

No. 20939

**FRANCE
and
SWITZERLAND**

**Agreement concerning the removal of phosphates from the
waters of Lake Geneva (with annexes). Signed at Berne
on 20 November 1980**

Authentic text: French.

Registered by France on 4 March 1982.

**FRANCE
et
SUISSE**

**Accord sur la déphosphatation des eaux du lac Léman (avec
annexes). Signé à Berne le 20 novembre 1980**

Texte authentique : français.

Enregistré par la France le 4 mars 1982.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE SWISS FEDERAL COUNCIL, ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE REPUBLIC AND CANTON OF GENEVA, CONCERNING THE REMOVAL OF PHOSPHATES FROM THE WATERS OF LAKE GENEVA

The Government of the French Republic and
The Swiss Federal Council, acting on behalf of the Republic and Canton of Geneva,
Considering the Convention between France and Switzerland of 16 November 1962,
which established the International Commission for the Protection of the Waters of Lake Geneva against Pollution,²

Desiring to take stronger action against the pollution of Lake Geneva,

Considering the extensive efforts which must be made by all the local authorities in the catchment area, particularly to reduce the phosphorus content of the waters of the lake,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1. The Republic and Canton of Geneva shall make a financial contribution to the local authorities in the catchment area of Lake Geneva which undertake to remove phosphates from their waste water in accordance with the norms and regulations in force.

This contribution shall represent a percentage of the cost of purchasing the reagents needed for phosphate removal in the appropriate purification plants.

Article 2. Purification plants operated by French local public authorities in the catchment area of Lake Geneva undertaking to remove phosphates from their effluents and thereby receiving such a contribution shall be subject to inspection by the competent French authorities, in respect of the points specified in annex B.

Article 3. Technical data as indicated in annexes A, B and C, relating to the equipment and operation of the purification plants concerned, shall be compiled by the departmental prefects and transmitted at regular intervals to the International Commission for the Protection of the Waters of Lake Geneva against Pollution.

Article 4. The International Commission shall review these data and forward them with its comments to the State Council of the Republic and Canton of Geneva.

Article 5. The Republic and Canton of Geneva shall deposit to the account of the Accounting Office of the French Paymaster-General's Office (Trésor) at the head office of the Bank of France in Paris the financial contribution for the purchase of reagents needed for the phosphate removal undertaken by the French local public authorities concerned.

The Accounting Office shall allocate this revenue to the account entitled "Provisional allocation of revenue to local authorities", under the heading "Miscellaneous revenue with specific earmarking", and shall transfer this sum to the Paymasters-General of the

¹ Came into force on 1 July 1981, the date agreed to by the Parties, after they had notified each other (on 30 March and 21 April 1981) of the completion of the required constitutional procedures, in accordance with article 8.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 922, p. 49.

departments of Ain and Haute-Savoie, who shall in turn immediately credit the same amount to the local authorities designated to receive it.

Article 6. This contribution shall be fixed, as of 1 January 1981, at a maximum of SwF 0.88 per year per inhabitant served by the purification plants undertaking the phosphate removal. It shall be limited to a total annual amount of SwF 865,000 for the catchment area as a whole.

Article 7. These ceilings may be adjusted by mutual agreement upon recommendation of the International Commission.

Article 8. This Agreement shall take effect on the date on which the two Parties have notified each other of the completion of the constitutional procedures required for its entry into force.

Article 9. This Agreement is concluded for a period of five years from the date of its entry into force and shall be automatically renewed for further five-year periods unless one of the Contracting Parties denounces it in writing six months before the date of expiry of any such periods.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the representatives of the two Governments, being duly authorized thereto, have signed this Agreement and thereto affixed their seals.

DONE at Berne on 20 November 1980, in duplicate in the French language.

For the Government
of the French Republic:

[Signed]

FRANÇOIS DELMAS
Secretary of State to the Minister
of the Environment and the Quality of Life

For the Swiss Federal Council:

[Signed]

HANS HÜRLIMANN

ANNEX A

TECHNICAL DATA TO BE COMPILED FOR EACH PLANT

1. Name of the plant.
2. Owner or operator (commune, intercommunal association).
3. Capacity expressed in population equivalent.
4. Map of territory covered by the plant.
5. Total number of inhabitants served (year-round and seasonal), excluding any industrial population equivalent.
6. Location of discharge point (to be pinpointed on map provided for in item 4).
7. General treatment procedure.
8. Phosphate-removal procedure (simultaneous, post-precipitation, etc.).
9. Kind of reagents employed.
10. Miscellaneous.

ANNEX B

INSPECTION OF OPERATIONS

1. Inspection shall consist of samples taken over a 24-hour period, one to four times a year depending both on the initial phosphorus content and on the capacity of the purification plant:

- At intake (untreated water);
- At discharge (purified water).

2. The rate of flow shall be measured during the sampling period.

3. Tests shall be done for the following:

- Total phosphorus;
- Orthophosphates.

ANNEX C

OPERATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS

These specifications shall be drawn up semi-annually and shall be transmitted to the International Commission for the Protection of the Waters of Lake Geneva against Pollution, at the following address:

Case postale 80
CH 1000 Lausanne 12

They shall include:

1. Name of the plant.
 2. Period of inspection.
 3. Result of each inspection of operations as specified in annex B.
 4. Quantities of reagents employed during the period in question together with, as appropriate, the corresponding cumulative flow of treated water.
 5. Copies of receipts for purchase of reagents.
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