

No. 24364

**UNITED NATIONS
(UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR
POPULATION ACTIVITIES)
and
BELGIUM**

Memorandum of Understanding relating to the establishment of an International Center for Training and Research in Population and Development in association with the United Nations at the Catholic University of Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve (with project document). Signed at Brussels on 19 September 1986 and at New York on 10 October 1986

Authentic text: English.

Registered ex officio on 10 October 1986.

**ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES
(FONDS DES NATIONS UNIES
POUR LES ACTIVITÉS
EN MATIÈRE DE POPULATION)
et
BELGIQUE**

Mémorandum d'accord relatif à l'établissement d'un centre international de formation et de recherche pour la population et le développement en association avec l'Organisation des Nations Unies à l'Université catholique de Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve (avec document de projet). Signé à Bruxelles le 19 septembre 1986 et à New York le 10 octobre 1986

Texte authentique : anglais.

Enregistré d'office le 10 octobre 1986.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING¹ BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE GOVERNMENT OF BELGIUM RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH IN POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS AT THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF LOUVAIN, LOUVAIN-LA-NEUVE

1. During the past 15 years, government leaders and specialists in the fields of population and socio-economic development have become increasingly aware of the close and complex interrelationship between population trends and the achievement of development goals. Indeed, the 1974 World Population Conference and the 1984 International Conference on Population underscored the urgent need for an integrated approach in the area of population and development planning. One of the constraints to implementing this approach, however, is the lack of personnel at the national level trained in the disciplines and methodologies that are essential for translating the concept of integration into an operational reality. Recognizing the need to train personnel in the area of population and development and in view of the lack of institutions equipped to undertake such training, the Government of Belgium and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), acting in accord with its mandate and under the authority of its governing body, the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, have agreed to finance an international training centre at the Catholic University of Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve (UCL). This centre is one component of the Global Programme in Population and Development Training being undertaken by the UNFPA in co-operation with governments and appropriate institutions throughout the world. In establishing the international training centre, UNFPA and the Government of Belgium agree to the principles contained in the paragraphs which follow and to the provisions detailed in the project document.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

2. The centre established under the joint auspices of the UNFPA and the Government of Belgium shall be known as the "International Centre for Training and Research in Population and Development in Association with the United Nations" (hereafter referred to as the Centre) and shall be housed at the Catholic University of Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, which will be the executing agency for this project.

3. The Centre will carry out training and research in the field of population and development. It will provide post-university training for senior-level government officials, and scientific and technical staff in key positions and structures in government administration who are active in delineating and implementing policies and programmes in the population and development sectors. The training programme is designed to meet the needs of French-speaking candidates from developing countries, particularly African countries, but is open to all candidates from developing countries who can suitably demonstrate their competence in French. The programme curricula will be interdisciplinary in nature and will cover a period of 10.5 months. Through lectures, seminars and directed research activities, the programme will seek

¹ Came into force on 10 October 1986 by signature, in accordance with paragraph 18.

to familiarize students with the operational problems which arise in the course of pursuing an integrated approach to population and development. It is envisaged that 15 trainees will be funded annually by UNFPA. The Centre will also be able to receive trainees whose participation will be financed from other sources, provided that the number of trainees would not be beyond a certain limit which could affect the efficiency of the programme in terms of capacity of the faculty to supervise successfully the trainees' work.

4. Under the aegis of the Catholic University of Louvain and in accordance with its regulations, participants who fulfil the necessary requirements will be awarded by the Centre a post-graduate diploma at the end of the course.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS, PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

5. As stated in the project document the total cost of this five-year project will be approximately US\$2.9 million, with an envisaged estimated annual distribution of:

| | |
|--------|-----------|
| Year 1 | \$400,000 |
| Year 2 | \$550,000 |
| Year 3 | \$600,000 |
| Year 4 | \$650,000 |
| Year 5 | \$700,000 |

The UNFPA will bear 56 per cent of the project's total budget expenditures as calculated in Belgian Francs; the Government of Belgium 44 per cent. Efforts will be made to maintain this proportion each year; however, on a biannual basis and at the end of the project, expenditures will be reviewed and, if necessary, budgetary responsibilities of the parties will be adjusted to reflect the agreed to proportions. The parties will honour the approved budget in Belgian Francs, regardless of any fluctuations in the US Dollar. The distribution of budget components is contained in the project document. Once the project is approved, the Government of Belgium and UNFPA will make available the annual allocations for the project in accordance with their respective financial rules and regulations.

6. The contribution of the Government of Belgium will be provided to the project through arrangements under the UNFPA multi-bilateral programme. The Belgian funds will be deposited into a designated UNDP account in a bank located in Belgium and then transferred to a trust fund account established specifically for the project by UNFPA. The contributions-in-kind provided through the Catholic University of Louvain will also be assigned a monetary value and will be considered a component of the Government of Belgium's support for the project under the multi-bilateral programme.

7. In accordance with its multi-bilateral procedures, UNFPA would be responsible for administration of the Belgian funds held in trust and for monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the project. UNFPA has agreed to waive its usual administrative fee for extra-budgetary programmes, since as co-funder of the project, any additional administrative responsibilities to be incurred by UNFPA would be negligible.

8. Allocations for the project will be transferred by UNFPA in accordance with its financial rules and regulations, to a separate bank account for the Centre set up by the Catholic University of Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, the executing agency for this project. UNFPA allocated funds as well as the Belgian funds held in trust will be disbursed in quarterly installments. The arrangements for disbursement are described in the project document.

9. As required by UNFPA rules and regulations, two separate accounts of expenditures, one for the UNFPA contribution and one for the Government of Belgium contribution provided through the UNFPA multi-bilateral programme, must be maintained by the Centre. The accounting and reporting procedures relating to the project expenditure of funds are further described in the project document.

10. In accordance with UNFPA financial rules, all technical and other equipment, non-expendable materials, supplies and other property, including copyrights, financed or provided by UNFPA shall remain the property of UNFPA until such time as ownership thereof is waived or transferred by UNFPA. The Government of Belgium will make arrangements for the duty-free admittance into Belgium of all equipment, supplies and other property which are financed or provided by UNFPA and which must be imported for the implementation of the project.

11. Officials, experts or other persons employed with, sent by, or invited by the United Nations or any of its Specialized Agencies to visit the Centre in an official capacity, shall, while in Belgium, enjoy the privileges and immunities to which they are entitled under the Conventions on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations¹ and of the Specialized Agencies,² and such other privileges and immunities as may be necessary for their performance of official functions in connection with the Centre.

12. The Government of Belgium shall give the Centre such assistance as it may require to enable it to answer any claim which may be brought against it by third parties residing in the territory of Belgium, and the Government shall hold the United Nations and its personnel harmless in case of any third party claim or liability resulting from operations relating to the Centre except where it is agreed by the parties hereto that such claim or liability arises from gross negligence or wilful misconduct of such personnel.

13. The Centre shall have a juridical personality independent of that of the funding parties and shall not be considered as forming either part of the United Nations or the Government. Co-operative relationships shall be encouraged with the relevant academic and research institutions in the countries covered by the Centre, with relevant non-governmental institutions and with the relevant agencies and organizations of the United Nations System.

MANAGEMENT

14. A Governing Council shall be responsible for the financial oversight and the overall substantive direction of the Centre. It shall be composed of up to eight members and chaired by the Rector of the UCL. The membership would include: up to 2 representatives respectively of the UNFPA, the Government of Belgium and the Catholic University of Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve; the International Co-ordinator of the Global Training Programme; and, the National Director of the Centre. The Governing Council will meet once a year in regular session and may be called into special session if circumstances warrant such action.

15. A Management Committee under the chairmanship of the National Director, shall be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Centre in line with the overall policy directives laid down by the Governing Council. The composition and work of this Committee are described in para. 93 of the project document.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1, p. 15, and vol. 90, p. 327 (corrigendum to vol. 1, p. 18).

² *Ibid.*, vol. 33, p. 261. For the final and revised texts of annexes published subsequently, see vol. 71, p. 318; vol. 79, p. 326; vol. 117, p. 386; vol. 275, p. 298; vol. 314, p. 308; vol. 323, p. 364; vol. 327, p. 326; vol. 371, p. 266; vol. 423, p. 284; vol. 559, p. 348; vol. 645, p. 340; vol. 1057, p. 320, and vol. 1060, p. 337.

16. As noted above, the Centre constitutes one component in UNFPA's Global Programme of Training in Population and Development. This Programme will be headed by an International Co-ordinator, who will reside in or around Louvain-la-Neuve, and will be directed by a committee made up of representatives of relevant United Nations agencies and organizations, including the International Co-ordinator, and of other institutions and/or experts active in the area of population and development training and research. This committee is to serve as the advisory body for UNFPA's Global Programme of Training in Population and Development, providing substantive guidance and facilitating an interchange of experiences among the individual programmes comprising the Global Programme. The committee, to which the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations and of the Specialized Agencies shall apply, shall meet on occasion in Belgium. The International Co-ordinator shall inform the Government in advance of the dates of such meetings.

DURATION

17. This project covers a period of five years from 1986 to 1990. One year prior to the termination date, the project will be reviewed for future action. It is envisaged that the project will eventually be transferred to a French-speaking African country.

OPERATION OF THE UNDERSTANDING

18. This Understanding shall take effect upon the signature of the duly authorized representatives of the Government of Belgium and UNFPA and shall remain in force until 1990. It may be extended for a future period to be agreed upon by the two parties. The provisions of this understanding may be modified by written mutual consent between the two parties. The operation of this understanding may be terminated by either party and shall terminate 90 days after receipt of such notice, provided that if such notification is received within three months preceding the opening date of the scheduled training programme, or during the training programme, the operation of the understanding between the parties shall continue in effect until the training programme is completed.

SIGNED by the duly authorized representatives of the United Nations and the Government of Belgium at Brussels, on the nineteenth day of September 1986, and at New York, on the tenth day of October 1986.

For the United Nations:

[Signed]

RAFAEL M. SALAS
Executive Director
United Nations Fund
for Population Activities

For the Government
of Belgium:

[Signed — Signé]¹

PROJECT DOCUMENT²

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF BELGIUM AND THE UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES

¹ Signed by André Kempinaire — Signé par André Kempinaire.

² Not published herein, in accordance with article 12(2) of the General Assembly regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations as amended in the last instance by General Assembly resolution 33/141 A of 19 December 1978.