

Country/entity	Morocco Western Sahara
Region	Middle East and North Africa
Agreement name	Results of the Fourth Round of Direct Talks (Houston Declaration)
Date	16 Sep 1997
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Western Sahara Conflict (1973 - 1991)

Conflict in Western Sahara began as an insurgency by the Polisario Front against Spanish colonization in 1973. Two years later, Spain withdrew from the territory. Following the annexation of the territory by Morocco and Mauritania in 1976, the insurgency continued. After proclaiming the establishment of the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) in 1976, the Polisario Front succeeded in gaining recognition by several states, but was not admitted into the United Nations. Instead, the territory was annexed by Morocco and Mauritania, sparking a 16-year resistance by the Algerian-backed Polisario Front. Following a withdrawal by Mauritania in 1979, the conflict reached a stalemate through the 1980s and then reignited in 1989 until a ceasefire in 1991. At the time 80 per cent of the territory was under the de facto control of Morocco, while 20 per cent continued to be held by the SADR including the refugee camps along the Algerian border. Unrest has continued to erupt at intervals in from 1999-2004, 2005, 2010 and 2011. Attempts to solve the conflict have manifested in the form of the Baker Plan (2000) and the Moroccan Initiative (2006-2008).

Close
Western Sahara Conflict (1973 - 1991)

Stage	Framework/substantive - partial
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Morocco-Western Sahara peace process
Parties	Morocco, Frente Polisario

Third parties UN (no signing indicated)

Description Parties agreed to comply with earlier commitments. Recognised role of UN in organising and conducting referendum and powers and authorities of the UN during the transitional period. Agreed that Special Representative of the Secretary-General would be authorised to issue regulations prohibiting behaviour that could interfere with the organisation and conduct of the referendum. Included a Code of Conduct for the Referendum Campaign in Western Sahara and a list of Practical Measures to be Taken for the Resumption of Identification.

Agreement document [MO_970916_HoustonAccords.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Groups

Children/youth No specific mention.

Disabled persons No specific mention.

Elderly/age No specific mention.

Migrant workers No specific mention.

**Racial/ethnic/
national group** Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Substantive
Page 4, III. PRACTICAL MEASURES TO BE TAKEN FOR THE RESUMPTION OF IDENTIFICATION
2. The Commission will confirm the timetable and the locations for identification, as well as the operational procedures for identification. The Chairman of the Identification Commission will inform and provide the parties with relevant convocation lists in due time after the list of sheikhs and alternates for each tribal group to be identified has been established by the Chairman following consultations with the parties. All remaining applicants, as defined and agreed in London on 19 July 1997, will be convoked once.

Religious groups No specific mention.

Indigenous people No specific mention.

Other groups No specific mention.

**Refugees/displaced
persons** Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical
Page 1, I. DECLARATION OF THE PARTIES
1. The Parties agree to comply with their commitments as regards the identification process, repatriation of refugees, prisoners, detainees, confinement of their respective troops as well as the code of conduct for the referendum campaign.

Social class No specific mention.

Gender

**Women, girls and
gender** No specific mention.

Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general) 2. the parties understand and agree that the UN is required by the settlement plan to conduct a referendum that is fair, free and transparent. They also understand that the UNSRSG will start the referendum campaign when he is satisfied that all such conditions are met. Parties agree Code of Conduct to govern referendum campaign: 1. sole and exclusive authority over all matters relating to the referendum shall be vested in the UN.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum

Page 1, I. DECLARATION OF THE PARTIES

1. The Parties agree to comply with their commitments as regards the identification process, repatriation of refugees, prisoners, detainees, confinement of their respective troops as well as the code of conduct for the referendum campaign.

Page 1, I. DECLARATION OF THE PARTIES

2. The Parties understand and agree that the United Nations is required by the settlement plan to organize and conduct a referendum that is free, fair and transparent and free from all constraints, both for participants and accredited observers. They also understand and agree that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General will set the start of the referendum campaign when he is satisfied that all such conditions are met.

Page 1, I. DECLARATION OF THE PARTIES

3. Accordingly, the Parties agree that the powers and authorities of the United Nations during the transitional period, as described in the settlement plan, and during the referendum campaign, as described in the code of conduct, shall apply to ensure, among other things, that there shall be complete freedom of speech and assembly, and of the press, as well as freedom of movement of personnel and property into, out of and within the Territory, thus creating a climate of public tranquillity within which a referendum free of all constraints, intimidation and harassment can be organized and conducted by the United Nations.

Page 1, I. DECLARATION OF THE PARTIES

4. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General shall be authorized to issue regulations prohibiting graft, fraud, intimidation or harassment which could interfere with the organization and conduct of free, fair and transparent referendum, and shall likewise be authorized to require that all Parties shall have equal access to all television and radio facilities for the purpose of broadcasting their respective views on the referendum. Television and radio facilities shall be made available at United Nations expense to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to the extent he deems appropriate, in order to disseminate publicly information about the referendum in order to inform all eligible voters about their rights and obligations.

Page 1, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
Having regard to resolution 690 (1991), by which the Security Council approved the report of the Secretary-General (S/22464) and decided to establish, under its authority, a United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO),

Page 2, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
... Having regard to regulations 5 and 8 to 10 of the General Regulations for the Organization and Conduct of the Referendum in Western Sahara issued by the Secretary-General on 8 November 1991 (S/26185, annex III), and

In order to ensure that the referendum on self-determination for the people of Western Sahara is free and fair, without military or administrative constraints and without any intimidation or interference, the Code of Conduct set out below shall govern the referendum campaign.

This Code of Conduct formulated and issued by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General after consultation with the two Parties shall govern the conduct and behaviour, during the referendum campaign, of the Parties and persons or groups of persons approved by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, supporting one or the other Party participants in the referendum.

Page 2, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

1. Sole and exclusive authority over all matters relating to the referendum, including its

State symbols No specific mention.

**Independence/
secession** No specific mention.

**Accession/
unification** No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

**Cross-border
provision** No specific mention.

Governance

**Political
institutions (new or
reformed)** No specific mention.

Elections No specific mention.

**Electoral
commission** No specific mention.

**Political parties
reform** No specific mention.

Civil society

Page 2, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
4. The two Parties shall respect the right of all persons or groups of persons wishing to participate in campaign events and activities, expressly prohibiting any form of intimidation, including intimidation of persons seeking access to polling centres. The two Parties shall see to it that no person or group of persons disrupts meetings, demonstrations and rallies organized by others having a different political view. The two Parties shall do what is needed to ensure that no person or group of persons seeks to prevent anyone from participating in meetings, demonstrations or political rallies organized by others to put forward a political position that is different from their own. It is understood that, apart from those returning under the auspices of UNHCR in accordance with the Settlement Plan, no party shall encourage, support or facilitate the transfer or movement of people in substantial number into the Territory without the express authority of the Special Representative.

Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
7. In accordance with its functions, which include monitoring the existing security forces, the MINURSO civilian police shall ensure that meetings, marches, demonstrations and rallies of opposing parties are not held close to one another, at the same time or in such a manner as to threaten public order and security. The two Parties undertake to cooperate with MINURSO in good faith so that this principle may be applied faithfully and reasonably should the dates or venues coincide.

Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
9. The two Parties shall respect the right to participate in authorized political meetings, demonstrations, marches and rallies conducted as part of the referendum campaign on the part of all voters entitled to participate in the referendum. Where necessary, the Special Representative shall take appropriate measures to ensure the security and freedom of access of the persons concerned, including consultations with the existing security forces.

Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
10. The two Parties shall permit representatives of the international and local press and independent observers duly accredited by the Special Representative unrestricted access to all public political activities conducted during the referendum campaign and referendum. Such observers, to be accredited, must be recognized and experienced in election observation, shall perform only observation and reporting functions, and shall not engage in any partisan activities. The two Parties shall likewise respect the rights of official observers as are provided for under the Settlement Plan to observe and attest all political activities conducted during the referendum campaign and referendum.

Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
11. Campaign material normally used, such as posters, video equipment, tapes, loudspeakers and, within reasonable limits, vehicles, shall be permitted at campaign activities. No national colours or flags, other than the United Nations flag, shall be displayed in any campaign activities or locations. Nor shall any national colours or flags be displayed except those that were on government buildings as at 14 September 1997.

Page 4, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
12. The two Parties shall ensure that speakers at campaign events avoid at all times using language which is offensive or inflammatory or which threatens or incites violence in any form.

Page 4, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
13. The two Parties shall refrain from issuing pamphlets, newsletters or posters, either officially or anonymously, having an offensive, abusive or inflammatory content

**Traditional/
religious leaders**

Page 4, III. PRACTICAL MEASURES TO BE TAKEN FOR THE RESUMPTION OF IDENTIFICATION

2. The Commission will confirm the timetable and the locations for identification, as well as the operational procedures for identification. The Chairman of the Identification Commission will inform and provide the parties with relevant convocation lists in due time after the list of sheikhs and alternates for each tribal group to be identified has been established by the Chairman following consultations with the parties. All remaining applicants, as defined and agreed in London on 19 July 1997, will be convoked once.

Page 5, III. PRACTICAL MEASURES TO BE TAKEN FOR THE RESUMPTION OF IDENTIFICATION

4. In the interest of efficiency and economy, the necessary rotations will take place once a week from Laayoune and Tindouf. The parties will ensure that all participants concerned, sheikhs as well as observers, will be available to complete a full week's work, and accommodated accordingly.

**Public
administration**

No specific mention.

Constitution

No specific mention.

Power sharing

**Political power
sharing**

No specific mention.

**Territorial power
sharing**

No specific mention.

**Economic power
sharing**

No specific mention.

**Military power
sharing**

No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general No specific mention.

Bill of rights/similar Page 1, I. DECLARATION OF THE PARTIES

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Page 2, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

4. The two Parties shall respect the right of all persons or groups of persons wishing to participate in campaign events and activities, expressly prohibiting any form of intimidation, including intimidation of persons seeking access to polling centres. The two Parties shall see to it that no person or group of persons disrupts meetings, demonstrations and rallies organized by others having a different political view. The two Parties shall do what is needed to ensure that no person or group of persons seeks to prevent anyone from participating in meetings, demonstrations or political rallies organized by others to put forward a political position that is different from their own. It is understood that, apart from those returning under the auspices of UNHCR in accordance with the Settlement Plan, no party shall encourage, support or facilitate the transfer or movement of people in substantial number into the Territory without the express authority of the Special Representative.

Page 4, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

18. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General shall have the responsibility of guaranteeing the freedom of movement and the security of the population. The two Parties undertake to do their utmost to ensure respect for these rights.

Treaty incorporation

No specific mention.

Civil and political rights

Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Freedom of movement
Page 1, I. DECLARATION OF THE PARTIES

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Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Thought, opinion, conscience and religion

Page 1, I. DECLARATION OF THE PARTIES

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Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Other

Page 1, I. DECLARATION OF THE PARTIES

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Socio-economic rights

No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship

No specific mention.

Democracy

No specific mention.

Detention procedures

No specific mention.

Media and communication

Rights related issues→Media and communication→Governance of media

Page 1, I. DECLARATION OF THE PARTIES

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Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles

Page 4, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

13. The two Parties shall refrain from issuing pamphlets, newsletters or posters, either officially or anonymously, having an offensive, abusive or inflammatory content.

Page 4, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

14. The two Parties shall make every effort to ensure that persons or groups of persons do not plagiarize symbols of opposing groups or steal, remove or destroy their property or campaign materials.

Page 4, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

17. The two Parties shall cooperate with the Special Representative in publicizing the Code of Conduct throughout the Territory and in giving it the widest possible dissemination.

Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media logistics

Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

10. The two Parties shall permit representatives of the international and local press and independent observers duly accredited by the Special Representative unrestricted access to all public political activities conducted during the referendum campaign and referendum. Such observers, to be accredited, must be recognized and experienced in election observation, shall perform only observation and reporting functions, and shall not engage in any partisan activities. The two Parties shall likewise respect the rights of official observers as are provided for under the Settlement Plan to observe and attest all political activities conducted during the referendum campaign and referendum.

Rights related issues→Media and communication→Other

Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

11. Campaign material normally used, such as posters, video equipment, tapes, loudspeakers and, within reasonable limits, vehicles, shall be permitted at campaign activities. No national colours or flags, other than the United Nations flag, shall be displayed in any campaign activities or locations. Nor shall any national colours or flags be displayed except those that were on government buildings as at 14 September 1997.

Page 4, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

12. The two Parties shall ensure that speakers at campaign events avoid at all times

Mobility/access

Page 1, I. DECLARATION OF THE PARTIES

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Page 2, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

4. The two Parties shall respect the right of all persons or groups of persons wishing to participate in campaign events and activities, expressly prohibiting any form of intimidation, including intimidation of persons seeking access to polling centres. The two Parties shall see to it that no person or group of persons disrupts meetings, demonstrations and rallies organized by others having a different political view. The two Parties shall do what is needed to ensure that no person or group of persons seeks to prevent anyone from participating in meetings, demonstrations or political rallies organized by others to put forward a political position that is different from their own. It is understood that, apart from those returning under the auspices of UNHCR in accordance with the Settlement Plan, no party shall encourage, support or facilitate the transfer or movement of people in substantial number into the Territory without the express authority of the Special Representative.

Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

9. The two Parties shall respect the right to participate in authorized political meetings, demonstrations, marches and rallies conducted as part of the referendum campaign on the part of all voters entitled to participate in the referendum. Where necessary, the Special Representative shall take appropriate measures to ensure the security and freedom of access of the persons concerned, including consultations with the existing security forces.

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Page 4, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

18. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General shall have the responsibility of guaranteeing the freedom of movement and the security of the population. The two Parties undertake to do their utmost to ensure respect for these rights.

Protection measures

No specific mention.

Other No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions No specific mention.

Judiciary and courts No specific mention.

Prisons and detention No specific mention.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction No specific mention.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds No specific mention.

Business No specific mention.

Taxation No specific mention.

Banks No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights No specific mention.

Pastoralist/nomadism rights No specific mention.

Cultural heritage Land, property and environment→Cultural heritage→Tangible
Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
5. Possession of weapons of any kind, including traditional weapons, shall be strictly prohibited during any meeting, march, demonstration or political rally related to the referendum campaign.

Environment No specific mention.

Water or riparian rights or access No specific mention.

Security sector

**Security
Guarantees**

Page 1, I. DECLARATION OF THE PARTIES

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Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

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Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

7. In accordance with its functions, which include monitoring the existing security forces, the MINURSO civilian police shall ensure that meetings, marches, demonstrations and rallies of opposing parties are not held close to one another, at the same time or in such a manner as to threaten public order and security. The two Parties undertake to cooperate with MINURSO in good faith so that this principle may be applied faithfully and reasonably should the dates or venues coincide.

Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

8. Each Party shall establish direct lines of communication and maintain regular contact with the field offices of the Special Representative in the Territory, and shall keep the Special Representative apprised of any information he may request or need in order to ensure a free and fair campaign.

Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

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Page 4, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

12. The two Parties shall ensure that speakers at campaign events avoid at all times using language which is offensive or inflammatory or which threatens or incites violence in any form.

Ceasefire

No specific mention.

Police

Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
6. No meeting, demonstration or political rally involving 30 or more persons may be held or organized without the prior authorization, in writing, of the MINURSO civilian police who will consult with the existing security forces. In all cases where such consultation is required or permitted by this Code, the adequacy of such consultations shall be determined solely by the Special Representative. The Parties shall notify the MINURSO civilian police of their intention to hold a demonstration and shall apply for the required authorization at least two days prior to the proposed demonstration.

Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
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Page 4, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
15. Any complaint or allegation of intimidation or of any other form of unlawful conduct during the referendum campaign shall be brought immediately to the attention of the MINURSO civilian police office and the field office of the Special Representative. The head of the office in question shall immediately take steps to resolve the matter, including informing the existing security forces if, in his opinion, the occasion requires it. If this is not possible, the matter shall be referred to the Special Representative for a decision, which shall be final.

Armed forces

Page 1, I. DECLARATION OF THE PARTIES

1. The Parties agree to comply with their commitments as regards the identification process, repatriation of refugees, prisoners, detainees, confinement of their respective troops as well as the code of conduct for the referendum campaign.

Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

6. No meeting, demonstration or political rally involving 30 or more persons may be held or organized without the prior authorization, in writing, of the MINURSO civilian police who will consult with the existing security forces. In all cases where such consultation is required or permitted by this Code, the adequacy of such consultations shall be determined solely by the Special Representative. The Parties shall notify the MINURSO civilian police of their intention to hold a demonstration and shall apply for the required authorization at least two days prior to the proposed demonstration.

Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA

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DDR

Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions

Page 1, I. DECLARATION OF THE PARTIES

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Intelligence services

No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces No specific mention.

Withdrawal of foreign forces No specific mention.

Corruption No specific mention.

Crime/organised crime No specific mention.

Drugs No specific mention.

Terrorism No specific mention.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general No specific mention.

Amnesty/pardon No specific mention.

Courts No specific mention.

Mechanism No specific mention.

Prisoner release Page 1, I. DECLARATION OF THE PARTIES
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Vetting No specific mention.

Victims No specific mention.

Missing persons No specific mention.

Reparations No specific mention.

Reconciliation No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

**International
mission/force/
similar**

Page 1, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
Having regard to resolution 690 (1991), by which the Security Council approved the report of the Secretary-General (S/22464) and decided to establish, under its authority, a United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO),

Page 2, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
1. Sole and exclusive authority over all matters relating to the referendum, including its organization and conduct, shall be vested in the United Nations. This authority shall be exercised, within the framework established by the Settlement Plan, by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General.

Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
6. No meeting, demonstration or political rally involving 30 or more persons may be held or organized without the prior authorization, in writing, of the MINURSO civilian police who will consult with the existing security forces. In all cases where such consultation is required or permitted by this Code, the adequacy of such consultations shall be determined solely by the Special Representative. The Parties shall notify the MINURSO civilian police of their intention to hold a demonstration and shall apply for the required authorization at least two days prior to the proposed demonstration.

Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
7. In accordance with its functions, which include monitoring the existing security forces, the MINURSO civilian police shall ensure that meetings, marches, demonstrations and rallies of opposing parties are not held close to one another, at the same time or in such a manner as to threaten public order and security. The two Parties undertake to cooperate with MINURSO in good faith so that this principle may be applied faithfully and reasonably should the dates or venues coincide.

Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
8. Each Party shall establish direct lines of communication and maintain regular contact with the field offices of the Special Representative in the Territory, and shall keep the Special Representative apprised of any information he may request or need in order to ensure a free and fair campaign.

Page 3, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
9. The two Parties shall respect the right to participate in authorized political meetings, demonstrations, marches and rallies conducted as part of the referendum campaign on the part of all voters entitled to participate in the referendum. Where necessary, the Special Representative shall take appropriate measures to ensure the security and freedom of access of the persons concerned, including consultations with the existing security forces.

Page 4, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
15. Any complaint or allegation of intimidation or of any other form of unlawful conduct during the referendum campaign shall be brought immediately to the attention of the MINURSO civilian police office and the field office of the Special Representative. The head of the office in question shall immediately take steps to resolve the matter, including informing the existing security forces if, in his opinion, the occasion requires it. If this is not possible, the matter shall be referred to the Special Representative for a decision, which shall be final.

Page 4, II. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN SAHARA
17. The two Parties shall cooperate with the Special Representative in publicizing the Code of Conduct throughout the Territory and in giving it the widest possible dissemination.

Enforcement mechanism

Code of Conduct for referendum campaign: 4. apart from those returning under the auspices of UNHCR in accordance with the settlement plan, no party shall encourage, support or facilitate the transfer or movement of people in substantial number into the Territory without the express authority of the UNSRSG. 2.the UNSRSG will start the referendum campaign when he is satisfied that the conditions are fair, free and transparent. 3. the UN to ensure that during the referendum campaign, there shall be complete freedom of speech and assembly, and of the press, as well as freedom of movement of personnel and property into, out of and within the Territory. 4. the SRSG shall be authorized to issue regulations prohibiting graft, fraud, intimidation and harassment which could interfere with the organization and conduct of a free and fair and transparent referendum, and shall likewise ensure that all parties have equal access to all television and radio facilities for the purpose of broadcasting their respective views on the referendum. UNSRSG to disseminate publicly info about the referendum in order to inform all eligible voters about their rights and obligations. Code of Conduct 10. both parties shall permit reps of the intl and local press and independent observers duly accredited by the SR unrestricted access to all public political activities conducted during the referendum campaign and referendum. Parties shall respect the rights of official observers. 15. any complaint of intimidation to be investigated by MINURSO civilian police and the field office of the SR. 17. both parties shall cooperate with the SR in publicizing the Code of Conduct and in giving it the widest possible dissemination. 18. the SRSG shall have the responsibility of guaranteeing the freedom of movement and the security of the population. The two parties undertake to do their utmost to ensure respect for these rights. PRACTICAL MEASURES TO BE TAKEN FOR THE RESUMPTION OF IDENTIFICATION: 2. the Commission will confirm the timetable and the locations for identification, as well as the operational procedures for identification. 5. The OAU will be invited to observe in accordance with the settlement plan.

Related cases

No specific mention.

Source

INCORE, International Conflict Research Institute, Ulster University
<http://www.incore.ulst.ac.uk/>
