No. 51337

South Africa and Nigeria

Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on co-operation in the field of the environment. Cape Town, 7 May 2013

Entry into force: 7 May 2013 by signature, in accordance with article 8

Authentic text: English

Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations: South Africa, 16 September 2013

Afrique du Sud et Nigéria

Mémorandum d'accord entre le Gouvernement de la République sud-africaine et le Gouvernement de la République fédérale du Nigéria relatif à la coopération environnementale. Le Cap, 7 mai 2013

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[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

ON

CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF THE ENVIRONMENT

PREAMBLE

The Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (hereinafter jointly referred to as "the Parties" and separately as a "Party");

WILLING to further strengthen the friendly relations and the strategic partnership between the two countries;

CONVINCED that the environment on a national and global level must be managed efficiently in the interest of present and future generations of mankind, and that the Parties' policies and decisions must be geared to the guiding principle of sustainable development along the lines of Agenda 21 as agreed to at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992;

RECOGNISING the importance of co-operative efforts to promote environmental protection and sustainable development;

EMPHASIZING that economic and social development, eradication of poverty and provision of sustainable livelihoods as well as environmentally compatible management of natural resources are integral and mutually supportive parts of sustainable development;

WILLING to promote closer and long-term co-operation in the field of environment;

HEREBY AGREE as follows:

ARTICLE 1 OBJECTIVE

The Parties shall co-operate within the framework of this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as "the MoU") on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit, taking into consideration their national environmental policies.

ARTICLE 2 AREAS OF CO-OPERATION

The main areas of co-operation shall be the following:

- (a) Biodiversity;
- (b) land degradation;
- (c) desertification;
- (d) marine and coastal management;
- (e) climate change;
- (f) waste management; and
- (g) any other areas agreed upon by the Parties.

ARTICLE 3 MEANS OF CO-OPERATION

The objective of the MoU shall be attained by co-operation between the Parties through -

(a) exchange of information and technical expertise in pollution and waste management, including recycling, coastal zone management, protection and conservation of natural and marine resources, wildlife management, environmental awareness and education, specific focus on capacity building, environmental management, environmental assessment and regulatory frameworks, monitoring, compliance and enforcement;

- (b) co-operation and exchange of views on environmental issues within the multilateral area such as climate change, ozone layer, biological diversity, desertification, oceans, hazardous wastes and toxic substances, as well as any other relevant global environmental issue that both Parties deem appropriate;
- (c) consultation with international bodies dealing with environmental protection and sustainable development, such as the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD), the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); and
- (d) strengthening regional environmental co-operation and bodies such as the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) and promoting the implementation of the action plan of the environment initiative of NEPAD.

ARTICLE 4 IMPLEMENTATION

In order to implement the areas of co-operation referred to in Article 2 above, the Parties intend to -

- (a) exchange information on environmentally sound technologies;
- (b) organize meetings of experts, seminars and joint training programmes;
- (c) support programmes and initiatives in the area of sustainable development, with special emphasis on environmentally sound technologies and the development of environmental legislation;
- (d) support environmental information management; and
- (e) co-operate by any other means as agreed upon by the Parties.