



LETTER OF AGREEMENT

SEAMEO and ASEAN-China Centre (ACC) Collaboration with Guizhou Provincial Department of Education (GPDE) on Organizing the 6th China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week

This LETTER OF AGREEMENT is between Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (hereinafter referred to as 'SEAMEO') and the ASEAN-China Centre (hereinafter referred to as 'ACC') for the collaboration on organizing the 6th **China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week (CAECW)** with Guizhou Provincial Department of Education (hereinafter referred to as 'GPDE'), the provincial government agency responsible for educational development in Guizhou Province and the principal official organizer of CAECW, as Implementing Agency.

BACKGROUND

The CAECW has been held in Guizhou Province annually since 2008 under the sponsorship of the Chinese Ministry of Education and other sponsors. In co-organizing the 6th CAECW and those in the following years, SEAMEO and ACC will cooperate with GPDE in the conduct of the event and develop it into a flagship platform for cooperation and exchanges in education between ASEAN/Southeast Asia and China through people-to-people exchange to enhance public recognition, mutual understanding and active participation by both public and private sectors.

In 17-22 September 2012, SEAMEO delegation composed of the SEAMEO Secretariat and three SEAMEO Regional Centres (SEAMEO RIHED, SEAMEO VOTTECH and SEAMEO TROPMED Network) was invited by Guizhou Provincial Department of Education via the ACC to participate in the 5th China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week (CAECW) in Guiyang, Guizhou Province, People's of Republic China, sponsored by the Chinese Ministry of Education and the Guizhou Provincial People's Government.

In the 35th SEAMEO High Officials Meeting in 27-29 November 2012 in Bangkok, Thailand, GPDE representatives participated as part of delegation of ACC. In a side meeting among SEAMEO, ACC and GPDE, the three Organizations discussed the possibility of a tripartite partnership in organizing the 6th China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week (6th CAECW) in September 2013 in Guiyang, Guizhou Province Department of Education.

During the 47th SEAMEO Council Conference in 21-23 March 2013, in Hanoi Vietnam, the SEAMEO Council approved the drafting and signing of a SEAMEO-ACC Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). On 13 August 2013, SEAMEO and ACC signed the SEAMEO-ACC MOU in Bangkok, Thailand, establishing a bilateral general framework for cooperation on the development and promotion of education and culture in Southeast Asia and the People's Republic of China.

In 23-24 May 2013 in Beijing, China, SEAMEO, ACC and GPDE conducted a joint meeting to discuss (a) the theme, design and activities of the CAECW, (b) the roles and responsibilities of SEAMEO, ACC and GPDE; and (c) the proposed activities of SEAMEO and ACC for CAECW.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Letter of Agreement (LOA) is to outline a framework of cooperation between SEAMEO and ACC to collaborate on the aforementioned activity (6th CAECW) with GPDE. SEAMEO, ACC and GPDE agree to cooperate to successfully complete the activity and support or initiate activities that form part of the CAECW.

The overall objectives of SEAMEO, ACC and GPDE in organizing the 6th CAECW are:

1. To promote the common goal of enhancing cooperation and partnership in education and culture and other related fields through the CAECW;
2. To enhance regional understanding through the strengthening of the CAECW for networking as well as educational and cultural exchanges and;
3. To provide an annual platform to promote and showcase best and innovative practices in education cooperation and exchange between ASEAN/Southeast Asia and China.

EACH PARTY'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Operational Plan for Organizing the 6th CAECW (see appendix for schedule)

1. Setting up of Joint Committee for the CAECW to be composed of leaders and officials of the SEAMEO Secretariat, ACC and GPDE, whose main task is to be responsible for coordination among the three organizations in the designing, conduct, review and improvement of the CAECW.
2. Organization of joint meeting of the Joint Committee for the CAECW to discuss the theme, design and activities of the CAECW, roles and responsibilities of SEAMEO, ACC and GPDE; and proposed activities of SEAMEO and ACC for CAECW.