

No. 8631

**DENMARK, FINLAND, ICELAND,
NORWAY and SWEDEN**

Agreement concerning transfers of persons insured for sickness benefit and concerning sickness benefit during temporary residence. Signed at Copenhagen, on 24 February 1967

Official texts: Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish (two texts, one for Sweden and one for Finland).

Registered by Denmark on 17 May 1967.

**DANEMARK, FINLANDE, ISLANDE,
NORVÈGE et SUÈDE**

Accord concernant les transferts de personnes affiliées à l'assurance-maladie ainsi que les prestations de maladies au cours de séjours temporaires. Signé à Copenhague, le 24 février 1967

Textes officiels danois, finnois, islandais, norvégien et suédois (deux textes, l'un pour la Suède et l'autre pour la Finlande).

Enregistré par le Danemark le 17 mai 1967.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 8631. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN DENMARK, FINLAND, ICELAND, NORWAY AND SWEDEN CONCERNING TRANSFERS OF PERSONS INSURED FOR SICKNESS BENEFIT AND CONCERNING SICKNESS BENEFIT DURING TEMPORARY RESIDENCE. SIGNED AT COPENHAGEN, ON 24 FEBRUARY 1967

The Governments of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, being parties to the Convention of 15 September 1955² between Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden respecting social security, have decided, in pursuance of articles 7 and 8 of that Convention, to conclude the following Agreement :

Chapter I

SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT

Article 1

This Agreement covers persons insured for sickness benefit with the following funds :

In the case of Denmark, the approved sick funds affiliated with the Federated Central Associations of Sick Funds in Denmark, the Sick Fund for State Railway Employees and the continuation sick funds approved by the Ministry of Social Affairs;

In the case of Finland, the sickness insurance boards and, in so far as relates to benefits under the Sickness Insurance Act, the funds situated at places of employment;

In the case of Iceland, all sick funds;

In the case of Norway, the insurance funds and approved sick funds; and

In the case of Sweden, all the general insurance funds.

¹ Came into force on 1 April 1967, in accordance with article 14.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 254, p. 55.

Chapter II

TRANSFERS OF INSURED PERSONS

Article 2

A person insured for sickness benefit with a fund referred to in article 1 may be transferred to another fund in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. A spouse and children accompanying the insured person shall also be covered by such transfers.

The person so transferred shall be insured in accordance with the provisions in force in the country to which he removes.

Article 3

A transfer may take place only if the following conditions are met :

1. The insured person has ceased to reside in the country from which he removes and has taken up residence in the other country.

This provision shall not, however, prevent the transfer of insured persons staying in the other country for more than three consecutive months for purposes of study or work. An insured person staying in another country for the purpose of working for an employer having his residence or head office in the country in which the person in question is insured for sickness benefit shall, however, be regarded during the first twelve months of his stay as being resident in the country in which he is insured, unless he has obviously taken up residence in the other country.

2. The insured person has complied with his obligations towards the fund from which he is to be transferred.

3. The insured person has reported to the fund for the place to which he removes within three months after taking up residence in the other country and has delivered to the said fund a removal certificate issued by the fund from which he is to be transferred.

An insured person shall not be entitled to demand a transfer where the object of his removal to the other country is to obtain sickness benefit there.

If the person reporting his removal fails to bring a removal certificate with him, he shall be allowed reasonable time to obtain it.

The form for the removal certificate shall be prescribed in the case of Denmark by the Transfer Board, in the case of Finland by the National Pension Office, in the case of Iceland by the Insurance Council, and in the case of Norway and Sweden by their respective State Insurance Offices, after joint consultation.

Article 4

1. The transfer to a fund in the other country shall be considered to take place on the date on which the person insured for sickness benefit takes up residence in that country.

If the taking up of residence coincides with arrival in the country, the transfer shall be considered to have taken place upon arrival.

2. If the insured person fails to report to the fund at the place to which he removes within three weeks after taking up residence, he shall not be entitled to sickness benefit for the time preceding the date on which he reports.

3. An insured person who at the time of removal is sick and entitled to sickness benefit shall be entitled to continue to receive such benefit for the current sickness period in accordance with the regulations of the fund to which he is transferred.

4. In all other respects, a transfer shall, in so far as possible, be governed by the rules applying to the transfer of members between funds in the country to which the insured person removes.

Chapter III

SICKNESS BENEFIT DURING TEMPORARY RESIDENCE

Article 5

Where a person insured for sickness benefit with a fund referred to in article 1 is taken suddenly ill while temporarily resident in or while travelling through one of the other countries and needs medical attention or hospital care, it shall be the duty of the fund at the place where he receives such attention or care to provide sickness benefit in accordance with the following provisions.

The said duty shall by way of exception rest with another fund if the insured person can show that there were serious reasons for his applying to that fund instead of to the fund mentioned in the first paragraph.

Article 6

The following general conditions for the receipt of sickness benefit shall apply in addition to what is provided for in article 5 :

1. The insured person must as soon as possible, and in no case later than fourteen days after seeking medical attention or being admitted to hospital, report his illness to a fund as prescribed in article 5. This time-limit may, however, be extended where it is shown that the insured person was not in a position to report earlier.

2. The insured person shall give evidence of his membership in a fund by producing an insurance certificate or, if he does not have such a document, by submitting a written attestation. In the case of children who are insured for sickness benefit in a country covered by the Agreement, the foregoing provision shall apply only to the extent that the fund concerned considers this necessary.

3. If the insured person himself pays the medical or hospital costs, he shall, where possible before leaving the country and in any case within six weeks after paying the bill, submit a receipted copy of the bill to the fund to which the illness was reported.

Article 7

Save as otherwise provided in this Agreement, sickness benefit under this chapter shall be provided in accordance with the provisions applying to the fund concerned. The sickness benefit shall not, however, include cash allowances.

Sickness benefit shall not be provided beyond the date when the insured person's condition permits him to travel to the country in which he is insured. The provision of such benefit should not, however, be refused in circumstances where it appears unreasonable to direct the insured person to seek medical or hospital care in the country in which he is insured.

Hospital care or compensation for the cost thereof shall be provided irrespective of any earlier periods of sickness.

No qualifying period shall apply to sickness benefit under this chapter.

Article 8

1. In cases of accident during employment, sickness benefit shall be furnished only to the extent that there is no entitlement to sickness benefit under existing compulsory accident insurance.

2. Sickness benefit shall not be furnished to seafares in respect of any period during which they are guaranteed sickness benefit under existing legislation on seafares.

Article 9

If an insured person is entitled to damages in respect of an illness, he shall so inform the fund and shall assist the fund in pressing a claim for such damages.

Article 10

A fund which has provided sickness benefit under this chapter shall not be entitled to a refund from the fund with which the person is insured or to demand a contribution from the insured person.

Chapter IV

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 11

A fund within the meaning of this Agreement shall be entitled to obtain particulars concerning an insured person from any other such funds. Such particulars may not be withheld unless their disclosure is prohibited by law.

Article 12

Disputes concerning the application of this Agreement shall be settled by the authorities which, under the legislation of the country to which the insured person removes or in which he is temporarily resident, are competent to decide such matters.

The decisions of the central authorities shall be notified to the corresponding authorities of the other country.

Article 13

Such regulations as may be required for giving effect to this Agreement shall be made in the case of Denmark by the Transfer Board, in the case of Finland by the National Pension Office, and in the case of Iceland, Norway and Sweden by their respective State Insurance Offices, after consultation between them and with the central organizations of the funds.

Article 14

This Agreement shall enter into force on 1 April 1967.

Article 15

If any one of the contracting countries wishes to denounce the Agreement, written notification to that effect shall be given to the Danish Government, which shall forthwith inform the other contracting countries, specifying the date on which the notification was received.

The denunciation shall operate only in respect of the country effecting it and shall take effect as from 1 January of the year commencing not less than six months after the date on which the notification is received by the Danish Government.

If the Agreement is denounced, any rights acquired by virtue of its provisions shall be retained.

Article 16

Upon the entry into force of this Agreement, the Agreement of 19 December 1956¹ between Denmark, Iceland, Norway and Sweden concerning transfers between sick funds and sickness benefits during temporary residence shall cease to have effect.

The Agreement shall be deposited in the archives of the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and certified copies shall be delivered to the Government of each contracting country by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the respective plenipotentiaries have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Copenhagen on 24 February 1967, in one copy in the Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish languages; all the texts are equally authentic, there being two texts in Swedish, one for Finland and one for Sweden.

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Hersleb VOGT

R. BAGGE

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 427, p. 93.