

No. 3127

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND
and
ETHIOPIA**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement providing for
the termination of the lease of the Gambia enclave.
Addis Ababa, 5 July and 12 August 1955**

Official text: English.

*Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on
13 January 1956.*

**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD
et
ÉTHIOPIE**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord portant résiliation
du bail relatif à l'enclave de Gambie. Addis-Abéba,
5 juillet et 12 août 1955**

Texte officiel anglais.

*Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le
13 janvier 1956.*

No. 3127. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ETHIOPIA PROVIDING FOR THE TERMINATION OF THE LEASE OF THE GAMBEILA ENCLAVE. ADDIS ABABA, 5 JULY AND 12 AUGUST 1955

I

Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Addis Ababa to the Ethiopian Minister for Foreign Affairs

BRITISH EMBASSY

Addis Ababa, July 5, 1955

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to Article IV of the Treaty concluded between our two Governments and signed at Addis Ababa on May 15, 1902.² As your Excellency is aware, it is the view of Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom that the period of lease of the Gambia enclave under the term of that Article runs until the termination of the condominium in the Sudan, which will represent the termination of Anglo-Egyptian government there. The legal termination of the condominium will in their view actually take effect at the moment when the Governor-General of the Sudan hands over his powers to a new Government of the Sudan and leaves the country. This transfer of power may be expected to take place during the first quarter of 1957.

2. Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom are nevertheless aware of the desire of the Imperial Ethiopian Government to secure an early termination of the lease of the Gambia enclave. Accordingly I have the honour to inform your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom are prepared, without prejudice to the legal interpretation of Article IV of the aforesaid Treaty and in the interests of meeting the expressed desire of the Imperial Ethiopian Government, to agree that the actual return of the Gambia enclave in full sovereignty to the Imperial Ethiopian Government shall take place during the flood season of 1956; that is to say, during

¹ Came into force on 12 August 1955 by the exchange of the said notes.

² De Martens, *Nouveau Recueil général de Traités*, troisième série, tome II, p. 826.

the period mid-July to mid-October; and shall be finally completed by mid-October 1956. I am also to propose that July 1956 negotiations should begin in Gambia between representatives of your Government and of the Government of the Sudan regarding details of the hand-over, including *inter alia* such matters as the disposal of physical assets and the transfer of administration.

3. If the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Imperial Ethiopian Government I have the honour to suggest that the present Note and your Excellency's reply to that effect should be regarded as constituting an agreement between our two Governments in this matter.

I avail, &c.

J. E. KILLICK

II

*The Ethiopian Minister for Foreign Affairs to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires
at Addis Ababa*

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Addis Ababa, August 12, 1955

Sir,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your Note of July 5, 1955, reading as follows:—

[See note I]

It is, further, a pleasure for me hereby to declare the agreement of the Imperial Ethiopian Government with the provisions of paragraph 2 of that Note. In consequence, that paragraph of your Note under reference and the present reply should be regarded as constituting an agreement between our two Governments in the matter to which those two Notes refer.

Accept, &c.

AKLILOU