

No. 9121

MULTILATERAL

Charter of the African and Malagasy Common Organization. Signed at Tananarive, on 27 June 1966

Official text : French.

Registered by Cameroon on 29 May 1968.

MULTILATÉRAL

**Charte de l'Organisation commune africaine et malgache.
Signée à Tananarive, le 27 juin 1966**

Texte officiel français.

Enregistrée par le Cameroun le 29 mai 1968.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 9121. CHARTER¹ OF THE AFRICAN AND MALAGASY COMMON ORGANIZATION. SIGNED AT TANANARIVE, ON 27 JUNE 1966

The Heads of African and Malagasy States and Governments, assembled at Tananarive from 25 to 28 June 1966,

DESIRING to provide solid foundations for African unity,

TRUE to the spirit, principles and objectives of the Charter of the United Nations and the Charter of the Organization of African Unity,²

CONSIDERING the decision of the Conference of the Heads of African and Malagasy States, held at Nouakchott in February 1965,

CONSIDERING the historical, economic, social and cultural bonds existing between their respective countries,

CONSIDERING the need to harmonize their economic, social and cultural policies for the purpose of maintaining conditions for progress and security,

Have agreed as follows :

Article 1

The High Contracting Parties do by this Charter establish an organization to be known as the "African and Malagasy Common Organization" (OCAM). This Organization shall be open to any independent and sovereign African State that requests admission and accepts the provisions of this Charter.

The admission of a new member to the OCAM shall require a unanimous decision of the members of the Organization.

¹ Came into force on 28 December 1967, upon receipt by the Government of Cameroon of the instruments of ratification or approval from two-thirds of the Signatory States, in accordance with article 23.

The instruments of ratification or approval were deposited by the following States on the dates indicated :

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of Deposit</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Date of Deposit</i>
Central African Republic	27 October 1966	Ivory Coast	21 April 1967
Upper Volta	19 December 1966	Senegal	18 May 1967
Gabon	10 January 1967	Chad	10 June 1967
Niger	11 January 1967	Cameroon	28 December 1967
Dahomey	24 January 1967	Congo (Republic of) . . .	1 March 1968
Madagascar	10 February 1967	Togo	7 March 1968

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

Article 2

The OCAM is based on the solidarity which unites its members.

In the spirit of the Organization of African Unity, its purpose is to strengthen co-operation and solidarity between the African and Malagasy States in order to accelerate their economic, social, technical and cultural development.

Article 3

For this purpose, the Organization shall seek to harmonize the action of Member States in the economic, social, technical and cultural fields, to co-ordinate their development programmes, and to facilitate foreign policy consultations between them, with due respect for the sovereignty and fundamental options of each Member State.

INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANS

Article 4

The institutions and organs of the Organization shall be :

- the Conference of Heads of State and Government;
- the Council of Ministers;
- the Administrative General Secretariat.

I. CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

Article 5

The Conference of Heads of State and Government shall be the supreme authority of the Organization.

It shall consist of the Heads of State and Government of the Member States or their duly authorized representatives.

Article 6

The Conference shall consider questions of common interest and take its decisions in accordance with the provisions of this Charter and the rules of procedure of the Conference.

Article 7

The Conference of Heads of State and Government shall meet once a year in regular session.

The Conference shall meet in special session at the request of a Member State and subject to the formal approval of two thirds of the members of the Organization.

The agenda of a special session shall contain, in principle, only the questions for which the Conference has been convened.

Article 8

The Conference shall formulate and adopt its own rules of procedure.

Article 9

Each Member State shall have one vote. Any Member State may be represented by another Member State, which shall have the right to vote at the place specified in the proxy. A Member State may be represented by only one other Member State. Two thirds of the Member States of the Organization shall constitute a quorum.

Any decision taken under the conditions of a quorum or required majority shall be binding on all Member States.

II. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Article 10

The Council of Ministers shall consist of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Member States, or of such other Ministers as may be designated by the Governments of the Member States.

It shall meet once a year in regular session.

The regular session shall be held a few days before the annual regular session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government and in the same place.

Article 11

The Council shall meet in special session at the request of a Member State and subject to the formal approval of two thirds of the Members of the Organization.

The agenda of a special session of the Council shall contain only the questions for which the Council has been convened.

Article 12

The Council of Ministers shall be responsible to the Conference of Heads of State and Government.

It shall be responsible for preparing for that Conference, shall take cognizance of any matter referred to it by the Conference, and shall ensure that the decisions of the Conference are implemented.