

No. 4100

BELGIUM
and
NETHERLANDS

Arrangement to submit to the International Court of Justice the difference between the Kingdom of Belgium and the Kingdom of the Netherlands concerning sovereignty over certain lots situated along the Belgian-Netherlands frontier. Signed at The Hague, on 7 March 1957

Official texts: French and Dutch.

Registered by Belgium on 14 December 1957.

BELGIQUE
et
PAYS-BAS

Compromis soumettant à la Cour internationale de Justice le différend existant entre le Royaume de Belgique et le Royaume des Pays-Bas concernant la souveraineté sur certaines parcelles situées à la frontière belgo-néerlandaise. Signé à La Haye, le 7 mars 1957

Textes officiels français et néerlandais.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 14 décembre 1957.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 4100. ARRANGEMENT¹ TO SUBMIT TO THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM AND THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS CONCERNING SOVEREIGNTY OVER CERTAIN LOTS SITUATED ALONG THE BELGIAN-NETHERLANDS FRONTIER. SIGNED AT THE HAGUE, ON 7 MARCH 1957²

The Government of the Kingdom of Belgium and the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands ;

Considering that a difference has arisen between them as a result of conflicting claims to sovereignty over the cadastral lots known from 1836 to 1843 as lots Nos. 91 and 92, Section A, Zondereygen ;

Desirous that the difference should be settled by a decision of the International Court of Justice which shall determine their respective rights to sovereignty over the aforesaid lots ;

Desirous that the questions to be put to the International Court of Justice should be defined ;

Have agreed as follows :

Article I

The Court is requested to determine whether the Kingdom of Belgium or the Kingdom of the Netherlands has sovereignty over the cadastral lots known from 1836 to 1843 as lots Nos. 91 and 92, Section A, Zondereygen.

Article II

Without any prejudice to the burden of proof, the Contracting Parties, with reference to Article 37 of the Statute of the Court, have agreed that the written proceedings should consist of :

1. A memorandum from the Kingdom of Belgium to be submitted to the Court within three months of the notification of the present Agreement as provided in article III below ;

¹ Came into force on 19 November 1957, by the exchange of the instruments of ratification at Brussels, in accordance with article IV. This Arrangement is not applicable to the Territories of the Belgian Congo and Ruanda Urundi.

² This Arrangement follows on the two Agreements concluded between Belgium and the Netherlands by exchanges of notes of 26 and 28 June 1954 and 5 and 7 December 1956, concerning the exercise of authority over the registered lands known as the "Commune of Zondereygen", Section A, Nos. 91 and 92. See United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 272, No. 3942.

2. A counter-memorandum from the Kingdom of the Netherlands to be submitted within three months of the receipt of the memorandum from the Kingdom of Belgium ;

3. A rejoinder from the Kingdom of Belgium, followed by a counter-rejoinder from the Kingdom of the Netherlands, both to be submitted within a time-limit to be set by the Court.

Article III

The Kingdom of the Netherlands shall notify the Court of the present Agreement as soon as it has come into force, in accordance with Article 40 of the Statute of the Court.

Article IV

The present Agreement shall be subject to ratification.

The instruments of ratification shall be exchanged as soon as possible at Brussels and the present Agreement shall enter into force as soon as the said instruments have been exchanged.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed the present Agreement.

DONE in duplicate at The Hague, on 7 March 1957, in the French and Dutch languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the Kingdom of Belgium :
(Signed) VAN DER STRATEN-WAILLET

For the Government
of the Kingdom of the Netherlands :
(Signed) J. LUNS