

**No. 13823**

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**DENMARK  
and  
SWEDEN**

**Agreement concerning the protection of the Sound Oresund  
from pollution. Signed at Copenhagen on 5 April 1974**

*Authentic texts: Danish and Swedish.*

*Registered by Denmark on 27 March 1975.*

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**DANEMARK  
et  
SUÈDE**

**Accord sur la protection de l'Oresund contre la pollution.  
Signé à Copenhague le 5 avril 1974**

*Textes authentiques : danois et suédois.*

*Enregistré par le Danemark le 27 mars 1975.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

## AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN DENMARK AND SWEDEN CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE SOUND ORESUND FROM POLLUTION

The Governments of Denmark and Sweden

Believing that the Sound and the adjoining parts of the Baltic Sea and the Kattegat are of the great importance *inter alia* to fisheries and recreational activities,

Having signed the Nordic Convention on the Protection of the Environment of 19 February 1974 and the Convention on the Protection of the Baltic Sea Environment of 22 March 1974,

Believing that, in addition to the provision of the aforesaid Conventions there is a need for special measures effectively to protect the Sound from pollution and other influences that could endanger or impair its usefulness for the aforesaid purposes or otherwise damage its biological environment,

Have agreed as follows,

*Article 1.* For the purposes of this Agreement the term “the Sound” shall mean the area of water bounded in the north by a line drawn between Gilbjerg Head and the Kullen, and in the south by a line drawn between Stevn lighthouse and Falsterbo Point.

*Article 2.* Effective measures shall be carried out in each country to reduce the pollution of the Sound caused by direct or indirect discharges. The scope of these measures shall be determined in the light of technological feasibility and having regard both to public and private interests. To this end the following minimum requirements shall apply to purification treatment until further notice:

### 1. *Discharge of municipal waste water*

Direct or indirect discharge into the Sound of waste water from built-up areas may take place only where the waste water has undergone more thorough treatment than mechanical treatment (sludge separation).

Discharge into water areas with bad water-renewal properties may take place only after biological or chemical treatment reducing the content of organic matter, measured by biochemical oxygen consumption, by at least 90 per cent and the phosphate content either by an average of 90 per cent or to the equivalent of an effluent concentration averaging 0.5 mg of total phosphorus per litre. In the event of any dispute arising between the countries as to which areas are covered by this paragraph, such dispute shall be referred to the Commission mentioned in article 6.

### 2. *Discharge of industrial waste water*

Effective measures shall be undertaken to eliminate or substantially reduce any form of pollution from industries with direct waste water discharges which may be detrimental to the Sound. Such measures shall be designed to achieve the same aims as are sought with respect to the discharge of municipal waste.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 13 December 1974, the date upon which each of the two Governments notified the other (exchange of notes effected in Stockholm) of its ratification, in accordance with article 10.

Industries connected with municipal waste water systems shall institute effective internal measures for the elimination or substantial reduction of the discharge of all kinds of pollutant that may be damaging to the treatment process or to the receiver.

In determining what demands can be made for such measures, account shall be taken of such guidelines concerning the content of various substances in the waste water and similar matters as may be proposed by the Commission mentioned in article 6.

### 3. *Other guidelines*

In addition to the measures specifically indicated above, for the treatment of waste water or other restrictions on the discharge of pollutants into the Sound, the following guidelines shall be followed for the protection of the Sound.

- (a) Improved treatment measures shall, in principle, be designed to keep pace with the growth of the population and the rise in industrial production. An effort shall be made to reduce both domestic and industrial pollution.
- (b) The discharge of agricultural waste shall be supervised and kept under control.

*Article 3.* Measures to meet the minimum requirements indicated in article 2 for the treatment of municipal and industrial waste water shall be instituted as soon as possible and shall be implemented within five years after the signing of this Agreement. The continual increase in the discharge of pollutants into the Sound necessitates prompt action to deal with the question of further treatment measures. This question shall be taken up by the Commission mentioned in article 6. The Commission shall, in particular, consider the need for reduction of nutritive salts also upon discharge into the water areas of the Sound other than those referred to in article 2, item 1, second section, and proposed the necessary preventive measures in that respect by the end of 1977 at the latest.

*Article 4.* In order to control the direct discharge of waste water into the Sound from densely built-up areas and industries, each country shall adopt appropriate measures to gauge the amounts of water discharged and to ensure the regular sampling of major pollutants contained therein. For the purpose of control over the introduction into the Sound of waste water from the larger watercourses, hydrological monitoring stations should be established in the lower parts of the watercourses and regular monitoring of water quality should be undertaken.

The effects of discharges of waste water on the water, bottom sediment and organisms in the Sound should be regularly investigated within the discharge areas. Hydrological, chemical and biological studies should be made to determine the pollution situation in the Sound as a whole and in adjoining water areas and may serve as a basis for determining the need for further measures to counteract the pollution of the Sound.

*Article 5.* The question of special measures to prevent discharges in connexion with ferry traffic between the two countries shall be taken up by the Commission mentioned in article 6 as soon as possible.

*Article 6.* A Danish-Swedish Commission shall be established to deal with co-operation concerning the protection of the Sound from pollution. The Commission shall consist of six members and their alternates, of which each Government shall designate three. One of the members of the Commission designated by each Government shall represent the municipalities concerned. Each country may also designate experts to participate in the work and meetings of the Commission.

The chairmanship of the Commission shall alternate between the countries each year. The Secretariat functions of the Commission shall be undertaken by the country which holds the chairmanship. Each country shall defray its own expenses in connexion with the work of the Commission.

The Commission shall establish its own rules of procedure.

The Commission shall establish such committees as it deems necessary.

*Article 7.* The Commission shall have the following tasks:

- (a) It shall actively follow the fulfilment by each country of the requirements connected with this Agreement.
- (b) It shall examine the need for additions to or changes in the set of goals established in this agreement.
- (c) It shall promote co-ordination of ongoing research and study projects of importance to the protection of the Sound and, where necessary, initiate further projects.
- (d) It shall propose such other measures as may be conducive to the reduction of pollution in the Sound.
- (e) At the request of the Government of one of the two countries it shall give an opinion on questions falling within its purview.
- (f) It shall report regularly to the Governments of the two countries on its activities and otherwise report in an appropriate manner on the pollution situation in the Sound.

*Article 8.* Proposals made by the Commission in accordance with article 7, (a) to (d), shall be submitted to the Governments of the two countries or to competent authorities in the two countries. The proposals shall, if necessary, be accompanied by information concerning the manner in which expenses connected with their implementation should, in the Commission's opinion, be apportioned between the two countries.

*Article 9.* The Protocol signed by the Parties on 27 February and 1 March 1960 concerning a long-term programme for studies in the Sound shall cease to have effect forthwith. The Commission shall take a decision concerning the transfer of the work tasks which were previously the responsibility of the Sound Water Committee established under the aforesaid Protocol.

*Article 10.* This Agreement shall be subject to ratification. The Agreement shall enter into force when the two Governments have notified one another, by an exchange of notes in Stockholm, that they have ratified it. After the Agreement has been in force for ten years, it may be terminated by either party by written notice to that effect to the other party.

The Agreement shall expire one year after notice of termination.

For the Danish Government:  
HOLGER HANSEN

For the Swedish Government:  
SVANTE LUNDKVIST