Memorandum of Understanding on Anti-Monopoly Cooperation between the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China and the Federal Antimonopoly Service (Russian Federation)

The Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China (MOFCOM) and the Federal Antimonopoly Service (Russian Federation) (FAS Russia) (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"),

*Recognizing* the value and importance of mutual co-operation in the effective implementation of competition law and policy in respective countries,

Aiming at the creation of favourable conditions for the development of bilateral relations, based on the principles of equality and mutual benefit,

Reached an understanding on the following:

## Paragraph 1 Purpose of Cooperation

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to further enhance partnership working relationship between the Parties by establishing a general framework for bilateral cooperation.

### Paragraph 2 Scope of Cooperation

The Parties will cooperate in the following areas, subject to the laws of the respective countries:

- 1) Exchange of information on the legislation and enforcement in the field of competition policy;
- 2) Suggestions to the drafting of competition regulations and provisions;
- 3) Exchange of experience on the effective implementation of competition law when necessary for both sides;
- 4) Exchange of experience on the interaction between the Parties and other government agencies;
- 5) Exchange of experience in capacity building of the Parties;
- 6) Exchange of opinions on international cooperation over multilateral competition law and policy issues.

# **Paragraph 3** Format of Cooperation

The Parties will meet at least once every year in Russia and China alternately to exchange the latest information on competition law and policy, and to exchange opinions over issues of common interest.

The Parties will cooperate on different levels and in different forms, including bilateral dialogue, symposiums, and training seminars.

### **Paragraph 4 Cost and Expenses**

This Memorandum of Understanding does not entail any obligation on either Party concerning the sharing of administrative expenses.

Concerning visits and meetings, the Parties agree to the following principle: the host Party will arrange for the conference venue, and cover all related expenses. All other expenses, including international and intercity travel expenses, as well as meals and accommodation shall be covered by the visiting Party.

For the purpose of better coordination, the visits of the respective local branches of the Parties will be arranged through the Parties.

### **Paragraph 5 Confidentiality**

It is understood that either Party does not intend to communicate information to the other Party if such communication is prohibited by the laws governing the Party possessing the information, or would lead to conflict of interest.

Subject to complying with any relevant legal requirements and unless otherwise agreed by the other Party in advance,, each Party will keep the information provided by the other according to this Memorandum of Understanding confidential.

### **Paragraph 6 Resolution of Disputes**

The Parties will resolve any discrepancies or disputes arising out of the interpretation or application of this Memorandum of Understanding through consultations.

### Paragraph 7 Legal Effect

This Memorandum of Understanding is not legally binding, and does not affect the rights and obligations of either Party under existing agreements or memorandums.

## **Paragraph 8 Entry into Force and Termination**

This Memorandum shall not be considered as an international treaty and it does not establish any rights or obligations created by the international laws.

This Memorandum of Understanding will be applied from the date of signature. Either Party may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other Participant.

Signed on 13.10.2014 in Moscow in duplicate in Chinese and Russian, both texts being equally valid.

For the Ministry of Commerce of For the Federal Antimonopoly the People's Republic of China Service (Russian Federation)