

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Concerning the establishment of comprehensive partnership



Nha Trang University, Socialist Republic of Vietnam and

Ocean University of China, People's Republic of China

1. Preambles

WHEREAS, Nha Trang University (NTU), located at No 2 Nguyen Dinh Chieu, Vinh Tho ward, Nha Trang city, Khanh Hoa province, Vietnam, was established in 1959 as one of Vietnam's major multidisciplinary, multi-leveled universities, a leading institution for training and research in the areas of fisheries, aquaculture, marine economics in Vietnam;

WHEREAS, Ocean University of China (OUC), located at 5 Yushan Rd, Shinan District, Qingdao, Shandong, China, was established in 1924 as the key comprehensive university with unique strengths in oceanography and fisheries in China.

CONSIDERING that NTU and OUC are both leading institutions in fisheries, aquaculture, and marine sciences, and share a strong foundation of cooperation and a mutual commitment to advancing marine-related education and research,

The two universities hereby establish a comprehensive partnership to further strengthen collaboration in training, research, and academic exchange, particularly in fisheries, aquaculture, marine sciences, and marine economics with the shared goal of contributing to sustainable development, to address emerging challenges and opportunities in the marine and ocean sectors, and fulfill the university's social responsibility.

2. Principles

The Partnership will be based on principles of the respect and mutual understanding of the respective strengths, organizational structures, mutually benefit as well as to work together towards establishing the solid foundations for long-term cooperation in areas of common concern.

3. Objectives

The objectives of the Partnership are to foster new collaboration approaches and to ensure successful implementation of the joint commitments for action within the partnership's 5-year period from 2025 to 2030 (the Period).

4. Areas of Cooperation

4.1. Exchange of lecturer and student

Two parties encourage and provide the most favorable conditions for academic and cultural exchange programs among students and lecturers. Lecturers from the sending institution

will receive the status of visiting faculty at the hosting institution, students have tuition fees waived and other supports from the hosting institution.

4.2. Joint Training Program

Both parties commit to cooperating in the implementation of training and professional development activities, including short-term programs (leading to certificates) and long-term programs (leading to degrees). The cooperation will be carried out through various joint training models such as 3+1, 1+3, and 2+2, as well as other flexible formats including dual-degree programs, credit transfer agreements, student exchange programs, and online/offline hybrid training. The types of joint training may cover undergraduate, master's, and doctoral levels, as well as vocational and continuing education programs, depending on the needs and capacities of both parties.

4.3. Joint Research Projects

The two parties will establish joint research groups in priority areas including, but not limited to, fisheries, aquaculture, and marine science, with the aim of developing research proposals and applying for funding from the Vietnamese government, international donors, and/or their respective internal sources. The collaboration will also include various forms of scientific and technological cooperation, such as co-authorship and joint publications in reputable journals, sharing of research facilities and resources, and the exchange of research staff and experts.

4.4. Conferences and Workshop

The two parties will collaborate to organize a wide range of bilateral academic events, including conferences, seminars, workshops, and scholarly exchange activities, to strengthen academic and professional ties. Furthermore, the two parties will co-host or jointly participate in organizing academic events not only within the framework of the IAMRI (International Marine-related Higher Education and Research Network) program but also within other regional and international academic forums, networks, or initiatives related to marine, ocean, and environmental studies.

5. Implementations

- 5.1 The implementation of all mentioned initiatives in this MOU is subject to the planning of the Parties.
- 5.2 Before specific activities can be implemented, the parties shall develop a specific activity agreement based on the form of implementation mutually agreed upon subsequent to this MOU. Implementation of specific collaborative programs will depend on the availability of funds and continued mutual interest of the partners.
- 5.3 The persons whose name below shall be designated as a point of contact to help implement and monitor the cooperative activities in relation to this MOU.

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- 5.4. The MoU becomes effective upon affixing the last required signature. It shall remain in force for five (5) years. The MoU may be terminated by either party upon at least 60 days in advance written notice. Such termination shall not affect activities in progress at the time the notice is received.
- 5.5. Two copies of this MOU have been produced in English, each to be considered an original, and each party to receive one duly signed copy.

For Nha Trang University

Prof. Pham Quoc Hung

Vice-Rector

NHA TRAN

Date: May 29, 2025

For Ocean University of China

Prof. Liu Yong

Vice-President

Date: 2025.5.29