### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION BETWEEN

# THE MINISTRY OF CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY AND

## THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The Ministry of Climate and Environment of the Kingdom of Norway and the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the People's Republic of China, hereinafter referred to as "the Parties",

Being aware of the regional and global nature of the environmental issues and the need to find long-term sustainable and cost-effective solutions in addressing these issues through international cooperation and joint activities between the two countries;

Recognizing the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, the Climate Convention and the Paris Agreement, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the international treaties on Chemicals and Waste;

Recognizing the successful achievements of the bilateral environmental cooperation since 1995 and the benefits of projects and activities undertaken, the wish to continue and strengthen the cooperation further; and the MoU between the Government of the Kingdom of Norway and the Government of the People's Republic of China regarding economic and technical cooperation in the People's Republic of China signed 7<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

Convinced that cooperation between the Parties is of mutual benefit both at the domestic and international levels and will further promote the friendly relations between the two countries;

Have agreed as follows:

#### **ARTICLE 1**

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding is to promote cooperation

between the Parties in the field of environmental protection and sustainable development on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

#### **ARTICLE 2**

The parties agree to cooperate on environmental policy and management within the areas of:

- 1. Chemicals;
- 2. Waste management;
- 3. Air and water pollution prevention and control;
- 4. Nature conservation and biological diversity;
- 5. Other areas as mutually agreed upon.

The cooperation will include environmental education, training, environmental awareness, development and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies. Exchange of experience and capacity building on environmental management and governance for the implementation of international environmental agreements will be prioritized.

#### ARTICLE 3

Cooperation between the Parties under this Memorandum of Understanding may include the following forms:

- 1. Exchange of relevant environmental experiences, practices, information and documentation;
- 2. Exchange of visits of experts, scholars and delegations;
- 3. Jointly organized seminars, workshops and meetings attended by scientists, experts, regulators and others concerned;
- 4. Other forms of cooperation as mutually agreed.

#### **ARTICLE 4**

To implement this Memorandum of Understanding, both Parties shall encourage the establishment and development of direct contacts with environmental protection agencies, research institutions, universities, state and private enterprises, and other institutions and organizations in both countries.

#### **ARTICLE 5**

Each Party shall designate a coordinator who is at director general level responsible for the identification and coordination of cooperative activities under this Memorandum of Understanding. As mutually agreed, the coordinators will meet, preferably biennially, alternately in Norway and in China.

#### **ARTICLE 6**

Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding shall affect the obligations of the Parties deriving from any treaties, conventions, regional or international agreements related to the protection of environment.

#### **ARTICLE 7**

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the date of signature and shall remain in force for a five-year period.

Unless one Party notifies the other in written form three months prior to the expiration of this Memorandum of Understanding, it will be automatically renewed for another period of five years.

The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding will not affect the validity of any arrangements already made under this Memorandum of Understanding.

Done in duplicate in Beijing on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 in Chinese and English languages, both versions being equally authentic.

FOR THE MINISTRY OF CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY

FOR THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Vida Helgeren

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