

No. 21990

**FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
and
FRANCE**

**Agreement on exchanges of information in the event of
incidents or accidents involving radiological risks.
Signed at Bonn on 28 January 1981**

Authentic texts: German and French.

Registered by the Federal Republic of Germany on 28 June 1983.

**RÉPUBLIQUE FÉDÉRALE D'ALLEMAGNE
et
FRANCE**

**Accord relatif aux échanges d'informations en cas d'in-
cident ou d'accident pouvant avoir des conséquences
radiologiques. Signé à Bonn le 28 janvier 1981**

Textes authentiques : allemand et français.

Enregistré par la République fédérale d'Allemagne le 28 juin 1983.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC ON EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION IN THE EVENT OF INCIDENTS OR ACCIDENTS INVOLVING RADIOLOGICAL RISKS

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Government of the French Republic, hereinafter referred to as the Contracting Parties,

Considering the need to enhance the effectiveness of their respective arrangements to protect the populations in the event of incidents or accidents involving radiological risks,

Referring to the Convention between the French Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany on mutual assistance in the event of disasters or serious accidents, signed at Paris on 3 February 1977,²

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1. The Contracting Parties shall promptly notify each other of incidents or accidents involving radiological risks that arise in the territory of one of the States as a result of civilian activities and may affect the other State.

Article 2. The Contracting Parties shall establish and maintain in service an appropriate system for the exchange of information.

Article 3. Specifically, mutual early warning centres shall be established as needed, in France in the prefectures of the frontier departments and in the Federal Republic of Germany in the premises of the Ministers of the Interior of the frontier *Länder* or of the heads of administrative regions (*Regierungspräsidenten*) authorized by them.

Article 4. The Contracting Parties shall ensure the maintenance of liaison between the early warning centres. Any changes involving the early warning centres of one Contracting Party which might affect the appropriate and speedy transmission of information to the neighbouring country shall be reported through the diplomatic channel to the other Contracting Party and directly to the latter's early-warning centres.

Article 5. The mutual information system established by virtue of article 2 of this Agreement shall be so designed that any information on the incidents or accidents referred to in article 1 may be received and transmitted on a 24-hour basis.

Article 6. The transmission networks form the potential sources of incidents or accidents within the meaning of article 1 to the early warning centre of the Contracting Party concerned, and from there to the early warning centre of the other Contracting Party, shall be tested regularly, at least once a year.

¹ Came into force on 6 August 1981, after the Contracting Parties had informed each other (on 31 March and 5 August 1981) of the completion of their internal formalities, in accordance with article 16.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1214, p. 67.

Article 7. The transmission networks referred to in article 3 shall be capable of excluding erroneous information by calling back the transmitting early-warning centre for confirmation.

Article 8. The information on the incidents or accidents referred to in article 1 shall provide all available data for risk assessment, including:

- Date, hour and place of the occurrence,
- Nature and cause of the occurrence,
- Characteristics of any radiation present (nature, physical and chemical form and, to the extent possible amount of radioactive substances emitted),
- Expected course of the radiation as a function of time,
- Nature of the transfer medium (air and/or water),
- Meteorological and hydrological data that could be used to predict the course of the transfer into space of the radioactive substances emitted.

Article 9. The information on the incidents or accidents referred to in article 1 shall be supplemented by available data concerning measures taken or envisaged to protect the population of the country concerned.

Article 10. Information concerning the development of the situation on both sides, particularly concerning the end of the situation resulting from incidents or accidents referred to in article 1, shall be the subject of supplementary transmissions.

Article 11. When an incident or accident within the meaning of article 1 occurs, each Contracting Party may appoint one or possibly two correspondents and, upon agreement between the authorities referred to in article 3, may dispatch the said correspondent(s) to the territory of the other State. The Contracting Parties shall make every effort to facilitate the task of the correspondent(s), and in particular the crossing of the frontier and the transport of the requisite means of transmission. The correspondent(s) shall be authorized to transmit the information collected to the relevant services of their own State.

Article 12. For incidents or accidents not covered by the provisions of article 1 that may occur in the territory of one of the States and may involve radiological risks in the territory of the other State, the information procedure specified in this Agreement shall also apply. However, no information on classified data of a military nature shall be transmitted.

Article 13. The Contracting Parties shall notify each other of incidents or accidents other than those referred to in article 1 that may arise in their civilian nuclear installations and might alarm the population of frontier areas.

The arrangements for such mutual notification may be specified, if necessary, in an exchange of letters between the authorities referred to in article 3.

Article 14. The competence of the authorities to implement this Agreement shall be governed by the national law of the two States.

Article 15. This Agreement shall also apply to *Land Berlin*, unless the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany makes a contrary declaration to the Government of the French Republic within the three months following the entry into force of this Agreement.

Article 16. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date when the Contracting Parties notify each other that the national requirements for its entry into force have been met. It may be denounced at any time by one of the Contracting Parties; denunciation shall take effect six months after notification to the other Contracting Party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the representatives of the two Governments, duly authorized for the purpose, have signed the present Agreement.

DONE at Bonn, on 28 January 1981, in duplicate in the German and French languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany:
Dr. HANS WERNER LAUTENSCHLAGER

For the Government of the French Republic:
JEAN-PIERRE BRUNET
