

UNITED NATIONS
DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME



UNDP/ADM/LEG/SBA/31
12 April 1976

7 MAI 1976

TO: Participating and Executing Agencies of UNDP
FROM: John A. Olver, Assistant Administrator
SUBJECT: Agreement between the Government of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tomé and Principe and the United Nations Development Programme concerning assistance by the UNDP to the Government, signed on 26 March 1976.

JA Olver

- 1. This document reproduces the text of the UNDP Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tomé and Principe, signed on 26 March 1976 by the President on behalf of the Government and by the Resident Representative of the UNDP in Gabon on behalf of the UNDP.
- 2. Also included in this document is an accompanying Exchange of Letters concerning the provisions in the Agreement for UNDP representation vis-à-vis the Democratic Republic of Sao Tomé and Principe: letter dated 26 March 1976 from the UNDP and acknowledged on the same date by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tomé and Principe.
3. This Agreement came into force as of the date of signature.

cc. S/Bureau
28/05/76
8/1

UNDP/ADM/LEG/SBA/31
12 April 1976

AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE
AND
THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

WHEREAS the General Assembly of the United Nations has established the United Nations Development Programme (hereinafter called the UNDP) to support and supplement the national efforts of developing countries at solving the most important problems of their economic development and to promote social progress and better standards of life; and

WHEREAS the Government of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tomé and Príncipe wishes to request assistance from the UNDP for the benefit of its people;

NOW THEREFORE the Government and the UNDP (hereinafter called the Parties) have entered into this Agreement in a spirit of friendly co-operation.

Article I
Scope of this Agreement

1. This Agreement embodies the basic conditions under which the UNDP and its Executing Agencies shall assist the Government in carrying out its development projects, and under which such UNDP-assisted projects shall be executed. It shall apply to all such UNDP assistance and to such Project Documents or other instruments (hereinafter called Project Documents) as the Parties may conclude to define the particulars of such assistance and the respective responsibilities of the Parties and the Executing Agency hereunder in more detail in regard to such projects.
2. Assistance shall be provided by the UNDP under this Agreement only in response to requests submitted by the Government and approved by the UNDP. Such assistance shall be made available to the Government, or to such entity as the Government may designate, and shall be furnished and received in accordance with the relevant and applicable resolutions and decisions of the competent UNDP organs, and subject to the availability of the necessary funds to the UNDP.

/...

3. Assistance may be provided by the UNDP to the Government either directly, with such external assistance as it may deem appropriate, or through an Executing Agency, which shall have primary responsibility for carrying out UNDP assistance to the project and which shall have the status of an independent contractor for this purpose. Where assistance is provided by the UNDP directly to the Government, all references in this Agreement to an Executing Agency shall be construed to refer to the UNDP, unless clearly inappropriate from the context.

4. (a) The UNDP may maintain a permanent mission, headed by a resident representative, in the country to represent the UNDP therein and be the principal channel of communication with the Government on all Programme matters. The resident representative shall have full responsibility and ultimate authority, on behalf of the UNDP Administrator, for the UNDP programme in all its aspects in the country, and shall be team leader in regard to such representatives of other United Nations organizations as may be posted in the country, taking into account their professional competence and their relations with appropriate organs of the Government. The resident representative shall maintain liaison on behalf of the Programme with the appropriate organs of the Government, including the Government's co-ordinating agency for external assistance, and shall inform the Government of the policies, criteria and procedures of the UNDP and other relevant programmes of the United Nations. He shall assist the Government, as may be required, in the preparation of UNDP country programme and project requests, as well as proposals for country programme or project changes, assure proper co-ordination of all assistance rendered by the UNDP through various Executing Agencies or its own consultants, assist the Government, as may be required, in co-ordinating UNDP activities with national, bilateral and multilateral programmes within the country, and carry out such other functions as may be entrusted to him by the Administrator or by an Executing Agency.

(b) The UNDP mission in the country shall have such other staff as the UNDP may deem appropriate to its proper functioning. The UNDP shall notify the Government from time to time of the names of the members, and of the families of the members, of the mission, and of changes in the status of such persons.

/...

Agency shall as appropriate and in consultation with the Government appoint a Chief Technical Adviser or Project Coordinator responsible to the Executing Agency to oversee the Executing Agency's participation in the project at the project level. He shall supervise and coordinate activities of experts and other Executing Agency personnel and be responsible for the on-the-job training of national Government counterparts. He shall be responsible for the management and efficient utilization of all UNDP-financed inputs, including equipment provided to the project.

5. In the performance of their duties, advisory experts, consultants and volunteers shall act in close consultation with the Government and with persons or bodies designated by the Government, and shall comply with such instructions from the Government as may be appropriate to the nature of their duties and the assistance to be given and as may be mutually agreed upon between the UNDP and the Executing Agency concerned and the Government. Operational experts shall be solely responsible to, and be under the exclusive direction of, the Government or the entity to which they are assigned, but shall not be required to perform any functions incompatible with their international status or with the purposes of the UNDP or of the Executing Agency. The Government undertakes that the commencing date of each operational expert in its service shall coincide with the effective date of his contract with the Executing Agency concerned.

6. Recipients of fellowships shall be selected by the Executing Agency. Such fellowships shall be administered in accordance with the fellowship policies and practices of the Executing Agency.

7. Technical and other equipment, materials, supplies and other property financed or provided by the UNDP shall belong to the UNDP unless and until such time as ownership thereof is transferred, on terms and conditions mutually agreed upon between the Government and the UNDP, to the Government or to an entity nominated by it.

8. Patent rights, copyright rights, and other similar rights to any discoveries or work resulting from UNDP assistance under this Agreement shall belong to the UNDP. Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties in each case, however, the Government shall have the right to use any such discoveries or work within the country free of royalty or any charge of similar nature.

/...

Project Documents:

(a) Local counterpart professional and other services, including national counterparts to operational experts;

(b) Land, buildings, and training and other facilities available or produced within the country; and

(c) Equipment, materials and supplies available or produced within the country.

2. Whenever the provision of equipment forms part of UNDP assistance to the Government, the latter shall meet charges relating to customs clearance of such equipment, its transportation from the port of entry to the project site together with any incidental handling or storage and related expenses, its insurance after delivery to the project site, and its installation and maintenance.

3. The Government shall also meet the salaries of trainees and recipients of fellowships during the period of their fellowships.

4. If so provided in the Project Document, the Government shall pay, or arrange to have paid, to the UNDP or an Executing Agency the sums required, to the extent specified in the Project Budget of the Project Document, for the provision of any of the items enumerated in paragraph 1 of this Article, whereupon the Executing Agency shall obtain the necessary items and account annually to the UNDP for any expenditures out of payments made under this provision.

5. Moneys payable to the UNDP under the preceding paragraph shall be paid to an account designated for this purpose by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and shall be administered in accordance with the applicable financial regulations of the UNDP.

6. The cost of items constituting the Government's contribution to the project and any sums payable by the Government in pursuance of this Article, as detailed in Project Budgets, shall be considered as estimates based on the best information available at the time of preparation of such Project Budgets. Such sums shall be subject to adjustment whenever necessary to reflect the actual cost of any such items purchased thereafter.

7. The Government shall as appropriate display suitable signs at each project identifying it as one assisted by the UNDP and the Executing Agency.

/...

(c) Simple but adequately furnished accommodation to volunteers; and

(d) Assistance in finding suitable housing accommodation for international personnel, and the provision of such housing to operational experts under the same conditions as to national civil servants of comparable rank.

4. The Government shall also contribute towards the expenses of maintaining the UNDP mission in the country by paying annually to the UNDP a lump sum mutually agreed between the Parties to cover the following expenditures:

(a) An appropriate office with equipment and supplies, adequate to serve as local headquarters for the UNDP in the country;

(b) Appropriate local secretarial and clerical help, interpreters, translators and related assistance;

(c) Transportation of the resident representative and his staff for official purposes within the country;

(d) Postage and telecommunications for official purposes; and

(e) Subsistence for the resident representative and his staff while in official travel status within the country.

5. The Government shall have the option of providing in kind the facilities referred to in paragraph 4 above, with the exception of items (b) and (e).

6. Moneys payable under the provisions of this Article, other than under paragraph 2, shall be paid by the Government and administered by the UNDP in accordance with Article V, paragraph 5.

Article VII

Relation to assistance from other sources

In the event that assistance towards the execution of a project is obtained by either Party from other sources, the Parties shall consult each other and the Executing Agency with a view to effective co-ordination and utilization of assistance received by the Government from all sources. The obligations of the Government hereunder shall not be modified by any arrangements it may enter into with other entities co-operating with it in the execution of a project.

/...

Specialized Agency concerned or the IAEA under Sections 18, 19 or 18 respectively of the Conventions on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations or of the Specialized Agencies, or of the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the IAEA.

(b) For purposes of the instruments on privileges and immunities referred to in the preceding parts of this Article:

- (1) All papers and documents relating to a project in the possession or under the control of the persons referred to in sub-paragraph 4 (a) above shall be deemed to be documents belonging to the United Nations, the Specialized Agency concerned, or the IAEA, as the case may be; and
- (2) Equipment, materials and supplies brought into or purchased or leased by those persons within the country for purposes of a project shall be deemed to be property of the United Nations, the Specialized Agency concerned, or the IAEA, as the case may be.

5. The expression "persons performing services" as used in Articles IX, X and XIII of this Agreement includes operational experts, volunteers, consultants, and juridical as well as natural persons and their employees. It includes governmental or non-governmental organizations or firms which UNDP may retain, whether as an Executing Agency or otherwise, to execute or to assist in the execution of UNDP assistance to a project, and their employees. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to limit the privileges, immunities or facilities conferred upon such organizations or firms or their employees in any other instrument.

Article X

Facilities for execution of UNDP assistance

1. The Government shall take any measures which may be necessary to exempt the UNDP, its Executing Agencies, their experts and other persons performing services on their behalf from regulations or other legal provisions which may interfere with operations under this Agreement, and shall grant them such other facilities as may be necessary for the speedy and efficient execution of UNDP assistance. It shall, in particular, grant them the following rights and facilities:

/...

purposes. The UNDP may, in the same or a subsequent written notice, indicate the conditions under which it is prepared to resume its assistance to the project. Any such suspension shall continue until such time as such conditions are accepted by the Government and as the UNDP shall give written notice to the Government and the Executing Agency that it is prepared to resume its assistance.

2. If any situation referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall continue for a period of fourteen days after notice thereof and of suspension shall have been given by the UNDP to the Government and the Executing Agency, then at any time thereafter during the continuance thereof, the UNDP may by written notice to the Government and the Executing Agency terminate its assistance to the project.

3. The provisions of this Article shall be without prejudice to any other rights or remedies the UNDP may have in the circumstances, whether under general principles of law or otherwise.

Article XII

Settlement of disputes

1. Any dispute between the UNDP and the Government arising out of or relating to this Agreement which is not settled by negotiation or other agreed mode of settlement shall be submitted to arbitration at the request of either Party. Each Party shall appoint one arbitrator, and the two arbitrators so appointed shall appoint a third, who shall be the chairman. If within thirty days of the request for arbitration either Party has not appointed an arbitrator or if within fifteen days of the appointment of two arbitrators the third arbitrator has not been appointed, either Party may request the President of the International Court of Justice to appoint an arbitrator. The procedure of the arbitration shall be fixed by the arbitrators, and the expenses of the arbitration shall be borne by the Parties as assessed by the arbitrators. The arbitral award shall contain a statement of the reasons on which it is based and shall be accepted by the Parties as the final adjudication of the dispute.

/...

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, duly appointed representatives of the United Nations Development Programme and of the Government, respectively, have on behalf of the Parties signed the present Agreement in the English and French languages in two copies at Sao Tomé this 26th day of March 1976.

For the United Nations Development
Programme:

/s/ Gerald G. Watterson
Resident Representative of the
United Nations Development Programme
in Gabon

For the Government of the Democratic
Republic of Sao Tomé and Príncipe:

/s/ Manuel Pinto da Costa
President

REPUBLICA DEMOCRATICA DE SAO TOME E PRINCIPE
PRESIDENCIA DA REPUBLICA

Ref^a: 57/C/S

Sao Tomé, le 26 mars 1976

Monsieur le Représentant Résident,

En réponse à votre lettre 409/GGW/FJ en date de ce jour, j'ai l'honneur de vous informer que le Gouvernement accepte que les fonctions dévolues au Représentant Résident, dans le cadre de l'Accord Général signé entre le PNUD et la République Démocratique de Sao Tomé et Principe, soient remplies, pour le moment, par le Représentant Résident du PNUD au Gabon.

J'attire votre attention sur le fait que cette solution ne pourra être que provisoire et vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Représentant Résident, l'assurance de ma très haute considération.

/s/ MANUEL PINTO DA COSTA
Président de la République Démocratique
de Sao Tomé et Principe

Son Excellence
Gerald Watterson
Représentant Résident du
Programme des Nations Unies
Pour le Développement au
Gabon