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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF (Country)
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
ON COOPERATION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE SILK ROAD
ECONOMIC BELT
AND THE 21ST CENTURY MARITIME SILK ROAD INITIATIVE

The Government of (blank) and the Government of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as the "two Participants");

Based on the traditional friendship between the peoples of China and (blank), the friendly cooperation between the two governments and the aspiration to enhance cooperation on the Silk Road Initiative (hereinafter referred to as the Belt and Road Initiative);

(1) Considering that China's Belt and Road Initiative is committed to upholding the Silk Road Spirit of peace, cooperation, openness, inclusiveness, mutual learning and win-win cooperation as well as to promote the exchange of goods, technology, capital and people-to-people exchange through cooperation and mutual learning among countries along the Belt and Road Initiative, promoting common development and progress of the two countries in economy, society, the environment and encouraging dialogue and integration among different civilizations;

(2) In view that (country) proposes to enhance practical cooperation on (here are inserted specifics related to previously agreed areas of co-operation) projects of (country) and the Belt and Road Initiative thereby creating business opportunities, open and transparent markets, promoting employment, growth and development as well as enhancing cultural and people-to-people exchanges on both sides.

(3) Recognizing the political consensus between the leaders of China and (country) to enhance cooperation on the Belt and Road Initiative, the two Participants hope to work together to develop synergies between the Belt and Road Initiative and their respective

national development strategies, enhance policy coordination and deepen mutually beneficial cooperation so as to realize peaceful development and common prosperity of the two Participants and promote cooperation with China and (may also include references to other trade blocs such as ASEAN, CEEC, EU, EAEU, GCC etc as appropriate)

Through friendly consultations, the two Participants have reached the following understanding:

Part I Objectives and Guiding Principles of Cooperation

(4) The two Participants will work together within the Belt and Road Initiative to realize the goal of common development, and translate their strengths in political dialogue, economic complementarities and people-to-people exchange into advantages for practical cooperation and sustainable growth. This will enable the two Participants to enhance their political relations, economic ties and people-to-people exchange. In the meantime, the two Participants expect that countries along the Belt and Road will set up cooperation, develop and strengthen connectivity in the region, jointly build international economic corridors, deepen all-round cooperation, jointly establish an open, inclusive and balanced framework of economic cooperation that benefits all, and promote peace and development of the region. The two Participants support stronger synergy between the Belt and Road Initiative and priorities identified in the (may quote investment plans drawn up by existing bodies such as ASEAN, EU etc.) region and welcome the establishment of the (appropriate Trade Bloc)-China Connectivity Platform. (Country) congratulates China for successfully hosting the Belt and Road Forum for international cooperation and promote alignment between their respective development strategies. (Country) is willing to support China to host relevant major Belt and Road Forum events and will actively participate the Belt and Road Initiative.

(5) The two Participants will promote the bilateral cooperation based on the following principles:

- (i) Guided by the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, the two Participants will respect each other's' core interests and major concerns and deepen political mutual trust;
- (ii) In accordance with the vision of cooperation, development and win-win progress under the Belt and Road Initiative, the two Participants will make full use of existing bilateral cooperation mechanisms, multilateral mechanisms that they have both joined, and existing effective regional cooperation platforms to form synergy, give each other support and share experience so as to complement and fully display each other's strengths.

Part II Areas of Cooperation

The two Participants will cooperate in the following areas of shared interest:

(6) Transport, logistics and infrastructure. The two Participants aim to strengthen China (trade bloc) cargo transport cooperation, and support the development of multimodal distribution, digital networks and logistics platforms. They will support the cooperation in infrastructure, such as ports, port terminals, highways, railroads, logistics centers and industrial parks in ports. China encourages (country) participation in the (names either seas and oceans or specific regional highways and inland ports as pertinent to the region) Port Initiative.

(7) Trade and investment promotion. The two Participants will encourage two-way investment and mutually beneficial cooperation between their companies, improve the business climate and promote a level playing field for investment and trade. They will endeavor to expand two-way trade. They will enhance cooperation on e-commerce and foster the new growth engines in bilateral economic and trade cooperation. The two Participants will promote cooperation on customs, border entry and exit management, inspection and quarantine and quality standards, especially international standardization.

The two Participants will explore possibility to carry out investment and trade cooperation with third countries, and facilitate easier access of Chinese exports to the (trade bloc) market.

(8) Cooperation in science and technology. The two Participants will strengthen cooperation in the fields of science and technological innovation including through the promotion of "Innovation Parks"

(9) Financial Cooperation. The two Participants will encourage their financial institutions to provide financing support and services for trade and investment cooperation, and will expand cooperation between their state-owned and commercial financial institutions. They will also encourage strategic cooperation between (country) and the Asia Infrastructure and Investment Bank (AIIB).

(10) Cultural and people-to-people exchange. The two Participants will promote people-to-people exchange, further develop the sister-city network, and encourage the discussions under existing cooperation mechanisms between their competent authorities in education, culture, arts, and other areas. They will strengthen exchange and cooperation between local governments, media, think tanks, students and the youths, and will promote the development of their tourism industries through cooperation between their governments and businesses.

(11) The two Participants stand ready to actively expand cooperation and exchange in other areas through new cooperation mechanisms.

Part III Modes of Cooperation

Models of cooperation may include but are not limited to:

(12) Through exchange of high-level visits and existing governmental and non-governmental exchange mechanisms, the two Participants will build a multi-tiered information-sharing platform in diverse fields and with multiple channels to share information resources, increase transparency and encourage participation of people in all sectors of society.

(13) Based on the common needs for cooperation, the two Participants will carry out pilot programs, joint research, personnel exchange and training in key areas as well as information sharing and capacity building in international, market-oriented and professional approaches.

(14) The two Participants will explore mutually beneficial models of cooperation to encourage the development and implementation of major projects under the Belt and Road Initiative, and strengthen exchange and cooperation to ensure project safety.

(15) The two Participants may conclude agreements or other cooperation documents for cooperation in a specific field.

(16) The two Participants will formulate bilateral cooperation plan as appropriate.

Part IV Mechanism of Cooperation

(17) "The Parties agree that the Joint Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation between China and (country) will be responsible for coordinating and advancing the cooperation under this Memorandum."

Part V Legal Status

(13) This MOU does not constitute legally binding obligations for the two Participants. It is only an expression of their common will to jointly advance the Belt and Road Initiative.

Part VI Settlement of Differences and Amendment

(14) The two Participants will settle differences in the interpretation and implementation of this MOU through friendly consultations.

(15) This MOU may be amended with written consent of the two Participants.

Part VII Coming into Effect and Termination

(16) This MOU will come into effect from the date of signing and will remain in effect for five years.

(17) This MOU will be automatically extended for the subsequent five-year period unless terminated by either party by giving the other party written notice through diplomatic channels three months before the expiration of the relevant five-year period.

(18) The termination of this MOU will not affect any other programs already completed or programs being implemented under this MOU at the time of termination.

Signed in (location) on (date) in duplicate (country specific language), Chinese and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text will prevail.

Representative of the Government of

Representative of the Government of the People's Republic of China