

Framework Agreement between the Government of Iceland and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Arctic Cooperation

The Government of the People's Republic of China and the
Government of Iceland (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"),

Reaffirming the friendly bilateral relations between the
countries,

Recognizing that cooperation between Arctic States and
non-Arctic States can promote studies of trans-regional Arctic
issues,

Desiring to cooperate on Arctic issues, on the basis of mutual
respect, reciprocity and mutual benefit, with the aim to further
strengthen their friendly bilateral relations,

Have agreed as follows:

Article I

The purpose of this Framework Agreement is to establish a
framework for bilateral cooperation on Arctic issues, and facilitate
exchange and cooperation between the Parties in relevant Arctic
fields.

Article II

The Parties reaffirm that international law, in particular *the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea*, provides the legal framework for addressing Arctic issues.

The Parties will, through diplomatic channels and other appropriate means, exchange views on Arctic issues in order to enhance mutual understanding.

Article III

The Parties wish to enhance cooperation on Arctic scientific research, which includes:

(a) Cooperation in such fields as Arctic expedition and scientific research between Arctic research institutes and organizations of the Parties; improving exchanges between scientists of the Parties.

(b) Exploring jointly the feasibility of establishing aurora observatory and a joint centre for marine and polar research in Iceland, and of using Chinese polar scientific research vessel for joint research.

(c) Cooperative research on climate change, oceans, glaciers, geological science, environmental protection and shipping, etc. in the Arctic.

Article IV

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Iceland are the Designated Authorities responsible for the implementation of this

Framework Agreement, and may hold consultations for this purpose.

Article V

Through the arrangement of the Designated Authorities, relevant authorities of the Parties may make plans for cooperation in specific fields under this Framework Agreement.

Article VI

This Framework Agreement may be amended upon mutual written consent of the Parties.

Article VII

This Framework Agreement shall enter into force upon signature, and shall remain in force for a period of 5 years. Unless either Party notifies the other in writing through diplomatic channels of its intention to terminate this Framework Agreement 6 months before its expiration, this Framework Agreement shall be automatically extended for another period of 5 years, and shall thereafter be extended accordingly.

If either Party wishes to terminate this Framework Agreement, it shall notify the other Party in writing through diplomatic channels. The termination shall take effect 6 months after the date of receipt of such notice. The termination of this Framework Agreement shall not affect the validity or duration of projects under this Framework Agreement which are initiated prior to such termination.

In witness whereof, the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed the present Framework Agreement.

Done in duplicate at Reykjavik, on 20 April 2012 in the Icelandic, Chinese and English languages, all three texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of Iceland

For the Government of the
People's Republic of China

 