

AGREEMENT
between the United Nations High Commissioner for
Refugees and the International Commission on Civil
Status

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS

International Commission on Civil Status
Secretariat General
Johann Wolfgang Goethe - Universität
Senckenberganlage 31
6000 Frankfurt/M.1

May 4, 1981

Mr. High Commissioner Poul
Hartling
United Nations High Commissioner for
Refugees
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Genève 10

Mr. High Commissioner,

Further to the discussions held between the representatives of our two organisations regarding mutually desirable cooperation in the field of the personal status of refugees, I have the honour to propose the following arrangements:

- The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees shall inform the International Commission on Civil Status of matters relating to the personal status of refugees requiring an international solution.
- The High Commissioner shall provide assistance to the International Commission on Civil Status in the examination of the aforementioned matters which the International Commission on Civil Status may decide to consider. In this event, the High Commissioner shall make available to the International Commission on Civil Status all necessary technical information.
- The International Commission on Civil Status shall request the advice of the High Commissioner on any matter it may examine concerning the personal status of refugees.
- The High Commissioner shall be invited to be represented at the meetings of the International Commission on Civil Status, during which matters of interest to the High Commissioner shall be examined.
- The International Commission on Civil Status shall be invited to be represented at meetings organised by the High Commissioner concerning the personal status of refugees.
- Subject to any measures that may be necessary to preserve the confidential nature of certain documents, the High Commissioner and the Secretary General of the International Commission on Civil Status shall exchange any documentation likely to be of mutual interest regarding matters related to the personal status of refugees.

It would be a pleasure for me to know if, as I hope, the above proposals can serve as a basis for our future cooperation. Thus, this letter and your letter confirming your acceptance shall constitute a cooperation agreement between the High Commission and the International Commission on Civil Status. In the event of a positive response, this agreement shall enter into force immediately.

Please accept, Mr. High Commissioner, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(signed) *S. Simitis*
Secretary General

United Nations – High Commissioner for Refugees
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Genève 10

May 27, 1981

Mr. Professor Simitis Secretary General
International Commission on Civil Status
Senckenberganlage 31
D-6000 Frankfurt/Main

Mr. Secretary General,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 4 May 1981 transmitting the proposals relating to mutual cooperation between the International Commission on Civil Status and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

I am pleased to convey my agreement with the proposals you kindly set forth in your above-mentioned letter.

In accordance with your request, your letter and this reply shall be considered as constituting an agreement on cooperation between the International Commission on Civil Status and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; it shall enter into force immediately.

Thank you for your valuable cooperation. I would like to assure you that my Office shall take all necessary measures to strengthen the spirit of close cooperation existing between the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Commission on Civil Status on matters relating to the personal status of refugees.

Please accept, Mr. Secretary General, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(signed) *Poul Hartling*
United Nations High Commissioner
for Refugees