#### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

#### **BETWEEN**

#### THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

#### **AND**

# THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI ON VISA EXEMPTION

The Government of the People's Republic of China

AND The Government of the Republic of Fiji (hereinafter referred to as Parties)

# **WHEREAS**

**RECOGNIZING** the need to consolidate and strengthen the friendly ties between the two Parties;

PROMOTING the relations between the countries and facilitating exchange of visits by its citizens;

PURSUANT to the laws and regulations in their respective countries, the Parties;

**HAVE** reached the following understanding:

## ARTICLE 1

The Parties in accordance with their respective national laws and

# policies shall:

- a) Allow citizens of the People's Republic of China holding valid passports of the People's Republic of China, and citizens of the Republic of Fiji holding valid passports of the Republic of Fiji to enter into, exit from or transit through the territory of the other Party without a need for a visa for any period not exceeding thirty (30) days.
- b) Through diplomatic channels, exchange samples of its passports within thirty (30) days upon the date of signing of this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as MOU).
- c) Inform each other, through diplomatic channels, thirty (30) days before its introduction, of any change to the format of the passport and furnish the other Party with samples of new passports.
- d) Reserve the right to prohibit persona non grata or unacceptable citizens of the other Party from entering its territory or to terminate their stay in its territory without citing reasons.

#### **ARTICLE 2**

- 2.1 Citizens of either Party shall enter into, exit from or transit through the territory of the other Party through ports open to foreigners and shall adhere to necessary formalities in accordance with the relevant regulation of the competent authorities.
  - 2.2 Citizens of either Party shall abide by the laws and regulations in

force during their stay in its territory.

- 2.3 Citizens of either Party who intend to stay longer than the visa-free period after entering the territory of the other Party upon visa exemption, shall go through relevant approval procedures, in accordance with the regulations of the latter's competent authorities.
- 2.4 Citizens of either Party who intend to study, work, reside, engage in media activities or for any purpose to be determined and agreed by both Parties in the territory of the other Party, shall apply for the visa before entering the territory of the other Party.

## **ARTICLE 3**

In case of officials at or above vice ministerial level of the central government and officers of or above the rank of major general of the armed forces of either Party, prior consent from the other Party shall be obtained, or the competent authorities of the other Party shall be informed in advance through diplomatic channels in respect of their travel to the other Party's territory for official purposes.

## **ARTICLE 4**

This MOU may be amended by mutual consent of the Parties, through the exchange of diplomatic notes.

#### **ARTICLE 5**

The Parties shall resolve any differences or disputes arising from the implementation of this MOU through consultation and negotiation.

## ARTICLE 6

- 6.1 This MOU shall enter into force on the thirtieth (30) day following the date of the last written notification sent between the Parties, through diplomatic channels, indicating that domestic requirements for its entry into force have been complied with.
- 6.2 This MOU shall remain in force indefinitely. If either Party wishes to terminate this MOU, it shall notify the other Party in writing through diplomatic channels, and this MOU shall cease to be effective on the ninetieth (90) day following the date of notification.

#### ARTICLE 7

Regular monitoring and evaluation of activities materializing from this MOU shall be carried out by designated authorities appointed by the Parties.

## **ARTICLE 8**

Parties may temporarily suspend this MOU partially or wholly on grounds of national security, public order or public health. However, it shall notify the other Party in writing in advance of its intention to suspend the MOU and subsequently to cancel the suspension through diplomatic channels.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this MOU.

Done in duplicate at Nadi on this day of Nov. 22, 2014 in the Chinese and English languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government of the

People's Republic of China

For the Government of the

Republic of Fiji