

No. 16761

**FRANCE
and
VENEZUELA**

**Agreement on economic and industrial co-operation. Signed
at Caracas on 5 October 1977**

Authentic texts: French and Spanish.

Registered by France on 15 June 1978.

**FRANCE
et
VENEZUELA**

**Accord sur la coopération économique et industrielle. Signé
à Caracas le 5 octobre 1977**

Textes authentiques : français et espagnol.

Enregistré par la France le 15 juin 1978.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA ON ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATION

The Government of the Republic of Venezuela and the Government of the French Republic,

Desiring to strengthen the traditional ties of friendship which unite the Venezuelan and French peoples,

Considering the prime importance of economic and industrial co-operation for the strengthening of the relations between the two countries on the basis of the principles of equity and mutual benefit,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1. The Government of the Republic of Venezuela and the Government of the French Republic undertake to promote the development of economic and industrial co-operation between the two countries.

Article 2. The two Governments agree that, in the interest of promoting the development of co-operation between the two countries, it would be useful to enhance their understanding of each other's long-term plans.

Article 3. In order to consolidate the ties of co-operation between the two countries, the two Governments shall encourage initiatives to conclude contracts and arrangements between the private companies, public institutions and semi-public enterprises of the two countries.

They shall also promote exchanges of information and technical contacts between the private companies, public institutions and semi-public enterprises of the two countries.

Article 4. The two Governments consider that, in view of the economic potential of the two countries, there exists substantial scope for economic and industrial co-operation in their mutual interest, particularly in the following areas:

- Agriculture and agro-industry;
- Iron and steel industry and metallurgy;
- Transport, communications and telecommunications;
- Hydrocarbons and petrochemicals;
- Mining.

The two Parties shall determine the advisability and advantage of identifying and including additional areas of co-operation.

Article 5. In order to ensure the implementation of this Agreement in the best possible circumstances in the areas listed in the preceding article, machinery shall be

¹ Came into force on 30 January 1978, i.e., the date of receipt of the last of the notifications by which the Contracting Parties notified each other of the completion of their required constitutional procedures, in accordance with article 8.

established through the diplomatic channel for co-ordination, consultation and overall evaluation of co-operation, at meetings scheduled by mutual agreement between the representatives designated by the two Governments. The respective embassies shall be involved in this co-ordination machinery.

Joint working groups shall similarly be established through the diplomatic channel, with the representatives of the competent bodies of the two Parties, in order to evaluate co-operation in the areas listed in the preceding article.

These working groups shall meet at mutually agreeable times and shall be competent to study proposals submitted to them by the two Parties.

Each Contracting Party shall subsequently inform the other of the national body which is to supervise the implementation of this Agreement, co-ordinate the various working groups and review reports on their activities.

Article 6. If necessary, the two Parties may, within the framework of this Agreement, conclude additional agreements and protocols for the purpose of implementing specific programmes or projects.

Article 7. The two Parties shall co-operate within the framework of their respective regulations and in accordance with their international commitments.

Article 8. Each of the Contracting Parties shall notify the other of the completion of the procedures required by its Constitution for the entry into force of this Agreement. It shall enter into force on the date of the receipt of the last such notification.

This Agreement is concluded for a period of three years from the date of its entry into force and shall be extended automatically from year to year unless one of the Parties informs the other in writing of its decision to denounce it six months prior to the expiry of a given one-year period.

DONE at Caracas on 5 October 1977, in duplicate, in the French and Spanish languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government of the French Republic:

[Signed]

ANDRÉ ROSSI
Minister for Foreign Trade

For the Government of the Republic of Venezuela:

[Signed]

JORGE GÓMEZ MANTELLINI
Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs