



The First BRLC General Assembly

CONFERENCE MATERIALS

2018年12月

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Background to the Foundation of BRLC

More than 2,000 years ago, Zhang Qian made two diplomatic missions to the Western Regions during the Western Han Dynasty, which initiated contact between China and western countries, thus creating the ancient commercial trade route linking Asia, Africa, and Europe - the Silk Road. The New Era has given the Silk Road a new mission. In 2013, Chinese President Xi Jinping put forward the "The Belt and Road Initiative", which aims to cater mutually to each other's development needs, to complement each other's strengths, and to promote common development through strengthening international cooperation. Over the past five years, the cooperation between China and the countries and regions along the Belt and Road has borne fruit, from initiatives to practices, from distribution to expansion. Its influence has spread rapidly around the world. The Belt and Road initiative is gaining recognition, support, and participation from more and more countries and regions.

Hangzhou has a long history of more than 2,000 years. It was once the capital of the state of Wuyue and the capital of the Southern Song dynasty. It was honoured as "the most beautiful and luxurious heavenly city in the world" by the Italian traveller Marco Polo in the 13th century. The opening of the Beijing-Hangzhou Grand Canal has made the city an important node in "the Belt and Road", connecting the Maritime Silk Road and the Land Silk Road. In recent years, the rapid development of E-commerce has made Hangzhou an important hub of the "Online Silk Road". Now, as a famous historical and cultural city, as well as a city full of vitality and innovation, Hangzhou is constantly improving its international reputation and striding forward towards building a multifaceted "world famous city".

Hangzhou joined UCLG in 1998, before becoming a Council Member of UCLG in 2016, it then joined the Board of Directors of World Association of Major Metropolises in 2017, and became a member of the Asia-Pacific Executive Bureau and Council Member of UCLG in 2018. Hangzhou has unique advantages in its great influence and the role in international organizations. With the development of economic globalization, social informatization and cultural civilization, Hangzhou, based on its own advantages, focuses on human's good wishes of happy lives, and makes a sharing platform, an innovative cooperation system as well as emotional bonds with local governments globally for win-win development. Therefore, in April 2017, the People's Government of Hangzhou and the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries jointly proposed the establishment of the BRLC at the UCLG ASPAC Executive Bureau Meeting held in Catbalogan, the Philippines, and received unanimous approval. On May 14, 2017, the BRLC was officially established during the first Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation. The secretariat of BRLC was located in Hangzhou.

Since its establishment, BRLC has been widely recruiting global member cities and institutions, by organizing a series of activities of various forms with rich content. BRLC plays a positive role in the construction of "Belt and Road Initiative" by promoting and encouraging local governments' participation in the "Belt and Road Initiative Cooperation", thus becoming a win-win cooperation platform for the member countries to share experience and resources.



THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UCLG-ASPAC COMMITTEE ON THE BELT AND ROAD LOCAL COOPERATION (Draft for Deliberation)

CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

By the present Constitution, a non-profit committee is hereby formed. Its name shall be the UCLG-ASPAC Committee on the Belt and Road Local Cooperation (henceforth referred to as 'BRLC').

Article 2

The proposal of setting up BRLC, within the framework of the World Organization of United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific Regional Section (henceforth referred to as 'UCLG ASPAC'), was jointly initiated by the Hangzhou Municipal Government and the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries. It was approved at the UCLG ASPAC Executive Bureau Meeting in April, 2017 and was inaugurated at the first Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in Beijing on May 14th of the same year.

Article 3

BRLC shall be a non-profit international organization, governed by the Constitution and the law of the People's Republic of China. Its legal seat shall be based in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, China.

CHAPTER II MISSION

Article 4

The mission of BRLC are:
openness, cooperation, shared benefits and win-win outcomes.

Article 5

BRLC, based within the framework of UCLG ASPAC, is to be committed to integrating the Belt and Road Initiative to various and practical programs and activities of exchanges and cooperation among local governments, and to the building of a platform for cooperation in order to share experience and resources in various fields of economic development, culture, and education as well as both urban and rural governance, for mutual benefits and win-win outcomes.

Article 6

BRLC is to make extensive use of social resources, integrating the efforts from all sides and organizing several working groups, as the case may be, for international exchanges and cooperation, based on a BRLC-dominated, all-sides-involved working pattern.

CHAPTER III MEMBERSHIP

Article 7

The membership of BRLC shall consist of the following categories: Members of UCLG from different sections; Local governments or relevant organizations along the Belt and Road; Sister cities of Hangzhou; Friendly exchanges cities; Other local governments and relevant organizations willing to join BRLC.

Members who have joined BRLC before the first General Assembly are regarded as founding members.



Article 8

Members shall comply with the following requirements:

- a. To join BRLC with the principle of voluntariness;
- b. To support the Constitution of BRLC;
- c. To actively participate in the various activities of BRLC;
- d. For Cities: To possess administrative management organizations;
- e. For Local Government Alliances and International Associations for Friendship: To possess decision-making organizations;
- f. To have the capacity of fulfilling the obligations confirmed by the Council of BRLC.

Article 9

Admission Process:

- a. Application letters or application forms for membership proposed by the top decision-making organizations shall be submitted to the Secretariat of BRLC; They shall be referred to BRLC Council Meetings for deliberation and decided by a simple majority of the votes cast by the Council members or their named delegates in attendance; In between ordinary meetings, cities or organizations which meet the relevant requirements for membership shall be admitted, provided that application letters or application forms have been submitted to the Secretary General and have been decided by Council members.
- b. Local governments or organizations which are not members of BRLC decided by the Council, but have submitted application letters or forms for membership shall be entitled to participate in all activities of BRLC as observers, but they shall not have the right to vote or to stand for selection, nor the voting rights in these activities.

Article 10

Members shall be entitled to the following rights:

- a. To have rights to vote for and to be elected as BRLC Council members;
- b. To have voting rights in relevant resolutions of BRLC;
- c. To participate in the various activities of BRLC;
- d. To have equal access to information and resources shared by BRLC.

Article 11

Members shall fulfill the following obligations:

- a. To adhere to the Constitution of BRLC;
- b. To implement the resolutions of BRLC;
- c. To actively participate in the various activities of BRLC;
- d. To support the work of BRLC.

Article 12

A member is liable to exclusion or suspension:

If it decides to exclude itself of its own accord, a written application for exclusion shall be submitted to the Secretariat of BRLC and be decided by the Council; If, without justifiable reasons, it has not participated in any activities of BRLC for five years in a row, it will be excluded automatically; If, with the deliberation of the Council, it breaches the obligations and principles set out in this Constitution or performs serious undue behaviors, it will be excluded and suspended.



CHAPTER IV GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Article 13

The Presidency comprises two Presidents, assumed by the Mayor of Hangzhou and the Chairman of Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries; Five Co-Presidents are assumed by a Mayor of one of the member cities of UCLG ASPAC, two Mayors of two member cities of UCLG (other sections), a Mayor of one of the Chinese member cities of BRLC, and a Chairman of one of the foreign associations or organizations of BRLC; One Executive President is assumed by the Vice Mayor of Hangzhou who is responsible for foreign affairs. The term of the Presidency shall coincide with the period between ordinary General Assemblies.

Article 14

Roles of Presidents, Co-Presidents and the Executive President:

- a. The Presidents shall convene and preside over the Council Meetings and be entitled to assign delegates to represent them at statutory meetings;
- b. The Presidents shall examine the implementation of the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Council;
- c. The Presidents shall call or assign delegates to call extraordinary sessions between ordinary meetings, in the case of serious emergencies, to make decisions on behalf of the Council.
- d. Co-Presidents shall assist Presidents and the Executive President shall guide and be responsible for the routine work of BRLC.

Article 15 ADVISORS

BRLC shall invite officials of UCLG, local governments, colleges and universities and other organizations, experts, and celebrities to assume the roles of advisors, which shall be nominated by the Secretariat and decided upon by the Council.

Article 16

The General Assembly is the supreme organ of BRLC. It shall be convened every five years. In the event of special cases, the convening before or after the due date shall be decided by the Council. All active members are entitled to participate in the sessions. Decisions of the General Assembly shall be decided by a simple majority of the votes cast by the members or their named delegates in attendance and shall be implemented under the Council's oversight.

Article 17 Roles of the General Assembly:

- a. to adopt and amend the Constitution;
- b. to elect and dismiss Council members;
- c. to discuss and decide on the work plan of BRLC;
- d. to deliberate the work report of the Council, etc.;
- e. to decide on terminations or major issues.



Article 18

The Council is the supreme decision-making organ of BRLC. It shall comprise the following 25 members: The Presidents, the Co-Presidents, the Executive President, the Secretary General of BRLC, member cities of UCLG ASPAC; member cities of UCLG (other sections), foreign members and Chinese members. The candidates of Council members shall be recommended by the Secretariat of BRLC and be approved by the General Assembly. The term of the Council shall be five years, and its function will terminate at the date of the election of the next General Assembly. Members are entitled to be reelected and reappointed and have the right to resign of their own accord during the term.

Article 19

The council shall meet every two years, as convened by the Presidents. All members are entitled to participate in the sessions. If they are absent for some reason, they shall assign delegates in their stead to represent them in the sessions. Extraordinary meetings shall be called provisionally at the request of the Presidents or at least one third of its members, in accordance with the work demands of the Council. They may be convened online in special cases. Resolutions decided by the Council shall be implemented by the Secretariat.

Article 20 Roles of the Council:

- a. to arrange and convene the General Assembly, and to decide on calling the sessions before or after the due date, if necessary;
- b. to present work reports to the General Assembly;
- c. to decide on applications, exclusions, cancellations and suspensions of membership;
- d. to appoint and dismiss the leaders of working groups;
- e. to decide on the candidates of the Advisors, etc.;
- f. to deliberate the work plan of the Committee;
- g. to deliberate and decide on the candidate of the Vice Secretary General;
- h. to discuss and decide on the relevant major issues and events;
- i. to supervise the implementation of resolutions of the General Assembly.

Article 21

The Secretariat is a permanent organ under the Council. It shall comprise the Secretary General, assumed by the Director of the Hangzhou Municipal Foreign and Overseas Chinese Affairs Office; the Vice Secretary General, nominated by the Secretary General and approved by the Council.



Article 22

Roles of the Secretariat:

- a. to suggest the formulation and revision of the Constitution;
- b. to be responsible for the routine work of BRLC;
- c. to implement the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Council;
- d. to formulate the work plan of BRLC and implement it after the deliberation of the Council;
- e. to arrange the Council meetings and the General Assembly;
- f. to direct the activities of working groups;
- g. to select partners in accordance with the work demands;
- h. to liaison with and provide consultation and services for the members, the advisors, and the partners;
- i. to report its work back to UCLG ASPAC on a regular basis.

Article 23

Roles of the Secretary General:

- a. to be responsible for the routine work of the Secretariat;
- b. to decide on the major issues of the Secretariat;
- c. to nominate the candidates of the Vice Secretary General to assist the work of the Secretary General;
- d. to decide on the appointment, promotion, and dismissal of full-time staff;
- e. to attend relevant meetings or assume relevant duties entrusted by the President in accordance with work demands.

Article 24 THE WORKING GROUP

In accordance with work demands, BRLC will set up several working groups headed by leading member cities or organizations, which shall be decided by the Council.

Article 25 PARTNERSHIP

Relevant corporations and institutions shall be admitted as partners of BRLC to participate in various activities and programs for win-win development.

CHAPTER V FINANCES

Article 26

BRLC shall derive its finances from:

- a. Governments grants;
- b. Social donations.

Article 27

Finances shall be managed and utilized in accordance with the relevant regulations for the development of the scope of business and the undertakings regulated in the Constitution.

CHAPTER VI EMBLEM

Article 28

The emblem is composed of two silk ribbons, the symbolic figure of the Three Pools Mirroring the Moon (one of the most famous scenic spots of the West Lake), BRLC (short for the Belt and Road Local Cooperation) and UCLG-ASPAC (short for the United Cities and Local Governments-Asian and Pacific Section). The two silk ribbons symbolize the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road respectively; the three overlapped spots, the symbolic figure of the Three Pools Mirroring the Moon, represents Hangzhou. The emblem adopts two color schemes: in the colored version, blue, red, yellow and green symbolize the diversified races and cultures of the countries along the Belt and Road; in the monochromatic version, blue symbolizes the Maritime Silk Road.



CHAPTER VII APPENDIX

Article 29

The official languages of BRLC shall be Chinese and English.

Article 30

The termination of BRLC shall be suggested by the Secretariat and decided upon by the General Assembly.

Article 31

Matters not covered by the conditions set out in the Constitution shall be carried out in accordance with the law of the People's Republic of China.

Article 32

The Secretariat reserves the Right of Interpretation over the Constitution.

Article 33

The Constitution shall take effect after being approved by the General Assembly.

List of President, Co-President, Executive President and Secretary-General of BRLC

President:

Li Xiaolin: Chairman of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries

Xu Liyi: Mayor of Hangzhou Municipal People's Government

Co-President:

Kyösti Oikarinen: Political Mayor, City of Oulu, Finland

Mike Vincent Nerkust Mayor of Paramaribo, Suriname

Sinlavong Khoutphaythoune: Mayor of Vientiane, Laos

Zhou Xianwang: Mayor of Wuhan, China

Maria Moreni: President of Italy-China Friendship Association

Executive President:

Chen Weiqiang: Deputy Mayor of Hangzhou Municipal People's Government

Secretary-General:

Dong Zude: Director of Foreign Affairs and Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of Hangzhou Municipal People's Government



List of Founding Members of UCLG-ASPAC Committee on the Belt and Road Local Cooperation

1. Asia

The Chinese People's Association For Friendship With Foreign Countries, China	中国, 中国人民对外友好协会
Hangzhou, China	中国, 杭州市
Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka	斯里兰卡, 阿努达普拉市政议会
Baguio, the Philippines	菲律宾, 碧瑶市
Bangkok, Thailand	泰国, 曼谷大都市管理局
Beijing, China	中国, 北京市
Buk-gu district, Daegu, Republic of Korea	韩国, 大邱广域市北区厅
Catbalogan, the Philippines	菲律宾, 卡巴洛甘市
Changchun, China	中国, 长春市
Changsha, China	中国, 长沙市
Chongqing, China	中国, 重庆市
Daegu, Republic of Korea	韩国, 大邱市
Fuzhou, China	中国, 福州市
Gaumukhi Rural Municipality, Nepal	尼泊尔, 噶慕柯市
Guangzhou, China	中国, 广州市
Guri City, Republic of Korea	韩国, 九里市
Hatuwagadhi Rural Municipality, Nepal	尼泊尔, 哈图瓦噶地市
Jilin, China	中国, 吉林市
Jinan, China	中国, 济南市
Kirtipur, Nepal	尼泊尔, 吉尔蒂布尔市
Marsyangdi Rural Municipality, Nepal	尼泊尔, 玛斯杨迪市
Medan, Indonesia	印尼, 棉兰市
Nanning, China	中国, 南宁市
Quzhou, China	中国, 衢州市
Siping, China	中国, 四平市
Sunkoshi Rural Municipality, Nepal	尼泊尔, 松柯溪市
Vientiane Capital City, Laos	老挝, 万象市

Wuhan, China	中国, 武汉市
Xiamen, China	中国, 厦门市
Yiwu, China	中国, 义乌市
Zhengzhou, China	中国, 郑州市
Bangladesh Municipal Association, Bengal	孟加拉, 地方政府联盟
China-Japan Innovation Exchange Association, Japan	日本, 日中创新交流协会
Gifu China-Japan Cultural Exchange Association, Japan	日本, 岐阜日中文化交流协会
Local Council Association of Punjab, Pakistan	巴基斯坦, 旁遮省地方政府协会
Malaysia-China Friendship Association, Malaysia	马来西亚, 马中友好协会
Maldives Local Government Association, Maldives	马尔代夫, 地府政府协会
NARMIN, Nepal	尼泊尔, 国家乡村发展委员会
Sri Lanka-China Society, Sri Lanka	斯里兰卡, 斯中友好协会
Sri Lanka Local Government Association, Sri Lanka	斯里兰卡, 地方政府联盟
The Republic of Kiribati Local Government Association, The Republic of Kiribati	基里巴斯共和国, 基里巴斯地方政府协会

2. Europe

City of Oulu, Finland	芬兰, 奥卢市
City of Split, Croatia	克罗地亚, 斯普利特市
Comune di Carpenedolo, Italy	意大利, 卡尔佩内多洛市
Heidelberg, Germany	德国, 海德堡市
Kazan, Russia	俄罗斯, 喀山市
Limerick, Ireland	爱尔兰, 利默里克市
Lugano, Switzerland	瑞士, 卢加诺市
Maribor, Slovenia	斯洛文尼亚, 马里博尔市
Montichiari, Italy	意大利, 蒙地基亚里市
Orzinuovi, Italy	意大利, 奥奇诺维市
Oulu Region, Finland	芬兰, 奥卢大区
The Hague, Holland	荷兰, 海牙市
Istituto Italiano OBOR, Italy	意大利, 意大利一带一路研究机构
Italy-China Link Association, Italy	意大利, 意中友协
The Smart City Association, Italy	意大利, 智慧城市联盟



3. Oceania

New Zealand Belt and Road Association, New Zealand

新西兰，新西兰一带一路促进会

4. Africa

Ajeromi-Ifeleodun, Nigeria

尼日利亚，拉各斯州艾瑞诺米地方政府

Rivers State, Nigeria

尼日利亚，河流州外联部

China-Africa Business Council

中非民间商会

LAFODAP, Nigeria

尼日利亚，爱与政党基金会

5. Latin America

Curitiba, Brazil

巴西，库里蒂巴市

La Paz, Bolivia

玻利维亚，拉波兹市

Paramaribo, Suriname

苏里南，帕拉马里博市

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

巴西，里约热内卢市

Wanica, Suriname

苏里南，瓦尼卡市

List of Council Members of BRLC

President:

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Zhou Xianwang: Mayor of Wuhan, China

Maria Moreni: President of Italy-China Friendship Association

Executive President:

Chen Weiqiang: Deputy Mayor of Hangzhou Municipal People's Government

Secretary-General:

Dong Zude: Director of Foreign Affairs and Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of Hangzhou Municipal Government



Other Members of the Council:

Asian Region

Catbalogan, the Philippines

Changchun, China

Changsha, China

Daegu, South Korea

Medan, Indonesia

Yiwu, China

Malaysia-China Friendship Association, Malaysia

NARMIN, Nepal

Sri Lanka-China Society, Sri Lanka

European Region

Heidelberg, Germany

City of Split, Croatia

Kazan, Russia

Limerick, Ireland

Oceania Region

New Zealand the Belt and Road Association, New Zealand

Latin America Region

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

African Region

Ajeromi Ifelodun, Nigeria

Consultants & Partners of BRLC

Consultants

Secretary General of UCLG

Emelia

Secretary General of UCLG ASPAC

Bernadia

Ambassador of UCLG

Peter Woods

Vice President of Zhejiang University Development Committee,

Director and Chief Expert of the Research Center for Regional Coordination

Development, Dean of China Academy of West Region Development

Zhou Guping

Partners:

Zhejiang University

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