



中華民國教育部
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

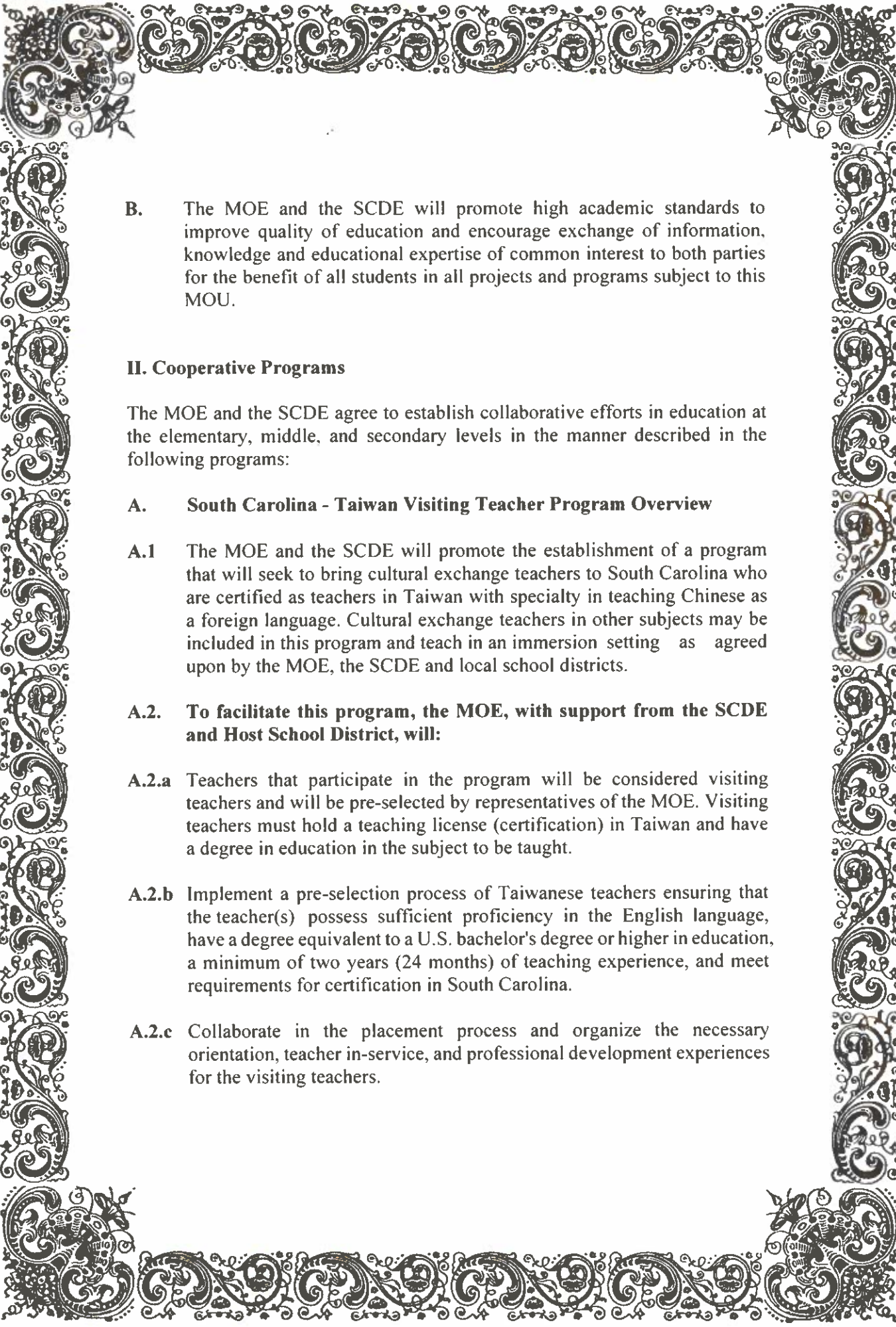


MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AND CROSS-STRAIT
EDUCATION,
THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)
AND
THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The Department of International and Cross-strait Education, Ministry of Education of the Republic of China (Taiwan) (hereafter referred to as the MOE), and the South Carolina Department of Education, United States of American (hereinafter referred to as the SCDE), agree to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding on Education, in order to contribute positively to the relationship between the Taiwan education system and South Carolina public schools in order to enhance education for our children.

I. General Principles

- A. The MOE and the SCDE establish as the general objective for the cooperative programs that will be developed under this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the improvement and expansion of the teaching of the Chinese language and culture in South Carolina, as well as the teaching of the English language and culture in Taiwan, in order to promote a lasting relationship between the people of Taiwan and the people of South Carolina; foster knowledge and appreciation of the culture shared by these two communities; and provide students who enroll in these programs with a linguistically and culturally rich education in order to better prepare them for future success in their personal, academic, and professional lives.

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- B. The MOE and the SCDE will promote high academic standards to improve quality of education and encourage exchange of information, knowledge and educational expertise of common interest to both parties for the benefit of all students in all projects and programs subject to this MOU.

II. Cooperative Programs

The MOE and the SCDE agree to establish collaborative efforts in education at the elementary, middle, and secondary levels in the manner described in the following programs:

A. South Carolina - Taiwan Visiting Teacher Program Overview

- A.1 The MOE and the SCDE will promote the establishment of a program that will seek to bring cultural exchange teachers to South Carolina who are certified as teachers in Taiwan with specialty in teaching Chinese as a foreign language. Cultural exchange teachers in other subjects may be included in this program and teach in an immersion setting as agreed upon by the MOE, the SCDE and local school districts.
- A.2. To facilitate this program, the MOE, with support from the SCDE and Host School District, will:
- A.2.a Teachers that participate in the program will be considered visiting teachers and will be pre-selected by representatives of the MOE. Visiting teachers must hold a teaching license (certification) in Taiwan and have a degree in education in the subject to be taught.
- A.2.b Implement a pre-selection process of Taiwanese teachers ensuring that the teacher(s) possess sufficient proficiency in the English language, have a degree equivalent to a U.S. bachelor's degree or higher in education, a minimum of two years (24 months) of teaching experience, and meet requirements for certification in South Carolina.
- A.2.c Collaborate in the placement process and organize the necessary orientation, teacher in-service, and professional development experiences for the visiting teachers.

A.2.d The MOE and the SCDE will negotiate the necessary assistance to sponsor officials representing the SCDE during selection of teachers in Taiwan if required.

A.2.e Prepare and implement training orientations for the visiting teachers, and ensure that the visiting teachers have secured an insurance policy to cover them for sickness and/or accidents during their time in South Carolina prior to employment. It is the responsibility of the visiting teacher to verify that they have insurance that meets this requirement; the MOE, SCDE, and Host District will not provide insurance to cover the time prior to employment. Teachers are required to have medical insurance coverage with the following minimum benefits, as required by the United States Department of State regulations:

- Medical benefits of at least \$100,000 per accident or illness;
- Repatriation of remains in the amount of \$25,000;
- Expenses associated with the medical evacuation of the visiting teacher to the home country in the amount of \$50,000; and
- A deductible not to exceed \$500 per accident or illness.

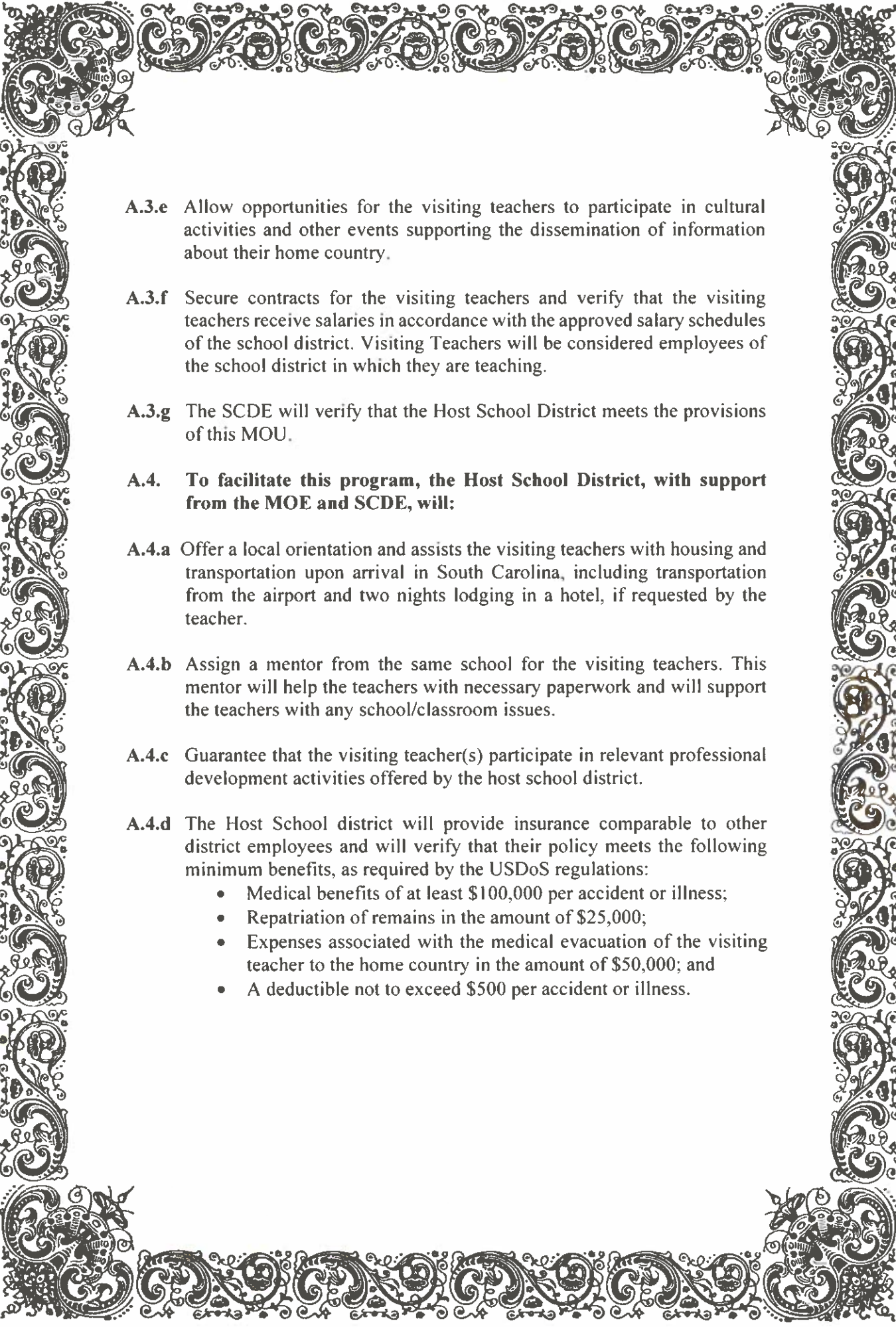
A.3. To facilitate this program, the SCDE, with support from the MOE and Host School District, will:

A.3.a Sponsor visiting teachers for J-1 visa status for a minimum period of one year, renewable for a maximum of three years. The SCDE will provide the necessary immigration documents required by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. The SCDE will not be responsible for travel expenses to and from South Carolina.

A.3.b Survey the school districts each academic year in order to determine the number of Visiting Teachers from Taiwan that may be placed in school districts throughout the state.

A.3.c Designate personnel who will determine the qualifications of visiting teachers from Taiwan for assignment for teaching positions that may be available. The designated personnel will assist in the on-site recruitment and selection process in Taiwan as needed.

A.3.d Provide an orientation for the visiting teachers upon their arrival and before the start of the school year.



A.3.e Allow opportunities for the visiting teachers to participate in cultural activities and other events supporting the dissemination of information about their home country.

A.3.f Secure contracts for the visiting teachers and verify that the visiting teachers receive salaries in accordance with the approved salary schedules of the school district. Visiting Teachers will be considered employees of the school district in which they are teaching.

A.3.g The SCDE will verify that the Host School District meets the provisions of this MOU.

A.4. To facilitate this program, the Host School District, with support from the MOE and SCDE, will:

A.4.a Offer a local orientation and assists the visiting teachers with housing and transportation upon arrival in South Carolina, including transportation from the airport and two nights lodging in a hotel, if requested by the teacher.

A.4.b Assign a mentor from the same school for the visiting teachers. This mentor will help the teachers with necessary paperwork and will support the teachers with any school/classroom issues.

A.4.c Guarantee that the visiting teacher(s) participate in relevant professional development activities offered by the host school district.

A.4.d The Host School district will provide insurance comparable to other district employees and will verify that their policy meets the following minimum benefits, as required by the USDoS regulations:

- Medical benefits of at least \$100,000 per accident or illness;
- Repatriation of remains in the amount of \$25,000;
- Expenses associated with the medical evacuation of the visiting teacher to the home country in the amount of \$50,000; and
- A deductible not to exceed \$500 per accident or illness.

B. School to School Activities

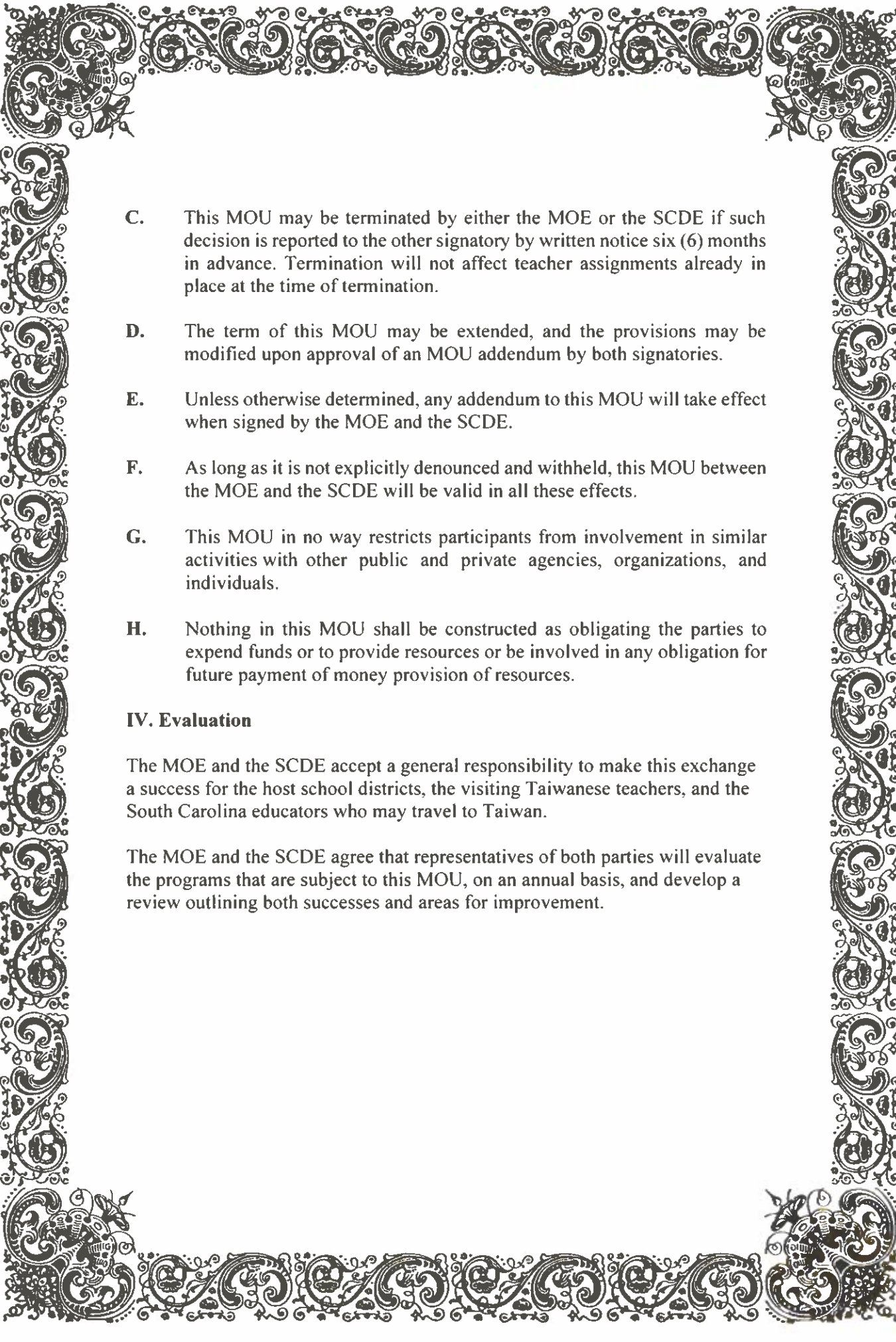
- B.1** The MOE and the SCDE will assist in developing a process to connect schools (sister schools) through the use of internet and other means to encourage a lasting relationship between schools in Taiwan and South Carolina, foster knowledge and appreciation of the culture and language in these communities and provide students with a culturally rich educational experience.
- B.2** The MOE and the SCDE will encourage educational and academic exchanges between schools for students, pedagogical projects, teaching materials, or other activities.

C. Sharing of Educational Programs and Materials

- C.1** The MOE and the SCDE agree to promote collaboration in sharing of programs, materials, and ideas in education for the mutual benefit of students, teachers, and administrators in Taiwan and South Carolina. Encourage teachers and administrators to participate in seminars, methodology, or other fields of interests by means of new technology, visiting presenters, or attending conferences.
- C.2** Encourage exchange of information, knowledge, and educational expertise of common interest to both parties; promote reflection on themes jointly chosen for further study and development. Activities can be developed by forming study groups, use of technology, or holding conferences.

III. Terms of the Memorandum of Understanding

- A.** The intent of this MOU is to set forth the general understanding of the parties. This MOU does not create a binding contract. Nothing in this MOU is to be construed as creating a legal obligation or right for either party. Both parties agree that no legal action can be brought in an attempt to enforce any provision of this MOU.
- B.** The MOU shall come into force on the date of the last signature by both parties and the initial term of this MOU will be five (5) years, beginning 2025 and extending until 2030.

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- C. This MOU may be terminated by either the MOE or the SCDE if such decision is reported to the other signatory by written notice six (6) months in advance. Termination will not affect teacher assignments already in place at the time of termination.
 - D. The term of this MOU may be extended, and the provisions may be modified upon approval of an MOU addendum by both signatories.
 - E. Unless otherwise determined, any addendum to this MOU will take effect when signed by the MOE and the SCDE.
 - F. As long as it is not explicitly denounced and withheld, this MOU between the MOE and the SCDE will be valid in all these effects.
 - G. This MOU in no way restricts participants from involvement in similar activities with other public and private agencies, organizations, and individuals.
 - H. Nothing in this MOU shall be constructed as obligating the parties to expend funds or to provide resources or be involved in any obligation for future payment of money provision of resources.

IV. Evaluation

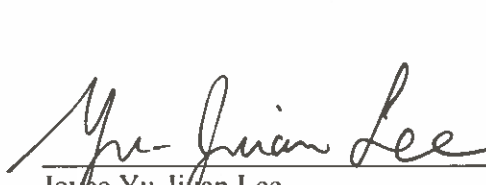
The MOE and the SCDE accept a general responsibility to make this exchange a success for the host school districts, the visiting Taiwanese teachers, and the South Carolina educators who may travel to Taiwan.

The MOE and the SCDE agree that representatives of both parties will evaluate the programs that are subject to this MOU, on an annual basis, and develop a review outlining both successes and areas for improvement.

This MOU is signed in English and is equally valid in the Republic of China (Taiwan) and in the State of South Carolina.

For the Department of International
and Cross-strait Education,
Ministry of Education,
Republic of China (Taiwan)

For South Carolina Department of
Education,
State of South Carolina,
United States of America


Joyce Yu-Jiuan Lee
Director General


Ellen Weaver
Superintendent

9/26/2025
Date

9/26/2025
Date

Taipei, Taiwan
Location

Taipei, Taiwan
Location