

No. 32549

**GERMANY
and
RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

Agreement on cooperation in the field of environmental protection. Signed at Berlin on 28 May 1992

Authentic texts: German and Russian.

Registered by Germany on 8 February 1996.

**ALLEMAGNE
et
FÉDÉRATION DE RUSSIE**

Accord de coopération dans le domaine de la protection de l'environnement. Signé à Berlin le 28 mai 1992

Textes authentiques : allemand et russe.

Enregistré par l'Allemagne le 8 février 1996.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL
REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Government of the Russian Federation,

On the basis of the joint statement of the Federal Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany and the President of the Russian Federation of 21 November 1991,

Considering that the Russian Federation, as the successor to the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, guarantees, in accordance with its legal procedures, the fulfilment of international obligations in respect of treaties and agreements concluded by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Taking into account the willingness of the German Party to support the Russian Federation's transition to an environmentally friendly social market economy and to transmit its experience in nature conservation policies,

Firstly resolved to continue and develop cooperation in the field of environmental protection, taking into account mutual interest and the experience gained as a result of the implementation of the Agreement between the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on cooperation in the field of environmental protection of 25 October 1988,²

Attaching great importance to environmental protection,

Striving to develop their mutual relations in a forward-looking manner in accordance with international law, in particular the Charter of the United Nations and the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, signed at Helsinki,³ and the documents of subsequent meetings,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

1. The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Government of the Russian Federation, hereinafter referred to as the "Contracting Parties", shall promote cooperation in the field of environmental protection. Their activities shall be directed above all towards the study of harmful influences on the environment and the joint formulation of measures to improve the state of the environment and resolve problems relating to the protection and rational use of natural resources.

¹ Came into force on 28 May 1992 by signature, in accordance with article 9 (1).

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1706, No. I-29515.

³ *International Legal Materials*, vol. XIV (1975), p. 1292 (American Society of International Law).

2. The Contracting Parties shall promote cooperation in the formulation of agreed basic strategies of regional and international environmental protection policies with a view to the long-term environmentally stable development of Europe.

Article 2

Cooperation shall be carried out in the following main areas:

(a) Common environmental protection policy issues, including organizational issues; environmental protection legislation, taking into account the existing norms and standards of the European Economic Community, administrative issues; monitoring of the environment, environmental information systems; environmental training and education; nature conservation and land-use planning;

(b) Economic aspects of environmental protection policy; Environmental protection technologies.

Article 3

Within the framework of cooperation, working meetings, joint research work, scientific events, exchanges of specialists, advanced training of staff, and the transmission of scientific and technical information (including the exchange of results of scientific research) are planned. For this purpose the Contracting Parties may also invite representatives of industry, science and non-governmental environmental organizations.

Article 4

1. For the purposes of the implementation of this Agreement, a Coordinating Council shall be established.

2. Within three months of the entry into force of this Agreement, each of the Contracting Parties shall inform the other Contracting Party of the name of its co-chairman of the Coordinating Council.

3. In order to ensure the coordination of measures within the framework of this Agreement, the Coordinating Council shall hold regular meetings.

4. The Coordinating Council shall, in particular, determine the specific themes and projects for cooperation, the institutions, organizations and persons responsible for their implementation, and further procedures for cooperation. It may create working groups with the right to take decisions on specific questions of cooperation. The working groups shall report to the Coordinating Council on the progress of their work and the results achieved.

Article 5

On the basis of the goals of this Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall promote the establishment and development of contacts and cooperation between institutions, organizations, enterprises and firms. Above all, they shall promote economic and technical cooperation with a view to solving specific environmental protection problems. For this purpose, a separate agreement shall be signed between the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Reactor Safety and the Ministry for the Protection of the Environment and Natural Resources of the Russian Federation.

Article 6

The departments responsible for the coordination and organization of cooperation within the framework of this Agreement shall be:

In the case of the Federal Republic of Germany — the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Reactor Safety;

In the case of the Russian Federation — the Ministry for the Protection of the Environment and Natural Resources.

Article 7

1. The Contracting Parties may transmit the results of their cooperation to third parties by mutual agreement. The exchange of information and its transmission to third parties shall take place in compliance with the laws in force in each case, with the rights of third parties and with international obligations.

2. The use of information to which special legal restrictions apply shall be subject to separate regulation.

Article 8

The costs of sending specialists in accordance with article 3 of this Agreement shall be borne by the sending Party, unless the Coordinating Council decides otherwise.

Article 9

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature.

2. This Agreement is concluded for a period of five years. It shall be extended for subsequent five-year periods, unless one of the Contracting Parties, at least six months prior to the expiry of any such period, gives written notice of its termination.

3. With the entry into force of this Agreement, the Agreement between the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on cooperation in the field of environmental protection of 25 October 1988 shall cease to have effect in relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Russian Federation.

DONE at Berlin, on 28 May 1992, in two copies in the German and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the Federal Republic of Germany:

FRANZ BERTELE

KLAUS TÖPFER

For the Government
of the Russian Federation:

VIKTOR DANILOV-DANILJAN