

No. 23657

**BULGARIA
and
LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**

**Treaty of friendship and co-operation. Signed at Vientiane
on 4 October 1979**

Authentic texts: Bulgarian and Lao.

Registered by Bulgaria on 12 December 1985.

**BULGARIE
et
RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE POPULAIRE LAO**

**Traité d'amitié et de coopération. Signé à Vientiane le 4 oc-
tobre 1979**

Textes authentiques : bulgare et lao.

Enregistré par la Bulgarie le 12 décembre 1985.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

TREATY¹ OF FRIENDSHIP AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA AND THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

The People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Proceeding from the relations of fraternal friendship, solidarity and co-operation existing between the two countries and peoples, based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism,

Convinced that the further development of these relations is in the interests of the peoples of the two States, and contributes to the strengthening and deepening of the solidarity and unity between the countries of the socialist community and serves the cause of world peace and international understanding,

Guided by the principles and goals of socialist foreign policy and the desire to ensure that the most favourable international conditions for the building of socialism are guaranteed,

Declaring their commitment to the strengthening of unity of action between the countries of the socialist community, the developing countries and all progressive forces struggling against imperialism, expansionism and reaction and for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress,

Expressing their firm determination to promote the strengthening of peace and progress throughout the world and to make an active contribution to the development of equal relations and mutually advantageous co-operation between States with different social systems on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence,

In keeping with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Have decided to conclude this Treaty and have agreed as follows:

Article 1. The High Contracting Parties shall, in accordance with the principles of socialist internationalism, continue to consolidate the fraternal friendship and solidarity between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Lao People's Democratic Republic. They shall steadfastly develop and deepen their political relations and provide each other with all-round assistance and support.

Article 2. The High Contracting Parties shall endeavour to strengthen all-around economic, scientific and technical co-operation between their countries on the basis of equality of rights and mutual advantage. For that purpose they shall intensify their co-operation in various economic, scientific and technological areas, and shall exchange experience accumulated in the process of building socialism.

Article 3. The High Contracting Parties shall promote the strengthening of ties and co-operation in the fields of science and culture, education, the mass-media, sports and tourism, and in other areas of public life, and shall encourage the develop-

¹ Came into force on 31 March 1980 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Sofia, in accordance with article 8.

ment of co-operation and contacts between the State organs and social, scientific and cultural organizations of the two countries.

Article 4. The High Contracting Parties shall continue their efforts to strengthen world peace and security and to deepen international détente and ensure that it becomes an irreversible process and is extended to all regions of the world, including Asia. They shall continue to wage a sustained struggle against imperialism, expansionism, hegemonism, racial discrimination and *apartheid*, and shall support the just struggle of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America for freedom, national independence, democracy and social progress.

Article 5. The High Contracting Parties shall promote the further development of fraternal relations between all States of the socialist community and shall actively work for the strengthening of their unity and cohesion.

Article 6. The High Contracting Parties shall keep each other informed on important international questions and shall strive to arrive at a co-ordinated position, in keeping with the interests of the two countries.

Article 7. This Treaty shall not affect the rights and obligations of the High Contracting Parties under existing bilateral and multilateral agreements, concluded with their participation.

Article 8. This Treaty is subject to ratification and shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which shall take place at Sofia as soon as possible.

Article 9. This Treaty is concluded for a term of 25 years and shall be renewed automatically for successive 10-year periods unless one of the High Contracting Parties gives notice, 12 months before the expiry of the current term, of its intention to terminate it.

SIGNED at Vientiane on 4 October 1979, in duplicate in the Bulgarian and Lao languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the People's Republic
of Bulgaria:

[Signed]

TODOR ZHIVKOV

For the Lao People's
Democratic Republic:

[Signed]

KAYSONE PHOMVIHANE