

AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
REGARDING THE WAIVER OF VISA REQUIREMENTS
FOR HOLDERS
OF DIPLOMATIC AND SERVICE (OFFICIAL) PASSPORTS

PREAMBLE

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA and
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
(hereinafter jointly referred to as the "Parties" and separately as a
"Party"):

DESIRING to promote friendly relations and closer cooperation between
the Parties in matters of mutual interest; and

GUIDED by the discussions between the Parties regarding the waiver of
visa requirements in respect of the citizens of the Parties holding valid
diplomatic and service (official) passports, entering, staying in or

transiting through the borders of each Party;

RECOGNISING that co-operation in terms of this Agreement is based on the principles of equality and reciprocity;

HEREBY AGREE as follows:

ARTICLE 1

WAIVER OF VISA REQUIREMENTS

(1) Citizens of the People's Republic of China holding valid diplomatic or service passports of the People's Republic of China, and citizens of the Republic of South Africa holding valid diplomatic or official passports of the Republic of South Africa, may enter into, exit from, transit through and stay in the country of the other Party, for a period not exceeding thirty(30) days and shall for the duration of that period, be exempt from the requirements of having to obtain a visa.

(2) A citizen referred to in sub-Article (1) wishing to extend his or her period of stay in the territory of the other Party beyond the thirty(30)-day period referred to in sub-Article (1) shall comply with the necessary registration or extension procedures in accordance with the relevant regulations of the other Party's competent authorities.

ARTICLE 2

ACCREDITED DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR STAFF

Citizens of the People's Republic of China holding valid diplomatic or service passports of the People's Republic of China, and citizens of the Republic of South Africa holding valid diplomatic or official passports of the Republic of South Africa, as well as members of their families, shall not be required to obtain a visa to enter into, exit from, transit through or stay in the country of the other Party for the duration of their accreditation, provided they have complied with the accreditation and registration requirements of the other Party within thirty (30) days after their arrival.

ARTICLE 3

NOTIFICATION OF SENIOR OFFICIALS' VISITS

Each Party shall obtain the prior consent of the other Party through the diplomatic channel before the arrival in the other Party's territory, for official purposes, of a citizen of the other Party referred to in Article 1 (1) who is an official at the level of a ———

(a) Vice Minister or above, in respect of the Government of the People's Republic of China;

(b) Deputy Minister or above in respect of the Government of the

Republic of South Africa; and

(c) Major-General or above of the Military Forces of either of the Parties.

ARTICLE 4

MOVEMENT CONTROL

Citizens of either of the Parties referred to in Article 1 shall enter into, exit from or transit through the territory of the other Party through the international ports of entry and exit of the respective Parties, and shall observe the relevant formalities as stipulated in the laws of the other Party.

ARTICLE 5

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Citizens of either Party referred to in Article 1 shall comply with the domestic laws in force in the territory of the other Party, and shall not, by reason of this Agreement, be exempt from their obligation to comply with the respective domestic laws.

ARTICLE 6

INTERNATIONAL LAW

This Agreement shall not affect the rights and obligations of the Parties arising from other international treaties, to which they are Parties.

ARTICLE 7

UNDESIRABLE AND PROHIBITED PERSONS

Each Party reserves the right, at any time and without having to explain their decision in respect thereof, to remove from or refuse entry into its territory any citizen of the other Party referred to in Article 1 whom it considers to be undesirable or prohibited.

ARTICLE 8

SUSPENSION

(1) Each Party may wholly or partially suspend this Agreement for purposes of maintaining law and order or safeguarding health and security interests.

(2) The Party suspending the Agreement in terms of sub-Article (1) shall, through the diplomatic channel, including reasons thereof, notify the other Party of the suspension, and the suspension shall take effect immediately upon receipt by the other Party of such notification.

(3) The suspending Party shall, within a reasonable time after the

reasons for the suspension no longer exist or otherwise, lift the suspension and notify the other Party of such lifting through the diplomatic channel, and the Agreement shall resume upon acceptance thereof by the other Party through the diplomatic channel.

ARTICLE 9

NOTIFICATION OF RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

(1) Each Party shall forward to the other, through the diplomatic channel, specimens of its diplomatic and service (official) passports, including a detailed description of such documents currently in use, within thirty(30) days from the date of signing this Agreement.

(2) Each Party shall also forward to the other, through the diplomatic channel, specimens of its new or modified diplomatic and service (official) passports, including a detailed description of such documents, at least thirty(30) days before they are brought into circulation.

ARTICLE 10

AMENDMENT

This Agreement may be amended by mutual consent of the Parties through an Exchange of Notes between the Parties through the diplomatic channel.

ARTICLE 11

SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Any dispute between the Parties arising out of the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement shall be settled amicably through consultation or negotiations between the Parties.

ARTICLE 12

ENTRY INTO FORCE, DURATION AND TERMINATION

(1) This Agreement shall enter into force on the thirtieth (30th) day following the date of receipt of the latter's written notification by the Parties, through the diplomatic channel, indicating that the domestic requirements for its entry into force have been complied with. *The Agreement between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Republic of South Africa Regarding the Waiver of Visa Requirements for Holders of Diplomatic Passports, signed on August 24, 2010, shall be terminated when this Agreement enters into force and be replaced by this Agreement.*

(2) This Agreement shall remain in force until terminated by either Party in accordance with sub-Article (3).

(3) This Agreement may be terminated by either Party giving written

notice through the diplomatic channel to the other Party of its intention to terminate this Agreement, and this Agreement shall cease to be effective on the thirtieth(30th) day following the date on which the written notification is received.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, having been duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed and sealed this Agreement in duplicate in the Chinese and English languages, both texts being equally authentic.

Done at *Pretoria* on this the *2nd* day of *December* 2015.

For the Government of the
People's Republic of China


For the Government of the
Republic of South Africa

