

No. 20784

**FRANCE
and
CHINA**

**Exchange of letters constituting an agreement concerning
the status of official Chinese foreign trade firms in
France and of French firms in China (with annex).
Paris, 24 April 1981**

Authentic texts: Chinese and French.

Registered by France on 25 February 1982.

**FRANCE
et
CHINE**

**Échange de lettres constituant un accord au sujet du statut
des sociétés de commerce extérieur chinoises en France
et des sociétés françaises en Chine (avec annexe). Paris,
24 avril 1981**

Textes authentiques : chinois et français.

Enregistré par la France le 25 février 1982.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹
BETWEEN THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF CHINA CONCERNING THE STATUS OF
OFFICIAL CHINESE FOREIGN TRADE FIRMS IN FRANCE
AND OF FRENCH FIRMS IN CHINA

I

Paris, April 1981

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the representatives of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in France and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the French Republic have agreed as follows:

China shall establish in France agencies of the China National Import and Export Corporations and the China National Technical Import Corporation with a view to developing economic and trade relations between China and France. The French Government is prepared to provide, within the limits of French legislation, the facilities required by the above-mentioned representatives to establish offices in Paris and conduct their business.

For its part, the Chinese Government is prepared, in accordance with the principle of equality and mutual benefit, and within the limits of Chinese legislation, to provide the facilities required by representatives of French corporations at Beijing to establish offices and conduct their business.

Provisions relating to the representatives of the above-mentioned corporations are to be found in the annex to this letter.

This exchange of letters shall be valid for two years, after which time it may be extended if both parties so agree.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

[Signed]

YAO GUANG
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the People's Republic of China
to the French Republic

¹ Came into force on 24 April 1981 by the exchange of the said letters.

ANNEX

1. The permanent representatives of Chinese foreign trade corporations in Paris shall be entitled to hold renewable long-term residence permits. Permanent representatives of French corporations at Beijing shall enjoy similar conditions of residence.

2. Representatives of Chinese corporations may travel freely throughout French territory within the limits of French legislation currently in force. Representatives of French companies shall enjoy the privileges granted to foreigners by the Chinese authorities within the limits of regulations regarding travel within China.

3. Representatives of Chinese corporations may, in accordance with French law, rent or purchase real property in France. Representatives of French corporations may also, in accordance with Chinese government regulations, rent premises for the conduct of their business.

4. Material conditions permitting, representatives of French corporations shall have access to the same communications facilities (telex, etc.) as the representatives of Chinese corporations.

II

FRENCH REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
Office for Asia and Oceania
The Director

Paris, 24 April 1981

Sir,

By a letter of today's date you were kind enough to transmit to me the following:

[See letter I]

On behalf of the French Government, I have the honour to agree to the foregoing.

Accept, Sir, etc.

[Signed]

JEAN-FRANÇOIS NOUVILLE

His Excellency Yao Guang
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the People's Republic of China
to the French Republic

[Annex as under letter I]