

IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CULTURAL AGREEMENT

CONCLUDED BETWEEN

THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM

AND

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEARS 2001-2005

FLANDERS

BRUSSELS, 5 MARCH 2001

In implementation of the cultural agreement between the Kingdom of Belgium and the People's Republic of China, the Chinese and Flemish delegations meet in Brussels on 5 March 2001.

The chairman of the Flemish delegation welcomes the Chinese delegation and introduces the members of the Flemish delegation.

Flemish delegation:

- Ms. Diane Verstraeten head of the Flemish delegation,
director general, Coordination Department
administration of Foreign Affairs
the Ministry of the Flemish Community
- Mr. Jos Van Rillaer director general, Welfare, Public Health and
Culture Department
administration of Culture
the Ministry of the Flemish Community
- Mr. Stefaan Van Mulders head of division, Coordination Department
administration of Foreign Affairs
Division foreign affairs outside of Europe
the Ministry of the Flemish Community
- Ms. Micheline Scheys head of division
Education Department
Policy-directed coordination division
the Ministry of the Flemish Community
- Ms. Suzanne Vanaudenhove director international cultural cooperation
Welfare, Public Health and Culture Department
the Ministry of the Flemish Community
- Mr. Koen Verlaeckt senior researcher
Science, Innovation and Media Department
administration of Science and Innovation
the Ministry of the Flemish Community

- Mr. Frank Van Laeken
deputy director and secretary of the
Flemish delegation
Coordination Department
administration of Foreign Affairs
division of Foreign Affairs outside of Europe
the Ministry of the Flemish Community

- Ms. Marie-Anne Persoons
deputy director
Education Department
administration of Higher Education and Scientific
Research
director general

The president of the Chinese delegation thanks for the kind reception and hospitality and introduces the members of the Chinese delegation.

Chinese delegation:

- Mr. Dong Junxin
Head of the Chinese delegation
Deputy Director General External Relations
the Ministry of Culture
- Mr. Zhang Wenmin
Cultural Advisor, Chinese Embassy in
Belgium and Chinese Representation to the
European Community
- Mr. Wang Xiaoping
Educational Advisor, Chinese Embassy
in Belgium and Chinese Representation to
the European Community
- Mr. Wang Yansheng
Head of Division, Western European Division
the Ministry of Culture
- Mr. Pan Yong
Official, Northern and Western European
Affairs
the Ministry of Culture
- Mr. Bai Guangming
First Cultural Secretary, Chinese Embassy
in Belgium and Chinese Representation to
the European Community
- Mr. Wang Qi An
First Scientific and Technological Secretary
Chinese Embassy in Belgium and Chinese
Representation to the European Community

1. EDUCATION

- 1.1.** Within the framework of the general co-operation between the People's Republic of China and Flanders, both Parties wish to promote and support co-operation in the field of education. To this end, both Parties shall promote the exchange of information and documentation and stimulate the exchanges of students, teaching staff, specialists and policy-makers.

These exchanges shall preferably take place within the framework of broader partnerships on the level of the educational institutions or shall aim at developing such partnerships.

- 1.2.** During the validity of the present Programme, both Parties shall offer each other seven (7) scholarships of one (1) year (12 months) each every year.
- 1.3.** During the validity of the present Programme, both Parties shall provide a quota of a hundred (100) days in order to exchange specialists or education policy-makers. The visits shall be determined by mutual agreement and shall be aimed at specific projects or themes according to the needs and possibilities of both Parties. The visits shall result in drawing up a report, which shall give an account of the visit and contain proposals with regard to the implementation of the co-operation and/or the development of new projects.
- 1.4.** Annually, Flanders shall offer two (2) scholarships of twelve (12) months each for Chinese language lecturers. The Catholic University of Leuven and the University of Ghent shall each provide accommodation for one language lecturer. Possibly, these lecturers may be put into service part-time at another institution for higher education where the Chinese language is taught. The Flemish Authorities are prepared to develop a satisfactory formula, in consultation with the host universities, for the reception and accommodation of the language lecturers.
- 1.5.** Both Parties shall use all possible means in order to promote the co-operation at institutional level between Chinese and Flemish institutions for higher education in the fields of education and of joint research projects. In this context, the Flemish Party wishes to announce that all foreign post-graduate students and in principle also under-graduate students may study at Flemish universities and colleges of higher education, under the same conditions relating to the enrolment fee as Flemish students.

1.5.1. The Flemish Party takes notice of the fact that the Chinese Ministry of Education shall grant scholarships to Chinese students. The Flemish Party itself also grants scholarships to Chinese students. These scholarships will enable them to complete their studies abroad and the Flemish Party welcomes the initiative of the Chinese Party to send out post graduate students to Flanders. The number of these students is to be determined each year. The Flemish Party wishes to point out that - should the above-mentioned students wish to study in Flanders - they must directly contact the selected Flemish university or college of higher education, which takes the final decision on the possible approval for enrolment, with regard to any information about the study programmes, the terms of admission and the enrolment fees.

1.5.2. Both Parties acknowledge the importance of expanding the knowledge of one another's language and culture and shall explore the possibility of offering students the chance to perfect themselves in the language, literature, art and culture of the other country. The number of these students is to be determined annually.

2. CULTURE

2.1. In general

2.1.1. Both Parties shall stimulate mutual visits of culture officials at a high level.

2.1.2. Both Parties shall encourage the exchange of information and publications on non-formal adult education, cultural centres, amateur arts, public libraries, literature, museums, music, dance, plastic arts, graphic design, architecture, youth work, festivals and competitions with an international character, and cultural co-operation in general.

2.1.3. During the validity of the present Programme, the Flemish Party shall, in accordance with the disciplines stipulated in 2.1.2., offer the Chinese specialists a visiting period of up to fifty (50) days.

2.2. Plastic arts and museums

2.2.1. During the validity of the present Programme, both Parties shall exchange two (2) specialists each, either in the fields of plastic arts, museums, architecture or design for a period of up to ten (10) days.

- 2.2.2. During the validity of the present Programme, both Parties shall exchange two (2) plastic artists each either for a period of up to ten (10) days. If the artist of the Chinese Party is a graphic designer, the Flemish Party shall receive him/her at the Frans Masereel Centre in Kasterlee.
- 2.2.3. During the validity of the present Programme, both Parties shall exchange one (1) arts exposition. The terms of these expositions shall be defined through diplomatic channels.
- 2.2.4. During the validity of the present Programme, the Flemish Party is prepared to send a number of art publications to the Chinese Party.

2.3. Literature

- 2.3.1. During the validity of the present Programme, both Parties shall exchange one (1) author or specialist in the field of literature for a period of ten (10) days, in order to explore possible co-operation fields concerning literature and translations.
- 2.3.2. During the validity of the present Programme, Flanders shall receive one (1) Chinese translator for a period of one (1) month at the “Vertalershuis” of the Flemish Authorities in Leuven. During this month, a specific translation project relating to Flemish literature shall be developed contrary to the usual financial arrangements when receiving individuals, this translator shall be given free accommodation and an endowment of BEF 50,000 (= 1239,47 EURO).

2.4. Theatre and dance

- 2.4.1. Both Parties shall exchange an artistic company of maximum five (5) persons for a period of one (1) week from 2001 to 2003. The composition of the representatives shall be decided upon after consultation between both Parties.
- 2.4.2. The Chinese Party is prepared to receive a Flemish ballet company on the occasion of the Chinese New Year in 2002. Details shall be discussed through diplomatic channels.

2.5. Youth work

During the validity of the present Programme, both Parties shall exchange a delegation of at least two (2) persons for a period of ten (10) days in order to get to know youth work and youth policy. Relevant institutions shall establish specific arrangements together.

2.6. Adult education and libraries

2.6.1. Both Parties shall exchange specialists in the field of public libraries and shall exchange information on libraries.

2.6.2. During the validity of the present Programme, both Parties shall exchange one (1) folklore company to participate in a folklore festival or international cultural activity in the country of the other Party.

3. **SPORTS**

During the validity of the present Programme, both Parties shall stimulate the exchange and co-operation in the field of sports. Relevant institutions or sports clubs in both countries shall establish specific exchange projects together. Specific exchange projects that were signed for implementation by both Parties within the framework of the exchange agreement, shall be implemented on the basis of the financial conditions stipulated in 7.2..

4. **MEDIA AND FILM**

- Both Parties shall promote the exchange of information in the fields of media and film.
- Both Parties shall exchange information on the main film festivals among each other and shall do the necessary advertising for the participating Party during the film festival.
- Discussing the possibility of distribution of exceptional audio-visual productions (through subtitling and dubbing).

5. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- 5.1. Both Parties agree to continue the research programme entitled, “Bilateral Co-operation programme on Science & Technology ” in 2041 with a view -to a sixth call for project proposals. The implementation methods (call for proposals, selection, financing) were established in the “Co-operation Programme on Science & Technology”, signed in Beijing on 22 September 1997, including the adjustments that were made afterwards and were established in the protocols of the meetings between the Department of International Cooperation of the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology and the Science and Innovation Administration of the Ministry of Flanders.
- 5.2. The Flemish Party informs the Chinese Party of the intention of the Minister of the Government of Flanders for Education and Training to optimise the research programme from 2002 onwards, in order to achieve higher involvement of the Flemish universities in the prioritisation and selection of the project proposals. Both Parties acknowledge the necessity of a permanent, central information centre within the Ministry of Flanders.
- 5.3. Both Parties shall thoroughly investigate whether and in which way support can be given to the project of the Interuniversity Microelectronics Centre (IMEC) to set up, in co-operation with Chinese research institutions and companies, a Design Centre in China in which IMEC would be responsible for the training and support of the training staff.

6. CO-OPERATION WITH VVOB (Flemish Association for Development Co-operation and Technical Assistance)

Both Parties are satisfied with the co-operation between the People’s Republic of China and VVOB, which has resulted in several projects on vocational training, technical education and language teaching.

Both Parties shall make the necessary efforts to stimulate and promote this co-operation in the future.

7. GENERAL AND FINANCIAL STIPULATIONS

In general

Both Parties shall send each other their proposals for the new programme of activities at the latest six (6) weeks before the assembly of the Joint Standing Committee is to take place.

7.1. Scholarships

7.1.1. Specialisation scholarships

7.1.1.1. The candidates must meet the conditions, laid down by the country offering the scholarship and they must submit the required documents. These stipulations, as well as the final submission date for the entries shall be announced annually when the call is made. The sending Party shall propose its candidates each year before April 1.

7.1.1.2 The candidates shall be selected by the sending Party. They shall be definitely accepted by the Party providing the scholarship.

7.1.1.3. The host Party shall inform the sending Party before July 1 whether the candidates and/or study programmes have been accepted or not.

7.1.1.4. The sending Party shall announce the precise date of arrival and the means of transport through diplomatic channels at the latest three weeks before the date of departure of the scholarship students, who are to be present in Flanders at the latest by October 31.

7.1.1.5. The scholarship students must hold a university degree or a certificate of equivalent studies. They must have excelled during their studies. Be careful, doctors cannot apply for this scholarship programme.

7.1.1.6. Thorough English or French skills are required. Candidates with Dutch skills are preferred.

7.1.1.7. The scholarship students must be younger than 35 years,

7.1.1.8. They can be accepted only on approval of both Parties. They decide on the basis of their file, all documents of which must be drawn up in or translated into Dutch, French, German or English and which must contain at least the following documents:

- an adequately completed application form, substantiating the application in detail
- two letters of recommendation by different professors or persons from the study or work environment of the candidate
- a certified copy of the obtained degrees mentioning the programme attended to, the study results attained for each subject and the title of the final paper
- a detailed curriculum vitae mentioning the language skills
- an extensive plan of activities mentioning the name of the institution for higher education where the candidate wishes to stay and the study programme he/she would like to follow/possibly a letter confirming the contacts made
- possibly a list of publications
- sound tapes, reproductions or slides of their work (up to five (5)) for the candidates wishing to apply for a scholarship for music or plastic arts studies.

7.1.1.9. **To be covered by the sending Party:**

- international return travel expenses

7.1.1.10. **To be covered by the host Party in Flanders:**

- a monthly allowance of BEF 27,500 (681.71 EURO)
- enrolment fees at a Flemish Community institution or an institution subsidised by the Flemish Community, limited to a maximum amount that shall be readjusted annually
- a maximum of BEF 25,000 (619.73 EURO) as contribution for printing a doctoral thesis or up to BEF 7,500 (185.92 EURO) for printing a final paper
- health insurance and third-party insurance within the framework of the Belgian legislation

7.1.1.11. **To be covered by the host party in China:**

- a monthly allowance of 800 Yuan for bachelor degree candidates, 1.100 Yuan for masters' degree candidates and general advanced students and 1.400 Yuan for doctoral candidates and senior advanced students.

1.2. Exchange of professors and education specialists

1.2.1. The exchange of professors and education specialists shall take place in agreement with the host Party and the sending Party.

7.1.2.2. The sending Party shall provide (at the latest three (3) months before the anticipated departure) the host Party with all the necessary information and documentation on the professors or the education specialists. This information contains, amongst others, curriculum vitae, language skills, goal of the mission, anticipated plan of activities, duration of the visit, arrival and departure dates and subjects of possible lectures, etc.

7.1.2.3. The host Party shall announce its decision on a possible reception as well as the precise dates for the reception period at the latest two (2) months after having received the application and the information.

7.1.2.4. The sending Party shall communicate the precise dates of arrival and means of transport through diplomatic channels at the latest three (3) weeks before the date of departure.

7.1.2.5. The sending Party shall cover the international return travel expenses.

7.1.2.6. To be covered by the host Party in Flanders:

- accommodation costs up to a daily amount of BEF 3,500 (86.76 EURO)
- a fixed allowance of BEF 1,500/day (37.18 EURO) (not including travel expenses) or BEF 2,000/day (49.58 EURO) (including travel expenses)
- health insurance and third-party insurance within the framework of the Belgian legislation.

7.1.2.7. To be covered by the host party in China:

- lodging and meals
- domestic travel expenses necessary for the programme
- urgent medical treatment

7.1.3. Language lecturers

7.1.3.1. At the request of the host Party in Flanders, the sending Party shall present its candidates-language lecturers. The sending Party shall submit to the host Party an extensive file of each candidate containing a detailed curriculum vitae, copies of degrees, certificates of working experience and letters of recommendation.

7.1.3.2. The candidates must hold a university degree. Candidates having proof of their educational skills are preferred. They must in each case have substantial educational skills in teaching their mother tongue and they must have a broad knowledge of their country's culture.

- 7.1.3.3. Candidates shall be definitely accepted by the host Party on the advice of the host university or college of higher education, which may lay down additional conditions on account of the concrete availability within the department.
- 7.1.3.4. The host Party shall communicate its decision on the acceptance as well as the precise dates of the reception period at the latest two (2) months after having received the candidatures.
- 7.1.3.5. The sending Party shall communicate the precise dates of arrival and means of transport through diplomatic channels, at the latest three (3) weeks before the date of departure.
- 7.1.3.6. The sending Party shall cover the international return travel expenses.

7.1.3.7. To be covered by the host Party in Flanders:

- a scholarship of BEF 31,500/month (780.86 EURO) as a contribution to the expenses brought about by the lectureship (accommodation, meals, relocation, purchase of instructional materials)
- health insurance and third-party insurance within the framework of the Belgian legislation

7.1.3.8. To be covered by the host party in China:

- decision will be given by the host institutions according to actual conditions

7.2. Exchange of persons and groups

The following stipulations only apply to the exchange of persons and groups for a period of no more than fifteen (15) days.

Financial and material stipulations for longer visits shall be agreed upon separately by the authorised institutions of both countries.

- 7.2.1. The country of origin shall send the curriculum vitae and the desiderata to the host country at least three (3) months in advance and the specific departure and arrival dates of the people concerned one month in advance.

7.2.2. To be covered by the country of origin:
international return travel expenses

7.2.3. To be covered by the host country:
for artists: organisation costs, fees not included

In Flanders:

- accommodation and breakfast
- a fixed allowance of BEF 2,000/day (49.58 EURO), including travel expenses within the country
- health insurance and third-party insurance within the framework of the Belgian legislation.

In China:

- accommodation and meals
- travel expenses within the country in function of the programme
- urgent medical assistance.

7.3. Film**Expenses to be covered by the country of origin**

- insurance costs of the film
- travel expenses of representatives

To be covered by the host country:

- organisation costs
- accommodation expenses of the representatives.

7.4. Exhibitions**7.4.1. To be covered by the country of origin:**

- concept, elaboration, packing and centralisation of the exhibition;
- transport of the exhibition to its first location and from the last exhibition location back to the country of origin or another country;
- ‘nail-to-nail’ insurance;
- delivery of the material destined for the production of the catalogue (such as texts, pictures and slides);
- international return travel expenses of two (2) specialists, monitoring the exhibition and supervising the mounting and dismantling, as well as the packing and unpacking of the works.

7.4.2. To be covered by the host country:

- providing suitable exhibition room, in accordance with the security standards (such as climatic conditions and guards);
- providing the necessary support staff for loading and unloading, packing and unpacking, mounting and dismantling the works;
- printing catalogues, posters and invitations;

- organising publicity campaigns, as well as the opening ceremony and the good accommodation of the exhibition;
- providing the country of origin with twenty-five (25) free copies of all publications (such as catalogues, posters, invitations and press releases), published on the occasion of the exhibition;
in case of damage, the host country shall commit itself to providing the country of origin with the necessary information and documentation concerning the damage within 24 hours and the host country shall not start the restoration of the works without the preliminary consent of the country of origin;
- accommodation expenses, for up to fifteen (15) days, of two (2) specialists, monitoring the exhibition and supervising the packing and unpacking of the works, under the conditions for the exchange of individuals stipulated in Art. 7.2.3.

7.4.3. If required, the host country shall put an interpreter at the disposal of the guests,

7.4.4. Other conditions for exchanging exhibitions shall, on a case-by-case basis, be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

7.5. **Other cultural happenings**

The conditions are to be agreed upon, on a case-by-case basis, through diplomatic channels.

7.6. Payments by the Flemish Party. of the respective amounts, as specified in these general and financial stipulations, shall be done in BEF until 31/12/2001 As of 1/1/2002 these payments shall be done in EURO.

Both Parties agree to hold the next meeting in Beijing in the second half of 2005.

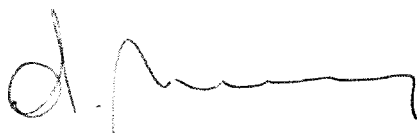
Drawn up in Brussels on 5 March 2001, in two originals each, in Dutch, Chinese and English.

The Dutch, Chinese and English texts are all legally valid.

Should any differences be found between the texts, or should there be a difference of opinion about the interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For the Flemish Authorities,

For the People's Republic of China,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'd. Verstraeten', with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Diane Verstraeten

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be '董军新' (Dong Junxin), with a long vertical stroke extending downwards.

Dong Junxin