

No. 11411

**GUYANA
and
NETHERLANDS
(ON BEHALF OF SURINAM)**

**Agreement for establishment of the Surinam-Guyana Commission.
Signed at Georgetown on 7 February 1971 and at Paramaribo
on 8 February 1971**

Authentic texts: English and Dutch.

Registered by Guyana on 19 November 1971.

**GUYANE
et
PAYS-BAS
(AU NOM DU SURINAM)**

**Accord portant création de la Commission guyano-surinamienne.
Signé à Georgetown le 7 février 1971 et à Paramaribo le
8 février 1971**

Textes authentiques: anglais et néerlandais.

Enregistré par la Guyane le 19 novembre 1971.

AGREEMENT¹ FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF SURINAM-GUYANA COMMISSION

The Government of Surinam acting on behalf of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and

The Government of Guyana;

Inspired by the ideals of international cooperation and the peaceful settlement of controversies;

Desiring to strengthen the historic and traditional bonds of friendship between Surinam and Guyana by active cooperation in the spheres of economic, social and cultural development and by the resolute pursuit of all practical means for the peaceful settlement of difficulties;

Recognising that in addition to the bonds of geography, Surinam and Guyana have a similar historical and cultural background and possess similar natural resources and economic potential, to the accelerated development of which each Government is committed;

Have agreed as follows:

Article I

A permanent Guyana-Surinam Commission (hereinafter in this Agreement referred to as "the Commission") shall be established for the purpose of examining ways and means of effecting cooperation in matters of common interest between Guyana and Surinam in the economic, social and cultural fields, and of peacefully resolving all outstanding difficulties and situations which may endanger friendship and good neighbourliness between the two countries.

¹ Came into force on 18 August 1971, the day on which the Government of Guyana and the Government of Surinam informed each other that any relevant constitutional requirements had been met in Guyana and in the Netherlands, respectively, in accordance with article VIII.

Article II

The Government of Guyana and the Government of Surinam may from time to time jointly in writing require the Commission to examine any particular matter or matters falling within the functions of the Commission as prescribed by Article I.

Article III

(1) Within one month of the entry into force of this Agreement the Government of Guyana and the Government of Surinam shall each appoint a delegation consisting of not more than five members to represent it in the Commission.

(2) Each Government shall inform the other of the names of the leader and of the other members of its delegation.

(3) Each Government may appoint experts to assist its delegation.

Article IV

(1) The Commission shall hold its first meeting as soon as possible after the two delegations have been appointed but within two months after the entry into force of this Agreement at a date and place to be agreed between the two Governments.

(2) Thereafter the Commission may hold meetings at any time alternately at Georgetown and at Paramaribo.

(3) The Commission shall submit to the two Governments periodic reports of its activities under this Agreement.

Article V

(1) Within two months of the entry into force of this Agreement, the commission shall establish a Special Committee charged with the responsibility of continuing the discussions between the Governments of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Kingdom of the Netherlands concerning the boundary between British Guiana and Surinam which were adjourned in London in June, 1966.

(2) The Special Committee shall consist of four members two of whom shall be designated by the Government of Guyana and two by the Government of Surinam.

(3) The Special Committee shall meet at such times as it may agree on, alternately at Georgetown and at Paramaribo.

(4) Each Government may appoint experts to assist its members of the Special Committee.

Article VI

(1) Pending the completion of the discussions to be continued under paragraph (1) of Article V, the Special Committee shall from time to time, through procedures to be agreed by it, at the joint request in writing of both Governments, ascertain and examine within such time as they may jointly specify, the facts relating to any specified source of disharmony between the two countries with a view to ensuring that no such disharmony shall disturb friendly relations between the two Governments or prejudice the effective operation of programmes of cooperation agreed upon by them.

(2) The Special Committee shall submit reports to the two Governments at such intervals as it may agree on or as may be specified by agreement in writing between the two Governments.

Article VII

This Agreement shall be without prejudice to any rights or claims regarding the sovereignty of their respective territories which the Government of Guyana and the Government of Surinam may possess at the present date.

Article VIII

This Agreement shall enter into force on the day on which the Government of Guyana and the Government of Surinam inform each other that any relevant constitutional requirements have been met respectively in Guyana and in the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being fully authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

DONE in duplicate in the Dutch and English languages, both texts being equally authoritative.

For the Government of Surinam, acting on behalf of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, at Paramaribo, Surinam, on the 8th of February, 1971.

[Signed — Signé]¹

Minister-President of Surinam

For the Government of Guyana, at Georgetown, Guyana, on the 7th of February, 1971.

[Signed — Signé]²

Prime Minister of Guyana

¹ Signed by J. Sedney — Signé par J. Sedney.

² Signed by L. F. S. Burnham — Signé par L. F. S. Burnham.