

ALLIANCE TREATY OBLIGATIONS AND PROVISIONS (ATOP)
CODING SHEET

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SECTION I: FORMATION, MEMBERS, AND DURATION

1. ATOP ID: 4965

2. COW Alliance # (if applicable): 3630

3. Signature date(s) (may vary for members in multilateral alliances):
December 31, 2000.

4. Members of alliance (use COW country codes):
Bahrain (692)
Kuwait (690)
Oman (698)
Qatar (694)
Saudi Arabia (670)
United Arab Emirates (696)

5. Was the alliance signed during war? If so, which war, and which member(s) was at war? (check COW data)
No.

6. Means by which alliance was established (e.g., treaty, executive agreement, diplomatic notes, etc.): (Only select "treaty" if the agreement requires ratification.)
Treaty.

7. Was the treaty public, public but with secret articles, or secret? If secret articles, describe the content of secret articles.
Public.

8. Are there provisions for adding additional members mentioned in the treaty? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.
No.

9. Are specific state(s) mentioned as possible future members of the alliance? (Yes, No) If Yes, which state(s)?
No.

10. Are there specific provisions in the treaty concerning the length of time the treaty is to last? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.

11. Are there conditions under which members may renounce the treaty? If Yes, describe these conditions.
No.

12. Are there specific provisions in the treaty concerning renewal of the treaty? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.
No, but
Article 15 allows "revisions every five years to amend [the agreement] to keep pace with the regional security situation."

13. Number of times alliance renewed, dates of renewal, and means by which alliance was renewed (Do not include automatic renewals):
Zero.

14. Termination date(s) (may vary for members in multilateral alliances) and source(s) for termination dates(s):
Still in force.
Version 4.0: In effect as of June 1, 2018 according to the following source
(<http://www.gcc-sg.org>)

15. Describe what caused the alliance to terminate.

SECTION II: OBLIGATIONS

16. Type of alliance (defense pact, neutrality pact, nonaggression pact, consultation pact, offense pact): (List all that apply to any member of the alliance).

Defense Pact

Consultation Pact.

NonAggression

17. Type of alliance as coded in COW data (if applicable): Defense Pact.

18. Describe the obligations of the alliance partners.

The members “commit the GCC member states to defend any member state victim of an external threat or danger” (Agence France Presse, December 31, 2000; Article 2 of the agreement).

The members pledged to come to each other’s aid in the event of attack (Keesings World Records, January 2001).

Defense:

The members pledge to “immediately assist the attacked [member] state or states by taking any action, including the use of military force, to reinstate legitimacy, security, and peace” (Article 3 of the agreement).

Consultation:

The members pledge to “convene a meeting for consultation whenever a member or members find that their territorial integrity or political independence is being endangered by an external threat” (Article 4 of the agreement).

Non-Aggression:

Article 1 confirms that states take it upon themselves to settle all disputes by peaceful means whether in their mutual relations with each other or in their relations with other countries

19. Are any of the obligations contingent upon any of the following: specific adversary, specific location, specific ongoing conflict, number of adversaries, noncompliance with a specific demand, attack, nonprovocation of enemy, or prior agreement among partners? (List all that apply)

No.

20. Describe the nature of the limits to obligations listed in #19.

21. Are there any additional provisions for assistance in the event of war? (e.g., promise not to participate in economic sanctions against partner, promise not to aid internal or external enemies, etc.) (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

22. Are there any additional limits to the alliance obligations or conditions under which treaty obligations do not apply that were not listed in #19? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

23. Is a specific target/threat mentioned as the object of the treaty? (Yes, No) (Answering Yes to this question does not necessarily mean that obligations are limited only to this adversary.) If Yes, list the target nation(s) (using COW country codes if possible) and describe the general nature of the reference to the target of the treaty.

No.

24. Are the treaty obligations symmetric? (That is, do all members commit to the same obligations?) (Yes, No) If No, describe.

Yes.

25. Does the treaty prohibit members from settling conflicts independently (no separate peace)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

26. Does the treaty have provisions requiring that the contracting parties consult before making commitments to third parties (excluding no separate peace provisions discussed above)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.

No.

27. Does the treaty specify that the contracting parties must not enter into any other alliances that are directed against the alliance in question? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

Yes, Article 12 of the agreement states that “member states pledge not to enter into agreements that directly conflict with the principles of this agreement.”

28. Additional coder comments regarding treaty obligations:

SECTION III: INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE ALLIANCE

29. Does the treaty make reference to the potential for conflict among members of the alliance? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
Yes – Article 17 commits states to resolve any disputes over the interpretation of the agreement through consultations between the parties. If no agreement is reached, the issue will be settled according to Article X of the Basic Law of the Cooperation Council for the Arab Gulf States.
30. Does the treaty discuss mediation/arbitration or other means of settling disputes among the signatories? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
Yes – see Article 17 above.
31. Does the treaty require official contact among the military forces of the participating states? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe. (Note whether official contact is required only in the event of hostilities or also during peacetime.)
Yes, Article 5 provides for intelligence sharing in the areas of manpower, land, air, and naval defense, missile technology, and defense against weapons of mass destruction. Article 7 provides for military exercises. Articles 9 and 10 call for the creation of a “Common Defense Council” and a “Supreme Military Commission,” respectively. Article 6 calls for the development of the Peninsula Shield Force, an already existing unified military command.
32. Does the treaty include provisions for military aid? (e.g., grants, loans, transfer of technology, training) (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.
No
33. Does the treaty provide for integrated command of military forces while the alliance is in effect (peacetime as well as wartime)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
Yes, Article 6 calls for the development of the Peninsula Shield Force, an already existing unified military command.
34. Does the treaty require subordination of the forces of one or more member states to another in the event of hostilities? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.
35. Does the treaty establish any organizations? (include provisions for regularly scheduled meetings) (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
Yes, Article 9 calls for the creation of a “Common Defense Council.” Article 10 calls for the creation of a “Supreme Military Commission.” Article 11 calls for the creation of unspecified military commissions under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Military Commission.
36. Does the treaty provide for joint military bases, or for one or more states to place troops in the territory of one or more other states? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.
37. Does the treaty specify contribution levels (funds, troops, etc.)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.
38. Does the treaty contain any provisions regarding coordinated increase of armaments, reduction of armaments, prohibition of weapons, or rules of warfare? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe such provisions.
No.
39. Does the treaty explicitly permit or prohibit the acquisition of territory not currently held by either ally? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe reference.
No.
40. Does the treaty include discussion of the division of gains from any future conflict? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.
41. Does the treaty include discussion of demobilization/withdrawal following conflict? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.
42. Are there any other provisions in the treaty that describe the means through which the states will coordinate their military efforts and policies? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
Yes, Article 9 calls for the formation of a Common Defense Council to “oversee the implementation of the principles of this agreement.”

43. Additional coder comments regarding references to alliance institutionalization:

The pact paves the way for a rapid deployment force (Moneyclips Middle East Newsfile, January 1, 2001). The size of the joint defense force is enlarged from 5,000 to 22,000 troops. The force was created in 1986 and is headquartered at Hafar al-Batin, northeastern Saudi Arabia (Xinhua General News Service, December 31, 2000). (Another source says the defense force was created in 1966- Financial times Information, January 1, 2002).

A supreme defense council which shall oversee the implementation of the defense pact is set up (Financial Times Information, January 1, 2002).

It is believed that the treaty allows for a military communications network linking all the states and a missile warning system (Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Policy Watch Number 511, January 16, 2001).

SECTION IV: TREATY CONTEXT

44. Does the treaty state that it nullifies any existing treaties signed by one or more of the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the treaties/agreements that are nullified and describe the treaty reference.

No.

45. Does the treaty state that it modifies any existing treaties signed by one or more of the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the treaties/agreements that are modified and describe the treaty reference.

No.

46. Does the treaty state that it includes any existing treaties signed by one or more of the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the treaties/agreements that are included and describe the treaty reference.

No.

47. Does the treaty make any references to international organizations? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the international organization and describe the nature of the reference.

Yes, Article 1 reiterates the members' "respect" to the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Arab League, and the United Nations.

48. Does the treaty make any references to other existing alliances? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the alliance and describe the nature of the reference.

Yes, Article 13 mentions that the agreement doesn't infringe on the member states' commitments to the Joint Defense and Economic Cooperation Treaty between the States of the Arab League (ATOP ID 3205).

49. Are there any companion agreements referenced in the treaty? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe the agreements.

No.

50. Does the treaty include statements regarding non-military cooperation (e.g., economic, cultural, scientific exchange)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

51. Does the treaty resolve other conflicts among the parties to the alliance? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

52. Does the treaty propose/enforce settlement of a conflict not involving parties to the alliance? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

53. Does the treaty propose other agreements among the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

54. Does the treaty mention unresolved conflicts among the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

55. Does the treaty include provisions for economic aid or other enticements (include trade concessions, post war recovery, etc.)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.

No.

56. Does the treaty describe circumstances under which one party may intervene in the internal politics of another party or specifically commit the states to non-intervention? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

SECTION V: DOCUMENTATION

57. Additional coder comments on this alliance treaty: Coded from original Arabic text by Khalefah Alghanim.

58. Source of coding information (e.g., treaty, treaty and secondary sources, secondary sources only, etc.):

Treaty and Secondary Sources.

Moneyclips Middle East Newsfile, January 1, 2001

Xinhua General News Service, December 31, 2000

Financial Times Information, January 1, 2002

Agence France Presse, December 31, 2000

Keesings World Records, January 2001

Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Policy Watch Number 511, January 16, 2001

59. Treaty citation:

Law No. 44 of 2001 Regarding the Approval of the Mutual Defense Treaty of the Cooperation Council of the Arab States of the Gulf. Kuwait National Gazette. July 8, 2001.

Found using Kuwait's online legislative database at search.kna.kw

60. Date of last revision of this coding sheet: 7/20/2020

61. Coder: Khalefah Alghanim, Nicholas Coulombe, Michaela Mattes, Ashley Leeds.

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