# No. 9026

## BELGIUM
## and
## UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC

**Agreement concerning the restoration of sequestrated Belgian property (with exchange of letters). Signed at Cairo, on 30 March 1966**

*Official text: French.*

*Registered by Belgium on 14 March 1968.*

## BELGIQUE
## et
## RÉPUBLIQUE ARABE UNIE

**Accord concernant la remise des biens belges séquestrés (avec échange de lettres). Signé au Caire, le 30 mars 1967**

*Texte officiel français.*

*Enregistré par la Belgique le 14 mars 1968.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

# No. 9026. AGREEMENT[1] BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM AND THE UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC CONCERNING THE RESTORATION OF SEQUESTRATED BELGIAN PROPERTY. SIGNED AT CAIRO, ON 30 MARCH 1966

The Government of the Kingdom of Belgium and the Government of the United Arab Republic,

Desiring to fix the procedure for returning the sequestrated property of Belgian nationals,

Have agreed as follows:

*Article 1*

Sequestrated Belgian property shall be released either according to the procedure described in articles 2 to 4 or according to the simplified procedure described in article 5.

*Article 2*

(*a*) In respect of all sequestrated property, the competent sequestrators shall establish accounts showing credits and debits relating to all operations financially affecting the goods and rights under their control. However, in respect of industrial and commercial establishments, the sequestrators shall only have to furnish balance-sheets, profit and loss accounts, operating accounts and inventories;

(*b*) In addition, they shall report on all action taken in the management or disposal of the sequestrated property;

(*c*) Where the sequestrator has proceeded, in accordance with Egyptian domestic legislation, to sell or liquidate in part or in full the goods and rights placed under his control, or has disposed of them in any other way, he shall credit the account referred to in paragraph (*a*) above with the sums actually received from the buyer and shall debit the account in respect of all expenses and charges actually paid in relation to their disposal for which the owner is liable;

(*d*) Where the transfer did not call for immediate payment of all the sums due and where, as a result, payment is to be made in two or more instalments, the sequestrator, in the absence of the original contract of transfer, shall supply the former owner with a certificate attesting to his rights;

(*e*) The only charges which the sequestrator shall be entitled to levy against the property under his control shall be the sums laid down in Order No. 113 of 1957 of the Ministry of Economic Affairs.

[1] Came into force on 1 March 1967 by the exchange of diplomatic notes confirming the fulfilment of the constitutionally required formalities, in accordance with article 9.

*Article 3*

(*a*) Belgian owners of property and rights sequestrated by the Egyptian authorities under Proclamation 99 of 1961, or their beneficiaries, shall submit to the Sequestrator-General, directly or through an agent, within one year from the entry into force of this Agreement, a detailed application for the release of the property or rights;

(*b*) This application shall be sent by registered letter with advice of delivery and may be completed by an agent with a legal power of attorney;

(*c*) Beneficiaries of an owner shall be required to prove their rights;

(*d*) Between the date of entry into force of this Agreement and that of the effective release of the property, the sequestrators shall continue to exercise their present powers of administration over the assets still under their control.

*Article 4*

(*a*) The competent sequestrator shall, within a period of four months after the Sequestrator-General has received the detailed application referred to in article 3 above, together with the necessary documents, release the property and hand it over to the owner or his agent against a receipt;

(*b*) He shall, within the same period of time, remit to the owner, in liquid form, the balance of the account referred to in article 2 (*a*) above;

(*c*) He shall, within the same period of time, also furnish him with the accounts and reports referred to in article 2 (*a*) and (*b*) above;

(*d*) When an application for release is made in connexion with property of whose existence the Sequestrator-General was unaware, he may, before authorizing the release, demand proof that the property really belonged to a Belgian national; the property shall then be treated in the same way as other sequestrated property;

(*e*) An Inventory shall be drawn up with the participation of both parties when the property is handed over;

(*f*) In the event that the Belgian owner does not receive from the sequestrator all or part of the property which had belonged to him, or its equivalent in value, he may, within a period of two months after the return of his other assets or the receipt of a negative reply from the Sequestrator-General, send the latter all the information in his possession of the nature and fate of the property in question. The sequestrator shall transmit the owner's application to the competent Egyptian authorities, which shall take the necessary steps to trace the property;

(*g*) The restoration of the property, together with the provision of the accounts and reports and remittance of the liquid balance, shall be carried out without any additional charge. No additional tax, duty or fee shall be levied in connexion with these operations, except for the official stamps normally required for documents submitted to the Egyptian authorities.

*Article 5*

(*a*) Belgian nationals not having resident status in the United Arab Republic and bodies corporate under Belgian law may request the release of their property under a simplified procedure where the sequestrated property consists exclusively of transferable securities and bank deposits;

(*b*) In this case the application for release shall be made on a special form and sent to the Office of the Sequestrator-General of Belgian property by a banking establishment of the United Arab Republic at the request of a foreign bank or of the Belgian national whose property has been sequestrated;

(*c*) These applications for release shall also be sent to the Office of the Sequestrator-General of Belgian property within a period of one year from the date of the entry into force of this Agreement;

(*d*) The Office of the Sequestrator-General shall order the release of the property, and shall notify the banking establishment which has applied for the release, within a period of four months from the date of the receipt of the application;

(*e*) Only one application for release shall be made in respect of each property, even if the assets are divided among several banks.

*Article 6*

(*a*) Belgian owners wishing to make an application to the Egyptian authorities responsible for sequestration matters in respect of their property should apply to the Sequestrator-General either directly or through an agent;

(*b*) Should their application be rejected by the Sequestrator-General or should there be no reply to their application within a period of four months from the date of its receipt, the Belgian owners may refer the question to the minister responsible for sequestration matters.

*Article 7*

Where the Egyptian tax authorities have requested payment from the sequestrator of taxes due in respect of sequestrated property, the Sequestrator-General may retain under his control part of such property corresponding to the amount requested by the tax authorities, until such time as the tax authorities and the Belgian owner, or his agent, have reached agreement on the amount of taxes actually due.

*Article 8*

The authorities of the United Arab Republic shall waive the prosecution of any Belgian national for violation of Proclamation No. 99 of 1961.