

No. 15068

**BELGIUM
and
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS**

**Agreement on co-operation in the field of environmental
protection. Signed at Moscow on 25 June 1975**

Authentic texts: French and Russian.

Registered by Belgium on 22 October 1976.

**BELGIQUE
et
UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES
SOVIÉTIQUES**

**Accord sur la coopération dans le domaine de la protection
de l'environnement. Signé à Moscou le 25 juin 1975**

Textes authentiques : français et russe.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 22 octobre 1976.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS ON CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The Government of the Kingdom of Belgium and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Attaching great importance to preservation and improvement of the environment;

Believing that economic and social development with due regard for the interests of future generations requires, as of the present, protection and improvement of the environment;

Considering such co-operation to be mutually advantageous and that real possibilities exist for its development;

Being convinced that improvement of co-operation in the field of the environment will contribute to the development of relations between the two countries;

Acting on the basis of the Agreement on economic, scientific and technical co-operation between the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, of 26 July 1969,² and the Agreement on Development of Economic, Industrial, Scientific and Technical Co-operation between the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, of 19 November 1974;

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1. The Parties shall do their utmost to promote the development of co-operation in the field of environmental protection; such co-operation shall be on the basis of full equality and mutual advantage.

Article 2. Co-operation shall be in the following areas:

- protection of the air from pollution;
- protection of water from pollution;
- protection of the sea from pollution;
- problems of the urban environment (transport, noise abatement, creation of green areas, etc.);
- treatment, utilization and detoxication of industrial and domestic wastes;
- protection of nature (fauna and flora), creation of national parks and nature reserves;
- legal and administrative measures for the protection of the environment and the comprehensive utilization of natural resources.

The above list of main areas of co-operation may be made more specific by mutual agreement between the Parties.

¹ Came into force on 23 March 1976, the date of receipt of the last of the notifications by which the Parties informed each other of the completion of their constitutional procedures, in accordance with article 8.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 784, p. 169.

Article 3. Co-operation between the Parties shall take the following forms:

- exchange of research workers, specialists and delegations for the purposes of information, study and scientific research;
- organization of bilateral conferences, symposia and meetings of experts;
- exchange of scientific and technical documentation;
- carrying out of joint programmes and projects in the field of basic and applied sciences.

Other forms of co-operation may be determined during the implementation of this Agreement.

Article 4. Within two months of the signing of this Agreement, each Party shall inform the other about the bodies entrusted with the co-ordination and organization of work for the implementation of the Agreement.

The said co-ordinating bodies shall study and establish specific programmes of co-operation, fix a time-table for their implementation and submit, to the Mixed Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Co-operation between the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, joint reports on the development of co-operation in the field of environmental protection.

Article 5. With a view to achieving the objectives set forth in the preceding articles of this Agreement, the two Parties shall promote contacts between the bodies of the two countries concerned with co-operation, including the conclusion of agreements for the implementation of specific projects and programmes.

Article 6. Exchanges of delegations of specialists under this Agreement shall be carried out in accordance with the conditions established by the Mixed Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Co-operation between the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Article 7. This Agreement shall not be interpreted as conflicting with the legislation of either Party, agreements previously concluded between the Parties or any international obligation entered into by either of the Parties.

Article 8. Each Party shall notify the other Party of the completion of the procedure required under its Constitution for the entry into force of this Agreement.

The Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the receipt of the last such notification.

This Agreement is concluded for a period of five years and shall be extended after that date if neither of the Parties expresses the desire to terminate it.

It may be terminated on the initiative of either Party, on six months' notice.

DONE at Moscow, on 25 June 1975, in two copies, each in the French and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the Kingdom of Belgium:

[Signed]

R. VAN ELSLANDE

For the Government
of the Union of Soviet Socialist
Republics:

[Signed]

A. GROMYKO