

No. 20782

**FRANCE
and
DJIBOUTI**

**Agreement concerning the establishment of the National
Office of Djibouti for War Veterans and War Victims.
Signed at Djibouti on 12 March 1981**

Authentic text: French.

Registered by France on 25 February 1982.

**FRANCE
et
DJIBOUTI**

**Convention portant création de l'Office national djiboutien
des anciens combattants et victimes de guerre. Signée
à Djibouti le 12 mars 1981**

Texte authentique : français.

Enregistrée par la France le 25 février 1982.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE
REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI CONCERNING THE ESTABLISH-
MENT OF THE NATIONAL OFFICE OF DJIBOUTI FOR WAR
VETERANS

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL OFFICE OF DJIBOUTI
FOR WAR VETERANS AND WAR VICTIMS

The Government of the French Republic, represented by Mr. Ivan Bastouil, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Djibouti, on the one hand, and

The Government of the Republic of Djibouti, represented by Mr. Moumin Bahdon Farah, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Co-operation, on the other,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1. A National Office of Djibouti for War Veterans and War Victims is hereby established as a public social institution of the Republic of Djibouti, which shall manage and operate it in accordance with the principles hereinafter set forth:

Article 2. The aims of the National Office of Djibouti for War Veterans and War Victims shall be:

- To provide moral and material support to those persons covered by article D. 432 of the French Code on Military Pensions for Disability and War Victims, making available to them the fringe and optional social benefits which may be claimed by the beneficiaries under the said Code;
- To manage and supervise the War Veterans' Home constructed in the territory of the Republic of Djibouti;
- To undertake or support initiatives aimed at maintaining or developing fraternal links among French-speaking War Veterans;
- To prepare the applications of War Veterans for identity cards, retirement benefits and certificates of disability for transmission to the French authorities;
- To provide moral assistance to War Veterans, provide information on problems of concern to them and intervene on their behalf, where necessary, with the public service and private sectors with a view to their rehabilitation.

Article 3. The National Office of Djibouti for War Veterans and War Victims shall be administered, under the authority of the relevant minister in the Djiboutian Government, by:

- A Governing Board composed of Djiboutian and French members;
- A Director.

¹ Came into force on 1 January 1981 with retroactive effect, in accordance with article 13.

Article 4. The Chairman of the Governing Board shall be a person of standing appointed by the head of State.

The composition of the Governing Board shall be determined by the head of State. Members shall be appointed from among the officials of the relevant ministries and the officers of the armed forces, and also from among the representatives of the various categories of persons covered by the activities of the Office, subject to the following provisions:

—The functions of first vice-chairman shall be exercised by the Consul-General of France in Djibouti, who shall be an *ex officio* member of all committees and sub-committees established under the Governing Board. Where he is unable to exercise his functions, the Consul-General may designate a prominent person of his choice to represent him as *ex officio* member of the Board and of its committees and sub-committees;

—A second vice-chairman of the Governing Board shall be appointed from among the persons covered by the activities of the Office.

The Governing Board shall elect from within its membership a standing committee charged with the task of considering and giving its opinion on requests for grants and various other forms of social assistance to those persons covered by the activities of the Office.

The Chairman of this committee shall be one of the two vice-chairmen of the Governing Board.

No remuneration or indemnity shall be payable in respect of the functions of members of the Governing Board.

The Governing Board shall meet twice annually. The first meeting shall, in principle, be held in the month of March for submission of the budget estimates for the following financial year, and the second in July for approval of the administrative account and the supplementary budget.

A special meeting of the Governing Board may be convened if circumstances so require.

Article 5. The Director of the National Office of Djibouti for War Veterans and War Victims shall be appointed by the President of the Republic of Djibouti.

Article 6. The National Office of Djibouti for War Veterans and War Victims shall have its own budget, which shall be financed from contributions by the Djiboutian and French Governments.

The administrative accounts and the budget estimates shall be approved by the Djiboutian Government in a manner which it shall itself determine.

Personnel and operating expenses shall be met from the contribution of the Djiboutian Government. The entire contribution of the French Government shall be allocated to social activities.

Social expenses shall be deemed to consist of assistance to persons covered by the activities of the Office (in cash or in kind, in the form of loans, etc.) and such expenses as are directly related to the functioning of the War Veterans' Home as a social institution. The first vice-chairman of the Governing Board shall, with the Board's concurrence, be the final judge of the social nature of such expenses.

Article 7. The Director of the National Office shall:

- Maintain and preserve in good condition the property belonging to the office;
- Prepare and implement the budget;
- Ensure observance of the rights which may be claimed by persons covered by the activities of the Office, both nationals of Djibouti and nationals of France, or French-speaking war veterans or war victims present in the national territory;
- Prepare, direct and undertake the social activities of the Office.

In this regard, he shall manage the budget and shall be solely authorized to incur expenditure within the limits of the regular appropriations under the budget.

Applications or proposals for the granting of social assistance, whether individual or collective, requiring expenditure from the French contribution shall be considered by the Director of the National Office and shall be submitted to the standing committee responsible for overseeing such expenditure for its opinion.

Article 8. At the end of the financial year a report on activities, including a statement on the utilization of the French contribution prepared by the Director of the National Office, shall be submitted to the Governing Board for its opinion and then transmitted by the Djiboutian Government to the French Government. The latter may make any remarks and suggestions through the normal diplomatic channel.

Article 9. The Director of the National Office shall each year prepare the application to be transmitted to the French Government for the purpose of obtaining its contribution to social expenses. He shall submit this application to the Governing Board for its opinion. The application shall be transmitted by the Djiboutian Government to the French Government at the latest during the month preceding the beginning of the financial year in respect of which the application is made.

After the decision on the granting of the contribution has been taken, the corresponding funds shall be included in the budget of the National Office of Djibouti for War Veterans and War Victims.

Article 10. The accountant of the National Office shall be appointed by the Djiboutian Government.

The financial system of the National Office shall conform to Djiboutian accountancy regulations.

Article 11. With effect from the date of entry into force of this Agreement, the movable and immovable assets of the Office of War Veterans and War Victims of Djibouti shall be transferred to the National Office of Djibouti for War Veterans and War Victims.

Net receipts and investment funds held by the French Paymaster's Office shall be remitted to the controller of the National Office.

Article 12. Subject to the foregoing provisions, the National Office of Djibouti for War Veterans and War Victims shall function in accordance with the regulations applicable to Djiboutian public institutions.

Article 13. This Agreement, which shall be published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Djibouti, shall enter into force on 1 January 1981.

DONE at Djibouti on 12 March 1981.

For the Government
of the French Republic:

[Signed]

IVAN BASTOUIL
Ambassador of France
to the Republic of Djibouti

For the Government
of the Republic of Djibouti:

[Signed]

MOUMIN BAHDON FARAH
Minister of Foreign Affairs
and Co-operation