

DOKUMENTATION

The Integration Charter between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Democratic Republic of Sudan (1982)

With God's help, and the success he has bestowed on us; guided by the will of the two brethren peoples in Egypt and Sudan;

Reaffirming the historical unity which has registered the sense of belonging and the common destiny across successive generations;

Responding to the present and future call of the two peoples tied together by the eternal Nile in an indivisible unity . . . A unity which began with life and with which life began . . . A unity which has directed the events of history and has faced the challenges of history;

Faithful to the struggle of long years and honouring the memory of the martyrs of this struggle who fell while defending their country and their heritage in the most valiant epic of struggle ever known of the Nile Valley, repelling invasion, resisting occupation, and bringing about the victory of freedom and peace;

Conscious of the historical responsibility of the two peoples who are entrusted with their historical and combative heritage and appreciating the proper value of their status and responsibility as part of the Arab nation with a view of maintaining freedom, honour, peace, and prosperity of the peoples of Egypt and Sudan;

Desirous of attaining freedom, honour, peace and prosperity for their Arab nation which has given them – with its thoughts and feelings – the greatest and noblest cultural heritage ever offered by a nation to the history of mankind, and in pur suit of the freedom, honour, and peace of their Africa continent; In liquidation of colonialism, racism and in facing interference and hegemony; In realizing prosperity and progress, and in *reaffirming* and *consolidating* the principles of Non-Alignment, *realizing* the prosperity of the peoples of the developing countries, and strengthening the sovereignty and stability of International Peace and Security as well as assuring the progress for the peoples of the world, at large;

Proceeding from the unity of principles and objectives for which the people's revolution in Egypt on the twenty-third of July 1952, and the revolution of the people of Sudan on the twenty-fifth of March 1969 broke out;

Proceeding from the unity of constituents on which is based the social, political and economic structure of both Egypt and Sudan that paved the way for the signature of the Programme of Political Action and Economic Integration between the Democratic Republic of the Sudan and the Arab Republic of Egypt on February 11, 1974 resulting in numerous achievements on the course of integration;

Responding to and in fulfillment of the will of the two brethren peoples, that the integrated action enters a more developed new phase that can give a push to their efforts on all domains; and search with diligence and endeavour to realizing their aspiratens in attaining progress, catching up with evolution, and drawing a new and glorious model of life on the land of the Valley of the Great Nile for a bright and prosperous future; pursuing the realization of all this, and with all fait in God, and in the ability of the peoples to overcome the greatest obstacles and pass the most severe tests, and in full confidence in one's self and the future, the Egyptian and Sudanese peoples affirm their keeness and insistence on proceeding along the road on rational action of unity by mobilization of human capacity, material resources, and all moral energy and determination. This will be done in the context of an advanced formulae for integrated action, that reaffirms a new target; organizes the political and technical organs and establishments; and determines the necessary means for the realization of integration within the available potentialities on bases compatible with the special historical ties and the natural relations existing between the two brethren peoples. Such means will like-wise provide the best conditions and circumstances to bring about social, cultural, and economic development that strengthen the edifice of civilisation on the land of the Valley of the Great Nile.

In accordance with the provisions of the constitutions in both countries, President Mohamed Hosni Mubarak and Gaafar Mohamed Numeiry have concluded the attached Integration Charter between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Democratic Republic of Sudan.

Part 1.

Objectives and Principles

Article 1.

In signing this Charter, the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Democratic Republic of Sudan aim at a consolidation of their social, cultural, economic, political and military relations. This will be effected on bases which are compatible with the natural and historical ties of the people of the Valley of the Nile. It will likewise be based on the treatment of a citizen of any of the two countries, who has the right of residence in the other country, as its citizens are treated with respect to all rights and duties in all spheres specified in this Charter and in compliance with the Laws of the country in which he resides.

I. In the External Sphere

Coordination and integration, in the sphere of foreign action of each of the two countries, is a necessity dictated by the need to protect and consolidate the principles in which the two brethren peoples believe and for which each of them works through their joint action in all international and regional organizations and establishments.

Furthermore, coordination and integration in this sphere represents, at the same time, the natural approach ensuring the effectiveness of integrated action in the domestic sphere in the two sister states.

Proceeding from the importance of coordinating and integrating action, between the two countries in the foreign sphere, it is necessary

1. To coordinate the policies followed by the two states in the area of international relations;
2. To coordinate between, the two states in the area of diplomatic and consular representation;
3. To coordinate between the delegations of the two states in all international fora;
4. To adapt diplomatic representation between the two countries in a manner compatible with the march along the course of integration.

II. In the Sphere of National Security

History, both ancient and modern, affirms the unity of the security and safety of Egypt and Sudan. In line with this historical truth, the two countries have concluded the Agreement on Joint Defense. The two brethren peoples of Egypt and Sudan, while aiming at the consolidation of the march along the course of integration, in this stage wherein their strategic security is exposed to external threats, feel that this march stresses the need of devising and implementing a unified strategy of defense and security which particularly includes:

1. The organization and command of the defence of the two states;
2. The coordination between the military industries in the two states;

III. In the Social Sphere.

The purpose of integration between the two brethren peoples is shaping up the citizen in the Valley of the Nile in all aspects of his life. Such a citizen is the tool and basic pillar in the endeavours for securing a better future in pursuit of the advancement of the two sister countries.

In accordance herewith, integration action must be designed to build the citizen. It shall do that according to strategies of determined aims, integrated plans and programmes, and coordinated methods. Its implementation is to be effected in a gradual manner ensuring the soundness of whatever steps that might be taken on the road towards the

unification of the methods and programmes of national action in the two countries. Such implementation will likewise consolidate the conveyance, interaction and cohesion of the people of the Valley of the Nile on all formal and popular levels and in all youth, professional, syndicate and cooperative fields as well as mobilize all capacities.

In this sphere, the two countries emphasize that it is important:

1. To work according to a unified strategy on education and scientific research, with the objective of unifying the policies, systems and curriculums of education in the two countries, as it constitutes the natural approach to the creation of a generation that believes in its spiritual and religious values and its genuine national traditions, and to adapt scientific research to the ecological needs while keeping pace with international scientific development;
2. To urgently seek the coordination and intensification of efforts expected in both countries towards an overall elimination of illiteracy during a specified period of time;
3. To seek the consolidation and enrichment of common thought in the two brethren peoples through:
 - a. Devising integrated plans and programmes designed to coordinate the efforts of all press, information and cultural organs and organizations and to promote integrated action among them;
 - b. Coordinating all efforts among all youth, women, professional, syndicate, cooperative, and educational organizations;
 - c. Stimulating exchange visits in all the abovementioned fields.
4. To work in accordance with a unified strategy so as to secure health services for the peoples of the Valley of the Nile, raise the standard of performance of such services and unify the rules and legislations on health and pharmaceutical services in the two countries;
5. To unify the social care, youth care and aged care systems in the two countries and to seek a rise in the standard of such services.

IV. In the Economic and Financial Field.

The integration between the two countries in the economic and financial fields is designed to establish a complete economic union that will ensure progress and prosperity for each of the two states and their nationals. It is designed to be based on a strategy which will be implemented gradually and according to a fixed schedule, and will particularly ensure the realizations of:

1. Devising and implementing a joint plan on social and economic development which would be integrated with the social and development plans in the two countries;
2. Taking and applying actions securing coordination of political, economic, commercial, financial and monetary policies to pave the way for their unification in the two countries;

3. Devising and applying a common policy in the field of agriculture and irrigation;
4. Devising and applying a common policy in the field of industry, mineral wealth and energy;
5. Devising and applying a common policy in the field of transportation and communication;
6. Making practical arrangements, taking into consideration the realistic and fair requirements, which are designed to abolish all restrictions including customs tariffs impeding:
 - a. The free movement of persons, capital and profit;
 - b. Freedom of exchange of goods and national products;
 - c. Freedom of residence, work, ownership, employment and practice of economic activities;
 - d. Freedom of transport, transit, and use of means of transport utilities, ports and civil airports.

Article 2.

1. The following organs will be in charge of the integration affairs:

- The Supreme Council of Integration;
- The Parliament of the Valley of the Nile;
- The Integration Fund.

Each of these organs shall work within the framework of competences accredited to it under the provisions of this Charter.

Article 3.

Each of the two states shall – according to its constitutional system – take action securing the implementation of the provisions of this Charter and fulfilling the commitments arising therefrom.

Article 4.

1. The two states shall commit themselves to the realization of the targets of this Charter, during a transitional period not exceeding ten years and shall be divided into stages of a specified period of time;
2. A resolution, determining the targets and means of implementation of each stage, shall be adopted by the Supreme Council of Integration after approval by the Parliament of the Valley of the Nile;
3. After approval of the competent constitutional authorities in both countries, the resolutions, indicated in the preceding paragraph, shall be considered complementary to the provisions of this Charter.

Part. II.

The Integration Organizations

Chapter I – Provisions Regulating Organizations.

Section I: The Supreme Council of Integration.

Article 5.

The Supreme Council of Integration is the high authority vested with the competences established under this Charter.

Article 6.

The Supreme Council of Integration shall be co-chaired by the Presidents of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Democratic Republic of Sudan. It shall have eight members at least of each country half of whom will be chosen by each President.

Article 7.

The Supreme Council of Integration shall be chaired alternately by the Presidents of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Democratic Republic of Sudan.

Article 8.

The Supreme Council of Integration shall put down regulations to organize the method of work and ways of discharging its functions.

Article 9.

The Supreme Council of Integration shall adopt the necessary resolutions, regulations and directives for the implementation of the targets of this Charter.

Article 10.

The Supreme Council of Integration shall convene periodically and alternately in the capitals of the two Republics. It may convene in any other place the Supreme Council of Integration designates. Two thirds of the members shall constitute a quorum; and resolutions shall be adopted unanimously by all members present.

Article 11.

The Supreme Council of Integration shall convene twice a year at the invitation of the President of the Republic where the Council is due to convene.

The Council may hold an extraordinary meeting in cases of emergency to consider specific questions at the request of one of the two Presidents of the Republic.

Article 12.

The Supreme Council of Integration shall be assisted by a number of technical committees the designation and competences of which will be determined by a decision of the Supreme Council of Integration.

Article 13.

The Supreme Council of Integration shall have a General Secretariat with headquarters in Cairo and Khartoum. It shall undertake all action to assist the Council in the performance of the functions stipulated by the Charter.

The Supreme Council of Integration shall formulate regulations on the method of work of the General Secretariat and that of its staff.

Article 14.

The Supreme Council of Integration submits to the Parliament of the Valley of the Nile a general annual report covering the achievements made in the different fields of Integration in the two countries.

Section II. The Parliament of the Valley of the Nile.

Article 15.

1. The Parliament of the Valley of the Nile Shall have sixty members as follows:
 - a. The speakers of the Egyptian and Sudanese People's Assembly.
 - b. Nineteen other members of the Egyptian People's Assembly and a similar number of the members of the People's Assembly and Provincial People's Assemblies in Sudan;
The Assembly in each Republic shall – at the request of its Speaker – adopt a resolution on the appointment of the respective members of each Assembly;
 - c. Twenty members of high capabilities and who are interested in the integration of the two countries.
Each President shall appoint ten members for a period of two renewable years.

2. Were one unappointed member to lose the membership of the Assembly from which he had been chosen as a result of expiration of his term of membership or dissolution of the Assembly, his membership in the Parliament of the Valley of the Nile shall be maintained until a member is chosen to replace him.
3. Were a seat in the Parliament of the Valley of the Nile to fall vacant, it shall be filled in the same capacity on which was based the previous occupancy.
4. The number of members selected by the Egyptian and Sudanese Assemblies may – on the suggestion of the Supreme Council of Integration and the approval of the Parliament of the Valley of the Nile – be raised in accordance with Paragraph 11, item (b), of this Article subject that such an increase shall not exceed ten members from each Republic.

Article 16.

Before assumption of his duties, the member of the Parliament of the Valley of the Nile shall take the following oath:

“I swear by God Almighty to totally safeguard the safety of the Republics and Republican Systems of Egypt and Sudan, to protect the interests of the people, and to respect the constitution in each of the two countries as well as their Charter of Integration.“

Article 17

The seat of speaker of the Parliament of the Valley of the Nile shall be alternately held by the speakers of the Egyptian and Sudanese Assemblies and the term of occupancy shall be maintained until the beginning of the following ordinary session.

Article 18

1. The Parliament of the Valley of the Nile Shall hold every year two ordinary sessions of seven days at least;
2. The Chairman of the session shall issue a decree calling for the meeting of the Parliament;
3. If need be the Parliament may be called to convene in an extraordinary session, at the request of one of the two Presidents of the Republic or speakers of the Egyptian and Sudanese People’s Assemblies.

Article 19

Two thirds of the members of the Parliament of the Valley of the Nile shall constitute a quorum.

Article 20

The decisions and recommendations of the Parliament of the Valley of the Nile shall be made by the absolute majority of votes.

Article 21

1. The Parliament of the Valley of the Nile shall have the competence to consider and express its views on the following:
 - a. Matters stipulated under this Charter;
 - b. Matters referred by the Supreme Council of Integration;
 - c. The annual report put forward by the Supreme Council of Integration in accordance with Article 14.
2. The Parliament of the Valley of the Nile shall adopt the Draft Joint on Coordination of Social and Economic Development.
3. The Parliament of the Valley of the Nile shall adopt the Draft Budget and the Final Statement of Account.
4. The Parliament of the Valley of the Nile shall discuss and propose whatever, in its view, would ensure the realization of the targets of the Charter.
5. The Parliament of the Valley of the Nile shall notify the Supreme Council of Integration of its resolutions and recommendations.

Article 22

The meetings of the Parliament of the Valley of the Nile shall be public.

The Parliament may hold a closed session at the request of the Chairman of the session or two-third of the members.

Article 23

The ministers of either state may attend and address the Parliament sittings.

Article 24

The members of the Parliament of the Valley of the Nile shall not be held responsible for whatever thoughts or ideas they express in discharging their functions within Parliament. While Parliament is in session, criminal proceedings may not be taken against any member of Parliament nor may such member be arrested except by permission of Parliament with the exception of cases of »flagrante delicto«.

Article 25

The Parliament of the Valley of the Nile shall formulate regulations to organize the method of its work and attend to its competences.

Section III. The Integration Fund

Article 26

The Integration Fund shall be established by the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Democratic Republic of Sudan. It shall have financial and administrative independence and a separate budget in accordance with its rules, which shall be laid by the Supreme Council of Integration and ratified by the Parliament of the Valley of the Nile.

The Fund shall be entitled to contact organizations and organs in the two countries and abroad to attract the desired investments; and may establish corporations or banks to finance the integration projects.

Article 27

The Fund shall have the competence to finance or guarantee the financing of projects approved by the Supreme Council of Integration after endorsement by the Parliament of the Valley of the Nile.

Chapter II – Financial Provisions

Article 28

The Budget for the integration of the two countries shall be made for one fiscal year beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30 of the following year.

Article 29

The Budget shall include: –

- a. The necessary funds for the implementation of the joint social and economic development plan;
- b. The necessary expenses for the integration organs;

The Budget shall determine the amount of the sums of money contributed by each of the two Republics on the basis of quotas of equal value.

Article 30

1. The General Secretariat shall be in charge of preparing the Draft Budget of Integration and shall submit it every year before March 1, to the Council of Integration.
2. The Supreme Council of Integration shall refer the Draft Budget after approval, to the Parliament of the Valley of the Nile two months at least before the beginning of the fiscal year.
3. The Parliament shall discuss the Draft Budget and may not amend the Draft except by approval of the Supreme Council of Integration.
4. The Budget shall not become effective except after approval by Parliament.

Article 31

The statement of account of the Integration Budget must be presented to the Parliament of the Valley of the Nile, within a period not exceeding one year of the end of the fiscal year.

Article 32

The Supreme Council of Integration shall adopt a resolution on the Financial Rules of the integration activities between the two Republics on ways and means of controlling and auditing its accounts.

Part III

General Provisions and Conclusion

Article 33

The provisions of this Charter shall not prejudice the rights and duties resulting from the agreements concluded by the two states before entry of effect of the Charter.

Article 34

The projects approved by the Supreme Council of Integration may not be nationalized nor confiscated.

Such project property may not without an adjudication be subject to distress, freezing, confiscation or sequestration.

The disputes on investment related to the implementation of the provisions of this Charter shall be settled by a pact or international arbitration.

Article 35

The governments of the Arab Republic of Egypt and democratic Republic of Sudan may submit proposals to the Supreme Council of Integration on the amendment of the Charter. Were the Supreme Council of Integration to decide to approve the amendment, it shall refer it to the Parliament for discussion.

Were the amendment to be adopted by the Parliament, it shall not become effective except after ratification by the competent authority in the two Republics according to their constitutional systems.

Article 36

The Supreme Council of Integration shall convene within one month of the entry into force of the Charter, to take the necessary procedures to allow for its entry into effect.

Article 37

The Parliament of the Valley of the Nile shall hold its first session within two months of the date of the first meeting of the Supreme Council of Integration.

Article 38

The fiscal year shall begin as of the date of entry into force of the Charter and until June 30, of the following year.

Article 39

1. The decisions and regulations issued by the Integration organs shall be published in the official Gazette.
2. They shall be effective as of the date designated therein.

Were it not include a date wherein they became effective, their provisions shall become effective fifteen days as of the date of adoption.

Article 40

1. This Charter shall be ratified according to the rules in force in the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Democratic Republic of Sudan; and the instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the government of each of the two states.
2. The Charter shall become effective immediately after the deposition of the instruments of ratification.

Article 41

The U.N. Secretary General shall be notified of this Charter for registration according to Article 102 of the U.N. Charter. The concerned regional organizations shall likewise be notified.

The undersigned have signed this Charter in the city of Khartoum on Tuesday, 25 Thi Al Hega 1402 H corresponding to October 12, 1982.

**The President of the
Arab Republic of Egypt.**

Mohamed Hosni Mubarak.

**The President of the
Democratic Republik of Sudan.**

Gaafar Mohamed Numeiry.