

No. 3590

**FINLAND
and
NORWAY**

Agreement relating to the reciprocal recognition of driving permits and motor-vehicle registration certificates. Signed at Stockholm, on 15 September 1956

Official texts: Finnish and Norwegian.

Registered by Finland on 24 November 1956.

**FINLANDE
et
NORVÈGE**

Accord relatif à la reconnaissance réciproque des permis de conduire et des certificats d'immatriculation des véhicules à moteur. Signé à Stockholm, le 15 septembre 1956

Textes officiels finnois et norvégien.

Enregistré par la Finlande le 24 novembre 1956.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 3590. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN FINLAND AND NORWAY RELATING TO THE RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION OF DRIVING PERMITS AND MOTOR-VEHICLE REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES. SIGNED AT STOCKHOLM, ON 15 SEPTEMBER 1956

With a view to facilitating road traffic between Finland and Norway, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have concluded the following Agreement :

Article 1

A driving permit for motor vehicles (motor-cars or motor cycles), issued in one country (the home country) and valid there, shall entitle the holder during a temporary stay of not more than one year in the other country (the host country) to drive motor vehicles of the kind for which his driving permit qualifies him. In the case of a person who drives a motor vehicle for commercial purposes or whose main livelihood is derived from employment as a driver, the foregoing provision shall apply only on condition that the vehicle is registered elsewhere than in the host country. The driving permit shall serve as an identification document.

The right referred to in the foregoing paragraph shall lapse if the person concerned acquires a permanent domicile in the host country.

Article 2

If the holder of a valid driving permit for motor vehicles issued in the home country acquires a permanent domicile in the host country, he shall, on application, be entitled to receive an equivalent driving permit in the latter country (in Finland, a "motor cycle driving permit" (*moottori­pyöräkortti — motorcykelkörkort*) or a "private driving permit" (*yksityisajokortti — privatkörkort*); in Norway, a "driving permit for a motor cycle or motor-car" (*förekort for motorsykel eller motorvogn*)), even though the application is not accompanied by evidence that he has passed a driving test, on condition that he has in all other respects fulfilled the requirements prescribed in the host country for the issue of an equivalent driving permit.

Article 3

If a person who is temporarily resident in one country has there obtained a permit to drive a motor-car or motor cycle for a specified period (in Finland, a "driving authorization" (*ajolupa—körtillstånd*); in Norway, an "alien's

¹ Came into force on 1 November 1957, in accordance with article 7.

driving permit" (*förekort for utlending*)), he shall in the other country be entitled during the validity of the permit to drive motor vehicles of the kind for which the permit qualifies him, on condition that he is not resident in the latter country. The permit shall serve as an identification document.

Article 4

A motor vehicle or trailer registered in one country may enter and, for not more than one year, be operated in the other country if it is in good working order and meets the requirements in force in the host country concerning axle load, total weight and width. Proof of registration shall consist, in the case of a Norwegian motor vehicle (including its trailer), of the "registration certificate" (*vognkort*), and, in the case of a Finnish motor vehicle, of an extract of the relevant register entry. The vehicle shall be provided with the national mark of the home country and with the registration plates assigned to it there.

The facilities referred to in the foregoing paragraph shall not apply if the owner of the vehicle has a permanent domicile in the host country.

Article 5

If a special permit has been granted in one country for the temporary use there of a motor vehicle or trailer registered in a third country, the vehicle may, during the validity of the permit, be temporarily operated in the other country if it is in good working order and meets the requirements in force in the host country concerning axle load, total weight and width. Identification papers shall consist, in the case of a vehicle for which a permit has been granted in Norway, of the "registration certificate" and "Q plates" (*Q-skiltes*), and, in the case of a vehicle for which a permit has been granted in Finland, of a "permit certificate" (*ajolupa—tillståndsbevis*) and the corresponding plate. The plates shall contain, after the serial number, the distinctive letters prescribed by international agreement for indicating nationality which in the case of Norway consist of "N" and in the case of Finland "SF". Letters and figures on plates shall be in red on a white ground.

A fee determined in advance may be charged for each plate upon issue.

Article 6

If it is evident that the conditions for obtaining a driving permit or other permit are no longer fulfilled, or if the holder of the permit has committed a driving offence of such a nature as entails the forfeiture of the driving permit under the legislation of the host country, the competent authority of that country shall be entitled, notwithstanding the provisions of the foregoing articles, to

refuse recognition, completely or for a fixed period, of a driving permit or other permit issued in the other country.

Where, as hereinbefore provided, recognition of a driving permit or other permit issued in one country is refused in the other country, the said permit shall be withdrawn and forthwith returned to the authority by which it was issued, and in this connexion the reason why recognition was refused shall be given, and a notation shall be made on the permit showing the period during which the holder is debarred from using it in the host country.

Article 7

This Agreement shall not apply to permits for the carriage of persons for hire or reward or the carriage of goods other than the personal baggage of the driver and passengers, nor shall it affect any regulations which are now in force or may in future be made in either country with regard to customs duties, to charges or taxes on motor vehicles and trailers, petrol, motor spirit, oil or tyres, or to the insurance of motor vehicles.

This Agreement, which annuls and supersedes the Agreement of 20 November 1930¹ regarding the reciprocal recognition of driving licences and registration certificates for passenger motor vehicles, shall come into force on 1 November 1956 and shall remain in force until six months after the date on which it is terminated by either Contracting Party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned have signed this Agreement and have thereto affixed their seals.

DONE at Stockholm in duplicate on 15 September 1956.

Mikael TÖTTERMAN
[L. S.]

Christen J. BOE
[L. S.]

¹ League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. CX, p. 313.