

**No. 28230**

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
and  
KIRIBATI**

**Treaty of friendship (with agreed minute). Signed at Tarawa  
on 20 September 1979**

*Authentic texts: English and Kiribati.*

*Registered by the United States of America on 25 July 1991.*

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**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE  
et  
KIRIBATI**

**Traité d'amitié (avec procès-verbal approuvé). Signé à  
Tarawa le 20 septembre 1979**

*Textes authentiques : anglais et kiribati.*

*Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 25 juillet 1991.*

## TREATY<sup>1</sup> OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Kiribati,

Desirous of maintaining the bonds of peace and friendship traditionally existing between the people of the United States and the people of Kiribati;

Acknowledging that the United States has hitherto claimed sovereignty over the islands of Canton (Kanton), Enderbury, Hull (Orona), Birnie, Gardner (Nikumaroro), Phoenix (Rawaki), Sydney (Manra), McKean, Christmas (Kiritimati), Caroline, Starbuck, Malden, Flint and Vostok;

Conscious of their mutual interest in a stable and peaceful Pacific;

Have agreed as follows:

### ARTICLE 1

The Government of the United States recognizes the sovereignty of Kiribati over the islands of Kiribati named in the preamble as a part of the territory of the sovereign Republic of Kiribati.

### ARTICLE 2

The two Governments, in the spirit of friendship existing between them, shall consult together on matters of mutual concern and interest in time of need, and, in particular, to promote social and economic development, peace, and security in the Pacific region. Any military use by third parties of the islands named in the preamble shall be the subject of such consultations.

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 23 September 1983 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Suva, Fiji, in accordance with article 7 (a).

## ARTICLE 3

Any future use by the Government of the United States of facilities constructed by it on Canton (Kanton), Enderbury, and Hull (Orona) shall be in accordance with agreements to be negotiated between the two Governments. The Government of Kiribati agrees that these facilities shall not be made available to third parties for military purposes except with the agreement of the Government of the United States.

## ARTICLE 4

The two Governments recognize the interest of their peoples in close cooperation for their mutual benefit in economic development relating to fisheries off their coasts. The two Governments agree to consult directly, and/or through appropriate regional organizations to which both are parties, regarding matters relating to the conservation, management, and utilization of fisheries of mutual interest. They agree also to encourage and facilitate cooperative arrangements and fishing ventures of mutual interest and benefit. For the purpose of entering into such arrangements the two Governments shall promote discussions between their nationals and appropriate governmental entities.

## ARTICLE 5

The Governments of the United States and Kiribati will use their best efforts to encourage cooperation between the two countries in protecting the unique natural and cultural resources of Kiribati, and, for their mutual benefit, to encourage and facilitate scientific research activities and cultural exchanges.

## ARTICLE 6

The Governments of the United States and Kiribati agree to encourage joint utilization of facilities constructed by the United States on Canton (Kanton) for the mutual benefit of their nationals and/or appropriate governmental entities.

## ARTICLE 7

(a) This Treaty shall be subject to ratification by the parties and shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of instruments of ratification.

(b) This Treaty shall remain in force for ten years and shall thereafter be subject to termination by either party upon six months notice; provided, however, that Article 1 of this Treaty shall not be subject to termination.

DONE in duplicate, in the English and Kiribati languages of which the English shall be the authentic text, at Tarawa, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1979.

For the Government  
of the United States of America:  
[Signed — Signé]<sup>1</sup>

For the Government  
of the Republic of Kiribati:  
[Signed — Signé]<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Signed by William Bodde, Jr. — Signé par William Bodde, Jr.

<sup>2</sup> Signed by I. Tabai — Signé par I. Tabai.

## AGREED MINUTE

In the spirit of the Treaty of Friendship signed today by the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Kiribati, and in particular Article 4, the Government of Kiribati assures the Government of the United States that application by United States flag vessels or vessels supplying canneries in American Samoa for licenses to fish within Kiribati fishery limits will be sympathetically considered without discrimination and without regard to fishing method.

Conservation measures of the Government of Kiribati would have to be observed.

The Government of Kiribati further advises the Government of the United States that it is the current policy of the Government of Kiribati not to grant exclusive licenses.

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