

No. 17976

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**AFGHANISTAN**  
**and**  
**UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS**

**Treaty of friendship, good-neighbourliness and co-operation. Signed at Moscow on 5 December 1978**

*Authentic texts: Dari and Russian.*

*Registered jointly by Afghanistan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on 26 September 1979.*

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**AFGHANISTAN**  
**et**  
**UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES**  
**SOVIÉTIQUES**

**Traité d'amitié, de bon voisinage et de coopération. Signé à Moscou le 5 décembre 1978**

*Textes authentiques : dari et russe.*

*Enregistré conjointement par l'Afghanistan et l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques le 26 septembre 1979.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

TREATY<sup>1</sup> OF FRIENDSHIP, GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan,

Reaffirming their fidelity to the purposes and principles of the Soviet-Afghan Treaties of 1921 and 1931,<sup>2</sup> which laid the foundations for friendly and good-neighbourly relations between the Soviet and Afghan peoples and which respond to their fundamental national interests,

Desiring to consolidate in every way possible the friendship and all-round co-operation between the two countries,

Resolved to develop the social and economic achievements of the Soviet and Afghan peoples, to safeguard their security and independence and to work steadfastly for the unity of all forces striving for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress,

Expressing their firm determination to contribute to the consolidation of peace and security in Asia and throughout the world, to the development of relations between States and to the strengthening of fruitful and mutually beneficial co-operation in Asia, and attaching great importance to the further consolidation of the contractual and juridical basis of their mutual relations,

Reaffirming their fidelity to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Have decided to conclude this Treaty of friendship, good-neighbourliness and co-operation and have agreed as follows:

*Article 1.* The High Contracting Parties solemnly declare their determination to consolidate and deepen the unshakable friendship between the two countries and to develop co-operation in all fields on the basis of equality of rights, respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

*Article 2.* The High Contracting Parties shall take steps to consolidate and broaden the mutually beneficial co-operation between them in the economic field and the scientific and technological field. To that end, they shall develop and consolidate co-operation in the fields of industry, transport and communications, agriculture, the utilization of natural resources and the development of the power industry and in other economic fields and shall assist in the training of national personnel and in planning for the development of the national economy. The Parties shall expand

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 27 May 1979 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Kabul, in accordance with article 15.

<sup>2</sup> See "Treaty of Neutrality and Non-Aggression between Afghanistan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, signed at Kabul on 24 June 1931" in the League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 157, p. 371.

their trade on the basis of the principles of equality, mutual benefit and most-favoured-nation treatment.

*Article 3.* The High Contracting Parties shall promote the development of co-operation and the exchange of experience in the fields of science, culture, the arts, literature, education, health, the press, radio and television, the cinema, tourism and sports and in other fields.

The Parties shall encourage the expansion of co-operation between their organs of State power and public organizations, enterprises and cultural and scientific institutions for the purpose of promoting a deeper knowledge of the life, work, experience and achievements of the peoples of the two countries.

*Article 4.* The High Contracting Parties, acting in the spirit of the traditions of friendship and good-neighbourliness and in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations, shall consult with each other and shall, by agreement, take the necessary steps to safeguard the security, independence and territorial integrity of the two countries.

In the interest of strengthening their defensive capacity, the High Contracting Parties shall continue to develop their co-operation in the military field on the basis of the relevant agreements concluded between them.

*Article 5.* The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics respects the policy of non-alignment pursued by the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, that policy being an important factor for the maintenance of international peace and security.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan respects the policy of peace pursued by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, aimed at strengthening friendship and co-operation with all countries and peoples.

*Article 6.* Each of the High Contracting Parties solemnly declares that it will not enter into military or other alliances or participate in any groups of States or in actions or measures directed against the other Party.

*Article 7.* The High Contracting Parties shall continue to do everything in their power for the defence of international peace and the security of peoples, for the intensification of the process of international détente, for its extension to all regions of the world, including Asia, for its realization in concrete forms of mutually beneficial co-operation between States and for the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means.

The two Parties shall actively promote the cause of general and complete disarmament, including nuclear disarmament, under effective international control.

*Article 8.* The High Contracting Parties shall promote the development of co-operation between Asian States, the establishment of relations of peace, good-neighbourliness and mutual trust between them and the creation of an effective system of security in Asia on the basis of the joint efforts of all the States of the continent.

*Article 9.* The High Contracting Parties shall continue their steadfast struggle against the intrigues of the forces of aggression and for the final elimination of colonialism and racism in all their forms and manifestations.

The Parties shall co-operate with each other and with other peace-loving States in supporting the just struggle of peoples for their freedom, independence, sovereignty and social progress.

*Article 10.* The High Contracting Parties shall consult with each other on all important international questions relating to the interests of the two countries.

*Article 11.* The High Contracting Parties declare that their obligations under currently valid international treaties do not conflict with the provisions of this Treaty, and they undertake not to conclude any international agreements inconsistent with this Treaty.

*Article 12.* Questions that may arise between the High Contracting Parties with regard to the interpretation or application of any provision of this Treaty shall be settled on a bilateral basis, in a spirit of friendship and mutual understanding and respect.

*Article 13.* This Treaty shall remain valid for a term of 20 years from the date of its entry into force.

Unless one of the High Contracting Parties, six months before the expiry of the above-mentioned term, declares its desire to terminate the Treaty, it shall be extended for an additional term of five years, and thereafter it shall be similarly extended until such time as one of the High Contracting Parties, six months before the expiry of the five-year term then in progress, gives notice in writing of its intention to terminate the Treaty.

*Article 14.* If one of the High Contracting Parties, during the 20-year term of validity of the Treaty, wishes to terminate it before the expiry of the said term, it must, six months before the date on which it intends to terminate the Treaty, give the other High Contracting Party notice in writing of its desire to terminate the Treaty before the expiry of its term, and it may regard the Treaty as terminated as from the date so determined.

*Article 15.* This Treaty is subject to ratification and shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which shall take place at Kabul.

This Treaty has been drawn up in duplicate in the Russian and Dari languages, both texts being equally authentic.

DONE at Moscow on 5 December 1978.

For the Union of Soviet Socialist  
Republics:

[L. I. BREZHNEV]

For the Democratic Republic  
of Afghanistan:

[N. MOHAMMAD TARAKI]