

No. 21802

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
and
NETHERLANDS**

**Memorandum of Understanding relating to environmental
protection. Signed at Leidschendam on 25 November
1980**

Authentic texts: Dutch and English.

Registered by the United States of America on 31 March 1983.

**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE
et
PAYS-BAS**

**Mémorandum d'accord relatif à la protection de l'environ-
nement. Signé à Leidschendam le 25 novembre 1980**

Textes authentiques : néerlandais et anglais.

Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 31 mars 1983.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING¹ BETWEEN THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF THE NETHERLANDS

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of the United States of America and the Ministry of Health and Environmental Protection (the Ministry) of the Netherlands, recognizing, that strong national environmental programs contribute not only to the protection of national environments but to that of the global environment as well, cooperation between national environmental authorities can be of mutual benefit at both the national and global level, sound economic and social policies require the development and application of anticipatory environmental controls, and harmonious policies, regulations, and practices will contribute to the social and economic well-being of states and groups of states;

Agree as follows:

Article One. EPA and the Ministry will maintain and enhance bilateral cooperation in the field of environmental affairs on the basis of equality, reciprocity, and mutual benefit.

Article Two. EPA and the Ministry will provide each other with information on economic issues and on significant research and regulatory activities concerning water and air pollution, hazardous waste disposal, solid waste treatment, and recycling. Other subjects for exchange may be identified in the future. Until otherwise agreed, information on toxic substances and nuclear waste will be transferred through the OECD and other multilateral organizations. Information on toxicity of substances, premanufacturing testing, legislative aspects of toxic substance control, and other specific topics related to the control of toxic substances which may be agreed upon in the future, may be exchanged on a bilateral basis in accordance with the laws and regulations of the country providing the information.

Article Three. In addition to exchanges of information, other forms of cooperation may be undertaken appropriate to the nature of the topic. This may include exchanges of personnel and joint projects on research and development of environmental techniques and technologies. The terms of such activities shall be established through exchange of letters between appropriate officials of EPA and of the Ministry.

Article Four. Unless otherwise agreed, there shall be no exchange of funds; each side providing resources adequate to carry out its responsibilities. It is expressly understood that the ability of each side to carry out long-term activities is subject to the availability of appropriated funds. No financial commitment can be made without concurrence of appropriate authorities on each side.

Article Five. The heads of the international offices of EPA and the Ministry shall be responsible for the management of this cooperative program. They shall make an annual review of cooperation, addressing in addition future policy directions and research plans. They shall also be responsible for furthering the appropriate participation of other US and Dutch organizations (governmental, business, and academic) in the activities conducted under this Memorandum.

¹ Came into force on 25 November 1980 by signature, in accordance with article 6.

Article Six. This Memorandum shall enter into force upon signature and shall remain in force for five years. It may be renewed or amended by mutual written agreement of the parties.

DONE at Leidschendam, in the Dutch and English languages, both being equally authentic, on 25 November, 1980.

[Signed]

DOUGLAS M. COSTLE
Administrator
U.S. Environmental
Protection Agency

[Signed]

Dr. LEENDERT GINJAAR
Minister
Ministry of Health
and Environmental Protection