

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF WATER RESOURCES
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
AND
THE DANISH MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT**

The Ministry of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China and the Danish Ministry of Environment (hereinafter referred to singularly as "the Party" and collectively as "the two Parties"),

Realizing the fruitful cooperation under the Memorandum of Understanding between the two Parties signed in 2010 and the Action Plan for 2014-2018 signed in 2014;

Recognizing the common challenges both countries face in pursuit of the sound and sustainable utilization, management and protection of water resources, including the increasing demands on water resources, the additional impacts of climate change and extreme weather events, as well as the resulting need to upgrade the management of the water resources;

Desiring to strengthen and further develop cooperation between the two countries in line with the Water-Related Goals and Targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development on the basis of equality, mutual benefit and mutual respect;

Convinced of the huge potentials for the bilateral technical, managerial and commercial cooperation in the field of water resources;

Believing that such cooperation serves their common interest and contribute to the enhancement of the water development and socio-economic benefit of the people of both countries,

Have reached common understanding on their cooperation in the following framework:

**ARTICLE I
OBJECTIVE**

The two Parties, subject to the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as "this MOU") and the laws, statutes, rules, regulations and national policies in force in each country, agree to extend cooperation in the field of sustainable utilization, management and protection of water resources on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

ARTICLE II AREAS OF COOPERATION

In accordance with the objective of this MOU, the two Parties will focus their cooperation on the Water-Related Goals and Targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development specifically concerning sustainable utilization, management and protection of water resources, including:

1. Water conservation and managed rational water development;
2. Flood and Drought prevention;
3. Groundwater management and protection;
4. Assessing and addressing impacts of climate change on water resources and corresponding mitigation and adaptation measures;
5. Smart water management;
6. Protection and restoration of water ecosystem;
7. River Basin management;
8. Coordination and cooperation in international water events and international water initiatives;
and
9. Cooperation on other areas that are of mutual interest.

ARTICLE III FORMS OF COOPERATION

Referring to the objectives of this MOU, and as far as the means, resources and requirements of both Parties may permit, the areas of cooperation in the fields stated in Article II of this MOU may take the following forms:

1. Facilitating high level visits and technical exchanges;
2. Jointly organizing workshops on themes of common interests;
3. Exchanging information and literature related to the fields specified in Article II of this Arrangement;
4. Engaging in continuous development of cooperation platforms, including long-term Strategic Sector Co-operation (SSC) between the two parties.
5. Encouraging research and development institutes of both Parties to jointly conduct research projects and exchange research information, personnel and trainees, including initiation of joint, long term studies on specific water resources and supply challenges
6. Encouraging the cooperation and exchange between river basin authorities of the two Parties;
7. Encouraging business investment and collaboration between water companies of both countries;
8. Other forms of cooperation to be determined by the two Parties after negotiation.

ARTICLE IV
COMPETENT AUTHORITIES AND IMPLEMENTATION

Department of International Cooperation, Science and Technology of the Ministry of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China and International Department of the Danish Ministry of Environment will act as liaison institutions to organize and coordinate relevant cooperation activities.

ARTICLE V
THE JOINT STEERING COMMITTEE ON WATER COOPERATION

The two parties agree to form a Joint Steering Committee on Water Cooperation, which is responsible for the implementation of follow-up cooperation and coordination of relevant activities. The Joint Steering Committee shall meet when considered appropriate in the two countries in turn.

ARTICLE VI
FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Each party will finance the costs of international travel, accommodation, food and salaries/DSAs incurred by its own visiting delegations. The inviting party will finance technical experts invited by one Party to provide technical assistance to the other Party, unless a third financing Party could be identified. Funding for commercial and technical cooperative projects will be decided through mutual consultation according to the specific nature of projects.

ARTICLE VII
CONFIDENTIALITY AND THE RESPECT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

During the period of the implementation of this MOU or any other agreements made pursuant to this MOU, each Party shall undertake to observe the respective constitution and national laws of the two Parties, adhere to the confidentiality and secrecy of confidential documents, information and other confidential data received from or supplied to the other Party, and abide by the laws, rules and regulations related to the intellectual property of both Parties as well as other international agreements binding on either Party.

ARTICLE VIII
REVISION

1. Either Party may request in writing a revision of all or any part of this MOU.

2. Any revision agreed to by the two parties, shall be reduced into writing and shall form a part of the MOU.
3. Such revision will come into force only after following the same procedure as of that of this MOU.
4. Any revision shall not prejudice the rights and obligations arising from or based on this MOU, before or up to the date of such revision.

**ARTICLE IX
SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

Any difference or dispute between the Parties concerning the interpretation and/or implementation and/or application of any of the provision of this MOU shall be settled through mutual consultation or negotiation between the Parties.

**ARTICLE X
ENTRY INTO FORCE, DURATION, TERMINATION AND EXTENTION**

1. This MOU shall come into force on the date of signing and shall remain in force for a period of five (5) years. It will be automatically extended for consecutive periods of five years, unless terminated by either Party serves a written notice through diplomatic channels to the other Party six months prior to the date of expiration.
2. The termination of this MOU shall not affect the implementation of ongoing activities/programs, which have been agreed upon prior to the date of the termination of this Memorandum.

This MOU is signed through a document exchange, in duplicate, in Chinese and English languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Ministry of Water Resources
of the People's Republic of China



For the Danish Ministry of Environment



November 24, 2021, Beijing

November 25, 2021, Copenhagen