

INTERNATIONAL  
CONVENTION  
ON THE ELIMINATION  
OF ALL FORMS OF  
RACIAL DISCRIMINATION



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OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION  
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CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES  
UNDER ARTICLE 9 OF THE CONVENTION

Second periodic reports of States parties due in 1985

Addendum

CHINA 1/

[12 June 1985]

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1/ For the initial report submitted by the Government of China and the summary records of the meetings of the Committee at which the report was considered, see CERD/C/101/Add.2 and Add.3 (CERD/C/SR.639-SR.640).

### Introduction

1. In 1982 the People's Republic of China became a party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. In accordance with article 9 of the Convention, the first report was submitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 22 February 1983. The Convention stipulates that a report is to be submitted every two years. The second report is hereby submitted and includes answers to the questions raised by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination when the first report was examined.

2. This report is divided into two parts: part I: General; part II: Implementation of articles 2-7 of the Convention.

#### PART I: GENERAL

3. The People's Republic of China is a multinational country. On its 9.6 million square kilometres of land live 56 nationalities. All nationalities other than the Han, which has the largest population, are customarily called minority nationalities. The word "minority" here does not have any political meaning.

4. In the course of jointly creating China's long history and splendid culture, the various nationalities in China have established inseparable ties with one another. Especially after the founding of the People's Republic of China, a new socialist relationship of equality, unity and mutual assistance has been formed among the nationalities.

5. According to statistics from the census of 1 July 1982, China has over 67,230,000 minority people. Fifteen nationalities have populations of over 1 million each: 31 nationalities between 10,000 and 1 million each; and 9 nationalities less than 10,000 people each. Among them the Zhuang are the largest with a population of 13 million, while the Hezhen are the smallest with only 1,400 people (see annex I: The population of China's nationalities). The Han nationality accounts for 93.3 per cent of the nation's total population while the 55 minorities constitute 6.7 per cent. As a result of historical development, areas where a minority group live in a compact community are also inhabited by other minorities and the Han. Likewise, in areas inhabited by the Han some minority groups also live. Thus China is characterized by the intermingling of different nationalities on a nation-wide scale, dotted with small compact communities of minority nationalities.

6. The national minorities inhabit 50 to 60 per cent of the country's total area, mainly in the five autonomous regions - Inner Mongolia, Xinjiang, Guangxi, Ningxia and Tibet, and part or a large part of 11 provinces, including Qinghai, Yunnan, Guizhou and Sichuan.

7. Over 17 million minority people, or 25 per cent of the total minorities, live in mingled or scattered communities in large, medium-sized and small cities or townships.

8. All China's 55 national minorities have their own languages, except for the Hui, Manchu and She, who use the Han language because they have lived with the Hans for quite a long time (see annex II: The language families of China's nationalities). Twenty-one of them have their own written languages.

9. Each national minority in China has its own habits and customs. Some of the customs and habits are related to important historical events and figures; some are related to a nationality's economy, culture and life-style; and others are related to a nationality's religion. For example, the "Ongkor" Festival (Harvest Festival) is a traditional religious festival when the Tibetan people parade along the fields to pray for a rich harvest.

10. China's national minorities practise the following religions: Islam, Buddhism, Taoism, Christianity, the Orthodox Eastern Church and primitive religions. Islam has a wide influence among 10 minority nationalities, including the Huis, Uygurs and Hazaks. Buddhism is divided into Lamaism and Hinayana Buddhism. The Tibetan, Mongolian and three other nationalities believe in the former, while the Dai and a number of other nationalities believe in the latter. A small number of the Zhuangs and three other national minorities believe in Taoism, while some of the Miaos and Yis believe in Christianity. Only a small proportion of the Russian and Ewenki nationalities belong to the Orthodox Eastern Church, while primitive religions have followers among the Dulong, Nus and Was.

11. Unity and integrity are the main trends throughout the history of relations among all the nationalities. But owing to the policy of national oppression and discrimination pursued by the feudal dynasties of past ages and by the Kuomintang Government, plus imperialist aggression in modern times, all minorities suffered in old China. Their economy and culture were very backward and they lived in extreme poverty.

12. After the founding of New China, the Chinese Government formulated a complete set of policies, principles, decrees and regulations regarding questions concerning nationalities and adopted many effective administrative measures to eliminate all forms of national oppression and discrimination left over from the past and to put an end to economic poverty and cultural backwardness in the minority areas.

13. Both the Common Programme of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference adopted at the conference in September 1949, which once functioned as a provisional constitution, and the Constitutions of the People's Republic of China of 1954 and 1982 specifically stipulate: all nationalities in China are equal; the relationship of unity and mutual assistance for common prosperity among all of China's nationalities is upheld; discrimination against, and oppression of, any nationality are prohibited; any acts that undermine the unity of the nationalities or instigate their secession are prohibited; regional autonomy is practised in areas where people of minority nationalities live in compact communities; all nationalities have freedom to use and develop their own spoken and written languages and to preserve or reform their own ways and customs as well as freedom of religious beliefs; the State helps all minority nationalities speed up their economic and cultural development.

14. Regional national autonomy is practised in the compact communities of minority nationalities by establishing autonomous regions, prefectures and counties - local administrative organs under the unified leadership of the

central Government. The Regional Autonomy Act of the People's Republic of China promulgated in 1984 lays down concrete provisions concerning the rights of the national self-governing organs (see annex III: The Regional Autonomy Act of the People's Republic of China).

15. The Chinese Government has also enacted many specialized laws and regulations. For example, there are laws and regulations for training minority cadres and developing national education, for ensuring the right of minority nationalities to national equality and opposing and preventing discrimination against any nationality, and for ensuring the right to equality of minorities who live in mingled communities with other nationalities or in scattered households among other nationalities.

16. The National People's Congress and local people's congresses at all levels include an appropriate number of deputies from each nationality. In 1983, 404 deputies representing 55 national minorities attended the National People's Congress, accounting for 13.5 per cent of total deputies, or twice their proportion in the country's total population.

17. The Standing Committee of the National People's Congress has 1 chairman and 20 vice-chairmen, 4 of whom are members of national minorities - two Tibetans, a Zhuang and a Uygur.

18. The Constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates that the State has one President and one Vice-President. The present Vice-President of the People's Republic of China is a Mongolian.

19. The posts of chairmen and vice-chairmen of the standing committees of the people's congresses of autonomous regions, prefectures and counties are filled by the minorities that practise regional autonomy in those areas. Governors of autonomous regions and heads of autonomous prefectures and counties also come from the minorities that practise regional autonomy in those areas.

20. The National People's Congress has set up the Nationalities Committee, and the State Council the State Nationalities Affairs Commission. All provinces, municipalities directly under the Central Government and autonomous regions, as well as prefectures, cities and counties where there are many minority people, have the necessary organs for handling nationalities affairs. Thus, there are special organs for handling nationalities affairs at both the national and local levels.

21. The Chinese Government has adopted a series of laws, policies, statutes and administrative measures to ensure the right to national equality enjoyed by all minority nationalities, and to promote the development of the economy and culture in minority areas.

22. There has been progress in the economy and culture of the minority areas. In 1983 the total value of industrial and agricultural output of the national autonomous areas was 12.5 times the 1949 figure. The proportion of industrial production within the gross production of industry and agriculture increased from 14 per cent in 1949 to 50 per cent in 1983.

23. An educational system for minority nationalities has been set up. For higher education, there are now 11 nationalities institutes and 68 colleges established by the national autonomous regions. Compared with 1951, the number

of minority college students in 1983 had increased 28 times; that of middle school students (including students of secondary vocational and teachers' schools) 42 times; and that of primary school students 8.2 times.

24. In the past 30 years or more, both the number of newspapers and books published in minority languages and the number of copies printed have gone up several dozen times.

25. In the national autonomous areas, the number of health and medical establishments and medical personnel has increased by between several dozen times and 100 times over the figure for 1949. Special attention has been paid to the development of the traditional medicine and pharmacology of the Tibetan, Mongolian, Uygur, Yi, Dai and other nationalities. Endemic and infectious diseases in the minority areas have all been brought under control. With the improvement of minority people's health, the population of all minority nationalities has gone up.

PART II: IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLES 2-7  
OF THE CONVENTION

26. In order to eliminate all kinds of racial discrimination, the Chinese Government has made efforts to develop the relationship of equality, unity and mutual assistance among all China's nationalities.

(1) Article 2 of the Convention

27. The Constitutions of the People's Republic of China promulgated in 1954, 1975, 1978 and 1982 all make clear stipulations for eliminating racial discrimination and promoting national unity. Article 4 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China of 1982 specifies: "All nationalities in the People's Republic of China are equal. The State protects the lawful rights and interests of the minority nationalities and upholds and develops the relationship of equality, unity and mutual assistance among all of China's nationalities. Discrimination against, and oppression of, any nationality are prohibited; any acts that undermine the unity of the nationalities or instigate their secession are prohibited."

28. The Chinese Government practises regional autonomy in minority areas in order to fully realize national equality and unity, and enable minority nationalities to become their own masters in administering nationality affairs.

29. The Programme for implementing National Regional Autonomy in the People's Republic of China promulgated in 1952 states: in the great family of a unified country under the leadership of the Central People's Government, national autonomous areas may be established, in accordance with the relations among local nationalities and local economy and history, in the areas where minority nationalities live in compact communities. All nationalities in national autonomous areas enjoy equal rights. Discrimination against, and oppression of, any nationality are prohibited, and any acts that give rise to disputes between nationalities are prohibited. In all national autonomous areas, minority nationalities are their own masters administering local nationality affairs.

30. The Regional National Autonomy Act of the People's Republic of China promulgated in 1984 is a fundamental law for practising regional national autonomy as stipulated in China's Constitution; it was formulated on the basis of a systematic analysis of experience in this field in China over the past 30 years (see annex: The Regional National Autonomy Act of the People's Republic of China).

31. The policies and laws of regional national autonomy followed by the Chinese Government have won the support of the minority peoples and are highly successful. Up to now, 119 regional national autonomous areas have been set up, of which 5 are national autonomous regions, 31 autonomous prefectures, and 83 autonomous counties (or banners in Inner Mongolia) (see annex 4: China's national autonomous areas).

32. The Chinese Government also attaches great importance to the right to equality of national minorities who live scattered or in mixed communities. In 1952, the Government Administration Council of the Central People's Government promulgated decisions on ensuring the right to national equality of national minorities who live scattered. In 1983, the State Council issued the circular concerning the establishment of nationality townships. By the end of September 1983, 2,509 nationality townships had been set up throughout the country.

33. The Chinese Government always attaches great importance to helping the minorities develop their economy and takes the "prosperity of all nationalities" as a basic national policy. The Constitution stipulates in article 4: "The State helps the areas inhabited by minority nationalities to speed up their economic and cultural development in accordance with the peculiarities and needs of the different minority nationalities". Article 122 provides: "The State helps the national autonomous areas to train large numbers of cadres at different levels and specialized personnel and skilled workers of different professions and trades from among the nationality or nationalities in those areas".

34. The reform and readjustment of production relations in the countryside and pastoral areas, and the implementation of various forms of the responsibility system in production in the past few years have enabled production relations to be geared more closely to productive forces, and have aroused the peasants' and herdsmen's enthusiasm for production, thus accelerating the development of production. More flexible policies are being carried out in the minority areas. In line with the decisions on the restructuring of the economy, the Government has adopted policies suited to the specific conditions of the areas inhabited by the minority nationalities, and has given them the necessary material and technical assistance.

35. The State has established various forms of special funds to support the areas inhabited by the minority nationalities, such as subsidies for the construction of border areas, subsidies for minority areas, special funds for border-region construction and investments for developing the economically-underdeveloped areas.

36. In order to increase the financial resources of national autonomous areas, the State stipulates that national autonomous areas shall have more extra funds and reserve funds than ordinary administrative areas, and revenues in excess of the budget are to be reserved exclusively for their local use. Special consideration, similar to that for national autonomous areas, is given to the three provinces of Yunnan, Qinghai, Guizhou, where a great number of minority people live.

37. The State permits national autonomous areas to adopt measures for tax collection, reduction and exemption in line with the State's provisions for tax collection and with local conditions and characteristics of the nationalities, so as to promote and help the development of their agriculture, animal husbandry, industry and commerce. Enterprises run by communes and brigades are exempted from industrial and commercial income tax for five years.

38. The State adopts preferential policies towards enterprises handling nationality trade in the minority areas.

39. The State helps the minority nationality areas to develop the production of goods used specially by minority nationalities. As to handicraft enterprises producing goods for minority nationalities, regular income tax reduction is enforced.

40. The State arranges for developed provinces and municipalities to give trade-for-trade support for minority areas and to carry out economic and technical co-operation with them. Over 1,800 support and co-operation projects were agreed upon between provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities from 1980 to 1983. Trade-for-trade support and economic and technical co-operation are developing at numerous levels and in numerous spheres.

41. The State organizes and promotes activities in providing technical consultation and specialized knowledge for border regions and organizes and encourages scholars, scientific and technical personnel, and administrators to go to the areas inhabited by the minority nationalities to give lectures, hold technical consultations and take part in their development.

42. In order to help increase the population of the minority nationalities and develop their economy and culture, the Chinese Government relaxes restrictions on family planning among minority nationalities. In the past 35 years, the population of all minority nationalities has grown substantially. According to statistics, the population of the minority nationalities had increased by 90 per cent by 1982 as compared with 1952, exceeding the growth rate of the Han.

(2) Article 3 of the Convention

43. The Chinese Government always resolutely opposes all policies and systems of racial discrimination. China has neither diplomatic relations nor any other political, economic and cultural contacts with the racist régime in South Africa.

44. On 13 September 1950, Chairman Mao Zedong of the People's Republic of China sent a return telegram to the South African Indian People's Conference in support of their struggle against racial discrimination and oppression of non-white races by the Federal Government of South Africa.

45. In 1952, Premier Zhou Enlai of the People's Republic of China sent a message of reply to the joint honorary secretaries of the South African Indian Congress, Y.A. Cachalia and D.U. Mistry, supporting the non-white races in their just struggle against racial discrimination.

46. In a telegram on 1 August 1983 to the Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, Premier Zhao Ziyang of the People's Republic of China stated: "I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate that the Chinese Government and people stand side by side with the people of all countries in the world to resolutely oppose any forms of theories, policies and acts of racism and racial discrimination, and strongly denounce the savage apartheid enforced by the South African authorities, and their illegal occupation of Namibia and armed aggression against neighbouring African countries. The Chinese Government and people firmly support the South African people and people of all nations in their just struggle against racism and racial discrimination".

47. The Chinese Government often educate people of all the various nationalities against racial discrimination by showing relevant films and giving timely reports in television programmes, newspapers and periodicals about the struggle of the black and other coloured people in South Africa against racial discrimination and apartheid.

48. The Chinese Government gave support and provided facilities for the international forum against racial discrimination held in Beijing in October 1984.

(3) Article 4 of the Convention

49. The Chinese Government has consistently opposed and prohibited national discrimination and any ideologies and acts of national discrimination.



50. As early as May 1951, the Government Administration Council of the Central People's Government issued instructions on dealing with the use of appellations, place names, and tablet and board inscriptions that are derogatory to the minorities. It was stipulated: "In order to strengthen the unity of all nationalities and prohibit discrimination and insults against nationalities ... those historical appellations, place names, and tablet and board inscriptions concerning minority nationalities that are derogatory to the minorities should be banned, changed, sealed up or confiscated".

51. In line with the instructions, measures were immediately adopted. According to the wishes of the minorities, all appellations left over from the old society that are derogatory to the minorities have been changed.

52. The Constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates in the preamble: "In the struggle to safeguard the unity of the nationalities, it is necessary to combat large-nation chauvinism, particularly Han chauvinism, and also necessary to combat local-national chauvinism".

53. The Chinese Government has adopted many measures to oppose and prohibit national discrimination and any ideologies and acts of national discrimination. These measures include publicizing nationality policies, organizing activities to strengthen unity among nationalities, and educating people in combating large-nation chauvinism and local-national chauvinism.

54. China started two nation-wide movements to publicize nationality policies in 1952 and 1956. At the same time, the people were educated in the need to combat large-nation chauvinism, particularly Han chauvinism.

55. In 1980, re-education in nationality policies was launched throughout the country, stressing the need to overcome Han chauvinism, while also overcoming local-national chauvinism.

56. The implementation of the above-mentioned policies and the adoption of effective legislative measures have helped the people of all nationalities to gain a better understanding of nationality policies, raised the level of their consciousness in upholding national unity, and strengthened the unity of the nationalities.

(4) Article 5 of the Convention

(a) Article 5, section 1, of the Convention

57. Article 4 of the Constitution stipulates: "All nationalities in the People's Republic of China are equal". The Criminal Procedure Act of the People's Republic of China specifies in article 6: "Citizens of various nationalities all have the right to conduct proceedings in their native spoken and written languages. The people's courts, the people's procuratorates and the public security organs shall provide interpretation for participants in proceedings who are not proficient in the spoken and written language commonly used in the locality. In areas inhabited by a concentrated minority group or by several minority groups, hearings shall be carried out in the spoken language commonly used in the locality, and written judgements, announcements and other documents shall be issued in the written language commonly used in the locality".

(b) Article 5, section 2, of the Convention

58. Article 37 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates: "The freedom of person of citizens of the People's Republic of China is inviolable ... Unlawful deprivation or restriction of citizens' freedom of person by detention or other means is prohibited; and unlawful search of the person of citizens is prohibited". Article 38 stipulates: "The personal dignity of citizens of the People's Republic of China is inviolable. Insult, libel, false charge or frame-up directed against citizens by any means is prohibited".

59. The Criminal Code of the People's Republic of China stipulates in article 131: "The rights of the person, the democratic rights and the other rights of citizens shall be protected and shall not be unlawfully infringed by any person or any organ. When the unlawful infringement is serious in nature, those directly responsible shall be liable to criminal penalties".

(c) Article 5, section 3, of the Convention

60. Article 34 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China of 1982 stipulates: "All citizens of the People's Republic of China who have reached the age of 18 have the right to vote and stand for election, regardless of nationality, race, sex, occupation, family background, religious belief, education, property status or length of residence, except persons deprived of political rights according to law".

61. In order to ensure the implementation of the provisions of the Constitution and to protect the minority people's right to vote and stand for election, the Chinese Government enacted the Electoral Law for the National People's Congress and local People's Congresses. The Electoral Law of 1953 provides: each minority group living in a compact community should have deputies to the local people's congresses of all levels; if the population of a minority nationality, including its compact and scattered people, is less than 10 per cent of the total local population, each of its deputies may represent less than half of the population which each of other local deputies represents; voters of each nationality may hold either independent elections or joint elections according to the relations among local nationalities and their places of residence. The Electoral Act of 1979 specifies: "Each of the nationalities with a particularly small population should have one deputy to the National People's Congress". The Electoral Act of 1982 stipulates: "Each deputy of the minority nationalities exercising regional national autonomy in an autonomous county with a particularly small population may represent less than half of the population which each deputy of the other nationalities in the same administrative area represents".

(d) Article 5, section 4, of the Convention

(1) Residence and migration

62. The Chinese Government protects the right of residence of citizens of all nationalities. Article 39 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates: "The home of citizens of the People's Republic of China is inviolable. Unlawful search of, or intrusion into, a citizen's home is prohibited".

The Chinese Government has drawn up relevant regulations on citizens' residence and migration so as to benefit the nation's economic development and ensure that the people live and work in peace and contentment. The regulations treat citizens of all nationalities equally. Special consideration is given to

citizens of the minority nationalities in particular circumstances. For instance, 40 years ago, a group of the Kazak people in Xinjiang were forced to move to Qinghai by the reactionary Government. A few years ago they wanted to move back to their homeland in Xinjiang. In response to their wishes, the Government agreed and gave them all kinds of help. This group of Kazaks have now moved back to Xinjiang without encountering any difficulties.

(2) Freedom of peaceful assembly and association

The Constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates in article 35: "Citizens of the People's Republic of China enjoy freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, freedom of association, freedom of procession and freedom of demonstration".

63. The Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China stipulates in article 144: "Any person who unlawfully subjects another person to control, unlawfully searches another's person or residence, or unlawfully intrudes into another's residence shall be sentenced to not more than three years of imprisonment or criminal detention".

(3) Nationality

64. The Constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates in article 33: "All persons holding the nationality of the People's Republic of China are citizens of the People's Republic of China".

Article 2 of the Act relating to the Nationality of the People's Republic of China stipulates: "The People's Republic of China is a multinational country. People of all nationalities hold the nationality of the People's Republic of China".

65. The Nationality Act of the People's Republic of China stipulates: "Any foreigner or person who does not have nationality may apply for Chinese nationality if he or she is willing to abide by China's Constitution and laws and fulfils one of the following qualifications: (1) Being a close relative of a Chinese citizen; (2) Having settled in China; (3) Having other appropriate reasons".

(4) Marriage

66. Article 49 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates: "Marriage, the family and the mother and child are protected by the State ... Violation of the freedom of marriage is prohibited".

67. The Marriage Act of the People's Republic of China stipulates in articles 2 and 3: "The marriage system based on the free choice of partners ... and on equal rights for the sexes shall be put into effect. The lawful rights and interests of women, children and the aged are protected ... Marriage upon arbitrary decision by any third party, mercenary marriage and any other acts of interference in the freedom of marriage are prohibited".

68. The Criminal Code of the People's Republic of China states in article 179: "Any person who uses violence to interfere with the freedom of marriage of others shall be sentenced to not more than two years of imprisonment or criminal detention". Article 180 stipulates: "Any person who has a spouse and commits bigamy or who marries another person, clearly knowing that the other has a spouse, shall be sentenced to not more than two years of imprisonment or criminal detention".

(5) Property

69. The Constitution of the People's Republic of China specifies in article 31: "The State protects the right of citizens to own lawfully-earned income, savings, houses and other lawful property. The State protects by law the right of citizens to inherit private property". Article 11 stipulates: "The State protects the lawful rights and interests of those engaged in individual economic activity".

70. The Criminal Code of the People's Republic of China specifies in article 150: "Any person who, through violence, coercion or other methods, steals articles of public or private property shall be sentenced to not less than three years and not more than ten years of imprisonment".

(6) Spoken and written languages

71. The Common Programme of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference stipulates: "Each minority nationality has the freedom to develop its own spoken and written languages". In 1951, the Government Administration Council of the Central People's Government decided that the state should help nationalities that do not have written languages to create written languages and help the nationalities that do not have well-developed written languages to systemize their written languages.

72. Article 4 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates: "People of all nationalities have the freedom to use and develop their own spoken and written languages".

73. The Regional National Autonomy Act of the People's Republic of China stipulates in article 10: "The self-governing organs of national autonomous areas protect the freedom of local nationalities to use and develop their own spoken and written languages". Article 49 specifies: "The self-governing organs of regional national autonomous areas educate and encourage cadres of all nationalities to learn each other's spoken and written languages. The Han cadres should learn local nationalities' spoken and written languages, while cadres of minority nationalities should learn their own nationalities' spoken and written languages as well as the spoken language in general use in the whole country, putonghua, and the Han written language".

74. Besides the above-mentioned laws and regulations, the State has also adopted a series of other measures. Important documents of government organizations are printed and published in the Han as well as in the common written languages of minority nationalities. When the National People's Congress is in session, simultaneous interpretation is provided in the languages of various nationalities.

75. The State has helped to reform the written languages of the Dai, Yi, Jingpo, Lahu, Uygur and Kazak, and to design the Latinized written languages of the Zhuang, Bouyei, Miao, Li, Naxi, Lisu, Hani, Va and Tong.

76. The Central Government has established nationality language publication centres, including the Nationalities Publishing House and Nationalities Pictorial, which publish books, periodicals and pictorials in the languages of minority nationalities.

77. The national autonomous areas and multinational provinces also have established news and publication centres, publishing books, magazines and newspapers in the languages of minority nationalities.

78. The Central People's Broadcasting Station broadcasts every day in the Mongolian, Tibetan, Uygur, Kazak and Korean languages to minority areas. The radio broadcasting stations and rediffusion stations of provinces, prefectures and counties also broadcast in one or more languages of minority nationalities.

(7) Customs and religious belief

79. The Constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates in article 4: "People of all nationalities have the freedom ... to preserve or reform their own ways and customs". Article 38 stipulates: "Citizens of the People's Republic of China enjoy freedom of religious belief. No State organs, public organization or individual may compel citizens to believe in, or not believe in, any religion; nor may they discriminate against citizens who believe in, or do not believe in, any religion. The State protects normal religious activities".

80. The Criminal Code of the People's Republic of China specifies in article 147: "State personnel who unlawfully deprive citizens of their legitimate freedom of religious belief and infringe upon the customs and habits of minority groups shall in serious cases be sentenced to not more than two years of imprisonment or criminal detention".

81. Many concrete measures have been taken fully to ensure that people enjoy freedom of religious belief.

82. In China, followers of Islam, Buddhism, Taoism and other religions all have their national associations.

83. The People's Government protects and helps renovate temples and monasteries, including Yonghegong Palace and Niujie Mosque in Beijing, Jokhang Monastery, Potala Palace, Tashilumpo Monastery in Tibet, Kumbum Monastery in Qinghai and Labrang Temple in Gansu.

84. The Chinese Government has adopted a series of administrative measures to ensure that the habits and customs of the minority nationalities are fully respected.

85. (1) Festivals. Festivals of minority nationalities are respected. They are designated by the Government as official holidays. The Government also allots funds for the festival celebrations and State-owned shops supply special festival goods. In addition, the party and government leaders join the people in their festival celebrations. For example, in April 1961, Premier Zhou Enlai went to the Xishuangbanna Dai Autonomous Prefecture in Yunnan to join the Dai people in celebrating the Water Spraying Festival. Wearing Dai costume, he sprayed water to express good wishes, together with the Dai people.

86. (2) Clothing and ornaments. Respecting the minority nationalities' customs concerning clothing and ornaments, the Government allots gold, silver and other materials for the minority nationalities and organizes the production of silk, satin, boots, hats, jewellery, and gold and silver ornaments needed by the minority nationalities.

87. (3) Food. The Government also pays attention to the dietary habits of the minority nationalities and provides special staples and groceries for them. For instance, Muslim canteens, restaurants and grocery stores have been set up for the Hui, Uygur and other nationalities. The Government also ensures the supply of beef, mutton and other foodstuffs.

88. (4) Culture. In order to put into practice and develop the traditional culture of the minority nationalities, various kinds of art troupes of minority nationalities have been established to perform operas, songs and dances, and to sponsor all kinds of recreational activities of minority nationalities. The National Festival of Selected Stage Performances of Minority Nationalities was held in 1964 and the National Festival of Stage Performance of Minority Nationalities in 1980.

89. (5) Sport. People of all nationalities are encouraged to practise and develop all forms of traditional sports, such as horse racing and wrestling among the Mongolians and Kazaks; bull fighting among the Miao and Tong, and swinging among the Koreans and Achang. In 1982, a national traditional sports meeting of the minority nationalities was held.

90. (6) Production and supply of special commodities. To meet the needs of the minority nationalities, the State actively encourages and develops the production of special commodities for them, ensures the supply of raw materials required and gives financial aid. In the past few years, with special funds allotted by the State, the production bases of special commodities for the minority nationalities have been established in the 11 cities of the minority areas.

(5) Article 5, section 4, of the Convention

91. (1) Employment

92. The Constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates in article 42: "Citizens of the People's Republic of China have the right as well as the duty to work. Using various channels, the State creates conditions for employment, strengthens labour protection, improves working conditions and, on the basis of expanded production, increases remuneration for work and social benefits".

93. Minority people enjoy priority in employment. Vocational training classes are run for pre-employment training. Staff and workers of both the minority nationalities and the Han enjoy equal pay for equal work and the same rights and treatment.

94. (2) Training minority cadres

95. The Chinese Government, attaching great importance to training, employing and promoting minority cadres, has promulgated laws and adopted effective measures to this end.

96. The Constitution of the People's Republic of China makes it clear that great efforts should be made in training minority cadres. The number of minority cadres is increasing steadily.

97. In 1950, the Government Administration Council of the Central People's Government promulgated the Draft Programme for Training Minority Cadres and the Plan for Establishing the Central Institute for Nationalities, and laid down the policy of training minority cadres on a large and extensive scale. In June 1951, the Central Institute for Nationalities was established in Beijing. There are now 11 nationalities institutes for training minority cadres and specialized technical personnel. Preparations are now being made for establishing the Central Institute of Administrative Cadres of Minority Nationality and the North-East Institute for Nationalities. The Tibet autonomous region runs an institute for nationalities which trains cadres of Tibetan and other nationalities for that region.

98. All colleges and universities in China pay great attention to training minority specialists. In addition, some key universities, including Beijing University and Qinghua University and some local colleges and universities, have established classes for nationalities, enrolling minority students.

99. Colleges, universities and secondary vocational and technical schools have been set up in all national autonomous regions, some provinces and autonomous prefectures to train minority cadres and professional and technical personnel. In addition, there are minority cadre schools at all levels, and technical schools and training classes for turning out technical specialists and managers.

100. The Chinese Government also pays special attention to training women minority cadres and professional and technical personnel.

101. Up to the end of 1981, more than 1 million minority cadres and all kinds of professional and technical personnel had been trained.

102. (3) Culture and education

103. Article 4 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates: "The State helps the areas inhabited by minority nationalities to speed up their economic and cultural development in accordance with the peculiarities and needs of the different minority nationalities". Article 119 stipulates: "The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas independently administer educational, scientific, cultural, public health and physical culture affairs in their respective areas, protect and benefit from the cultural heritage of the nationalities, and work for the development and flourishing of their cultures".

104. Article 30 of the Regional National Autonomy Act of the People's Republic of China specifies: "The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas independently develop education for nationalities, eliminate illiteracy, run all types of schools, voluntarily popularize primary education, expand secondary education, and run nationality teachers' schools, secondary technical schools, vocational schools and colleges for training specialists for all nationalities. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas may set up public nationality primary and secondary schools mainly enrolling boarding and grant-aided students from minority pasturelands and impoverished scattered minority groups in remote mountain areas". Article 38 stipulates: "The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas independently develop their culture, including literature, art, news services, publications, broadcasting, films and TV productions of national form and characteristics".

105. The Chinese Government has also adopted relevant administrative measures to help minority nationalities develop their culture and education.

106. The State allocates special subsidies for developing minority nationality culture, and there are special organs in the Government. For example, the Ministry of Culture has a nationality culture department; and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences has an institute of minority literature. The Central Government, autonomous regions and prefectures, and some provinces have established nationality song and dance troupes, opera troupes, and various kinds of literary and art organizations. The State also pays attention to producing films and television programmes about the minority nationalities. The three autonomous regions of Xinjiang, Inner Mongolia and Guangxi have their own film studios.



107. The State also grants special subsidies for developing education in the minority areas. When enrolling new students, colleges and universities appropriately relax the examination mark requirement for minority students. With equal academic points, a minority student will be given priority in enrolment; when enrolling new students, national autonomous areas and multinational provinces must admit a certain proportion of minority students, the proportion equivalent to that of the population. There are establishments for compiling textbooks in minority languages. Classes in nationality primary and middle schools, and some colleges and universities are required to be given in minority languages.

108. (4) Medical and health service

109. The State allots special subsidies for medical and health services for the minority nationalities. The minorities in border regions and those who are poor enjoy free medical care. Medical and health centres have been extensively set up in the areas inhabited by the minority nationalities. Doctors and medical workers are sent to work there. The traditional medicine and pharmacology of minority nationalities are carried on and developed.

(6) Article 5, section 5, of the Convention

110. In China, all nationalities have the right to enter any hotels, restaurants, theatres and parks and use all kinds of transport facilities. In addition, special hotels and restaurants are opened for minority nationalities, such as nationality hostels, herdsmen's hostels, Muslim restaurants and Korean cool-noodle restaurants.

5. Article 6 of the Convention

111. The Constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates in article 41: "Citizens of the People's Republic of China have the right to criticize and make suggestions to any State organ or functionary. Citizens have the right to make to relevant State organs complaints and charges against, or exposures of, any State organ or functionary for violation of the law or dereliction of duty; but fabrication or distortion of facts for the purpose of libel or frame-up is prohibited. The State organ concerned must deal with complaints, charges or exposures made by citizens in a responsible manner after ascertaining the facts. No one may suppress such complaints, charges and exposures, or retaliate against the citizens making them. Citizens who have suffered losses through infringement of their civic rights by any State organ or functionary have the right to compensation in accordance with the law".

6. Article 7 of the Convention

112. The Central People's Broadcasting Station sponsors lectures to educate people and cadres of nationalities in nationality policies. News agencies report on conferences for commending deeds of unity among nationalities. Last year, there was nation-wide activity soliciting articles on national unity. At present, the



Central People's Broadcasting Station is organizing a special programme named "The 10,000-li trip in border regions" introducing areas inhabited by the minority nationalities. These measures and programmes have promoted mutual understanding among the nationalities and strengthened national unity.

113. The laws and regulations and measures adopted by China are in accord with the relevant provisions of the Convention and have been highly successful. The Chinese Government will continue to attach great importance to, and implement, the relevant laws, decrees and policies to further consolidate and develop the relationship of equality, unity and mutual assistance among all nationalities.

Annex 1

The population of all nationalities of the  
People's Republic of China

<u>Nationality</u>	<u>Population</u> (number of inhabitants)
Total	1,003,937,078
Hans	936,703,824
Estimated number of all nationalities	66,349,211
Mongolians	3,411,571
Huis	7,219,493
Tibetans	3,870,068
Uygurs	5,957,112
Miaos	5,030,897
Yis	5,453,448
Zhuangs	13,378,162
Bouyeis	2,120,469
Koreans	1,763,870
Manchus	4,299,104
Dongs	1,425,100
Yaos	1,402,676
Bais	1,131,124
Tujias	2,832,743
Hanis	1,058,836
Kazaks	907,582
Dais	839,797
Lis	817,562
Lisus	480,960
Vas	298,591
Shes	368,832

Annex 1 (continued)

<u>Nationality</u>	<u>Population</u> (number of inhabitants)
Gaoshans	1,549
Lahus	304,174
Shuis	286,487
Dongxiangs	279,397
Naxis	245,154
Jingpos	93,008
Kirgizs	113,999
Tus	159,426
Daur	94,014
Mulams	90,426
Qiangs	102,768
Blangs	58,476
Salars	69,102
Maonans	38,135
Gelos	53,802
Xibes	83,629
Achang	20,441
Pumis	24,237
Tajiks	26,503
Nys	23,166
Ozbeks	12,453
Russians	2,935
Ewenks	19,343
Benglongs	12,295
Bonans	9,027

Annex 1 (continued)

<u>Nationality</u>	<u>Population</u> (number of inhabitants)
Yugurs	10,569
Jings	11,995
Tatars	4,127
Drungs	4,682
Oroqens	4,132
Hezhens	1,476
Moinbas	6,248
Ihobas	2,065
Jinos	11,947
Unknown nationalities	879,201

Note: Population figures for 1982.

Language families of the minority nationalities of the People's Republic of China

Table of language families of the minority national- ities	The Han Tibetan language family	Han (Hui, Manchu and She)  Tibetan-Burman language group: Tibetan, Moinba, Lhoba, Yi, Hani, Lisu, Naxi, Lahu, Bai, Jingpo, Tujia, Qiang, Pumi, Nu, Drung, Achang and Jino.  Zhuang-Dong language group: Zhuang, Bouyei, Dai, Dong, Shui, Mulam, Maonan and Li.  Miao-Yao language group: Miao, Yao and Gelo.
		Jing Some people maintain that it belongs to the South Asian language family.
		Turkic language group: Uygur, Kazak, Kirgiz, Ozbek, Tatar, Salar and Yugur.
	The Altaic language family	Mongolian language group: Mongolian, Dongxiang, Tu, Bonan and Daur.  Tungusic-Manchu language group: Ewenki, Oroqen, Mancu, Xibo and Zezhen.  Korean (Language group branch to be further identified.)
	The South Asian language family	Mon-Khmer language group: Va, Blang and Benglong
	The Indo- European language family	Iranian language group: Tajik.  Slavic language group: Russian.
	The Malayo- Polynesian language family	Gaoshan.

Annex 3

Act relating to Regional Autonomy for  
Minority Nationalities of the People's  
Republic of China

(Adopted on 31 May 1984 at the second session  
of the sixtieth National People's Congress)

### Preamble

The People's Republic of China is a unitary multinational State jointly created by the Chinese people of all nationalities and introduced as an important political system of China in accordance with fundamental policy by the Chinese Communist Party in applying Marxism and Leninism for solving the country's national problems.

In line with the policy of regional autonomy for minority nationalities under the unified leadership of the State, regional autonomy is practised by various minority nationality communities along with administrative organs instituted to exercise the right of self-government. This fully testifies to the respect paid by the State to the minority peoples in ensuring them the right to administer their own affairs and its adherence to the principle of national equality, unity and common prosperity for all nationalities in China.

By bringing into play the initiative of the peoples of various nationalities as masters of their own destinies in establishing a socialist relationship of national equality, unity and mutual assistance, the policy of regional autonomy has greatly contributed to the strengthening of the unity of the country and development of socialist construction in the national autonomous areas and all over China. A greater role will be played by it henceforward in the country's socialist modernization drive.

Practice shows that, in the implementation of the policy of regional autonomy as demanded in national autonomous areas, all laws and policies of the State must be carried out in the light of local conditions, a whole contingent of minority cadres, specialized personnel and technical workers must be trained, and efforts must be made in advancing the work of socialist construction in the national autonomous areas by giving play to the spirit of regeneration through our own efforts and hard struggle in building up the country. Efforts must also be made by the State in helping them to make speedy economic and cultural advances according to plans for the development of the national economy and of the whole of society. In the struggle to safeguard the unity of nationalities, it is necessary to fight against large-scale nationalism, particularly large-scale Han chauvinism and local nationalism.

Under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and the guidance of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong thought, the people of various nationalities in the autonomous areas and people throughout China, by persisting in the people's democratic dictatorship and keeping to the socialist road, have made a concentrated effort in carrying out the construction of socialist modernization and pursuing the struggle for accelerated development of the economy and culture, bringing unity and prosperity to the national autonomous areas, and building China into a culturally developed and highly democratic socialist State.

The Act relating to Regional Autonomy for Minority Nationalities of the People's Republic of China is a basic law stipulated by the Constitution of the People's Republic of China for the institution of minority nationalities in China.

## Chapter 1

### General principles

Article 1. The Act relating to Regional Autonomy for Minority Nationalities is formulated in accordance with the Constitution of the People's Republic of China.

Article 2. Regional autonomy is practised in areas where people of minority nationalities live in compact communities.

The national autonomous areas are divided into autonomous regions, prefectures and counties.

All the national autonomous areas are inalienable parts of the People's Republic of China.

Article 3. Organs of self-government set up by the national autonomous areas are the executive bodies of local organs of State power. They practise the principle of democratic centralism.

Article 4. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas exercise the functions and powers of local organs of State power as specified in section V of chapter 3 of the Constitution. In the meantime, they may, within the limits of their authority as prescribed by the Constitution, the Act relating to Regional Autonomy for Minority Nationalities and other State laws, exercise the power of autonomy and implement the laws and policies of the State as suited to the peculiarities of the localities concerned.

Corresponding local administrative bodies of self-government at the district, county and municipal levels are instituted under autonomous prefectures to exercise the functions and powers of local organs of State power at the respective levels and the right of autonomy.

Article 5. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas must protect the unity of the State and ensure the execution of the Constitution and other State laws in their localities.

Article 6. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas are required to lead the people of all nationalities in a concentrated effort in the socialist modernization drive.

The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas may adopt special policies and flexible measures suited to local conditions to speed up local development of the economy and culture, provided they do not contravene the Constitution and other State laws.

Under the guidance of State plans, the organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas are under an obligation, proceeding from local conditions, to strive for a steady rise in labour productivity in order to achieve greater economic results and development of social productive forces so as to gradually raise the material standard of living of all nationalities.



The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas are required to carry forward and develop the fine tradition of the culture heritage of the respective nationalities, build socialist spiritual civilization with the characteristics of the nationalities, and gradually raise the socialist consciousness and levels of science and culture of all nationalities.

Article 7. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas shall give priority to the overall interests of the State and make an active effort to fulfil all the tasks assigned by the higher State authorities.

Article 8. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas shall be guaranteed the right to autonomy by higher State authorities. At the same time, energetic efforts shall be made to help them in speeding up their development of the cause of socialism in accordance with the characteristics and needs of the localities concerned.

Article 9. Higher State authorities and the organs of self-government in the national autonomous areas shall take responsibility for protecting and developing the socialist relationship of national equality, unity and mutual assistance between all nationalities. Discrimination against, and oppression of, any nationality and all acts tending to undermine national unity or instigate division of the nationalities are prohibited.

Article 10. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas are duty-bound to protect the people of all nationalities in the respective localities so that they have the freedom to use and develop their own spoken and written languages, and the freedom to preserve or reform their way of life and customs.

Article 11. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas shall undertake the task of protecting religious freedom for citizens of all nationalities.

No State organ, social organization or individual may compel citizens to believe in, or not believe in, any religion; nor may they discriminate against citizens who believe in, or do not believe in, any religion.

The State protects normal religious activities. No person may make use of religion in order to engage in activities that disrupt public order, impair the health of citizens or interfere with the educational system of the State.

Religious bodies and religious affairs are not subject to any foreign domination.

## Chapter 2

### Establishment of national autonomous areas and formation of organs of self-government

Article 12. One or more autonomous areas may be set up according to local economic development, various historical factors and relationships between different nationalities in areas where minority peoples live in compact communities.

Autonomous areas and nationality townships may accordingly be set up in national autonomous areas and places where other minority nationalities live in compact communities.

According to actual conditions, the national autonomous areas may be formed by a number of communities and cities or towns inhabited by the Hans and other nationalities.

Article 13. With the exception of special cases, the national autonomous areas are differently named by putting the names of the localities first and the names of the nationalities second, followed by their administrative position.

Article 14. The establishment of national autonomous areas, their regional demarcation and names to be used shall be decided through full discussion by higher State authorities, local State organs and representatives of the nationalities in the localities concerned. They shall then be submitted for approval in accordance with a procedure stipulated by State law.

Once regional division has been made, no slight changes shall be allowed in the national autonomous areas. When necessary, changes shall be decided through full discussion by concerned departments of higher authorities and the organs of self-government in the national autonomous areas, and then submitted to the State Council for approval.

Article 15. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas are the people's congresses and people's governments of autonomous regions, prefectures and counties.

The local people's governments at different levels in the national autonomous areas are responsible, and report on their work, to the people's congresses at the corresponding levels, higher organs of the State and the standing committees of the people's congresses at the corresponding levels when they are not in session. As local people's governments in the autonomous areas, they are State administrative organs subject to the unified leadership of the State Council.

The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas place their organizational set-up and work under control as stipulated by autonomy regulations and other specific regulations enacted according to the Constitution and other State laws.

Article 16. In the people's congress of the national autonomous areas, in addition to the deputies of the nationality exercising regional autonomy in the administrative area, the other nationalities inhabiting the area are also entitled to appropriate representation.

In the people's congress of the national autonomous areas, the number and proportion of deputies of the nationality or nationalities exercising regional autonomy are decided by the standing committee of the regional or provincial people's congress and are reported to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress for the record.

The chairmanship or vice-chairmanships of the standing committee of the people's congress of an autonomous area shall include a citizen or citizens of the nationality or nationalities exercising regional autonomy in the area concerned.

Article 17. The administrative head of an autonomous region, prefecture or county shall be a citizen of the nationality, or of one of the nationalities, exercising regional autonomy in the area concerned. The other members of the

people's government of the autonomous region, prefecture or county shall include a citizen or citizens of the nationality or nationalities exercising regional autonomy in the area concerned.

The head of the people's government of the autonomous region prefecture or county shall exercise the responsibility system in the national autonomous areas. The heads of the autonomous region, prefecture or county are separately in charge of the work of the people's government at the corresponding level.

Article 18. The cadres of the organizations under the organs of self-government of national autonomous areas shall include a citizen or citizens of the nationality or nationalities exercising regional autonomy in the area concerned.

### Chapter 3

Article 19. The people's congresses of the national autonomous areas have the power to enact autonomy regulations and specific regulations in the light of the political, economic and cultural characteristics of the nationality or nationalities in the areas concerned. The autonomy regulations and specific regulations of autonomous regions shall be submitted to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress for approval before they go into effect. Those of autonomous prefectures and counties shall be submitted to the standing committees of the people's congresses of provinces or autonomous regions for approval before they go into effect, and they shall be reported to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress for the record.

Article 20. Resolutions, decisions, orders and instructions from higher authorities deemed unsuited to the actual conditions of the national autonomous areas may be suspended or carried out flexibly by the organs of self-government after their submission for approval by the high State authorities.

Article 21. In performing their functions, the organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas, in accordance with the autonomy regulations of the respective areas, employ the spoken and written language or languages in common use in the locality. When several spoken and written languages are employed in performing their functions, stress may be laid on the use of the language of the nationality exercising regional autonomy.

Article 22. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas may, according to the needs of socialist construction, adopt all possible measures to train large numbers of cadres at various levels, specialists in science, technology and administration, and skilled workers from among the local minority peoples; attention should also be paid to the work of giving full play to the role and training of women cadres and specialized personnel of the minority nationalities.

The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas may adopt special measures to give special treatment in encouraging all types of specialized personnel to take part in the construction work of the autonomous areas.

Article 23. Workers and staff members as needed for local enterprises and State departments in the national autonomous areas should be recruited first from among the minority peoples or people from the rural and pastoral areas. But such recruitment by autonomous prefectures and autonomous counties should be submitted for approval by provincial authorities or the people's governments of autonomous regions.

Article 24. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas may, in accordance with the military system of the State and concrete local needs and with the approval of the State Council, organize local public security forces for the maintenance of public order.

Article 25. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas independently arrange for and administer local economic development under the guidance of State plans.

Article 26. Under the guidance of State plans, the organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas may work out policies and plans on their own for local economic development according to local characteristics and needs.

Article 27. According to the provisions of the Constitution and local characteristics of economic development, reforms of the economic administrative system may be introduced and rational adjustments of the relations of production may be made by the organs of self-government in the national autonomous areas under the prerequisite of upholding socialism.

The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas may decide the right of ownership and the right of use of pastures and forests as specified by law.

Article 28. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas manage and protect local natural resources in accordance with the law.

The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas take responsibility for protecting and building the grassland and forests and for organizing and encouraging afforestation and growing grass.

The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas may be the first to exploit and make rational use of local natural resources in accordance with the law and unified State planning.

Article 29. Under the guidance of State plans, the organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas may decide and arrange by themselves local capital construction projects according to their financial and material resources.

Article 30. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas take care of the administrative affairs of local enterprises and other local establishments and institutions.

Article 31. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas may arrange and use all industrial, agricultural and other native products after accomplishing the task of deliveries and planned purchases by the State.

Article 32. Acting on regulations by the State, the organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas may develop economic trade with foreign countries and open trade ports to that end after securing the approval of the State Council.

Border trade may also be developed with the approval of the State Council by autonomous areas with their neighbouring countries.

In their development of foreign trade the organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas may take the preferential proportion of foreign exchange earnings.

Article 33. The finances of the national autonomous areas shall be at a single level and form a component part of the financial system of the State.

The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas have the power of autonomy in administering the finances of their areas. All revenues accruing to the national autonomous areas under the financial system of the State shall be managed and used by the organs of self-government of those areas on their own.

Revenues and expenditures for the national autonomous areas are fixed according to preferential provisions by the State Council.

According to financial stipulations of the State, when revenues are higher than expenditure, a fixed quota shall be turned over to higher financial departments; the quota of turnover can be set once for several years. Where local revenues cannot meet expenditure, subsidies from higher financial departments would be provided.

According to stipulations by the State, flexible funds shall be established to meet the budgetary expenditure of the national autonomous areas. Their reserve fund in the budget may be higher than that of other ordinary areas.

In carrying out the financial budget, the organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas may arrange and spend funds from their increases of revenue and surplus of expenditure.

Article 34. Acting on regulations by the State, the organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas may work out additional regulations and specific measures in accordance with the level of local expenditure, size of staff, the quota of turnover to the State and other conditions. The additional regulations and specific measures worked out by the autonomous areas shall be reported to the State Council for the record, while those of prefectures and counties need to be submitted for approval by provincial authorities or the people's governments of autonomous regions.

Article 35. Working under the State Tax Law, the organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas may practise tax reduction and tax exemption in cases where special allowances and necessary encouragement are needed, but excluding those that ask for unified examination and approval by the State; when tax reduction is made and tax exemption introduced by the prefectures and counties, examination and approval by provincial authorities or the people's government of autonomous regions are required.

Article 36. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas may develop their educational system independently in accordance with the State's educational policy, making their own plans and deciding on the forms of schooling and various types and levels of educational system, the curriculum, the language or languages used in teaching and the method of enrolment.

Article 37. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas take responsibility for independently developing nationality education, elimination of illiteracy, setting up various types of schools, making primary education universal and developing secondary education, in addition to work on setting up nationality normal schools, nationality vocational schools, nationality secondary vocational schools and nationalities institutes, and training of various types of specialized personnel for the minority nationalities.

They may set up nationality primary boarding schools and nationality boarding secondary schools with education grants provided by the State for the minority peoples widely distributed in the pastoral and mountain areas faced with economic difficulties.

When conditions permit, nationality language textbooks should be taught and minority nationality languages used in class at schools with mostly minority students enrolled. Curricula may be instituted and taught in the language of the Han in middle schools and at the six grade in primary schools to popularize the use of putonghua (common speech based on Beijing pronunciation).

Article 38. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas independently undertake development of culture, literature, the arts, journalism, publishing, broadcasting, cinema and television in various forms as characteristic of the nationalities.

Work should be done by them to collect, sort out, translate and publish nationality books, and to protect scenic and historical sites, precious historical relics and objects of cultural heritage.

Article 39. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas independently decide their own plans for scientific and technological development and popularize knowledge of science and technology in their respective areas.

Article 40. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas independently decide their own plans for medical and health development and develop modern and traditional nationality medicine in their respective areas.

In addition, enhanced efforts should be directed to the prevention of local diseases, maternity and child care, and improved health work.

Article 41. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas independently develop physical culture and promote traditional nationality sports activities to build up the physique of the people in the minority nationality areas.

Article 42. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas are required to go into active exchanges and co-operation with other parts of the country in educational, scientific, technological, cultural, artistic, public health and physical culture work.

Exchanges with foreign countries in various respects as in the above may also be developed by them in accordance with relevant State regulations.

Article 43. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas may have measures of their own in handling the problem of mobility of population in their respective areas according to law.

Article 44. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas may, by acting on State laws, work out their own measures for family planning according to their local conditions.

Article 45. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas protect and work for improvement of the living and ecological environment, and prevention of pollution and other public hazards.

#### Chapter 4

##### The People's Courts and the People's Procuratorates in the National Autonomous Areas

Article 46. The people's courts and the people's procuratorates of the national autonomous areas are responsible to the people's congresses and their standing committees at the corresponding levels. The people's procuratorates of the national autonomous areas are also responsible to their higher procuratorial organs.

The administration of justice by the people's courts of the national autonomous areas is subject to supervision by their higher people's courts and the Supreme People's Court. The people's procuratorates of the national autonomous areas are under the leadership of the Supreme People's Procuratorate and their higher procuratorial organs.

Among the leading personnel and working staff of the people's courts and people's procuratorates in the national autonomous areas must be included some nationals of the minority nationalities exercising regional autonomy.

Article 47. The people's courts and the people's procuratorates of the national autonomous areas should examine and try cases in the language or languages in common use in the locality, guarantee the right for different ethnic nationals to court proceedings with their spoken or written languages, and provide translation for any party to the court proceedings who is not familiar with the spoken or written languages in common use in the locality; indictments, judgements, notices and other documents should be written, according to actual needs, in the language or languages in common use in the locality.

## Chapter 5

### The relationship between various nationalities in the national autonomous areas

Article 48. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas guarantee the right of equality to all nationalities in the respective areas.

The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas unite the cadres and masses of all nationalities, and bring into full play their initiative in a joint effort to build the respective areas.

Article 49. The organs of self-government of the national regional areas educate and encourage the cadres of all nationalities to learn each other's spoken and written languages. Cadres of the Han nationality should learn the minority nationalities' spoken and written languages in the respective localities while cadres of the minority nationalities should learn putonghua (common speech of the Chinese language) and the language of the Han in the course of learning and using their own spoken and written languages.

Government employees working in the national autonomous areas who have a good command of two or more languages in common use in the respective areas should be rewarded.

Article 50. The organs of self-government of the national regional areas help establish autonomous areas or nationality townships for other minority nationalities in the respective areas.

The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas help all nationalities in their development of the economy, education, science, culture, public health and physical culture in the respective areas.

The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas in their work look after the characteristics and needs of different ethnic groups living scattered in the respective areas.

Article 51. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas shall ensure that matters are fully talked over with the minority representatives and that full respect is given to their opinion when handling special problems concerning the minority nationalities in their localities.

Article 52. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas guarantee full civic rights to citizens of all nationalities as prescribed by the Constitution in the respective areas, and educate them to perform their duties.

Article 53. The organs of self-government of the national autonomous areas stand for social ethics of loving the motherland, the people, labour, science and socialism and educate citizens of all nationalities in the respective areas in patriotism, communism and policies towards nationalities. Cadres and masses of all nationalities are encouraged to trust, learn from and help each other, and mutually respect each other's spoken and written languages, habits, customs and religious beliefs in a joint effort to protect the unity of the State and that of all the Chinese nationalities.



## Chapter 6

### Leadership and assistance of higher State authorities

Article 54. Resolutions, decisions, decrees and instructions regarding the national autonomous areas from higher State authorities should suit the actual conditions of the national autonomous areas.

Article 55. The higher State authorities give financial, material and technical assistance to the national autonomous areas to accelerate their economic and cultural development.

The higher State authorities should look after the characteristics and needs of the national autonomous areas in national economic planning and the work of formulating plans for social development.

Article 56. The State establishes various specialized funds to help the national autonomous areas develop the economy and culture.

No special funds and interim special subsidies allocated by the State shall be allowed to be deducted, put aside or diverted to other purpose; they should not be used as normal budgetary income of the national autonomous areas.

Article 57. Special care should be given by the higher State authorities to the national autonomous areas in their development of commercial undertaking, supply and marketing, and medical enterprises according to policy regarding nationality trade.

Article 58. In their examination and adjustment of local financial work, the higher State authorities shall fix a reasonable base for the national autonomous areas in their financial income and expenditure.

Article 59. The higher State authorities look after the needs of the national autonomous areas in the distribution of the means of production and the means of livelihood.

In planning State purchases of industrial, agricultural and other local specialized products and their deliveries, the higher State authorities also look after the interests of the national autonomous areas and of their producers, and ensure that a fixed quantity or proportion of purchases to deliveries and allowances be reasonably set.

Article 60. In State investment, insurance of loans, tax collection, production, providing supplies, transportation work and marketing, the higher State authorities help the national autonomous areas with rational use of local resources in their development of local industries, transport undertakings, energy, and improvement on and production of traditional handicraft articles and special minority nationality goods.

Article 61. The higher State authorities should organize and encourage development of economic and technical co-operation between the developed and the national autonomous areas with the aim of raising the latter's level of administration and technology in production.

Article 62. In exploiting natural resources and building enterprises in the national autonomous areas, the State shall give due consideration to the interests of those areas, making suitable arrangements favourable for their economic development and taking good care of the production and life of local minority nationalities.

Enterprises, institutions and other establishments of the higher State authorities in national autonomous areas should give priority to local minority peoples in their recruitment of employees.

Enterprises, institutions and other establishments of the higher State authorities in national autonomous areas should respect the autonomy of the local organs of self-government and the right of supervision by them.

Article 63. The higher State authorities are in no position to change the relationship of enterprises as subordinate to the national autonomous areas without securing the approval of the organs of self-government in those areas.

Article 64. The higher State authorities help the national autonomous areas to train large numbers of cadres at different levels and specialized personnel and skilled workers of different professions and trades from among the nationality or nationalities in those areas; they select and assign a suitable number of teachers, doctors, and scientific, technological and managerial personnel according to local needs to work in the respective areas, with due consideration for their life and treatment.

Article 65. The higher State authorities give assistance to the national autonomous areas to accelerate their development of education in raising the scientific and cultural levels of all the nationalities in these areas.

In setting up nationalities institutes, the State ensures that nationality classes and nationality preparatory courses are instituted and opened in higher institutions for minority nationality students recruited by directional enrolment or directional assignment, and that the admission mark is accordingly lowered by higher educational institutions and secondary vocational schools for enrolled students of the minority nationalities.

Article 66. The higher State authorities shall strengthen education among the cadres and masses of all nationalities in policy regarding nationalities and often examine work on its implementation and that of other relevant laws.

## Chapter 7

### Supplementary provision

Article 67. Adopted by the National People's Congress, this law entered into effect on 1 October 1984.

Annex 4

Distribution of autonomous regions, prefectures and counties of the  
People's Republic of China

The closing date of this table was 31 December 1984

Distribution of autonomous regions, prefectures and counties of the  
People's Republic of China

Area	Names	Date of Establishment
Autonomous Region	Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region	1 May 1947
	Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region	1 October 1955
	Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region	15 March 1958
	Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region	25 October 1958
	Tibet Autonomous Region	9 September 1965
Prefecture	Yanbian Korean Autonomous Prefecture of Jilin Province	3 September 1952
	Gannan Tibet Autonomous Prefecture of Gansu Province	1 October 1953
	Linxia Hui Autonomous Prefecture of Gansu Province	19 November 1956
	Yushu Tibet Autonomous Prefecture of Qinghai Province	25 December 1951
	Hainan Tibet Autonomous Prefecture of Qinghai Province	6 December 1953
	Huangnan Tibet Autonomous Prefecture of Qinghai Province	22 December 1953
	Haibei Tibet Autonomous Prefecture of Qinghai Province	31 December 1953
	Guolo Tibet Autonomous Prefecture of Qinghai Province	1 January 1954
	Haixi Mongolia, Tibet and Kazak Autonomous Prefecture of Qinghai Province	25 January 1954

Area	Names	Date of Establishment
	Bayingolin Monggol Autonomous Prefecture of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region	23 June 1954
	Bortala Monggol Autonomous Prefecture of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region	13 July 1954
	Kizilsu Kirgiz Autonomous Prefecture of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region	14 July 1954
	Changji Hui Autonomous Prefecture of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region	15 July 1954
	Ili Kazak Autonomous Prefecture of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region	27 November 1954
	Xiangxi Tujia and Miao Autonomous Prefecture of Hunan Province	20 September 1957
	Exi Tujia and Miao Autonomous Prefecture of Hubei Province	1 December 1953
	Hainan Li and Miao Autonomous Prefecture of Guangdong Province	1 July 1952
	Garze Tibet Autonomous Prefecture of Sichuan Province	24 November 1950
	Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture of Sichuan Province	1 October 1952
	Aba (Ngawa) Tibet Autonomous Prefecture of Sichuan Province	1 January 1953

Area	Names	Date of Establishment
	Qiandongnan Miao and Dong Autonomous Prefecture of Guizhou Province	23 July 1956
	Qingnan Bouyei and Miao Autonomous Prefecture of Guizhou Province	8 August 1956
	Qianxinan Bouyei and Miao Autonomous Prefecture of Guizhou Province	1 May 1982
	Xishuangbanna Dai Autonomous Prefecture of Yunnan Province	24 January 1953
	Dehong Dai and Jingpo Autonomous Prefecture of Yunnan Province	24 July 1953
	Honghe Hani Autonomous Prefecture of Yunnan Province	18 November 1957
	Nujiang Lisu Autonomous Prefecture of Yunnan Province	23 August 1954
	Dali Bai Autonomous Prefecture of Yunnan Province	22 November 1956
	Diqiang Tibet Autonomous Prefecture of Yunnan Province	13 September 1957
	Wenshan Zhuang and Miao Autonomous Prefecture of Yunnan Province	1 April 1958
	Chuxiong Yi Autonomous Prefecture of Yunnan Province	15 April 1958

Area	Names	Date of Establishment
	Mengcun Hui Autonomous County of Hebei Province	30 November 1955
	Dachang Hui Autonomous County of Hebei Province	7 December 1955
	Kelaqin Zuoyi Monggol Autonomous County of Liaoning Province	1 April 1958
	Fuxin Monggol Autonomous County of Liaoning Province	7 April 1958
	Qian Gorlos Monggol Autonomous County of Jilin Province	1 September 1956
	Changbai Korea Autonomous County of Jilin Province	15 September 1958
	Duerbote Monggol Autonomous County of Heilongjiang Province	5 December 1956
Autonomous County	Jingning She Autonomous County of Zhejiang Province	
	Oroqen Autonomous Banner of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region	1 October 1951
	Ewenki Autonomous Banner of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region	1 August 1958
	Morin Dawa Daur Autonomous Banner of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region	15 August 1958
	Tianzhu Tibet Autonomous County of Gansu Province	6 May 1950
	Subei Monggol Autonomous County of Gansu Province	29 July 1950
	Dongxiang Autonomous County of Gansu Province	25 September 1950

Area	Names	Date of Establishment
	<p>Zhangjiachuan Hui Autonomous County of Gansu Province</p> <p>Sunan Yugur Autonomous County of Gansu Province</p> <p>Aksay Kazak Autonomous County of Gansu Province</p> <p>Jishishan Bonan Dongxiang and Salar Autonomous County of Gansu Province</p>	<p>6 July 1953</p> <p>20 February 1954</p> <p>27 April 1954</p> <p>30 September 1981</p>
	<p>Menyuan Hui Autonomous County of Qinghai Province</p> <p>Huzhu Tu Autonomous County of Qinghai Province</p> <p>Hualong Hui Autonomous County of Qinghai Province</p> <p>Xunhua Salar Autonomous County of Qinghai Province</p> <p>Henan Monggol Autonomous County of Qinghai Province</p>	<p>19 December 1953</p> <p>17 February 1954</p> <p>1 March 1954</p> <p>1 March 1954</p> <p>16 October 1954</p>
	<p>Yanqi Hui Autonomous County of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region</p>	<p>15 March 1954</p>
	<p>Qapqal Xibe Autonomous County of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region</p> <p>Mori Kazak Autonomous County of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region</p>	<p>25 March 1954</p> <p>17 July 1954</p>



Area	Names	Date of Establishment
	Hoboksar Monggol Autonomous County of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region	10 September 1954
	Taxkorgan Tajik Autonomous County of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region	17 September 1954
	Barkol Kazak Autonomous County of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region	30 September 1954
	Tongdao Dong Autonomous County of Hunan Province	7 May 1954
	Jianghua Yao Autonomous County of Hunan Province	25 November 1955
	Chengbu Miao Autonomous County of Hunan Province	30 November 1956
	Xinhuang Dong Autonomous County of Hunan Province	5 December 1956
	Wufeng Tu Autonomous County of Hubei Province	12 December 1984
	Changyang Tu Autonomous County of Hubei Province	8 December 1984
	Liannan Yao Autonomous County of Guangdong Province	25 January 1953
	Lianshan Zhuang Autonomous County of Guangdong Province	26 September 1962
	Ruyuan Yao Autonomous County of Guangdong Province	1 October 1963
	Longsheng Ge Autonomous County of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region	19 August 1951
	Jinxui Yao Autonomous County of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region	28 May 1952

Area	Names	Date of Establishment
	Rongshui Miao Autonomous County of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region	26 November 1952
	Sanjiang Dong Autonomous County of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region	3 December 1952
	Luo Cheng Mulam Autonomous County of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region	10 January 1984
	Fuchuan Yao Autonomous County of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region	1 January 1984
	Longlin Ge Autonomous County of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region	1 January 1953
	Duan Yao Autonomous County of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region	15 December 1955
	Bama Yao Autonomous County of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region	6 February 1956
	Fangcheng Ge Autonomous County of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region	1 May 1958
	Muli Tibet Autonomous County of Sichuan Province	19 February 1953
	Maowen Qiang Autonomous County of Sichuan Province	7 July 1958
	Youyang Tu and Miao Autonomous County of Sichuan Province	11 November 1983
	Xiushan Tu and Miao Autonomous County of Sichuan Province	7 November 1983
	Qianjiang Tu and Miao Autonomous County of Sichuan Province	13 November 1984
	Pengshui Miao and Tu Autonomous County of Sichuan Province	10 November 1984

Area	Names	Date of Establishment
	Shizhu Tu Autonomous County of Sichuan Province	18 November 1984
	Ebian Yi Autonomous County of Sichuan Province	5 October 1984
	Mabian Yi Autonomous County of Sichuan Province	9 October 1984
	Weining Yi, Hui and Miao Autonomous County of Guizhou Province	11 November 1954
	Songtao Miao Autonomous County of Guizhou Province	31 December 1956
	Sandu Shui Autonomous County of Guizhou Province	2 January 1957
	Zhenning Bouyei Autonomous County of Guizhou Province	11 September 1963
	Yuping Dong Autonomous County of Guizhou Province	7 November 1984
	Guanling Bouyei and Miao Autonomous County of Guizhou Province	31 December 1981
	Ziyan Miao and Bouyei Autonomous County of Guizhou Province	11 February 1966
	Eshan Yi Autonomous County of Yunnan Province	12 May 1951
	Lancang Lahu Autonomous County of Yunnan Province	7 April 1953
	Jiangcheng Hani and Yi Autonomous County of Yunnan Province	18 May 1954
	Menglian Dai, Lahu and Va Autonomous County of Yunnan Province	16 June 1954
	Gengma Dai and Va Autonomous County of Yunnan Province	16 October 1955
	Ninglang Yi Autonomous County of Yunnan Province	20 September 1956

Area	Names	Date of Establishment
	<p>Gongshan Drung and Nu Autonomous County of Yunnan Province</p> <p>Weishan Yi and Hui Autonomous County of Yunnan Province</p> <p>Lunan Yi Autonomous County of Yunnan Province</p> <p>Lijiang Naxi Autonomous County of Yunnan Province</p> <p>Pingbian Miao Autonomous County of Yunnan Province</p> <p>Hekou Yao Autonomous County of Yunnan Province</p> <p>Cangyuan Va Autonomous County of Yunnan Province</p> <p>Ximeng Va Autonomous County of Yunnan Province</p> <p>Nanjian Yi Autonomous County of Yunnan Province</p> <p>Xundian Hui and Yi Autonomous County of Yunnan Province</p> <p>Mojiang Hani Autonomous County of Yunnan Province</p> <p>Yuanjiang Hani, Yi and Dai Autonomous County of Yunnan Province</p> <p>Xinping Yi and Dai Autonomous County of Yunnan Province</p>	<p>1 October 1956</p> <p>9 November 1956</p> <p>31 December 1956</p> <p>10 April 1961</p> <p>1 July 1963</p> <p>11 July 1963</p> <p>28 February 1964</p> <p>5 March 1965</p> <p>27 November 1965</p> <p>20 December 1979</p> <p>28 November 1979</p> <p>22 November 1980</p> <p>25 November 1980</p>

- Note: 1. Above are the 5 autonomous regions, 31 autonomous prefectures and 83 autonomous counties.
2. The anniversary of the founding of Tibet Autonomous Region has been changed from 9 September to 1 September.