Final Declaration of the International Conference in Tangier and annexed Protocol. Signed at Tangier, on 29 October 1956

Official text: French.
Registered by the United States of America on 26 March 1957.
No. 3772. FINAL DECLARATION1 OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN TANGIER. SIGNED AT TANGIER ON 29 OCTOBER 1956

At the invitation of His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco, an international conference was held in Fedala and Tangier from October 8 to October 29, 1956, under the presidency of His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs, representing His Majesty the Sultan, for the purpose of settling the questions raised by the abolition of the special régime of the Tangier Zone.

The Governments of:

Belgium, Spain, United States of America, France, Italy, Morocco, Netherlands, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, represented by their undersigned plenipotentiaries;

I

Desiring to establish the principles of the independence of Morocco and the unity and integrity of its territory,

Have agreed to recognize the abolition of the international régime of the Tangier Zone and hereby declare abrogated, in so far as they have participated therein, all acts, agreements, and conventions concerning the said régime;

Recognize, in consequence, that His Sherifian Majesty has been reinstated in all his powers and capacities in this part of the Sherifian Empire, which shall henceforth be under his entire and sole sovereignty, and that this gives him the unrestricted right to determine the future régime of Tangier.

II

Considering the deep concern affirmed by His Sherifian Majesty in respect of the private interests created under the former régime of Tangier and his earnest desire to ensure their security in the present and to promote their development in the future,

Being desirous of settling the questions arising out of the abolition of the international régime of Tangier according to the principles of justice and equity and in the spirit of understanding and friendship that has always prevailed in the relations of Morocco with the other Powers signatory to the present Declaration,

1 Translation by the Government of the United States of America.
2 Traduction du Gouvernement des États-Unis d'Amérique.
3 Came into force on 29 October 1956, the date of signature, in accordance with article III.
Have drawn up by mutual agreement the provisions contained in the Protocol attached hereto.

III

This Declaration and the said Protocol shall come into force on the date of their signature.

In witness whereof the undersigned, authorized for this purpose by their respective Governments, have hereunto affixed their signatures.

Done at Tangier, in nine copies, on October 29, 1956.

For Belgium:
   Stéphane HALOT

For Spain:
   Cristobal DEL CASTILLO

For the United States of America:
   Cavendish W. CANNON

For France:
   Robert de BOISSESON

For Italy:
   Alberto PAVERI FONTANA

For Morocco:
   Ahmed BALAFREJ

For the Netherlands:
   H. H. DINGEMANS

For Portugal:
   Manuel HOMEM DE MELLO

For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:
   Geoffrey MEADE
ANNEXED PROTOCOL

With a view to settling the questions raised by the abrogation of the Special Statute of the Tangier Zone, the signatories of the Declaration of October 29, 1956 have unanimously adopted the provisions that form the subject of the present Protocol.

CHAPTER I
LEGISLATION AND DOMAIN

Article 1

The abolition of the special régime of Tangier terminates the general and permanent authority conferred on the International Administration by the Dahir of February 16, 1924. In consequence, the International Administration will cease to exercise the administrative powers that had been vested in it.

Article 2

The Moroccan State, which recovers possession of the public and private domain entrusted to the International Administration by virtue of the Dahir of February 16, 1924, receives the latter's property as constituted under Article 43 of the aforesaid Dahir. Subject to the provisions relating to the concessions, leases, and authorizations mentioned in Chapter IV, the Moroccan State will take over the debts and obligations duly contracted by the International Administration within the limits of the authority delegated to it by His Majesty the Sultan.

Article 3

The laws and regulations in force in the Tangier Zone on the date of signature of this Protocol shall continue in effect so long as they shall not have been amended or abrogated.

Article 4

The situation of persons practicing a liberal profession in Tangier on the date of signature of this Protocol shall be respected. Nevertheless, the Moroccan Government reserves the right to verify the regularity of the conditions under which they have been permitted to practice their professions and to make them subject to Moroccan legislation concerning the practice of their professional activities.

Article 5

In the event that the extension to Tangier of the legislation in force in Morocco should bring into question the operation of banking or financial companies or establishments, the Moroccan Government would take into consideration the situation of the persons concerned and would grant them a reasonable period within which to comply with the provisions of such legislation.

1 Came into force on 29 October 1956, the date of signature, in accordance with article III of the Final Declaration.
2 See p. 167 of this volume.
CHAPTER II

THE CIVIL SERVICE

Article 6

Within a maximum period of six months from the coming into force of the present Protocol, the Moroccan Government will notify each civil servant of the International Administration of its intention to keep him or not to keep him in its service and will inform those whom it wishes to keep of the employment conditions offered them.

Article 7

In the case of personnel whom the Moroccan Government does not wish to keep in its service, the aforesaid notice will mark the beginning of a period of thirty days at the expiration of which the said personnel will be definitively dropped from the roll and will cease to receive a salary.

Article 8

Personnel whom the Moroccan Government wishes to keep in its service must inform it, within a month of the notification of the offers made to them, whether they accept them. In case of refusal, they shall be discharged and definitively dropped from the roll.

Article 9

Personnel dropped from the roll pursuant to Articles 7 and 8 shall be entitled to:

(a) The allowance provided for by the Law of March 20, 1950 organizing the Welfare Fund of the International Administration;

(b) The agreed compensation for moving and installation expenses as fixed in Article 34 of the Law of August 17, 1950 for personnel recruited outside the former Zone, provided they move to a place outside the said Zone within a maximum period of eighteen months from the termination of their duties;

(c) The salary for the days of leave to which they may be entitled at the time of their removal from the roll, in conformity with Article 36 of the Law of August 17, 1950;

(d) Severance pay calculated as follows:

(1) Personnel belonging to an administration of the country of which they are nationals shall receive compensation equal to six months' salary in base pay and allowances;

(2) Personnel not belonging to an administration of the country of which they are nationals shall receive:

Compensation equal to six months' salary in base pay and allowances when they are dropped from the roll after their refusal to accept the employment conditions offered them; or

Compensation equal to one year's salary in base pay and allowances when they are dropped from the roll without having been offered re-employment by the Moroccan Administration.
The foregoing provisions are applicable to the personnel provided by the Statute and to judicial personnel, as well as to the administrative personnel.

Article 10

If, at the expiration of the six months' period stipulated in Article 6, the Moroccan Government delays for more than three months the disclosure of its intentions with regard to a civil servant, the latter may at any time be removed from the roll at his request, and he shall then, according to the category to which he belongs, receive the compensation provided for in Article 9.

Article 11

Personnel whom the Moroccan Government keeps in its service may, at their request, obtain payment of the allowance due them from the Welfare Fund.

Article 12

Until the expiration of the period fixed in Article 7 for personnel who are not retained by the Moroccan Administration, or until the expiration of their employment contract in the case of personnel continued in service, the relations between the personnel concerned and the Moroccan Administration shall continue to be governed, as regards their respective rights and obligations, particularly in the matter of remuneration, discipline, and duties, by the texts that fixed the status of civil servants under the legislation of the Zone and subject to any changes that might be made because of the abolition of former organizations and disciplinary authorities.

CHAPTER III

CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND HOSPITAL INSTITUTIONS

Article 13

Cultural, scientific, and hospital institutions existing in Tangier on the date of signature of the present Protocol shall be maintained. However, the Moroccan Government reserves the right to make them subject to the laws that will govern the operation of such establishments, account being taken of the stipulations of the bilateral cultural conventions to be concluded. A reasonable period will be granted to the institutions concerned for the application of the said laws.

CHAPTER IV

CONCESSIONS, LEASES, AND AUTHORIZATIONS

Article 14

In the matter of concessions, leases, and authorizations, the abolition of the special régime of Tangier and its consequent incorporation into the Sherifian Empire involves,
in this part of the territory, the application of Moroccan laws under the conditions mentioned in the articles of the present chapter.

Article 15

Concessions properly acquired and duly approved by Dahir of His Majesty the Sultan, before or after the promulgation of the Statute, shall be respected in so far as they conform to Article 45 of the Statute and on condition that they are subject to the laws in force in Morocco.

Article 16

His Majesty the Sultan will take under advisement, for the earliest possible settlement in accordance with the principle of justice and equity, concessions granted by the International Administration for a period beyond that of the Statute.

Article 17

His Majesty the Sultan will take under advisement, for the earliest possible settlement in accordance with the principle of justice and equity, additional arrangements obtained in good faith from the International Administration, when the said arrangements were not granted within the limits of the competence of the Administration or were not expressly approved by His Majesty the Sultan.

Article 18

Leases and authorizations obtained under the authority conferred on the International Administration by the Statute shall be respected.

Article 19

His Majesty the Sultan will take under advisement, for the earliest possible settlement in accordance with the principle of justice and equity, leases and authorizations granted by the International Administration under conditions not in conformity with its authority under the Statute or with the provisions of the laws in force.

CHAPTER V
POST, TELEGRAPH, TELEPHONE, RADIOBROADCASTING, AND Radiotelecommunication

Article 20

The abolition of the special régime of the Tangier Zone involves the extension to that part of the territory of the Post, Telegraph, and Telephone, the Radiobroadcasting, and the Radiotelecommunication monopoly belonging to the Moroccan State. In observance of this principle, of Moroccan public policy, and of the provisions of the legislation in force, the Post, Telegraph, and Telephone, the Radiobroadcasting, and the
Radiotelecommunication establishments may continue to operate during a reasonable period to permit the Governments and companies concerned to:

(a) Enter into special arrangements with the Moroccan Government concerning their establishments, for which account will be taken of the provisions of Chapter IV of this Protocol; or,

(b) If necessary, the request sufficient time to enable them to take measures suited to their situation.

DONE at Tangier, in nine copies, on October 29, 1956.

For Belgium:

Stéphane HALOT

For Spain:

Cristobal del CASTILLO

For the United States of America:

Cavendish W. CANNON

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