

**No. 12755**

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**FRANCE  
and  
TUNISIA**

**Convention concerning the issuance of civil registration documents and the waiver of authentication requirements for signatures on public documents. Signed at Paris on 28 June 1972**

*Authentic texts: French and Arabic.*

*Registered by France on 14 September 1973.*

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**FRANCE  
et  
TUNISIE**

**Convention relative à la délivrance des actes de l'état civil et à la dispense de légalisation de signature sur les actes publics. Signée à Paris le 28 juin 1972**

*Textes authentiques : français et arabe.*

*Enregistrée par la France le 14 septembre 1973.*

## [TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

CONVENTION<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE TUNISIAN REPUBLIC CONCERNING THE ISSUANCE OF CIVIL REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS AND THE WAIVER OF AUTHENTICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SIGNATURES ON PUBLIC DOCUMENTS

The Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Tunisian Republic, desiring to maintain and strengthen co-operation between the two countries in the administrative field, especially with regard to the issuance of civil registration documents and the waiver of authentication requirements for signatures on public documents, have agreed on the following provisions:

*Chapter I. ISSUANCE OF CIVIL REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS**Article 1*

1. Each Contracting Party shall issue, free of charge, copies of civil registration documents drawn up in its territory and relating to nationals of the other Party in cases where the latter requests such documents for administrative purposes or on behalf of its nationals who are indigent.

2. It shall also issue free of charge, copies of civil registration documents drawn up in its territory in cases where such documents relate to persons who are not nationals of either State or to stateless persons residing in the territory of the other Party, and are requested for administrative or judicial purposes.

3. In the application of this article, civil registration documents drawn up or copies in diplomatic or consular offices of the French Republic or the Tunisian Republic shall be treated in the same way as civil registration documents drawn up in the territory of either Contracting Party.

4. Issuance of a copy of a civil registration document shall be without prejudice to the nationality of the persons concerned in respect of the two Contracting Parties.

5. Requests for issuance of civil registration documents shall be transmitted through the diplomatic or consular channel. Any further action relating to such requests shall be taken through the same channel.

*Article 2*

For the purposes of the preceding article, the term "civil registration document" shall be understood to refer to the following documents including, where appropriate, marginal notes.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 1 April 1973, i.e. the first day of the second month following the date of the second notification (effected on 2 October 1972 and 26 January 1973) by which each Contracting Party notified the other of the completion of the procedures prescribed by its Constitution, in accordance with article 6.

(a) With regard to both Contracting Parties:

- Birth certificates;
- Marriage certificates;
- Death certificates;
- Copies of judicial decisions or decrees relating to divorce or annulment of marriage;
- Copies of judicial orders, decisions or decrees relating to civil status;
- Copies of judicial decisions relating to adoption.

(b) With regard to France:

- Declaration of stillbirths;
- Certificates of affiliation for children born out of wedlock drawn up by civil registry officials;
- Copies of judicial decisions or decrees relating to judicial separation.

## Chapter II. WAIVER OF AUTHENTICATION REQUIREMENTS

### Article 3

Documents issued by a competent judicial or administrative authority of one Contracting Party shall be accepted without authentication in the territories of the two Contracting Parties, with the exception of documents drawn up by auxiliary officers of justice and public officials.

These documents shall include:

- Copies of civil registration documents listed in article 2 of this Convention;
- Copies of judicial decisions.

Written declarations or other judicial documents registered or deposited with the French or Tunisian courts:

- Documents issued by the administrative authorities;
- Certificates attesting that a given person is alive (*certificats de vie*);
- Official declaration affixed to private agreements, such as certifications of registration, date or signature, and certifications of true copies.

### Article 4

The documents listed in the preceding article must bear the signature and official seal of the authority empowered to issue them and, in the case of copies, be certified as true copies of the original by that authority. In any case, they shall be materially executed in a manner which demonstrates their authenticity.

*Article 5*

1. In cases of doubt, any national or authority of one Contracting Party may apply to the authorities of the other Party for the purpose of verifying the authenticity of a document in respect of which authentication has been waived pursuant to this Convention.

2. Such verification shall be effected through the Ministry of Justice of each Contracting Party.

*Article 6*

Each Contracting Party shall notify the other of the completion of the procedures prescribed by its Constitution for the entry into force of this Convention. The latter shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following the date of the second such notification.

*Article 7*

1. This Convention is concluded for an indefinite period of time.

2. Either Contracting Party may denounce it at any time and such denunciation shall take effect six months after the date of receipt of notice thereof by the other Contracting Party.

DONE at Paris on 28 June 1972, in duplicate in the French and Arabic languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government of the French Republic:

*[Signed]*

MAURICE SCHUMANN

Minister for Foreign Affairs

For the Government of the Tunisian Republic:

*[Signed]*

MOHAMED MASMOUDI

Minister for Foreign Affairs

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