

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON COOPERATION IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING
BETWEEN THE
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
AND THE
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION OF NEW ZEALAND**

The Ministry of Education of New Zealand and the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "the Participants")

Noting the importance of education and training in national development, and

Wishing to combine the Arrangement on Cooperation on Basic and Higher Education and University Research and the Arrangement on Cooperation on the Introduction of Modern Standard Chinese (Mandarin) into the New Zealand School Curriculum, both of which were signed by the Participants on March 2nd, 1994, into this Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in education and training between the Participants (hereafter referred to as "this Memorandum"),

Having decided, on the basis of common understanding, to conclude this Memorandum.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

1. This Memorandum sets up the general principles of education exchange and cooperation, according to which the Participants may jointly identify fields of mutual interest and create opportunities to develop programs for cooperation in education and training on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit.

FRAMEWORK

2. All educational cooperative activities under this Memorandum will be focused on the following fields: higher education, schools, early childhood education, vocational education and training as well as distance education.

3. Specific arrangements implementing this Memorandum will cover the subjects of cooperation, forms of cooperation, obligations and responsibilities of the Participants, procedures to be followed, funding arrangements and other appropriate matters.

4. The Participants will endeavor to encourage and facilitate, as appropriate, the development of contacts and cooperation in the field of education and training

between the interested educational organisations and institutions of both countries, and the conclusion of arrangements between such bodies for the conduct of cooperative activities.

5. Cooperative activities under this Memorandum will be subject to the respective laws and regulations of each country.

6. With respect to the cooperative activities under this Memorandum, each Participant undertakes to use its best efforts to facilitate prompt entry into and exit from its territory of equipment for teaching and research and personnel of the other Participant and also to provide access to relevant institutions, data and materials.

MECHANISM OF CONSULTATION

7. The Participants decide to establish an effective mechanism of information exchange and regular consultation with the setting up of a bilateral working group to promote healthy development of long-term education exchange and cooperation.

8. The working group will promote mutual understanding and carry out consultation in the areas as followed:

- update on policy developments;
- review on implementation of government agreements and projects in education;
- update on non-governmental exchange programmes in education;
- discussion on possible actions to be adopted to promote development of bilateral education exchange and to address existing issues.

9. The working group will be led jointly by an official at Director General or Deputy Director General level, and consist of officials responsible for policy-making and representatives from the implementing agencies of governmental programmes. Members of delegation will be selected based on the topics of each meeting from relevant agencies and institutions. Delegation size will be decided by each Participant respectively.

10. The working group will annually, in each country alternately. The working group may agree to additional meetings if considered necessary by both sides.

11. Every meeting of the working group should produce a record of the meeting in both English and Chinese, which will be signed as confirmation by the head of delegation from each side.

FIELDS AND FORMS OF COOPERATION

12. In order to promote educational exchanges between the two countries, the Participants will consult with each other on jointly sponsoring conferences and symposia on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit, and will conduct other forms of interaction as mutually determined.

13. The Parties will encourage:

- programmes to promote the mobility of staff and students under mutually agreed arrangements between higher education institutions of both countries;
- programmes to promote the development of New Zealand studies in the People's Republic of China and Chinese studies in New Zealand; and
- direct linkages in the two countries between professional educational organizations and between universities, school and vocational training institutions in areas such as curriculum, textbooks, teaching framework in higher education, schools, vocational education and training and distance education, and Chinese language teaching through sister-school relationships and joint projects.

14. In the area of higher education, the Participants will facilitate cooperation in mutually determined areas. Detailed programmes will be subject to negotiation between participating organizations and institutions.

15. In the area of schools, the Participants will facilitate cooperation in mutually determined areas. While detailed programmes will be subject to negotiation between participating institutions, the Participants will put emphasis on enhancing Chinese language teaching programmes in New Zealand schools.

16. The Ministry of Education of New Zealand will continue to appoint a Chinese Language Advisor recommended by the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China. The Chinese Language Advisor will provide guidance and support to primary and secondary teachers of Chinese in New Zealand. The tenure for each Chinese language Advisor will be two years. At the end of each two year period the initiative will be reviewed by both Participants. The salary of the Chinese Language Advisor is to be met by the Chinese side. Accommodation, an adequate living allowance, return air travel between China and New Zealand, and internal travel costs in New Zealand in accordance with the specified terms of employment are to be met by the New Zealand side.

17. The Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China continues to provide two scholarships for short-term training to Chinese language teachers of New Zealand every other year. The international return travel will be met by the New Zealand side. Accommodation, an adequate living allowance, internal travel costs in China will be met by the Chinese side.

18. In the area of vocational education and training, the Participants will facilitate cooperation in mutually determined areas. Detailed cooperative programmes will be subject to negotiation between participating organizations and institutions.

19. In the area of distance education, the Participants will facilitate cooperation in mutually determined areas. Detailed cooperative programmes will be subject to negotiations between participating institutions.

20. Both Participants decide to promote HSK (Chinese Proficiency Test) in New Zealand, where possible.

21. In order to provide opportunities for Chinese Students to study in New Zealand in areas of developmental relevance to China, the Postgraduate Scholarship Programme (PGS) administered by the New Zealand Agency for International Development (NZ Aid) will provide up to 10 positions to Chinese post-graduate students at any given time, subject to any changes to the PGS programme required by the outcomes of the NZ Aid Education Review scheduled for completion during the period in which this Memorandum remains in effect.

22. In order to provide a better understanding of Chinese language and culture, China will provide up to 10 positions to New Zealand students to study in China through the Ministry of Education Scholarship Programme.

23. In order to build up the knowledge of education systems of the Participants and facilitate educational exchanges, the Participants may arrange the exchange of officials and experts to work and/or study for a limited period of time in the educational organizations and institutions of the other Participant. Detailed programmes for such exchange will be subject to negotiation between the Participants.

24. The Participants agree to investigate and consult on the development of policies and procedures required to support a mutual agreement on quality assurance and qualifications recognition in the higher education systems of New Zealand and China.

25. The Participants will conduct other forms of cooperation in mutually determined and targeted areas.

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

26. Education and training cooperation under this Memorandum includes cooperation between government and non-government institutions mutually determined by both Participants.

FUNDING

27. The cost of cooperative activities will be funded as mutually determined. All cooperative activities under this Memorandum will be subject to the availability of funds.

28. Specific arrangements on cooperative activities including records of meetings may be concluded between interested organizations and institutions in the two countries. These arrangements may cover details of financing and implementation for the cooperative activities. These arrangements and records of meetings, as mutually decided, may be attached to this Memorandum.

IMPLEMENTATION

29. Educational institutions or colleges may form arrangements for cooperative plans. Where necessary, the Participants may discuss these arrangements through diplomatic channels, working group meetings, exchanges of letters or other means to keep each other informed.

30. Entrusted by both Parties, the diplomatic missions to the other country will be able to meet or communicate with each party where necessary.

31. This Memorandum will come into effect on signature and will remain in effect for three years from the date of signature.

32. This Memorandum may be modified or extended by mutual determination of the Participants and may be terminated by either Participant giving six months' written notice to the other Participant.

SIGNED in duplicate in Wellington on 9 December, 2002 in the Chinese and English languages, both texts having equal validity.

FOR THE MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION OF NEW ZEALAND

FOR THE MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE' OF
CHINA

Mr Howard Fancy
Secretary for Education

Mr Wang Zhan
Vice-Minister for Education