

**THE FIFTEENTH IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM FOR
CULTURAL EXCHANGES FROM THE YEAR 2024 TO 2027
UNDER THE AGREEMENT ON CULTURAL COOPERATION
BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC
OF CHINA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA**

The Government of the People’s Republic of China and the Government of Australia (hereinafter referred to as “the Participants”), in accordance with the Agreement on Cultural Cooperation between the Government of the People’s Republic of China and the Government of Australia signed on 29 April 1981, have reached the following mutual understanding:

INTRODUCTION

The Participants reaffirm the role that cultural and arts exchanges have in fostering people-to-people ties, enhancing exchanges between the creative sectors of the two countries, and promoting mutual understanding between the two countries and their peoples.

The Participants recognise the importance of upholding the principles of access, participation, equity and inclusion in arts and

cultural exchange activities between the two countries, and considering the central role of artists' works and rights in all the exchanges.

The Participants recognise the critical role of traditional knowledges in deepening cultural understanding between the two countries, and the importance of encouraging diverse voices in arts and cultural exchanges.

1. OFFICIAL EXCHANGES

1.1 The Participants will seek to facilitate exchanges between the relevant arts and culture ministries, departments and agencies of the two countries, notably through policy dialogue, to promote and guide the implementation of cultural exchange programs.

1.2 The Participants recognise the value of exchanges across the arts, cultural, and creative sectors of the two countries.

2. CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

2.1 The Participants will encourage collaboration between cultural

institutions and organisations in the two countries, including but not limited to festivals, theatres, music venues, cultural and performing arts centres, museums, galleries, publishers and libraries, with a view to strengthening mutual understanding.

2.2 The Participants will encourage the sharing of information and best practices between cultural professionals and cultural institutions in the two countries across a broad range of mutual interests, such as audience development, public programs and exhibition management, heritage and collection conservation and preservation, as well as, for Australia, protocols for working with First Nations artists or Indigenous cultural heritage; through a variety of activities such as joint research and publications, professional exchanges, in-person visits and virtual dialogues.

2.3 The Participants acknowledge that cultural institutions, and other bodies from the two countries, play a role in promoting cultural exchange and deepening mutual understanding between the two countries, and their peoples.

3. CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING

3.1 The Participants express their will to continue fighting the illicit import and export of cultural property of the two countries, and to cooperate through international organisations and bilateral channels, in accordance with the *Memorandum of Understanding Between the State Administration of Cultural Heritage of the People's Republic of China and the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and The Arts of Australia on the Protection of Cultural Property* signed on 30 October 2009.

3.2 The Participants will encourage sharing of information, expertise and best practices, between cultural heritage professionals, institutions and organisations of the two countries, on the management and safeguarding of movable and intangible cultural heritage.

4. CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

4.1 The Participants will encourage exchanges and collaboration between creative industries in the two countries, including but not limited to literature and publishing, film, digital games, dance, music, theatre, visual arts and fashion design.

4.2 The Participants will encourage the mobility of cultural festival directors and producers, artists, and creative industries professionals and organisations of the two countries to participate in each other's festivals and events to strengthen mutual understanding and promote their respective creative industries, including through expos, fairs and other relevant in-person or virtual market development platforms.

5. LITERATURE AND PUBLISHING

5.1 The Participants will encourage exchange and cooperation between professionals and organisations from the literature and publishing sectors, including through participation in activities such as writers' festivals, conferences and industry fairs, authors' residencies, and other activities that promote literature and the translation of existing published works in the two countries.

6. FILM AND DIGITAL CONTENT

6.1 The Participants will encourage exchange of technical expertise between professionals and organisations from the film, and digital games sectors, and the sharing of information on promoting investments in these sectors, in recognition of their artistic and

cultural significance, and growing consumer base and audiences.

6.2 The Participants acknowledge the *Film Co-production Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the People's Republic of China*, and its importance as a mechanism for the development of film projects of cultural significance to both countries.

7. PERFORMING ARTS AND VISUAL ARTS

7.1 The Participants will encourage touring of performing arts such as dance, music and theatre, and of exhibitions, with a view to strengthening mutual understanding and growing local and international audiences for arts and cultural activity in the two countries.

7.2 The Participants recognise the value of artistic and technical skills exchanges between creative and cultural professionals and organisations in the two countries, including through visits, joint productions, residencies, professional placements, workshops, seminars, and dialogues.

8. OTHERS

8.1 This Implementation Program will come into effect on the day of signing and remain in effect until 31 December 2027. Either Participant may notify the other in writing of its intention to terminate this Program. This Implementation Program will terminate sixty (60) days after the receipt by the other Participant of the termination notice.

8.2 Any divergence in the interpretation and implementation of the Program will be addressed by friendly official consultation.

8.3 This Implementation Program represents the understanding reached between the Participants and does not create any legally binding rights or obligations, expressed or implied.

8.4 The Participants acknowledge that any activities undertaken in order to advance the Implementation Program will be subject to the applicable laws and regulations of each country.

This document is signed on 17 June 2024 (date), in Canberra (place)
in two originals, each in the Chinese and English languages, both
texts being equally valid.

For the Government of

Australia

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Burke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'T' and 'B'.

For the Government of the

People's Republic of China

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several stylized, overlapping strokes. It is difficult to decipher but appears to be a personal or official signature.