China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement Memorandum of Understanding

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Memorandum of Understanding on the Free Trade Agreement and Other Trade Issues Between The Government of The People's Republic of China And The Government of The Islamic Republic of Pakistan

On the occasion of the official visit to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan by H.E. Wen Jiabao, Premier of the People's Republic of China, Mr. Bo Xilai, Minister of Commerce of the People's Republic of China and Mr. Humayun Akhtar Khan, Minister of Commerce of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, on behalf of their Governments, jointly reviewed the development process of the bilateral economic and trade relations, and agreed to further strengthen these relations.

Both sides announced the conclusion of Joint Feasibility Study on a China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and the launching of negotiations on the FTA in accordance with regulations of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Both sides signed an Agreement on Early Harvest Program so as to provide a basis for the establishment of the China-Pakistan FTA.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan agreed not to apply, from the date of the signature of this Memorandum of Understanding, Articles 15 and 16 of the Protocol of Accession of the People's Republic of China to the WTO and Paragraph 242 of the Report of the Working Party on the Accession of China to WTO in relation to the trade between China and Pakistan.

The Memorandum of Understanding is signed in Islamabad on the Fifth day of April in the year Two Thousand and Five, in the Chinese and English languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For and on behalf

of the Government of

the People's Republic of China

For and on behalf

of the Government of

the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Minister of Commerce

Minister of Commerce