

AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SULTANATE OF OMAN

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
ON MUTUAL VISA EXEMPTION FOR HOLDERS OF
DIPLOMATIC. SERVICE AND SPECIAL PASSPORTS

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SULTANATE OF OMAN and THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA (hereinafter referred to as the "Contracting Parties"),

WITH A VIEW TO further promoting friendly relations between their countries and facilitating exchange of visits by their citizens;

HAVING CONDUCTED friendly consultations on mutual visa exemption for holders of diplomatic, service and special passports on the basis of equality and reciprocity;

HAVE AGREED as follows:

Article 1

1. Citizens of the Sultanate of Oman holding valid diplomatic, service and special passports of the Sultanate of Oman and citizens of the People's Republic of China holding valid diplomatic or service

passports of the People's Republic of China shall be exempted from visa requirement for entry into, exit from or transit through the territory of the other Contracting Party.

2. The service passport of the People's Republic of China referred to in this Agreement excludes passport for public affairs.

Article 2

Citizens of either Contracting Party referred to in Article 1 of this Agreement shall enter into, exit from or transit through the territory of the other Contracting Party through ports open to international travelers and shall adhere to the necessary formalities in accordance with the relevant regulations of the latter's competent authorities.

Article 3

- 1. Citizens of either Contracting Party shall abide by the laws and regulations in force in the other Party during their stay in its territory, unless otherwise provided in relevant international treaties to which both countries are Contracting Parties.
- 2. Citizens of either Contracting Party referred to in Article 1 of this Agreement, who intend to stay longer than thirty (30) days in the territory of the other Contracting Party, shall go through necessary registration procedures in accordance with the relevant regulations of the

latter's competent authorities.

Article 4

Officials at or above vice ministerial level of the central government and officers of or above the rank of major general of the armed forces of either Contracting Party shall obtain prior consent of the other Contracting Party or inform the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party through diplomatic channels before their travel to the latter's territory for official purposes.

Article 5

This Agreement does not restrict the right of either Contracting Party to prohibit persona non grata or unacceptable citizens of the other Contracting Party from entering its territory or terminate their stay in its territory without citing reasons therefore.

Article 6

Either Contracting Party may temporarily suspend this Agreement partially or wholly on grounds of national security, public order or public health. However, it shall notify the other Contracting Party, in writing in advance, of its intention to suspend the Agreement and subsequently to cancel the suspension through diplomatic channels.

Article 7

- 1. The Contracting Parties shall complete, through diplomatic channels, the exchange of samples of their passports referred to in Article 1 of this Agreement within thirty (30) days from the date of signing of this Agreement.
- 2. During the period of validity of this Agreement, either Contracting Party shall inform the other Contracting Party, through diplomatic channels, thirty (30) days before its introduction, of any change to the format of the passports and furnish the latter with samples of new passports.

Article 8

- 1. This Agreement shall enter into force thirty (30) days after the date of receiving through diplomatic channels the last written notification of fullfillment of the domestic procedures necessary for the entry into force of the Agreement in both Parties.
- 2. This Agreement shall remain in force indefinitely. If either Contracting Party wishes to terminate this agreement, it shall notify the other Contracting Party in writing through diplomatic channels, and this Agreement shall cease to be effective on the ninetieth (90) day following the date of notification.

3. This Agreement may be amended by mutual consent of the Contracting Parties.

This Agreement was signed in Beijing on this 10th day of December 2009 in two original copies in the Arabic, Chinese and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For the Government of

the Sultanate of Oman

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For the Government of the

People's Republic of China