

Law No. 1961.212, April 20, 1961 stating the Central African Code of Nationality

Unofficial consolidation and translation, including amendments made by Law N° 1964/54 of December 2, 1964 and Order N° 1966/64 of August 30, 1966 amending Law 1961/212 of April 20, 1961 stating the Code of Nationality which was published in the Official Journal of the Central African Republic dated November 1, 1966.

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Has deliberated and adopted:

The President of the Republic, President of the Government enacts the Law whose contents are as follows:

TITLE 1: General Provisions

First Article.

The Law determines which individuals have at birth Central African nationality as nationality of origin.

Central African nationality is acquired or lost after birth by the effects of the Law or by a decision of the public authorities made under the conditions laid down by the Law.

Article 2.

For the purposes of this Code, the age of majority within the meaning of this code is set at 18 years of age.

Article 3.

The provisions relating to nationality contained in international treaties or agreements duly ratified and published, apply under the conditions provided in Article 39 of the Central African Constitution, even if they are contrary to the provisions of internal Central African legislation.

Article 4.

A change of nationality cannot, in any case, be the result of an international convention if the latter does not expressly provide for it.

Article 5.

When a change of nationality is subordinated, under the terms of the Convention, to the carrying out an act of option, the form of this act is determined by the law of the contracting country in which it is established.

TITLE 2: The Attribution of Central African Nationality as the Nationality of Origin.

Article 6.

Any individual born in the Central African Republic is a Central African national.

Article 7.

An individual born in the Central African Republic whose parents are both foreigners is not Central African. However, this individual may, during the time that he/she is a minor, acquire Central African nationality by declaration according to the procedures set out in Articles 18 through 24 of Law 61/212 of April 20, 1961.

(As amended by Law No. 1964/54 of December 2, 1964, Order No. 1966/64 of August 30, 1966 amending Law 1961/212 of April 20, 1961 stating the Code of Nationality)

Article 8.

An individual born outside the territory of the Central African Republic of a Central African parent is Central African.

Article 9.

A child who is a Central African national, pursuant to the provisions of this Title is considered to have been Central African from birth even if the existence of the conditions required by the Law for the attribution of Central African nationality is only established subsequent to his birth.

However, in the latter case, the attribution of the status of being Central African at birth does not affect the validity of acts entered into by the person concerned or the rights acquired by third parties on the basis of the apparent nationality possessed by the child.

Article 10.

Birth or parentage does not become effective in matters of attribution of Central African nationality unless it is established by an act of civil status or by a judgment.

However, the child of unknown parents, found in the Central African Republic, is presumed to be born there, unless proven otherwise.

Article 11.

The provisions of the preceding articles are not applicable to children born in the Central African Republic to diplomatic agents or career consuls of foreign nationality.

TITLE 3: As to the Acquisition of Central African Nationality

Chapter 1 As to the Methods of Acquisition of Central African Nationality

Section 1 As to Acquisition of Central African Nationality by Right

Article 12.

A child who has been the subject of a legitimate adoption acquires Central African nationality if one of the adoptive parents is Central African.

Article 13.

Subject to the provisions of Articles 14, 15 and 18, a foreign woman who marries a Central African acquires Central African nationality at the time the marriage is celebrated before a Civil Affairs official.

Article 14.

A woman, in a case where her national law allows her to retain her nationality, has the right to declare at the time the marriage is celebrated, the status of being Central African.

She may, even if she is a minor, exercise this right without any authorization.

Article 15.

During the six-month period that follows the celebration of the marriage, the Government may oppose the acquisition of Central African nationality, by decree issued on the basis of a report by the Interior Minister.

To this end, the Civil Affairs official sends an excerpt from the marriage certificate within eight days of the celebration, to the Interior Minister for registration.

In case of opposition by the Government, the person concerned is deemed to have never acquired Central African nationality.

However, when the validity of acts entered into before the opposition decree was subordinated to the acquisition by the wife of Central African nationality; this validity can not be challenged on the grounds that the woman was unable to acquire this status.

Article 16.

When the marriage was celebrated abroad, the period provided for in the preceding article shall run from the date of the transcript of the act in the records of civil status of the Central African diplomatic or consular agents.

Article 17.

A woman does not acquire Central African nationality if her marriage to a Central African is declared null and void by a decision issued by a Central African court or rendered enforceable in the Central African Republic, even if the marriage was contracted in good faith.

However, when the validity of acts entered into before the court decision finding that the marriage was null and void was subordinated to the acquisition by the wife of Central African nationality, this validity can not be challenged on the grounds that the woman was unable to acquire this status.

SECTION 2: As to Acquisition of Central African Nationality by Declaration

Article 18.

A minor child, born in the Central African Republic to foreign parents, can claim Central African nationality by declaration under the conditions set in Articles 55 and following, if on the date of his declaration, he has had his residence in the Central African Republic for at least five years.

Article 19.

A minor of 18 years of age may make his declaration without any authorization.

If he is older than 16 years of age and less than 18 years of age, the minor can not claim Central African nationality unless he is authorized by the one among his father and mother who exercises parental authority, or by default, his guardian.

In the event of divorce or separation, the authorization will be given by the parent to whom custody has been granted, if custody was entrusted to a third party, the authorization will be given by the latter after an opinion from the Civil Court ruling in the Counsel Chambers regarding the minor's residence.

Article 20.

If the child is younger than 16 years of age, the person referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the preceding article may, as legal representative, declare that they claim the Central African status on behalf of the minor, on condition, however, that this legal representative, if he is a foreigner, has himself had for at least five years his residence on the territory of the Central African Republic.

Article 21.

Children born in the Central African Republic of diplomatic agents or career consuls of foreign nationality can claim Central African nationality by declaration under the conditions provided in Articles 18, 19 and 20 hereinabove.

Article 22.

A child adopted by a person of Central African nationality can, until his age of majority, claim Central African nationality by declaration under the same conditions as those provided in Articles 18, 19 and 20 hereinabove. The same holds for the child who for at least five years has been entrusted to a public or private assistance agency for children, or for one who having been picked up in the Central African Republic, was raised there by a person of Central African nationality.

Article 23.

The person concerned acquires Central African nationality on the date on which the declaration was signed.

Article 24.

Within six months following the date on which the declaration was signed, the Government may by decree oppose the acquisition of Central African nationality for any reason whatsoever.

SECTION 3: As to Acquisition of Central African Nationality by a Decision of the Public Authorities.

Article 25.

The acquisition of Central African nationality by decision of the public authorities results from a naturalization or reinstatement granted at the request of the foreigner.

Paragraph 1. NATURALIZATION

Article 26.

Central African naturalization is granted by decree after investigation.

No decree of naturalization can be issued before the completion of a period of 1 year following the filing of the application.

No one may be naturalized if he does not have his residence on the territory of the Central African Republic at the time of the signing of the decree of Naturalization.

(As amended by Order No. 1966/64 of August 30, 1966 amending Law 1961/212 of April 20, 1961 stating the Code of Nationality)

Article 27.

Naturalization can only be granted to a foreigner who proves his or her usual residence in the Central African Republic during the 35 years preceding the filing of the application.

(As amended by Order No. 1966/64 of August 30, 1966 amending Law 1961/212 of April 20, 1961 stating the Code of Nationality)

Article 28.

To the condition of a waiting period referred to above must be added at least one of the following conditions:

- Have made sufficient agricultural investment in perennial crops;
- Have made significant real estate investments;
- Have been decorated with a national order after January 1, 1966.

(As amended by Order No. 1966/64 of August 30, 1966 amending Law 1961/212 of April 20, 1961 stating the Code of Nationality)

Article 29.

May be naturalized without a qualifying period:

- 1 A foreign minor child born outside the territory of the Central African Republic, if one of the parents acquires Central African nationality from the other while alive;
- 2 The minor child of a foreigner who acquires Central African nationality in the case where, in accordance with Article 44 hereinafter, this child has not itself acquired Central African status by right;
- 3 The wife and adult child of a foreigner who acquires Central African nationality;
- 4 An adult foreigner adopted by a person of Central African nationality;
- 5 A foreigner who has rendered exceptional services to the Central African Republic or one whose naturalization is of exceptional interest to the Central African Republic.

Article 30.

With the exception of minors who may claim the benefits of the provisions of Article 29, no person may be naturalized if he has not reached the age of 18 years.

Article 31.

A minor who is 18 years of age may apply for his naturalization without any authorization.

A minor who is less than 18 years of age, who can claim the benefits of the provisions of Article 29, must, in order to apply for his naturalization, be authorized or represented under the conditions established in Article 19 of this Code.

Paragraph 2: REINSTATEMENT

Article 32.

Reinstatement of Central African nationality is granted by decree, after investigation.

Article 33.

Reinstatement can be obtained at any age and without a qualifying period.

However, no person may be reinstated if he does not have his residence in Central African Republic at the time of reinstatement.

Article 34.

A person applying for reinstatement must provide proof that he had the status of a Central African national.

Article 35.

An individual who has been stripped of Central African nationality pursuant to Article 52 of this Code, in cases where the forfeiture was motivated by a conviction, cannot be reinstated unless he has received judicial rehabilitation.

Article 36.

The individual referred to in the preceding article may however obtain reinstatement if he has rendered exceptional services to the Central African Republic, or if his reinstatement is of exceptional interest to the country.

SECTION 4: Provisions Common to Certain Methods of Acquisition of Central African Nationality.

Article 37.

No one can acquire Central African nationality when residence in the Central African Republic is a condition of this acquisition, if he has not fulfilled the obligations and conditions imposed by the laws relating to foreigners living in the Central African Republic.

Article 38.

A foreigner who is the subject of an expulsion order or an order of house arrest can not acquire Central African nationality in any manner whatsoever or be reinstated, if such order has not been annulled in the form in which it was imposed.

Article 39.

Residence in the Central African Republic during a period of house arrest or the enforcement of a sentence of imprisonment is not taken into consideration in calculating the qualifying period required for the various methods of acquisition of Central African nationality.

CHAPTER 2. As to the Effects of Acquisition of Central African Nationality

Article 40.

The individual who has acquired Central African nationality, as of the date of the acquisition, enjoys all the rights pertaining to the status of being a Central African national, absent the incapacities provided in Article 41 of this Code or in special laws.

Article 41.

The naturalized foreigner is subject to the following incapacities:

- 1 During a period of three years from the decree of naturalization, he may not be registered to vote in elections where Central African status is necessary to permit voter registration;
- 2 During a period of five years from the decree of naturalization, he may not be vested with elective position or mandate for which it is necessary to have Central African status in order to exercise it;
- 3 During a period of three years from the decree of naturalization, he may not be appointed to public office paid by the State, registered with a bar or appointed as the holder of a ministerial office.

Article 42.

A naturalized person who has rendered exceptional services to the Central African Republic or whose naturalization is of exceptional interest to the Central African Republic, can be relieved in all or in part of the incapacities provided in Article 41 by the decree of naturalization.

Article 43.

A minor child whose father or mother, in the event of the death of one of them, acquires Central African nationality becomes by right Central African in the same regard as his parents, on condition that his parentage is established by an act of civil status or by court judgment.

Article 44.

The provisions of the preceding article are not applicable:

- 1 to a married minor child;
- 2 to a person who serves or has served in the armies of his country of origin.

Article 45.

Is excluded from the benefits of Article 43, a minor child:

- 1 Who was subject to a deportation order or an order of house arrest not specifically annulled in the form in which it was imposed.
- 2 Who was the subject of a sentence longer than six months imprisonment for an aggravated crime or offense.
- 3 Who, pursuant to the provisions of Article 37, cannot acquire Central African nationality.
- 4 Who was the subject of a decree opposing the acquisition of Central African nationality under Article 24.

TITLE: 4 As to the Loss and the Forfeiture of Central African Nationality

Chapter 1: As to the Loss of Central African Nationality.

Article 46.

A Central African adult who voluntarily acquires a foreign nationality, or who declares acknowledgement of such nationality loses Central African nationality.

Article 47.

The Central African, even a minor, who, by virtue of a foreign woman has dual nationality by right, can be authorized by decree to lose the status of being a Central African national.

A minor should, if necessary, be authorized or represented under the conditions provided in Articles 19 and 20.

Article 48.

The Central African who loses Central African nationality is released from his allegiance with regards to the Central African Republic:

- 1 In the case provided in Article 46 on the date of the acquisition of the foreign nationality.
- 2 In the case provided in Article 47 on the date of the decree authorizing him to lose Central African status.

Article 49.

A Central African woman who marries a foreigner retains Central African nationality, unless she expressly declares, before the marriage is celebrated, under the conditions and in the form provided for in Articles 55 and following, that she repudiates this nationality.

The declaration may be made without authorization, even if the woman is a minor.

This declaration is valid only if the wife acquires or can acquire the nationality of the husband, by application of latter's national law.

The woman, in this case, is released from her allegiance with regards to the Central African Republic on the date the marriage is celebrated.

Article 50.

The Central African who behaves in effect as a national of a foreign country can automatically, if he is also a national of that country, be declared by decree to have lost Central African status.

He is released, in this case, from his allegiance with regards to the Central African Republic on the date of this decree.

The measure taken with regards to him may be extended to his spouse and to his minor children if they themselves have a foreign nationality. It may not however be extended to minor children unless it is also to the spouse.

Article 51.

A Central African national loses Central African nationality, if he takes a position in the employment of the public service of a foreign state or in a foreign army, and continues such employment notwithstanding an injunction to terminate it that may be issued to him by the Central African Government.

Within a maximum period of two months, and a maximum of six months after the notification of this injunction, the person concerned shall by decree be declared to have automatically lost Central African nationality, if he has not during this period terminated his employment, unless it is established that it was absolutely impossible for him to do so. In the latter case, the time period begins on the day when the cause of the impossibility disappeared.

The person concerned is released from his allegiance with regards to the Central African Republic on the date of the decree.

Chapter 2: As to the Forfeiture of Central African Nationality

Article 52.

An individual who has acquired Central African status may, by decree, be stripped of Central African nationality:

- 1 If he is convicted of an act constituting a crime or offense against the internal or external security of the state;
- 2 If he is convicted of an act constituting a crime or offense against the institution;
- 3 If he engages, for the benefit of a foreign state, in acts that are incompatible with Central African status and harmful to the interests of the Central African Republic;
- 4 If he was sentenced in the Central African Republic or abroad for an act qualified as a crime by Central African law and that has led to a sentence of at least five years' imprisonment.

Article 53.

The forfeiture is incurred only if the charges against the person concerned and referred to in Article 52 occurred within a period of ten years from the date of acquisition of Central African nationality.

It can only be pronounced within the two-year period from when such acts were perpetrated.

Article 54.

The forfeiture may be extended to the spouse and to the minor children of the person concerned, on condition that they are of foreign origin.

It cannot however be extended to the minor children unless it is also extended to the spouse.

TITLE 5: The Conditions and the Form of the Acts relating to the Acquisition or Loss of Central African Nationality.

CHAPTER 1: As to Declarations of Nationality, their Registration and the Decrees stating Opposition to the Acquisition of Central African Nationality.

Article 55.

All decrees concerning nationality are issued by the Council of Ministers.

Any statement pursuant:

- 1 to acquiring Central African nationality;
- 2 to declining the acquisition of Central African nationality;
- 3 to forgo Central African nationality;

in the cases provided by law, is subscribed to before the justice of the peace for the jurisdiction in which the declarant has his residence.

Article 56.

When the declarant finds himself abroad the declaration is signed before the Central African diplomatic and consular agents

Article 57.

Any declaration of nationality, subscribed to in accordance with the preceding articles, must, on penalty of nullity, be registered with the Interior Minister.

Article 58.

If the person concerned does not fulfill the conditions required by law, the Interior Minister must refuse to register the declaration

This decision for refusal is notified with his reasons to the declarant

Article 59.

When the government is opposed, in accordance with Article 24, to the acquisition of Central African nationality, it is so ruled by decree pursuant to a report from the Interior Minister.

The declarant, duly notified, has the right to produce documents and memorandums.

The decree must be issued at most six months after the declaration.

Article 60.

If, at the expiration of the six month period after the date on which the declaration was signed, if neither a refusal of registration nor a decree establishing the opposition of the Government has been issued, the Interior Minister must provide to the registrant, at his request, a copy of his statement with a reference to the registration that was carried out.

Article 61.

The validity of a recorded declaration can still be challenged by the Public Prosecutor and by any person concerned. In the latter case, the Public Prosecutor must always be involved.

CHAPTER 2: As to Decisions relative to Naturalizations and Reinstatements.**Article 62.**

The decrees of naturalization and reinstatement are published in the "Official Journal" of the Central African Republic. They take effect on the date of their signature, without however affecting the validity of acts signed by the person concerned or the rights acquired by third parties on the basis of the foreign origin of the applicant prior to the publication of the decree.

Article 63.

When a foreign national has knowingly made a false declaration, submitted a document containing a untruthful or erroneous statement, or employed fraudulent representations for the purposes of obtaining the naturalization or reinstatement, the decree issued may be rescinded by decree issued on the basis of a report from the Interior Minister.

The person concerned, duly warned, has the right to produce documents and memorandums.

The decree of withdrawal must be issued within the two-year period from the discovery of the fraud.

However, when the validity of the acts signed prior to the decree of withdrawal was conditional on the acquisition of Central African status by the person concerned, this validity can not be contested for the reason that the person concerned has not acquired this nationality.

Article 64.

Any person who, in return for compensation, a promise or any advantage whatsoever, direct or indirect, even if not agreed to in advance, has offered, agreed to lend, or lent to a foreigner with pending naturalization or reinstatement, his intervention with the administration or public authorities in order to facilitate his fraudulently obtaining Central African nationality, will be punished, where appropriate, without prejudice to the application of higher penalties provided by other provisions, with imprisonment of from six months to two years, of a fine of from CFA 50,000 to CFA 500,000.

The same penalty will apply to a foreigner who for this purpose provided the compensation, made the promise or procured the advantage provided for in the paragraph hereinabove.

The judgment for sentence will pronounce, if there are grounds, the forfeiture to the benefit of the Treasury of the things received or their value.

Article 65.

Any agreement whose purpose is to facilitate a foreigner, under the terms of the previous article, obtaining naturalization or reinstatement of Central African nationality, is null and void for being contrary to public order, and the amounts paid to carry out this agreement shall be confiscated to the benefit of the Treasury.

Any decree rendered as the result of an agreement of this nature will be revoked within one year from a judgment of conviction pronounced in accordance with the provisions of Article 64.

Article 66.

When the Interior Minister declares inadmissible an application for naturalization or reinstatement, his decision does not need its grounds to be given. It is notified to the person concerned.

Article 67.

The rejection of an application for naturalization or reinstatement does not need to be justified. It is notified to the person concerned by the Interior Minister.

CHAPTER 3: As to Decisions relating to the Loss of Central African Nationality.

Article 68.

The decrees stating authorization to lose Central African nationality. They take effect on the date of their signature, without affecting the validity of acts entered into by the person concerned, or the rights acquired by third parties prior to the publication of the decree, on the basis of the Central African nationality of the recipient.

Article 69.

The rejection of an application in order to obtain authorization to lose Central African status does not need to be justified. It is notified to the person concerned by the Interior Minister.

Article 70.

In the event that the Government declares, in accordance with Articles 50 and 51, that an individual has forfeited Central African nationality, it is so ruled by decree. The person concerned, duly alerted, has the right to produce documents and memoranda.

The decree, which under the conditions provided for in Article 50 extends the declaration of the loss of Central African nationality to the spouse and to the minor children of the person concerned, is issued according to form.

Article 71.

The decrees that declare, as provided for in the previous article, that an individual has forfeited Central African nationality are published and produce their effects under the conditions mentioned in Article 68.

CHAPTER 4: As to Decrees of Forfeiture.

Article 72.

When the Interior Minister decides to pursue the forfeiture of Central African nationality against an individual who falls under the provisions of Article 52, he serves the measure on the person of the person concerned or to his domicile; for lack of a known domicile, the measure concerned is published in the "Official Journal" of the Central African Republic.

The person concerned has the right, within a period of one month from the date of insertion in the "Official Journal" or from the notification, to send to the Interior Minister documents and memoranda.

Article 73.

The forfeiture of Central African naturalization is pronounced by decree issued on the basis of a report from the Interior Minister.

The decree, which, as provided for in Article 54, extends the disqualification to the spouse and to the minor children of the person forfeiting is issued according to form.

Article 74.

The decrees of forfeiture are published and produce their effects under the conditions referred to in Article 68.

TITLE 6: As to Disputes regarding Nationality

Chapter 1: As to the Jurisdiction of the Courts

Article 75.

The court of first instance has sole jurisdiction to hear disputes over nationality, whether they occur in isolation or in conjunction with an appeal for abuse of power against an administrative act.

Article 76.

The exception of Central African nationality and the exception of foreign origin are of public order; the judge should raise them automatically.

They constitute, before any court other than the trial court, a prejudicial question which requires delaying a ruling until this question has been settled according to the procedure governed by Articles 79 and following of this Code.

Article 77.

If the exception of Central African nationality or foreign origin is raised before a criminal jurisdiction other than the Criminal Court, the party who invokes the exception, or the Public Prosecutor in case the person concerned holds a certificate of Central African nationality issued in accordance with Articles 95 and following, should be returned to be appealed within thirty days before the civil court with jurisdiction.

The criminal jurisdiction delays ruling until the question of nationality has been settled or until the expiration of the period specified above in the case where it was not submitted to the civil court.

Article 78.

The action is brought before the court in the birthplace of the one whose nationality is in question or, if he was not born in the Central African Republic, before the Court of Bangui.

There can not be any exception to this rule of jurisdiction, which must be raised automatically by the judge.

Chapter 2: As to Proceedings before the Courts.

Article 79.

The action is submitted to the court of the first instance by the ordinary means.

Article 80.

Any individual can bring before the court an action whose principal and direct purpose is to have it judged whether he does or does not have Central African nationality. The Public Prosecutor is solely qualified to defend the action, without prejudice to the right of intervention by interested third parties.

Article 81.

The Public Prosecutor is solely qualified to bring an action against any individual whose principal and direct purpose is to establish whether the defense counsel does or does not have Central African nationality, without prejudice to the right that belongs to any person concerned to intervene in the action or contest, in accordance with Article 61, the validity of a registered declaration.

Article 82.

The Public Prosecutor is bound to act if he is so required by a public authority or by a third person who has raised the exception of nationality before a court which has delayed a ruling in accordance with Article 76.

The third party petitioner must take part in the proceedings, and unless he obtains legal aid, provide a guaranty for payment of the court costs and damages and interest for which he could be condemned.

Article 83.

When the State is a principal party before the court of first instance where a question of nationality was raised incidentally, it cannot be represented except by the Public Prosecutor as concerns the dispute over nationality.

Article 84.

In all instances, which have as their purpose, principally or incidentally, a challenge to nationality in accordance with the provisions contained in this chapter, a copy of the writ of summons is filed with the Minister of the Interior.

Any request to which the proof of filing is not attached is declared inadmissible.

No decision on the merits can be issued before the expiration of a period of thirty days from the date of such filing. Exceptionally, this period is reduced by ten days when the dispute over nationality has been the subject of a prejudicial question before a court ruling on electoral matters.

The provisions of this article shall be applicable to the exercise of means of recourse.

Article 85.

All final decisions rendered in matters of nationality under the conditions referred to in the previous articles have, with respect to all, the authority of *res judicata*.

Article 86.

The decisions of criminal courts never have the authority of *res judicata* on questions of nationality when the civil court was not called upon to rule in accordance with the provisions of Article 77.

CHAPTER 3: As to Proof of Nationality before the Courts

Article 87.

The burden of proof in matters of nationality is incumbent upon the party who, as means of action or by way of an exception, claims to have or not have Central African nationality.

However, this burden is incumbent on the party who, by the same means contests the status of being Central African of an individual who holds a Certificate of Central African nationality issued in accordance with Articles 95 and following.

Article 88.

The proof of a declaration of acquisition of nationality results from the production of a registered copy of this declaration.

When this document cannot be produced, it can be supplemented by the production of a certificate issued by the Interior Minister at the request of any petitioner, noting that the declaration was signed and registered.

Article 89.

In the event that the law gives the right to subscribe to a declaration in order to decline Central African status, the proof that such a declaration has not been signed can only result from an affidavit issued by the Interior Minister at the request of any petitioner.

Article 90.

The proof of a decree of naturalization or of reinstatement results from producing either the exemplification of this decree, or a copy of the "Official Journal" where the decree was published.

Article 91.

When Central African nationality is granted or acquired otherwise than by declaration, naturalization, or reinstatement, proof can only be given by establishing the existence of all the conditions required by law.

When the source of Central African nationality can only be from parentage, it is held to have been established unless there is proof to the contrary, if the person concerned and his parents, on the date of December 1, 1958, had possession of Central African status.

Possession of the status consists of the fact of belonging to one of the local communities that characterize the Central African people, of having continually and publicly been Central African and of having been continuously and publicly treated as such by the population and the Central African authorities.

(As amended by Order No. 1966/64 of August 30, 1966 amending Law 1961/212 of April 20, 1961 stating the Code of Nationality)

Article 92.

When the loss or forfeiture of Central African nationality results from a decree in accordance with the provisions of Articles 47, 50, 51 and 52, the proof of this decree is produced under the conditions provided in Article 90.

Article 93.

When Central African nationality is lost otherwise than by one of the methods provided for in Article 92, the proof of such can only be the result of establishing the existence of the facts and actions that have the consequence of the loss of Central African nationality.

Article 94.

Other than in cases of the loss or the forfeiture of Central African nationality, proof of foreign origin can be provided by all means.

Nevertheless, evidence of the foreign origin of an individual who possesses the status of Central African can only be established by demonstrating that the person concerned does not fulfill any of the conditions required by law in order to have the status of a Central African national.

CHAPTER 4: As to Certificates of Central African Nationality.**Article 95.**

The Justice of the Peace is solely qualified to issue a Certificate of Central African Nationality to any person who proves that he has this nationality.

Article 96.

The Certificate of Nationality states, referring to Titles II and III of this Code, the legal provision by virtue of which the person concerned has Central African status, as well as the documents that permitted this status to be established. It is witness thereof until proven otherwise.

Article 97.

During the time allotted to the Government to oppose the acquisition of Central African nationality, an interim Certificate of Nationality can be issued by the justice of the peace.

Article 98.

When the justice of the peace refuses to issue a Certificate of Nationality, the person concerned may submit this to the Minister of Justice, who decides whether there are grounds to proceed with this issuance.

TITLE 7: Transitional Provisions

Article 99.

A foreign woman, who married a Central African prior to the publication of this Law, has a period of one year from this publication to decline Central African status.

Article 100.

A Central African woman, who, having married a foreigner prior to the publication of this Law, has acquired the nationality of the husband by application of the national law of the latter, has a period of one year from this publication to renounce Central African nationality.

Article 101.

The six-month period during which the Government may oppose the acquisition of Central African nationality for any reason whatsoever, is suspended until January 1, 1963.

Article 102.

For the purposes of this Law, shall be deemed to have Central African nationality, the persons who are deceased on the date of enactment of this Law who fulfilled during their lives the conditions provided for in Articles 6 and 8.

Article 103.

This Law shall be enacted and published in the "Official Journal" of the Central African Republic. It will be enforced as a law of the State.

Bangui, May 27, 1961

D. DACKO