

Agreement

between

The Polar Research Institute of China (PRIC), the People's Republic of China

and

The Norwegian Polar Institute (NPI), Norway

on

Polar research cooperation

Norway and China have long scientific traditions in Polar Regions. There are great benefits to be gained from sharing and utilizing these traditions in friendship and for mutual gain. Climate change is clearly observed in the Arctic and it is a global challenge to understand the mechanisms driving and the consequences of these changes. PRIC and NPI recognize these challenges. For the stimulation of mutual knowledge development and understanding of environmental challenges in the Polar Regions PRIC and NPI agree to enter into this agreement.

PRIC and NPI agree to promote and develop common research projects. When relevant bilateral calls appear from funding agencies the two institutions agree to actively strive for common projects. During the coming years (2010-2015) priorities for such cooperation (but not restricted to) are within the areas:

- 1) Glaciology with particular attention to mass balance studies in Svalbard
- 2) Sea ice processes with particular attention to processes that influence surface albedo and climate model parameterization
- 3) The "Kongsfjorden system" flagship program in Ny-Ålesund (including ocean acidification)
- 4) Sea ice associated ecosystem studies
- 5) Paleoclimate research with particular attention on elucidating climatic teleconnections between the Arctic and Asia
- 6) Facilitate coordinated scientific cruises in the Arctic

PRIC and NPI agree to strengthen and foster communication and exchange of information in order to carry out bilateral cooperation.

PRIC and NPI agree to, within the framework of projects initiated by this agreement, symmetrically share logistic support by facilitating participation in field operations and seek for synergism through comparative studies. PRIC and NPI agree to facilitate for scientists to perform collective interpretative work of data collected in common projects.

Recognizing the two institutions roles as facilitators and coordinators of polar research in the respective countries the institutions will strive to promote cooperation between relevant institutions in other fields too in the spirit of this agreement.

Shanghai, September 9th 2010

Dr. Huigen Yang, Director
Polar Research Institute of China

Dr. Jan-Gunnar Winther, Director
Norwegian Polar Institute
