

Signed at Beijing November 10, 2014
Entered into force December 25, 2014

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON MUTUAL VISA EXEMPTION
FOR HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC, OFFICIAL AND SERVICE PASSPORTS**

The Government of the Republic of Korea 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 exchanges of visits by their citizens,

Having conducted friendly consultations on mutual visa exemption for holders of diplomatic, official and service passports on the basis of equality and reciprocity,

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

1. Citizens of the Republic of Korea holding valid diplomatic and official passports of the Republic of Korea, and citizens of the People's Republic of China holding valid diplomatic and service passports of the People's Republic of China, shall be exempted from visa requirements for the 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 does not include 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 laws and regulations of the other Contracting Party.

ARTICLE 3

1. Citizens of either Contracting Party referred to in Article 1 of this Agreement shall abide by the laws and regulations in force of the other Contracting Party during their stay in its territory, unless otherwise provided in relevant international treaties to which both countries are 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 the necessary permission or registration procedures, in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations of the other Contracting Party.

ARTICLE 4

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

ARTICLE 5

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

ARTICLE 6

Either Contracting Party may temporarily suspend this Agreement in whole or in part on grounds of national security, public order or public health. It shall notify the other Contracting Party of such suspension, or the lifting thereof, in writing in advance, through diplomatic channels.

ARTICLE 7

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

ARTICLE 8

Any dispute arising out of the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement shall be settled through consultations or negotiations between the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 9

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the thirtieth (30) day following the date of the last written notification by the Contracting Parties, through diplomatic channels,

indicating that their domestic legal requirements for its entry into force have been fulfilled.

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. The Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Korea and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Mutual Visa Exemption for Holders of Diplomatic Passports, signed on June 27, 2013, shall be terminated when this Agreement enters into force and be replaced by this Agreement.

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

Done in duplicate at Beijing on 10th November 2014, in the Korean, 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 REPUBLIC OF KOREA

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA