

No. 11733

---

**FRANCE  
and  
GABON**

**Agreement on co-operation in matters concerning the  
merchant marine. Signed at Libreville on 17 August 1960**

*Authentic text: French.*

*Registered by France on 19 April 1972.*

---

**FRANCE  
et  
GABON**

**Accord de coopération en matière de marine marchande.  
Signé à Libreville le 17 août 1960**

*Texte authentique : français.*

*Enregistré par la France le 19 avril 1972.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> ON CO-OPERATION IN MATTERS CONCERNING THE MERCHANT MARINE BETWEEN THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GABONESE REPUBLIC

---

The Government of the French Republic and

The Government of the Gabonese Republic,

Considering that under the terms of the Transfer Agreement of 15 July 1960,<sup>2</sup> which entered into force on 16 August 1960, the Gabonese Republic has attained independence, and that the French Republic has recognized it as an independent and sovereign State,

Considering that the Gabonese Republic wishes to co-operate with the French Republic within the Community, in which it shall henceforth participate as provided for in the Franco-Gabonese agreements of today's date,<sup>3</sup>

Have agreed as follows:

TITLE I

REGIME OF OPERATION OF VESSELS

*Article 1*

The Parties undertake to define by mutual agreement the procedures whereby vessels having the nationality of one of the States may be assimilated to those having the nationality of the other State; these procedures shall, *inter alia*, require the existence of a substantial link between the State and vessels flying its flag. They shall agree on the advantages to be accorded, on the basis of reciprocity, to the vessels concerned.

---

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 14 February 1961, the date of the last of the notifications by which each Contracting Party notified the other of the completion of the required procedures, in accordance with article 9.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 820, No. I-11721.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, Nos. I-11725, I-11726 and I-11727, as well as pp. 3, 11, 17, 41, 49 and 63 of this volume.

*Article 2*

Pending the conclusion of the agreement referred to in article 1 above, each Party undertakes not to alter the situation of the other Party without the consent of the latter.

*Article 3*

Vessels having the nationality of one State shall enjoy, in the ports, territorial waters and reserved waters of the other State, the same treatment as vessels of that State with regard to fishing.

The joint organization of fishing ventures and the establishment of procedures for marketing their products shall be decided by an Administrative Technical Commission of experts from both States.

Each of the States shall take the necessary action to ensure compliance with these provisions by its nationals.

## TITLE II

CO-OPERATION IN MATTERS  
CONCERNING THE MERCHANT MARINE*Article 4*

For the purpose of informing each other of and harmonizing their respective positions, the French and Gabonese merchant marine departments shall consult together before any technical international conference of joint interest to the French Republic and the Gabonese Republic.

*Article 5*

The French Republic shall assist the Gabonese Republic, at its request, in the training of Gabonese technicians, who may, *inter alia*, be admitted to the specialized technical schools of the French Republic.

The French Republic shall make available as necessary to the Gabonese Republic the services of its merchant marine administrative personnel.

*Article 6*

The French Republic shall assist the Gabonese Republic, at its request, in defining and formulating its shipping programmes and in studying the economic and technical problems involved in establishing operational programmes, shipping rates and shipping infrastructures of interest to both States.

*Article 7*

The French Republic and the Gabonese Republic shall consult together, as required, in order to harmonize their technical regulations in matters concerning the merchant marine.

*Article 8*

The French Republic shall support the application of the Gabonese Republic for membership in the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO).

*Article 9*

Each Contracting Party shall notify the other of the completion of the procedures required for the entry into force of this Agreement, which shall take effect on the date of the later notification.

DONE at Libreville, 17 August 1960.

For the Government  
of the French Republic:

J. FOYER

For the Government  
of the Gabonese Republic:

[Signed]  
LÉON MBA