

No. 16494

**FRANCE
and
GREECE**

**Agreement on cinematographic relations between France
and Greece (with annex). Signed at Athens on 12
October 1973**

Authentic text: French.

Registered by France on 28 February 1978.

**FRANCE
et
GRÈCE**

**Accord sur les relations cinématographiques franco-
helléniques (avec annexe). Signé à Athènes le 12
octobre 1973**

Texte authentique: français.

Enregistré par la France le 28 février 1978.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ ON CINEMATOGRAPHIC RELATIONS BETWEEN FRANCE AND GREECE

The Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Hellenic Republic, desiring to facilitate the co-production of films and to develop exchanges of films between the two countries, have agreed as follows:

I. CO-PRODUCTION

1. Co-production films covered by this Agreement shall be treated as films of national origin by the authorities of the two countries.

Such films shall automatically enjoy the privileges deriving from any provisions that are now in force or may hereafter be enacted in each country.

The making of co-production films by the two countries shall require the approval, after consultation between them, of the competent authorities of the two countries:

- In the case of France: the National Cinematography Centre;
- In the case of Greece: the Department of Cinematography of the Ministry of Industry.

2. In order to qualify for co-production privileges, films must be made by producers possessing satisfactory technical and financial organization and professional experience recognized by the respective national authority.

3. Films must be made under the following conditions:

The respective contributions of the producers of the two countries to each film may vary between 30 and 70 per cent. In certain cases, the minority contribution may be reduced to 20 per cent. The technical and artistic participation of the two countries shall be in the same proportion as the financial contributions; the technical and artistic participation shall in any event include at least one technician, one actor in a major role and one actor in a minor role who are nationals of the country holding the minority financial participation.

4. Films must be made by directors, technicians and artists who are French nationals or have the status of a resident in France or who are Greek nationals, are of Greek origin or have the status of a resident in Greece.

5. Studio scenes shall be shot and films scored and developed in the territory of the Contracting Parties.

For the shooting of studio scenes the country of the majority co-producer shall be given preference.

Two negatives, i.e., one negative and one duplicate (for black and white film) or one negative and one internegative (for colour film) shall be made for each co-production film.

¹ Came into force on 23 December 1977, i.e., 30 days after the Parties notified each other (on 23 November 1977) that it had been approved, in accordance with paragraph 16.

Each producer shall hold one negative, duplicate or internegative.

In principle, the negative shall be developed at a laboratory in the majority country, where the prints intended for use in that country shall also be made; the prints intended for use in the minority country shall be made at a laboratory in that country.

6. An overall balance shall, in principle, be achieved both in artistic matters and in the use of the technical facilities of the two countries, including studios and laboratories.

The Joint Commission provided for in article 15 of this Agreement shall consider whether this balance has been observed and, if it has not, shall decide what measures are necessary to re-establish an equal distribution between the Contracting Parties.

7. Receipts shall be divided in proportion to the total contribution of each co-producer.

This division shall take the form of a sharing of receipts or a geographical division, or a combination of the two, account being taken of any difference in the size of the markets of the signatory countries. The division of receipts shall be subject to approval by the competent authorities of the two countries.

8. Arrangements for the export of co-produced films shall, in principle, be made by the majority co-producer.

In the case of films in which both sides participated equally, arrangements for export shall, unless otherwise agreed, be made by the co-producer having the same nationality as the director.

In the case of countries which impose import restrictions, the film shall be charged against the quota of the country having the better export opportunities. In the event of difficulties, the film shall be charged against the quota of the country of which the director is a national.

9. With regard to the co-production of short films, films whose length does not exceed 1,600 metres in 35-mm format or the length corresponding to the same duration in other formats shall be deemed to be short films.

Each film must be made as an artistically, technically and financially balanced co-production.

10. Credits, trailers and advertising for co-production films shall refer to their being French-Greek co-productions.

Unless the co-producers arrange otherwise and the arrangement is approved by the competent authorities of the two countries, co-produced films shall be presented at film festivals by the country of the majority co-producer.

11. The competent authorities of the two countries shall give favourable consideration to the making of co-production films by France and Greece together with countries with which either of them has co-production agreements.

The conditions governing the approval of such films shall be examined on a case-by-case basis.

12. Subject to the legislation and regulations in force, every facility shall be afforded for the travel and residence of the cast and technical staff employed in

the making of such films and for the import and export to and from each country of equipment needed for the making and marketing of co-production films (film, technical equipment costumes, sets, advertising material, etc.).

II. EXCHANGES OF FILMS

13. Subject to the legislation and regulations in force, no restriction shall be imposed in either country on the sale, import and marketing of film prints of national origin.

Each Contracting Party shall afford every facility in its country for the distribution of national films of the other country.

Receipts from the sale and marketing of films imported under this Agreement shall be transferred pursuant to contracts concluded between the two Parties, in accordance with the regulations in force in each of the two countries.

III. GENERAL PROVISIONS

14. The competent authorities of the two countries shall transmit to each other full information concerning co-productions, exchanges of films and, in general, all particulars concerning cinematographic relations between the two countries.

15. A Joint Commission shall have the function of considering the conditions of application of this Agreement, resolving any difficulties and studying amendments which may be desirable with a view to developing co-operation in cinematographic matters in the common interest of the two countries.

During the period of validity of this Agreement the Commission shall meet each year, alternately in France and Greece; it may also be convened at the request of either Contracting Party, especially in the event of substantial amendments to the legislation or regulations applicable to the film industry.

16. The two Governments shall notify each other of their approval of this Agreement; it shall enter into force 30 days after the later of the notifications.

The Agreement is concluded for a period of two years from the date of its entry into force; it shall be renewed by tacit agreement for successive periods of two years unless denounced by one of the Parties three months before the date of expiry.

The Chairman of the French Delegation,
ANDRÉ ASTOUX

The Chairman of the Greek Delegation,
GERASSIMOS CAMBITSIS

ANNEX

IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURE

In order to benefit from the provisions of the Agreement, producers of each country must attach to their co-production applications, submitted to their respective authorities one month before shooting is to begin, the following set of documents:

- A detailed scenario;
- A document concerning the acquisition of film rights;
- The co-production contract between the co-producing companies;
- A cost estimate and a detailed financing schedule;
- A list of the technical staff and cast members of the two countries;
- A production schedule for the film.

The authorities of the country having the minority financial participation shall give their approval only after receiving the opinion of the authorities of the country having the majority financial participation.
