

No. 13424

**FRANCE
and
MAURITANIA**

**Defence Agreement (with annexes). Signed at Paris on
19 June 1961**

Termination of the above-mentioned Agreement

Authentic text of the Agreement: French.

*The Agreement and certified statement were registered by France on 9 July
1974.*

**FRANCE
et
MAURITANIE**

**Accord de défense (avec annexes). Signé à Paris le 19 juin
1961**

Abrogation de l'Accord susmentionné

Texte authentique de l'Accord: français.

*L'Accord et la déclaration certifiée ont été enregistrés par la France le 9 juillet
1974.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

DEFENCE AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS
OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE ISLAMIC
REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA

The Government of the French Republic, on the one hand, and
The Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, on the other
hand,

Recognizing their responsibilities with regard to the maintenance of peace
in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Desiring to give material expression to the ties of friendship and sincere
co-operation uniting them,

Considering that it is the wish of the Contracting Parties to that end to
co-operate in the field of defence, particularly external defence,

Desiring to determine the modalities of such co-operation, whereby com-
mitments shall be made essentially for purposes of defence,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1. The French Republic and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania
shall extend to each other aid and assistance for the purpose of preparing and
ensuring their defence.

Article 2. The Islamic Republic of Mauritania shall be responsible for
its internal and external defence. It may request aid from the French Republic
in accordance with the terms laid down in special agreements.

Article 3. The Contracting Parties shall co-operate in general matters
relating to defence and to that end shall promote effective, regular collabora-
tion at the necessary levels.

In so far as they relate to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, common
defence problems shall be taken up by a standing defence committee on which
both countries shall be equally represented.

Article 4. The French Republic undertakes to provide the Islamic
Republic of Mauritania with the aid needed to establish its armed forces.

Article 5. Each Contracting Party undertakes to provide the other with
all the facilities and assistance necessary for its defence and, in particular, for
the establishment, stationing, movement, training and use of its defence forces.

The defence forces shall in the main consist of the armed forces of the
French Republic and those of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

Article 6. The facilities accorded to the French Republic under article 5
above shall include:

¹ Came into force on 14 November 1961, the date of entry into force of the Treaty on co-operation between the French Republic and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania of 19 June 1961 (see p. 3 of this volume), in accordance with article 8.

- unimpeded movement through Mauritanian territory, air space and territorial waters;
- the use of port, railway, road and air installations and postal and telecommunications networks;
- the establishment and use in the territory and in the territorial waters of air and sea beacons and communications equipment required to ensure the security of the armed forces and the accomplishment of their missions;
- unrestricted use of barracks, buildings and ground space and the storage, guard and landing rights required for purposes of defence;
- in addition, at the approaches to Port-Étienne, such unimpeded use of ground space as is recognized by mutual agreement as required for purposes of defence.

Article 7. The number of French troops permitted to occupy the barracks and installations made available to the French armed forces for purposes of defence shall be determined by mutual agreement after consultation with the Franco-Mauritanian Defence Committee.

The conditions under which the necessary reinforcement operations and movements may be undertaken in the event of a crisis or threat of a crisis shall be determined by defence plans drawn up in the Defence Committee.

Article 8. This Agreement shall enter into force at the same time as the Treaty on co-operation signed this day.¹

For the Government
of the French Republic:

[M. DEBRÉ]

For the Government
of the Islamic Republic
of Mauritania:

[OULD DADDAH]

ANNEX I

TO THE DEFENCE AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE DEFENCE COMMITTEE

Article 1. The Defence Committee set up under article 3 of the Defence Agreement shall:

- study defence projects and plans which affect both the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the French Republic;
- propose to the two Governments the measures required for their execution and implementation;
- decide on the acquisition of installations and barracks the unrestricted use of which is to be granted to the French armed forces by the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and on the conditions for their use where such acquisition and conditions of use are not decided on by agreement between the two Governments.

¹ See p. 3 of this volume.

Article 2. The Defence Committee shall consist of:

- the President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, or his representative, President;
- the accredited representative of the French Republic, or his representative, Vice-President;
- the Minister of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania responsible for defence, or his representative;
- the senior commanding general of the French forces, or his representative.

In addition, civilian and military personnel competent in the matters under consideration may be summoned in an advisory capacity.

Article 3. The permanent secretariat of the Defence Committee shall be provided through a defence bureau consisting of:

- a representative of the senior commanding general of the French forces;
- a representative of the Mauritanian military authority.

The headquarters of the defence bureau shall be at Nouakchott.

Article 4. The Defence Committee shall determine its own organization and methods of work.

DONE at Paris on 19 June 1961.

For the Government
of the French Republic:

[M. DEBRÉ]

For the Government
of the Islamic Republic
of Mauritania:

[OULD DADDAH]

ANNEX II

TO THE DEFENCE AGREEMENT CONCERNING CO-OPERATION WITH REGARD TO STRATEGIC RAW MATERIALS AND PRODUCTS

With a view to protecting their mutual interests in matters of defence, the Contracting Parties have decided to co-operate with regard to defence materials under the following conditions:

Article 1. Raw materials and products classified as strategic shall include:

- first category: liquid and gaseous hydrocarbons;
- second category: uranium, thorium, lithium and beryllium, including their ores and compounds.

This list may be amended by mutual agreement in the light of circumstances.

Article 2. The French Republic shall regularly inform the Islamic Republic of Mauritania of the policy it is called upon to adopt with regard to strategic raw materials and products in the light of general defence requirements, resource development and the world market situation.

Article 3. The Islamic Republic of Mauritania shall inform the French Republic of the policy it is called upon to adopt with regard to strategic raw materials and products and of the measures it intends to take for the implementation of such policy.

Article 4. The Islamic Republic of Mauritania shall facilitate the stockpiling of strategic raw materials and products for the benefit of the French armed forces. When the interests of defence so require, it shall limit or prohibit their export to other countries.

Article 5. The French Republic shall be kept informed of programmes and projects relating to the export from the territory of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania of strategic raw materials and products in the second category indicated in article 1.

The Islamic Republic of Mauritania shall, for defence needs, give the French Republic priority in the sale of such materials and products after satisfying internal consumption demands and shall procure them from the French Republic on a priority basis.

Article 6. The Governments shall hold all necessary consultations regarding the problems dealt with by this annex.

DONE at Paris on 19 June 1961.

For the Government
of the French Republic:

[M. DEBRÉ]

For the Government
of the Islamic Republic
of Mauritania:

[OULD DADDAH]

TERMINATION OF THE DEFENCE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA OF 19 JUNE 1961¹

The above-mentioned Agreement ceased to have effect as of 31 December 1972, as specified in the Exchange of letters constituting an agreement between France and Mauritania relating to the list of Agreements which ceased to have as of 31 December 1972 and to the confirmation of other Agreements, dated at Nouakchott on 15 February 1973.²

¹ See p. 120 of this volume.

² See p. 125 of this volume.