

MILITARY AGREEMENT No 1



1. Aim

- 1.1. This is an agreement between the Royal Moroccan Army (RMA) and MINURSO on the one side and the Frente POLISARIO Military Forces (FPMF) and MINURSO on the other side.
- 1.2. This agreement covers the period from now until the start of the transitional period (D-Day, the day the provisional list of Sahrawi people eligible to vote is published) within the framework of the present peace process. For the transitional period, this agreement will be replaced by new rules.
- 1.3. The purpose of this agreement is to lay down the guidelines and procedures to be followed by both parties to the conflict, the RMA and the FPMF, in the framework of the implementation of the cease-fire, which came into effect on 6 September 1991, in order to ensure that no type of hostility is resumed.
- 1.4. The agreement defines all violations which are not only violations to this agreement but are also contrary to the spirit of the peace plan, and which will be reported to higher authority. It also defines the rights of the United Nations Military Observers (UNMOs) in the performance of their tasks.

2. Geographical definitions

In the framework of this agreement and in order to reach a better understanding, the following definitions are taken for granted:

- **Buffer Strip (BS)** : It covers a width of 5 km and runs all along the berm, to the South and East of this line. The berm is not included in the BS.
- **Restricted Areas (RA)**: These are two 30 km wide areas, located to the North and the West of the berm for the first area, to the South and the East of the berm for the second. The berm is included in the first RA and the buffer strip in the second RA.
- **Areas with Limited Restrictions (ALR)**: They are the stretches of land respectively located on the Northern and Western side of the first restricted area, and on the Southern and Eastern side of the second restricted area.

3. Restrictions on military Activities within the areas

3.1. Buffer Strip (BS)

The entry of RMA and FPMF personnel or equipment, by ground or air, and the firing of weapons in or over this area, is prohibited at all times and is a violation.

3.2. Restricted areas (RA)

3.2.1. The following actions are prohibited in the RA and constitute a violation:

- Firing of weapons and/or conducting military training exercises, with the exception of physical training activities of unarmed personnel.

- Tactical reinforcement, redeployment or movements of troops, HQs/units, stores, equipment, ammunition and weapons, with the exception of the movement of troops who are to go to their ALR to take part in manoeuvres and firing exercises.
- Entry of military fighter, training and air reconnaissance aircraft, as well as aerial surveillance. An exception will be made for helicopters used for medical evacuations, V.I.P. liaisons and maintenance flights, providing always that MINURSO be informed in advance or, if this was not possible, at the earliest.
- Any improvement to defence infrastructure to include:
 - Reinforcing existing minefields or laying mines,
 - Constructing barbed wire or other types of obstacles,
 - Digging new trenches and new weapon emplacements,
 - Constructing new berm walls (sand, stone and concrete),
 - Expanding the size of any unit perimeter,
 - Stockpiling ammunition and weapons or the construction of new storage sites for weapons and ammunition.

3.2.2. The following are prohibited without prior approval by MINURSO military authorities:

- Maintenance of berms using mechanical means (5 days notice)
- Maintenance of existing facilities or weapon emplacements using mechanical means (7-days notice)
- Construction of storage facilities other than those mentioned in para. 3.2.1., new buildings or the extension of already existing buildings (7-days notice),
- The use of explosives:
 - Digging of wells (7-days notice)
 - Destruction of an isolated mine or ordnance (2-days notice)
 - Destruction of old/faulty ammo (7-days notice)
- To repair the damage caused by bad weather conditions, work can be started after MINURSO has been informed.

3.2.3. MINURSO will be informed in advance if the following actions are to be conducted.

- 24 hours to set up logistic convoys of 10 or more vehicles,
- 7 days to upgrade dirt tracks to paved roads,

Failure to inform MINURSO is a violation.

3.3. Areas with Limited Restrictions (ALR)

All normal military activities can be carried out in the ALR with the exception of the reinforcement of existing minefields, the laying of mines, the concentration of forces, the construction of new HQs, barracks and ammunition storage facilities. The RMA and FPMF will also inform the commander of MINURSO if they intend to conduct military exercises in these areas, including the firing of weapons of a calibre above 9mm.



Failure to inform MINURSO is a violation.

4. Rights of the Military Observers

Military Observers have complete freedom of movement/action to conduct the following tasks in the MINURSO area of responsibility and any restriction to this freedom of movement and action is a violation:

- Visit to unit -company size and above- CPs and to HQs (with the exception of the living quarters),
- Conduct any type of patrols at any time, by ground or by air,
- Park in the vicinity of units.

Any behaviour or action aimed at intimidating military observers is a violation.

5. Procedure in case of violation

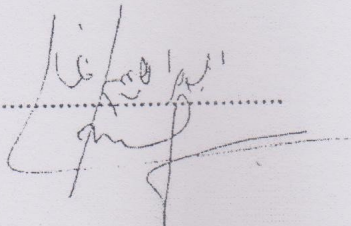
In the event of a violation occurring, MINURSO will notify the offending party in writing. If the written response is not satisfactory, MINURSO will report the violation to UN New York for diplomatic action.

6. Transmission of the agreement

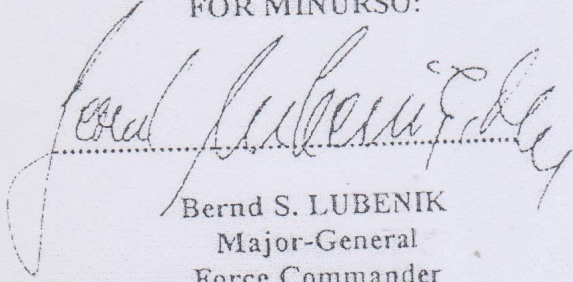
The two parties are requested to inform their subordinates of this agreement through their respective chains of command.

14.12.97

FOR THE FRENTE POLISARIO:


.....

FOR MINURSO:


.....
Bernd S. LUBENIK
Major-General
Force Commander

