FRANCE and LUXEMBOURG

Agreement on exchanges of information in the event of incidents or accidents involving radiological risks. Signed at Luxembourg on 11 April 1983

Authentic text: French. Registered by France on 30 April 1985.

FRANCE et LUXEMBOURG

Accord relatif aux échanges d'informations en cas d'incident ou d'accident pouvant avoir des conséquences radiologiques. Signé à Luxembourg le 11 avril 1983

Texte authentique : français. Enregistré par la France le 30 avril 1985.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT' BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG ON EXCHANGES OF INFORMA-TION IN THE EVENT OF INCIDENTS OR ACCIDENTS IN-VOLVING RADIOLOGICAL RISKS

The Government of the French Republic and

The Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg,

Hereinafter referred to as the Contracting Parties,

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

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1. The Contracting Parties shall promptly notify each other of incidents or accidents occurring in the territory of one of the States as a result of civilian activities and involving radiological risks likely to affect the territory of the other State, in particular incidents or accidents occurring within a nuclear power station of one of the States and involving radiological risks for the territory of 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 Luxembourg at the Ministry of the Interior.

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

Article 5. The mutual information system established under article 2 of this Agreement shall be so designed that any information on the occurrences referred to in article 1 may be received and transmitted 24 hours a day.

Article 6. The transmission networks from the potential sources of occurrences 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 periodically, at least once a year.

Article 7. The transmission networks referred to in article 3 shall be such as to preclude the transmission of erroneous information, by permitting confirmation to be sought from the early warning centre transmitting the information.

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¹ Came into force on 27 April 1984, the date on which the Contracting Parties informed each other of the fulfilment of the necessary internal requirements, in accordance with article 14.

Article 8. Information about the occurrences referred to in article 1 shall include 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 matter emitted);
- Expected course of the radiation as a function of time;
- Nature of the propagation medium (air and/or water);
- Meteorological and hydrological data that could be used to predict the course of the transfer of radioactive matter emitted, as a function of space.

Article 9. Information on the occurrences referred to in article 1 shall be supplemented by available data concerning the 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 the occurrences referred to in article 1, shall be the subject of supplementary transmissions.

Article 11. In the event of an occurrence as defined in article 1, each Contracting Party may appoint one or possibly two correspondents and dispatch them to the territory of the other State, after agreement between the authorities referred to in article 3. The Contracting Parties shall make every effort to facilitate the task of these correspondents, in particular as regards crossing the border and transporting the necessary transmission equipment. The correspondents shall be authorized to transmit the information collected to the relevant services of their own States.

Article 12. For emergencies not covered by the provisions of article 1 that arise in the territory of one of the Parties and may involve radiological risks in the territory of the other Party, the information procedure set forth in the provisions of this Agreement shall also apply, except that information concerning data involving military secrets shall not be communicated.

Article 13. The Contracting Parties shall inform each other of occurrences not covered by article 1 that take place at their civilian nuclear installations and may cause concern among the population of border regions.

The modalities of this exchange of information shall be specified 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.

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.

This Agreement may not be denounced before expiry of the term of operation of the most recently established nuclear power station situated in the border region between France and Luxembourg.

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

DONE at Luxembourg on 11 April 1983, in duplicate in the French language.

For the Government of the French Republic: [Signed] CLAUDE CHEYSSON For the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg: [Signed] COLETTE FLESCH