

No. 25373

**FRANCE AND FEDERAL REPUBLIC
OF GERMANY
and
MAURITANIA**

**Basic Agreement on the assignment of European volunteers
for development. Signed at Nouakchott on 8 February
1986**

Authentic texts: French and German.

Registered by France on 6 October 1987.

**FRANCE ET RÉPUBLIQUE FÉDÉRALE
D'ALLEMAGNE
et
MAURITANIE**

**Accord-cadre sur l'envoi de volontaires européens du déve-
loppement. Signé à Nouakchott le 8 février 1986**

Textes authentiques : français et allemand.

Enregistré par la France le 6 octobre 1987.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

BASIC AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA ON THE ASSIGNMENT OF EUROPEAN VOLUNTEERS FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Governments of the French Republic and of the Federal Republic of Germany and

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania

Desiring to consolidate the friendly relations existing between the Contracting States and their peoples,

Determined to promote co-operation between the countries of Europe and Africa,

In a desire to deepen the friendship and solidarity between the youth of Europe and Africa,

Resolved to contribute to their common economic and social development,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1. (1) The Governments of the French Republic and of the Federal Republic of Germany undertake, through the assignment of European volunteers for development, to participate in economic and social development operations which meet the priority requirements of the Mauritanian populations and form part of national development policy. Any participation by European volunteers for development shall be undertaken at the express request of the Mauritanian Government.

(2) For the purposes of this Agreement, volunteers shall be understood to be specialists who have completed their vocational training and wish to work in the territory of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania without remuneration to promote specific projects in Mauritania.

Article 2. (1) Each operation under this Agreement shall be the subject of specific arrangements between its signatories.

(2) The Contracting Parties may entrust specialized agencies or bodies with the execution of this Agreement. These agencies or bodies shall, *inter alia*, if need be, be empowered to make the arrangements referred to in the first paragraph of this article. If one Party wishes to apply this provision, it shall notify the other Parties concerned accordingly.

Article 3. The European volunteers for development shall be integrated into a development project under the authority of the Mauritanian Government. The Governments of the French Republic and of the Federal Republic of Germany, or the bodies referred to in article 2, paragraph (2), shall assign the European

¹ Came into force on 8 February 1986 by signature, in accordance with article 15 (2).

volunteers for development to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

Article 4. The Governments of the French Republic and of the Federal Republic of Germany, or the bodies referred to in article 2, shall seek European volunteers for development whose particular areas of competence correspond to the job descriptions of the development projects. They shall also, if need be, give them additional training.

Article 5. (1) The Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania shall provide the European volunteers for development with the assistance necessary for the performance of their duties. It shall afford them aid and protection.

(2) It shall, *inter alia*, grant immunity from prosecution for any acts committed or words spoken or written in connection with the performance of a task that has devolved upon them by virtue of this Agreement.

(3) It shall be responsible for compensation for damage attributable to them in connection with the performance of a task that has devolved upon them, and shall undertake not to take legal proceedings against them except for fraud or serious professional misconduct that is acknowledged jointly by the Parties concerned.

(4) The Governments concerned shall supply the Mauritanian Government with any information and other assistance it may require to deal with a case in accordance with this article.

Article 6. The allowances paid to the European volunteers for development by the Governments of the French Republic and of the Federal Republic of Germany, or by the competent bodies, shall not constitute a salary. The Mauritanian Government shall exempt the European volunteers for development from all taxes and dues relating to such allowances.

Article 7. (1) The European volunteers for development shall enjoy full social security cover.

(2) In addition, during their stay and at the conclusion of their mission the European volunteers for development shall be covered by the social security legislation applicable to them in their country of origin.

Article 8. The Mauritanian Government shall issue free-of-charge entry, residence and travel permits and permits to leave the country at any moment, including facilities for repatriation in the event of natural disasters or national or international crises, and the identity documents necessary for the performance of their duties.

Article 9. (1) The Mauritanian Government shall provide the European volunteers for development with fully equipped and furnished accommodation.

(2) It shall authorize the temporary entry, free of duties and taxes, of the material, equipment and vehicles necessary for implementation of the project, and of the personal effects and property belonging to the European volunteers for development and one private vehicle per family, but excluding foodstuffs and beverages.

Article 10. (1) The Mauritanian Government may return a European volunteer for development to his country of origin if it considers that his personal or professional behaviour justifies such a measure. In such case, the Government or

agency of origin must be notified accordingly, with a statement of reasons, and must be given one month's notice.

(2) The Government or agency of origin may also recall a European volunteer for development after consultation with the authorities utilizing the volunteer's services.

Article 11. (1) The volunteers shall be bound by the obligation to exercise professional discretion in all matters relating to facts or information of which they have knowledge in the performance of their duties.

(2) They shall refrain from any act which may be detrimental to the Government or agency utilizing their services.

(3) The volunteers may not be required to take part in any manifestation of a character alien to their mission or be used for activities of the same kind.

(4) They may not engage in gainful activity of any kind.

Article 12. The procedures for the implementation of this Basic Agreement may, where necessary, be the subject of additional protocols.

Article 13. This Agreement shall be open to accession by other States members of the European Community.

Article 14. This Agreement shall also apply to *Land Berlin*, provided that the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany has not made a contrary declaration to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania within three months from the date of entry into force of this Agreement.

Article 15. (1) This Basic Agreement shall be concluded for a period of three years and is automatically renewable unless denounced by one of the Parties which shall notify the other Party at least six months before the effective date of such denunciation.

(2) It shall enter into force on the date of its signature.

DONE at Nouakchott on 8 February 1986 in three original copies, in the French and German languages, the three texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the Islamic Republic
of Mauritania:

[Signed]

Lieutenant-Colonel
AHMED OULD MINNIH
Minister for Foreign
Affairs and Co-oper-
ation

For the Government
of the French Republic:

[Signed]

JEAN BELLIVIER
Ambassador
of France

For the Government
of the Federal Republic
of Germany:

[Signed]

WILHELM SCHÜRMAN
Ambassador of the Fed-
eral Republic of Ger-
many