

No. 990

**UNITED NATIONS
(UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION)
and
ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY**

**Memorandum of Understanding on co-operation. Signed at
Monrovia on 20 July 1979**

Authentic text: English.

Filed and recorded by the Secretariat on 1 March 1988.

**ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES
(ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES
POUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT INDUSTRIEL)
et
ORGANISATION DE L'UNITÉ AFRICAINE**

**Mémorandum d'accord relatif à leur coopération. Signé à
Monrovia le 20 juillet 1979**

Texte authentique : anglais.

Classé et inscrit au répertoire par le Secrétariat le 1^{er} mars 1988.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING¹ ON CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY (OAU) AND THE UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (UNIDO)

INTRODUCTION

1. The Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) are united in their desire to co-operate with each other in the field of industrial development both within Africa and throughout the world. Having enjoyed continuously expanding co-operation since the early days of the establishment of UNIDO, in which the member States of OAU played a leading role, both organizations wish to intensify their collaborative efforts to facilitate the implementation of the Lima Declaration and Plan of Action on Industrial Development and Co-operation² to achieve in Africa the goals of the new international economic order.

2. OAU, with 49 member States, is increasingly assuming the leadership and catalytic role based on its political leverage for the economic and industrial development of the African continent. UNIDO has been entrusted with the central role in co-ordinating United Nations activities and technical assistance to the developing countries in the industrial field as well as in initiating and co-ordinating activities within the United Nations system for implementation of the Lima Declaration and Plan of Action. Hence both organizations have co-operated, *inter alia*, in the joint organization with the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) of the Biennium Conference of the African Ministers of Industry, the annual meetings of the Follow-Up Committee on Industrialization in Africa and preparatory activities for the establishment of regional industrial and technological centres, the African Industrial Development Fund, and sectoral industrial programmes as well as in the preparations for Africa's effective participation in the General Conferences of UNIDO. Furthermore, co-operation between both organizations has also been manifested through the joint programme carried out by UNIDO and the OAU Scientific, Technical and Research Commission (STRC).

3. The fifteenth OAU Summit held at Khartoum, Sudan, in 1978, during which a number of resolutions were adopted for joint implementation by OAU, UNIDO and other international organizations, have brought an impetus to the co-operation between OAU and UNIDO. This is in keeping with the resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its thirty-third Session on 1 December 1978 on Co-operation between the United Nations and OAU,³ which, *inter alia*, "requests the Secretary-General and the Organizations within the United Nations system to ensure that adequate facilities continue to be made available for the provision of technical assistance to the General Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity, as and when required".

¹ Came into force on 20 July 1979 by signature, in accordance with article 14.

² *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries*, A/CONF.79/13, September 1978.

³ *United Nations, Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 45, A/33/45*, pp. 15-16.

4. In the light of the foregoing, the Secretary-General of OAU and the Executive Director of UNIDO agree to formalize and intensify the existing co-operation between both organizations in order to harmonize their efforts more effectively and to co-operate more fully for the development and implementation of industrial and technological programmes in Africa. They also re-endorse the Memorandum of Understanding between UNIDO and OAU/STRC (a copy of which is attached as an annex to this document). To this effect, the two organizations will regularly consult with each other on matters of common interest and maintain close contact on those activities which aim at realizing the objectives of the respective organizations. Co-ordination of these efforts, which will take account of the activities of OAU and other international and African regional and subregional organizations, should help to avoid undue duplication of activities and lead to a better co-ordination of efforts for the benefit of the African countries in their industrial development endeavours.

PROGRAMME OF CO-OPERATION

5. The Secretary-General of OAU and the Executive Director of UNIDO recognize the need for the OAU secretariat to strengthen its operations to enable it to enhance the political role of OAU with a technical base, thus enabling OAU to provide more effective leadership in harmonizing African industrial development strategies, policies and perspectives as well as in defining an African common position on industrial and technological matters. To this end, they agree that the Programme of Co-operation between the two organizations should include areas dealing particularly with:

- Industrial and technological strategies, policies and plans
- Development and transfer of technology
- Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries
- More effective participation of the OAU member States in the policy-making organs, programmes and activities of UNIDO.

INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL STRATEGIES, POLICIES AND PLANS

6. Both organizations agree to collaborate in developing OAU activities for the harmonization of African industrial and technological strategies, policies and plans, as well as in providing guidance, co-ordination, follow-up, periodic review and monitoring of industrial activities at the regional level to ensure the implementation of the Lima Declaration and Plan of Action and the achievement of the 2 per cent target established for the African region as its contribution to world industrial production by the year 2000. To this end, UNIDO agrees to assist OAU in strengthening the relevant units of its secretariat, particularly the Industrialization and Industrial Policies Section of the General Economic Affairs Division, the Technology and Economic Research Sections of the Economic Research and Planning Division and OAU/STRC. UNIDO assistance will essentially consist of helping OAU with the services of its headquarters staff and recruited consultants to develop the programmes and activities of these units and to define an adequate methodology for implementing the programmes and activities; training through study tours and fellowships of the key and other relevant staff of the units; and providing UNIDO studies and other documents required for the work of the units.