

No. 26860

**FRANCE
and
YEMEN**

Agreement on cooperation in the field of archaeology (with annexes). Signed at San'a on 11 December 1988

Authentic texts: French and Arabic.

Registered by France on 6 October 1989.

**FRANCE
et
YÉMEN**

Accord de coopération dans le domaine de l'archéologie (avec annexes). Signé à Sana'a le 11 décembre 1988

Textes authentiques : français et arabe.

Enregistré par la France le 6 octobre 1989.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ARCHAEOLOGY BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

The Government of the French Republic and
The Government of the Yemen Arab Republic,

Pursuant to the Agreement for Cultural and Technical Cooperation between the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Yemen Arab Republic signed at Paris on 16 February 1977,² which entered into force, in accordance with article XV thereof, on 3 October 1980,

Pursuant to the Agreement on Archaeological Cooperation between the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Yemen Arab Republic signed on 8 April 1983 for a period of five years and renewed automatically,

With the aim of strengthening cooperation between them, enhancing knowledge of the illustrious civilization of Yemen and emphasizing the archaeological heritage of the Yemen Arab Republic, the Government of the French Republic, represented by its Ambassador to Sana'a and the Government of the Yemen Arab Republic, represented by the President of the General Organization of Antiquities and Libraries, have agreed, in a spirit of mutual trust, to organize the following scientific programmes for the next five years. The programmes will be implemented according to a General Convention and an excavation permit, both of which are annexed to the present Agreement, and in compliance with the regulations currently in force at the General Organization of Antiquities and Libraries.

The French Archaeological Mission in the Yemen Arab Republic having undertaken various survey and study expeditions in several regions and archaeological sites, the French Party proposes to conduct various programmes under the scientific responsibility of the French individuals referred to hereunder, who may, where necessary, be replaced on the initiative of the French Party with the approval of the Yemeni Party.

The two Parties have agreed on the following arrangements:

Article 1

This programme comprises archaeological studies and work in the Al-Jawf region:

1. *Prehistory.* Study, survey and excavation of prehistoric sites.

The team will be headed by Mrs. Marie-Louise Inizan.

2. *Proto-history.* Study, survey and excavation of proto-historic sites.

The team will be headed by Mr. Serge Cleuziou.

¹ Came into force on 11 December 1988 by signature, in accordance with article 3.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1306, p. 205.

3. *Ancient irrigation.* Study of ancient irrigated areas.

Mr. Pierre Gentelle will have responsibility for this programme.

4. *Southern Arabian.* Study, excavation and restoration of ancient archaeological sites.

This programme comprises:

(a) Kamna: Excavations to be arranged subsequently.

(b) As-Sawda: Excavation and restoration of the "Banat Ad" temple located outside the walls of the ancient town of As-Sawda.

(c) Archaeological samplings on the site of As-Sawda with a view to unearthing wooden inscriptions.

The team executing this programme will be headed by Mr. Jean-François Breton.

5. *Southern Arabian epigraphy.* Study of southern Arabian inscriptions.

Mr. Christian Robin will have responsibility for this programme.

6. *Islamic period.* Study of historical sites and monuments.

This programme, under the responsibility of Ms. Marie-Christine Danchotte and Mr. Bernard Maury, will be undertaken in collaboration with the Islamic Epigraphic Mission, headed by Mrs. Solange Ory.

7. Any other operation which both parties deem it useful to undertake in this region.

With regard to new work, French archaeological teams shall have priority over any other foreign mission in the Al-Jawf region.

Article 2

This programme comprises geological studies and work in the Islamic field:

1. It aims to complete the studies and restoration work already under way on the mosques of Al-Abbas (Khawlan) and Zafar Di-Bin.

Regarding the Al-Abbas mosque, it entails, on the one hand, publishing the historical, architectural and ornamentation studies already undertaken by the French Mission, and on the other, continuing the restoration work begun in 1985.

Regarding the Zafar Di-Bin mosque, it entails publishing the historical, architectural and ornamentation studies already undertaken. The Mission will establish the topography of the Zafar Di-Bin site and study its entire remains.

The programme for these two sites will be carried out in conjunction with Mrs. Solange Ory, who is heading the Islamic Epigraphic Mission.

2. The purpose of the Islamic Epigraphic Mission is to collect and assemble Arab inscriptions from Yemen in order to create documentation which can be processed by the most modern techniques (computerization), thereby facilitating its study and publication.

The choice of sites to be surveyed will be made in due course in agreement with the General Organization of Antiquities and Libraries.

Article 3

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the representatives of the two Governments, duly authorized to that effect, have signed this Agreement and have affixed their seals thereto.

DONE at Sana'a, on 11 December 1988, in duplicate in the French and Arabic languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the French Republic:

[Signed]

MICHEL-YVES PEISSIK
Ambassador of France
to the Arab Republic
of Yemen

For the Government
of the Arab Republic
of Yemen:

[Signed]

QADI ISMAIL AL-AKWA'
President
of the General Organization
of Antiquities and Libraries

ANNEX 1. GENERAL CONVENTION

In order to uncover the Yemeni civilization dating back to the origins of history, undertake the necessary excavations, and create an awareness of the Yemeni cultural heritage, in view of the importance of that heritage and the need to develop scientific research in the field of archaeology, and wishing to collaborate in the scientific and technical field,

The General Organization of Antiquities and Libraries, hereinafter referred to as "the Yemeni Party", and

..... hereinafter referred to as "the French Party",

In the service of culture and humanity, have agreed to conclude this Convention according to the following conditions:

Article 1

The French Party shall propose a general programme of work in the archeological regions for a period of

Article 2

The French Party shall submit a list of the team members, along with their curricula vitae giving details of their fields of specialization and photocopies of their scientific diplomas stamped by the competent authorities, in order to enable the team to undertake all requisite specialist tasks.

It shall be possible to add to or change members of the team in cases of *force majeure*, notably illness, provided that the Yemeni Party receives a written request to such effect at least one month prior to their arrival.

Article 3

The two Parties shall exchange knowledge and experts in the fields of archaeology and museology.

Article 4

The Yemeni Party shall designate specialist representatives to collaborate with the French Party for the purpose of training and follow-up.

Article 5

Within the Yemen Arab Republic and as far as its circumstances permit, the French Party shall train the specialist staff of the Yemeni Party and award a number of grants for study and training at specialist universities and institutes.

Article 6

The French Party shall assist and advise the Yemeni Party at the request of the latter.

Article 7

The French Party shall submit to the Yemeni Party a scientific report, in Arabic, on its work within the six months which follow each expedition of work.

Article 8

All archaeological discoveries shall be the property of the Yemeni Party. Under no circumstances shall the French Party have the right to export antiquities. In the event of absolute necessity, scientific study or treatment abroad, the French Party may export antiquities once the Yemeni Party has obtained the necessary legal guarantees to ensure that such antiquities return to the territory of the Yemen Arab Republic. The President of the General Organization of Antiquities and Libraries, having obtained the approval of the Higher Committee