

No. 20319

**FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
and
SWITZERLAND**

**Agreement on radiation protection in an emergency. Signed
at Bonn on 31 May 1978**

Authentic text: German.

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

**RÉPUBLIQUE FÉDÉRALE D'ALLEMAGNE
et
SUISSE**

**Accord relatif à la protection en cas de danger radiologique.
Signé à Bonn le 31 mai 1978**

Texte authentique : allemand.

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

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL
REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND THE SWISS FEDERAL COUNCIL
ON RADIATION PROTECTION IN AN EMERGENCY

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Swiss Federal Council,

Considering,

That accidents during the transport of radioactive substances or in the nuclear industry or other incidents in connection with nuclear material may occasion the emission of considerable quantities of radioactive substances into the air and into bodies of water,

That air-borne and water-borne transport of radioactive substances can occur,

That the transport of considerable quantities of radioactive substances beyond the national frontier may also pose a threat to inhabitants of the neighbouring country,

And with a view to protecting the inhabitants of both States as much as possible from the effects of exposure to radiation, have agreed as follows:

1. The Contracting Parties shall inform each other of radiation emergencies on their national territory that may affect the neighbouring country.

2. Each Contracting Party shall establish and maintain an appropriate notification system with a central unit.

3. The Contracting Parties shall notify each other of the establishment of a central unit for their notification system and of all changes in that unit which may influence a swift and appropriate notification of the neighbouring country.

4. The Contracting Parties shall provide for liaison between the central units.

5. The central unit of the notification system shall receive round-the-clock reports on radiation emergencies and shall refer them to the competent authorities.

6. Reports on emergencies should contain all available information of importance for risk assessment, in particular:

- The type and time of the incident,
- The geographical location of the emission,
- Transport medium, for example air or water,
- Meteorological data and information on water bodies and watercourses needed to predict transport and dilution,
- The type, chemical and physical form and — when possible — the quantity of radioactive substances emitted,
- Expected chronological behaviour of the emission source.

7. The reports on emergencies should be supplemented by all available information on the protection measures taken or envisaged in the country itself.

¹ Came into force on 15 February 1980, the date on which the Contracting Parties had notified each other of the completion of the required constitutional procedures, in accordance with paragraph 12.

8. Information which becomes available later, as well as changes in the situation and the termination of the emergency, shall be communicated in additional reports.

9. Each Contracting Party may send a liaison team to the neighbouring State in emergencies and for exercises. The liaison team shall have access to the competent authorities, for example, emergency stations and the information unit of the disaster relief headquarters, and shall be authorized to transmit the information it receives to the competent authorities of its own State. The crossing of the frontier and the movement of the equipment needed shall take place in conformity with the relevant provisions of both States.

10. The competence of the authorities with respect to the implementation of this Agreement shall be defined in conformity with the national legislation of the Contracting Parties.

11. This Agreement shall also apply to *Land Berlin*, provided that the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany has not made a contrary declaration to the Swiss Federal Council within three months from the date of entry into force of this Agreement.

12. This Agreement shall enter into force the day on which the Contracting Parties have notified each other of the completion of the procedure required by their national law for giving effect to this Agreement.

DONE at Bonn on 31 May 1978, in duplicate, in the German language.

For the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany:

Dr. PETER HERMES

For the Swiss Federal Council:

Dr. MICHAEL GELZER
