MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON COOPERATION IN EDUCATION, TRAINING AND HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH

BETWEEN

THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TERTIARY EDUCATION OF AUSTRALIA

AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

AND
THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
CHINA

The Government of Australia, represented by the Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education and the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (collectively the Commonwealth of Australia) and Government of the People's Republic of China represented by the Ministry of Education (hereinafter referred to as "the Participants")

Noting the importance of education and training in national development, acknowledging the longstanding relationship between the two Participants, and

Wishing to replace the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Education and Training first signed by the Participants on the second day of December 2002 and most recently resigned on the thirtieth day of October 2009 with this Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Education, Training and Higher Education Research between the Participants (hereafter referred to as "this Memorandum"),

Have decided, on the basis of common understanding, to conclude this Memorandum.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

1. This Memorandum sets out the general principles of education exchange and cooperation, according to which the Participants may jointly identify fields of mutual interest and create opportunities to develop programs for cooperation in education, training and higher education research on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit.

FRAMEWORK

- 2. All educational cooperative activities under this Memorandum will be focused on the following four fields: higher education, schools, vocational and technical education as well as distance and transnational delivery.
- 3. Specific arrangements implementing this Memorandum will cover the subjects of cooperation, forms of cooperation and roles of the Participants, procedures to be followed, funding arrangements and other appropriate matters.
- 4. The Participants will endeavour to encourage and facilitate, as appropriate, the development of contacts and cooperation in the field of education and training between the interested educational organisations and institutions of both countries, and the conclusion of arrangements between such bodies for the conduct of cooperative activities.
- 5. Cooperative activities under this Memorandum will be subject to the respective laws and regulations of each Participant.
- 6. With respect to the cooperative activities under this Memorandum, each Participant will use its best efforts to facilitate prompt entry into and exit from its territory of equipment for teaching and research and personnel of the other Participant and also to provide access to relevant institutions, data and materials.

MECHANISM OF CONSULTATION

- 7. To promote the sustainable development of long-term education exchange and cooperation between the two Participants, the Participants mutually decide to continue their mechanism of regular consultation through the bilateral working group, to identify priorities in bilateral education and training cooperation, to establish appropriate measures for developing specific programs and projects between their appropriate government authorities, non-government authorities and institutions, and to review the implementation of this Memorandum.
- 8. The working group will meet bi-annually, in each country alternately. The working group may meet at any time if considered necessary by both Participants.
- 9. Agenda of each meeting will be decided by both Participants in advance.
- 10. Each meeting should produce minutes in both Chinese and English, which will be signed as confirmation by both Participants.

FIELDS AND FORMS OF COOPERATION

- 11. In order to promote educational exchanges between the two countries, the Participants will consult with each other on matters relating to working group meetings and jointly sponsoring conferences and symposia on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit, and will conduct other forms of interaction as mutually determined.
- 12. The Participants will encourage:
- programs to promote the mobility of staff and students with provision of appropriate support, under mutually determined arrangements between higher education institutions of both countries;
- collaboration and exchange on innovation policy and systems;
- collaboration and exchange on research into and implementation of quality assurance processes and standards;
- programs to promote the development of Chinese studies in Australia and Australian studies in the People's Republic of China; and
- direct linkages in the two countries between professional educational organisations and between universities, schools and vocational training institutions in areas such as personnel exchanges, curriculum, staff training and language proficiency testing (for example HSK or IELTS) in higher education, schools, and vocational and technical education.
- 13. In the area of higher education, the Participants will facilitate cooperation in mutually determined areas, including the facilitation of dialogue and information exchange on the internationalisation of higher education, including research activities of higher education institutions, research informed teaching, and emerging education delivery models. The Participants will also put emphasis on encouraging higher level degree exchanges and

promoting delivery of joint higher level degree programs. Detailed programs will be subject to negotiations between participating institutions.

- 14. The Participants confirm their preparedness to cooperate in the exchange of information on their respective higher education systems, to support the Arrangement on Higher Education Qualifications Recognition between the Participants.
- 15. In the area of schools, the Participants will facilitate cooperation in mutually determined areas. While detailed programs will be subject to negotiations between participating institutions, the Participants will put emphasis on enhancing Chinese language teaching programs in Australian schools and encourage school teacher and administration exchanges, including in the area of Chinese language instruction and mutual understanding of school education systems.
- 16. In the area of vocational and technical education, the Participants will facilitate cooperation in mutually determined areas. While detailed cooperative programs will be subject to negotiations between participating institutions, the Participants will put emphasis on enhancing mutual understanding of China and Australia's respective vocational and technical education systems including vocational education teacher training, training packages and curriculum.
- 17. In the areas of distance and transnational education delivery, the Participants will facilitate cooperation in mutually determined areas. Detailed cooperative programs will be subject to negotiations between participating institutions.
- 18. The Participants encourage and support initiatives that enhance understanding of the culture, society and language of each other's country. Cooperation on particular programs, such as language exchange programs, will be subject to mutual consent.
- 19. The Participants will facilitate dialogue and information exchange on scholarships and other assistance that facilitates the movement of students between Chinese and Australian institutions, and through the process of mutual consent, consider enhanced cooperation in these areas.
- 20. The Participants will conduct other forms of cooperation in mutually determined and targeted areas.

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

21. Education and training and research cooperation under this Memorandum includes cooperation between government and non-government institutions mutually decided by both Participants.

FUNDING

- 22. The cost of cooperative activities will be funded as mutually determined. All cooperative activities under this Memorandum will be subject to the availability of funds.
- 23. Specific arrangements on cooperative activities including records of meetings may be concluded between interested organisations and institutions in the two countries under this

Memorandum. These arrangements will cover details of financing and implementation for the cooperative activities. These arrangements and records of meetings, as mutually decided, will form Annexes to this Memorandum.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

24. The Participants recognise the importance of intellectual property rights in the work applied and created in the context of collaborative activities. Intellectual property rights should be allocated on the basis of respective contribution and equitable interests, and occur on the basis of a project management plan or collaborative agreement developed jointly for each project by its proponents.

IMPLEMENTATION

- 25. The Participants will facilitate the implementation of cooperative plans and arrangements between educational institutions or colleges arising under this Memorandum through diplomatic channels, working group meetings, exchanges of letters or other instruments to keep each Participant informed. Each Participant will be responsible for coordinating the implementation of its side of such activities.
- 26. Entrusted by both Participants, the diplomatic missions to the other country will be able to meet or communicate with each Participant where necessary.
- 27. The Participants will consult together upon request of either Participant regarding any matter relating to the terms of this Memorandum and will endeavour jointly in a spirit of cooperation and mutual trust to resolve any difficulties or misunderstandings which may arise.
- 28. This Memorandum takes effect on the date is has been signed on behalf of both Governments and will remain in effect for five years from the date of signature.
- 29. This Memorandum may be modified or extended by mutual determination of the Participants and may be terminated by either Participant by giving six months' written notice to the other.
- 30. This Memorandum is a document which embodies the understandings of the People's Republic of China and Australia and does not create legally binding rights or obligations.

SIGNED in duplicate, in Canberra, on 12 December 2012 in both English and Chinese languages, both texts being equally authentic.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SENATOR THE HON CHRIS EVANS MINISTER FOR TERTIARY EDUCATION, SKILLS, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

YUAN GUIREN MINISTER FOR EDUCATION 澳大利亚工业、创新、科学、研究和高等教育部 及

澳大利亚教育、就业和劳资关系部

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中华人民共和国教育部

关于教育、培训与高等教育研究的合作 谅解备忘录 澳大利亚工业、创新、科学、研究和高等教育部和澳大利亚教育、就业和劳资关系部与中华人民共和国教育部(以下简称"双方")认识到教育和培训在国家发展中的重要性以及肯定双方之间长期稳定发展的双边关系,希望签署此《关于教育、培训与高等教育研究的合作谅解备忘录》(以下简称"备忘录")取代双方于 2002 年 12月2日签署并于 2009 年 10月 30日续签的《关于教育与培训的合作谅解备忘录》。

经双方同意,根据双方共识达成本备忘录协议:

总体目标

(一)本备忘录明确了双方进行教育交流与合作的总体原则。 据此,双方在对等和互利的基础上,确定共同感兴趣的领域,并创 造机会开展教育、培训和高等教育研究的合作项目。

合作框架

- (二)根据本备忘录,双方重点在高等教育、中小学教育、职业与技术教育以及现代远程和跨境教育四个领域开展合作。
- (三)执行本备忘录的具体合作方案包括合作内容、方式、双 方的作用、执行程序、资金使用等相关事宜。
 - (四) 双方积极鼓励和促进两国有合作愿望的教育组织和机构

在教育与培训领域建立合作关系,签署合作协议。

- (五)本备忘录的所有合作活动均应符合双方国家各自的法律 和规定。
- (六)在本备忘录合作活动的开展过程中,双方应尽力为对方 有关人员,及教学和科研设备的出入境提供方便,并协助安排对方 项目人员进入有关研究机构,查阅有关数据和资料。

磋商机制

- (七)为促进双方长期教育交流与合作的可持续发展,双方决定继续定期召开联合工作组磋商会议,确定双边教育与培训合作的优先合作领域及有效措施,以发展双边官方、半官方及院校间具体合作项目,并对本谅解备忘录的执行情况予以评估。
- (八)工作组每两年召开一次会议,轮流在两国举行。如双方 认为必要,也可以随时决定召开会议。
 - (九)每次会议的议题经双方协商确定。
- (十)每次会议应有中、英文两种文字的会议纪要,并需经双方签字确认。

合作领域与合作形式

(十一) 为推动两国间的教育交流,在对等互利的原则下,双

方就工作组会议、共同举办其他会议和研讨会、以及双方共同确定的其他形式的交流活动进行协商。

(十二) 双方鼓励:

- ●两国高等院校根据合作协议在适当的支持下开展教师和学生的交流项目;
 - ●在创新政策和体系方面进行合作和交流;
 - ●在质量保障过程和标准的研究和执行方面进行合作和交流;
 - ●进一步推动中国的澳大利亚研究和澳大利亚的中国研究项目;
- ●两国专业教育机构、大学、中小学和职业培训机构建立直接的联系,在高等教育、中小学教育、职业与技术教育的人员交流、课程设置、师资培训及语言水平考试(如 HSK 或 IELTS)等方面加强交流与合作。
- (十三)在高等教育领域,双方将在共同确定的方面开展合作,包括高等教育国际化的对话和信息交流、高等教育机构开展的研究活动、以研究为指导的教学活动和新兴的教学方式等。双方合作的重点还包括鼓励高层次人才的交流、促进联合培养高层次人才项目的开展。具体合作方案由有关参与机构协商确定。
- (十四)双方确认愿意加强高等教育系统的信息交流,以落实两国政府间《关于相互承认高等教育学历和学位的协议》。
- (十五)在中小学教育领域,双方将推动在共同确定的领域内的合作。具体合作方案由有关参与机构协商确定。双方强调在澳大利亚中小学推广汉语教学、鼓励中小学教师和行政人员开展交流,

包括在汉语教学和两国中小学教育体制方面的交流。

(十六)在职业与技术教育领域,双方将促进在共同确定的领域内的合作。具体合作方案由有关参与机构协商确定。双方合作的重点是加深对两国职业与技术教育体系的相互了解,包括职业教育教师培训、培训包和课程开发。

(十七)在现代远程教育和跨境教育领域,双方将促进在共同确定的领域内的合作。具体合作方案将由双方参与机构协商确定。

(十八)双方鼓励和支持旨在增进对对方国家文化、社会和语言的理解和交流活动。对诸如进行语言交流等活动和项目的合作, 具体事宜将由双方协商确定。

(十九)双方促进旨在推动两国学校间学生交流的奖学金及其 他形式的援助项目的研讨与信息交流,并通过双方协商加强在以上 领域的合作。

(二十) 双方将在共同确定的领域内开展其他形式的合作。

参与机构

(二十一)本备忘录所涉及的教育、培训与研究合作,包括双方共同确认的政府机构以及非政府机构间的合作。

- (二十二)合作活动的经费负担方法由双方共同确定。本备忘录中所有活动视经费可行情况而定。
- (二十三)根据本备忘录,两国有合作意向的教育和培训机构可对合作项目的实施达成具体协议,包括会议纪要形式。具体协议将包括合作活动的经费负担办法与执行等内容。经双方同意,此类协议及会议纪要可作为本备忘录的附件。

知识产权

(二十四)双方认识到在合作活动中使用和产生的知识产权的重要性。知识产权应该按照各自贡献并在公平利益的原则上进行分配,由项目各方联合制订的项目管理规划或合作协议予以确定。

项目执行

- (二十五)双方将通过外交渠道、工作组会议、换文和其他形式保持联系,互通信息,促进本备忘录下教育机构和院校间的合作计划和协议的执行。各方负责协调本方既定项目活动的执行。
- (二十六)受双方各自委托,设在对方国家的外交使团必要时可与对方合作单位会晤或沟通。
- (二十七)双方可根据一方的要求,就备忘录的有关条款进行 磋商,并本着相互合作和彼此信任的原则,解决可能出现的困难和

误解。

(二十八)本备忘录自双方政府代表签字之日起生效,有效期 五年。

(二十九)本备忘录经双方同意可予以修改或延期,如某一方要求停止执行,必须提前六个月以书面方式通知对方。

(三十)本备忘录为澳大利亚和中华人民共和国之间的谅解备 忘录,不产生具有法律约束力的权利和义务。

本备忘录于 2012 年 12 月 12 日 在堪培拉签署,分别用英、中文写成,两种文本具有同等效力。

澳大利亚政府

中华人民共和国政府

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