

No. 1317

**BELGIUM
and
SWEDEN**

Exchange of notes (with protocol) constituting a provisional agreement for the regulation of air transport services between Belgium and Scandinavia. Brussels, 21 December 1948 and 21 February 1949

Official text: French.

Registered by the International Civil Aviation Organization on 18 July 1951.

**BELGIQUE
et
SUÈDE**

Échange de notes (avec protocole) constituant un accord provisoire pour la réglementation des transports aériens entre la Belgique et les pays scandinaves. Bruxelles, 21 décembre 1948 et 21 février 1949

Texte officiel français.

Enregistré par l'Organisation de l'aviation civile internationale le 18 juillet 1951.

TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION

No. 1317. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING A PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN BELGIUM AND SWEDEN FOR THE REGULATION OF AIR TRANSPORT SERVICES BETWEEN BELGIUM AND SCANDINAVIA. BRUSSELS, 21 DECEMBER 1948 AND 21 FEBRUARY 1949

I

BELGIAN LEGATION

Stockholm, 21 December 1948

No. 3452/186
5 enclosures

Your Excellency,

As you are aware, the question of air communications between Belgium and the Scandinavian countries was examined by official Belgian, Danish and Swedish delegations in the course of a meeting held at Brussels on 25 November of this year.

These delegations, having reached agreement in principle, adopted the text of a protocol, five copies of which are sent herewith.

As this protocol is to be submitted to the Governments concerned for their approval, I have the honour to apply to you for the Swedish Government's consent to the arrangement arrived at. In transmitting this protocol to you, I am directed to inform you that the Belgian authorities are in full agreement with its contents. Moreover, it is understood that the parties concerned may at any time call for a review of the arrangement.

I have the honour, etc.

(Signed) André FORTHOMME
Belgian Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

His Excellency
Mr. Östen Undén
Minister of Foreign Affairs
etc., etc., etc.
Stockholm

¹ Came into force on 21 February 1949, by the exchange of the said notes.

DRAFT PROTOCOL

On 25 November 1948, official Belgian, Danish and Swedish delegations met at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Brussels to examine the question of regular air communications between Scandinavia and Belgium.

The delegations were composed as follows :

Scandinavia

Mr. Ljungberg, Director-General of Swedish Civil Aviation;
Mr. Teisen, Director of Danish Civil Aviation;
Mr. Gregersen, Chief of the International Communications Section in the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
Mr. Mandell, Attaché at the Swedish Legation.

Belgium

Mr. Coene, Consul-General and Chairman of the delegation;
assisted by Mr. Pirson and Mr. Gillain, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
and by Mr. Desmet and Mr. Buysschaert, Administration of Aeronautics;
and by Mr. Neuville, Ministry of Communications.

In the course of these conversations, Mr. Ljungberg, Director-General of Swedish Civil Aviation, defined the Scandinavian position on the subject and explained the problem arising out of the entry into operation in Europe of the "Scandinavian Airlines System" *.

He recalled the very liberal attitude which the Scandinavian Governments had adopted in the matter of civil aviation and urged that the Belgian authorities should adopt a similar attitude.

In reply, Mr. René Coene, Chairman of the Belgian delegation, outlined the aviation policy which the Belgian Government had adopted in the Council of Ministers in 1945 : namely, the grant, purely and simply, of the four freedoms of the air for regular traffic.

That being so, it was impossible for him to agree to granting the Scandinavian Governments the fifth freedom of the air.

Consequently, after discussion, the two delegations proposed that until further notice regular air communications between Scandinavia and Belgium should be regulated on the following basis :

(1) The Belgian and Danish authorities agree to share equally between them the total transport capacity between Copenhagen and Brussels.

(2) In view of the fact that the Belgian national airline does not at present intend to make full use of the possibilities granted to it, the Danish Government is authorized to operate five weekly services by its designated airline, by DC-4, on the Copenhagen-Brussels route via Amsterdam.

(3) The airline designated by the Belgian Government shall, in addition, operate two weekly flights by DC-4 on the Brussels-Hamburg-Copenhagen route.

* A joint airline composed of Det Danske Luftfartselskab (DDL), Det Norske Luftfartselskap (DNL) and Aktiebolaget Aerotransport (ABA).

(4) It is understood that the services between Copenhagen and Brussels, both by the company designated by the Danish Government and by Sabena, shall be operated on different days.

(5) These operating authorizations are subject to agreement between the airlines concerned.

(6) The national company designated by the Danish Government may, on this route, use not only its own material, crews and equipment, but also, within the limits of the authorization granted, of the aircraft, crews and equipment of other Scandinavian companies.

It is understood that the Danish Government and the designated Danish airline shall assume full responsibility for operating the route.

(7) The delegations present agree to communicate the terms of this arrangement to the Royal Governments of Sweden, Norway and Denmark for their assent, the delegates of the Scandinavian companies having signified that they agree that the present arrangement shall, until further notice, govern all regular air traffic between Scandinavia and Belgium.

(8) Pending formal approval of the outcome of these conversations through the diplomatic channel, the delegations present agree to put the arrangement arrived at into effect as from 2 December 1948.

(9) Upon acceptance by the Governments concerned, this arrangement shall supersede all previous authorizations granted by the Belgian authorities to the authorities of the three Scandinavian countries in the matter of regular air traffic.

Brussels, 25 November 1948

II

ROYAL MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Stockholm, 21 February 1949

Sir,

With reference to your letter of 21 December 1948 regarding the question of air communications between the Scandinavian countries and Belgium, I have the honour to inform you that the Swedish Government agrees with the Belgian Government concerning the contents of the protocol which was drawn up at Brussels on 25 November between the Belgian and Scandinavian delegates and five copies of which were sent to the Ministry with your aforesaid letter.

The Swedish Government is also in agreement with the Belgian Government concerning the provision that the parties concerned may at any time call for a review of the present arrangement.

I have the honour, etc.

For the Minister :
(Signed) Sven DAHLMAN
Director of Political Affairs

Mr. André Forthomme
Belgian Chargé d'Affaires ad interim
etc., etc.