

No. 20395

**UNITED NATIONS
and
AUSTRIA**

Agreement to continue the European Centre for Social Welfare Training and Research. Signed at New York on 23 July 1981

Authentic texts: English and German.

Registered ex officio on 21 September 1981.

**ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES
et
AUTRICHE**

Accord relatif au maintien en activité du Centre européen de formation et de recherche en matière de protection sociale. Signé à New York le 23 juillet 1981

Textes authentiques : anglais et allemand.

Enregistré d'office le 21 septembre 1981.

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS TO CONTINUE THE EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR SOCIAL WELFARE TRAINING AND RESEARCH

The Federal Government of Austria and the United Nations,

Recalling resolution 1406 (XLVI) of 5 June 1969 of the Economic and Social Council,² which endorsed a recommendation of the International Conference of Ministers Responsible for Social Welfare, held in New York in September 1968, and invited the Secretary-General of the United Nations to consult with the Governments of Member States on the establishment of regional social welfare research and training centres,

Recalling also that the Conference of European Ministers Responsible for Social Welfare held in The Hague in August 1972, “acknowledged that the development of research and advanced training in social welfare is one of the most urgent priorities of European co-operation”,

Noting the relevant conclusions and recommendations of the United Nations Working Group on European Co-operation in the Development of Social Welfare Training and Research, held in Berne in February 1973,³

Noting further the positive outcome of the consultations with Governments undertaken by the Secretary-General on the merits of establishing a European Centre for Social Welfare Training and Research,

Recalling that the Agreement signed 7 December 1978 between the Federal Government of Austria and the United Nations to continue the European Centre for Social Welfare Training and Research,⁴ expired on 31 December 1980,

Have agreed that the European Centre for Social Welfare Training and Research shall continue in accordance with the following provisions:

Article I. PURPOSES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE CENTRE

1. The Federal Government of Austria (hereinafter referred to as “the host Government”) which has established the European Centre for Social Welfare Training and Research (hereinafter referred to as “the Centre”) in Vienna, will continue to support the operation of the Centre. The Secretary-General of the United Nations (hereinafter referred to as “the Secretary-General”) shall co-operate in this undertaking and shall endeavour to enlist the participation and support of the Governments of other States Members of the United Nations or members of the Specialized Agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency, (hereinafter referred to as “other Governments”) in the operation of the Centre.

2. The purpose of the Centre shall be to promote co-operation between the Governments and organizations and agencies concerned in Europe in the field of social welfare, with special emphasis on training and research. In this pursuit the Centre will closely collaborate with the United Nations Centre for Social Develop-

¹ Came into force on 21 September 1981, i.e., 60 days after the date of signature, in accordance with article IX (1).

² United Nations, *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-sixth Session*, p. 5.

³ United Nations, *Working Group on European Co-operation in the Development of Social Welfare Training and Research*, SOA/ESDP/1973/1, p. 7.

⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1120, p. 3.

ment and Humanitarian Affairs in carrying out the European Social Development Programme in particular.

3. The main functions of the Centre shall be:

- (a) To promote an exchange of experience in the field of social welfare in different regions through the organisation of seminars and expert meetings;
- (b) To carry out and to foster research, including research projects involving collaboration between the Centre and organisations, national authorities, and other bodies and individuals;
- (c) To maintain relations with organisations, national authorities and other bodies, and individuals, active in the field of social welfare.

Article II. LEGAL STATUS OF THE CENTRE

The host Government shall take the necessary steps to ensure the Centre's status as an autonomous non-profit-making entity having legal personality under Austrian law. The statutes of the Charter shall be identical to the amended version of the statutes communicated to the United Nations in accordance with article II of the Agreement between the Government and the United Nations to continue the European Centre for Social Welfare, Training and Research, signed on 7 December 1978, which statutes are in accordance with the present Agreement. Any proposed changes in the statutes shall be communicated to the United Nations before they take effect.

Article III. ORGANISATION OF THE CENTRE

(A) *Board of Directors.* 1. The Centre shall have a Board of Directors composed of six members appointed by the Secretary-General, four members appointed by the host Government, and the representative of the Secretary-General who shall be the Chairman of the Board. The duration of appointment of members shall be three years.

2. The six members appointed by the Secretary-General shall be experts in the field of social welfare and development, chosen on the basis of their professional qualifications from amongst nationals of States, other than Austria, collaborating with the Centre. In making such appointments the Secretary-General will have regard to achieving a balance in the representation of countries with different degrees of social and economic development.

3. The Executive Director shall be *ex officio* a non-voting member of the Board.

4. The Board of Directors shall be convened annually at the initiative of the Chairman. The Board shall consider all matters relating to the activities of the Centre brought to its attention by the Chairman or the Executive Director. The Executive Director shall submit to the Board each year, for its consideration and approval, (i) a report covering the previous year's programme of activities; and (ii) the programme of activities which it is proposed to carry out during the coming year. The Board may request additional reports, and may adapt the reporting requirements (so as, for example, to permit reports to be made covering periods longer than one year), if, in the light of experience, this proves to be desirable.

5. The Executive Director shall also submit, in accordance with the procedures specified in article VII, the annual budget of the Centre, for the consideration and approval of the Board of Directors, in accordance with the provisions of that article.

6. The Board will, so far as possible, adopt its decisions and recommendations on a basis of unanimity. When, in the opinion of the Chairman, the Board is unable to reach unanimous agreement, a vote may be taken. Each member shall have one vote. The Chairman shall not vote, except in the event of a tie vote.

7. The Board of Directors may invite representatives of organisations and agencies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organisations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to attend its meetings at their own expense.

8. The Board may establish such subsidiary bodies as it considers desirable. The subsidiary bodies shall report to the Board.

(B) *Staff.* 1. The Centre shall have the staff necessary to carry out the functions and shall, in particular, have the following basic staff:

- (a) An Executive Director nominated by the host Government in consultation with the Secretary-General and approved by the Board of Directors. His/her functions shall be:
 - (i) To plan and direct the programme of activities of the Centre;
 - (ii) To organise and direct the administration of the Centre and to appoint the other members of the staff;
 - (iii) To prepare and submit to the Board of Directors reports and the annual budget of the Centre, in accordance with paragraph (A), 4 and 5, above.
- (b) Teaching and research staff. Such staff shall consist of specialists made available by other Governments, by the host Government, or by the United Nations, the last solely for short-term assignments.
- (c) Administrative, clerical and maintenance staff, provided by the host Government.

2. Provided the necessary funds are available, the Secretary-General in consultation with the host Government will nominate a liaison officer whose functions shall be to assist the Executive Director in the discharge of the latter's duties and to provide appropriate liaison with the United Nations.

(C) *Training and Research Fellows.* Fellows may be invited to the Centre by the Executive Director.

(D) *Languages.* The working languages of the Centre shall be English, French and German.

Article IV. OBLIGATIONS OF THE HOST GOVERNMENT

1. The Government shall provide, in accordance with its budgetary regulations, at its expense:

- (a) The staff referred to in article III, paragraph (B) 1 (a) and (c) and such of the Austrian staff referred to in paragraph (B) 1 (b) as may be determined by the Government in consultation with the Executive Director.
- (b) Furnished and equipped premises and maintenance thereof necessary for the Centre's purposes.
- (c) Supplies and services necessary for the operation of the Centre.
- (d) Board and lodging, or an allowance to cover the costs thereof, to non-Austrian specialists assigned to the Centre on a short-term basis.
- (e) Expenses related to the annual meeting of the Board of Directors, provided that the travel costs of the non-Austrian members of the Board are not covered by

her/his national government or by the United Nations Trust Fund for European Social Development.

2. The Government may also provide when required an allowance in respect of housing and local living costs to members of the teaching and research staff made available by other Governments.

Article V. OBLIGATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

1. The Secretary-General shall co-operate with the Centre, subject to the availability of funds, by providing the following assistance:

- (a) A liaison officer and other consultative services by staff members of the United Nations Secretariat.
- (b) Assigning teaching and research staff on a short-term basis.
- (c) The transportation costs of non-Austrian members of the Board of Directors attending meetings at the Centre, and of non-Austrian specialists assigned to the Centre on a short-term basis, provided that these expenses can be covered by the United Nations Fund for European Social Development.

2. The United Nations shall encourage other Governments to participate in the operation of the Centre in accordance with article VI below.

Article VI. PARTICIPATION OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS

1. Other Governments shall be encouraged to participate in and support the operation of the Centre. In particular they shall be invited to provide specialists who may form part of the teaching and research staff, in accordance with the provisions of article III, paragraph (B) 1 (b). The salary and related emoluments of such staff shall be provided by the Government concerned or by the organization by which they are normally employed. The government concerned shall also be invited to provide an allowance for housing and local living costs, except in cases where the provisions of article IV, paragraph 2, are applied.

2. Other Governments may also make financial contributions to help meet the cost of particular research projects, of meetings organised by the Centre and held either at the Centre or elsewhere, or of the general operation of the Centre. Such contributions may be made either directly to the Centre or through earmarked contributions to the United Nations Fund for European Social Development.

3. The Secretary-General and the host Government may consider, in consultation with States collaborating with and supporting the Centre, the conclusion of a multilateral agreement regarding the operation of the Centre. Such an agreement, if concluded, would replace the present Agreement, under detailed terms to be specified in the multilateral agreement or in a separate agreement between the Secretary-General and the host Government.

Article VII. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

1. After the competent authorities of the host Government and the United Nations have indicated what funds are available for the budget period under consideration, the annual budget of the Centre shall be drawn up by the Executive Director. The competent authorities of the host Government shall provide technical assistance. The annual budget shall be submitted to the Board of Directors for approval. Although the Board may make changes in the proposed budget as regards funds to be allocated for specific programmes, it may not increase the total level of estimated

expenditure. It may, however, make recommendations with respect to the total level of expenditure which it considers may be required in subsequent years.

2. The host Government shall determine the amount of its financial contribution to the Centre in accordance with the provisions of article IV and after taking into account such financial and other contributions as may be made by other Governments, or by organisations and individuals, to the expenses of the Centre.

Article VIII. ACCESS TO THE CENTRE

The host Government shall grant such visas and permits as may be necessary in order to ensure adequate conditions of work and stay and access to the Centre to all foreign members of the staff of the Centre and all persons officially invited to the Centre or the meetings held there.

Article IX. ENTRY INTO FORCE AND TERMINATION

1. This Agreement shall replace the Agreement between the United Nations and the Federal Government of Austria for the Continuation of the European Centre for Social Welfare Training and Research, signed 7 December 1978 in New York. This Agreement shall enter into force sixty days after it has been signed.

2. The Agreement may be terminated at any time by either Party upon written notice. The termination shall be effective six months after the receipt of such notice.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the respective Representatives of the United Nations and the host Government, duly authorized thereto, sign the present Agreement.

DONE, in duplicate, in the English and German languages, both being equally authentic, at New York on the 23rd of July 1981.

For the United Nations:

[Signed]

KURT WALDHEIM
Secretary-General

For the Federal Government
of Austria:

[Signed]

THOMAS KLESTIL
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Austria
to the United Nations
