```php
<?php

    include(dirname( dirname(__FILE__) ) . '/config/sql_conf.php');

    function connectDatabase() {

        $conf = new SqlConf();

        $user = $conf->getUserName();
        $password = $conf->getPassword();

        $database = $conf->getDatabase();

        $servername = $conf->getHostname();

        $conn = new mysqli($servername, $user, $password, $database);
        $conn->set_charset("utf8");

        if ($conn->connect_error) {
            die('Connect Error (' . $conn->connect_errno . ') '. $conn->connect_error);
        }

        return $conn;
    }

?>
```