

No. 7622

**UNITED NATIONS,
INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION,
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS,
UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC
AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION,
INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION
ORGANIZATION,
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION,
INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION
UNION,
WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION,
INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY
and UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION
and
AFGHANISTAN**

**Standard Agreement on operational assistance (with annex).
Signed at Kabul, on 23 February 1965**

Official text: English.

Registered ex officio on 1 March 1965.

No. 7622. STANDARD AGREEMENT ON OPERATIONAL ASSISTANCE¹ BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS, THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION, THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS, THE UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION, THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION, THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION, THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION, THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY AND THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION AND THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN. SIGNED AT KABUL, ON 23 FEBRUARY 1965

The United Nations, the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the World Health Organization, the International Telecommunication Union, the World Meteorological Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Universal Postal Union (hereinafter called "the Organizations"), members of the Technical Assistance Board and the Government of Afghanistan (hereinafter called "the Government") ;

Desiring to give effect to the resolutions and decisions of the Organizations relating to technical assistance in public administration, in particular resolutions 1256 (XIII)² and 1946 (XVIII)³ of the United Nations General Assembly, which are intended to promote the economic and social development of peoples ;

Considering it appropriate to join in furthering the development of the administrative and other public services of Afghanistan and thus to supplement the technical assistance available to the Government under the Revised Technical Assistance Agreement of 10 May 1956⁴ between the Organizations and the Government ;

¹ Came into force on 23 February 1965, upon signature, in accordance with article VI (1).

² United Nations, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirteenth Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/4090), p. 16.

³ United Nations, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 15* (A/5515), p. 33.

⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 243, p. 103.

Have entered into this Agreement in a spirit of friendly co-operation.

Article I

SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT

1. This Agreement embodies the conditions under which the Organizations shall provide the Government with the services of officers to perform functions of an operational, executive and administrative character, as civil servants or other comparable employees of the Government (hereinafter referred to as "the Officers"). It also embodies the basic conditions which shall govern the relationship between the Government and the Officers. The Government and the Officers shall either enter into contracts between themselves, or adopt such other arrangements as may be appropriate concerning their mutual relationships in conformity with the practice of the Government in regard to its own civil servants or other comparable employees. However, any such contracts or arrangements shall be subject to the provisions of this Agreement, and shall be communicated to the Organizations concerned.
2. The relationship between each Organization and the officers provided by it shall be defined in contracts which the Organization concerned shall enter into with such Officers. A copy of the form of contract which the Organizations intend using for this purpose is transmitted herewith to the Government for its information, as Annex I¹ to this Agreement. The Organizations undertake to furnish the Government with a copy of each such contract within one month after it has been concluded.

Article II

FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICERS

1. The Officers to be provided under this Agreement shall be available to perform operational, executive, administrative and managerial functions, including training, for the Government or, if so agreed by the Government and the Organization concerned, in other public agencies or public corporations or public bodies or bodies which are not of a public character.
2. In the performance of the duties assigned to them by the Government, the Officers shall be solely responsible to, and be under the exclusive direction of the Government or the public or other agency or body to which they are assigned; they shall not report to nor take instructions from the Organizations or any other person or body external to the Government, or the public or other agency or body to which they are assigned, except with the approval of the Government. In each case the Government shall designate the authority to whom the Officer shall be immediately responsible.

¹ See p. 136 of this volume.

3. The Parties hereto recognize that a special international status attaches to the Officers made available to the Government under this Agreement, and that the assistance provided hereunder is in furtherance of the purposes of the Organizations. Accordingly the Officers shall not be required to perform functions incompatible with such special international status, or with the purposes of the Organizations, and any contract entered into by the Government and the Officer shall embody a specific provision to this effect.
4. The Government agrees that nationals of the country shall be provided as national counterparts to the Officers, and shall be trained by the latter to assume as early as possible the responsibilities temporarily assigned to the Officers pursuant to this Agreement. Appropriate facilities for the training of such counterparts shall be furnished by the Government.

Article III

OBLIGATIONS OF THE ORGANIZATIONS

1. The Organizations undertake to provide, in response to requests from the Government, qualified officers to perform the functions described in Article II above.
2. The Organizations undertake to provide Officers in accordance with any applicable resolutions and decisions of their competent organs, and subject to the availability of the necessary funds and of suitable Officers.
3. The Organizations undertake, within the financial resources available to them, to provide administrative facilities necessary to the successful implementation of this Agreement, including the payment of stipends and allowances to supplement, as appropriate, the salaries and related allowances paid to the Officers by the Government under Article IV, paragraph 1 of this Agreement, and upon request, the effecting of such payments in currencies unavailable to the Government, and the making of arrangements for travel and transportation outside of Afghanistan, when the Officers, their families or their belongings are moved under the terms of their contracts with the Organization concerned.
4. The Organizations undertake to provide the Officers with such subsidiary benefits as the Organizations may deem appropriate, including compensation in the event of death, injury or illness attributable to the performance of official duties on behalf of the Government. Such subsidiary benefits shall be specified in the contracts to be entered into between the Organization concerned and the Officers.
5. The Organizations undertake to extend their good offices towards making any necessary modifications to the conditions of service of the Officers including the cessation of such services, if and when this becomes necessary.

Article IV

OBLIGATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT

1. The Government shall contribute to the cost of implementing this Agreement by paying the Officers the salary, allowances and other related emoluments which would be payable to a national civil servant or other comparable employee holding the same rank to which the Officers are assimilated, provided that if the total emoluments forming the Government's contribution in respect of an Officer should amount to less than twelve and one-half per cent of the total cost of providing that Officer, or to less than such other percentage of such total cost as the competent organs of the Organizations shall determine from time to time, the Government shall make an additional payment to the Technical Assistance Board, or to the Organization concerned, as appropriate, in an amount which will bring the Government's total contribution for each Officer to twelve and one-half per cent or other appropriate percentage figure of the total cost of providing the Officers, such payment to be made annually in advance.
2. The Government shall provide the Officers with such services and facilities, including local transportation and medical and hospital facilities, as are normally made available to a national civil servant or other comparable employee holding the rank to which the Officers are assimilated.
3. The Government shall use its best endeavours to locate suitable housing and make it available to each Officer. It shall provide each Officer with housing if it does so with respect to its national civil servants or other comparable employees and under the same conditions as are applicable to them.
4. The Government shall grant the Officers annual and sick leave under conditions not less favourable than those which the Organization providing the Officers applies to its own officials. The Government shall also make any arrangement necessary to permit the Officers to take such home leave as they are entitled to under the terms of their contracts with the Organization concerned.
5. The Government recognizes the Officers shall :
 - (a) be immune from legal process in respect of words spoken or written and all acts performed by them in their official capacity ;
 - (b) be exempt from taxation on the stipends, emoluments and allowances paid to them by the Organizations ;
 - (c) be immune from national service obligations ;
 - (d) be immune, together with their spouses and relatives dependent upon them, from immigration restrictions and alien registration ;

- (e) be accorded the same privileges in respect of currency or exchange facilities as are accorded to the officials of comparable rank forming part of diplomatic missions to the Government ;
- (f) be given, together with their spouses and relatives dependent on them, the same repatriation facilities in time of international crises as diplomatic envoys ;
- (g) have the right to import free of duty their furniture and effects at the time of first taking up their posts in the country.

6. The Government shall be responsible for dealing with any claims which may be brought by third parties against the Officers or against the Organizations and their agents and employees, and shall hold the Officers, the Organizations and their agents and employees harmless in any case of any claims or liabilities resulting from operations under this Agreement, except where it is agreed by the Government, the Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board, where appropriate, and the Organization concerned that such claims or liabilities arise from gross negligence or wilful misconduct of Officers or the agents or employees of the Organization concerned.

7. In forwarding requests for the provision of the services of Officers under this Agreement, the Government shall provide the Organization concerned with such information as the Organization may request concerning the requirements of any post to be filled and the terms and conditions of the employment of any Officer by the Government in that post.

8. The Government shall ensure that, in respect of each post filled, the date upon which the Officer's assignment commences in the Government's service shall coincide with the date of appointment entered in his contract with the Organization.

9. The Government shall do everything within its means to ensure the effective use of the Officers provided, and will, as far as practicable, make available to the Organizations information on the results achieved by this assistance.

10. The Government shall defray such portion of the expenses of the Officer to be paid outside the country as may be mutually agreed upon.

11. Should the services of an Officer be terminated at the initiative of the Government under circumstances which give rise to an obligation on the part of an Organization to pay him an indemnity by virtue of its contract with the Officer, the Government shall contribute to the cost thereof the amount of separation indemnity which would be payable to a national civil servant or other comparable employee of like rank in the event of the termination of his services in the same circumstances.

Article V

SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

1. Any dispute between the Government and any Officer arising out of or relating to the conditions of his service may be referred to the Organization providing the Officer by either the Government or the Officer involved, and the Organization concerned shall use its good offices to assist them in arriving at a settlement. If the dispute cannot be settled in accordance with the preceding sentence, the matter shall be submitted to arbitration at the request of either party to the dispute pursuant to paragraph 3 of this Article.

2. Any dispute between the Organizations and the Government arising out of or relating to this Agreement which cannot be settled by negotiation or other agreed mode of settlement shall be submitted to arbitration at the request of either party to the dispute pursuant to paragraph 3 of this article.

3. Any dispute to be submitted to arbitration shall be referred to three arbitrators for a decision by a majority of them. Each party to the dispute shall appoint one arbitrator, and the two arbitrators so appointed shall appoint the third, who shall be the chairman. If within thirty days of the request for arbitration either party has not appointed an arbitrator or if within fifteen days of the appointment of two arbitrators the third arbitrator has not been appointed, either party may request the Secretary-General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration to appoint an arbitrator. The procedure of the arbitration shall be fixed by the arbitrators, and the expenses of the arbitration shall be borne by the parties as assessed by the arbitrators. The arbitral award shall contain a statement of the reasons on which it is based and shall be accepted by the parties to the dispute as the final adjudication thereof.

Article VI

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. This Agreement shall enter into force upon signature.

2. The Agreement now in force between the United Nations and the Government, dated 24 November 1959¹ is hereby superseded and the provisions of this Agreement shall apply to Officers provided under the Agreement now superseded. The provisions of this Agreement shall not apply to Officers provided by any Organization, other than the United Nations, under the regular programme of technical assistance of such Organization, where such regular programme of technical assistance is subject to a special agreement between the Organization concerned and the Government, relating thereto.

¹ See United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 397, p. 187 ; and p. 310 of this volume.

3. This Agreement may be modified by agreement between the Organizations and the Government but without prejudice to the rights of Officers holding appointments pursuant to this Agreement. Any relevant matter for which no provision is made in this Agreement shall be settled by the Organization concerned and by the Government, in keeping with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the competent organs of the Organizations. Each party to this Agreement shall give full and sympathetic consideration to any proposal for such settlement advanced by the other party.

4. This Agreement may be terminated by any or all of the Organizations so far as they are respectively concerned, or by the Government upon written notice to the other party, and shall terminate sixty days after receipt of such notice. The termination of this Agreement shall be without prejudice to the rights of Officers holding appointments hereunder.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, duly appointed representatives of the Organizations and of the Government, respectively, have on behalf of the parties signed the present Agreement at Kabul this 23rd day of February 1965 in the English language in two copies.

For the Government of Afghanistan :

Mohd. SEDIQ FARHANG
Deputy Minister of Planning

For the United Nations, the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the World Health Organization, the International Telecommunication Union, the World Meteorological Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Universal Postal Union :

Sixten HEPPLING
Resident Representative of the Technical Assistance
Board

A N N E X

CONTRACT between the _____ Organization and _____
 The _____ Organization (hereinafter referred to as "the Organization") and

Mr. Mrs. Miss _____ (hereinafter referred to as "the Officer"),

Having regard to the Agreement concluded on _____ between the Government of _____ (hereinafter referred to as "the Government") and the Organizations Members of the Technical Assistance Board, concerning the provision to the Government of officers to perform functions of an operational, executive and administrative character, as civil servants or other comparable employees of the Government,

Desiring to specify the conditions under which the Officer, as employee, agrees to place his services at the disposal of the Government as his employer,

Desiring furthermore to define the mutual relationship that shall exist in this connexion between the Organization and the Officer,

Have entered into the present Contract :

Article I

FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICER

1. The Officer undertakes to perform for or on behalf of the Government the following functions :

2. As part of his official functions and to the maximum extent approved by the Government, the Officer shall promote and assist in the training of new talent with a view to increasing the supply of competent officials available to the Government.

3. The functions referred to under paragraph 1 of this Article may be changed from time to time by mutual agreement between the Government and the Officer, subject to the approval of the Organization.

Article II

OBLIGATIONS OF THE ORGANIZATION

1. The Organization shall provide the Officer with a stipend equivalent to US\$ _____ per annum. The stipend shall be paid monthly in the following currencies :

2. The Organization shall provide the Officer with allowances, grants and benefits as established in the annexes to this Contract.

3. The Organization shall reimburse any income taxes which may be levied by the country of the Officer's nationality or normal residence on the salary and related emoluments received from the Government, and on the stipend and any of the allowances or emoluments paid by the Organization. This reimbursement shall be computed without regard to any income except that mentioned in the preceding sentence.

4. If, at the time of his appointment, the Officer is a full or associate participant of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and is eligible to continue his participation under the regulations of the Pension Fund, the Organization shall continue to pay its share of contribution into the Pension Fund.

5. (a) The Organization shall make arrangements under which compensation shall be granted should the Officer suffer death, injury or illness, determined by the Organization to have been attributable to the performance of official duties for or on behalf of the Government under this Contract. In paying indemnities hereunder, the Organization shall take into account compensation payments by the Government, by the Government of the Officer's nationality or normal residence, benefits from the United Nations Staff Pension Fund and, where applicable, payments to the Officer or his beneficiaries under the Organization's insurance policies.

(b) In the event of death of the Officer or of his recognized dependants, the Organization shall pay the expenses of transportation of the body from the place of death to a place to which it is entitled to return transportation. These expenses will include reasonable costs for preparation of the body.

6. The benefits mentioned in this Article shall be provided by the Organization under terms, conditions and definitions generally the same as those applicable to its staff members in the category of project personnel.

Article III

OBLIGATIONS OF THE OFFICER

1. The Officer shall be responsible to the Government. In the performance of his duties, he shall neither seek nor accept instructions from any other Government or from any other authority external to the Government.

2. The Officer shall conduct himself at all times with the fullest regard for the aims of the Organization and in a manner befitting his status under this Contract. He shall not engage in any activity that is incompatible with the purposes of the Organization or the proper discharge of his duties with the Government. He shall avoid any action and in particular any kind of public pronouncement which may adversely reflect on his status, or on the integrity, independence and impartiality which are required by that status. While he is not expected to give up his national sentiments or his political and religious convictions, he shall at all times bear in mind the reserve and tact incumbent upon him by reason of his status.

3. The Officer shall exercise the utmost discretion in regard to all matters of official business. He shall not communicate to any person any information known to him by reason of his official position with the Government which has not been made public, except in the course of his duties or by authorization of the Government. Nor shall he at any time use such information to private advantage. These obligations do not cease upon completion of service under this Contract.

Article IV

DURATION AND TERMINATION OF CONTRACT

1. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 3 of this Article, this Contract is concluded for a period of _____. The services of the Officer shall commence on _____.

This contract expires without further notice at the end of the period stated in this paragraph.

2. This Contract does not carry any expectancy of renewal or of conversion to any type of appointment in the Secretariat of the Organization.

3. This Contract may be terminated by either party upon one month of written notice. Should the Organization so terminate the Contract, it shall pay to the Officer an indemnity equal to _____ for each month of uncompleted service under this Contract.

However, no indemnity shall be due if the termination of the Contract is based on the misconduct of the Officer or on the non-observance by the Officer of the obligations incumbent upon him under Article III of this Contract.

Article V

SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

The Organization shall establish appropriate machinery to hear and to decide disputes between itself and the Officer in which the latter asserts non-observance of the terms of this Contract.

Article VI

WAIVER OF IMMUNITIES

Any privileges and immunities to which the Officer may be entitled under the Agreement of _____ referred to in the preamble of this Contract may be waived by the Organization where, in its opinion, the immunity would impede the course of justice, and can be waived without prejudice to the interests of the Organization or to the effective performance by the Officer of his functions.

Article VII

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. This Contract shall enter into force upon signature.
2. This Contract may be modified by agreement between the Organization and the Officer, and specifically in the light of such modifications as may from time to time be made in the Agreement referred to above between the Organization and the Government.
3. While the Officer does not have the status of an official or a staff member of the Organization, any relevant matter for which no provision is made in this Contract shall be settled according to the administrative practices of the Organization.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned have affixed their signatures.

(The Officer)

(For the _____ Organization)

(Date)

(Date)