

Memorandum of Understanding
between
The Ministry of Culture, the People's Republic of China
and
The Ministry of Education and Culture, the Republic of Finland
on
Cultural Exchange and Cooperation in 2015

In order to further strengthen the friendly relations in the cultural field between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Finland, jointly implement the cultural cooperation programmes in 2015 which the two countries have already confirmed, expand the cultural cooperation in the future between the two countries and their peoples, the Ministry of Culture of the People's Republic of China and the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Finland have reached the understanding as follows on the cultural exchange and cooperation in 2015 and the outlook for cultural cooperation in the future.

**I. Encouraging and Supporting the “Happy Chinese New Year”
Celebrations of 2015 in Helsinki**

Recognizing the facilitating role of “Happy Chinese New Year” Celebrations

jointly hosted by Beijing Municipality and the City of Helsinki in promoting understanding and friendship between the two peoples, the Signatories are willing to jointly support, as appropriate, the two cities in their efforts to launch the “Happy Chinese New Year” Celebrations of 2015 in Helsinki.

II. Endorsing and Supporting Focus China of 2015 Helsinki Festival

The Signatories note with pleasure the smooth and tangible progress in preparation for Focus China of 2015 Helsinki Festival through the substantial collaboration of the two countries, as one event to celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the Establishment of China-Finland Diplomatic Relations. More than 30 high level programmes have been confirmed to participate in the festival, covering various fields from performing arts to visual arts.

The Signatories are ready to cooperate actively to provide necessary support for Focus China, and facilitate extensive media promotion and coverage of this event in both countries, so as to warm up the social atmosphere for the above-mentioned 65th anniversary and celebrate China-Finland friendship.

III. Facilitating the Establishment of the China Cultural Center in Helsinki through Active Consultations

The Signatories agree that a cultural center can serve as an important bridge, channel and window through which we can enhance the cultural exchange and cooperation between the two countries and advance our cultural relations.

It will play an important role in strengthening mutual understanding and friendship between the two peoples.

The Signatories are also committed to actively consult each other on promoting the establishment of a China Cultural Center in Helsinki and, if an opportunity arises, the establishment of a Finnish Cultural Institute in Beijing.

IV. Jointly Stepping Up the Bilateral Cooperation in Cultural Creativity Fields

The Signatories share a common interest in the development of cultural creative industry, and recognize the important role that cultural creative industry plays in sustainable development of the economy. The Signatories note with pleasure that the bilateral cooperation in this field has proved fruitful.

The Signatories are also committed to further strengthening cooperation in the field of cultural creativity, including policy dialogues and experience sharing, and encouraging industrial cooperation, personnel exchange and training programs in design, cartoon, animation and games, etc.

V. Welcoming “Pure Finland” in China

The Ministry of Culture of China welcomes “Pure Finland” to be organized in China, and is willing to provide the necessary support and assistance to

Finland in their efforts to present relevant cultural activities.

VI. Encouraging Chinese and Finnish Cultural Institutions to Establish Long-term Cooperation Mechanisms

The Signatories encourage and support the cultural institutions, art troupes and arts festivals between the two countries to establish long-term cooperation mechanisms, including through jointly presenting major cultural activities such as Focus China and Pure Finland, so as to promote the advancement of our bilateral cultural relations in a sustainable, substantial and in-depth way.

All the actions undertaken within the framework of this Memorandum of Understanding shall conform to the respective national laws and regulations of the two countries, as well as the relevant international treaties China or Finland has entered into.

This Memorandum of Understanding is without prejudice to any other cultural activities.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall come into effect on the day of its signature, and be valid until December 31, 2015.

Signed in duplicate on November 18, 2014 in Helsinki, in the English and Chinese languages, both texts being equally authentic.



For the Ministry of Culture of
the People's Republic of China



For the Ministry of Education and
Culture of the Republic of Finland