

No. 25968

FRANCE
and
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Agreement on the definition of a general framework for Franco-German cooperation in the area of technical education and vocational training. Signed at Frankfurt am Main on 27 October 1986

Authentic texts: French and German.

Registered by France on 6 June 1988.

FRANCE
et
RÉPUBLIQUE FÉDÉRALE D'ALLEMAGNE

Accord relatif à la définition d'un cadre général d'action pour la coopération franco-allemande dans le domaine des enseignements technologiques et de la formation professionnelle. Signé à Francfort-sur-le-Main le 27 octobre 1986

Textes authentiques : français et allemand.

Enregistré par la France le 6 juin 1988.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY ON THE DEFINITION OF A GENERAL FRAMEWORK FOR FRANCO-GERMAN COOPERATION IN THE AREA OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING

The Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany,

Having regard to the Convention signed on 16 June 1977 in Bonn between the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany concerning the equivalence of diplomas evidencing vocational training (with annex);²

Having regard to the Convention signed on 5 February 1980 in Paris between the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany concerning the carrying out of an exchange of juveniles and adults undergoing initial or continuing vocational training;³

Having regard to the need to develop new areas of cooperation in technical education and vocational training and to ensure greater consistency between the various objectives pursued;

Mindful of:

- The importance of Franco-German cooperation in the technological sector,
- The rapid development of new technologies and equipment,
- The advantages of promoting freedom of movement and freedom of establishment for the citizens of the two countries,
- The importance of correctly evaluating technical qualifications and skills acquired in each of the two countries;

Desiring to establish a general framework for cooperation in the area of technical education and vocational training,

Have agreed as follows:

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF COOPERATION IN THE AREA OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND GENERAL SPHERES OF ACTION

Article 1

The two Parties shall organize their activities with a view to meeting the following objectives:

- To facilitate the integration of juveniles and adults into the world of work of the partner State and the State of origin;

¹ Came into force on 18 January 1988, the date of the last of the notifications by which the Parties informed each other of the completion of the required constitutional formalities, in accordance with article 15.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1073, p. 3.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 1247, No. 1-20335.

- To raise the qualifications of juveniles and adults in both countries;
- To gear technical education and vocational training to meet the needs of the labour market;
- To develop links between the education and training system, on the one hand, and the company work place, on the other.

Article 2

To this end they shall promote the exchange of information on their education policies in this area, on training and qualifications and on teaching methods and materials.

Article 3

When designing or redesigning courses in the area of technical education and of vocational training, they shall endeavour as far as possible, and where appropriate, to take into account the experience or suggestions of the partner State.

Article 4

They shall set up educational cooperation between training establishments (on the German side: vocational schools and enterprises providing vocational training including special vocational training establishments) with reference to:

- Planning and implementing joint educational projects;
- Jointly designing training programmes for juveniles within the context of exchanges.

Article 5

To this end, they shall step up exchanges of juveniles in the area of technical education and vocational training.

Article 6

They shall also promote measures for continuing vocational training, and refresher courses and for exchanges of adults with the aim of expanding their technical qualifications and experience.

IMPLEMENTATION DETAILS

Article 7

With a view to keeping officials in the partner State better informed about the policies followed, it is agreed that study trips and meetings, in particular colloquia or round-table conferences and seminars, shall be organized as appropriate for experts, senior officials and other persons in positions of responsibility.

Article 8

In order to facilitate the determination of equivalence between the vocational training courses of the two partner States, it is agreed:

- To exchange specific information on the studies carried out and for the purpose of defining new or existing vocational training courses;

- To carry out further studies with regard to the determination of equivalence in accordance with the Convention of 16 June 1977.

Article 9

Cooperation in the teaching field may cover the following:

- Meetings of heads of training establishments, heads of schools, senior training officers, trainers and teachers;
- Inter-establishment educational projects covering a field of research selected jointly;
- Exchange of teaching materials;
- Study visits to establishments in the partner State in which teachers and trainers receive initial or continuing training.

Article 10

Exchanges of juveniles may take the form as appropriate of:

- Residential visits to training establishments and attendance at their vocational training courses;
- Practical training sessions in companies under the direction of a vocational training or technical education establishment in the partner State.

Article 11

In order to reinforce cooperation in the area of advanced vocational training for adults, both sides shall develop the following exchanges:

- Exchange of participants in advanced vocational training programmes;
- Exchange of teachers and trainers;
- Exchange of experts in the field of vocational training;
- Assistance to individuals taking advantage of advanced vocational training opportunities in the partner State.

Article 12

The general framework shall be the basis for a two-year programme of action to be specified by the Contracting Parties in line with proposals from the Franco-German Commission of Experts on technical education and vocational training.

It shall include an evaluation of measures taken in the past, and a project description for future measures stating the objective desired, the group targeted, the French and German authorities responsible and the organizational details.

The Franco-German Commission of Experts on technical education and vocational training shall examine the practical implementation of the projects under the two-year programme of action.

Article 13

The Minister of Education of the French Republic and the Plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Germany for cultural affairs under the Treaty on Franco-German Cooperation shall exchange information every two years on the implementation of the programme of action and shall make proposals, as appropriate, to

their Governments for updates or renewal of the general framework agreed at the present time.

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 French Republic within three months from the date of entry into force of this Agreement.

Article 15

Each Government shall notify the other upon completion of the formalities required by its Constitution in order for this Convention to enter into force. The Convention shall take effect on the date of receipt of the second of these notifications.

DONE at Frankfurt am Main on 27 October 1986 in duplicate, each in the French and German languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the French Republic:
[JEAN-BERNARD RAIMOND]

For the Government
of the Federal Republic of Germany:
[HANS-DIETRICH GENSCHER]