

**No. 21830**

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**FRANCE  
and  
CONGO**

**Agreement on cultural co-operation (with exchange of letters). Signed at Brazzaville on 1 January 1974**

*Authentic text: French.*

*Registered by France on 12 April 1983.*

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**FRANCE  
et  
CONGO**

**Accord de coopération culturelle (avec échange de lettres).  
Signé à Brazzaville le 1<sup>er</sup> janvier 1974**

*Texte authentique : français.*

*Enregistré par la France le 12 avril 1983.*

[TRANSLATION—TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> ON CULTURAL CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE FRENCH  
REPUBLIC AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

The Government of the French Republic, on the one hand, and  
The Government of the People's Republic of the Congo, on the other,  
Aware of the role which cultural co-operation should play in mutual knowledge,  
understanding and peace between peoples,  
Desiring to work for greater familiarity among their two peoples with a view to  
strengthening the bonds which freely unite them,  
Have resolved to conclude an agreement for that purpose and have agreed as follows:

TITLE I. CO-OPERATION IN EDUCATION

*Article I.* The Government of the People's Republic of the Congo and the Government of the French Republic shall facilitate, each in its territory and according to its means, the education and training of nationals of the other Party.

At the request of the Government of the People's Republic of the Congo, the Government of the French Republic shall collaborate with the People's Republic of the Congo in order to develop in its territory a high degree of excellence in education.

*Article II.* Co-operation in education shall take the form, *inter alia*, of the sending of teachers, the provision of study fellowships and training courses in universities, establishments and organizations situated in France, the Congo, or other African countries and assistance to educational establishments and universities, in particular those involved in the training of teachers and technical personnel.

The number, nature and conditions for the award of fellowships shall be the subject of separate provisions which may be revised annually.

The French Republic shall, according to its means, provide assistance for the implementation of the multiannual programmes of the People's Republic of the Congo.

The French participation in such programmes shall be determined annually by the joint commission referred to in article X below.

*Article III.* Each State shall in its territory accord to nationals of the other State free access to its educational establishments, subject to respect for the regulations of the host State relating to education and universities.

Each State shall accord to the other State's students studying in its territory the social benefits to which they are entitled as students. The said students shall comply with the laws and regulations of the host country.

*Article IV.* The Government of the People's Republic of the Congo shall accord every facility to the Government of the French Republic, in order to enable the latter to organize, if need be, French education and qualifying examinations for its nationals in the territory of the People's Republic of the Congo.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 1 November 1981, i.e., the first day of the second month following the exchange of the instruments of approval, which took place at Paris on 30 September 1981, in accordance with article XI.

*Article V.* The diplomas conferred by the educational establishments in each of the two States shall, in accordance with the requisite national procedures, be recognized as equivalent.

*Article VI.* The Government of the People's Republic of the Congo shall authorize general inspection missions and the organization of the vocational competitive examinations and other examinations necessary for the normal career development of French teachers.

The costs of these missions shall be borne by the French Republic.

## TITLE II. CULTURAL EXCHANGES

*Article VII.* The Contracting Parties shall encourage cultural exchanges between themselves and between their nationals by every means at their disposal. These means shall include, *inter alia*:

1. For exchanges of personnel:

The organization of training and refresher courses, study tours and exchanges of teachers and young people;

The conduct of scientific research and archaeological expeditions;

The consultation of archives and government records;

The organization of artistic, cultural and sports events;

2. For exchanges of material:

The admission and circulation, in accordance with the provisions of existing laws, of all educational materials: books, magazines, publications, photographs, transparencies and non-commercial films;

Any measures designed to ensure and increase co-operation between the two States in matters relating to the cinema, radio and television;

The setting up of libraries and cultural centres with a view to making their culture and civilization better known to each other;

3. For publishing:

The printing and dissemination of works of cultural interest by nationals of the two Parties.

*Article VIII.* The nationals of each of the two States shall enjoy in the territory of the other such freedom in the fields of thought and art as is consistent with respect for public policy (*ordre public* and *bonnes mœurs*) within the framework of the regulations and laws existing in the host country.

## TITLE III. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

*Article IX.* The educational establishments and cultural organizations of each Contracting Party shall enjoy in the territory of the other Party the same tax and related benefits as apply to corresponding national organizations.

Subject to its domestic regulations regarding the control of publications, books, records, films and teaching materials, each State undertakes to admit, free of customs duties and general and special taxes, all materials for use in teaching, cultural and scientific research activities.

*Article X.* A Joint Commission having an equal number of members from each Party shall be established to implement this Agreement.

*Article XI.* This Agreement, which supersedes and annuls the Agreement of 15 August 1960,<sup>1</sup> is concluded for a period of five years and may be renewed by tacit agreement, unless it is denounced by one of the Contracting Parties. Notice of denunciation must be submitted through the diplomatic channel at least six months in advance.

This Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following the exchange of instruments of approval, which shall take place at Paris as soon as possible.

Each Contracting Party may at any time request the amendment of a provision or provisions of this Agreement and the opening of negotiations for that purpose.

DONE at Brazzaville on 1 January 1974, in duplicate, in the French language.

For the Government  
of the French Republic:

[Signed]

JEAN-FRANÇOIS DENIAU  
Secretary of State to the  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

For the Government  
of the People's Republic of the Congo:

[Signed]

DAVID CHARLES GANAO  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

## EXCHANGE OF LETTERS

### I

Brazzaville, 1 January 1974

Sir,

The Government of the French Republic and the Government of the People's Republic of the Congo have concluded an Agreement on cultural co-operation designed to further and to develop cultural exchanges. To that end, they have decided to encourage the establishment of libraries and cultural centres contributing to greater mutual familiarity with their cultures and their civilizations.

Anxious to avoid possible difficulties regarding the status or working conditions of the Congolese staff in French libraries and cultural centres which might disturb the operation of those establishments or mar the spirit of cultural co-operation, the Government of the French Republic wishes the Congolese Minister for Foreign Affairs to inform the French Ambassador of any such difficulties, so that by being addressed immediately at the diplomatic level they may be resolved without delay in the spirit of mutual tolerance and understanding which characterize cultural relations between the two States.

I should be grateful if you would inform me whether this proposal meets with the approval of the Government of the People's Republic of the Congo.

Accept, Sir, etc.

[Signed]

JEAN-FRANÇOIS DENIAU  
Secretary of State to the Minister  
for Foreign Affairs of the French Republic

Mr. David Charles Ganao  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of the People's Republic of the Congo

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 821, p. 199.

## II

Brazzaville, 1 January 1974

Sir,

You have addressed to me a letter dated 1 January 1974, which reads as follows:

[*See letter I*]

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of the People's Republic of the Congo agrees to that proposal.

Accept, Sir, etc.

[*Signed*]

DAVID CHARLES GANAO  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of the People's Republic of the Congo

Mr. Jean-François Deniau  
Secretary of State to the Minister  
for Foreign Affairs of the French Republic

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