

No. 1044

**UNITED NATIONS
and
ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY**

**Cooperation Agreement. Signed at New York on 9 October
1990**

Authentic texts: English and French.

Filed and recorded by the Secretariat on 9 October 1990.

**ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES
et
ORGANISATION DE L'UNITÉ AFRICAINE**

Accord de coopération. Signé à New York le 9 octobre 1990

Textes authentiques : anglais et français.

Classé et inscrit au répertoire par le Secrétariat le 9 octobre 1990.

CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

CONSIDERING the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations (hereinafter referred to as the UN) which call, inter alia, for the promotion of regional and international co-operation to solve political, economic and social problems and to ensure respect for human rights in the world,

CONSIDERING the provisions of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity² (hereinafter referred to as the OAU) which call, inter alia, on its Member States to strengthen their unity and solidarity, intensify their co-operation and efforts to achieve a better life for the peoples of Africa as well as promote international co-operation,

RECALLING the relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly, in particular Resolutions A/RES/42/9,³ A/RES/43/12⁴ and A/RES/44/17,⁵ and those of the policy-making bodies of the OAU, in particular Resolutions AHG/Res.33 (11) and AHG/Res.136 (XXI), calling for intensified co-operation between the two Organizations,

BEARING IN MIND the Agreement of 15 November 1965 between the UN and the OAU on co-operation between OAU and ECA⁶ as well as the Memorandum of Agreement signed on 21 February 1982 between the OAU General Secretariat and the ECA Executive Secretariat on practical

¹ Came into force on 9 October 1990 by signature, in accordance with article X (1).

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 479, p. 39.

³ United Nations, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second session, Supplement No. 49 (A/4249)*, p. 20.

⁴ *Ibid.*, *Forty-third session, Supplement No. 49 (A/4349)*, p. 19.

⁵ *Ibid.*, *Forty-fourth session, Supplement No. 49 (A/4449)*, p. 25.

⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 548, p. 315.

measures for harmonious and efficient co-operation and close collaboration in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and its Final Act,

CONSCIOUS of the need for closer co-operation between the UN and its Specialized Agencies on the one hand, and the OAU and its Specialized Institutions on the other, in matters of common interest, and desirous of further enhancing and strengthening such co-operation,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE I

AREAS OF CO-OPERATION

The UN and the OAU undertake to co-operate in the following fields, through their appropriate bodies:

1. Political;
2. Economic and Social;
3. Scientific and Cultural.

ARTICLE II

CO-OPERATION AND CONSULTATION

1. The UN and the OAU shall act in close collaboration and hold consultations regularly on all matters of common interest with a view to co-ordinating and harmonizing their positions.
2. To this end, the two Organizations shall decide to set up the appropriate structures for such consultations as and when necessary.

ARTICLE IIIRECIPROCAL REPRESENTATION

1. Subject to such decisions as may be taken by its competent bodies concerning the attendance of its meetings by observers, the United Nations shall, subject to the rules of procedure of the bodies concerned, invite the OAU to send representatives to United Nations meetings and conferences where observers are allowed, whenever matters of interest to the OAU are discussed.
2. Subject to such decisions as may be taken by its competent bodies concerning the attendance of its meetings by observers, the OAU shall invite the UN to send representatives to all its meetings and conferences where observers are allowed, whenever matters of interest to the UN are discussed.
3. The UN and the OAU shall each take necessary measures to ensure that the other is represented at other meetings organized under the auspices of the other to consider matters of common interest, subject to the relevant rules of procedure applicable to such meetings.

ARTICLE IVEXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS

Subject to such arrangements as may be deemed necessary to safeguard the confidential or semi-confidential nature of certain information and documents, the two Organizations shall exchange information and documents on questions of common interest, in particular:

1. The UN shall inform the OAU of any multi-national projects and programmes or other activities undertaken by the UN in States members both of the UN and of the OAU with its assistance or under its auspices and shall consider any proposals that may be communicated to it by the OAU with a view to ensuring better complementary action and effective co-ordination between the two Organizations.
2. The OAU shall inform the UN of projects and programmes in the political, economic, social, scientific and cultural fields that relate to the development of OAU activities in the latter's Member States. It shall consider any proposals concerning such projects and programmes that may be submitted to it by the UN with a view to ensuring better complementary action and effective co-ordination between the two Organizations.
3. The UN shall keep the OAU informed of its priority areas or sectors that require joint and co-ordinated action by the two Organizations, either in Africa or at international fora.
4. The OAU shall keep the UN informed of the priority areas or sectors for co-operation as defined by the resolutions and decisions of its competent bodies.

ARTICLE V

STATISTICAL AND LEGAL INFORMATION

The UN and the OAU shall, subject to their respective rules and regulations, pool their efforts to:

- ensure optimum utilization of statistical and legal information and efficient use of their resources to compile, analyze, publish and disseminate such information;
- reduce the workload on Governments and organizations from which such information is collected.

ARTICLE VI

ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION

1. Should the growth of the UN and OAU activities in fields of common interest so dictate, either Organization may request the co-operation of the other whenever the latter Organization is in a position to help develop the former's activities.
2. Each Organization shall endeavour, insofar as possible and in compliance with its constituent instruments and decisions of its competent bodies, to respond favourably to such requests for co-operation in accordance with procedures to be mutually agreed upon.

3. Similarly, insofar as possible, and within the context of their constituent instruments and decisions of their respective competent bodies, the two Organizations shall assist each other in the training of various categories of staff, especially administrative and conference staff as well as specialists in the legal, economic, social, scientific and cultural fields.

ARTICLE VII

JOINT ACTION

1. The UN and the OAU may, through special arrangements, decide to act jointly in the implementation of projects that are of common interest. The special arrangements shall define the modalities for the participation of each Organization in such projects and shall determine the expenses payable by each of them.
2. The UN and the OAU may, whenever they consider it desirable, set up commissions, committees or other technical or advisory bodies on terms and conditions, to be mutually agreed upon in each case, to advise them on matters of common interest.

ARTICLE VIII

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE SECRETARIATS

The Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity shall make appropriate administrative arrangements to ensure effective co-operation and liaison between the Secretariats of the two Organizations.

ARTICLE IXIMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT

1. The UN Secretariat and the OAU General Secretariat shall consult each other regularly on matters relating to the present Agreement.
2. The UN Secretariat and the OAU General Secretariat may, if necessary, agree on supplementary administrative arrangements for the implementation of the present Agreement.

ARTICLE XENTRY INTO FORCE, AMENDMENTS AND DURATION

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature by the duly authorized representatives of the two Organizations.
2. This Agreement may be amended by mutual consent of the UN and the OAU provided one of the parties presents the proposed amendments to the other in writing, the amendment shall enter into force after a period of three months following the expression of such consent.

Either of the parties may terminate this Agreement by giving six months' written notice to the other party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned representatives of the Secretariat of the United Nations and the General Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity, being duly authorized by their respective authorities, have signed the present Agreement in duplicate in English and French, both texts being equally authentic.

Signed this 9th day of October 1990 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

For the United Nations:

[Signed]

JAVIER PÉREZ DE CUÉLLAR
Secretary-General

For the Organization
of African Unity:

[Signed]

SALIM AHMED SALIM
Secretary-General