

A Letter of Intent to Cooperate between Čierny Hron Forestry Railway and Alishan Forest Railway

Čiernohronská lesná železnica and Forestry Bureau, Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan, the Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as 'the Parties').

Railway construction in the 19th and 20th centuries gave mankind a new experience in transport, while railways within the territories of the Parties played important roles in the process of social and economic development. To protect and preserve this important cultural heritage, the Parties hereby agree to exchange information and experience in management, experience and expertise.

The Parties express profound interest in the protection, preservation, management and sustainable use of the cultural heritage of railways and intend to build on and share their experience in preserving this heritage. This will include developing innovative approaches to preserve and enhance the value of cultural heritage and developing appropriate preservation tools and management systems. The Parties are determined to pursue actions to ensure the sustainable development of the railways and their surrounding environment.

The Parties hereby agree as follows:

Article 1

1. While conforming to the respective laws and regulations of their respective countries regarding heritage railways, the Parties shall cooperate and exchange information on the protection, preservation, management and sustainable use of railway heritage through:
 - (1) Knowledge and information sharing;
 - (2) Implementation of bilateral exchange programs;
 - (3) Exchange of information pertaining to technical cooperation and exchange;
 - (4) Exchange of information and best practice in training and building professional capacity; and
 - (5) Enhancement of communication with local communities in order to raise awareness of the importance of preserving cultural assets.
2. In conformity with respective laws and regulations regarding heritage railways, the Parties shall exchange their knowledge, experience and best practice to promote regional planning, landscape conservation and community development, including:
 - (1) Sharing experience and knowledge of protection and management of heritage railways and in the formulation of special projects for the management of heritage railway sites;
 - (2) Taking appropriate steps to preserve railway heritage, including rolling stock, infrastructure, movable objects, documentary evidence, landscape and intangible heritage; and
 - (3) Promoting the importance of the sustainable use of railway heritage in both heritage preservation and economic development.
3. The Parties shall encourage the participation of academia, industry and business as well as other groups in order to increase the opportunities for cooperation.

Article 2

The Parties agree to devise individual plans based on the contents of this Letter of Intent to ensure fulfilment of its objectives.

Article 3

1. The respective Parties shall cover their respective expenses incurred in undertaking mutually agreed co-operative activities
2. This Letter of Intent shall not apply to any mandatory or routine financial contributions. If they see fit, and subject to separate agreement, the Parties may make donations to help promote the activities referred to in this Letter.

Article 4

Upon being signed by both Parties this Letter of Intent shall take effect immediately and shall have a duration of five years. It may be extended for a further five-year period by mutual consent. It may be terminated at any time by either side upon giving one month's prior notice to the other Party. Without prejudice to the foregoing rights, in any cases of termination, all necessary steps should be taken to ensure that activities or plans already being implemented are not adversely affected.

Article 5

1. This Letter of Intent may be modified at any time with both Parties' written consent.
2. This Letter of Intent is not legally binding nor does it oblige the Parties to incur costs or resources. It is an agreement in good faith and the Parties agree that all issues relating to potential cooperation between them have been set out in it.

Article 6

To convey the purpose of this Letter of Intent and to facilitate the relevant notice, Čiernohronská lesná železnica and Forestry Bureau, Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan, the Republic of China, shall execute its signing. Unless otherwise stated, all communication between the Parties shall be made to their designated representatives.

In Witness whereof, the undersigned representatives, being duly authorised thereto, have signed this Letter of Intent

Done in Chiayi, Taiwan on December 5th, 2018 in duplicate in English.

For Čiernohronská lesná železnica

**For Forestry Bureau, Council of Agriculture,
Executive Yuan, the Republic of China**

Ing. Aleš Bílek
ČŽ Director



Hwa-Ching Lin
Director General

