

No. 3759

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**SWEDEN  
and  
NORWAY**

**Protocol (with annexes) relating to the construction and maintenance of a reindeer fence along the Swedish-Norwegian State frontier between Grövelsjön lake and Våndsjön lake. Signed at Stockholm, on 29 June 1956**

*Official texts: Swedish and Norwegian.*

*Registered by Sweden on 20 March 1957.*

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**SUÈDE  
et  
NORVÈGE**

**Protocole (avec annexes) relatif à la construction et à l'entretien d'une barrière à rennes le long de la frontière suédo-norvégienne entre le lac Grövel et le lac Vånd. Signé à Stockholm, le 29 juin 1956**

*Textes officiels suédois et norvégien.*

*Enregistré par la Suède le 20 mars 1957.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 3759. PROTOCOL<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN SWEDEN AND NORWAY RELATING TO THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF A REINDEER FENCE ALONG THE SWEDISH-NORWEGIAN STATE FRONTIER BETWEEN GRÖVELSJÖN LAKE AND VÅNDSJÖN LAKE. SIGNED AT STOCKHOLM, ON 29 JUNE 1956

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As the result of negotiations held at Östersund on 22 and 23 February 1955 between representatives of Sweden and Norway concerning the construction and maintenance of a reindeer fence along the State frontier between Grövelsjön lake and Våndsjön lake, the Swedish and Norwegian Governments have agreed as follows :

*Article 1*

In order to prevent reindeer from straying over the State frontier, a reindeer fence shall be erected between Grövelsjön lake and Våndsjön lake for a distance of approximately 12,500 metres on the section of the frontier marked by frontier cairns Nos. 142A, 143, 143A and 143B.

The fence shall follow the State frontier but may depart from it where natural conditions so require or in order to avoid excessive expenditure on construction and maintenance or when necessary to ensure effectiveness. In this connexion, care shall be taken that in so far as possible the reindeer owners of one country are not deprived of pasturage to a greater extent than the reindeer owners of the other country. The fence may not, however, be set closer to a frontier cairn than one metre from the circumference of the cairn at its base.

The main course of the fence is shown on a map attached to this Protocol (annex I).<sup>2</sup>

*Article 2*

The criterion in determining whether illegal reindeer grazing has occurred shall be whether reindeer from one country have grazed on the other side of the reindeer fence.

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 29 June 1956 by signature, in accordance with article 12.

<sup>2</sup> See insert between pages 354 and 355 of this volume.

*Article 3*

The reindeer fence shall be built by Sweden through the agency of the Jämtland county administration in accordance with the specifications annexed to this Protocol (annex II).<sup>1</sup>

The construction of the fence shall, if possible, be commenced during 1956 and be completed by the end of 1958, unless prevented by unforeseen circumstances. If such circumstances arise, the completion of the fence shall not as a result be postponed any longer than is necessary.

*Article 4*

If the supply of materials and the construction of the fence are effected in whole or in part by tender, Swedish and Norwegian contractors shall be entitled to submit tenders on the same conditions. Before accepting tenders, the county administration in Sweden shall consult with the county governor of Sör-Trøndelag in Norway.

In so far as practical, both Swedish and Norwegian workers shall be given an opportunity to participate in the work.

*Article 5*

The county governor in Norway, or his authorized agent, shall be entitled to inspect the materials used in the fence and the construction of the fence.

As soon as the fence is completed, it shall be jointly inspected by a Swedish and a Norwegian representative to be appointed respectively by the county administration in Sweden and the county governor in Norway. As soon as possible after the inspection, the two representatives shall jointly draw up and sign a report, which shall be submitted to the county administration in Sweden and the county governor in Norway. Each Party shall defray the costs of its respective representative.

If in the course of the inspection there is disagreement between the representatives, the dispute shall be settled by agreement between the county administration in Sweden and the county governor in Norway. Failing an agreement between the said administration and governor, the question shall be settled by the arbitral commission referred to in article 11.

*Article 6*

The cost of constructing and maintaining the fence shall be divided equally between the Parties.

<sup>1</sup> See p. 350 of this volume.

*Article 7*

The cost of constructing the fence shall be advanced by Sweden.

After the county administration in Sweden and the county governor in Norway have appointed a Swedish and a Norwegian auditor respectively, and after the accounts have been examined by the auditors and subsequently approved by the said administration and governor, a final settlement between the two Parties shall be made on the basis of the accounts.

When the final settlement is made, the share of the costs to be borne by Norway shall be paid in Swedish currency to the county administration in Sweden.

*Article 8*

Sweden shall ensure that the fence is in good repair at all times. Each Party shall pay half of the costs incurred in this connexion.

The Lapland liaison officer of Sweden and the Lapland liaison officer of Norway shall, after an inspection, jointly decide on what maintenance work is required on the fence and shall draw up an estimate of costs. The fence shall be inspected as soon as any damage is reported, but not less than once a year. If the two Lapland liaison officers fail to reach an agreement concerning the extent or costs of the repairs, the question shall be decided by agreement between the county administration in Sweden and the county governor in Norway or, if the latter fail to agree, by the arbitral commission referred to in article 11.

Maintenance costs shall be defrayed as provided in article 7, third paragraph.

*Article 9*

If any part of the fence is taken down to let through reindeer of one country that have entered the other country, the fence shall, immediately after the reindeer have passed through, be re-erected on the instructions and under the supervision of the Lapland liaison officer of the latter country. The costs in this connexion shall be borne by the Party within whose territory the reindeer belong. Disputes concerning such costs shall be settled by agreement between the county administration in Sweden and the county governor in Norway or, if they fail to agree, by the arbitral commission referred to in article 11.

*Article 10*

After the fence has been erected, either Party may, at its own expense, carry out such reinforcements or other measures as are considered necessary in the circumstances on condition that the effectiveness of the fence is not thereby diminished.

*Article 11*

Any dispute regarding the interpretation or application of the provisions of this Protocol may be submitted by either Party for final decision to an arbitral commission consisting of three members, one of whom shall be appointed by each Party, while the chairman, who shall not be a Swedish or Norwegian national, shall be appointed jointly by the two Parties or, if they do not agree on the choice, by the Government of Finland.

The arbitral commission shall appoint the time and place of its meetings and shall draw up its rules of procedure. The commission shall fix the amount of remuneration of its members and decide the manner in which this amount and the other costs of the proceedings shall be divided between the Parties.

*Article 12*

This Protocol shall enter into force on the date on which it is signed and shall remain in force up to and including 31 December 1962. It shall continue in force for a further ten years unless it is denounced by one of the Parties at least three years before the afore-mentioned date, and it shall continue in force thereafter for further periods of ten years unless it is denounced at least three years before the expiry of the current ten-year period.

DONE at Stockholm on 29 June 1956 in duplicate, in the Swedish and Norwegian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For Sweden :  
Torsten NILSON  
[L.S.]

For Norway :  
Jens SCHIVE  
[L.S.]

## ANNEX I

[See insert between pages 354 and 355 of this volume]

## ANNEX II

*Technical specifications of the Swedish-Norwegian reindeer fence between Grövellsjön lake and Vändsjön lake*

The specifications correspond to the annexed drawing.<sup>1</sup>

The *netting* shall be of galvanized iron wire forming square meshes of 300 × 300 mm, the wire to be of the following dimensions :

Top and bottom wires : 4 mm diameter;

Other wires : 3.25 mm diameter;

Tie wires : 3.50 mm diameter;

<sup>1</sup> See insert between pages 354 and 355 of this volume.

The netting shall be 1,500 mm in height and comprise 6 horizontal wires.

All wires in the netting shall be continuous in any direction. At points of intersection the individual wires shall be fastened together by tie wires to prevent displacement. In this way any stress on a particular wire will be distributed over the adjacent wires.

For purposes of flexibility, the horizontal wires shall have small undulations that will make the erected netting sufficiently resilient to withstand temperature changes or other forms of stress.

*Fence hooks*, galvanized, threaded as in detail 4 of the drawing for the top and bottom wires, and unthreaded as in detail 6 for the intermediate wires.

*Posts* shall consist of galvanized pipe and be provided with 12 holes for hooks.

Length : 2,250 mm;

External diameter : 60 mm;

Thickness : 3 mm.

*Post sockets*, galvanized, 600 × 70 × 3 mm.

Certain posts shall be provided with sockets so as to enable the fence to be taken down and put up again at certain points where reindeer must be let through, and to afford protection at places where heavy pressure from snow may be expected.

Posts and sockets shall be inserted in the ground to a depth of 50-60 cm and wedged in with stones. They shall be 3 to 4 metres apart as determined by the terrain. The netting shall be set up not lower than 10 cm nor higher than 30 cm from the surface of the ground.

The fence shall be continuous and rectilinear and shall not form a curve at any place. Posts at corners and gateways shall be supported with struts. Where the fence crosses a footpath, a stile shall be provided.