

No. 20945

---

## MULTILATERAL

**Agreement on the implementation of a European project on pollution, on the topic "Sewage Sludge Processing" (with annex). Concluded at Brussels on 23 November 1971**

*Authentic texts: German, English, French, Italian and Dutch.*

*Registered by the Secretary-General of the Council of the European Communities, acting on behalf of the Parties, on 11 March 1982.*

---

## MULTILATÉRAL

**Accord pour la mise en œuvre d'une action européenne dans le domaine des nuisances sur le thème «Traitement des boues d'épuration» (avec annexe). Conclu à Bruxelles le 23 novembre 1971**

*Textes authentiques : allemand, anglais, français, italien et néerlandais.*

*Enregistré par le Secrétaire général du Conseil des Communautés européennes, agissant au nom des Parties, le 11 mars 1982.*

## AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A EUROPEAN PROJECT ON POLLUTION, ON THE TOPIC “SEWAGE SLUDGE PROCESSING”

The Governments of Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, the French Republic, the Italian Republic, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the Kingdom of Norway, the Swiss Confederation, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, hereinafter referred to as “the Signatories”,

Have accepted participation in the project described below hereinafter referred to as “the project”, and have agreed as follows:

*Article 1.* The Signatories shall co-ordinate their efforts in the project, which is being undertaken in order to compare the methods of processing and disposing of sewage sludge practised in different countries.

An outline description of the work envisaged for the project is contained in the Annex.

Research and development operations shall be carried out by means of work entrusted to public research establishments which agree to work in association on a multinational basis. Contracts may, however, be concluded between the Signatory or Signatories concerned, on the one hand, and industrial undertakings and other research establishments (private research centres, university institutes or joint centres) on the other.

*Article 2.* The duration envisaged for work on the project shall be two years, during which period topic 3 shall be implemented by the Signatories concerned.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 1 August 1972, i.e., the first day of the second month following the date on which the majority of the signatories had transmitted a notification to the Secretary-General of the Council of the European Communities confirming the completion of the required procedures, in accordance with article 15 (2). The notifications were deposited as follows:

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of deposit of the instrument of notification</i>
Denmark .....	14 December 1971
France .....	3 March 1972
Germany, Federal Republic of .....	26 June 1972
(With a declaration of application to Berlin (West).)	
Norway .....	2 June 1972
Sweden .....	23 February 1972
Switzerland .....	12 May 1972
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland .....	12 May 1972

Subsequently, the Agreement came into force for the following States on the date of deposit of a notification with the Secretary-General of the Council of the European Communities confirming the completion of the required procedures, in accordance with article 15 (2):

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of deposit of the instrument of notification</i>
Yugoslavia .....	7 February 1973
Netherlands .....	9 April 1973
Finland .....	12 April 1973
Italy .....	4 September 1974
Belgium .....	4 March 1976

*Article 3.* This Agreement is open for signature by other European Governments which participated in the Ministerial Conference held in Brussels on 22 and 23 November 1971 and by the European Communities, subject to the unanimous consent of the Signatories. This unanimous consent shall not however be required until after the entry into force of the Agreement, on condition that the annual sum allocated by new Signatories to work on the project is no less than 20,000 Units of Account.

*Article 4.* A Management Committee, hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”, composed of one representative of each Signatory, is hereby established. Each representative may be accompanied by such experts or advisers as he may need.

The Committee shall draw up its rules of procedure. The rules shall lay down the quorum required for the validity of the decisions of the Committee.

The Committee shall draw up reasoned recommendations on the research proposals submitted to it, as well as on the direction and volume of the work envisaged. These recommendations shall be adopted by a simple majority; minority views and the reasoning behind them may be expressed in these recommendations.

Each representative shall have one vote in the Committee. Decisions concerning procedure shall be adopted by a simple majority. All other decisions shall be taken by unanimous vote; however, abstention by one or more representatives shall not preclude unanimity.

*Article 5.* The Committee shall:

- (a) Address to the bodies concerned recommendations on the research which it deems necessary to carry out, and recommend the allocation of tasks among the Signatories;
- (b) Encourage co-operation between partners from different countries;
- (c) Follow the progress of the work and recommend, where appropriate, such changes as may be necessary in the direction or the volume of the work being undertaken;
- (d) Publish, annually and at the end of the project, a report containing conclusions on the results of the operations covered by the project.

*Article 6.* At the request of the Signatories the Secretariat of the Committee shall be provided by the Commission of the European Communities.

*Article 7.* The research outlay devoted to the work to be carried out under the project shall be divided as follows among the Signatories:

<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Maximum annual contribution in UA</i>
Governments of	
Denmark .....	40,000
Federal Republic of Germany .....	51,000
French Republic .....	45,000 (for topic 1 only)
Italian Republic .....	60,000
Kingdom of the Netherlands .....	30,000
Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia .....	40,000
Kingdom of Norway .....	60,000
Swiss Confederation .....	120,000
Sweden .....	50,000
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland .....	20,000

In this context, each Signatory shall be responsible for financing the work carried out under this project on its initiative.

However, a financial contribution may be made by a Signatory towards work carried out upon the initiative of another Signatory on the basis of an agreement between them.

Any joint expenses shall be shared equally among the Signatories, with the exception of Secretariat expenses.

*Article 8.* Applications for the award of contracts pursuant to Article 1 may be submitted by industrial undertakings and research establishments, preferably working in association, which are capable of carrying out all or any part of the planned research or of having certain parts thereof carried out on their behalf and on their responsibility.

*Article 9.* The Signatories shall address to the Secretariat of the Committee the research proposals submitted to them.

*Article 10.* The Signatories shall be responsible for the administration and financial management of the contracts that they conclude.

*Article 11.* 1. The information and industrial property rights which any Signatory has obtained from its own work in implementing this project shall remain the property of that Signatory in so far as it is entitled to them under its national legislation. It may make use of the information belonging to the other Signatories for its own requirements in the fields of public safety and public health.

The other Signatories shall be entitled, for the requirements defined in the preceding sub-paragraph, to a non-exclusive licence, free of charge, on the information and industrial property rights of any Signatory arising out of its work in implementing the project.

2. At the request of another Signatory, each Signatory shall grant non-exclusive licences on its information and industrial property rights referred to in paragraph 1, on fair and reasonable terms, having due regard to the financial contribution of the applicant Signatory, to undertakings established in the territory of the latter.

3. The Signatories shall not prevent the use of the information and industrial property rights referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 on the terms set out in those paragraphs, by invoking against such use any prior property rights which they may possess.

4. Where under national law the information and industrial property rights do not belong exclusively to the Signatories, the latter undertake to grant each other, on the basis of the provisions of their national laws, licences with the possibility of granting sub-licences, in order to ensure that this Article is implemented effectively.

*Article 12.* The Signatories shall insert in the contracts a clause requiring the industrial undertakings or research establishments to submit periodic progress reports and a final report.

The progress reports shall be circulated in a limited number of copies to the Signatories and to the Committee and shall be confidential to the extent that they contain detailed technical information. The circulation of the final report shall be much wider; the details thereof shall be decided by the Committee.

*Article 13.* Without prejudice to the provisions of national laws, the Signatories shall insert in the study contracts and the research and development contracts, clauses enabling the application of the following provisions for as long as the industrial property rights arising out of the studies, research and development (hereinafter referred to as “research”), excluding know-how, remain valid.

1. As regards the separately financed work:

(a) The industrial property rights over the research results belonging to the undertakings or research establishments which carried out the research or had it carried out on their behalf shall remain their property; but a Signatory concluding contracts which, in execution, gave rise to such property rights may reserve certain rights which shall be defined in the contracts.

As regards contracts concluded with research establishments (public or private research centres, university institutes and joint centres), it may be agreed that the industrial property rights are to belong to the Signatory concerned or to any other body designated by that Signatory.

The filing of applications for industrial property rights resulting from the research shall be brought to the attention of the Signatories through the agency of the Signatories to which the bodies relate.

(b) Without prejudice to the provisions of sub-paragraph (c), the proprietor of industrial property rights resulting from research or acquired during it shall be at liberty to grant licences or dispose of the industrial property rights, it being his responsibility to inform the Signatories of such an intention through the agency of the Signatories to which the bodies relate.

(c) In so far as the stipulations of the Treaties establishing the European Communities, the laws and regulations in force in the territory of the Signatory concerned and obligations previously contracted by the undertakings granted research contracts and notified at the time of the conclusion of these contracts do not constitute any obstacle thereto, each of the Signatories shall have the right to oppose the granting to undertakings established outside the territories of the Signatories of industrial property rights acquired by the undertakings granted research contracts during the implementation of these contracts and enabling the undertakings established outside the territories of the Signatories to manufacture or sell on the territory of the Signatory.

(d) The proprietor of the industrial property rights shall in the cases enumerated below, be obliged to grant a licence at the request of any Signatory other than the one who concluded the contract which in execution gave rise to the industrial property rights:

- (i) Where this is necessary, in order to meet the needs of the Signatory requesting the licence in the fields listed in Article 11 (1) first sub-paragraph;
- (ii) Where the market requirements in the territory of the Signatory requesting the licence are not satisfied, in which case the licence is to be granted to an undertaking designated by that Signatory for the purpose of enabling that undertaking to meet the requirements of the market. However, a licence shall not be granted if the proprietor establishes legitimate grounds for refusing it, in particular that he has not been given adequate notice.

To obtain the grant of these licences, the applicant Signatory shall apply to the Signatory which concluded the contract which in execution gave rise to the industrial property rights.

These licences shall be granted on fair and reasonable terms and shall be accompanied by the right to grant a sub-licence on the same terms. They may, under the same conditions, cover the prior industrial property rights and applications for property rights of the licensor, in so far as is necessary for their utilisation.

2. As regards the jointly financed work, the provisions set out in point 1 shall be applicable subject to the following: in the event of one of the Signatories acting as the agent for the other Signatories, the rights which it may reserve, in accordance with point 1(a), shall extend to the other Signatories.

3. The provisions set out in points 1 and 2 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to information not covered by industrial property rights (know-how, etc.).

*Article 14.* The Signatories shall consult with each other, if one of them so requests, on any problem arising out of the application of this Agreement.

*Article 15.* 1. Each of the Signatories shall notify the Secretary-General of the Council of the European Communities as soon as possible of the completion of the procedures required in accordance with its internal provisions for the purpose of implementing this Agreement.

2. For the Signatories which have transmitted the notification provided for in paragraph 1, this Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following the date on which the majority of the Signatories have transmitted these notifications.

For those Signatories which transmit this notification after the entry into force of this Agreement, it shall come into force on the date of receipt of the notification.

Signatories which have not yet transmitted this notification at the time of entry into force of this Agreement shall be able to take part in the work of the Committee without voting rights for a period of six months after the entry into force of this Agreement.

3. The Secretary-General of the Council of the European Communities shall notify each of the Signatories of the deposit of the notifications provided for in paragraph 1 and of the date of entry into force of this Agreement.

*Article 16.* This agreement, drawn up in a single copy in the German, English, French, Italian and Dutch languages, all texts being equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Communities, which shall transmit a certified true copy to each of the Signatories.

GESCHEHEN zu Brüssel am dreiundzwanzigsten November neunzehnhunderteinundsiebzig.

DONE at Brussels on the twenty-third day of November in the year one thousand nine hundred and seventy-one.

FAIT à Bruxelles, le vingt-trois novembre mil neuf cent soixante et onze.

FATTO a Bruxelles, addì ventitre novembre millenovecentosettantuno.

GEDAAN te Brussel, drieëntwintig november negentienhonderd eenenzeventig.

For the Government of Denmark:

[Pour le Gouvernement du Danemark :]

[Signed — Signé]

IVAR NØRGAARD

Minister of Foreign Economic Affairs

[Ministre des Affaires économiques extérieures]

Für die Regierung der Bundesrepublik Deutschland:

[For the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany:]

[Pour le Gouvernement de la République fédérale d'Allemagne :]

[Signed — Signé]

HANS-GEORG SACHS

Ständiger Vertreter der Bundesrepublik Deutschland bei den Europäischen Gemeinschaften

[Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the European Communities]

[Représentant permanent de la République fédérale d'Allemagne auprès des Communautés européennes]

[Signed — Signé]

HANS-HILGER HAUNSCHILD

Bundesministerium für Bildung und Wissenschaft

[Ministry of Education and Sciences]

[Ministère de l'Éducation et des Sciences]

Pour le Gouvernement de la République française :

[For the Government of the French Republic:]

[Signé — Signed]

FRANÇOIS-XAVIER ORTOLI

Ministre du Développement industriel et scientifique

[Minister for Industrial and Scientific Development]

Per il Governo della Repubblica Italiana:  
[For the Government of the Italian Republic:]  
[Pour le Gouvernement de la République italienne :]

[Signed — Signé]

CAMILLO RIPAMONTI

Ministro per il coordinamento della ricerca scientifica e tecnologica

[Minister for the Coordination of Scientific and Technological Research]

[Ministre de la coordination de la recherche scientifique et technologique]

Voor de Regering van het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden:  
[For the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands:]  
[Pour le Gouvernement du Royaume des Pays-Bas :]

[Signed — Signé]

E. M. J. A. SASSEN

Ambassadeur, Permanente Vertegenwoordiger bij de Europese Gemeenschappen

[Ambassador, Permanent Representative to the European Communities]

[Ambassadeur, Représentant permanent auprès des Communautés européennes]

For the Federal Executive Council of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia:  
[Pour le Conseil fédéral exécutif de la République fédérative socialiste de Yougoslavie :]

[Signed — Signé]

TRPE JAKOVLEVSKI

Member of the Federal Council of SFRY

[Membre du Conseil fédéral exécutif de la RFSY]

For the Government of the Kingdom of Norway:  
[Pour le Gouvernement du Royaume de Norvège :]

[Signed — Signé]

BJARTMAR GJERDE

Minister for Education

[Ministre de l'Éducation]

Für den Schweizerischen Bundesrat:  
Pour le Conseil Fédéral Suisse:  
Per il Consiglio Federale Svizzero:  
[For the Swiss Federal Council:]

[*Signed — Signé*]

HANS-PETER TSCHUDI

Bundesrat

Vorsteher des Eidgenössischen Departement des Innern

Conseiller fédéral

Chef du Département Fédéral de l'Intérieur

Consigliere Federale

Capo del Dipartimento Federale dell'Interno

[Federal Adviser

Head of the Federal Department of the Interior]

For the Government of Sweden:  
[Pour le Gouvernement suédois :]

[*Signed — Signé*]

SVEN BACKLUND

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of  
Sweden

[Ambassadeur extraordinaire et plénipotentiaire de  
Suède]

For the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:  
[Pour le Gouvernement du Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord :]

[*Signed — Signé*]

FREDERICK CORFIELD

Minister for Aerospace

[Ministre de l'espace extra-atmosphérique]

## ANNEX

1. *Definition of the project*

The assessment of methods of processing and disposing of sewage sludge by the comparative evaluation, using standardised criteria, of existing plants of industrial scale in different countries.

In order to carry out the proposed comparative evaluations there must be uniform methods of determining the character and properties of sewage sludges. Such harmonisation is essential before any progression to field work. Consequently, the first part of the project will consist of laboratory work, which will allow agreement to be reached on which of the existing methods of characterisation are to be adopted. This first stage will be followed by further laboratory work on the improvement of sludge characterisation methods.

2. *Proposed research*

The following topics will be covered:

(a) *Laboratory work.* Adoption of a method for international use (topic 1). Joint laboratory work on the improvement of the existing methods (topic 2). The characteristics to be investigated under these topics are:

- (i) calorific value;
- (ii) granulometric analysis;
- (iii) specific resistance to filtration coupled with determination of colloidal structure and state of water binding;
- (iv) rheological properties, to include measurements of viscosity and cohesion;
- (v) centrifugability.

(b) *Field work.* The evaluation of industrial plants for the combined incineration of sludges and household refuse (topic 3). These plants include two types of incinerator. In the first, sludges and refuse are burnt together in the same combustion chamber, by a technique termed "single incineration", whereas in the second type of incinerator the two types of waste are burnt in separate plants on the same site, heat being transferred from the refuse incinerator to the sludge incinerator. This latter method is termed "side by side" incineration.

The methods and criteria for evaluation will have to be closely defined to ensure an objective comparison. Two means could be employed. The operating records over a period of, say, one year would be kept in accordance with a uniform scheme such as that laid down in Annex I to COST/100/2/71 Rev.2. It may prove necessary for additional measuring and recording equipment to be installed at existing installations in order to provide all the stipulated data. Additionally, on at least one occasion during the year, there will be a complete 24-hour survey of the plant performance and in particular of its thermal balance.

3. *Financial requirements for the implementation of the project**Topic 1. Standardisation of existing sewage sludge characterisation methods*

Duration: 1 year

Each laboratory employing 1 man for ½ year at 40,000 UA

Ten countries have expressed willingness to participate

= 5 man years at 40,000 UA

200,000 UA

*Topic 2. Improvement of existing sewage sludge characterisation methods*

Duration: 1 year

Each laboratory employing 1 man at 40,000 UA p.a.

Ten countries have expressed willingness to participate

= 10 man years at 40,000 UA

400,000 UA

*Topic 3. Evaluation of combined sludge-refuse incineration plants*

Duration: 1 year

Six plants to be investigated

Long-term records at 10,000 UA per plant = 60,000 UA

Two intensive examinations per plant at 15,000 UA each = 180,000 UA

240 000 UA

840 000 UA

---