

No. 21865

**UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
and
MAURITANIA**

**Agreement on co-operation in the field of maritime fisheries.
Signed at Nouakchott on 31 January 1981**

Authentic texts: Russian and French.

Registered by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on 18 April 1983.

**UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES
SOVIÉTIQUES
et
MAURITANIE**

Accord de coopération dans le domaine de la pêche maritime. Signé à Nouakchott le 31 janvier 1981

Textes authentiques : russe et français.

Enregistré par l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques le 18 avril 1983.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA ON CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF MARINE FISHERIES

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania,

Having regard to the friendly relations existing between the two countries,

Having a mutual interest in economic co-operation, particularly in the field of marine fisheries,

Taking into account the decision of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania to establish a 200-mile economic zone, the new fisheries policy and the establishment of the joint Soviet-Mauritanian fishery company (MAUSOV),

Recognizing the need to conduct fishery activities on a scientific basis with due regard to the conservation of biological resources,

Considering the desirability of the development and co-ordination of fishery research between the two countries and the exchange of scientific and other data relating to the field of fisheries,

Have decided to conclude this Agreement and for that purpose have agreed as follows:

Article 1. The Contracting Parties agree to co-operate and assist each other in the development of marine fisheries, the harvesting, processing and marketing of fish products, and also the co-ordination of scientific research efforts in the waters in which the Islamic Republic of Mauritania exercises sovereign rights in respect of the biological resources of the sea.

Article 2. The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall provide the Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania with technical and economic assistance in:

- Developing its fishing industry;
- Training personnel and upgrading the skills of Mauritanian seamen; and
- Studying the fishery resources of the waters in which the Islamic Republic of Mauritania exercises sovereign rights in respect of the biological resources of the sea.

Article 3. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania shall:

- Ensure the conditions necessary for fishing vessels of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to engage in fishing in the waters over which the Islamic Republic of Mauritania exercises sovereign rights in respect of the biological resources of the sea. The number of such vessels and the conditions for their operations shall be determined each year in the Protocol provided for in article 5 of this Agreement.

¹ Came into force on 19 February 1982 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification, in accordance with article 7.

The vessels shall conduct their fishing activities in accordance with the fishing laws and regulations which are in force or may be adopted in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania;

- Ensure that vessels belonging to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics enjoy advantageous conditions for anchoring, supply and repairs in the ports and roadsteads of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania; and
- Ensure that the Soviet side enjoys advantageous conditions in the territory of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania for the provision of replacement crews for Soviet vessels by means of Aeroflot aircraft. Such aircraft must comply with the conditions and rules established by Mauritanian legislation regarding overflight and landing in the territory of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

Article 4. The joint Soviet-Mauritanian fishery company (MAUSOV) shall henceforth be the sole instrument of co-operation between the two countries in the fishing industry.

The capital of the company and its distribution and investment programme shall be determined in the additional protocol.

The Soviet side shall provide assistance in the implementation of the investment programme of the company by making available to specialists, experience and fleet, and the Mauritanian side shall create the necessary conditions for the implementation of this programme.

Article 5. For the purposes of implementing this Agreement, a Soviet-Mauritanian Commission shall be established. The Commission shall meet once a year, alternately in Mauritania and the USSR, or more frequently at the request of one of the Parties.

The results of the Commission's work shall be incorporated in a protocol determining the modalities for the implementation of the Agreement for each year.

Article 6. Nothing in this Agreement shall affect the position of either Contracting Party concerning the questions under consideration at the third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, or their attitudes to treaties and agreements concluded with third countries.

Article 7. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of diplomatic instruments giving notice of the approval or ratification thereof by each Contracting Party, and shall remain in force until 31 December 1984.

However, if on the expiry of the Agreement any obligations and commitments deriving therefrom or from the annexed protocols have not been fully met, such obligations shall remain in effect until they have been honoured in full.

Six months before the expiry of this Agreement, the two Contracting Parties shall hold consultations regarding its renewal.

Article 8. If one of the Contracting Parties has sufficient grounds for believing that the other Contracting Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the Agreement, it may denounce the Agreement by giving three months' written notice to the other Party.

In that event the Agreement shall cease to have effect three months after such notice is given.

DONE at Nouakchott on 31 January 1981, in duplicate in the Russian and French languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the Union of Soviet Socialist
Republics:

[Signed]

V. STARTSEV
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary of the USSR
to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania

For the Government
of the Islamic Republic
of Mauritania:

[Signed]

SOUMARE OUMAR
Minister of Fisheries
