

No. 28014

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**SWEDEN  
and  
GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**

**Agreement concerning cooperation in respect of the rescue of  
human life in the Baltic Sea. Signed at Berlin on 27 Au-  
gust 1986**

*Authentic text: English.*

*Registered by Sweden on 3 April 1991.*

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**SUÈDE  
et  
RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE ALLEMANDE**

**Accord relatif à la coopération en matière de sauvegarde de  
la vie humaine dans la mer Baltique. Signé à Berlin le  
27 août 1986**

*Texte authentique : anglais.*

*Enregistré par la Suède le 3 avril 1991.*

## AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF SWEDEN AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC CONCERNING CO-OPERATION IN RESPECT OF THE RESCUE OF HUMAN LIFE IN THE BALTIC SEA

The Government of the Kingdom of Sweden and the Government of the German Democratic Republic, hereinafter referred to as the Contracting Parties,

determined to strengthen and further develop the friendly relations between both States and peoples on the basis of the principles of international law, as comprised also in the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe dated 1 August 1975,<sup>2</sup>

conscious of the provisions of the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979,<sup>3</sup> and of Annex 12 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, 1944,<sup>4</sup>

conforming with their aim to contribute to the improvement of the safety of shipping and aviation,

aware of the vital importance that rapid assistance may have for persons in distress on or over the sea,

have agreed as follows:

### *Article 1*

For the purposes of this Agreement the definitions contained in Chapter 1 of the Annex to the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979, and in Chapter 1 of Annex 12 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, 1944, will be applicable.

### *Article 2*

(1) The Contracting Parties agree to regard the boundary between their adjacent flight information regions (FIR) as the boundary between their search and rescue regions for

maritime and aeronautical purposes. This delimitation of the search and rescue regions between the Kingdom of Sweden and the German Democratic Republic does not prejudice the delimitation of any other boundary between the two States.

(2) Each Contracting Party ensures that adequate maritime and aeronautical search and rescue services, hereinafter referred to as search and rescue services, are available in respect of its search and rescue region.

(3) The Contracting Parties co-ordinate the activities of their own search and rescue services.

(4) The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties designate the services which are responsible for the co-operation with the search and rescue services of the other Contracting Party.

### *Article 3*

The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties are:

- in the Kingdom of Sweden
  - National Administration of Shipping and Navigation (Sjöfartsverket) S-601 78 Norrköping
  - in respect of maritime search and rescue

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 27 August 1986 by signature, in accordance, with article 10 (1).

<sup>2</sup> *International Legal Materials*, vol. 14 (1975), p. 1292 (American Society of International Law).

<sup>3</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1405, p. 97.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 15, p. 295. For the texts of the Protocols amending this Convention, see vol. 320, pp. 209 and 217; vol. 418, p. 161; vol. 514, p. 209; vol. 740, p. 21; vol. 893, p. 117; vol. 958, p. 217; vol. 1008, p. 213 and vol. 1175, p. 297.

Swedish Civil Aviation Administration (Luftfartsverket) S-601 79 Norrköping

- in the German Democratic Republic  
Ministry of Transport of the German Democratic Republic  
(Ministerium für Verkehrswesen der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik)  
Voßstraße 33  
DDR-1086 Berlin

#### *Article 4*

(1) Maritime and aeronautical search and rescue in the territories of the Kingdom of Sweden and of the German Democratic Republic is subject to the laws and regulations of the respective State.

(2) A simplified procedure for requesting permission for rescue units to enter into the territory of the respective States may be applied if such entry is necessary for the rescue of human life.

#### *Article 5*

(1) If the search and rescue service of one of the Contracting Parties receives information to the effect that human life is, or is believed to be, in danger on or over the Baltic Sea in that Party's search and rescue region, that service will without delay take all necessary search and rescue measures.

(2) If the search and rescue service of one of the Contracting Parties receives information to the effect that human life is, or is believed to be, in danger on or over the Baltic Sea in the search and rescue region of the other Party, that service will without delay inform the search and rescue service of the other Contracting Party.

(3) If the search and rescue service that has received information about a situation as referred to in paragraph (1) considers assistance from the search and rescue service of the other Contracting Party necessary, it may request such assistance as called for. The search and rescue service that has received

such a request will render assistance to the utmost possible extent. In this case, further measures will be taken in co-operation between the search and rescue services of both Contracting Parties.

(4) Assistance to any person in danger, or believed to be in danger, at sea will be rendered regardless of the nationality or status of such a person or the circumstances in which that person is found.

(5) Each Contracting Party will normally inform the diplomatic mission or consular representation of the other Party about the rescue of surviving, or the retrieval of perished, persons with citizenship in the State of the other Party. The information shall be provided without delay and shall, as far as possible, include surname, first name, date of birth, home address, number of passport or seaman's discharge book, as well as details about the state of health and the whereabouts of survivors or the place where the body of the deceased is retained.

#### *Article 6*

(1) The Contracting Parties agree to strengthen the co-operation between each other's search and rescue services. This end can be furthered, in particular, by: joint exercises in search and rescue, regular checks on inter-State communication channels, liaison visits by experts of search and rescue services and the exchange of search and rescue information.

(2) The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties develop and agree upon regulations for the co-operation between each other's search and rescue services.

(3) In order to consider and, as necessary, decide on matters of practical co-operation, representatives of the Contracting Parties' competent authorities will meet, when necessary, alternately in the Kingdom of Sweden and in the German Democratic Republic.

#### *Article 7*

Each side bears the expenses incurred by its participation in search and rescue operations in conformity with this Agreement.

*Article 8*

The working language between the search and rescue services of the Contracting Parties is English.

*Article 9*

Amendments to this Agreement may be agreed by the Contracting Parties and shall be made in written form.

*Article 10*

(1) This Agreement enters into force upon signature.

(2) This Agreement remains in force for a period of three years. Unless either Contracting Party has given written notice of termination to the other Contracting Party at least six months before expiry, the Agreement shall remain in force for successive periods of one year.

Done at Berlin on 27 August 1986 in two originals in the English language.

For the Government  
of the Kingdom of Sweden:

ULF DAHLSTEN

For the Government  
of the German Democratic Republic:

HEINRICH SCHOLZ

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