

AGREEMENT

on Cooperation and Interaction of the Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization on Border Issues

Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, hereinafter referred to as the Parties,

Guided by the provisions of the Agreement on Cooperation in Identifying and Blocking the Channels of Entry into the Territory of the Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization of the Persons Involved in Terrorist, Separatist and Extremist Activities of June 15, 2006,

Guided by national legislation and universally recognized principles and norms of international law,

In order to strengthen cooperation and interaction in the field of protecting state borders and ensuring security in the border regions of the Parties,

Based on the mutual interest in taking effective measures to counter threats in the area of border protection,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

For the purposes of this Agreement the applicable terms shall mean:

"Border activities" - activities by the competent authorities of the Parties carried out in accordance with national legislation on protection of the state border and its crossing by individuals, vehicles, goods, animals and plants;

"Border area" - territory of each of the Parties adjacent to the state border, boundary rivers, lakes and other bodies of water, sea coast, where according to the legislation of the Parties border activities are implemented, as well as the territory of the state border checkpoints.

Article 2

The competent authorities of the Parties responsible for the implementation of this Agreement (hereinafter - the competent authorities) shall be:

the National Security Committee of the Republic of Kazakhstan representing the Republic of Kazakhstan;

the Ministry of Public Security of the People's Republic of China representing the People's Republic of China;

the State Border Service of the Kyrgyz Republic representing the Kyrgyz Republic;

the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation representing the Russian Federation;

the State Committee of National Security of the Republic of Tajikistan representing the Republic of Tajikistan;

the National Security Service of the Republic of Uzbekistan representing the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The Parties shall immediately notify the Depositary of changes of their competent authorities.

The Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization shall coordinate cooperation and interaction between the competent authorities of the Parties.

Article 3

Taking into account the mutual interests and on the basis of national legislation, generally recognized principles and norms of international law, the Parties shall cooperate and interact in order to:

- ensure security of the Parties in the border areas;
- strengthen the capacity of the competent authorities of the Parties in the field of the state border protection;
- coordinate the efforts of the competent authorities of the Parties in detection, prevention and suppression of illegal activities at the state borders;

- combat terrorism, extremism and separatism, illicit trafficking in weapons, ammunition, explosives and poisonous substances, radioactive materials, narcotics, psychotropic substances and precursors, illegal migration and other transnational crime in the border area;
- improve the legal framework of the Parties on border issues.

Article 4

The cooperation and interaction in the framework of this Agreement shall be carried out in the following areas:

- planning and implementing coordinated border activities;
- exchanging information;
- training, retraining and advanced training of the competent authorities personnel in accordance with international treaties;
- other activities of the competent authorities that are of mutual interest and not contrary to the national law of the Parties.

Article 5

The cooperation and interaction in the framework of this Agreement shall be carried out in the following formats:

- implementing coordinated activities by the competent authorities of the Parties in their border areas;
- exchanging information on situation in the border area, *inter alia*, on violations of the state border under preparation or already committed, as well as other information on illegal activities in the border area;
- exchanging experience in securing the state border and state border checkpoints regime;
- exchanging legislative and other legal acts, including samples documents of each Party certifying the right of entry (exit) into (from) the territory of the state, methodological recommendations on combating border threats;
- holding meetings, conferences, seminars and other working meetings.

Article 6

Meetings of the heads of the competent authorities of the Parties or their deputies on border issues shall be held to coordinate the implementation of this Agreement.

These meetings shall be held at least once a year chaired by the Party presiding in the Council of the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

Extraordinary meetings may be convened initiated by the competent authority of one of the Parties.

Between the meetings, working meetings of the experts of the competent authorities of the Parties shall be held, if necessary.

The competent authorities of the Parties will determine authorized units and communication methods for prompt interaction and inform the Executive Committee of the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization accordingly.

Article 7

Information exchange under this Agreement shall be carried out through the Executive Committee of the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

Meeting of chiefs and experts of the competent authorities of the Parties, business correspondence, and technical means of communication shall be used for exchanging information.

Information received in the course of implementation of this Agreement cannot be transferred to a third party without the written consent of the competent authority from which it was obtained.

The degree of the information secrecy shall be determined by the competent authority of the transmitting Party.

Classified information under this Agreement shall be transmitted and protected in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement on Protecting Classified Information in the Framework of the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization of June 17, 2004.

Article 8

Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, the costs associated with the implementation of this Agreement shall be borne by the Parties individually.

Article 9

Disputes and disagreements arising from the interpretation and/or application of the provisions of this Agreement shall be resolved through consultations and negotiations.

Article 10

In the implementation of cooperation under this Agreement, the Parties shall use Chinese and Russian as the working languages.

Article 11

By agreement of the Parties, this Agreement may be amended by concluding separate protocols.

Article 12

The Secretariat of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization shall be the Depository of this Agreement that shall send a certified copy thereof to the Parties.

Article 13

This Agreement, concluded for an indefinite period, shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of receipt by the Depository of the fourth written notification of completion by the Parties of internal procedures necessary for its entry into force.

For the Parties - signatories of this Agreement that completed the necessary internal procedures subsequently, this Agreement shall enter into force on the date of receipt by the Depositary of their respective notifications.

Each Party may withdraw from this Agreement by forwarding a written notification to the Depositary not later than six months before the intended date of withdrawal. The Depositary shall notify the other Parties of this intention within 30 days from the date of the receipt of such notice of withdrawal.

Withdrawal of a Party from this Agreement shall not affect its rights and obligations arising from the implementation of this Agreement.

Article 14

Following its entry into force, this Agreement shall be open to accession by any Member State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

For the acceding State, this Agreement shall enter into force 30 days after the date of receipt by the Depositary of its instrument of accession.

The Depositary shall notify the Parties of the date of this Agreement entry into force for the acceding State.

Done at the city of Ufa, on July 10, 2015, in a single original, in the Russian and Chinese languages, both texts being equally authentic.

Signatures