

No. 27619

**FRANCE
and
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS**

**Agreement on cooperation in the field of digital and high
definition television. Signed at Paris on 5 July 1989**

Authentic texts: French and Russian.

Registered by France on 30 October 1990.

**FRANCE
et
UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES
SOCIALISTES SOVIÉTIQUES**

**Accord sur la coopération en matière de télévision numérique
et de télévision à haute définition. Signé à Paris le 5 juillet
1989**

Textes authentiques : français et russe.

Enregistré par la France le 30 octobre 1990.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF DIGITAL AND HIGH-DEFINITION TELEVISION

The Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Bearing in mind the importance given to developing digital and high-definition television in both countries,

Considering that the adoption by all European and other countries of common production and broadcasting standards for high-definition television, compatible with existing motion-picture and television systems, will promote exchanges in the cultural, scientific, technical and industrial fields, and will have a positive influence on cooperation among peoples,

Recognizing that there are effective ways to develop cooperation in the field of digital and high-definition television,

Referring to the Agreement on cooperation in the field of colour television between the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of 22 March 1965,² and referring to the Declaration on the principles of developing and enhancing economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation,

Reaffirming their wish to combine efforts to develop digital and high-definition television,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Contracting Parties shall promote the expansion of scientific, technical and industrial cooperation in the field of digital and high-definition television on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit.

Article 2

Cooperation in the field of digital and high-definition television shall be developed in the following areas:

Perfecting of existing television systems through the introduction of digital techniques for production and reception;

Study of the theoretical and practical problems of standardizing parameters for the high-definition television system, and questions related to broadcasting, including a standard to ensure the easy exchange of programmes by land and by satellite, between all countries and, in particular, between European countries;

¹ Came into force on 5 July 1989 by signature, in accordance with article 9.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1652, No. I-28418.

Studies on the adoption of common production and broadcasting standards for high-definition television that would facilitate world-wide communication and be directly linked to current standards in force in France, the USSR or other European countries;

Definition of common or coordinated specifications for the production, transmission, broadcasting and receiving equipment needed to install these new television systems;

Study of the technical and economic implications of high-definition television systems;

Study of advanced production and post-production techniques for high-definition television programmes, including transferring television signals on to 35 mm film;

Study of the possibilities offered by new video and audio equipment for the co-production of high-definition programmes;

Co-production of high-definition programmes.

Article 3

Cooperation in the areas mentioned in article 2 may take the following forms:

Exchanges of scientific, technical and technological documents;

Exchanges of specialists and delegations;

Organization of conferences, seminars and meetings of experts;

Joint theoretical and practical studies;

Industrial cooperation, mutual transfer of equipment, delivery of services and testing of systems;

Co-production, exchange and supply of programmes.

Article 4

The Joint Franco-Soviet Commission on Colour Television shall organize the cooperation resulting from this Agreement.

Article 5

Within the framework of the goals and provisions set forth in this Agreement, and in conformity with the regulations in force in the two countries, the Contracting Parties shall promote and facilitate development of cooperation and direct contacts between the enterprises and agencies of the two countries and, where necessary, the drawing up of specific agreements for the implementation of specific programmes and projects.

The economic cooperation resulting from this Agreement shall be realized through contracts concluded between the agencies and enterprises of the two countries under the same terms.

Article 6

The two Parties shall promote adoption by third countries of the same standards for high-definition television as they themselves have adopted. To this end,

they shall coordinate their position at international negotiations, conferences, commissions and congresses.

Article 7

This Agreement may not be interpreted as being contrary to legislation in force in either State, to provisions of agreements previously concluded between the Contracting Parties, or to any international commitment made by either State.

Article 8

If necessary, this Agreement may be defined further, supplemented or modified by common consent between the Governments.

Article 9

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature for a period of five years. It shall be automatically extended for further periods of five years, unless one of the Parties, one year prior to its expiration date, gives notice of its wish to terminate it.

DONE at Paris on 5 July 1989, in duplicate in the French and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the French Republic:

[ROGER FAUROUX]

For the Government
of the Union of Soviet
Socialist Republics:

[LEV. A. VORONINE]