

No. 27489

FRANCE
and
LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Agreement on economic, industrial, financial, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation. Signed at Paris on 13 December 1989

Authentic texts: French and Laotian.

Registered by France on 7 August 1990.

FRANCE
et
RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE POPULAIRE LAO

Accord de coopération économique, industrielle, financière, scientifique, technique et culturelle. Signé à Paris le 13 décembre 1989

Textes authentiques : français et laotien.

Enregistré par la France le 7 août 1990.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ ON ECONOMIC, INDUSTRIAL, FINANCIAL, SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND CULTURAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

The Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic,

Desirous of giving to their cooperation new impetus and substance commensurate with the long standing and status of their relations and with their development needs,

Desirous of contributing actively to the cause of peace and cooperation in the region,

Recognizing the usefulness of adopting long-term provisions aimed at establishing lasting and profitable cooperation in the broadest fields, in keeping with their needs and capacities,

Wishing to ensure the consistency and effectiveness thereof,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The two Governments resolve to establish a Joint Commission, under the chairmanship of the two Ministers for Foreign Affairs or, if that is impossible, their representatives.

This Commission shall be responsible for conducting periodic reviews of the status of bilateral relations in all existing fields of cooperation and for proposing guidelines for their future development.

Should the need arise, the Commission may establish temporary special working groups, whose terms of reference it shall determine.

Article 2

The Commission shall not replace existing institutions or procedures in respect of economic, industrial, financial, scientific, technical or cultural cooperation, but may issue recommendations to ensure greater consistency in their respective activities.

Article 3

In particular, the Commission shall ensure that the guidelines established for the development of bilateral relations clearly correspond to the priorities identified by the two Governments, so that the activities undertaken in the field of economic, industrial, financial, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation may be complementary.

¹ Came into force on 13 December 1989 by signature, in accordance with article 9.

Article 4

As a first step, the Commission shall assess the opportunities for cooperation in the fields already identified as corresponding to the current development needs of the Lao economy.

These fields are the following:

- Agricultural and agro-foodstuffs development;
- Energy, infrastructure and transport;
- Management training and education;
- Telecommunications;
- Health.

Article 5

The two Governments shall promote the establishment of the conditions required for the implementation of the various forms of cooperation, particularly in the fields of applied research and the development of production, and for investment promotion, the setting up of joint ventures, and new forms of industrial and technological cooperation.

Article 6

The two Governments shall grant each other all possible facilities, within the framework of the agreements, laws and regulations in force and in conformity with their respective international commitments, for carrying out the economic, industrial, financial, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation programmes agreed by the two Parties and for developing economic exchanges between the two countries.

Article 7

In view of the importance of financing for the implementation of cooperation activities, the two Governments shall make every effort to ensure that the most favourable conditions possible are agreed, after a case-by-case review and on the basis of the specific merits of each activity, within the framework of the laws and regulations in force in each of the two countries.

Article 8

The two Governments shall make every effort to ensure that activities in the field of cultural cooperation are selected with a view to ensuring greater mutual understanding and strengthening the links between the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the French-speaking world.

Article 9

This Agreement is concluded for a period of 10 years. It shall enter into force on the date of signature.

Six months prior to the expiry of this Agreement, the two Governments shall determine the measures to be taken to ensure the continuation of economic, industrial, financial, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation between the two States.

DONE at Paris on 13 December 1989, in duplicate in the French and Lao languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the French Republic:

[Signed]

ROLAND DUMAS
Minister of State
Minister for Foreign Affairs

For the Government
of the Lao People's
Democratic Republic:

[Signed]

PHOUNE SIPASEUTH
Vice-President of the Council
of Ministers
Minister for Foreign Affairs
