

**MEMORANDUM OF ARRANGEMENT
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF NEW ZEALAND
AND THE NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE FORCE
AND
THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE OF THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC
OF CHINA
CONCERNING DEFENCE COOPERATION**

The Ministry of National Defence of the People’s Republic of China, on the one side, and the Ministry of Defence of New Zealand and the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) on the other side, (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Participants’),

Recognizing that the Participants share many common interests in the defence area such as humanitarian assistance and disaster relief and international peace cooperation activities,

Considering that the enhancement of the cooperative relationship between the Participants will be instrumental in promoting shared understanding and trust between them, as well as in contributing to peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond, and in accordance with the principles of equality, reciprocity and shared benefit,

Have reached the following understandings:

PARAGRAPH ONE PURPOSE OF COOPERATION

Considering the purpose of this Arrangement is to enhance joint benefits, the Participants will promote and conduct defence cooperation in an effective, well-organized and sustainable way.

PARAGRAPH TWO AREA AND APPROACH OF COOPERATION

The Participants may carry out cooperation in the following areas:

1. High level exchanges

- 1.1. Bilateral meetings of the Participants’ Defence Ministers at least once every 3 years;
- 1.2. Frequent meetings between the Participants’ respective Chief of Joint Staff Department, Chief of Defence Force and Secretary of Defence;
- 1.3. Frequent bilateral meetings between the Service Chiefs of PLA Army, Navy and Air Force and the Service Chiefs of the New Zealand Army, Royal New Zealand Navy and Royal New Zealand Air Force.

2. Senior Staff exchanges

- 2.1. The Participants will hold regular counterpart consultations and dialogues on defence issues between Deputy Chief of Joint Staff Department of CMC, Vice Chief of Defence Force of the NZDF, and Deputy Secretary of Defence of the New Zealand Ministry of Defence Level.

3. Exercises

3.1. The Participants will explore opportunities for members of the other side to participate, including as observers in their respective exercises on a bilateral or multilateral basis. Any such participation will be in accordance with the principles of voluntariness and reciprocity and will be subject to mutual consent for each exercise.

4. Mutual ship visits

4.1. The Participants will explore opportunities for their respective ships to visit the country of the other side.

5. Military education and academic exchanges

5.1. The Participants will conduct military education and academic exchanges across respective defence institutions and academies.

5.2. The Participants intend to explore ways to expand military educational training cooperation based on the principles of reciprocity and joint benefit.

6. Cooperation in international activities

6.1. The Participants may conduct cooperation in international activities including but not limited to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, counter-piracy, international peacekeeping, anti-terrorism and maritime security.

7. Multilateral cooperation

The Participants will:

7.1. strengthen cooperation in multilateral frameworks such as the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus, the ASEAN Regional Forum and the East Asia summit.

7.2. actively participate in multilateral defence workshops, conferences and seminars organised or supported by any of the Participants.

8. Other areas of defence cooperation

The Participants may conduct other areas of defence cooperation as jointly accepted by the Participants.

PARAGRAPH THREE MECHANISM FOR COOPERATION

On the basis of shared consent and in order to clarify the details, the Participants may formulate cooperative programs regarding the contents and requirements of cooperation.

The Participants may develop additional arrangements regarding cooperation in specific areas as necessary.

PARAGRAPH FOUR SECURITY OF INFORMATION

The Participants should protect the information arising from the process of cooperation and exchanges in accordance with their respective laws and regulations. Subject to national laws and regulations, such information will not be released to a Third Party without the prior consent of the originating Participant.

PARAGRAPH FIVE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT

All cooperation and exchanges between the Participants under this Memorandum of Arrangement are subject to the laws and regulations of the respective countries and the budgetary appropriations of the respective countries.

PARAGRAPH SIX RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES

Any differences arising from the interpretation or application of the Memorandum of Arrangement will be resolved by consultation between the Participants.

PARAGRAPH SEVEN ENTRY INTO EFFECT, AMENDMENTS AND TERMINATION

This Memorandum of Arrangement will come into effect on the date of last signature by the Participant and will be terminated 30 days after either side gives written notice to the other side.

The Participants may review this Memorandum of Arrangement at any time and amend it by shared consent in writing.

Unless the Participants have reached other consensus, the termination of this Arrangement will not affect the related cooperation and exchanges which are in progress.

Signed in duplicate in Chinese and English languages, this Memorandum of Arrangement is signed on 2nd July, 2019 in Beijing, both texts being equally valid.

Minister of Defence, New Zealand

State Councillor and Minister of
National Defence, People's Republic of
China

Signature

Signature

Date

Date