

No. 5970

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND, BELGIUM, DENMARK,
FRANCE, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY,
ITALY, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, SPAIN,
SWEDEN and SWITZERLAND**

Agreement (with annex) setting up a Preparatory Commission to study the possibilities of European collaboration in the field of space research. Done at Meyrin, on 1 December 1960

Official texts : English and French.

Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 20 November 1961.

**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD, BELGIQUE, DANEMARK,
FRANCE, RÉPUBLIQUE FÉDÉRALE D'ALLEMAGNE,
ITALIE, PAYS-BAS, NORVÈGE, ESPAGNE,
SUÈDE et SUISSE**

Accord (avec annexe) instituant une commission préparatoire pour l'étude des possibilités d'une collaboration européenne dans le domaine des recherches spatiales. Fait à Meyrin, le 1^{er} décembre 1960

Textes officiels anglais et français.

Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le 20 novembre 1961.

No. 5970. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, BELGIUM, DENMARK, FRANCE, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, ITALY, THE NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, SPAIN, SWEDEN AND SWITZERLAND SETTING UP A PREPARATORY COMMISSION TO STUDY THE POSSIBILITIES OF EUROPEAN COLLABORATION IN THE FIELD OF SPACE RESEARCH. DONE AT MEYRIN, ON 1 DECEMBER 1960

The Governments of Belgium, Denmark, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,

Interested in studying the possibilities of European collaboration in research in space science and space technology and in the pooling of the knowledge thereof,

Have agreed as follows :

Article 1

A Preparatory Commission shall be set up to investigate the possibilities of establishing a European Organisation for collaboration in space research.

¹ In accordance with article 10, the Agreement came into force on 27 February 1961 in respect of the following States, the aggregate of whose contributions amounts to at least 70 per cent of the total of contributions provided for in article 8 (a) and set forth in the Annex to the Agreement, and which signed the Agreement without reservation as to ratification or, having signed it subject to ratification, deposited their instruments of ratification with the Government of the Swiss Confederation :

Signatures without reservation as to ratification

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Belgium | 1 December 1960 |
| Denmark (see footnote 1, p. 118 of this volume.) | 1 December 1960 |
| Federal Republic of Germany | 27 February 1961 |
| Norway | 1 December 1960 |
| Netherlands | 1 December 1960 |
| Sweden | 1 December 1960 |
| United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . | 1 December 1960 |

Ratifications

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| France | 27 January 1961 |
| Switzerland | 24 February 1961 |

Article 2

The Members of the Commission are the States which are parties to the present Agreement.

The Commission may, by a unanimous decision, admit other European States wishing to become Members.

The Commission may also by a unanimous decision invite other States to associate themselves with its work. The conditions and the form of such association shall be determined by the Commission according to the circumstances of each case.

Article 3

Each Member State shall be represented on the Commission by two delegates who may be assisted by advisers.

Each Member State shall have one vote.

Article 4

With a view to the convening of an intergovernmental Conference, the Commission shall prepare and submit to Member States :

- (a) a draft agenda for the said Conference together with proposals concerning the place and the date of its meeting ;
- (b) a draft convention for the establishment of a European Organisation for space research ;
- (c) a draft scientific and technical programme ;
- (d) a draft budget for the capital and running expenses of the Organisation during the first three years of its existence ;
- (e) draft rules regulating the calculation of contributions ;
- (f) draft rules of financial procedure and draft staff regulations ;
- (g) draft agreements with other organisations interested in co-operation in the field of space research.

The draft documents mentioned above shall be submitted to the Governments of Member States at least two months before the date contemplated for the meeting of the Conference.

Furthermore the Commission shall encourage discussions and the exchange of scientific information among Members.

Article 5

(a) The Government of the French Republic shall convene the first meeting of the Preparatory Commission in Paris within 30 days following the date of the entry into force of the present Agreement.

(b) the Commission shall elect a bureau composed of a President and two Vice-Presidents. The bureau, with the assistance of an Executive Secretary, shall exercise between the sessions of the Commission all powers specifically delegated to it by the Commission ;

(c) the frequency of the sessions shall be determined by the Commission. Extraordinary sessions may be convened by a decision of the bureau or at the request of a simple majority of Member States ;

(d) the Commission shall decide questions of procedure by a simple majority of the votes of Members present and voting and other questions by a three-quarters majority, with the exception of the question of the admission of new Members, for which the unanimous vote of Member States shall be required ;
the majority of Member States shall constitute a quorum ;

(e) the Commission may establish such Working Groups and Study Groups as it deems necessary.

Article 6

The Commission shall determine its seat at its first session.

Article 7

(a) The Executive Secretary, appointed by the Commission, shall have the task of carrying out the technical work and the decisions which it entrusts to him ;

(b) a Secretariat shall be established by the Commission and shall be responsible to the Executive Secretary.

Article 8

(a) The administrative expenses of the Commission shall be met by the contributions of the Member States in accordance with a scale which shall be based on the average net national income at factor cost of each Member State for the three latest preceding years for which statistics are available, except that no Member State shall be required to pay contributions in excess of twenty-five per cent. of the total amount of the contributions as set forth in the Annex¹ to the present Agreement ;

(b) the Commission shall determine its budget ;

(c) the Commission shall adopt a system of audited accounts providing effective control of its expenditure ;

(d) if at the termination of its work the resources of the Commission have not been entirely spent or committed, it shall decide what will be done with the remainder.

¹ See p. 120 of this volume.

Article 9

The present Agreement shall be open for signature at Meyrin on December 1, 1960, and thereafter at Berne.

Article 10

Each State signing the present Agreement shall become a party to it either on signature or else by ratification if its signature was made subject to a reservation as to ratification.

Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Government of the Swiss Confederation.

The present Agreement shall enter into force on the date on which six Member States, the aggregate of whose contributions amounts to at least 70% of the total of the contributions provided for in Article 8 (a) and set forth in the Annex to the present Agreement, shall have either signed it without a reservation as to ratification or else ratified it after having signed it subject to such a reservation.

The present Agreement shall enter into force in respect of each State which deposits an instrument of ratification after the entry into force of the Agreement as provided in the preceding paragraph on the date of the deposit of its instrument of ratification.

Article 11

The admission of a new Member in accordance with the second paragraph of Article 2 shall take effect on the date of the deposit of its instrument of acceptance.

Article 12

The Government of the Swiss Confederation shall notify States concerned of the entry into force of the Agreement and of the deposit of instruments of ratification and acceptance.

Article 13

The present Agreement shall continue in force for one year, it being understood that it shall in any event terminate on the entry into force of the convention referred to in Article 4 (b).

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

DONE at Meyrin this first day of December 1960, in a single original, in the French and English languages, both texts being equally authoritative.

The original shall be deposited with the Government of the Swiss Confederation which shall send certified copies to signatory States and to the Commission.

Pour la République Fédérale d'Alle- For the Federal Republic of Germany :
magne :

Pour le Royaume de Belgique : For the Kingdom of Belgium :

E. LOTZ

Pour le Royaume de Danemark : For the Kingdom of Denmark :

Otto OBLING

sous réserve de l'approbation définitive des autorités compétentes^{1*}

Pour l'Espagne : For Spain :

sous réserve de ratification²

J. M. ANIEL QUIROGA

Luis DE AZCARRAGA

Pour la République Française : For the French Republic :

P. AUGER

sous réserve d'acceptation³

¹ Subject to final approval by the competent authorities.

² According to the information provided by the Government of the United Kingdom this reservation has since been withdrawn.

D'après les indications fournies par le Gouvernement du Royaume-Uni la réserve a été retirée depuis.

³ With reservation as to ratification.

³ With reservation as to acceptance.

ANNEX CONCERNING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE MEMBER STATES OF
THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION

| <i>Country</i> | <i>National Income</i> <i>(million U.S.\$)</i> | <i>Contributions</i> | |
|-----------------------------------|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| | | <i>Percentage</i> | <i>Amounts N.F.</i> |
| Belgium | 8,053 | 4.19 | 39,200 |
| Denmark | 3,865 | 2.01 | 18,800 |
| France | 41,165 | 21.44 | 200,500 |
| German Federal Republic | 37,865 | 19.72 | 184,400 |
| Italy | 19,571 | 10.19 | 95,300 |
| Netherlands | 7,459 | 3.88 | 36,300 |
| Norway | 3,120 | 1.63 | 15,200 |
| Spain | 8,330 | 4.34 | 40,600 |
| Sweden | 8,200 | 4.27 | 39,900 |
| Switzerland | 6,390 | 3.33 | 31,100 |
| United Kingdom | 48,820 | 25.00 | 233,700 |
| TOTAL | 192,838 | 100.00 | 935,000 |