

**No. 17569**

---

**SWITZERLAND  
and  
BAHAMAS**

**Exchange of letters constituting an agreement concerning the application between Switzerland and the Bahamas of the Convention concluded on 3 December 1937 by Switzerland and Great Britain on legal proceedings. Nassau, 3 March 1977, and Berne, 3 May 1977**

*Authentic texts: English and French.*

*Registered by Switzerland on 15 February 1979.*

---

**SUISSE  
et  
BAHAMAS**

**Échange de lettres constituant un accord concernant l'application entre la Suisse et les Bahamas de la Convention conclue le 3 décembre 1937 par la Suisse et la Grande-Bretagne en matière de procédure civile. Nassau, 3 mars 1977, et Berne, 3 mai 1977**

*Textes authentiques : anglais et français.*

*Enregistré par la Suisse le 15 février 1979.*

ÉCHANGE DE LETTRES CONSTITUANT UN ACCORD<sup>1</sup> CONCERNANT L'APPLICATION ENTRE LA SUISSE ET LES BAHAMAS DE LA CONVENTION CONCLUE LE 3 DÉCEMBRE 1937<sup>2</sup> PAR LA SUISSE ET LA GRANDE-BRETAGNE EN MATIÈRE DE PROCÉDURE CIVILE

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> CONCERNING THE APPLICATION BETWEEN SWITZERLAND AND THE BAHAMAS OF THE CONVENTION CONCLUDED ON 3 DECEMBER 1937<sup>2</sup> BY SWITZERLAND AND GREAT BRITAIN ON LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

I

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NASSAU, BAHAMAS

3 March 1977

Sir,

I have the honour to call to your attention the notification addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 10 July 1973 that, in principle, the Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas acknowledged that Treaty Rights and Obligations of the former Colony of the Bahamas, for which the United Kingdom was responsible, would be inherited by the Commonwealth of The Bahamas upon independence, by virtue of customary international law; but that since it is likely that by virtue of customary international law certain treaties may have lapsed at the date of independence of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, it seemed essential that each treaty should be subject to legal examination.

The Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas has examined the Convention on Legal Proceedings in Civil and Commercial Matters signed at London on 3 December 1937.<sup>2</sup>

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency's Government that the Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas desires that the above Convention should continue to regulate the matters contained therein as between our respective countries.

If the foregoing proposal is acceptable to the Government of the Swiss Confederation, I have the honour to suggest that the present Note and Your Excellency's reply in that sense shall constitute an agreement between the two

<sup>1</sup> Entré en vigueur le 3 mai 1977, date de la lettre de réponse, conformément aux dispositions desdites lettres.

<sup>2</sup> Société des Nations, *Recueil des Traités*, vol. CXCIV, p. 223.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 3 May 1977, the date of the letter in reply, in accordance with the provisions of the said letters.

<sup>2</sup> League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. CXCIV, p. 223.

Governments to continue in effect the Convention on Legal Proceedings in Civil and Commercial Matters signed on 3 December 1937, with effect from the date of Your Excellency's reply.

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

[Signed]

P. L. ADDERLEY  
Minister of External Affairs  
of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas

His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs  
of the Government of the Swiss Confederation  
Berne, Switzerland

[TRADUCTION — TRANSLATION]

MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES  
NASSAU (BAHAMAS)

3 mars 1977

Monsieur,

[Voir lettre II]

Veuillez agréer, etc.

[Signé]

P. L. ADDERLEY  
Ministre des affaires extérieures  
du Commonwealth des Bahamas

Son Excellence le Ministre des affaires étrangères  
du Gouvernement de la Confédération suisse  
Berne (Suisse)

## [TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

CHIEF, FEDERAL POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

Berne, 3 May 1977

Sir,

On 3 March 1977, you addressed to me a letter which reads as follows:

[*See note I*]

I have the honour to inform you that your proposal is acceptable to the Swiss authorities. Henceforth, your letter and this reply shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments under which the Convention concerning Legal Proceedings signed by Switzerland and Great Britain on 3 December 1937 shall remain in force between Switzerland and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

Accept, Sir, etc.

GRABER

Mr. P. L. Adderley  
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas  
Nassau