

**No. 11551**

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**FRANCE  
and  
DAHOMÉY**

**Agreement on co-operation in matters concerning the  
merchant marine. Signed at Paris on 24 April 1961**

*Authentic text: French.*

*Registered by France on 2 February 1972.*

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**FRANCE  
et  
DAHOMÉY**

**Accord de coopération en matière de marine marchande.  
Signé à Paris le 24 avril 1961**

*Texte authentique: français.*

*Enregistré par la France le 2 février 1972.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

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

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The Government of the French Republic, on the one hand, and  
The Government of the Republic of Dahomey, on the other hand,  
Desiring to ensure effective co-operation in shipping matters,

Have agreed on the following provisions:

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 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 a basis of reciprocity, to the vessels concerned.

*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*

Once the nationality of vessels has been defined in the manner prescribed in article 1, vessels having the nationality of one of the two States 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 and passenger

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 6 October 1961, the date of entry into force of the Treaty on co-operation of 24 April 1961 (see p. 83 of this volume), in accordance with article 11.

and freight transport, as well as Customs formalities, the collection of port dues and taxes and all facilities granted for operations in ports.

#### *Article 4*

Once the nationality of vessels has been defined in the manner prescribed in Article 1, Dahomean seamen may be allowed on board French vessels and French seamen on board Dahomean vessels, in which case the provisions relating to the nationality of crew members may not be invoked.

The functions of master, Officer of the watch or watch-keeper on board Dahomean merchant vessels may be exercised by French seamen holding the requisite French certificate.

Reciprocally, Dahomean seamen holding a certificate may be authorized to serve in the capacity referred to above on vessels flying the French flag.

Equivalence between the French certificate and the Dahomean certificate shall be established by agreement between the two Governments.

#### *Article 5*

French seamen serving on vessels flying the Dahomean flag shall continue to benefit from the same retirement scheme and coverage in the event of accident or illness as when serving on board vessels flying the French flag, subject to payment of the corresponding contributions.

### TITLE II

## CO-OPERATION IN MATTERS CONCERNING THE MERCHANT MARINE

#### *Article 6*

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

#### *Article 7*

Upon the request of the Republic of Dahomey, the French Republic shall offer its help in the training of seamen and cadres who, *inter alia*, may be admitted to the merchant marine schools of the French Republic and serve on vessels flying the French flag.

*Article 8*

At the request of the Republic of Dahomey, the French Republic shall assist the latter 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 9*

The French Republic and the Republic of Dahomey shall consult together, as required, in order to harmonize their technical regulations in matters concerning the merchant marine and deep-sea fishing.

*Article 10*

The joint organization of deep-sea fishing ventures and the establishment of procedures for marketing their products shall be decided by a Joint Technical Commission of experts from both States. Each of the States shall take the necessary action to ensure compliance with these decisions by its nationals.

*Article 11*

This Agreement shall enter into force at the same time as the Treaty on co-operation signed on today's date.<sup>1</sup>

DONE at Paris, on 24 April 1961.

For the Government  
of the French Republic:

[Signed]

M. DEBRÉ

For the Government  
of the Republic of Dahomey:

[Signed]

HUBERT MAGA

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<sup>1</sup> See p. 83 of this volume.