

FRENCH TERRITORIES OF THE PACIFIC - FRENCH POLYNESIA  
AND THE PACIFIC \*

PROTOCOLE - INSTITUANT UNE ALLIANCE DES TERRITOIRES FRANÇAIS DU PACIFIQUE

Les Gouvernements des Territoires Français de Polynésie et de Nouvelle-Calédonie, habilités par délibération de leurs Assemblées Territoriales et représentés par leurs Présidents.

- Conscients d'appartenir à une même civilisation dont la valeur est, au-delà des identités ou des diversités culturelles, universelle et qui est fondée sur l'idée de liberté,

- Profondément attachés à cette conception du destin de l'homme et à son expression politique : la démocratie,

- Respectueux des principes de légalité républicaine et de souveraineté nationale qui assurent l'égalité devant la loi de tous les citoyens sans distinction d'origine, de race ou de religion, par le suffrage universel, égal et secret,

- Fidèles à la constitution et aux lois qui définissent les statuts de leurs Territoires en vertu desquelles ils bénéficient d'une large autonomie interne dans le cadre de la République, leur permettant de s'administrer librement par leurs représentants élus,

- Constatant que l'idée de civilisation et le concept de démocratie qu'ils partagent sont mis en péril, dans cette partie du Pacifique, par des tentatives d'hégémonie faites sous le couvert d'idéologies,

- Constatant aussi que la légalité républicaine, le respect de la constitution et l'application des lois statutaires sont actuellement menacés dans l'un des Territoires français du Pacifique,

- Constatant enfin qu'il existe entre eux une communauté d'intérêts, fondée non seulement sur leur appartenance à la nation française dont ils partagent la langue et la culture, mais aussi sur leur situation géographique et le niveau de leur développement économique et social,

Convaincus qu'ils ont le devoir de participer à la défense du monde libre dans cette partie du Pacifique, de protéger les droits de l'homme et du citoyen sur leur sol et de préserver l'intégrité du Territoire national,

Persuadés en outre qu'une alliance entre les Territoires Français du Pacifique, établie sur la base d'un idéal commun de liberté, d'égalité et de fraternité et sur la solidarité des peuples qui les composent, est devenue nécessaire pour assurer la prospérité économique, le progrès social et le développement culturel de leurs habitants,

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\* (The Protocol of Alliance in French together with the official English translation, and the official English translations of the address delivered at the signing ceremony were provided by President Dick Ukeiwe, President of the Government of New Caledonia).

Sont convenus de ce qui suit :

ARTICLE 1er : Les Territoires Français du Pacifique concluent une alliance pour défendre et protéger leurs intérêts communs en matière politique, économique, sociale et culturelle.

ARTICLE 2 : Une conférence des Présidents des Gouvernements de la Polynésie Française et de la Nouvelle-Calédonie est créée.

Cette conférence se réunit au moins quatre fois par an, successivement dans chacun des Territoires composant l'alliance et sous la présidence du représentant du Territoire dans lequel elle a lieu. La première réunion se tiendra à NOUMEA dans le mois qui suit la signature du présent protocole.

ARTICLE 3 : La conférence des Présidents a pour objet de permettre à ses membres :

- de prendre contact, au nom de l'alliance, avec d'autres Territoires ou Etats du Pacifique, afin de nouer avec eux des relations de nature à favoriser un rapprochement entre les peuples du Grand Océan,
- d'échanger des informations concernant la situation de chacun des Territoires de l'alliance,
- d'élaborer une politique commune de développement économique, notamment en matière de tourisme, d'agriculture, d'aquaculture,
- d'assurer la coordination des actions sociales, notamment en matière de protection sociale et d'emploi et, d'une façon plus générale, d'harmoniser les institutions sociales existantes dans chaque Territoire,
- de mettre en commun l'expérience acquise au cours de la mise en place des institutions territoriales issues de leurs statuts respectifs afin d'améliorer le fonctionnement de l'autonomie interne,

La conférence des Présidents fixe en outre la périodicité et l'ordre du jour de la commission permanente.

ARTICLE 4 - Les Présidents des Gouvernements des Territoires Français du Pacifique membres de l'alliance désignent chacun deux Ministres ou Conseillers Territoriaux pour participer aux travaux de la Commission Permanente. Ils se notifient mutuellement la composition de leur délégation respective avant chaque réunion de la dite commission.

Les membres de la Délégation Permanente peuvent s'adjoindre des experts ou des Commissaires qui n'ont pas voix délibérative. Ils se réunissent sur convocation de la conférence des Présidents dans le Territoire qui a organisé la dernière conférence et sous la présidence de l'un des représentants de ce Territoire.

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ARTICLE 5 - La Commission permanente est chargée :

- de mettre en oeuvre les projets adoptés par la conférence des Présidents,

- de proposer à la dite conférence toute mesure de nature à faciliter l'harmonisation des diverses réglementations des Territoires membres de l'alliance.

ARTICLE 6 - Le Secrétariat de l'alliance est assuré par un Secrétaire Général désigné par la conférence des Présidents.

ARTICLE 7 - Des Comités Techniques peuvent être créés par la Conférence des Présidents, de sa propre initiative ou à la demande de la Commission Permanente, afin d'approfondir l'étude d'un domaine ou d'un problème particulier.

Ces comités sont composés de spécialistes ou d'experts désignés paritairement par chacun des Territoires membres de l'alliance.

ARTICLE 8 - Chaque Territoire supporte la charge financière résultant du déplacement et de l'hébergement des membres de sa délégation.

Le Territoire concerné assure en outre les frais d'organisation et de secrétariat de la conférence des Présidents et de la Commission Permanente qui se tiennent chez lui.

ARTICLE 9 - Le financement des actions qui ont été conjointement décidées est supporté par chacun des Territoires, membres de l'alliance.  
Des conventions particulières définiront, le cas échéant, la répartition des charges entre les Territoires.

ARTICLE 10 - Le Territoire des Iles Wallis et Futuna peut adhérer au présent protocole : un avenant déterminera alors les modifications qui doivent y être apportées pour tenir compte du statut de ce Territoire.

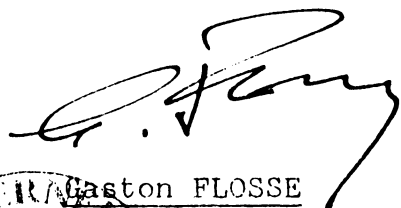
ARTICLE 11 - Le Présent protocole est conclu pour une durée indéterminée. Il pourra être dénoncé à tout moment par l'un des Territoires qui y a adhéré à condition que les autres Territoires en soient avisés.

Dans ce cas, un accord particulier définira les mesures transitoires applicables au règlement des actions en cours et les modalités de liquidation des financements conjoints visés à l'article 9.

ARTICLE 12 - Les décisions prises en application du présent protocole s'exécutent dans le cadre des pouvoirs et des attributions qui ont été conférés aux institutions de chacun des Territoires adhérents.

Fait à NOUMEA, le 13 FEVR. 1985

Le Président du Gouvernement  
de la Polynésie Française



Gaston FLOSSE



Le Président du Gouvernement  
de la Nouvelle-Calédonie  
et Dépendances



Dick UKEIWE

PROTOCOL  
ESTABLISHING A CO-OPERATION ALLIANCE  
BETWEEN THE FRENCH TERRITORIES  
OF THE PACIFIC

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The Governments of the French Territories of Polynesia and New Caledonia, empowered through a decision of their respective Territorial Assemblies, and represented by their Presidents.

Conscious of belonging to the same civilisation whose main value, whatever the respective identities or diversities of the two Territories may be, is a universal one, since it rests upon the idea of LIBERTY,

Deeply attached to this conception of Man's Destiny and to its political expression, namely DEMOCRACY,

Respectful of the principles of Republican legality and of national sovereignty which warrant to all citizens an equal status as regards the LAW, irrespective of their origin, race or religious beliefs, through universal suffrage, fair, equal and secret,

Faithful to the Constitution and to the laws that define the statute of their Territory, by virtue of which they enjoy wide internal self-government within the framework of the French Republic, thus enabling them to administer themselves freely through their elected representatives,

Observing that the idea of civilisation and the concept of democracy which they both value, are being jeopardized in this part of the Pacific, by attempts at hegemony made under the cover of ideological theories,

Observing that the Republican legality, the respect for the Constitution and the enforcement of statutory laws are at present threatened in one of the French Territories of the Pacific,

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Finally, acknowledging that between those two Territories there exists a community of interest, having its origin not only in their common heritage which includes the French language and culture, but also in their respective geographical situation and in the level of their economic and social development,

Convinced that they share the responsibility to participate to the defence of the free world in this region of the Pacific, to protect the Rights of Man and Citizen on their own soil and to preserve the integrity of the National Territory,

Persuaded that an Alliance between the French Territories of the Pacific, based upon a common ideal of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity, together with that of Solidarity of their peoples, has become necessary to assure the economic prosperity, social progress and cultural development of their inhabitants,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS

ARTICLE I : The French Territories of the Pacific conclude an Alliance to defend and to protect their common interests in political, economic, social and cultural matters.

ARTICLE II : A Conference of the Presidents of the Governments of Polynesia and of New Caledonia is herewith established.

This Conference will convene at least four times a year, alternately in each Territory which concluded the Alliance, under the chairmanship of the Representatives of the Territory in which it takes place. The first Conference will be held in NOUMEA in the month following the signing of the present Co-operation Accord ( Alliance )

ARTICLE III: The main object of the Presidents' Conference is to allow its members to make contact with other States or Territories of the Pacific, on behalf of the Alliance so as to promote closer links between the peoples of the Great Ocean,

- to exchange information concerning the situation of each Territory in the Alliance,
- to formulate a common policy for economic development, especially as regards tourism, agriculture, aquaculture

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- to ensure the co-ordination of social actions, especially as regards social welfare and employment and also, more generally to harmonize the existing social structures in each Territory,

- to pool the experience acquired during the setting up of the Territorial institutions arising from their respective statutes, for the better running of "internal autonomy" ( internal self-government),

Besides, the Conference of the Presidents sets the dates and the agenda of the meetings of the Standing Committee.

ARTICLE IV : The Presidents of the Governments of the French Territories of the Pacific that are members of the Alliance appoint 2 Ministers or Territorial Councillors each to take part in the sessions of the Standing Committee. They advise each other of the composition of their respective delegation, prior to each meeting of the said Committee.

The members of the Standing Committee may secure the services of experts or advisers who do not have decision-making power. They meet upon invitation of the Conference of the Presidents in the Territory which organized the previous meeting and under the chairmanship of one of the Representatives of this Territory.

ARTICLE V : The responsibilities of the Standing Committee are as follows :

- to carry out the projects and plans agreed to at the Conference of the Presidents,

- to suggest to the said Conference all measures likely to harmonize the various regulations of the Territories that are members of the Alliance.

ARTICLE VI : The Secretariat of the Alliance is entrusted to a Secretary-General appointed through the Conference of the Presidents.

ARTICLE VII : Technical Committees may be set up by the Conference of the Presidents, of its own initiative, or at the request of the Standing Committee, in order to investigate more deeply a particular field or problem.

These Committees are composed of specialists or of experts appointed, in equal numbers

ARTICLE VIII : The Territory bears the financial charges arising from the transport and accomodation of the members of its delegation.

The costs resulting from the material organisation and secretariat of the Conference of the Presidents and of the meetings of the Standing Committee are borne by the host-Territory.

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ARTICLE IX : The funding of actions which have been jointly agreed to is supplied by each of the Territories, members of the Alliance.

Special provisions will define, if needs be, the distribution of financial charges among the Territories.

ARTICLE X : The Territory of Wallis and Futuna Islands may join the present Alliance; an additional clause will determine the changes required to take into account the specific statute of this Territory.

ARTICLE XI : This present Protocol is established for an indefinite length of time. Any member Territory may withdraw from it at any time on the condition that the other Territories are given due notice.

In that case, a specific accord will outline the transitory measures for the winding up of actions under way and the settlement of joint accounts mentioned in Article IX.

ARTICLE XII : The decisions taken with reference to the present Protocol are carried out in accordance with the powers and duties that have been conferred to the institutions of each member Territory.

Drawn up in NOUMEA

February 14th, 1985

The President of the Government  
of French Polynesia

The President of the Government  
of New Caledonia & Dependencies

Gaston FLOSSE

Dick UKEIWE



ADDRESS DELIVERED BY

PRESIDENT Dick UKEIWE

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AT THE SIGNING OF

THE PROTOCOL OF ALLIANCE BETWEEN

FRENCH POLYNESIA AND NEW CALEDONIA

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French Polynesia and New Caledonia, countries of Oceania, have shared for centuries a common heritage which had its source in the identity they both have with this region of the world where the vastness of the Pacific is the link that unites, and whose inhabitants, in the course of lengthy migrations, have scattered over the islands, the archipelagoes, the Australian land-mass and the shores of other continents that lie around the Great Ocean.

You, my Polynesian friends, roamed the South Seas as far as New Zealand, on your world-famous canoes. Each of our sea-captains carried with him the stamp of your culture and of your social patterns. We, Melanesians, came in different migrations which are a mystery for scientists who still wonder about their origin and their itineraries.

We, Melanesians, came from the North, from the West, from the North-East. We are descended from remote ancestors who, like yours, set sail one day aboard long canoes and who started here and there where they landed, on islands, in secluded valleys, the settlements from which the original clans of New Caledonia sprang.

For centuries our ways of communication were the ways of the sea. Our means of transport were our canoes. This led us, through distant ancestors, who sailed in the first fleets, to pool and share our initial learnings, our initial social structures.

And so our social organization evolved, through the centuries, until one day some other sea-men, who came from lands still farther away, sailing on ships far bigger than ours, accompanied by men of learning, called in our regions, bringing in their turn, the imprint of their own civilisation. You, Polynesians, willingly wove threads with these new sea-farers who came on behalf of a faraway people, the people of France, who offered a new social contract and a new plan for development. We, Melanesians, whose populations in those days were strangers to one another, strangers because of the tribal customs and also because of different dialects, we accepted, through the word given by our chiefs, to bind a new pact of social and economic stability with the people of France. This new pact was, for you and for us, the source of unity and the cement of our political and administrative organization.

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Thus, through the authority of France, Polynesia has strengthened its geographic unity.

Thus we, the people who lived in what was to become New Caledonia have overcome our original solitude so as to unite our diverse populations and enrich our civilisation with contributions from Western culture. Stepping out of our seclusion, understanding one another better thanks to a new common tongue, we learnt to know each other. We also welcomed all that was brought to us by those new-comers from the other side of the world, pioneers who were often themselves rejected by their own society ; gradually we established with them links of friendship first, then links of kinship. So it was given us to enjoy a long period of peace, and in that peaceful period we began to shape a new community : the Caledonian community.

Now I ask you : " Where do we stand to-day?"

In the course of these twenty or thirty years, Polynesians have come to our shores in great numbers. They started new friendships, they founded new families. Each one of them in his own sphere, has participated actively in the development of our country, of his country. Many of them, in various fields, are to-day a genuine part of the local scene. More Caledonians were born, Caledonians of Polynesian origin, born in this country : They, too, are Caledonians.

Mr President, and through you, all of you inhabitants of French Polynesia, please be convinced that we are aware of sharing the same ocean, that we are aware of sharing the same love for our Pacific way of living.

Thanks to all that remote country brought us, thanks to the organization and the structures it distributed to both our countries, we enjoy to-day an extra part of common civilization. You and I to-day, together with our respective communities, think the time has come to broaden our scope and to pool all that may contribute to the benefit of the populations for whom we are responsible.

From the many projections that endeavour to determine what the world will be like at the dawn of the third millenium, it appears that the Pacific Basin will be the new center of development. In twnety years from now, it may well be "The New World". It is obvious to-day, the more so in the light of events that shook my country recently, that this essential center of life and prosperity in to-morrow's world has become a stake of the highest value. Keen as we are on our specific way of living, conscious of our cultural riches and of our economic wealth, persuaded of the importance of our countries as strategic goals, we must be vigilant. More than ever.

At a time when what was known as independence is fast becoming interdependence, at a time when the oldest nations of the world join ranks so as to be stronger, fitter, more adapted to face the hardships of the world, we must keep in mind that putting together our wills, our energies, and our resources will make us, in our turn, stronger, better prepared to overcome the difficulties of the XXth century. What we witness every day in the European Economic Community is the best possible example of what I am saying. This quest for unity also applies to other countries, in Africa, in Eastern Europe, in the Americas, as well as in Asia. All these countries have made good the saying : " United, we stand" as they know too well what may happen if they do not unite.

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The Pacific Basin is not free from this world movement. The Prime Minister of Japan, the Governments of Australia and of New Zealand are only too aware of these changes. As for us, in proportion with the scale, both big and small of our Territories, and within the framework of the French republic which guarantees the totality of our Rights against the big powers, we express the will of sharing all that is likely to reinforce our respective developments, our vigilance, our ability to resist external pressures. We are convinced, in doing so, to work for the good of all the Polynesians as well as of all the Caledonians.

This Protocol we are about to sign will formalize those bonds that unite, thanks to the institutions, French Polynesia and New Caledonia. I am convinced that the effects of these bonds will be beneficial to each and to all. In economic and social fields, this accord will open up new vistas to all those who take a leading part in our Territories. Finally, I am convinced that our common voice will be more clearly heard by those whose duty is to hear it when it speaks in the defence of our common interests.

Mr President, please believe that the era of co-operation which we have the honour of opening to-day is an exalting mission. In the tradition of peace, progress and liberty which motivates our two peoples, there is no nobler ambition than to aim at knowing one another better, at uniting our forces in pursuit of the common good.

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NOUMEA, February 14th, 1985