

(Translation)

23 July 1994

Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's letter of 23 July 1994, which reads as follows:

"Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to the proposals you made at the 25th and 26th ASEAN Ministerial Meetings in Manila in July 1992, and in Singapore in July 1993 respectively, to enhance ASEAN-China cooperation in economic relations and trade, and in science and technology.

On behalf of the Governments of ASEAN Member Countries, I am pleased to welcome your proposals. To develop the ASEAN-China Consultative Relationship, the Governments of ASEAN Member Countries propose that ASEAN and the Government of the People's Republic of China agree to establish a Joint Committee on Economic and Trade Cooperation between ASEAN and the People's Republic of China, and a Joint Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between ASEAN and the People's Republic of China. The two Joint Committees shall consist of government officials of ASEAN Member Countries and government officials of the People's Republic of China. The Joint Committee on Economic and Trade Cooperation shall be under the co-chairmanship of the Chairman of ASEAN Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM Chairman) and a senior official at the corresponding level from the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation of the People's Republic of China. The Joint Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation shall be under the co-chairmanship of the Chairman of ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology (COST Chairman) and the Vice Minister of the State Science and Technology Commission of the People's Republic of China.

The ASEAN-China Consultative Relationship will be conducted on an equitable basis.

I have the honour to further propose that this letter and Your Excellency's reply confirming the foregoing shall be considered as constituting an agreement to establish the two Joint Committees between ASEAN and the People's Republic of China, which will enter into force on the date of Your Excellency's reply.

I avail myself of this opportunity to extend to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration."

I have the honour to confirm that Your Excellency's letter and this reply shall constitute an agreement to establish the two Joint Committees between ASEAN and the People's Republic of China, which will enter into force on the date of this reply.

I avail myself of this opportunity to extend to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Qian Qichen

Vice Premier and
Minister of Foreign Affairs of
the People's Republic of China

His Excellency Mr. Dato' Ajit Singh
Secretary-General of ASEAN

The Governments of ASEAN Member Countries also propose that the Joint Committee on Economic and Trade Cooperation undertakes the following functions:

- I. Review developments of economic and trade cooperation between ASEAN and the People's Republic of China and coordinate matters arising from such cooperation;
- II. Consider and recommend ways for further expansion of economic and trade cooperation that are of mutual interest to ASEAN and the People's Republic of China;
- III. Discuss regional and international economic issues of mutual interest to ASEAN and the People's Republic of China.

The Joint Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation undertakes the following functions:

- I. Review developments of scientific and technological cooperation between ASEAN and the People's Republic of China;
- II. Consider and recommend ways for further expansion of scientific and technological cooperation that are of mutual interest to ASEAN and the People's Republic of China;
- III. Discuss regional and international issues in science and technology of mutual interest to ASEAN and the People's Republic of China.

It is further proposed that:

The meeting of the two Joint Committees shall be held regularly and shall take place alternately in China and ASEAN;

The ASEAN-China Consultative Relationship will not in any way or in any manner prejudice relations between individual ASEAN Member Countries and the People's Republic of China;