

No. 5205

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**YUGOSLAVIA  
and  
GREECE**

**Agreement (with annex and exchange of letters) concerning  
hydro-economic questions. Signed at Athens, on  
18 June 1959**

*Official text: French.*

*Registered by Yugoslavia on 29 June 1960.*

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**YOUGOSLAVIE  
et  
GRÈCE**

**Accord (avec annexe et échange de lettres) relatif aux  
questions de l'hydroéconomie. Signé à Athènes, le  
18 juin 1959**

*Texte officiel français.*

*Enregistré par la Yougoslavie le 29 juin 1960.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 5205. AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE FEDERAL PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA AND THE KINGDOM OF GREECE CONCERNING HYDRO-ECONOMIC QUESTIONS. SIGNED AT ATHENS, ON 18 JUNE 1959

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With a view to developing and encouraging their co-operation in the hydro-economic field in matters relating to the study and execution of hydro-economic measures and works of interest to both States, the Government of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia and the Royal Government of Greece have agreed as follows :

*Article 1*

A Permanent Yugoslav-Greek Hydro-economic Commission shall be established to study the hydro-economic problems and projects jointly submitted to it by the Contracting Parties.

The functions of the Commission shall, *inter alia*, include co-operation in the study of problems relating to the Vardar (Axius) River with a view to the future regulation of watercourses in the basin of that river, the regulation of streams in the border area, improvement schemes, hydro-economic problems concerning Lake Doiran and Lake Prespa, fishing in those two lakes, the exchange of hydro-meteorological data, and any other hydro-economic problems which may arise and which may be jointly referred to the permanent Commission by the Contracting States.

The composition, functions and procedure of the Permanent Yugoslav-Greek Hydro-economic Commission shall be as laid down in the Regulations<sup>2</sup> annexed to this Agreement and forming an integral part thereof.

*Article 2*

The Permanent Yugoslav-Greek Hydro-economic Commission shall propose the apportionment of the cost of carrying out works and giving effect to measures to be undertaken in the common interest or in the interest of one of the State, and shall submit its proposals for the approval of the two Governments.

*Article 3*

In application of the present Agreement, the two Contracting States undertake mutually to accord facilities in connexion with the formalities to be complied with

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 31 March 1960, thirty days after the exchange of the instruments of ratification at Belgrade, in accordance with article 8.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 141 of this volume.

on crossing the frontier by members and experts of the Commission and of officials of hydro-economic agencies. The like facilities shall be accorded to such manual and non-manual workers as it may be found necessary to employ for the purposes of the works to which this Agreement relates.

*Article 4*

The two Governments shall mutually accord all necessary facilities, including exemption from customs duties, in connexion with the exportation, importation and where necessary, re-exportation of construction materials and mechanical equipment, including tools, intended for the construction of works to which article 2 refers.

Detailed arrangements regarding the facilities to which this article refers shall be laid down, in each particular case, in an agreement between the two Contracting States, on the proposal of the Permanent Commission.

*Article 5*

The competent local authorities of the Contracting States shall give each other warning, by the most rapid means, of any danger of high water, and of any other dangers threatening the regime of water-courses and the operation of hydro-technical installations.

*Article 6*

The two Contracting States shall facilitate the application of this Agreement and the work of the Permanent Yugoslav-Greek Hydro-economic Commission with due regard to reciprocal rights and interests.

*Article 7*

The two Governments may decide by prior agreement to submit to arbitration any dispute which may arise between them concerning the application or interpretation of this Agreement. The decision of the tribunal shall be binding on the parties.

In the case of any dispute to which the preceding paragraph refers, the tribunal shall be constituted at the request of one of the Contracting Governments. Each Government shall appoint one member of the tribunal. An umpire who is not a national of either Contracting State shall serve as president of the tribunal. The umpire shall be appointed by mutual agreement. If agreement is not reached concerning the appointment of the umpire within two months from the date of submission of the request, or if the Contracting Governments do not appoint their own arbitrators within that period, the members of the tribunal shall be appointed by the President of the Supreme Court of the Swiss Confederation.

The arbitral tribunal shall begin the proceedings on the request of one of the Governments addressed to the president within two months at the latest from the date of submission of the request.

In the absence of provisions to the contrary, the procedure followed by the arbitral tribunal shall be that laid down in the Convention for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes signed at The Hague on 18 October 1907.<sup>1</sup>

#### *Article 8*

This Agreement shall be ratified and the instruments of ratification exchanged at Belgrade. It shall enter into force thirty days after the exchange of the instruments of ratification.

#### *Article 9*

This Agreement is concluded for a period of five years from the date of its entry into force. It shall automatically be continued in force if neither Contracting State denounces it through the diplomatic channel. It may be denounced on one year's notice. In the event of denunciation, the Agreement shall cease to have effect at the end of the civil year in which the notice expires.

DONE at Athens on 18 June 1959 in two originals in the French language.

For the Government  
of the Federal People's Republic  
of Yugoslavia :

(Signed) Koča POPOVIĆ

For the Royal Government  
of Greece :

(Signed) E. TOSSIZZA AVEROF

<sup>1</sup> League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. LIV, p. 435, and Vol. CXXXIV, p. 453.

## A N N E X

## REGULATIONS OF THE PERMANENT YUGOSLAV-GREEK HYDRO-ECONOMIC COMMISSION

*Article 1*

A permanent Yugoslav-Greek Hydro-economic Commission is established under the terms of the Agreement concluded between the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia and the Kingdom of Greece on hydro-economic questions of common concern.<sup>1</sup>

*Article 2*

The Commission shall be responsible for the study of hydro-economic questions of common interest, in conformity with the first paragraph of article 1 of the aforementioned Agreement.

*Article 3*

The functions of the Commission are, in accordance with the provisions of article 2 of these Regulations, the organization, co-ordination, supervision and inspection of hydro-economic projects and works entrusted to it, and in particular :

- (a) The examination of information communicated by the Contracting States concerning measures to be taken and projected hydro-economic works ;
- (b) The preparation and submission of proposals on measures to be taken and works to be carried out, including study of their technical and economic aspects ;
- (c) The evaluation of projects submitted, with reference to their advisability and effectiveness and from the technical and economic standpoints, and consultation concerning the execution of such projects ;
- (d) The inspection and acceptance of joint works ;
- (e) Surveys and the investigation of sites ;
- (f) The organization of exchanges of experience in the hydro-economic field and of hydro-meteorological data ;
- (g) The submission of proposals with a view to the amicable settlement of disputes.

The Permanent Commission shall submit proposals to the two Governments concerning any questions within the terms of reference set out above.

The two Governments reserve the right to deal directly with questions within the terms of reference of the Permanent Commission.

*Article 4*

The Commission shall consist of ten members. Each State shall be represented by five members who shall constitute its delegation to the Commission, an alternate being appointed for each member. Each Contracting State may also appoint experts to take part in the Commission's work.

<sup>1</sup> See p. 135 of this volume.

The Permanent Commission may if necessary set up sub-commissions composed of its members, or their alternates, or of experts.

*Article 5*

The Commission shall meet in regular session once a year. Special sessions may be convened by agreement between the chairmen of the delegations.

Sessions shall be held alternately at Thessaloniki and at Skoplje or elsewhere, subject to prior agreement between the two Governments.

Each session shall be convened by the chairman of the delegation of the Contracting State in whose territory the Commission is to meet, in agreement with the chairman of the delegation of the other Contracting State.

*Article 6*

The agenda of the sessions of the Permanent Commission shall be arranged through the diplomatic channel.

*Article 7*

Meetings shall be under the chairmanship of the chairman of the delegation of the Contracting State in whose territory the session takes place.

The official languages of the Commission shall be Serbo-Croat and Greek.

The Commission may, in certain cases, decide to use another language.

*Article 8*

The Commission's decisions shall require the assent of at least three members of each delegation.

A record of each meeting shall be drawn up in two copies and signed by the two chairmen. The records shall be submitted to the two Governments for approval. The Commission's decisions shall become binding after approval by the two Governments.

In urgent cases, if the Commission considers such action necessary, the delegation of each Contracting State in the Commission shall, pending the decision of the two Governments, recommend to the competent local authorities that they undertake such essential works as they are required and authorized to undertake with a view to preventing possible damage.

The records, together with all documents signed by the Permanent Commission, shall be drawn up in the French or English languages.

*Article 9*

Questions on which the Commission fails to reach agreement, within the meaning of article 8 of these Regulations, shall be submitted to the Governments of the Contracting States for decision by mutual agreement.

*Article 10*

Each Contracting State shall defray the expenses of its delegation. Unless otherwise agreed, any other expenses of the Permanent Commission shall be equally shared by the two Contracting States.

*Article 11*

The Commission shall draw up its rules of procedure in conformity with these regulations.

## EXCHANGE OF LETTERS

## I

Athens, 18 June 1959

Your Excellency,

On signing the Agreement of today's date between the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia and the Kingdom of Greece concerning hydro-economic questions,<sup>1</sup> I have the honour to inform you that the Government of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia is prepared, as soon as the Permanent Hydro-economic Commission is established, to instruct the Yugoslav section of the Commission to submit to the Commission the question of the waters of the Vardar River with a view to investigating the possibilities of hydro-economic co-operation in this field.

The Permanent Commission will be able in this connexion to examine the problem of the sharing of the waters of the Vardar River and the question of the participation of one of the Contracting Parties in the costs of works carried out by the other with a view to making an increased volume of water from the Vardar River available for the use of both Parties.

The two Governments will study the Permanent Commission's proposals in this matter.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) Koča POPOVIĆ

His Excellency Evangelos Averof  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of the Kingdom of Greece  
Athens

<sup>1</sup> See p. 135 of this volume.

## II

Athens, 18 June 1959

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of today's date, reading as follows :

[See letter I]

I have the honour to inform you that I have taken due note of the above letter.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) TOSSIZZA AVEROF

His Excellency Koča Popović  
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs  
of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia  
Athens

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