

Special Regulation No. 12

**Concerning Privileges and Advantages of the
Commissioners General of Section and their Staff**

**Beijing International Horticultural Exhibition
Coordination Bureau**

Article 1 Purpose

1. Pursuant to Articles 8 and 37 of the *General Regulations* of the International Horticultural Exhibition 2019, Beijing, China (hereinafter referred to as the “Expo”), this *Special Regulation* specifies the requirements concerning the privileges and advantages that shall be granted to the Commissioners General of Section and their staff to facilitate the accomplishment of their duties.

2. For the purpose of this *Special Regulation*, the staff of the Commissioners General of Section means the Deputy Commissioners General of Section, Garden (Pavilion) Directors and other personnel of the Official Participants. In addition, certain family members of the Commissioners General of Section and the Deputy Commissioners General of Section will benefit from the privileges and advantages.

3. “Certain family members” mentioned in Paragraph 2 of this Article means the spouse, dependent elders, underage or disabled descendants of the Commissioners General of Section and the Deputy Commissioners General of Section.

Article 2 Responsibilities of Commissioners General of Section

1. Commissioners General of Section shall, in accordance with Article 13 of the Paris Convention Relating to International Exhibitions signed at Paris on 22 November 1928, amended and supplemented by the

Protocols of 10 May 1948, 16 November 1966, 30 November 1972, and by the Amendments of 24 June 1982 and 31 May 1988 and Article 8 of the General Regulations, represent those foreign governments and intergovernmental organizations that have accepted an official invitation from the government of China to participate in the Expo (collectively referred to as “Official Participants”), shall be responsible for the organization and operation of their respective national sections, and shall be responsible to the Organizer of the Expo for the actions of their staff, as well as the persons carrying out commercial and other activities provided for in Article 22 of the General Regulations.

2. All Official Participants shall comply with the *Paris Convention relating to International Exhibitions* signed on November 22nd, 1928 as amended and supplemented, the *General Regulations* and the *Special Regulations* of the Expo, the relevant laws, regulations and rules of China, and the additional instructions and directives issued by the Organizer pursuant to the *General Regulations* and the *Special Regulations* of the Expo (hereinafter jointly referred to as “the Laws and Regulations”).

3. Commissioners General of Section shall ensure that all persons under their responsibility comply with the Laws and Regulations.

Article 3 Assistance to the College of Commissioners General of Section

1. To facilitate the functioning of the College of Commissioners General of Section and the Steering Committee of the College of Commissioners General of Section (hereinafter referred to as the “Steering Committee”), the Organizer shall provide the following assistance free of charge:

(1) meeting rooms and facilities, translation and interpreting of English, French and Chinese as well as other services;

(2) office rooms, secretarial services, facilities and other necessary services for the staff of the Steering Committee.

2. Office rooms, secretarial services and other necessary services required by the BIE technical adviser to perform his/her duty shall be provided by the Organizer free of charge.

Article 4 Protocol

The Commissioner General of the Exhibition and the Organizer shall establish, in consultation with the College of Commissioners General of Section and its Steering Committee, protocol procedures to be observed in the Expo Site for the following activities at receptions and events:

(1) Opening Ceremony and Closing Ceremony;

(2) National Garden Day and Special Day ceremonies and events;

(3) Visit by special guests of honor and other VIPs on occasions other than National Garden Days and Special Days;

(4) classification of special guests of honor and other VIPs and their entitled privileges;

(5) list of precedence for special guests of honor and other VIPs;

(6) details concerning the provision of facilities and services for special guests of honor and other VIPs; and

(7) free distribution of a limited amount of tickets.

Article 5 Privileges and Benefits

Commissioners General of Section and their staff shall be granted the following privileges and benefits, during the construction, exhibition, operation and dismantlement of their exhibition areas.

(1) The Chinese government shall, in accordance with the Laws and Regulations, provide the Commissioners General of Section, their overseas staff and family members with the assistance in their visa application procedures, issuing relevant visa as per their working period in China, to facilitate the accomplishment of their duties.

(2) Goods carried into China for self-use and other personal goods carried into China in a separate shipment of baggage by the Commissioners General of Section, their overseas staff and family members shall be subject to the Laws and Regulations and exempted from customs duty and import VAT provided that their quantities are verified to be within a reasonable scope.

(3) For the income of the Commissioners General of Section and their foreign non-resident staff, sourced from their engagement in the Expo in the territory of China, the Organizer will ensure that the individual income tax is exempted. In the event that it is levied, the Organiser undertakes to refund it fully. Specific procedures in this regard will be issued by the Organizer separately.

(4) Commissioners General of Section and their staff holding automobile driver licenses valid out of China may apply for temporary permission or automobile driver licenses valid in China and shall comply with the Laws and Regulations.

(5) Imported vehicles for use by Commissioners General of Section in their duties shall follow the rules for temporary admission goods, as stipulated in Article 16 of *Special Regulation No. 7*, subject to their re-exportation after the close of Expo.

Article 6 Other Benefits

1. In addition to the privileges and advantages specified in Article 5 of this *Special Regulation*, Commissioners General of Section, Deputy Commissioners General of Section, and Garden (Pavilion) Directors shall be granted the “Official” and “Formal” status subject to the Laws and Regulations pursuant to the duties they will perform at the Expo. Other staff under the responsibility of Commissioners General of Section shall

be granted the appropriate status pursuant to the duties they will perform at the Expo.

2. In addition to the provisions specified in Article 25 of *Special Regulation No. 7*, VAT borne and paid by the Official Participants, incurred in their procurement of services in China for the purpose of their exhibition shall also be refunded by the Organizer. Specific procedure of the said tax refund will be issued by the Organizer separately.

3. Official Participants are entitled to open their temporary bank accounts in China at the bank designated by the Organizer in order to handle their participation funds. For the revenue in Chinese currency obtained from their commercial activities within the exhibition areas, the Official Participants may convert it into foreign currencies and remit it outside China, after paying relevant taxes according to the Laws and Regulations and the royalties to the Organizer.

4 Commissioners General of Section, Deputy Commissioners General of Section, Garden (Pavilion) Directors and other staff of the Commissioners General of Section, shall be issued accreditation certificates, to facilitate the accomplishment of their duties.

5. Pursuant to *Special Regulation No. 2 Concerning the Conditions of Participation in the Exposition*, the Organizer will offer financial assistance within a certain amount to the developing countries which meet relevant requirements, such as the cost of Official Participants' VIP

delegation to participate in events in Beijing, the cost of Official Participants' journalist delegation for some events in Beijing, etc.

6. Specific information regarding the privileges and benefits will be specified in the *Participation Guide* which will be made available by the Organizer.

Article 7 Assistance Provided by the Organizer

1. The Organizer shall provide Official Participants with necessary information on the laws, regulations and rules of China concerning their participation in the Expo.

2. The Commissioner General of the Exposition and the Organizer shall, complying with the Laws and Regulations, provide Commissioners General of Section, their staff and family members with necessary assistance to facilitate their completion of the customs clearance procedures for their exhibits, imported goods and articles, and of the visa application and entry procedures for their overseas staff.

3. The Commissioner General of the Exposition and the Organizer shall provide Commissioners General of Section and their staff with necessary assistance in communicating with the Chinese central government and local government authorities to facilitate the accomplishment of their duties.

4. The Organizer shall provide Commissioners General of Section

and their staff necessary assistance regarding their travel and accommodation within China in addition to the provisions of *Special Regulation No. 6 Concerning Accommodation for the Personnel of Official Participants*.

5. The Organizer shall assist Commissioners General of Section and their staff in their application of Chinese driving licenses, and reserve and provide them with parking areas nearby the Expo Site. The Organizer shall also provide facilitation to the cars of Commissioners General of Section, for their access to the Expo Site during the operation of the Expo.