

No. 12180

**FRANCE
and
SPAIN**

**Exchange of letters constituting an agreement relating to the
supervision of isolation zones for fishing in the Bay of Biscay.
Paris, 28 August 1972**

Authentic texts: French and Spanish.

Registered by France on 7 December 1972.

**FRANCE
et
ESPAGNE**

**Échange de lettres constituant un accord relatif à la surveillance des
cantonnements de pêche dans le golfe de Gascogne. Paris, 28
août 1972**

Textes authentiques: français et espagnol.

Enregistré par la France le 7 décembre 1972.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN FRANCE AND SPAIN RELATING TO THE SUPERVISION OF ISOLATION ZONES FOR FISHING IN THE BAY OF BISCAY

I

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Office of Administrative Conventions and of Consular Affairs
International Unions

Paris, 28 August 1972

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that in the course of the conversations which took place in Paris from 7 to 11 December 1970 between French and Spanish delegations to consider a number of fishing problems common to both countries, and in particular the supervision of the isolation zones established on 1 January 1970 beyond their respective areas of jurisdiction, the two delegations reached an Agreement which reads as follows :

For the implementation of the recommendations of the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission establishing closed areas or isolation zones in region 3 of the area of application of that Convention,² the system of international control shall be exercised, in accordance with the provisions of the recommendation of the Commission establishing this international control, subject to the following procedures :

Inspectors or officers empowered to participate in international control who have, with the naked eye or using binoculars, ascertained the presence of a vessel conducting fishing operations in a closed area must make a report. They shall notify the master of the vessel by megaphone, radio or visual signals that he has committed an infraction.

The report must contain the following particulars :

- Identifying data on the inspected vessel (name, number and port of registry);
- Position in latitude and longitude of the surveillance vessel;
- Proof of fishing operations in a closed area (presence of nets in the water and presence of the vessel inside the closed area);
- Warning given to the offender, reply made by the latter (by megaphone, radio or visual signals) or, if appropriate, mention of failure to reply by one of these means.

It shall be signed by the competent inspector or officer.

The report shall be transmitted to the competent authorities of the Government concerned, which shall invite the captain of the inspected vessel to insert or cause to be inserted any comments he may deem relevant followed by his signature. A copy of the report shall be transmitted to the captain.

I have the honour to confirm that the French Government is prepared, for its part, to apply these provisions and suggests that this letter and your reply shall constitute an agreement between the French Government and the Spanish Government on this subject which shall enter into force as soon as that reply is signed.

Accept, Sir, etc.

His Excellency Mr. Pedro Cortina y Mauri
Ambassador of Spain
Paris

¹ Came into force on 28 August 1972 by the exchange of the said letters.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 486, p. 157.

II

EMBASSY OF SPAIN IN PARIS

Paris, 28 August 1972

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of today's date whose translation into Spanish reads as follows :

[See letter I]

I have the honour to confirm the agreement of the Spanish Government to the foregoing.

Accept, Sir, etc.

[Signed]

PEDRO CORTINA
Ambassador of Spain

His Excellency Mr. Maurice Schumann
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Paris
