

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**BETWEEN**  
**THE SLOVAK OFFICE OF STANDARDS, METROLOGY AND**  
**TESTING (UNMS SR)**  
**AND**  
**THE STANDARDIZATION ADMINISTRATION OF CHINA (SAC)**

The Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing (UNMS SR) and the Standardization Administration of China (SAC), hereinafter referred to collectively as "the Parties" and each of them, individually when applicable, as "a Party".

Desiring, in the spirit of co-operation and mutual interest, to enhance and strengthen technical cooperation in the field of standardization with the aim to remove barriers to trade by exchanging necessary information and expertise between Parties.

Understanding the importance of protecting the safety of human life, health, and the environment, following common interests in facilitating trade of the Parties,

have reached the following understanding:

**Article 1**

The Parties in accordance with this Memorandum of Understanding, within their competence and in accordance with the respective legislation shall facilitate following cooperation activities:

- Harmonize national standards with international standards in order to promote scientific and technical cooperation and reduce technical barriers to trade;
- In case the international standard is not available and one country has the national standard that is not available in the other country, while it is urgently needed for the industrial and trade development, both parties can explore the possibility for one country to adopt the national standard of the other country as its national standard,

which would be accomplished upon consultations and comparison and on the basis of mutual written agreement;

- Mutually cooperate in the field of international standardization to exchange information and documents, comments on international standards at various stages of development, etc. ;
- Facilitate exchange of visits of experts from Slovakia and China;
- Other activities or actions based on the proposal from any Party and on other fields of mutual interest of the Parties.

## **Article 2**

The Parties agree to :

(a) Share information and materials concerning training programs and improvement of specialists' qualifications in the fields of standardization, technical regulation and conformity assessment where available;

(b) Exchange rules and Procedures for standards formulation, standards work programmes for standards formulation;

(c) Promote dissemination of standards in both states;

## **Article 3**

1. Parties may cooperate in the following forms: To conduct high-level dialogues under the meeting of such international standard organizations as ISO and IEC;
2. To hold bilateral meetings on requirements, to review progress in the cooperation since last meeting and decide upon action plans and cooperative projects for the following year;
3. To organize workshops and conduct research exchange activities as needed.

## **Article 4**

The Parties will maintain the confidentiality of all received documents and information, as well as scientific and technical results obtained within the framework of this Memorandum of Understanding if this is stipulated in writing by the other Party.

The scientific and technical information received by a Party in the course of cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding shall only be transferred to a third Party with the prior written consent of the Party, which has provided such information.

#### **Article 5**

Two parties will respectively assign a contact person of their organizations, who will be in charge of keeping contact with each other and, when necessary, holding meetings to exchange ideas on issues of mutual interest. Daily work will be conducted through email.

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#### **Article 6**

This Memorandum of Understanding is non-binding instrument and, as such it does not constitute any rights or legal obligations, nor is it its purpose. Any disputes connected with the implementation and interpretation of the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding will be settled amicably by mutual consultations and negotiations between the Parties.

#### **Article 7**

The Participants declare their willingness to bear, in compliance with relevant national laws and regulations, their own costs for the implementation of this Memorandum.

Subject to budgetary availability of the Participants does not provide for any obligations of either Participants.

#### **Article 8**

By mutual consent of the Parties, amendments and supplements may be made to the present Memorandum of Understanding in the form of separate protocols, which shall form an integral part of this Memorandum of Understanding .

#### **Article 9**

This Memorandum of Understanding will be effective as of the date of its signature. This Memorandum of Understanding is valid for 5 (five) years and automatically extends to another 5 (five) years unless one of the Party notifies the other Party in writing of their wish to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding. Such notification shall be sent at least 3 (three) months before the termination of present Memorandum of Understanding.

The Memorandum of Understanding is signed in Beijing, on September 12, 2016, three original copies each in Slovak language, Chinese and English and all texts having equal force. In the case of divergence in interpretation of this Agreement, the English text will prevail.

The termination of this agreement will not affect the validity or duration of projects under this Memorandum of Understanding that is initiated prior to such termination.

For the Slovak Office of Standards,  
Metrology and Testing

For the Standardization Administration of  
China