

No. 9075

ARGENTINA
and
CHILE

**Agreement concerning the protection of frontier forests
against fire. Signed at Santiago de Chile, on 29 De-
cember 1961**

Official text: Spanish.

Registered by Argentina on 6 May 1968.

ARGENTINE
et
CHILI

**Convention relative à la protection des forêts frontières
contre l'incendie. Signée à Santiago du Chili, le
29 décembre 1961**

Texte officiel espagnol.

Enregistrée par l'Argentine le 6 mai 1968.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 9075. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC AND THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF FRONTIER FORESTS AGAINST FIRE. SIGNED AT SANTIAGO DE CHILE, ON 29 DECEMBER 1961

The Government of the Argentine Republic and the Government of the Republic of Chile, desiring to protect the natural resources located in their territories, and in view of the menacing danger of fires which destroy forest reserves and the lack of a joint arrangement between the two countries to prevent such substantial losses;

Considering that effective measures of vigilance and control must be adopted in order to prevent these occurrences; and

Bearing in mind that a system of mutual protection ensuring the integrity of the natural resources of the sister nations of Chile and Argentina would be extremely beneficial, both socially and economically, to the general and permanent interests of both countries:

Have decided to conclude an Agreement in order to achieve the above-mentioned objectives and, to that effect, hereby designate their Plenipotentiaries as follows:

The Government of the Argentine Republic, Mr. Carlos Herrera, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary in Chile, and

The Government of the Republic of Chile, Mr. Carlos Martínez Sotomayor, Minister of External Relations,

Who, having presented their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following:

Article I

Under this Agreement, the Argentine and Chilean Governments undertake to establish an appropriate system of co-operation for the joint protection of the forest resources of the frontier area referred to in this Agreement.

¹ Came into force on 29 March 1967 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Buenos Aires, in accordance with article XI.

This system shall include arrangements to prevent, detect and extinguish fires.

The signatory Governments undertake to adopt all necessary legislative measures to protect forest areas in their respective territories.

In addition, they undertake individually to establish a special Service for the prevention and control of forest fires.

Article II

The area to which this Agreement refers shall be a strip of 15 kilometres on each side of frontier, between latitude 36° and 45° South, which shall be regarded as forest land.

Article III

The Argentine and Chilean Governments undertake to prohibit, between 1 November and 31 March of each year, the use of fire as a means of clearing lands of any nature in the area referred to in the preceding Article.

Article IV

The signatory Governments shall observe the following special rules with respect to the clearing of land with fire during the period when it is not prohibited :

- (a) The forestry authorities of the two countries shall notify each other of authorized plans for clearing land thirty days in advance;
- (b) Efforts shall be made to grant permits to the owners of neighbouring lands on the same date; and
- (c) These rules shall apply only to the strip referred to in article II.

Article V

The High Contracting Parties shall require all aircraft flying over the mountainous areas between latitude 35° and 46° South to notify the nearest forestry authority of any sign of fire.

Article VI

Immediately upon the expiration of each land-clearing period, the Argentine and Chilean Governments shall submit a plan of work to be under-

taken during the following period in order to achieve the objectives of this Agreement.

These programmes shall be studied by the competent forestry authorities of the two countries, meeting for this purpose, so that they may work together as far as possible.

Article VII

As a permanent system of fire prevention, special consideration shall be given to the establishment of observation points to be located in places which provide the best visibility in accordance with the features of the terrain.

These observation posts shall be manned by specialized personnel of the Service referred to in article one.

Article VIII

The signatory Governments shall equip the observation posts with an appropriate radio system permitting them, in so far as possible, to maintain contact with those of the other country.

Article IX

Aircraft used by the Forestry Services for patrolling or fire-fighting shall restrict their activities to the territory of their respective countries and shall under no circumstances cross the frontier.

Article X

In the event of a fire in the area referred to in this Agreement, the forestry authorities of the country in which it occurs shall notify the authorities of the other country, which shall take the appropriate steps to co-operate in extinguishing it.

This co-operation shall apply only to the area specified and during the period for which it is requested.

Article XI

This Agreement shall enter into force upon the exchange of the respective instruments of ratification and shall remain in force indefinitely. Nevertheless, either of the Contracting Parties may denounce it by notification

to the other Party, which shall be communicated not less than one year in advance.

The exchange of instruments of ratification shall take place as soon as possible at Buenos Aires.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the above-mentioned Plenipotentiaries hereby sign and affix their seals to this Agreement in two identical copies at Santiago de Chile, on 29 December 1961.

Carlos MARTÍNEZ SOTOMAYOR

Carlos HERRERA