

**Memorandum of Cooperation
between the Province of Zuid-Holland, the Kingdom
of the Netherlands
and Hebei Province, the People's Republic of China
for the Period of 2016-2020**

The Province of Zuid-Holland, the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Hebei Province, the People's Republic of China signed an Agreement on the Establishment of Friendship Relationship in The Hague, the Netherlands on September 21, 2007. Hereafter, the two provinces signed a Memorandum of Cooperation for the Period of 2012-2015 in Shijiazhuang on 27th August, 2012. Within the framework of this friendship relationship, governmental organizations, institutes and businesses from both sides have made remarkable achievements.

In order to encourage the development of the friendship relationship and increase substantial exchange, the two provincial governments agreed to share experiences, exchange views and facilitate visits of high-level officials. The Province of Zuid-Holland is willing to contribute to the sustainable development of Hebei and the synergetic development of the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei area. Based on the principle of friendly cooperation and mutual benefits, a cooperation plan for the period of 2016-2020 has been drafted.

1. key cooperation sectors:

1.1 water

Since the establishment of the friendship relationship, water technology has always been one of the key cooperation fields. Based on the existing projects, the cooperation will focus on groundwater monitoring management, agricultural water saving (open field and greenhouses), domestic wastewater, and industrial wastewater.

1.2 agriculture

The Province of Zuid-Holland has a great reputation in modern high-tech horticulture. Since the rapid development of agriculture and horticulture in Hebei Province, the cooperation can be expanded to greenhouses management, breeding and cultivation, urban development with a link to Greenport policies, production and trade of vegetables and fruit, potato, and flower and trees to achieve mutual benefits.

1.3 environment protection

The cooperation in the field of environmental protection is one of the focal cooperation sectors between our two provinces. Some great achievements have been made in the field of air quality monitoring. Based on the existing cooperation projects, more projects on environmental quality monitoring technology will be conducted.

1.4 education and training

Hebei and Zuid-Holland have launched multiple activities related to higher and vocational education. For further development, we will push forward cooperation in terms of: encouraging educational institutions from both sides to cooperate in management of schools; supporting Dutch universities to set up branch campuses in Hebei Province, training talents and personnel which is necessary for the development of Hebei; encouraging students exchange, supporting joint research projects; pushing forward the cooperation on vocational education, inviting Dutch experts to Hebei Province via the Hebei Bureau of Foreign Experts Affairs. Lastly, the Province of Zuid-Holland will support visiting Hebei delegations for training in the Netherlands.

1.5 technology

Continuing and enhancing the existing cooperation in the field of technology and innovation, the two provinces can focus on clean energy (solar energy, bioenergy) and life science sectors etc.

1.6 urban planning and costal area development

The cooperation in the field of urban management and planning will be more intensive. Zhangjiakou will host the 24th winter Olympic games in 2022 together with Beijing. Our two provinces should seize this opportunity by upgrading our cooperation in the field of urban planning and infrastructure improvement. The Province of Zuid-Holland will recommend urban planning enterprises and institutions to Hebei Province. Additionally, our two provinces will

share the experience on costal area development, port management and salinized land reclamation.

1.7 investment and trading

In the light of the “one belt one road” strategy and the “going out” policy of Hebei, the two provinces will push forward on promoting mutual investment and trade. The Province of Zuid-Holland can be the gateway for Hebei enterprises to enter the European market and expand their overseas business.

2. Implementation

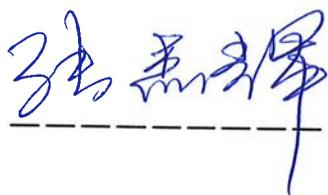
Our two provinces facilitate and support. At least one meeting every year will be organized between the European and International Affairs Bureau of the Province of Zuid-Holland and the Foreign Affairs Office of the People's Government of Hebei Province. Other provincial departments and municipalities from both provinces will organize irregular visit exchanges and working-level meetings.

2017 will be the 10th anniversary for the establishment of the friendship relationship; in order to look back on the cooperative achievements and plan the further cooperation, our two provinces will jointly organize several festive events.

3. Liaison mechanism between Our Two Provinces' governments

The European and International Affairs Bureau of the Province of Zuid-Holland and the Foreign Affairs Office of the People's Government of Hebei Province act as the counterpart liaison organizations between our two provinces. The main responsibility is to communicate and coordinate our two provinces' cooperation. Two departments should mandate a contact person to coordinate daily communications.

This memorandum is signed in duplicate in Oegstgeest on 6 May 2016 in both Chinese and English, both texts being equally authentic.



People's Government of Hebei Province
The People's Republic of China

Zhang Jiehui,
Vice-governor



Province of Zuid-Holland
The Kingdom of the Netherlands

Jaap Smit,
King's Commissioner