

No. 2264

**NORWAY, FINLAND
and
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS**

Protocol regarding the maintenance of the frontier mark erected at Muotkavaara (Krokvjellet) at the meeting-point of the State frontiers of Norway, Finland and the Soviet Union. Signed at Helsinki, on 7 February 1953

Official texts: Norwegian, Finnish and Russian.

Registered by Norway on 25 September 1953.

**NORVÈGE, FINLANDE
et
UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES
SOVIÉTIQUES**

Protocole relatif à l'entretien de la marque frontière érigée sur le mont Krokvjellet (Muotkavaara) au point de rencontre des frontières d'État de la Norvège, de la Finlande et de l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques. Signé à Helsinki, le 7 février 1953

Textes officiels norvégien, finnois et russe.

Enregistré par la Norvège le 25 septembre 1953.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 2264. PROTOCOL¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY, OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND AND OF THE UNION OF THE SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS REGARDING THE MAINTENANCE OF THE FRONTIER MARK ERECTED AT MUOTKAVAARA (KROKFJELLET) AT THE MEETING-POINT OF THE STATE FRONTIERS OF NORWAY, FINLAND AND THE SOVIET UNION. SIGNED AT HELSINKI, ON 7 FEBRUARY 1953

The Governments of the Kingdom of Norway, of the Republic of Finland and of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, desiring to determine the measures necessary to maintain in good order the frontier mark erected at Muotkavaara (Krokvjellet) at the meeting-point of the State frontiers of Norway, Finland and the Soviet Union, have decided to conclude this Protocol, and for this purpose have appointed the undersigned as their plenipotentiaries, who, having exhibited their credentials found in good and due form, have agreed on the following provisions :

Article 1

The Contracting Parties undertake to maintain the mark erected at Muotkavaara (Krokvjellet) to show the meeting-point of the State frontiers of Norway, Finland and the Soviet Union in such a condition that its position, type, form, dimensions and colouring satisfy all the requirements of the documents² relating to the aforesaid frontier mark signed at Helsinki on 3 December 1947 by the representative of the Norwegian Government and the representatives of the joint Finnish-Soviet Commission for the demarcation of the State frontier between Finland and the Soviet Union, in the area of the hydro-electric power station of Jäniskoski and the regulating dam of Niskakoski.

¹ Came into force on 1 July 1953, in accordance with article 8.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 52.

Article 2

Each Contracting Party shall maintain the frontier mark for a period of five years in turn in the following rotation : Finland, Soviet Union, Norway. The first five-year period shall begin on 1 August 1953.

Article 3

1. The proper authorities of the Contracting Party maintaining the frontier mark shall make at their discretion a survey of the condition and position of the frontier mark. A joint check survey shall also be made annually by the representatives of the proper authorities of all the Contracting Parties.

2. The joint check survey of the frontier mark shall be made in the month of July. The precise date of the survey shall be fixed by the proper authorities of the Contracting Parties after the Party maintaining the frontier mark has made a written proposal therefor to the other Contracting Parties.

3. If an additional joint check survey of the frontier mark becomes necessary during the same year, the proper authorities of the Contracting Party proposing the survey shall give written notice of the fact to the proper authorities of the other Contracting Parties. The additional joint check survey shall be carried out within twenty days from the dispatch of the notice by the proper authorities of the Contracting Party proposing the survey.

4. The representatives of the proper authorities of the Contracting Parties shall compile a record of the check survey in nine copies : three in Norwegian, three in Finnish and three in Russian.

Article 4

If the frontier mark is damaged, destroyed or lost, the proper authorities of the Contracting Party maintaining it shall immediately take measures to have it re-erected or repaired and shall within ten days from the date of commencement of the work, notify the proper authorities of the other Contracting Parties thereof in writing. Work on the repair or re-erection of the frontier mark shall be carried out in the following manner :

(a) Repairs on the frontier mark shall be effected independently by the Contracting Party maintaining it. Representatives of the proper authorities of the other Contracting Parties shall be entitled to be present at such work.

(b) Re-erection of the frontier mark shall also be effected by the Contracting Party maintaining it, in the presence of the proper authorities of the other Contracting Parties.

A re-erected frontier mark shall conform to the stipulations laid down in the documents for the demarcation of the frontier, referred to in article 1. When the frontier mark has been re-erected, the proper authorities of the Contracting Parties shall compile a record in nine copies : three in Norwegian, three in Finnish and three in Russian.

(c) If the frontier mark has been lost and there are no clear indications of its position, the proper authorities of the Contracting Parties shall make use of the documents for the demarcation of the frontier.

Article 5

If the proper authorities of any Contracting Party become aware that the frontier mark has been damaged, destroyed or lost, they may call upon the proper authorities of the Contracting Party maintaining the mark to repair or re-erect it. The proper authorities of that Party shall set in hand the work of repair or re-erection within twenty days from the date of receipt of such notice in writing.

Article 6

The Contracting Parties shall take measures for the proper preservation of the frontier mark and shall hold to account any person found guilty of moving, defacing or destroying it. In such a case the mark shall be repaired or re-erected at the cost of the Contracting Party of which the offender is a national.

Article 7

In this Protocol the term proper authorities means : the Boundary Commissioners of the Kingdom of Norway, of the Republic of Finland and of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, their representatives and assistants. They shall maintain direct contact among themselves in questions relating to execution of the provisions of this Protocol.

Article 8

This Protocol shall enter into force on 1 July 1953 and shall remain operative for fifteen years. Unless one of the Contracting Parties denounces this Protocol six months before the expiration of its validity, or expresses a desire

for its amendment, it shall stand extended for the next and each succeeding period of fifteen years until one of the Contracting Parties denounces it six months before the expiration of the current fifteen-year period.

Article 9

This Protocol shall be drawn up in three copies, one in Norwegian, one in Finnish and one in Russian, all three texts being equally authentic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the plenipotentiaries of the Contracting Parties have signed this Protocol and affixed thereto their seals.

SIGNED at Helsinki, on 7 February 1953.

For the Government
of the Kingdom
of Norway :

(Signed)
T. SEIPPEL
[SEAL]

For the Government
of the Republic
of Finland :

(Signed)
Ralf TÖRNGREN
[SEAL]

For the Government
of the Union
of Soviet
Socialist Republics :
(Signed)
V. Z. LEBEDEV
[SEAL]