

No. 2120

**UNITED NATIONS,
INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION
and
EGYPT**

Agreement concerning technical assistance for a demonstration centre for the blind. Signed at Cairo, on 26 February 1953

Official text: English.

Registered ex officio on 26 February 1953.

**ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES,
ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DU TRAVAIL
et
ÉGYPTE**

Accord relatif à l'assistance technique en vue de l'établissement d'un centre de démonstration pour les aveugles. Signé au Caire, le 26 février 1953

Texte officiel anglais.

Enregistré d'office le 26 février 1953.

No. 2120. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION AND THE GOVERNMENT OF EGYPT CONCERNING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR A DEMONSTRATION CENTRE FOR THE BLIND. SIGNED AT CAIRO, ON 26 FEBRUARY 1953

The United Nations and the International Labour Organisation (hereinafter called "the Organizations") and

The Government of Egypt (hereinafter called "the Government"),

Desiring to give effect to the resolutions and decisions relating to technical assistance of the Organizations, which resolutions and decisions are intended to promote the economic and social progress and development of peoples,

Have entered into this Agreement in a spirit of friendly cooperation.

Article I

DEMONSTRATION CENTRE FOR THE REHABILITATION OF THE BLIND

1. There shall be established at Zeitoun, Cairo, a *Demonstration Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Blind* (hereinafter called "the Centre").
2. The Centre shall have a regional character, that is, its activities shall be designed to benefit Egypt as well as the other Arabic-speaking countries.
3. The Centre shall start operating in 1952, at a time to be agreed upon by the Organizations and the Government.

Article II

ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRE

The activities of the Centre shall include :

- 1) provision of general education and vocational education to blind children between 6 and 16 years of age;
- 2) provision of home teaching services for blind persons;
- 3) provision of employment to blind persons in
 - a) the sheltered workshop to be attached to the Centre,
 - b) home industries, and
 - c) private firms;

¹ Came into force on 26 February 1953, upon signature, in accordance with article VIII (1).

- 4) production and distribution of books and other printed matter in braille, through the Braille Printing Press Department to be established at the Centre;
- 5) training of Egyptian nationals and nationals of other Arabic speaking countries, in blind welfare.

The activities mentioned in paragraphs 1) to 4) above, shall be conducted in such a manner as to provide training in these fields of blind welfare.

Article III

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS COMMITTEE

1. The Government, in consultation with the Director of the Centre mentioned in paragraph 1 (a) of Article IV below, shall set up a "Prevention of Blindness Committee" to be composed of representatives of the Medical Department of the Ministry of Education, the Ophthalmic and Propaganda Departments of the Ministry of Health, the Social Security Department of the Ministry of Social Affairs, and the Society of Ophthalmologists. The Director of the Centre shall be an *ex officio* member of the Prevention of Blindness Committee.
2. The main tasks of the Prevention of Blindness Committee shall be :
 - a) to establish rules concerning the definition and classification of blindness (total blindness, different degrees of partial blindness, etc.);
 - b) to draw up regulations for the registration of totally and partially blind persons;
 - c) to organize research into the causes of blindness; and
 - d) to work out plans and procedures for more effective use of the methods of the prevention of blindness now in operation.
3. The Prevention of Blindness Committee shall work in close cooperation with the Centre.

Article IV

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS

1. The United Nations shall make available for the period of one year, which period may be extended by agreement with the Government, the services of
 - a) one expert to act as the Director of the Centre; and
 - b) one expert on home teaching for the blind.
2. The United Nations shall defray the following costs for these experts :
 - a) their salaries as well as any allowances to which they may be entitled;

- b*) the costs of their travel to and from Cairo;
c) their insurance.
3. The United Nations shall provide and deliver in Cairo :
- a*) a Braille Printing Press;
b) accessories to the Braille Printing Press;
c) the material needed by the Braille Printing Press Department of the Centre mentioned in paragraph 4 of Article II above, for one year's production of braille textbooks. The extension of this kind of assistance should be the subject of agreement between the United Nations and the Egyptian Government.
4. On the advice of the experts mentioned in paragraph 1 above, and upon agreement with the Government, the United Nations may provide further equipment especially for educational and training activities of the Centre and for the sheltered workshop, mentioned in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 (*a*) of Article II above.
5. All non-expendable equipment referred to in the two preceding paragraphs shall remain the property of the United Nations unless and until such time as title may be transferred on terms and conditions agreed upon between the United Nations and the Government.
6. The United Nations shall grant two six-month fellowships to two Egyptian nationals to be chosen among candidates nominated by the Government, one for training in the administration of blind welfare, and the other for training in Braille printing.
7. The United Nations shall consider the granting, according to its pertinent regulations, of further fellowships to Egyptian nationals nominated by the Government and recommended by the experts mentioned in paragraph I above, in consultation with the Egyptian Government.
8. *a*) The United Nations shall favourably consider the granting according to its pertinent regulations, of scholarships for maximum periods of two academic years to trainees for training at the Centre in the teaching of blind, these trainees to be selected from among candidates from Arabic States nominated by their respective Governments and recommended by the Director. The number of these trainees should be agreed upon between the United Nations and the Egyptian Government.
- b*) As a rule, only persons who have received University or technical education and who possess practical experience either in teaching or in social welfare shall be nominated as candidates for scholarships.

Article V

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

1. The International Labour Organisation shall make available for the period of one year, which period may be extended by agreement with the Government, the services of one expert on industrial-vocational guidance for the blind.
2. The International Labour Organisation shall defray for this expert the costs listed in paragraph 2 of Article IV above.
3. The International Labour Organisation shall consider the granting, according to its pertinent regulations, of fellowships to Egyptian nationals nominated by the Government and recommended by the expert mentioned in paragraph 1 above.

Article VI

PARTICIPATION OF THE GOVERNMENT

1. The Centre shall be under the supervision of the Government.
2. The Government shall make available, and defray the expenses for :
 - a) the local teaching, administrative and technical staff required for the activities of the Centre, and suited to continue those activities after the end of the assignment of the three experts of the Organizations;
 - b) one official to act as liaison officer between the Centre on the one hand, and the public and private agencies interested in the welfare of the blind, on the other hand.
 - c) the clerical and other personnel required for the proper functioning of the Centre, including the personnel (escorts, guards, cooks, etc.) required for the children and trainees to be accommodated at the Centre according to (e) and (f) below.
 - d) adequate premises for the Centre;
 - e) accommodation for at least 100 blind children who will receive general and vocational education at the Centre;
 - f) accommodation for at least 16 trainees;
 - g) workshop premises in Cairo;
 - h) adequate furniture and equipment for the premises and accommodations mentioned in d), e), f) and g) above, and adequate maintenance of those premises, accommodations, furniture and equipment.

2. The Government shall provide for the three experts mentioned in paragraph 1 of Article IV, and paragraph 1 of Article V above :

- a) appropriate offices with facilities, supplies, and equipment needed by the experts for their work and obtainable in Egypt, as well as postal, telegraph and telephone communications for official purposes;
- b) such reasonable translation and interpreting services as well as such secretarial and technical help as the experts may need;
- c) local transportation for the experts required for their work, and transportation in respect of any official travel which the experts, in rendering the technical assistance requested by the Government, may undertake within Egypt.
- d) If necessary, medical care and hospitalization while the experts are on mission in Egypt. In case any of the experts are accompanied by any immediate dependents, the Government shall also provide, if necessary, medical care and hospitalization for those dependents.

3. The Government shall supply the United Nations with semi-annual reports on the operation of the Centre, until such time as title to the non-expendable equipment supplied by the United Nations may be transferred pursuant to paragraph 5 of Article IV above.

4. The Government, having acceded to the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations¹ on 17 September 1948 and to the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies² on 11 January 1952, shall apply to the Organizations, their property, funds and assets, and to their officials including technical assistance experts, the provisions of the respective Convention.

Article VII

ADMISSION OF BLIND CHILDREN AND OF TRAINEES

1. The procedure for the admission of blind children for education to the Centre shall be arranged between the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Director of the Centre. The children shall be between the ages of six and sixteen, totally blind, physically fit and of normal intelligence.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 1, pp. 15 and 263; Vol. 4, p. 461; Vol. 5, p. 413; Vol. 6, p. 433; Vol. 7, p. 353; Vol. 9, p. 398; Vol. 11, p. 406; Vol. 12, p. 416; Vol. 14, p. 490; Vol. 15, p. 442; Vol. 18, p. 382; Vol. 26, p. 396; Vol. 42, p. 354; Vol. 43, p. 335; Vol. 45, p. 318; Vol. 66, p. 346, and Vol. 70, p. 266.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 33, p. 261; Vol. 43, p. 342; Vol. 46, p. 355; Vol. 51, p. 330; Vol. 71, p. 316; Vol. 76, p. 274; Vol. 79, p. 326; Vol. 81, p. 332; Vol. 84, p. 412; Vol. 88, p. 446; Vol. 90, p. 323; Vol. 91, p. 376; Vol. 92, p. 400; Vol. 96, p. 322; Vol. 101, p. 288; Vol. 102, p. 322; Vol. 109, p. 319; Vol. 110, p. 314; Vol. 117, p. 386; Vol. 122, p. 335; Vol. 127, p. 328; Vol. 131, p. 309, and Vol. 136, p. 386.

2. The Government shall decide on the admission of blind children from other Arabic-speaking countries to the Centre for education.
3. As soon as the Director of the Centre shall advise the Government that the Centre is in a position to accept trainees for the purpose of studying the techniques of blind welfare, the Government shall facilitate, as much as possible, the admission and attendance of suitably qualified trainees at the Centre. In keeping with the regional character of the Centre, nationals from other Arabic-speaking countries shall be included among those trainees.
4. The Government shall facilitate, as much as possible, visits by officials of the United Nations and of any of the Specialized Agencies, for the purpose of observing the Centre in operation.

Article VIII

COMING INTO FORCE, MODIFICATION AND TERMINATION

1. This Agreement shall come into force upon signature. If the Agreement is not signed on behalf of all three Parties on the same day, it shall come into force as of the day on which the last signature is affixed.
2. This Agreement may be modified by agreement between the Organizations on the one hand and the Government on the other hand, each of which shall give full and sympathetic consideration to any request by any of the other parties for such modification.
3. This Agreement may be terminated by both Organizations, or by either of the Organizations so far as they are respectively concerned, or by the Government, upon written notice to the other parties and shall terminate sixty days after receipt of such notice. Termination with respect to one Organization does not constitute termination with respect to the other Organization.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, duly appointed representatives of the United Nations, the International Labour Organisation, and the Government, respectively, have signed this Agreement, the representative of the United Nations and of the International Labour Organisation at Cairo this twenty-sixth day of February 1953, and the representative of the Government at Cairo this twenty-sixth day of February 1953, in three copies in the English language, each copy being authentic.

For the United Nations and the
International Labour Organisation :

(*Signed*) HUGH L. KEENLEYSIDE
Director-General
Technical Assistance Administration
United Nations

For the Government of Egypt :

(*Signed*) SAMY ABOUL FETOUH
Under-Secretary of State
Ministry of Foreign Affairs