

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 2006-2010

FLANDERS – P.R.C

BEIJING, APRIL 3rd 2006

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 Beijing on April 3rd 2006.

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

Chinese delegation:

Mr. Pu Tong Deputy Director General of the Bureau for external Cultural Relations, Ministry of Culture of China

Mr. Jiang Guangping Deputy Secretary General, All China Youth Federation

Mr. Li Shaoping Director of Western European Office, Bureau for external Cultural Relations, Ministry of Culture of China

Mr. CHEN Ping Deputy director of Western European Office, Bureau for external Cultural Relations, Ministry of Culture of China

Mr. Shang Duyuan Program Officer, International Department, All China Youth Federation

Mrs. Zhou Hui Senior Program Officer, Division of European Affairs, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Education

Mrs. Zhao Xinshu Western European Office, Bureau for external Cultural Relations, Ministry of Culture of China

Mrs. Zhang Lili Interpreter, Ministry of Culture of China

Mrs. Jiang Lihua Interpreter, Ministry of Culture of China

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

Flemish delegation:

Mr. Koen JONGBLOET, Head of division, Policy Division, Flemish Department of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Wim POLET, Assistant to the director, Foreign Affairs Division, Flemish Department of Foreign Affairs

Mrs. Marie-Anne PERSOONS, Assistant to the director, Flemish Department of Education and Training, International Relations Unit

Mr. Jan LECONTE, Assistant to the director, Flemish Agency for the Arts and Heritage.

1. EDUCATION

1.1. Exchange of Scholarships

1.1.1. Scholarships

Each party shall offer 9 scholarships (person/year) to the other party for recognized programs at higher education institutions.

Among these, Flanders will reserve two scholarships to students majoring in Dutch language from the Beijing Foreign Studies University or other Chinese universities who have programs in Dutch language who wish to study at a Dutch language programme at a Flemish University.

1.1.2. Dutch Language and Culture Summer Course

Each year, the Flemish Party shall offer the Chinese Party a number of summer scholarships for the Dutch Language and Culture Summer Courses. The candidates shall be selected by the Dutch Language Union in cooperation with the organizers.

1.2. Language Education

1.2.1. Chinese language lecturers

Flanders shall provide two scholarships of twelve months each for Chinese language lecturers. The Catholic University of Leuven and the University of Ghent shall each act as host institution for one language lecturer.

1.2.2. Support for Dutch language education and Chinese language education

Both parties support Flemish universities as well as other educational institutions to carry out Chinese language teaching activities and welcome measures such as the establishment of a "Confucius Institute".

Both Parties welcome the support of the Dutch Language Union to the BFSU to appoint a native speaker and to purchase the necessary pedagogical material (library etc.) and the 2 annual scholarships that are given to future Dutch teachers, of which one scholar is trained at the KU Leuven.

The Chinese side welcomes and is willing to provide necessary support for the teaching of Dutch language in China.

1.3. Students Exchange

Both parties recognize the importance of understanding more about each other's language and culture. For this end, both parties would encourage more young students to study in the other country in order to enhance their understanding about the other's language, literature, arts and culture.

The Chinese side will provide a yearly update of the number of Chinese students who study at Flemish higher education institutions under the Chinese government scholarship schemes to the Flemish side, including those in the framework of the "excellence" programme for the doctoral training.

Both Parties recall that all scholars are bound to respect the international legislation on intellectual property rights when carrying out their research at universities.

2. CULTURE, YOUTH and SPORT

2.1. In general

- 2.1.1. Both Parties shall stimulate mutual visits of culture, youth and sports officials at a high level.
- 2.1.2. Both Parties shall promote 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, sports, festivals and competitions with an international character, and on co-operation in the fields of culture, youth and sport in general.

2.2. Plastic Arts, Architecture and Design

- 2.2.1. During the validity of the present Programme, both Parties shall exchange artists and specialists in the fields of plastic arts, architecture or design.
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. Artists of art disciplines other than plastic arts shall be welcome to participate in the residential programme of WIELS, the Centre for Contemporary Art in Brussels.
The artist in the Frans Masereel Centrum shall receive a daily allowance of 50 euro.
Both parties shall decide together on the number of persons and period on base of the existing opportunities and budgetary possibilities.
- 2.2.2. During the validity of the present Programme, both Parties consider to exchange one (1) arts exhibition. The terms of this exhibition shall be specified in the 'General and Financial Provisions' chapter.
- 2.2.3. Both Parties will fully explore the possibilities of organising and financing an 'architecture and training workshop' in the course of the co-operation agreement. A workshop is where talented designers and researchers from both countries can set up research and exchange initiatives. Whether this will happen within the context of a university course or of an existing or yet to be established independent structure has to be further discussed and examined by the Parties.
Theme: *"how we can change the use of the cultural built heritage, and how we can translate the wisdom contained in these buildings – among other things with regard to spatial design, use of materials and construction methods – into a contemporary context, in order to allow the next generations as well to identify with the rich traditions they originate from".*

2.3. Literature

- 2.3.1. During the validity of the present Programme, both Parties shall exchange author(s) or literary specialist(s), in order to explore possible co-operation areas in the field of fiction and non-fiction literature and translations.
- 2.3.2. During the validity of the present Programme, Flanders shall receive Chinese translator(s) (translation from Dutch) at the "Vertalershuis" in Leuven. Contrary to the usual financial arrangements when receiving individuals, this translator shall be given free accommodation and a subsistence allowance.
- 2.3.3. During the validity of the Programme, Flanders shall receive Chinese writer(s) in the writers' residence PassaPorta/Vollezele. The selection shall be discussed and mutually agreed upon by both Parties. Contrary to the usual financial arrangements when receiving individuals, the writer shall be given free accommodation and an allowance.

Both parties shall decide together on the number of persons and period on base of the existing opportunities and budgetary possibilities.

2.4. Theatre, dance and music

- 2.4.1. Both Parties shall exchange musicians as well as managers, technicians, business leaders, Both parties shall decide together on the number of persons and period on base of the existing opportunities and budgetary possibilities.
- 2.4.2. Both Parties shall exchange performing artists as well as choreographers, managers, playwrights, scenographers. Both parties shall decide together on the number of persons and period on base of the existing opportunities and budgetary possibilities.
- 2.4.3. The Flemish Party considers scheduling small-scale co-operation projects with Flemish and Chinese artists in the context of the exhibition(s).

2.5. Youth Work

During the validity of this Programme both Parties shall exchange delegations of four - eight (4 - 8) people at most (leading officials, experts, researchers and youth workers) for seven - twelve (7 - 12) days on the following topics:

1. Development of youth centre policy, especially through the establishment of youth information points and of internet based youth information services;
2. Development of youth (work) policy and youth services in a local urban context.

The Flemish Community will examine the possibilities and opportunities to co-operate in the development of pilot projects in China in the field of youth (information) centres and/or the field of local youth policy in an urban context.

Both Parties encourage and support co-operation of respective institutions/agencies in order to develop youth exchange programmes, bilaterally as well as within the framework of European/International youth related programmes. A special attention will be given to the involvement of local authorities in big cities, in order to facilitate co-operation between them on the local level.

2.6. Adult Education and Libraries

Both Parties shall exchange specialists in the field of public libraries and socio-cultural work.

2.7. SPORT

Both Parties shall encourage exchange and cooperation in the field of sport. The programs for exchanges shall be decided by respective sports institutions or sports associations of both Parties through consultation.

2.8. Tangible and Intangible heritage

- 2.8.1. During the validity of the present Programme, both Parties shall exchange specialists in intangible heritage (e.g. museums, popular culture) in order to examine the possibilities of setting up joint projects in the framework of the Unesco Convention of 17 October 2003 with a view to registering and preserving the intangible heritage of both countries. In first instance, experience and knowledge can be exchanged. Possible partners in China: The Ministry of Culture and its network ; in Flanders: Visual Arts and Museums Division/Heritage team, Flanders Cultural Biography, the Flemish Centre for Popular Culture.

Both parties shall decide together on the number of persons and period on base of the existing opportunities and budgetary possibilities.

2.8.2. During the validity of the present Programme, both Parties shall exchange specialists in museums, archives, documentation centres, and other cultural heritage institutions with a view to familiarising themselves with the structure, the specialised domains, the operation of the research institutions (e.g. in the field of ethnology) and setting up joint projects (e.g. regarding public activities, preservation and management, digitalisation). Both parties shall decide together on the number of persons and period on base of the existing opportunities and budgetary possibilities.

2.8.3. During the validity of the present Programme, both Parties shall organise together the exhibition 'Rubens, Ensor and the pictorial tradition in Flanders from the 16th to the 20th century'. The exhibition will take place in winter 2008-2009 in Beijing. The terms of the implementation of the present article are set out in Article 5.4 of the General and Financial Provisions.

3. MEDIA AND FILM

3.1. Both Parties shall promote the exchange of information in the fields of media and film.

3.2. Both Parties shall encourage their films and personnel's participation in the international film festivals held in the other country.

3.3. Both parties shall present film weeks and exchange film delegations to participate in the film screenings in each other's countries on the principle of reciprocity,

3.4. Both parties shall discuss the possibility of distribution of exceptional audio-visual productions (through subtitling and dubbing).

4. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Government organs of science and technology of both parties share the views on the necessity for further enhancing bilateral cooperation in their specialized field. Direct negotiations will be established between the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology and the Flemish counterpart.

5. 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.

5.1. Scholarships

5.1.1. The exchange of scholarships under Article (Scholarships) shall take place under the following general terms:

Candidates shall meet the requirements of the other party. The specific requirement shall be released to the other party at least four months in advance.

- a) The candidates shall be selected by the sending Party.
- b) The sending Party shall submit the shortlist of candidates and the completed application documents to the receiving party before 1 April. The application document

shall be prepared in accordance with the receiving party's requirement (as notified by the receiving party in other documents).

- c) The receiving party is responsible for finalizing receiving institutions for the candidates and shall inform the sending party before 15 July the final arrangement (including providing the list of receiving institutions).
- d) The sending party shall give exact information about the scholarship at least two weeks before the start of his/her stay.

5.1.2 The exchange of scholarships under Article (Scholarships) shall take place under the following financial terms:

- a) The sending party shall cover the international travel expenses to and from the capital city in the host country.
- b) The receiving party shall exempt tuition fees and provide scholarships and medical care in accordance with its current applicable terms.

In Flanders:

- ⌘ a monthly allowance of 770.00 EUR
- ⌘ enrolment fees at a Flemish Community institution or an institution subsidized by the Flemish Community, limited to a maximum amount that shall be readjusted annually (2005-2006 academic year: 505.00 EUR)
- ⌘ health insurance and third-party insurance within the framework of the Belgian legislation.

In China:

- ⌘ Exemption of tuition fees, basic textbook, accommodation, comprehensive medical insurance and the provision of living allowance
- ⌘ The standard of living allowance provided by the Chinese side (RMB/month)
Undergraduate: 800
Students for Chinese Language Courses: 800
Master students and regular visiting scholars: 1100
Doctoral students and senior visiting scholars: 1400

5.1.3 The exchange of a scholarship (summer course) under Article shall take place under the following general and financial terms:

- a) The Flemish Party shall inform the Chinese candidates for the Dutch language and culture summer course about the selection at that latest on 1 April.
- b) The provisions applying to the enrolment of Chinese candidates who wish to attend the Dutch language and culture summer course will be laid down by the Dutch Language Union
- c) The Flemish Party shall cover the enrolment fees, accommodation and meals, the costs for participation in excursions in the framework of the training programme, and the health and third-party insurance in accordance with the Belgian legislation.

5.2. Language Lecturers

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

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

Candidates shall be definitely accepted by the receiving 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.

The receiving party shall communicate its decisions on the acceptance as well as the precise dates of the reception period at the latest two months after having received the applications.

The sending party shall communicate the precise dates of arrival through diplomatic channels, at the latest three weeks before the date of departure.

The sending party shall cover the international return travel expenses.

To be covered by the receiving party in Flanders:

⌘ 1,100 EURO per month as a contribution to the expenses brought about the lectureship (accommodation, meals, relocation, purchase of instructional materials)

To be covered by the sending party in China:

-- Cost for international flight back to China

5.3. 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.

5.3.1. 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 arrival and departure dates of the people concerned one month in advance.

5.3.2. To be covered by the country of origin:

international return travel expenses

5.3.3. To be covered by the host country:

for artists: organisation costs, fees not included

In Flanders:

- accommodation and breakfast
- a fixed allowance of 50 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.

5.4. Exhibitions

5.4.1. 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.

5.4.2. 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. 5.3.2.

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

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

5.5. Other cultural happenings

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

Drawn up in Beijing on 3rd April 2006, in two originals each, in English and Chinese. The text will be translated into Dutch for national purpose in Flanders.

The 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 Flanders



For the People's Republic of China