

CHAPTER THIRTY-FIVE

RELATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS AND CO-OPERATING PARTNERS

ARTICLE 178

Relations with the African Economic Community

1. The Member States agree that the final objective of the Common Market is to contribute to the implementation of the provisions of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community. To this end the Member States shall:
 - (a) negotiate, together with other regional economic communities, the Protocol on Relations between the African Economic Community and the Regional Economic Communities;
 - (b) implement the provisions of this Treaty with due consideration to the provisions of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community; and
 - (c) convert the Common Market or its successor, at a time to be agreed upon between the Common Market or its successor and the African Economic Community, into an organic entity of the African

Economic Community.

2. The Secretary-General shall coordinate the activities of the Common Market with those of the African Economic Community and shall, from time to time, submit reports to the Council.

ARTICLE 179

Relations with Other Regional Economic Communities

1. In the context of realising its regional integration objectives, the Common Market may enter into co-operation agreements with other regional communities.
2. The co-operation referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be subject to prior approval by the Council.

ARTICLE 180

Relations with other Intergovernmental Organisations

1. Subject to the provisions of this Treaty, the Member States may be members of other regional or sub-regional organisations with other Member States or third countries for the purpose of strengthening co-operation among themselves.
2. The Secretary-General shall endeavour to co-ordinate

the activities of the Common Market with those of the organisations referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

3. The Common Market shall maintain such continuous working relations with the Organisation of African Unity, the United Nations and such intergovernmental or governmental organisations as would assist the Common Market in the implementation of the provisions of this Treaty.

ARTICLE 181

Relations with Co-operating Partners

1. The Common Market shall establish such continuous and close working relations with relevant African organisations such as the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations in Eastern and Southern Africa with a view to strengthening the institutional capacity of the Common Market and assisting it in the implementation of the provisions of this Treaty.
2. The Common Market shall accord special importance to co-operation with United Nations systems, other international organisations and bilateral and multi-lateral donor agencies whose policies and programmes

are compatible with the policies, programmes and activities of the Common Market.

3. The Secretary-General shall initiate and maintain dialogue with the organisations and agencies referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article and with any other organisation whose policies and programmes are compatible with those of the Common Market in order to facilitate closer co-operation with such organisations, agencies and multi-lateral and bilateral donor agencies.
4. Meetings may be held between the Member States and governmental and non-governmental organisations and bilateral donor agencies on the Common Market policies and strategies including the implementation thereof, with a view to enhancing the participation of these organisations and agencies in the implementation and development of the Common Market.
5. Recommendations from the meetings referred to in paragraph 4 of this Article shall be put before the organs of the Common Market for consideration.

ARTICLE 182

Specialised Agencies

1. The Secretariat may, with the approval of the Council,

enter into arrangements with any organisation specialised in any of the fields of activity of the Common Market under which such organisation shall implement a specific field of activity for the Common Market.

2. Arrangements made under paragraph 1 of this Article shall provide for the scope and content of the activity, administration and financing of the services concerned.

ARTICLE 183

Association with Other Countries

The Member States may together negotiate with any third country with a view to the association of that country with the Common Market.