

**No. 15406**

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**MAURITANIA  
and  
MOROCCO**

**Convention concerning the State frontier line established  
between the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the  
Kingdom of Morocco (with map). Signed at Rabat on  
14 April 1976**

*Authentic text: French.*

*Registered by Mauritania and Morocco on 9 February 1977.*

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**MAURITANIE  
et  
MAROC**

**Convention relative au tracé de la frontière d'État établie  
entre la République islamique de Mauritanie et le  
Royaume du Maroc (avec carte). Signée à Rabat le  
14 avril 1976**

*Texte authentique : français.*

*Enregistrée par la Mauritanie et le Maroc le 9 février 1977.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

CONVENTION<sup>1</sup> CONCERNING THE STATE FRONTIER LINE  
ESTABLISHED BETWEEN THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF  
MAURITANIA AND THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO

His Excellency the President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and His Majesty the King of Morocco,

With reference to the Advisory Opinion given by the International Court of Justice on 16 October 1975<sup>2</sup> recognizing the existence of legal ties of allegiance between the King of Morocco and some of the tribes living in the territory of the Sahara and the existence of rights, including some rights relating to land, which constituted legal ties with the Mauritanian entity,

In conformity with the Declaration of Principles signed at Madrid on 14 November 1975,<sup>3</sup> transferring the responsibilities and powers held by Spain over the Sahara to the Interim Administration in which Morocco and Mauritania would participate in collaboration with the Jemaa,

Bearing in mind the view expressed by the Jemaa meeting in special session on 26 February 1976,

Have decided to conclude this Convention and, to that end, have appointed as their plenipotentiaries:

Mr. Hamdi Ould Mouknass, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and  
Dr. Ahmed Laraki, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs,

Who, having exchanged their full powers, found to be in good and due form, have agreed as follows:

*Article I.* The High Contracting Parties have decided by common agreement that the State frontier established between the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the Kingdom of Morocco shall be defined by a straight line running from the point at which the Atlantic coastline intersects the 24th parallel North to the point of intersection of the 23rd parallel North and the 13th meridian West; the intersection of that straight line with the present frontier of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania constituting the south-eastern limit of the frontier of the Kingdom of Morocco.

From the latter point the frontier shall follow the present frontier of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania northwards to a point represented by the co-ordinates 824/500 and 959 as shown on the initialled map annexed to this Convention.<sup>4</sup>

*Article II.* The State frontier between the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the Kingdom of Morocco, as defined in article I above, shall constitute the land frontier and shall also represent the vertical delimitation of sovereignty over air space and the subsoil. The continental shelf shall be delimited by the 24th parallel North.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 10 November 1976 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Rabat, in accordance with article V.

<sup>2</sup> *Western Sahara, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1975*, p. 12.

<sup>3</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 988, p. 257.

<sup>4</sup> See insert in a pocket at the end of this volume.

*Article III.* A Moroccan-Mauritanian Mixed Commission is hereby established with a view to proceeding to the demarcation on the ground of the frontier between the two countries as defined in article I above.

*Article IV.* On the conclusion of its work, the Mixed Commission shall draw up an instrument stating that the Moroccan-Mauritanian frontier has been marked. The said instrument shall be annexed to this Convention.

*Article V.* This Convention shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification in conformity with the constitutional procedures in force in the two countries.

*Article VI.* On entry into force, this Convention shall be registered with the Secretariat of the United Nations in conformity with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the plenipotentiaries have signed and sealed both copies of this Convention.

DONE at Rabat on 14 Rabii Attani 1396 (14 April 1976)

For the Islamic Republic  
of Mauritania:

[Signed]

HAMDI OULD MOUKNASS

For the Kingdom  
of Morocco:

[Signed]

AHMED LARAKI

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