Arrangement on Education Cooperation

between

the Education Bureau of

the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of

the People's Republic of China

and

the Ministry of Education of New Zealand

The Education Bureau of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China and the Ministry of Education of New Zealand (hereinafter referred to as the "Participants"), seeking to build on the commitments made on education cooperation in the *Hong Kong, China – New Zealand Closer Economic Partnership Agreement*, and desiring to strengthen bilateral relations between them in the field of education cooperation and to promote educational exchanges between the two, have reached the following understandings—

Paragraph I

The Participants confirm that the aims of this Arrangement are to recognize the many bilateral collaborations between the educational communities of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and New Zealand, to strengthen partnerships and strategic collaboration that support internationalisation of education and lifelong learning; to enhance excellence and creativity in teaching, learning and research conducted by their educational institutions; and to contribute to professional development in the education sector.

Paragraph II

The Participants will, in accordance with the domestic laws in force in their jurisdictions and under conditions to be mutually decided, promote the development of mutually beneficial cooperation in the fields of education and research conducted by their educational institutions.

Paragraph III

The Participants will endeavour to—

- (a) facilitate the exchange of publicly-available expertise, knowledge and experience in the field of education;
- (b) promote cooperation in areas of interest in vocational education;
- (c) encourage the development of joint programmes with institutions of educational excellence;
- (d) promote exchanges of students, scholars and academic staff between their educational institutions; and
- (e) undertake other forms of cooperation as may be mutually determined.

Paragraph IV

Activities of cooperation and collaboration to be carried out under this Arrangement will be subject to availability of funds and resources from both Participants. Each Participant will endeavour to provide sufficient resources for the performance of such activities.

Paragraph V

In the performance of activities under this Arrangement, the Participants will respect the autonomy of higher education institutions in their jurisdictions, including in relation to admission of students.

Paragraph VI

Any differences that may arise between the Participants in the interpretation or implementation of this Arrangement will be resolved amicably through consultations and negotiations.

Paragraph VII

This Arrangement may be amended by written mutual consent of the Participants. Such amendment will come into effect on a date mutually determined by the Participants, and will not affect activities that are being performed at that time, unless the Participants mutually determine otherwise.

Paragraph VIII

- (1) This Arrangement will come into effect on signature and will remain in effect for a period of five years from the date of signature. It will thereafter be automatically renewed for successive five year periods. Either Participant may terminate this Arrangement by giving the other Participant six months' written notice.
- (2) Termination will not affect activities that are being performed at the date of termination of this Arrangement, unless the Participants mutually determine otherwise.

Signed in duplicate at Hong Kong on 13 October 2011 in the English language.

For the Education Bureau of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China For the Ministry of Education of New Zealand

Michael M Y Suen Secretary for Education Karen Sewell Chief Executive and Secretary for Education