

No. 1082

**UNITED NATIONS
and
ECONOMIC COMMUNITY
OF WEST AFRICAN STATES**

Exchange of letters constituting an agreement concerning the establishment of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL). New York, 7 October 1993, and Cotonou, 4 November 1993

Authentic text: French.

Filed and recorded by the Secretariat on 4 November 1993.

**ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES
et
COMMUNAUTÉ ÉCONOMIQUE
DES ÉTATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST**

Échange de lettres constituant un accord relatif à la création de la Mission d'observation des Nations Unies au Libéria (MONUL). New York, 7 octobre 1993, et Cotonou, 4 novembre 1993

Texte authentique : français.

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[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS¹ CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ECONOMIC
COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) CON-
CERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS
OBSERVER MISSION IN LIBERIA (UNOMIL)

I

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

7 October 1993

Sir,

I have the honour to draw your attention to Security Council resolution 866 (1993)² of 22 September, by which the Council decided to establish the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL). In paragraph 4 of this document, the Council requested me to conclude with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) an agreement defining, before deployment of UNOMIL, the roles and responsibilities of the Mission and ECOWAS in the implementation of the Cotonou Peace Agreement.

As missions established by two different organizations and placed under separate authorities, UNOMIL and the ECOWAS Military Observer Group (ECOMOG) will each have a distinct identity. Each mission will determine its own concept of operations in close cooperation and consultation with the other. UNOMIL will be responsible to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and ECOMOG will answer to the Chairman of ECOWAS. UNOMIL will be led in the field by my Special Representative and will be composed of a military and a civil component. Command of the military component will be entrusted to a Chief Military Observer reporting to me through my Special Representative. I believe that ECOMOG is led by a field commander.

The purpose of this letter is to define the respective roles and responsibilities of UNOMIL and ECOMOG in the implementation of the military aspects of the Cotonou Agreement. You will recall that, in my report of 9 September addressed to the Security Council (S/26422),³ I noted that in accordance with the Cotonou Agreement, ECOMOG was assigned the primary responsibility for ensuring the implementation of the provisions of the Agreement, and it was envisaged that UNOMIL would monitor the various implementation procedures in order to verify their impartial application.

In this respect, and in accordance with the concept of operations of UNOMIL outlined in my report, I should like to formulate the following proposals:

¹ Came into force on 4 November 1993 by the exchange of the said letters.

² United Nations, *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth year, Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council 1993* (S/INF/49), p. 110.

³ United Nations, *Report of the Secretary-General on Liberia*, 9 September 1993 (S/26422).

- (a) UNOMIL and ECOMOG shall have separate command structures;
- (b) Neither UNOMIL nor ECOMOG may direct the other in its actions;
- (c) Decisions affecting both UNOMIL and ECOMOG shall be made through consultation both formally (Violation Committee) and informally;
- (d) Daily coordination between UNOMIL and ECOMOG, as well as decision-making, shall be at the field level and only passed up to the next level in each party's chain of command if necessary, as outlined in annex II of my report of 9 September (S/26422);
- (e) ECOMOG shall have the obligation to ensure the security of UNOMIL observers and civilian personnel;
- (f) Should ECOMOG enter into planned peace enforcement involving combat operations, UNOMIL observers shall not participate in such actions and shall, along with other United Nations staff, be temporarily withdrawn from the area;
- (g) Should ECOMOG find itself constrained to enter into unplanned, self-defensive military actions, ECOMOG shall ensure the security of UNOMIL observers and other United Nations staff present in the area;
- (h) Although UNOMIL and ECOMOG shall rely on each other in the performance of their respective mandates, each mission shall be responsible for providing its own financial and logistical support.

In accordance with Security Council resolution 866 (1993), UNOMIL shall, in addition to carrying out the military tasks outlined in this letter, be responsible for coordinating humanitarian and development assistance, observing and verifying the election process and reporting on any major violations of international humanitarian law. My Special Representative shall keep ECOMOG informed on a need-to-know basis of the activities UNOMIL is undertaking in pursuance of these elements of its mandate.

If the above-mentioned provisions meet with your approval, I propose that this letter and the written confirmation of your acceptance of these provisions shall constitute an agreement between the United Nations and the Economic Community of West African States, as required by Security Council resolution 866 (1993).

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

BOUTROS BOUTROS-GHALI

His Excellency

Mr. Nicéphore Dieudonné Soglo
President of the Republic of Benin
Current Chairman of ECOWAS

II

REPUBLIC OF BENIN
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC
THE PRESIDENT

Cotonou, 4 November 1993

Ref. 1054/PR/CAB/SP

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 7 October 1993, which reads as follows:

[See letter I]

I have the honour to endorse the above-mentioned arrangement and to agree that your letter and this letter shall constitute an Agreement between the United Nations and the Economic Community of West African States, which shall enter into force from the date this letter is signed.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

NICÉPHORE D. SOGLO
President of the Republic of Benin
Current Chairman of ECOWAS

Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali
Secretary-General of the United Nations
