



Constitution

Silk Road Chamber of International Commerce

(Internal)

Preamble

The fundamental objective of the Silk Road Chamber of International Commerce Limited (SRCIC) is to further the participation of global business in the development of the 21st Century Silk Roads (maritime & land) linking more than 60 countries with a population of over 4 billion people.

The initiative to restore the ancient land and maritime Silk Roads that were the engines of trade and investment for centuries was launched by the Government of China in 2013. The impetus provided by what has come to be known as the “Belt and Road” initiative now encompasses projects that generate trade and investment involving companies and organizations around the world.

The work of the SRCIC is meant to contribute to furthering commercial and cultural exchanges that favor the spread of Peace and Prosperity in the Silk Roads regions and in the world.

Article 1: Name, Role and Mission

1. The organization is called the Silk Road Chamber of International Commerce, also known as the Silk Road Chamber or by the acronym ‘SRCIC’ .
2. The SRCIC is a non-governmental, non-political, and non-profit transnational business organization.
3. The founding mission of the SRCIC is to promote the renaissance of the Silk Road trade and culture, adapted to trade and investment in the 21st Century.
4. The SRCIC contributes to the harmonious growth and the promotion of free trade,



principally within the Silk Roads Belt and Road economies.

5. The SRCIC role is to enable its Members to seize opportunities for trade and investment in the Silk Roads Belt and Road regions.
6. SRCIC membership is open to chambers, business groups and organizations within the Silk Roads region that wish to pursue opportunities for trade, investment, and cultural exchange with each other. A category of Correspondent Member is also open for those chambers, business organizations and enterprises beyond the Silk Roads countries.
7. The SRCIC will link its Members for business exchanges, including through a private access Internet network platform.
8. The SRCIC will help establish a cooperative relationship between its Members and government institutions and departments in countries of the Silk Road regions.

Article 2: Headquarters and Legal Status

1. The SRCIC is registered and has its Headquarters in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China. The SRCIC Secretariat is also established in Xi' an, and has offices in Shanghai and Beijing.
2. The SRCIC is a non-governmental, non-political, non-profit business organization and represents Members in all sectors of trade and commerce.
3. The SRCIC working languages are English and Chinese. In the event of any conflict, the English version of the Constitution shall prevail.
4. The authority to interpret and amend the Constitution resides with the SRCIC General Assembly.

Article 3: Membership

The SRCIC is composed of Members sharing the objectives set forth in the articles of this Constitution. The official Government of China documents defining the 21st Century Silk Roads establish that it is comprised primarily of Silk Roads Countries, but that participation in Silk Roads initiatives and projects is open to all countries. In keeping with the multilateral spirit that informs both the "Belt and Road" concept and the SRCIC, there are two



categories of membership:

1. **Silk Road Members:** this includes National Chambers and Business Federations, transnational and regional Federations and Chambers and individual companies, with their headquarters in one of the Silk Road (land and maritime) countries or regions.
2. **Correspondent Members:** this Member category is open to chambers, business organizations and companies with their headquarters outside the Silk Roads countries. Correspondent Members are eligible for participation in the SRCIC General Assembly, annual conferences, meetings for cooperation and SRCIC Committees. Correspondent Members also have access to the services of open platforms such as the eSilk Road, Silk Road International Development Fund and SRCIC newsletters.

In addition to the membership categories above, the SRCIC Executive Board and General Assembly have created the following bodies, with their own membership and terms of reference.

1. **Silk Road Enterprise Alliance**

The Silk Road Enterprise Alliance was established by decision of the SRCIC Executive Board on 9 September 2017. The Enterprise Alliance is based on the following principles:

- Silk Road Enterprise Alliance membership is open to major companies from all countries who wish to be part of the Silk Roads Belt and Road initiatives.
- The Silk Road Enterprise Alliance reports to the SRCIC Chairman and Executive Board.
- The Silk Road Enterprise Alliance can receive contributions/donations from enterprises for its operations and projects.
- The Silk Road Enterprise Alliance can receive fees from enterprises participating in its activities.

Terms of Reference:

The Silk Road Enterprise Alliance will have its own internal governance structure, to include:



- 1 Chairman and no more than 3 Vice-Chairs.
- The Chairman will be elected from its members.
- The Chairman of the Silk Road Enterprise Alliance will be an ex-officio member of the SRCIC Executive Board.

2. Silk Road Urban Alliance

Contemporary trends in global governance have shown that city/municipal governments are a highly effective interface between policy makers and the populations they serve, as well as being primary decision makers on much of infrastructure and environmental spending and investment. In recognition of their importance the SRCIC has established the Urban Alliance.

Membership criteria for Silk Road Urban Alliance includes:

- **National Capitals**, e.g. Beijing, Mexico, Amman
- **Significant Higher Education Hub**, e.g. Gaborone, Dubai
- **Innovation Hub**, e.g. Pune, Eindhoven, Hangzhou
- **Business/Financial Hub**, e.g. Mumbai, Shanghai, Casablanca, Hong Kong, Milan
- **Significant Population Hub**, e.g. Shenyang, Mombasa, Monterrey
- **International Organization Hub**, e.g. Geneva, Vienna, Nairobi, The Hague
- **Cultural Hub**, e.g. Xi'an, Venice, St. Petersburg

Terms of Reference:

The Silk Road Urban Alliance will have its own governance structure, to include:

- One Chair and no more than 3 Vice-Chairs.
- The Chairman will be an ex officio member of the SRCIC Executive Board.
- The Alliance will hold its annual meeting as part of the SRCIC annual congress.



Article 4: Role, Responsibilities and Member benefits

SRCIC Membership is obtained by submitting a fully completed application and official national charters/licenses of operation, which must be approved by the SRCIC.

1. All Members in all categories are part of the SRCIC General Assembly, its principal governing body.
2. Only SRCIC Members are eligible for appointment to the Chairmanship and Executive Board of the SRCIC.
3. All Members are eligible for appointment to working committees of SRCIC, including as Chairs and Vice Chairs of these committees.
4. All Members work to formulate, mobilize and advocate the views of the business community for business participation in the Silk Road Economic Belts.
5. SRCIC Members have priorities for participation in cooperation and development projects, access to business events and services provided by SRCIC.
6. All Members may terminate their membership at any time with written notification to the SRCIC.
7. All Members who do not respect the principles and rules set out in this Constitution can have their membership terminated upon approval of the SRCIC Executive Board.

Article 5: Governance Structure

SRCIC Governance structure is comprised of:

1. **A Chairmanship**, comprised of the Chairman, First Honorary Chairman, Honorary Chairman, Executive Chairman, First Vice-Chairman, and Secretary General.
2. **An Executive Board**, comprised of the Chairmanship and Vice-Chairpersons. New appointments to the Executive Board will be submitted for approval at the annual meetings of the SRCIC General Assembly. Executive Board members are appointed for a term of three years, which is renewable for three years.
3. **A General Assembly**, which assembles all Members as the supreme authority of the



SRCIC, presided over by the Chairman and First-Vice Chairman. All Members have one vote in the meetings of the SRCIC General Assembly. Each Member delegation will designate a representative for the SRCIC General Assembly.

4. **A Secretariat**, comprised of the Secretary General, Deputy Secretaries General and support staff, as the chief administrator of the organization. Upon recommendation of the Chairman, the Secretary General appointment shall be confirmed by the Executive Board.

Article 6: General Assembly and Annual Meeting

1. The SRCIC General Assembly is the supreme authority of SRCIC. Its function and responsibilities include:
 - Approval of amendments to the Constitution
 - Election of Members to the Chairmanship and to the Executive Board, upon nomination by the Chairmanship
 - Discussion and approval of SRCIC work plans, projects and annual budget
2. SRCIC General Assembly meeting: This gathering of the SRCIC supreme authority will be held at least every year and be presided by the SRCIC Chairman.
3. The SRCIC General Assembly Meeting gathered as the Annual Meeting has authority to:
 - Elect officers of the organization upon recommendation of the Chairman and Chairmanship
 - Consider and approve the SRCIC work plan
 - Approve the creation and termination of SRCIC special projects and Committees, Panels and the appointment of their Chairs
 - Recognize or withdraw recognition of any Member found not to be in respect of the organization' s founding principles
4. The decisions of the SRCIC General Assembly will be based on the results of the majority of the votes cast by the delegates or their proxies.



Article 7: Executive Board

1. The Executive Board is composed of the members of the Chairmanship and Vice Chairpersons.
2. The Executive Board members are confirmed by the SRCIC General Assembly, based on the recommendation of the Chairman and Chairmanship.
3. Executive Board members are elected for a term of three years, renewable for three years.
4. The Executive Board shall meet twice per year, or more if so requested by the Chairman. The meetings may be conducted through audio-visual conference calls.
5. The Executive Board is responsible for developing, approving and overseeing the implementation of the SRCIC strategy, policies and work plan.
6. The Executive Board shall approve the annual budget, based on the recommendation of the Chairman.
7. The Executive Board shall approve the creation or termination of the Committees and special projects.
8. The Executive Board shall ensure the maintenance of the high quality and relevance of SRCIC work programs.

Article 8: Chairman, Chairmanship, Executive Chairman, and Secretary General

Chairman

1. The Chairman represents the organization and presides over the meetings of the Chairmanship, the Executive Board and the SRCIC General Assembly.
2. The Chairman, in consultation with other Members of the Chairmanship, is responsible for:
 - Convening and presiding at meetings of the Executive Board and General Assembly
 - Nominating members to the Executive Board and General Assembly



- Representing the organization as its chief spokesperson and leader
- Approving the annual budget of the organization and making recommendations on this to the Executive Board and the General Assembly

Chairmanship

1. The Chairmanship is comprised of the Chairman, First Honorary Chairman, Honorary Chairman, Executive Chairman, First Vice Chairman, and the Secretary General. The Chairmanship will meet two times per year in advance of the Executive Board meeting. The meetings may be conducted through audio-visual conference calls.
2. Honorary Chairs, First Vice Chairs and the Vice Chairs are elected by the SRCIC General Assembly for a term of three years, renewable for three years. The Members of the Chairmanship are elected by the Executive Board for a term of three years, renewable for three years. The Chairmanship proposes and agrees the agenda for meetings of the Executive Board and the SRCIC General Assembly.
3. In the case of emergencies, the Chairmanship is authorized to make decisions, which can be submitted for validation by the Executive Board.

Executive Chairman

Upon recommendation of the Chairman, the Executive Chairman appointment shall be confirmed by the Executive Board. The Executive Chairman is responsible for the overall development of the organization, including relations with other relevant bodies.

Secretary General

1. Upon recommendation of the Chairman, the Secretary General appointment shall be confirmed by the Executive Board. The Secretary General administers the affairs of the SRCIC and implements its policy within the framework defined by the Executive Board and the SRCIC General Assembly.
2. The Secretary General is responsible for the implementation of the strategic and policy decisions and the program of action.
3. The Secretary General is responsible for overall management of the SRCIC Secretariat,



including appointments, promotions and termination.

4. The Secretariat is comprised of the Secretary General, Deputy Secretaries General and support staff as required.

Article 9: SRCIC Committees

1. SRCIC Committees are created to implement special projects within the work plan.
2. The Executive Board shall establish Committees and define their terms of reference. The Executive Board can terminate a Committee if it judges this necessary.
3. The Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Committees are appointed by the SRCIC Chairman, in consultation with the Chairmanship and Executive Board, for a term of three years, renewable upon mutual agreement.
4. All Members are eligible for appointment to Working Panels and Committees, including as Chairs or Vice Chairs.

Terms of Reference for SRCIC Committees:

1. SRCIC Committees are established by the Executive Board to implement projects within the SRCIC Work Plan.
2. The specific role of each Committee is defined by the Executive Board, for example to carry out a work program in the areas of Culture, Trade and Investment, Energy, Transportation etc.
3. The Chair and Vice-Chairs of Committees are appointed by the SRCIC Chairman and Chairmanship. The terms of appointment are three years, renewable upon consent of both parties.
4. All SRCIC Members are eligible for appointment to SRCIC Committees.
5. Members of SRCIC Committees are appointed by SRCIC Chairman and Chairmanship, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of each Committee. The terms of appointment are three years, renewable upon acceptance by both parties.
6. The Chair and Vice-Chairs of each Committee can appoint "Experts" to advise the



committee in its specific field of work. These can be selected from Members or non-Members of SRCIC.

7. It is the role of the Committee Chair and members to clearly define an annual work program for the Committee in its assigned area of work. The annual work program will be submitted to the Executive Board for approval.
8. The Executive Board can terminate a Committee if it judges this necessary because the work of the Committee is no longer relevant or a priority of SRCIC.

Article 10: Financial and assets management

SRCIC has been inaugurated and will be supported financially in an initial period by donations from other organizations. The long-term sustainability of the SRCIC will require that it becomes self-financing through:

1. Membership contributions
2. Private donations
3. Fees from use of SRCIC services
4. Grants provided by government and other institutions

SRCIC shall comply with the internationally recognized accounting standards and financial regulations in the management of its funds and assets.

An annual financial report will be presented for review and approval by the SRCIC Chairman, the Executive Board and the SRCIC General Assembly.

Article 11: Organization Termination

SRCIC shall be terminated in any of the following circumstances, and the motion of termination shall be proposed by the Chairmanship or the Executive Board:

1. SRCIC fulfills the mission stipulated in Article 1
2. The General Assembly passes a resolution to dissolve the SRCIC
3. SRCIC is divided or merged



4. SRCIC is unable to function in accordance with the mission stipulated in Article 1
5. The motion of termination passes only when the General Assembly votes in favor of it.

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Annex:

List of Silk Road Countries

China

Other Belt and Road Countries

Afghanistan	Albania	Armenia
Azerbaijan	Bahrain	Bangladesh
Belarus	Bhutan	Bosnia & Herzegovina
Brunei	Bulgaria	Cambodia
Croatia	Czech Republic	Egypt
Estonia	Ethiopia	Georgia
Hungary	India	Indonesia
Iran	Iraq	Israel
Jordan	Kazakhstan	Korea
Kuwait	Kyrgyzstan	Laos



Latvia	Lebanon	Lithuania
Macedonia	Malaysia	Maldives
Moldova	Mongolia	Montenegro
Myanmar	Nepal	New Zealand
Oman	Pakistan	Palestine
Philippines	Poland	Qatar
Romania	Russia	Saudi Arabia
Serbia	Singapore	Slovakia
Slovenia	South Africa	Sri Lanka
Syrian Arab Republic	Tajikistan	Thailand
Timor-Leste	Turkey	Turkmenistan
Ukraine	United Arab Emirates	Uzbekistan
Vietnam	Yemen	

Note: According to the Vision and Actions on Jointly Building the Silk Road Economic Belt and 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road, the Belt and Road covers-but is not limited to – the area of the ancient Silk Road. It is open to engagement with all countries, and international and regional organizations.

Source:



SILK ROAD CHAMBER
OF INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE
絲綢之路國際總商會

<http://china-trade-research.hktdc.com/business-news/article/The-Belt-and-Road-Initiative/The-Belt-and-Road-Initiative-Country-Profiles/obor/en/1/1X000000/1X0A36I0.htm>