

No. 4890

**BELGIUM
and
SWEDEN**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement concerning
the attestation of copies of civil status certificates and
the reciprocal issue of such documents free of charge.
Stockholm, 18 April and 28 May 1959**

Official text: French.

Registered by Belgium on 23 September 1959.

**BELGIQUE
et
SUÈDE**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord concernant la
légalisation des expéditions d'actes de l'état civil et la
délivrance gratuite et réciproque de ces documents.
Stockholm, 18 avril et 28 mai 1959**

Texte officiel français.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 23 septembre 1959.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 4990. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN BELGIUM AND SWEDEN CONCERNING THE ATTESTATION OF COPIES OF CIVIL STATUS CERTIFICATES AND THE RECIPROCAL ISSUE OF SUCH DOCUMENTS FREE OF CHARGE. STOCKHOLM, 18 APRIL AND 28 MAY 1959

I

EMBASSY OF BELGIUM
STOCKHOLM

No. 890/Cc/46

The Belgian Embassy has the honour to inform the Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs that the Belgian Government, with the object of simplifying the attestation of copies of civil status certificates and of making provision for the reciprocal issue of such documents free of charge when required for administrative purposes, is desirous of concluding an agreement with the Swedish Government by the terms of which :

1. The Belgian Government, for Swedish nationals born, recognized, legitimated, adopted, married, divorced or deceased in Belgium and the Swedish Government for Belgian nationals born, recognized, legitimated, adopted, married, divorced or deceased in Sweden, undertake to deliver free of charge and in accordance with the provisions of domestic legislation to the other Contracting Party faithful copies of civil status certificates issued in their respective territories, whenever a request therefor is made for administrative purposes.

2. The request shall be addressed to the local authority of each country by the diplomatic mission or by the consuls of the other country, who shall confirm that the request has been made for administrative purposes.

3. Save in exceptional cases, the Belgian and Swedish Governments also undertake to deliver free of charge for the same purpose copies of certificates relating to the civil status of persons other than their respective nationals. Requests for such certificates shall be made through the diplomatic channel.

4. Copies of entries in or extracts from civil registers issued by the competent authorities in the country of one of the Contracting Parties shall be valid in the country of the other Contracting Party provided that they bear the final attestation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the issuing country.

¹ Came into force on 1 June 1959, in accordance with the terms of the said notes. This Agreement is not applicable to the Territories of the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi.

5. The issue of a copy of a civil status certificate shall not prejudice in any way the question of the nationality of the person in question so far as the laws of the two Governments are concerned.

6. This agreement shall come into force on 1 June 1959 for a period of one year; it shall be extended annually by tacit consent unless notice of termination is given by one or the other Contracting Party six months in advance.

Should this also be the desire of the Swedish Government, this note and the reply in that sense that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will be so good as to address to this Embassy will constitute the agreement between the two Governments.

The Embassy has the honour, etc.

Stockholm, 18 April 1959

Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Stockholm

II

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs has the honour to acknowledge receipt of the *note verbale* of the Embassy of Belgium of 18 April 1959 concerning a proposed agreement between the Swedish Government and the Belgian Government relating to the attestation of copies of civil status certificates and the reciprocal issue of such documents free of charge.

The Ministry has the honour to state that the Swedish Government concurs with the text transmitted by the Embassy and announces that the Swedish Government for its part is ready to conclude with the Belgian Government an agreement in the following terms :

[See note I]

The above-mentioned note from the Embassy and the present note will constitute the agreement between the two Governments.

The Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs has the honour to be, etc.

Stockholm, 28 May 1959

Embassy of Belgium
Stockholm