

**AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA  
AND  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR  
ON  
THE RECIPROCAL ESTABLISHMENT OF CULTURAL CENTERS**

The Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"), in order to enhance the friendly relations between the two countries and expand bilateral friendly cooperation in the cultural and people-to-people fields on the basis of mutual respect and trust, and in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Culture of the People's Republic of China and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on the Reciprocal Establishment of Cultural Centers signed on June 27, 2014 in Beijing, have reached agreement as follows:

**Article I**

In accordance with the principle of reciprocity, the Government of the People's Republic of China will establish a China Cultural Center in Yangon, and the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar will establish a Myanmar Cultural Center in Beijing.

The Parties shall provide convenience for the establishment and functioning of each other's Cultural Centers on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

**Article II**

The aim of establishing the Cultural Centers is to fully enhance mutual understanding between the two peoples, and boost cultural collaborations, develop friendly relations and promote the exchange and cooperation between the two countries in the cultural and people-to-people fields.

**Article III**

The Cultural Centers shall be official cultural institutions of the respective Sending Party, and shall abide by the current laws and regulations of the Receiving Party in their operation.

In the organization of the activities stipulated in Article V, the Cultural Centers may establish direct contacts with the state authorities, local authorities, legal entities and individuals of the Receiving Party.

**Article IV**

Activities conducted by the Cultural Centers outside their premises, either independently or in collaboration with other entities, which are mentioned in Article V of this Agreement, shall conform to the current laws and regulations of the Receiving Party, and the activity arrangements shall be notified to the competent authorities in advance and activities shall be carried out in compliance with the submitted arrangements.

The Parties agree that public of the Receiving Party shall be given unhindered access to the Cultural

Centers and the activities conducted within and outside the premises of the Centers, and guarantee that the Cultural Centers use appropriate means to function in compliance with the current laws and regulations of the Receiving Party.

#### **Article V**

In compliance with the current laws and regulations of the Receiving Party, the functions of the Cultural Centers are:

1. Organizing various cultural activities in conformity with their aims, including exhibitions, performances, seminars, lectures, and screening of movies and other audio-visual products; exhibitions of imported publications and screening of audio-visual products shall be subject to the regulations of the Receiving Party on imported publications and the exhibition and spreading of imported publications;
2. Promoting their respective languages and cultures by conducting various educational activities on their premises;
3. Setting up libraries, reading rooms, screening rooms and multimedia spaces on the premises within the Cultural Centers, and providing the general public of the Receiving Party with information services, including books, periodicals and other publications and audio-visual materials about the history and culture of the Sending Party;
4. Publicizing information on the activities of the Cultural Centers, and introducing to the public of the Receiving Party the national history and modern development of the Sending Party, as well as its culture, arts, education and science and social life;
5. Organizing other activities that are in conformity with the tenet of this Agreement.

#### **Article VI**

In compliance with the current laws and regulations of the Receiving Party, the Cultural Centers shall not engage in profit-seeking activities. However, the Cultural Centers shall have the right to charge appropriate fees for non-profit items listed as follows to cover its costs:

1. Performances, exhibitions and other cultural activities. The exhibitions shall be held in compliance with the regulations of the Receiving Party concerning the import of publications and the exhibition of imported publications;
2. Language and culture-related educational activities;
3. Catalogues, posters, playbills and other articles directly associated with the activities organized by the Cultural Centers;
4. Teahouses or cafes for the purpose of showcasing the traditional lifestyle of the Sending Party.

#### **Article VII**

The Sending Party shall independently choose the site to open the Cultural Centers. The Receiving Party shall, in accordance with its legislation, assist the Sending Party in renting or purchasing the premises of its Cultural Center in every possible way.

The Sending Party, in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Receiving Party on urban planning and construction, is responsible for the design, construction, refurbishment and decoration of the buildings of its Cultural Center after acquiring building, refurbishment and decoration permits. The construction contractor(s) shall be determined by the Sending Party.

#### **Article VIII**

The Cultural Centers, in compliance with the custom laws and regulations and related stipulations of

the Receiving Party, and on the basis of reciprocity, shall be exempted from custom duties and taxes for the below-mentioned items provided that they are not used for sale or seeking profit in the Receiving Party:

- (1) Cultural equipment required by the Cultural Centers as well as furniture, facilities and office supplies required for their daily work (motor vehicles not included);
- (2) Reasonable quantities of materials including picture albums, posters, playbills, books, discs, records, teaching equipments and various other forms of audio-visual products required for the organization of activities by the Cultural Centers;
- (3) Films to be screened on the premises of the Cultural Centers.

The above-mentioned items shall not be lent, leased, mortgaged, transferred, used for other purposes or dealt with by any means, unless otherwise approved by the customs authorities of the Receiving Party.

#### **Article IX**

The Cultural Centers are entitled to the right of signing legal documents necessary for its functioning in the Receiving Party.

The Cultural Centers are entitled to open bank account(s) according to the relevant regulations of the Receiving Party.

#### **Article X**

Income and property taxes due from the Cultural Centers and their personnel shall be levied in accordance with the current laws and regulations of the Receiving Party on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

#### **Article XI**

Personnel delegated by the Government of the Sending Party shall be nationals of the Sending Party and holders of service passports. Other personnel employed by the Cultural Centers can be citizens of the Sending Party or the Receiving Party.

The Parties shall inform each other about the appointment and removal of personnel in their respective Cultural Centers, and complete the related procedures according to the current laws and regulations of the Receiving Party in time.

#### **Article XII**

Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, personnel of the Cultural Centers delegated by the Sending Party who are holders of service passports shall be subject to the labor and social security laws and regulations of the Sending Party; other personnel recruited by the Cultural Centers shall be subject to the labor and social security regulations of the Receiving Party.

#### **Article XIII**

The Parties shall provide assistance and convenience to the personnel of the Cultural Centers delegated by the Sending Party who are holders of service passports, and their spouses and children under the age of 18 in handling their entry and residence formalities.

**Article XIV**

Any amendment to the Agreement shall be made with the mutual consent of the Parties following prior consultations and shall enter into force in accordance with the procedure set forth in the first paragraph of Article XV.

Any disputes related to the implementation of this Agreement shall be resolved through friendly consultations between the Parties.

**Article XV**

The Agreement shall enter into force on the date of delivery of the last written notification by which the Parties inform each other, through diplomatic channels, that they have fulfilled their domestic legal procedures for ratification.

This Agreement shall remain in force for five years and shall automatically be renewed for successive five-year periods unless either Party notifies the other in writing, through diplomatic channels, of its intention to terminate it, at least 6 months prior to the expiration of its initial or any subsequent period of validity.

Done in duplicate in Beijing on...*4 Sept*..., 2015, in the Chinese, Myanmar, and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

**For the Government of  
the People's Republic of China**

魏树刚

**For the Government of  
the Republic of the Union of Myanmar**

