperation agreement with the China Visa Application Service Center to jointly build a global inbound tourism service system, aiming to streamline and improve the convenience of foreign tourists' entry into China.
- **ZTE partners with Tencent to launch an AI computer powered by HY model and WorkBuddy agent:** According to IT Home, ZTE has confirmed at an event that it has partnered with Tencent to jointly develop an AI PC or laptop, powered by Tencent's in-house proprietary HY large model with Tencent's claw agent WorkBuddy installed.

- **French authorities fine Shein USD 26 million over consumer rule breaches:** According to Caixin, French regulator DGCCRF has decided to hand Shein a USD 26 million fine for violations of consumer protection regulations. In response, Shein has announced its intention to legally challenge the penalty.

THE 2026 EXTEL SURVEY IS NOW OPEN

Support our industry-leading analysts with 5-Star votes in this year's Extel All-America Research Survey

[Vote Now](#)

[View Analysts](#)

Barclays is not responsible for the content of any third-party website accessed via a hyperlink in this report. Information on hyperlinked third-party websites is not incorporated by reference into this report. The inclusion in this report of hyperlinks to third-party websites does not imply any endorsement by or any affiliation with Barclays. Some external links may require a subscription. Links are current as of publication time and we are not responsible if those links are unavailable later.