No. 16876

FRANCE and QATAR

Agreement on cultural and technical co-operation. Signed at Doha on 22 October 1977

Authentic texts : Arabic and French. Registered by France on 18 July 1978.

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Accord de coopération culturelle et technique. Signé à Doha le 22 octobre 1977

Textes authentiques : arabe et français. Enregistré par la France le 18 juillet 1978. [TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ ON CULTURAL AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF QATAR

The Government of the French Republic and the Government of the State of Qatar, desiring to strengthen friendly relations and to develop co-operation between them in the cultural and technical fields on the basis of mutual respect and common interest, have agreed as follows:

Article I. The two Contracting Parties undertake to strengthen relations between the two countries in the cultural, scientific and technical fields, in particular, by the following means:

- a) The training, in the other country, of teachers who are specialists in the teaching of the language and civilization of each of the two countries;
- b) The exchange of research workers, experts and students;
- c) The establishment of schools, institutes and cultural institutions in accordance with the laws in force in each country;
- d) The sending by the French Government of teachers qualified in the teaching of the French language, the sciences and technology to the schools of the State of Qatar, at the request and at the expense of the latter.

Article II. The two Contracting Parties shall endeavour to disseminate the culture and civilization of each of the two countries in the other by the following means:

- a) The holding of scientific and technical exhibitions;
- b) The holding of musical and theatrical performances;
- c) The exchange of sporting groups and co-operation between youth organizations;
- d) The encouragement of co-operation between radio and television authorities in the two countries and the exchange of programmes;
- e) The encouragement of tourism in the two countries.

Article III. 1. At the request of the State of Qatar, the Government of the French Republic shall endeavour:

- a) To contribute to the establishment of vocational and technical training centres in the State of Qatar by sending teachers and technicians and by receiving in France, for purposes of training, nationals of the State of Qatar;
- b) To nominate advisers and experts for the study of particular projects or to submit such projects to French specialized institutes for advice;
- c) To ensure the dissemination of cultural, scientific and technical documentation.

2. The State of Qatar undertakes to contribute to the expenses arising out of the application of paragraph 1 above, in accordance with the decisions of the mixed commission mentioned in article X.

¹ Came into force provisionally on 22 October 1977 by signature, in accordance with article XI.

Article IV. Each of the two Contracting Parties shall grant fellowships to students wishing to pursue studies in the other country, subject to the determination by the mixed commission of the conditions necessary to establish the equivalence of certificates and diplomas granted by schools, universities and institutes at all levels in each of the two States.

Article V. Each of the Contracting Parties shall encourage the operation in its territory of the cultural institutions which the other Party has established or wishes to establish there, in accordance with the legislation of each of the two States.

Article VI. Supplies, equipment and books imported in implementation of this Agreement shall be exempt from customs taxes and duties.

Article VII. The two Contracting States undertake to co-operate in the field of health and to ensure the following:

a) The French Government shall provide, to the extent possible, specialists in the fields of medicine, nursing and occupational health to be seconded to the State of Qatar for a limited period. The State of Qatar shall assume their living expenses during the period of their secondment, in accordance with the regulations in force.

b) The French Government shall undertake to extend all possible facilities for the admission and treatment of cases which cannot be treated in hospitals of Qatar; the Government of Qatar shall meet the costs thereby incurred.

c) The Government of Qatar shall provide all French nationals residing in or in transit through the State of Qatar with all necessary care, as is customary with regard to the nationals of friendly countries.

d) The two Parties shall exchange experts, research workers and students. They shall also communicate to each other information, periodicals and publications concerning scientific research in the medical and public health fields. They shall likewise exchange films and all other means for the promotion of public health.

e) The French Government shall encourage French scientific establishments specializing in the field of public health to render assistance to all projects and activities carried out by similar establishments in the State of Qatar.

Article VIII. Each of the Contracting Parties shall offer to the nationals of the other Party all possible facilities, within the limits imposed by the laws and regulations in force, with regard in particular to entry, sojourn and exit.

Article IX. The Contracting Parties shall undertake to ensure the implementation of the provisions of this Agreement on the basis of true reciprocity and in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in their respective States.

Article X. A mixed commission, the members of which shall be appointed in equal numbers by the two Governments, shall meet alternately at Paris and at Doha; it shall be presided over at Paris by a French national and at Doha by a national of the State of Qatar; experts from the two countries may be attached thereto; it shall submit proposals for approval by the two Governments in order to ensure the implementation of the Agreement in the best possible manner.

Article XI. This Agreement shall take effect provisionally on the date of signature and definitively on the date of the exchange of the instruments of approval in accordance with the constitutional procedures of each of the two countries.

Article XII. This Agreement is concluded for a period of four years renewable automatically for one or more similar periods, unless one of the two Contracting Parties gives notice in writing of its intention to terminate it at least six months before the expiry of the current period.

This Agreement has been drawn up in both the Arabic and the French languages, each of the two texts being equally authentic.

DONE at Doha on 22 October 1977.

1978

For the Government of the French Republic:

[Signed] JEAN-FRANÇOIS DENIAU Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs

For the Government of the State of Qatar:

[Signed] Abdelaziz bin Khalifa al Thani Minister of Finance and Petroleum