

No. 8919

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**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND NORTHERN IRELAND  
and  
MUSCAT AND OMAN**

**Treaty of Cession relating to the Kuria Muria Islands. Signed  
at Salalah, on 15 November 1967**

*Official texts: English and Arabic.*

*Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on  
13 January 1968.*

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

**Traité de cession relatif aux îles Kuria Muria. Signé à Salalah,  
le 15 novembre 1967**

*Textes officiels anglais et arabe.*

*Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le  
13 janvier 1968.*

No. 8919. TREATY OF CESSION<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY AND THE SULTAN OF MUSCAT AND OMAN, RELATING TO THE KURIA MURIA ISLANDS. SIGNED AT SALALAH, ON 15 NOVEMBER 1967

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Her Majesty The Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth (hereinafter referred to as "Her Britannic Majesty") and Sultan Said bin Taimur bin Faisal, Sultan of Muscat and Oman and Dependencies (hereinafter referred to as "The Sultan");

Considering that the five islands known as the Kuria Muria Islands were ceded in 1854 to Her Britannic Majesty Queen Victoria by His Highness Saeed bin Sultan, Sultan of Muscat;

Considering that the inhabitants of the Kuria Muria Islands have retained close links with the inhabitants of Muscat and Oman with whom they share a common origin;

Considering that the inhabitants of the Kuria Muria Islands have expressed the wish that the Islands should be reunited with the Sultanate of Muscat and Oman;

Considering that Her Britannic Majesty desires to return the Kuria Muria Islands to The Sultan;

Have decided to conclude a Treaty to this end and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries for this purpose :

Her Britannic Majesty :

For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland : Sir Robert Stewart Crawford, K.C.M.G., C.V.O., Her Britannic Majesty's Political Resident in the Persian Gulf;

The Sultan, in person;

Who have agreed as follows :

#### *Article I*

The sovereignty of Her Britannic Majesty over the Kuria Muria Islands is hereby ceded to The Sultan with effect from the thirtieth day of November 1967.

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 15 November 1967 by signature, in accordance with article III.

*Article II*

With effect from the thirtieth day of November 1967 the inhabitants of the Kuria Muria Islands shall cease to be Citizens of the United Kingdom and Colonies and shall be subjects of The Sultan.

*Article III*

This Treaty shall come into force on signature.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF Sir Stewart Crawford, K.C.M.G., C.V.O., on behalf of Her Majesty The Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth, and Sultan Said bin Taimur bin Faisal, Sultan of Muscat and Oman and Dependencies, on his own behalf, have signed this Treaty and have affixed thereto their respective seals.

DONE in duplicate at Salalah this fifteenth day of November 1967, corresponding to the twelfth day of Sha'aban of the year 1387, in English and Arabic, each text being equally authoritative.

Stewart CRAWFORD  
Said BIN TAIMUR BIN FAISAL