

No. 14055

**FRANCE
and
IRAN**

**Cultural Agreement (with exchanges of letters). Signed at
Tehran on 7 November 1973**

Authentic texts of the Agreement: French and Persian.

Authentic text of the exchange of letters: French.

Registered by France on 27 May 1975.

**FRANCE
et
IRAN**

**Accord culturel (avec échanges de lettres). Signé à Téhéran
le 7 novembre 1973**

Textes authentiques de l'Accord : français et persan.

Texte authentique de l'échange de lettres : français.

Enregistré par la France le 27 mai 1975.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

CULTURAL AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT OF IRAN

Considering that the cultural exchanges, which have for centuries accompanied relations of trust and friendship between France and Iran, have contributed substantially to the mutual enrichment of the two countries,

Desiring to consolidate and increase such exchanges in the future,

The Government of the French Republic, on the one hand, and

The Imperial Government of Iran on the other,

Have decided to conclude a Cultural Agreement and have agreed as follows:

Article 1. The Contracting Parties agree to develop their cultural, scholastic, university, artistic, scientific and technical co-operation and all exchanges of such a nature to strengthen the traditional friendship and mutual understanding between the two peoples and their institutions.

Article 2. The Contracting Parties shall promote in their universities, institutions of higher learning, lycées and colleges the teaching of the language, literature and civilization of each other's countries, to the fullest possible extent, by the establishment of posts for *lecteurs*, assistant professors and professors.

Taking into consideration the existence in Iran over a long period of educational establishments which, with the help of French teachers, provide a large portion of their instruction in the French language, the Imperial Government of Iran shall ensure the most favourable conditions for the provision of such instruction, with regard both to the quality of the staff providing it and to the number of hours devoted to it, and the level of the relevant examinations.

In particular, the Imperial Government of Iran is prepared to extend gradually, as its means permit, the teaching of French in public schools, lycées and colleges and centres of technical, industrial or commercial instruction. Finally, it shall facilitate the teaching of French by all extra-scholastic means, particularly radio and television broadcasts.

Article 3. Recognizing the importance of the training of teachers to teach the language and civilization of each other's countries, the Contracting Parties shall give each other assistance to this end. In particular, they shall organize, to the fullest extent possible, teachers' courses and the sending of study groups.

To this end a pedagogic documentation centre shall be established within the French Institute of Tehran.

The French Government shall contribute to the operation of this centre by sending professors and teaching materials.

If the Iranian Government signifies that it so desires, a centre for the training and advanced training of French teachers of Persian may be established by it in

¹ Came into force on 13 July 1974, the date of the last of the notifications by which each Contracting Party informed the other of the completion of the procedures required by its Constitution, in accordance with article 12.

France on terms similar to those accorded to French establishments and their staff in Iran and within the limits of the French legislation in force.

Article 4. Each Contracting Party shall promote the operation in its territory of cultural, scientific and technical institutions, such as scientific institutions, cultural centres, cultural associations, research centres and public or private educational establishments, which are already established or which the other Party may wish to establish there, with the agreement of the competent national authority.

The list and statutes of the establishments to which these functional facilities will be granted, to the extent compatible with the laws and regulations in force in the two countries, shall be determined through the diplomatic channel.

Article 5. The Contracting Parties agree more specifically:

- (a) to establish close co-operation between the higher educational establishments, scientific institutions, libraries, museums and cultural organizations generally of the two Parties;
- (b) to facilitate, each in its own territory, the work of researchers of the other Party in such establishments and on archaeological sites, to the extent compatible with the laws and regulations in force;
- (c) to exchange information and documents on the achievements of the two countries in the fields of education, science, technology and art;
- (d) to encourage the sending or exchange of teachers, missions and cultural, scientific or artistic presentations;
- (e) to promote the exchange, translation and publication of literary and scientific works and the dissemination of cinematographic films and documentaries;
- (f) to develop co-operation, through an agreement, between the official radio, television, cinema and press services of the two countries;
- (g) to promote the development of exchanges in the fields of sports, popular education and tourism.

Article 6. Each Contracting Party shall endeavour to develop the granting of scholarships to students and researchers of the other country who wish to pursue studies or receive training in its territory.

Candidates for the scholarships awarded by the two Governments shall be selected by special joint commissions which shall meet a few months before the beginning of each academic year.

Article 7. The provisions of this Agreement shall not affect the provisions of the Franco-Iranian Agreement of 25 April 1929 concerning the recognition by the Government of the French Republic of certain diplomas and certificates awarded by educational establishments in Iran.

The Contracting Parties shall agree on the recognition of equivalencies of scientific titles, diplomas and certificates awarded in the two countries.

Article 8. The instructors and experts made available by the Government of the French Republic to the Imperial Government of Iran under the present Agreement and supplementary arrangements which may be concluded shall be subject during their stay in Iran to the following régime:

- (a) The Imperial Government of Iran shall exempt from any customs duties, other import and export taxes and any other kind of fiscal charges the furniture and personal effects brought into its territory by the staff covered by the present article

and by the members of their families for the purposes of their first installation, provided that such furniture and personal effects are commensurate with the needs of the instructor or expert during his term of service. Such exemption shall apply, in particular, to one automobile imported by each instructor or expert into Iran for his personal use. In addition, such staff shall be exempt in Iran from any tax on the portion of their salaries paid by the Government of the French Republic.

In general, the Imperial Government of Iran shall as a minimum apply to French instructors and experts and their families and to their property, funds and salaries, the status enjoyed by foreign instructors and experts working in Iran as defined by the legislative regulation of 14 July 1966 (23 Tir 1345) on the privileges and exemptions of foreign experts adopted under article 37 of the Finance Act of 1344 or any other more favourable legislation or regulation which may be adopted after the signature of the present Agreement.

(b) At the conclusion of their mission, the French staff covered by the present Agreement may convert into French francs the funds in rials paid to them by the Iranian institutions utilizing their services and transfer them to France.

Article 9. If under this Agreement the Government of the French Republic supplies the Imperial Government of Iran, or bodies or organizations designated by agreement, with instruments, equipment, automobiles, scientific research materials or cultural or artistic teaching materials, the Imperial Government of Iran shall authorize, in accordance with its domestic legislation, the entry of such supplies free of customs duties and other charges, prohibitions and restrictions on imports and exports and any kind of fiscal charges.

These provisions shall apply, in particular, to materials intended for the establishments mentioned in articles 3 and 4 of the present Agreement.

Only materials which the staff covered by the present Agreement required for the performance of its tasks and which have not been donated to the Imperial Government of Iran shall be re-exported.

Article 10. The articles and materials imported free of duty under the provisions of the present Agreement may not be transferred or lent, for a consideration or gratis, in the territory of import except on the terms approved by the competent authorities of that territory.

Article 11. A Joint Commission, whose members shall be appointed respectively by the two Governments and to which experts may be attached, shall meet in principle every two years in Paris and in Tehran alternately. In Paris its presiding officer shall be a French national and in Tehran he shall be an Iranian national.

It shall study questions concerning the implementation of the present Agreement. It shall consider, in the light of the results achieved, the programme for the following years and shall submit it for approval by the two Governments. In the intervals between the meetings of the Commission, the programme may be changed by agreement.

Article 12. Each Contracting Party shall notify the other of the completion of the procedures required by its Constitution for the entry into force of the present Agreement. The latter shall enter into force on the date of the second such notification.

Article 13. The present Agreement is concluded for a term of five years from its entry into force. It shall be extended automatically unless it is denounced not less

than six months before the end of such five-year term. If extended, it may be denounced by either Party upon six months' notice at any time.

DONE at Tehran, on 7 November 1973, in duplicate in the French and Persian languages, the French text prevailing in case of dispute.

For the Government of the French Republic:

[Signed]

ROBERT DE SOUZA

For the Imperial Government of Iran:

[Signed]

ABBAS ALI KHALATBARY

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS

I a

*The Ambassador of France in Iran to His Excellency
the Minister for Foreign Affairs*

EMBASSY OF FRANCE IN IRAN

Tehran, 7 November 1973

Sir,

On the occasion of the signature of the Cultural Agreement between France and Iran and the transmission of the Statute of the French Institute for Study and Research of Tehran, I have the honour to inform you that I propose to notify your authorities of the names of the staff of this Institute attached to the Cultural and Technical Co-operation Service of the Embassy of France in Iran who exercise their functions within the framework of the French Institute for Study and Research of Tehran, so that the Ministry may take the necessary steps to regularize their status and so that these staff may begin to exercise their functions upon their arrival in Iran.

I should be grateful if you would inform me whether this procedure meets with your approval.

Accept, Sir, etc.

ROBERT DE SOUZA

II a

*The Minister for Foreign Affairs
to His Excellency the Ambassador of France in Iran*

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of today's date, which reads as follows:

[See letter I a]

and to inform you that my Government agrees to its terms.

Accept, Sir, etc.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs,
[ABBAS ALI KHALATBARY]

I b

*The Ambassador of France in Iran to His Excellency the Minister
for Foreign Affairs of the Imperial Government of Iran*

EMBASSY OF FRANCE IN IRAN

Tehran, 7 November 1973

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to the Cultural Agreement between France and Iran signed today and to transmit to you, under article 4 of that Agreement, the Statute of the French Institute for Study and Research of Tehran.

Accept, Sir, etc.

ROBERT DE SOUZA

STATUTE OF THE FRENCH INSTITUTE FOR STUDY AND RESEARCH
OF TEHRAN

Article 1. The French Institute for Study and Research of Tehran is an exclusively cultural and educational non-profit establishment coming under the authority of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Cultural Service of the Embassy of France in Iran.

The French Institute for Study and Research is situated in Tehran, Chahpour Ali Reza Avenue, Nos. 58 and 68, on a site acquired by the French Government in 1946 and in a building which is the property of that Government.

Article 2. The French Institute for Study and Research of Tehran shall be administered and managed by a director appointed by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and placed under the authority of the Embassy of France in Iran.

Article 3. The French Institute for Study and Research of Tehran may establish branches in Tehran and in the provinces with the consent of the Imperial Government of Iran.

The financial balance-sheet of the French Institute for Study and Research shall be transmitted annually to the Imperial Government of Iran.

Article 4. The task of the French Institute for Study and Research of Tehran shall be to propagate the French language and culture and to develop literary, artistic and scientific exchanges between Iran and France.

It shall contribute by its activities to the growth of Franco-Iranian cultural relations.

Article 5. The activities of the French Institute for Study and Research and its branches shall be as follows:

A. In the cultural field

1. To give courses in the French language, literature and civilization both for students who are beginning the study of French and for those who wish to improve their knowledge of it.

2. To operate audio-visual laboratories for the teaching of French.

3. To organize private or public cultural lectures, cinematographic presentations, concerts, theatrical productions, art exhibitions and, generally, presentations of all kinds intended to impart a better knowledge of French culture.

4. To establish and maintain a French library with a reading room open to students of the Institute and to students of Iranian universities, in accordance with regulations established by the Institute.

5. To establish and maintain a pedagogic documentation centre to make available pedagogic and scientific materials to Iranian teachers and to organize training and advanced training courses for them.

6. To establish and maintain French film and record libraries, supplied by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to meet the needs of the Iranian institutions and establishments.

B. In the field of science and research

1. The Iranology section shall engage in the study of all aspects of Iran's past and present civilizations; to this end it shall organize a library specializing in the publication of articles and works and arrange permanent or temporary research missions.

2. The archaeology section shall engage in the study of the ancient civilizations of Iran. The director of this section shall be responsible also for the French archaeological delegation in Iran. This delegation shall comprise the heads of the archaeological excavation missions working on sites authorized by the Iranian Government and the heads of the work teams required for carrying out the missions (architects, worksite supervisors, etc.).

Other sections may be established for disciplines relating to the social, natural or exact sciences concerning Iran and the Middle East.

These sections, which shall be headed by specialists appointed by the French Government, shall be open to French and Iranian scholars and researchers in the various disciplines.

The programme of activities of the sections shall be decided upon and the results of their work reviewed each year by a governing board which shall normally meet at Paris under the chairmanship of the Director-General of Cultural, Scientific and Technical Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. A representative of the Iranian Government, as well as the Cultural and Technical Co-operation Adviser of the Embassy of France in Iran, shall attend the deliberations of this scientific board.

The scientific publications prepared by these sections shall be prepared under the joint patronage of the two Governments.

Article 6. In the event of the dissolution of the French Institute for Study and Research, all its movable property directly connected with its educational cultural activities shall be transferred to a French cultural or educational establishment in Iran.

II b

*The Minister for Foreign Affairs to His Excellency
the Ambassador of France in Iran*

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of today's date, whereby you transmitted to me, under article 4 of the Cultural Agreement between Iran and France, the Statute of the French Institute for Study and Research of Tehran.

Accept, Sir, etc.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs,
[ABBAS ALI KHALATBARY]
