

No. 45274*

**South Africa
and
Lesotho**

Agreement between the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho on the establishment of a Joint Bilateral Commission of Cooperation (with appendix). Pretoria, 19 April 2001

Entry into force: *19 April 2001 by signature, in accordance with article 14*

Authentic texts: *English*

Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations: *South Africa, 15 September 2008*

**The texts reproduced below are the original texts of the agreement as submitted. For ease of reference, they were sequentially paginated. The relevant Treaty Series volume will be published in due course.*

**Afrique du Sud
et
Lesotho**

Accord sur la création d'une Commission bilatérale mixte de coopération entre le Gouvernement de la République sud-africaine et le Gouvernement du Royaume de Lesotho (avec annexe). Pretoria, 19 avril 2001

Entrée en vigueur : *19 avril 2001 par signature, conformément à l'article 14*

Textes authentiques : *anglais*

Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat des Nations Unies : *Afrique du Sud, 15 septembre 2008*

**Les textes reproduit ci-dessous sont les textes authentiques de l'accord tel que soumises pour l'enregistrement. Pour référence, ils ont été présentés sous forme de la pagination consécutive. Le volume correspondant du Recueil des Traités sera disponible en temps utile.*

[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

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**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF SOUTH AFRICA**

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF LESOTHO

**ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
JOINT BILATERAL COMMISSION
OF COOPERATION**

TR/150908/I-45274

PREAMBLE

The Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho and the Government of the Republic of South Africa (hereinafter jointly referred to as “the Parties” and in the singular as a “Party”);

RECOGNIZING the historical links and geographic proximity that bind both countries;

ACKNOWLEDGING that neither country was able to develop its internal potential, nor foster sound bilateral relations until the demise of apartheid in the Republic of South Africa;

BEING MUTUALLY DESIROUS of consolidating and developing a special relationship, which will guide the strategic partnership and further intensify and enhance economic, social, good-governance, security and stability co-operation between the two countries;

GUIDED by the aspiration to strengthen and intensify friendly relations existing between their two countries and their peoples;

AWARE that the closer relationship among the peoples of both countries should find its expression in the facilitation of movement of people, goods and services;

CONSCIOUS of the necessity to promote security and co-operation in support of sustainable development in their respective

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countries and on the African continent in general;

PROMPTED by their commitment to the universal norms of sovereign equality, democracy, human rights, co-operation for mutual benefit and the rule of law;

HEREBY AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1
**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE JOINT BILATERAL
COMMISSION OF COOPERATION**

The Parties hereby establish a Kingdom of Lesotho-Republic of South Africa Joint Bilateral Commission of Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as “the Commission”).

ARTICLE 2
OBJECTIVES OF THE COMMISSION

The key objectives of the Commission are to-

- (1) guide the strategic partnership between the Parties;
- (2) promote mutually beneficial economic integration between the two countries with the aim of closing the existing economic disparities;
- (3) promote cooperation in the field of science and technology with the aim of bridging the technological divide which exists between the two countries;

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- (4) cultivate and promote good-governance, beneficial social, cultural, humanitarian and political co-operation and facilitate contact between the public and private sectors of the Parties;
- (5) maintain peace and security between the two countries and general stability in the Southern African region through collective action based on respect for democratic institutions, human rights and the rule of law;
- (6) co-operate and harmonize the position of the Parties in addressing multilateral issues of common interest;
- (7) facilitate movement of people, goods and services between their two countries taking into consideration the unique geographic position of Lesotho.

ARTICLE 3

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSION

The Commission shall be organized at the following levels :

- (a) Council of Ministers composed of Ministers of Foreign Affairs and other Ministers directly involved with the agenda at any given time;
- (b) Senior Government Officials composed of officials of Foreign Affairs as well as other Departments/ Ministries directly involved with the agenda at any given time.