

No. 11793

**DENMARK, FINLAND,
NORWAY and SWEDEN**

**Agreement concerning co-operation in measures to deal with
pollution of the sea by oil. Signed at Copenhagen on
16 September 1971**

Authentic texts: Danish, Finnish, Norwegian and Swedish.

Registered by Denmark on 25 April 1972.

**DANEMARK, FINLANDE,
NORVÈGE et SUÈDE**

**Accord concernant la coopération en matière de lutte contre la
pollution des eaux de la mer par les hydrocarbures. Signé
à Copenhague le 16 septembre 1971**

Textes authentiques: danois, finnois, norvégien et suédois.

Enregistré par le Danemark le 25 avril 1972.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN DENMARK, FINLAND, NORWAY
AND SWEDEN CONCERNING CO-OPERATION IN
MEASURES TO DEAL WITH POLLUTION OF THE SEA
BY OIL

The Governments of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden,

Desiring to co-operate in dealing with any substantial oil pollution of the sea which constitutes a threat to the coast or related interests of a Contracting State and to co-operate in order to ensure compliance with the Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil² and with the national regulations adopted in connexion with the Convention.

And having regard to the Agreement of 9 June 1969³ for co-operation in dealing with pollution of the North Sea by oil,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

One Contracting State shall forthwith inform another Contracting State, through the competent authority, of the sighting of any heavy concentration of oil on the sea which is likely to drift towards the territory of the other State.

Article 2

A Contracting State threatened by the presence of substantial oil pollution which is also likely to cause damage to another Contracting State, shall investigate the situation, ascertaining the type of oil, the approximate quantity of oil or extent of the pollution, and the location and direction and speed of movement of the oil. The result of the investigation shall be communicated forthwith to the other State together with information concerning any measures that have been taken or are to be taken.

¹ Came into force on 16 October 1971, i.e. one month after its signature by the four Governments, in accordance with article 12.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 620, p. 225.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 704, p. 3.

Article 3

A Contracting State requiring assistance to deal with oil which constitutes a threat to its coast or related interests may call on the help of the other Contracting States. Any such request shall be addressed first to the State which can be expected also to be affected by the oil. A Contracting State called upon for help in accordance with this article shall do its utmost to provide such assistance.

Article 4

(a) Each of the Contracting States undertakes to set up an emergency service to deal with heavy concentrations of oil on the sea.

(b) To ensure maximum efficiency when the emergency service is used, the establishment and positioning of stocks of oil-treatment materials should take place after consultation with the other Contracting States, to the extent deemed necessary.

(c) A Contracting State shall inform the other Contracting States concerning its national emergency service.

(d) A Contracting State shall inform the other Contracting States concerning its experience with materials and methods for dealing with oil pollution.

Article 5

A Contracting State shall inform the other Contracting States of heavy concentrations of oil on the sea which have obliged it to take anti-pollution action, and concerning the measures taken and the results achieved.

Article 6

One Contracting State shall inform another Contracting State, through the competent authority, of any offence against the regulations concerning pollution by oil found to have been committed within the territorial or adjacent waters of the Contracting States by a vessel registered in the other State.

Article 7

The Contracting States shall furnish assistance to each other in the investigation of offences against the regulations concerning pollution by oil which are presumed to have been committed within the territorial or adjacent waters of the Contracting States.

Such assistance may include inspection of the oil record book, the ship's official log-book and the engine-room log, the taking of oil samples and so on.

Article 8

The Contracting States shall exchange information concerning:

- (a) the existence and the construction of facilities for the reception of oily residues from ships;
- (b) national regulations and other circumstances which have a bearing on the prevention of oil pollution;
- (c) the authorities of the respective Contracting States to which information in pursuance of this Agreement is to be transmitted.

Article 9

The competent authorities shall co-operate directly in the planning and other measures required of them under this Agreement.

Article 10

If one of the Contracting States desires to denounce the Agreement, written notice to that effect shall be given to the Danish Government, which shall forthwith inform the other Contracting States of the denunciation and of the date of receipt of the notice.

The denunciation shall take effect twelve months after the receipt of notice thereof by the Danish Government or at such later date as may be specified in the denunciation.

Article 11

The Agreement shall be deposited with the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Ministry shall transmit certified copies of the Agreement to the Government of each of the Contracting States.

Article 12

The Agreement is open for signature as of 1 September 1971 and shall enter into force one month after the date on which it is signed by Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden. At the same time the Agreement of 8 December

1967 between Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden concerning Co-operation to ensure Compliance with the Regulations for Preventing the Pollution of the Sea by Oil shall cease to have effect.¹

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the plenipotentiaries of the respective States have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Copenhagen on 16 September 1971 in a single copy in the Danish, Finnish, Norwegian and Swedish languages, all the texts being equally authentic.

POUL HARTLING
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HERMAN KLING

¹ See p. 400 of this volume.