

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
CHINA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE KINGDOM OF BHUTAN ON
MAINTENANCE OF PEACE AND
TRANQUILLITY IN CHINA-BHUTAN
BORDER AREAS**

The Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Kingdom of Bhutan (hereinafter referred to as the two sides), for the purpose of maintaining peace and tranquility in the China-Bhutan border areas, and in accordance with the five principles of mutual respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The two sides hold that all countries, big or small, strong or weak, shall be equal and respect one another. The Chinese side reiterates its positions to fully respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Bhutan. Both sides are ready to conduct good neighbourly relations of friendship and cooperation on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence.

Article 2

The two sides are of the view that through friendly consultations in the previous eleven rounds of talks, they have reached agreement on the guiding principles for the settlement of the boundary issue and narrowed their differences on the issue in the spirit of mutual understanding, mutual accommodation, mutual trust and cooperation. The talks have resulted in deeper mutual understanding and traditional friendship between the two countries. Both sides are ready to keep to the above-mentioned spirit and make concerted efforts to-

ward a fair and reasonable solution to the boundary issue at an early date.

Article 3

The two sides agree to maintain peace and tranquility in their border areas pending a final settlement of the boundary question, and to maintain status quo on the boundary as before March 1959. They will also refrain from taking any unilateral action to change the status quo of the boundary.

Article 4

The two sides, having reviewed the progress made in the eleven rounds of boundary talks and having clearly elaborated their respective positions in the disputed areas, agreed to resolve the issue through a process of friendly consultations.

Article 5

The Agreement shall enter into force as of the date of its signature.

Done in duplicate in Beijing on 8 December 1998
in the Chinese, Dzongkha and English languages, each
text being equally authentic. However, in case of dif-
ferences, the English text shall prevail.

For the Government
of the People's
Republic of China

唐家璇

For the Government
of the Kingdom
of Bhutan

