

No. 31872

**UNITED NATIONS
and
RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

Memorandum of Intent for a technical cooperation programme on human rights (with annex). Signed at New York on 19 November 1993

Authentic texts: English and Russian.

Registered ex officio on 1 June 1995.

**ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES
et
FÉDÉRATION DE RUSSIE**

Mémorandum d'accord relatif à un programme de coopération technique sur les droits de l'homme (avec annexe). Signé à New York le 19 novembre 1993

Textes authentiques : anglais et russe.

Enregistré d'office le 1^{er} juin 1995.

MEMORANDUM¹ OF INTENT BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION FOR A TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMME ON HU- MAN RIGHTS

WHEREAS pursuant to United Nations General Assembly resolution 926 (X) of 14 December 1955,² the General Assembly established the United Nations programme of advisory services in the field of human rights to be rendered by the Secretary-General, at the request of Governments;

WHEREAS pursuant to United Nations Commission on Human Rights resolution 1987/38 and United Nations Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/147,³ the Secretary-General established the Voluntary Fund for Advisory Services and Technical Assistance in the Field of Human Rights, renamed the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights by Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/49;

WHEREAS in resolution 1992/80 of the Commission on Human Rights of the United Nations, the Commission noted "the importance of expert services, fellowships and scholarships, training courses and seminars under the programme of advisory services as forms of practical assistance to States with a view to enabling them to develop the necessary mechanisms to meet international human rights standards";

WHEREAS the Government of the Russian Federation (hereinafter referred to as the "Government") is desirous of assistance in the

¹ Came into force on 1 June 1995, upon receipt by the United Nations of written notice from the Government of the Russian Federation that the constitutional procedures had been completed, in accordance with article 14.

² United Nations, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Tenth Session, Supplement No. 19 (A/3116)*, p. 13.

³ *Ibid.*, *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, First Regular Session of 1987, Supplement No. 1*, p. 64.

field of human rights, including expert advisory services to assist in the drafting of new legislation, and training courses, seminars and fellowships in international standards, procedures and systems for the promotion and protection of human rights, as well as in non-governmental organization (NGO) support and information;

WHEREAS officials of the United Nations and officials of the Government have conducted consultations with a view to establishing a Technical Cooperation Programme on Human Rights to be implemented by the United Nations Centre for Human Rights in cooperation with the Government;

WHEREAS the United Nations and the Government have concluded on 15 June 1993 the Agreement relating to the Establishment in the Russian Federation of a United Nations Integrated Office (hereinafter referred to as "the Integrated Office Agreement"),¹ which, in its Article XVIII makes provision for supplemental Agreements to be concluded by the United Nations and the Government concerning the conditions under which the United Nations may cooperate with the Government in carrying out specific activities and projects;

NOW THEREFORE the United Nations and the Government (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties") have agreed as follows:

I. OBJECTIVES

Article 1

Purpose of Memorandum of Intent

1. The purpose of this Memorandum is to declare the intention of the Parties to cooperate in due course in the

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1724, No. I-30078.

implementation of a Technical Cooperation Programme on Human Rights (hereinafter referred to as "the Programme") for the benefit of the Government and people of the Russian Federation.

2. It is acknowledged and agreed by the Parties that no legally binding commitment to implement the Programme shall exist until the Project Documents, as provided for in Article 3 of this Memorandum, are signed by the Parties.

II. THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMME ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Article 2

Projects

1. It is the understanding of the Parties that the Programme shall consist of nineteen projects to be implemented by the United Nations Centre for Human Rights in cooperation with the Government over a period of three years. The nineteen projects are to be divided into five components, consisting of: (A) Advisory Services; (B) Training Courses and Seminars; (C) Fellowships; (D) Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Support; and (E) Information. The projects are briefly described as follows:

Component A: Advisory Services of Experts in the Review and Drafting of Legislation

To facilitate the process of reviewing existing legislation and drafting new legislation at the request of the Government, this component foresees the provision of experts to review both the substantive content of laws or draft laws from an international human rights perspective, and the technical form of statutes with regard to principles and techniques of legal drafting. For this purpose, the United Nations Centre for Human Rights intends:

- (1) to make available expert(s) to review the laws or the draft laws on entering and leaving the Russian

- Federation, freedom of movement inside the Russian Federation, national identity papers, and state secrets;
- (2) to make available expert(s) to review the laws on the state of emergency;
 - (3) to make available expert(s) to review the laws on customs and border controls;
 - (4) to make available expert(s) to review the laws or the draft laws on the militia, on criminal investigations, and on federal security organs;
 - (5) to make available expert(s) to review the draft laws on freedom of assembly for public meetings, rallies, pickets, and other public demonstrations;
 - (6) to make available expert(s) to review possibilities for the establishment of independent national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights.

Component B: Training Courses and Seminars

To promote a better understanding among judges, parliamentarians, and officials of the public procurator's office, the militia and the military of the international standards for the protection of human rights, the United Nations Centre for Human Rights intends to organize:

- (7) a training course for practising lawyers, judges and procurators on human rights and the administration of justice;
- (8) a training course for army, militia, prison and other law enforcement officials on human rights and humanitarian law;
- (9) a seminar for parliamentarians and NGOs on human rights and national minorities;