

No. 8693

**BENELUX
and
PORTUGAL**

Agreement concerning use of the seaman's book as a travel document. Signed at Lisbon, on 24 May 1967

Official texts: French, Dutch and Portuguese.

Registered by Belgium on 24 July 1967.

**BENELUX
et
PORTUGAL**

Accord relatif à l'utilisation du livret de marin comme document de voyage. Signé à Lisbonne, le 24 mai 1967

Textes officiels français, néerlandais et portugais.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 24 juillet 1967.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 8693. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE BENELUX STATES, ON THE ONE HAND, AND THE GOVERNMENT OF PORTUGAL, ON THE OTHER HAND, CONCERNING USE OF THE SEAMAN'S BOOK AS A TRAVEL DOCUMENT. SIGNED AT LISBON, ON 24 MAY 1967

The Governments of the Benelux States, acting jointly under the Convention between the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands on the transfer of control of persons to the external frontiers of Benelux territory, signed at Brussels on 11 April 1960,² and the Government of Portugal,

Desiring to facilitate the movement of seamen as much as possible and to bring it into conformity with the new regulations resulting from the transfer of control of persons to the external frontiers of Benelux territory,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

For the purposes of this Agreement,

The term "the Benelux countries" means the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands;

The term "Benelux territory" means the whole of the territories in Europe of the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands; and

The term "Portugal" means the territory of continental Portugal, the Azores, Madeira and the Cape Verde Islands.

Article 2

1. Seamen of Portuguese nationality who are in possession of a valid Portuguese seaman's book shall be admitted to Benelux territory without a visa for purposes of engagement, 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 join a particular ship in a particular port; this statement shall, moreover, guarantee the payment by the shipping company of the cost of

¹ Came into force on 1 July 1967 in accordance with article 10.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 374, p. 3.

repatriation in the event that the engagement cannot take place for any reason whatsoever.

2. Seamen of Portuguese nationality holding a valid Portuguese seaman's book who have entered the territory of the Benelux countries under the provisions of article 2, paragraph 1, shall not stay longer than two months.

Article 3

Seamen of Portuguese nationality who are in possession of a valid Portuguese seaman'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.

In the latter case, they must furnish evidence of the purpose of their journey, 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 seaman's book may enter Portugal without a visa under the same conditions as apply to Portuguese seamen for admittance to Benelux territory.

Article 5

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

Article 6

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

Article 7

Except where the foregoing provisions apply, the laws and regulations in force in Portugal and the Benelux countries concerning the admittance, stay, establishment and expulsion of aliens, and the exercise of a gainful occupation, whether paid or unpaid, shall remain in force.

Article 8

Each Government undertakes to readmit to its territory at any time and without formalities any person who has entered that territory on a seaman's book issued by the respective authorities, even if the person's nationality was disputed.

Article 9

With respect to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, this Agreement applies to the Kingdom in Europe and to the Netherlands Antilles; the application of this Agreement may be extended to Surinam by a notification from the Netherlands Government to the Portuguese Government.

Article 10

This Agreement shall enter into force on 1 July 1967 for a term of one year. Unless it is denounced thirty days before the expiry of this term, the Agreement shall be deemed to be extended indefinitely. After the initial one-year term, each of the signatory Governments may denounce in on thirty days' notice sent to the Belgian Government.

Denunciation by one of the signatory Governments shall constitute abrogation of this Agreement.

The Belgian Government shall notify the other signatory Governments of the receipt of the notification mentioned in this article.

Article 11

Except with respect to article 8, application of this Agreement may be suspended by either of the Contracting Parties.

Suspension must be reported immediately through the diplomatic channel to the Belgian Government, which shall notify the other signatory Governments of the receipt of this notification. The same procedure shall be followed when the suspension is lifted.

IN FAITH WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Lisbon on 24 May 1967, in four copies, in the French, Dutch and Portuguese languages, the three texts being equally authentic.

For Benelux:

For the Belgian Government:

L. GOFFIN

For the Luxembourg Government:

R. FLAES

For the Netherlands Government:

R. FLAES

For Portugal:

A. F. NOGUEIRA