

No. 20338

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**FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY,  
FRANCE and LUXEMBOURG**

**Exchange of letters constituting an agreement concerning  
German-French-Luxembourg co-operation in the  
frontier areas (with map). Bonn, 16 October 1980**

*Authentic texts: German and French.*

*Registered by the Federal Republic of Germany on 7 August 1981.*

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**RÉPUBLIQUE FÉDÉRALE D'ALLEMAGNE,  
FRANCE et LUXEMBOURG**

**Échange de lettres constituant un accord relatif à la  
coopération germano-franco-luxembourgeoise dans  
les régions frontalières (avec carte). Bonn, 16 oc-  
tobre 1980**

*Textes authentiques : allemand et français.*

*Enregistré par la République fédérale d'Allemagne le 7 août 1981.*

## [TRANSLATION—TRADUCTION]

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup>  
BETWEEN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY,  
FRANCE AND LUXEMBOURG CONCERNING GERMAN-  
FRENCH-LUXEMBOURG CO-OPERATION IN THE  
FRONTIER AREAS

## I

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Bonn, 16 October 1980

Sir,

On behalf of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, and with reference to the talks between representatives of the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany, the French Republic and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the last of which took place on 21 March 1980 at Kaiserslautern, I have the honour to propose the following Agreement concerning German-French-Luxembourg co-operation in the frontier areas:

1. The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, the French Republic and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg agree, in the interests of facilitating the development of the frontier areas referred to in paragraph 2, to extend their trans-frontier co-operation.

This co-operation concerns activities of common interest, particularly in the administrative, technical, social, economic and cultural fields, which are designed to strengthen and develop good-neighbourly relations.

2. The implementation of the provisions of paragraph 1 shall be entrusted to an Intergovernmental Commission and a Regional Commission, whose task will be to facilitate the examination of contiguity problems in the following frontier areas and to propose solutions to them:

- Saarland;
- In *Land* Rhineland-Palatinate: the Trier and Westpfalz region's and *Landkreis* Birkenfeld;
- The Departments of Meuse, Moselle, Meurthe-et-Moselle and Vosges;
- The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

These frontier areas are shown on the map annexed to this Agreement.<sup>2</sup>

3. (a) The Intergovernmental Commission shall be composed of three delegations, the members of which shall be appointed by their respective Governments.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 16 October 1980, the date of the last acceptance, in accordance with the provisions of the said letters.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 80 of this volume.

Each delegation shall have a maximum of nine members.

Each delegation may call upon the services of experts.

(b) The Intergovernmental Commission shall normally meet once a year, in each of the three States in turn.

(c) The Intergovernmental Commission may establish working groups.

(d) The Intergovernmental Commission shall determine its own rules of procedure.

4. The Intergovernmental Commission shall deal with the general aspects of co-operation questions relating to the frontier areas referred to in paragraph 2.

It shall formulate recommendations to the Contracting Parties and, where appropriate, shall prepare draft agreements.

The Intergovernmental Commission may instruct the Regional Commission to submit proposals or draft agreements, to present recommendations and to report to it on questions referred to the Regional Commission for consideration.

5. (a) The Regional Commission shall be composed of representatives of the *Land* governments of Saarland and Rhineland-Palatinate, the Prefect of the Lorraine region, the Prefect of the Moselle Department of Meuse, Meurthe-et-Moselle and Vosges, of their representatives, and representatives of the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. Experts may be invited to attend the meetings.

(b) The Regional Commission shall meet as often as necessary, and at least once a year.

(c) The Regional Commission may establish working groups.

(d) The Regional Commission shall determine its own rules of procedure.

6. The Regional Commission shall deal with the regional aspects of co-operation questions relating to the frontier areas referred to in paragraph 2. It shall report to the Intergovernmental Commission on its activities and, where appropriate, shall submit recommendations to it.

7. This Agreement shall not affect the activities of bodies which have been or may be established under international agreements.

8. This Agreement shall also apply to *Land Berlin*, provided that the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany does not make a declaration to the contrary to the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg within three months of the date of entry into force of this Agreement.

9. If the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg agree to the foregoing provisions, this letter and the replies from the Embassy of the French Republic and the Embassy of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg shall constitute an agreement between the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, which shall take effect on the date of the last acceptance. The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany shall inform the Governments of the French Republic and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg of the acceptances it has received.

10. This Agreement may be denounced by any Contracting Party at any time. Such denunciation must be made in writing and shall take effect three months after it has been notified to the other Contracting Parties.

Accept, Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

LAUTENSCHLAGER

His Excellency Mr. Jean-Pierre Brunet  
Ambassador of France  
Bonn

His Excellency Mr. Georges Heisbourg  
Ambassador of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg  
Bonn

## II

THE AMBASSADOR OF FRANCE  
TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Bonn, 16 October 1980

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 16 October 1980 reading as follows in an agreed text:

[*See letter I*]

I have the honour to inform you that the foregoing is acceptable to my Government.

Accordingly, your letter of 16 October 1980 and the replies of the Embassy of the French Republic and the Embassy of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg shall constitute an agreement between the Government of the French Republic, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, which shall take effect on the date of the last acceptance.

I would also inform you that I have forwarded a copy of this letter to the Embassy of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, together with a request that I should be supplied with a copy of the reply from the Embassy of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

Accept, Sir, etc.

[JEAN-PIERRE BRUNET]

His Excellency Mr. Hans-Werner Lautenschlager  
Secretary of State  
Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Bonn

## III

## EMBASSY OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG

Bonn, 16 October 1980

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 16 October 1980, the text of which reads as follows:

*[See letter I]*

I have the honour to inform you that the foregoing provisions are acceptable to my Government. Accordingly, your letter of 16 October 1980 and the replies of the Embassies of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the French Republic shall constitute an agreement between the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Government of the French Republic, which shall take effect on the date of the last acceptance.

Accept, Sir, etc.

[GEORGES HEISBOURG]

Ambassador of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

His Excellency Mr. Hans-Werner Lautenschlager  
Secretary of State  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Bonn

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