

No. 6988

**BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG and NETHERLANDS
and
SPAIN**

**Exchange of letters constituting an agreement concerning
the movement of seamen. Madrid, 19 June 1963**

Official texts: French and Spanish.

Registered by Belgium on 21 November 1963.

**BELGIQUE, LUXEMBOURG et PAYS-BAS
et
ESPAGNE**

**Échange de lettres constituant un accord relatif à l'emploi de
livrets de marin comme documents de voyage. Madrid,
19 juin 1963**

Textes officiels français et espagnol.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 21 novembre 1963.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 6988. EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG AND THE NETHERLANDS AND SPAIN CONCERNING THE MOVEMENT OF SEAMEN. MADRID, 19 JUNE 1963

I

Madrid, 19 June 1963

Sir,

We have the honour to inform you that the Governments of the Benelux countries, desiring to facilitate the movement of seamen as much as possible and to bring it into line with the new regulations resulting from the transfer of control of persons to the external frontiers of Benelux territory, are prepared to conclude an agreement with the Spanish Government in the following terms :

Article 1

For the purpose of this Agreement, the term "the Benelux countries" shall mean the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the term "Benelux territory" shall mean the whole of the territories in Europe of the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Article 2

Seamen of Spanish nationality who are in possession of a valid Spanish seamen's book shall be admitted to Benelux territory without a visa for purposes of enlistment, provided that they are also in possession of a statement by the shipping company concerned to the effect that they must enter Benelux territory in order to enlist on board a particular ship in a particular port ; this statement shall, moreover, guarantee the payment by the shipping company of the cost of repatriation in the event that the enlistment cannot take place for any reason whatsoever.

Article 3

Seamen of Spanish nationality who are in possession of a valid Spanish seamen's book may pass through Benelux territory in transit without a visa for the purpose of

- (a) returning to their country of origin or
- (b) joining a ship in a foreign port.

¹ Came into force on 19 July 1963, in accordance with article 9.

In the latter case, they must provide evidence of the purpose of their travel, either by producing a statement from the shipping company concerned or in some other manner.

Article 4

Belgian, Luxembourg or Netherlands seamen who are in possession, respectively, of a valid Belgian, Luxembourg or Netherlands seamen's book may enter Spain or pass through that country in transit without a visa under the same conditions as apply to Spanish seamen in respect of entry into or transit through Benelux territory.

Article 5

The Spanish frontier and the external frontiers of Benelux territory may be crossed only at the authorized crossing points.

Article 6

The Belgian, Luxembourg and Netherlands Governments, on the one hand, and the Spanish Government, on the other hand, reserve the right to refuse access to their country to holders of Spanish seamen's books, on the one hand, and of Belgian, Luxembourg or Netherlands seamen's books, on the other hand, whom they regard as undesirable.

Article 7

1. The Belgian, Luxembourg and Netherlands Governments undertake to readmit at any time and without formalities any Belgian, Luxembourg and Netherlands seamen who have entered Spain under the provisions of this Agreement.

2. The Spanish Government undertakes to readmit at any time and without formalities any Spanish seamen who have entered Benelux territory under the provisions of this Agreement.

Article 8

The foregoing provisions shall not affect the legal and administrative regulations in force in the Benelux countries and Spain concerning the entry, stay and expulsion of aliens.

Article 9

This Agreement shall enter into force on 19 July 1963 and shall remain in force for a term of one year. The Agreement shall be extended indefinitely unless it is denounced by the Spanish Government or the Governments of the Benelux countries one month before the expiry of this term. The Spanish Government or the Governments of the Benelux countries may denounce it on one month's notice after the initial one-year term.

If the Spanish Government is prepared to conclude an agreement with the Governments of the Benelux countries in conformity with the foregoing provisions, we have the honour to propose that this letter and your reply in similar terms should constitute

the Agreement between the Spanish Government and the Governments of the Benelux countries.

We have the honour to be, etc.

For the Kingdom
of Belgium :

Baron BEYENS

For the Grand Duchy
of Luxembourg :

W. E. VAN PANHUYS

For the Kingdom
of the Netherlands :

W. E. VAN PANHUYS

His Excellency Mr. Fernando Maria Castiella y Maíz
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Madrid

II

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS¹

Madrid, 19 June 1963

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of the note of today's date signed jointly by the Ambassador of Belgium, representing his country, and the Ambassador of the Netherlands, representing his country and Luxembourg, which in translation reads as follows :

[See letter I]

I have the honour to inform you that the Spanish Government is in agreement with the foregoing provisions.

I have the honour to be, etc.

Fernando Maria CASTIELLA y MAÍZ

His Excellency Baron Antoine Beyens
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the Kingdom of Belgium
Madrid

¹ An identical note was addressed on 19 June 1963 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Spain to the Ambassador of the Netherlands, representing also the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.