

No. 46814

**South Africa
and
Democratic Republic of the Congo**

Protocol for regular diplomatic consultation between the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Kinshasa, 31 August 2004

Entry into force: *31 August 2004 by signature, in accordance with article 7*

Authentic texts: *English and French*

Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations: *South Africa, 12 November 2009*

**Afrique du Sud
et
République démocratique du Congo**

Protocole d'accord pour une consultation diplomatique régulière entre le Gouvernement de la République démocratique du Congo et le Gouvernement de la République d'Afrique du Sud. Kinshasa, 31 août 2004

Entrée en vigueur : *31 août 2004 par signature, conformément à l'article 7*

Textes authentiques : *anglais et français*

Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat des Nations Unies : *Afrique du Sud, 12 novembre 2009*

**PROTOCOL FOR REGULAR DIPLOMATIC
CONSULTATION**

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF

THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF

THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

PREAMBLE

The Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo (hereinafter referred to in the plural as the Parties and in the singular as a Party);

DESIRING to develop and strengthen the traditional relations of friendship and mutually advantageous cooperation between the two countries and peoples;

WORKING JOINTLY for the safeguarding of international peace and cooperation, as well as to propagate international cooperation and exchanges in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations; and

RECALLING the General Co-operation Agreement between the Parties signed on 14 January 2004;

HAVE AGREED as follows:

ARTICLE 1

1. The two Parties shall establish a mechanism for regular diplomatic consultations, whereby senior officials of the two Departments of Foreign Affairs shall meet once a year to hold consultations on bilateral relations, as well as on regional and international issues of mutual interest.
2. Depending on the circumstances of the consultations, the Parties will agree to the venue, time and agenda of the meeting, which shall be finalised whenever possible at least six (6) weeks in advance.

ARTICLE 2

The Parties shall establish and promote contact between their diplomatic and consular missions in third countries to exchange views on matters of mutual interest.

ARTICLE 3

The Permanent Missions of both countries to the United Nations, the African Union and other international organisations, as well as their representatives attending international conferences, shall maintain regular contacts and shall, whenever necessary, consult each other on issues of mutual interest.

ARTICLE 4

1. The subject matters of the consultations referred to in Article 1 shall include, inter alia, the following:
 - (a) issues concerning the strengthening of their bilateral cooperation;
 - (b) issues relating to security and cooperation in Africa; and
 - (c) other international issues of mutual interest.
2. Either Party may request, should the need arise, the holding of extraordinary meetings.
3. Each Party shall bear the costs of the attendance of its delegation attending the meeting. Where consultations are held in the country of one of the two Parties, the costs for the organisation of work shall be borne by the host Party. Where consultations are held in a third country, the costs for the organisation of work shall be agreed by the Parties.

ARTICLE 5

Any dispute arising out of the interpretation or implementation of the Protocol shall be settled amicably through consultation or negotiation between the Parties.

ARTICLE 6

This Protocol may be amended in writing by mutual consent of the two Parties through an Exchange of Notes between the Parties through the diplomatic channel.