

No. 16701

**BELGIUM
and
LUXEMBOURG**

**Agreement concerning mutual assistance in matters of civil
defence. Signed at Brussels on 23 July 1970**

Authentic text: French.

Registered by Belgium on 26 May 1978.

**BELGIQUE
et
LUXEMBOURG**

**Accord sur l'assistance mutuelle en matière de protection
civile. Signé à Bruxelles le 23 juillet 1970**

Texte authentique : français.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 26 mai 1978.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG CONCERNING MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN MATTERS OF CIVIL DEFENCE

The Government of the Kingdom of Belgium and the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg,

Wishing to facilitate prompt mutual assistance between Belgium and Luxembourg in matters of civil defence,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1. For the purposes of this Agreement, “civil defence” means all civil measures and facilities for ensuring the protection and survival of the population and safeguarding the national heritage in the event of armed conflict.

Another objective of civil defence is to provide relief and protect property at all times, when calamity, catastrophe or disaster occurs.

Article 2. 1. The Belgian authorities and the Luxembourg authorities responsible for civil defence may request the assistance of the other Party, in accordance with the implementary provisions laid down in article 4 of the Agreement.

2. The assistance envisaged in the preceding paragraph shall be provided as soon as one Party expresses the need for it.

3. The Belgian and Luxembourg authorities shall decide jointly what measures should be taken to meet the requirements.

Article 3. In order to ensure the prompt arrival of relief, the two Parties undertake to do everything possible to facilitate the crossing of frontiers.

The chief of the relief team shall be provided with a document certifying his position, with a list of his staff, and with an inventory of the vehicles, equipment and material transported. A copy of these documents shall be submitted, if required, to the frontier authorities.

Article 4. For the purpose of this Agreement, special operations plans shall be drawn up jointly by the Belgian and Luxembourg national authorities responsible for civil defence.

These plans, which shall always be kept up to date, shall state in particular:

- (1) the nature, number and location of the relief services that each Party is likely to supply at the request of the other;
- (2) the names and functions of the authorities entitled to request assistance from the other Party, and to accord such assistance;
- (3) the name and function of the authority to which the chief of the relief unit should report upon arrival at the place of the operation;

¹ Came into force on 29 December 1977, the date of the last of the notifications (effected on 16 July and 29 December 1977) by which the Parties informed each other of the fulfilment of their constitutional requirements, in accordance with article 9 (1).

- (4) all information likely to facilitate relief operations and, in particular, means of communication between the competent authorities of the two Parties.

Article 5. General instructions for relief operations shall in all cases be given by the responsible authorities of the affected territory. However, those authorities shall confine themselves to indicating the tasks they intend to entrust to the reinforcement units sent by the other Party, without going into the details of implementation.

Article 6. Relief vehicles and equipment sent from one State to perform a task in the other must return to the State of origin as soon as the operation is completed.

Article 7. No payment shall be made by one State to the other to reimburse the cost of assistance or for any lost, damaged or destroyed equipment.

Nevertheless, throughout the operations the assisted Party shall be responsible for supplying the relief teams with food and providing the equipment with the items needed for their operation.

Article 8. This Agreement shall apply to any person and any equipment that the two Parties bring into service in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement.

Article 9. 1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date on which each Government receives from the other written notification that all the constitutional requirements for its entry into force have been fulfilled.

2. It shall remain in force for a period of five years.

3. It shall be renewed by tacit agreement, each time for a period of five years, unless either Party denounces it by giving notice 90 days before the expiry of any such five-year period.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Brussels on 23 July 1970, in duplicate, in the French language.

For the Kingdom
of Belgium:
[P. HARMEL]

For the Grand Duchy
of Luxembourg:
[L. SCHAUS]