

No. 16675

**FRANCE
and
BENIN**

General Agreement. Signed at Cotonou on 27 February 1975

Authentic text: French.

Registered by France on 11 May 1978.

**FRANCE
et
BÉNIN**

Accord général. Signé à Cotonou le 27 février 1975

Texte authentique : français.

Enregistré par la France le 11 mai 1978.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

GENERAL AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF DAHOMEY

The Government of the French Republic, on the one hand,
The Government of the Republic of Dahomey, on the other hand,

Desiring to strengthen their friendly relations on the basis of respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, the equality of States, and non-interference in their internal affairs, in accordance with international law and the obligations arising therefrom;

Wishing to establish the foundation and framework for fruitful and lasting co-operation based both on the requisite solidarity between peoples and on the principle of mutual advantage;

Have agreed as follows:

Article I. Ties of co-operation between the Government of the Republic of Dahomey and the Government of the French Republic shall be governed by this General Agreement, and by the individual Agreements concluded between the two Governments.

Article II. Monetary relations between the Republic of Dahomey and the French Republic shall be governed by the Agreement on co-operation between the French Republic and member republics of the West-African Monetary Union, signed at Dakar on 4 December 1973.

Article III. A joint commission shall be established called the "main commission", which will be required to consider problems relating to the implementation of this General Agreement and of the individual agreements concluded between the two Governments.

It shall meet once a year and, in exceptional circumstances, at the request of either Contracting Party.

Article IV. Specialized technical commissions may be established within the framework of certain individual agreements.

The powers of such commissions and their relations with the main commission envisaged in article III shall be specified in those agreements.

Article V. Each Contracting Party shall accredit an Ambassador to the other Contracting Party.

Article VI. The Republic of Dahomey shall be responsible for its internal and external defence. It may request assistance from the French Republic in circumstances to be defined by special agreements.

¹ Came into force on 18 November 1977, the date on which the Contracting Parties notified each other that their constitutional requirements had been completed, in accordance with article VIII.

Article VII. No provision of this General Agreement or of the individual agreements concluded between the two Governments shall be construed as in any way limiting the right of either Contracting State to negotiate and conclude treaties, conventions or other international instruments.

Article VIII. The two Contracting Parties shall notify each other of the completion of the procedures required with respect to the entry into force of this General Agreement. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the last such notification.

Article IX. At the request of one of the Contracting Parties, this General Agreement may be the subject of negotiations with a view to its revision. Such negotiations shall take place three months after the date on which such a request was made.

Article X. This General Agreement replaces and abrogates the Treaty on co-operation of 24 April 1961.¹

DONE at Cotonou on 27 February 1975.

For the Government of the French Republic:

[Signed]

PIERRE ABELIN
Minister for Co-operation

For the Government of the Republic of Dahomey:

[Signed]

MICHEL ALLADAYE
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Co-operation

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 811, p. 83.