

No. 8163

**GUINEA, IVORY COAST, LIBERIA
and SIERRA LEONE**

**Agreement to create an Interim Organization with a view
to the establishment of a Permanent Organization for
West African Economic Co-operation. Signed at Free-
town, on 28 May 1965**

Official texts: English and French.

Registered by Sierra Leone on 18 March 1966.

**CÔTE D'IVOIRE, GUINÉE, LIBÉRIA
et SIERRA LEONE**

**Accord pour la création d'une Organisation intérimaire en
vue d'établir une Organisation permanente de coopéra-
tion économique pour l'Ouest Africain. Signé à Free-
town, le 28 mai 1965**

Textes officiels anglais et français.

Enregistré par le Sierra Leone le 18 mars 1966.

No. 8163. AGREEMENT¹ TO CREATE AN INTERIM ORGANIZATION WITH A VIEW TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT ORGANIZATION FOR WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION. SIGNED AT FREETOWN, ON 28 MAY 1965

PREAMBLE

The Governments of Guinea, the Ivory Coast, Liberia and Sierra Leone, hereinafter referred to as the "Co-operating States":

- (a) Endeavouring to implement the Joint Communiqué issued by the Heads of State and Government of the Co-operating States on August 24th, 1964 in Monrovia, Liberia,
- (b) Bearing in mind the spirit and intent of the Charter of the Organisation of African Unity,²
- (c) Desirous of establishing at the earliest possible date a permanent organization for economic co-operation among the Co-operating States to this agreement,
- (d) Realizing, however, that to establish such an organization, proper studies and investigation must be undertaken and concluded,
- e) Realizing further that in the light of existing commitments and associations, which the Co-operating States hold with other states and international institutions, it becomes absolutely necessary for certain negotiations to be undertaken and certain adjustments, arrangements and agreements reached,

Have decided to set up an Interim Study Organization with a view to the establishment of a Permanent Organization for West African Economic Co-operation hereinafter referred to as the "Interim Organization".

Article I

The Interim Organization is charged with the responsibility of planning the establishment of a multilateral system of economic co-operation of a regional character with a view to removing trade barriers and encouraging the harmonious development of the Co-operating State in every field, and for this purpose it shall:

1. Collect all information relevant and pertinent to the establishment of the soundest and closest economic co-operation among the Co-operating States;

¹ Came into force on 28 May 1965, upon signature, in accordance with article XV.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 479, p. 39.

2. Undertake studies and investigations that will lead to the determination of the most appropriate form and type of economic association to be established among Co-operating States;
3. Recommend an appropriate draft Convention should the studies and investigations lead to the conclusion that a permanent organization should be established.

Article II

The following is a Catalogue of studies and investigations which the Interim Organization is authorized to undertake :

1. Economic development targets of the Co-operating States with specific reference to agricultural and industrial development;
2. Trade and Customs problems;
3. Markets and marketing difficulties;
4. Monetary, financial and payments arrangements;
5. Fiscal systems in force in the Co-operating States;
6. Development of transportation and communications facilities among the Co-operating States;
7. Existing barriers to economic co-operation among the Co-operating States;
8. Economic and political commitments which each member of the Co-operating States might have with other States and/or international institutions with a view to harmonizing these commitments with the requirements of economic co-operation among the Parties;
9. Industrial and agricultural projects of area importance that might be promoted with a view to a mutually satisfactory allocation of such projects among the Co-operating States;
10. The various types of international economic co-operation and a determination of the most suitable type for the Co-operating States.

Article III

The Interim Organization will endeavour to complete its assignment as rapidly as possible.

Article IV

The Interim Organization will be placed under the mandate of the Heads of State and Government of the Co-operating States and it shall be constituted as follows :

- (i) The Ministerial Commission