

No. 14595

---

**FRANCE**  
**and**  
**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN**  
**AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

**Exchange of letters constituting an agreement concerning the extension to Hong Kong of the Convention between Great Britain and Northern Ireland and France providing for the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters, signed at Paris on 18 January 1934. Paris, 29 July 1975**

*Authentic texts: English and French.*

*Registered by France on 19 February 1976.*

**Application to Hong-Kong of the above-mentioned Convention of 18 January 1934**

*Certified statement registered by United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 19 February 1976.*

ÉCHANGE DE LETTRES CONSTITUANT UN ACCORD<sup>1</sup> ENTRE LA FRANCE ET LE ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD ÉTENDANT À HONG-KONG LES DISPOSITIONS DE LA CONVENTION ENTRE LA GRANDE-BRETAGNE ET L'IRLANDE DU NORD ET LA FRANCE POUR L'EXÉCUTION RÉCIPROQUE DES JUGEMENTS EN MATIÈRE CIVILE ET COMMERCIALE, SIGNÉE À PARIS LE 18 JANVIER 1934<sup>2</sup>

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND CONCERNING THE EXTENSION TO HONG KONG OF THE CONVENTION BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND FRANCE PROVIDING FOR THE RECIPROCAL ENFORCEMENT OF JUDGMENTS IN CIVIL AND COMMERCIAL MATTERS, SIGNED AT PARIS ON 18 JANUARY 1934<sup>2</sup>

I

BRITISH EMBASSY  
PARIS

29 July, 1975

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to the Convention between the United Kingdom and France for the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments, signed at Paris on 18 January 1934.<sup>2</sup>

On instructions from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs I have to inform you that the United Kingdom wish to extend the operation of the said Convention to Hong Kong under Article 11. Paragraph 2 of that Article provides that, before this may be done, an agreement shall be concluded between the High Contracting Parties as to the courts of the territory concerned, which shall be deemed to be "superior courts" for the purposes of the Convention and the courts to which application for registration of any judgment shall be made.

I therefore have the honour to propose that the following courts, that is to say:

- a. the Supreme Court of Hong Kong,
- b. the Full Court of Hong Kong, and

<sup>1</sup> Entré en vigueur le 29 octobre 1975, conformément aux dispositions desdites lettres.

<sup>2</sup> Société des Nations, *Recueil des Traités*, vol. CLXXI, p. 183.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 29 October 1975, in accordance with the provisions of the said letters.

<sup>2</sup> League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. CLXXI, p. 183.

c. Her Majesty in Council determining appeals from the Full Court or the Supreme Court of Hong Kong,

shall be deemed to be "superior courts" for the purposes of the Convention and that the Supreme Court of Hong Kong shall be the court to which application for registration of any judgment shall be made. I would explain that in certain cases appeals lie from the Full Court and the Supreme Court of Hong Kong to Her Majesty in Council, who exercises this appellate jurisdiction on the advice of the Judicial Committee of that Council.

If the foregoing proposal is acceptable to the French Republic, I have the honour to suggest that the present Note and Your Excellency's reply to that effect shall constitute the agreement provided for in Article 11(2) of the Convention in so far as the territory of Hong Kong is concerned.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

[Signed]

EDWARD TOMKINS

His Excellency Monsieur Jean Sauvagnargues  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Paris

[TRADUCTION — TRANSLATION]

AMBASSADE BRITANNIQUE  
PARIS

Paris, le 29 juillet 1975

Excellence,

[*Voir lettre II*]

Je saisis cette occasion pour renouveler à Votre Excellence l'assurance de ma plus haute considération.

[Signé]

EDWARD TOMKINS

Son Excellence, Monsieur Jean Sauvagnargues  
Ministre des Affaires étrangères  
Paris

## [TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

Paris, 29 July 1975

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 29 July 1975, which reads as follows:

[See letter I]

In reply, I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that the foregoing proposal is acceptable to the French Government. Accordingly, your letter mentioned above and the present reply constitute, in so far as the territory of Hong Kong is concerned, the Agreement provided for in article 11 (2) of the Convention on the reciprocal enforcement of judgments concluded by France and Great Britain on 18 January 1934.

Accept, Sir, etc.

[Signed]

CLAUDE CHAYET

His Excellency Sir Edward Tomkins  
Ambassador of Great Britain in Paris

## TERRITORIAL APPLICATION

*Notification under article 11 (1) of the Convention of 18 January 1934 addressed to the Government of France on:*

29 July 1975

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

(In respect of Hong Kong. With effect from 29 October 1975.)

*Certified statement was registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 19 February 1976.*

## APPLICATION TERRITORIALE

*Notification en vertu de l'article 11, paragraphe 1, de la Convention du 18 janvier 1934 adressée au Gouvernement français le :*

29 juillet 1975

ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD

(A l'égard de Hong-kong. Avec effet au 29 octobre 1975.)

*La déclaration certifiée a été enregistrée par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le 19 février 1976.*