

**PROTOCOL
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY FOR HEALTH
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA
AND
THE NATIONAL HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING
COMMISSION
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF TRADITIONAL
CHINESE MEDICINE**

The Ministry for Health of the Republic of Malta, hereinafter referred to as “the Maltese side”, and the National Health and Family Planning Commission of the People’s Republic of China, hereinafter referred to as “the Chinese side”;

DESIROUS of further developing a collaborative initiative in the field of Traditional Chinese Medicine concerning the sending a Chinese Medical Team to work in Malta;

CONSCIOUS that such collaboration will continue to contribute to the improvement of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Malta and thus the future improvement of medical care for the Maltese population;

HAVE AGREED upon the following:

ARTICLE 1

1. The two sides agree to continue the running of the co-operative regional centre for providing technical training and medical service of Traditional Chinese Medicine for Maltese and non-Maltese, named 'The Mediterranean Regional Centre for Traditional Chinese Medicine' (hereinafter referred to as the Centre).
2. The Centre will continue to seek the support of the World Health Organization for the Centre.
3. The two sides agree to explore positive and active support to the Centre in terms of policy.

ARTICLE 2

1. The teaching and medical service of the Centre in Traditional Chinese Medicine will be carried out by four medically qualified experts fluent in the English language and with high teaching and clinical experience, sent by the Chinese side. Two experts shall be responsible for clinical treatment and teaching in department of traditional Chinese medicine in Mater Dei Hospital, Malta and St. Luke's Hospital agreed by the two sides through consultation in Malta, so as to provide better medical care for Maltese population.
2. The Chinese side, in addition, shall undertake to provide an administrator for the day-to-day administration and management of the Centre, as well as 1-2 supporting staff other than those referred to in paragraph 3 below.
3. The Maltese side shall undertake to provide other supporting staff, i.e. one whole time equivalent nurse, one receptionist and one cleaner.

ARTICLE 3

1. The centre will conduct training courses for doctors, nurses and paramedics with 2 to 3 years postgraduate experience subject to Maltese law and short term courses for those acupuncturists who already have had acupuncture training and who wish to improve their clinical experience.
2. The graduation Certificates for the students of training courses upon their successful completion, will be issued jointly by the Centre and institutions accredited by the National Health and Family Planning Commission of the People's Republic of China. The Centre will issue its own certificates to those who attend short term courses.
3. The Centre will also conduct shorter familiarisation courses for other candidates interested in improving their concept of Traditional Chinese Medicine.
4. The Chinese side, with the support of the Maltese side, will offer help to publicise the Centre for regular intake of trainees.
5. The centre may make arrangements with the Department of Health in Malta to run the acupuncture services offered by the Department on terms agreed upon and may make use of the acupuncture clinic facilities of the Department for training purposes.
6. The Centre will collaborate with the University of Malta in respect of training in Traditional Chinese Medicine as may be required by the University of Malta.
7. The necessary teaching and medical equipment, textbooks, teaching aids, medicines, vehicles and other technical items related to the efficient running of the Centre will be provided by the Centre out of its income.

ARTICLE 4

1. The Maltese side shall continue to make available adequate premises on terms to be agreed upon, including providing well-equipped residential places (with one independent bedroom, one independent living room and one independent bathroom for each Chinese staff).
2. The Maltese side shall facilitate, in line with legislation, the importation of certain amount of traditional Chinese medicine for the Centre, which shall be used only in the Centre.

ARTICLE 5

1. The Centre is to be managed by a Board of Directors consisting of Maltese and Chinese representatives who are to meet from time to time to decide on the policy, strategy, expansion and general management. The day-to-day running of the Centre is to be entrusted to the Chinese director and administrator at the Centre who will act under the general policy directives issued by the Board of Directors.
2. The Board of Directors is to be composed of four persons, of which each side would appoint two members. The Chairman of the Board would be from both sides in turn and each side would hold the office for a period of one year in its turn.

ARTICLE 6

1. The Centre is to manage affairs on its own and assume sole responsibility for its gains and losses. Both sides would adopt all possible measures to support the development of the Centre. The income of the Centre will be used for the daily operation and development of the Centre itself.
2. The Centre will charge reasonable tuition and treatment fees so as to provide a source of income for the effective running and development of the Centre as determined by the Board of Directors taking into consideration local and international factors.

ARTICLE 7

The salaries of the Chinese staff working at the Centre will be borne by the Chinese side. The salaries of the Maltese staff working at the Centre will be borne by the Maltese side.

ARTICLE 8

Since the Centre is essentially a non-profit making medico-training establishment, the Maltese side will recommend to the competent Ministry exemption from import duty, in respect of equipment and items provided by the Chinese side for the Centre, equipment and items purchased by the Centre from China for the purpose of replenishment and renewal in accordance with provisions of Article IV, as well as in respect of personal income tax of the Chinese staff working at the Centre.

ARTICLE 9

1. The traveling expenses with the transport cost of 40 kgs excess luggage of Chinese staff to Malta initially and back to China finally shall be borne by the Centre.
2. The Chinese and Maltese staff shall be entitled to the public holidays stipulated respectively by the Chinese Government and the Maltese Government.
3. The Chinese staff shall rotate every year commencing on their date of arrival in Malta. The Chinese staff shall enjoy three weeks paid vacation leave after their completing 6 months of work at the Centre. The economy international airfare will be paid by the Centre as long as the cost of such airfare would not exceed that to and from China.

ARTICLE 10

1. The Maltese side shall undertake to issue the license for operation of the Centre's clinic subject to compliance with the law and shall issue the visas and working permits in respect of the Chinese staff. The Maltese side shall give the necessary invitations and documents for Chinese delegations sent to Malta to inspect China Medical Team and Chinese staff's family members to visit them in Malta.
2. The Chinese staff, while working at the Centre, are obliged to comply with all the requirements of Maltese Law.

ARTICLE 11

1. In case of illness of the Chinese staff during the period of their stay in Malta, free medical treatment in Government hospitals and clinics shall be provided by the Maltese side.
2. In case of disability, whether total or partial, due to work or accident or in case of death of any member of the Chinese staff during their stay in Malta, the Maltese side shall undertake to assist the Centre in dealing with all the aftermath and the relevant expenses will be covered by the Centre. If the Centre does not have the necessary funds, the sending party will cover the necessary expenses. This is with the exception of repatriation expenses in the case of death or disability, which the Maltese side shall undertake to cover.
3. The Centre will make arrangements for an insurance policy for the Chinese staff working at the Centre to cover such eventualities.

ARTICLE 12

1. This Protocol starts from the date of September 26th 2016. The duration of this Protocol is for two years.
2. Should one side wish to amend or supplement this Protocol, a written proposal shall be submitted to the other side and a new protocol or a supplementary protocol shall be signed through unanimity through consultation.

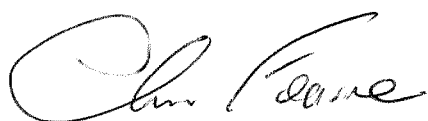
3. This Protocol shall come into force on the date of signature and remain valid until two medical teams end their terms. If no proposal for termination is submitted by either side before the expiry of the protocol, this protocol will automatically extend for one time, i.e. two years.

4. Should either side wish to terminate this Protocol it should propose to the other side, in writing, six months before the expiry. This Protocol shall be terminated through unanimity through consultation.

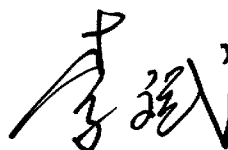
ARTICLE 13

Matters not included in this Protocol or any disputes that could occur during its execution shall be settled through friendly consultations between the two sides.

Done in duplicate on the 20th day of January, 2017 in the English and Chinese languages, both texts being equally authentic. In case of doubt, the English text shall prevail.



Hon. Minister Chris Fearne
Minister for Health
of the Republic of Malta



H.E. Minister Li Bin
Minister of National Health and
Family Planning Commission
of the People's Republic of China