



Treaty Series No. 18 (2007)

Exchange of Notes

between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium amending the Agreement of 29 May 1991 relating to the Delimitation of the Continental Shelf under the North Sea between the Two Countries

Brussels, 21 March 2005 and 7 June 2005

[The Agreement entered into force on 2 October 2006]

*Presented to Parliament
by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
by Command of Her Majesty
August 2007*

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**EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM
AMENDING THE AGREEMENT OF 29 MAY 1991¹ RELATING TO THE
DELIMITATION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF UNDER THE NORTH
SEA BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES**

No. 1

*The Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in
Brussels to the Minister of Foreign Affairs*

Brussels
21 March 2005

I have the honour to refer to the Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium relating to the Delimitation of the Continental Shelf between the Two Countries, done at Brussels on 29 May 1991 (“the Agreement”).

In the light of the exchange of letters done at Brussels on 29 May 1991 which formed an integral part of the Agreement, and of the Treaty between the Kingdom of Belgium and the Kingdom of the Netherlands on the Delimitation of the Continental shelf, done at Brussels on 18 December 1996, I have the honour to propose the following amendment to the Agreement:

- in Article 1(1) of the Agreement, an additional Point No 4 shall be added, as follows:

4. 51° 52'34.012” 02° 32'21.599”

If the foregoing proposal is acceptable to the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium. I have the honour to propose that this Note, together with Your Excellency’s Reply, shall constitute an agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium. This agreement shall enter into force on the date of receipt by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of the notification by the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium of the completion of its constitutional formalities required to bring into effect.

I have the honour to convey to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

¹ Treaty Series No.20 (1994) Cm 2499

No. 2

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Brussels

Brussels
7 June 2005

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 21 March 2005, which reads as follows:

[As in No.1]

I have the honour to inform you that my Government has taken note of the contents of your letter.

I avail myself of the opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

No. 3

The Embassy of the Kingdom of Belgium in London to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London
2 October 2006

L'Ambassade du Royaume de Belgique présente ses compliments au Ministère des Affaires étrangères du Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord et a l'honneur de lui communiquer que les formalités requises par sa législation pour l'entrée en vigueur de l'accord, conclu par échange de lettres, datées à Bruxelles les 21 Mars et 7 Juin 2005, portant amendement à l'accord entre le gouvernement du Royaume de Belgique et le gouvernement du Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord relatif à la délimitation du plateau continental entre les deux pays, signé à Bruxelles le 29 Mai 1991, ont été accomplies en Belgique.

L'Ambassade saurait gré au Ministère de bien vouloir lui faire parvenir un accusé mentionnant la date de réception de la présente notification et de lui communiquer l'état de la procédure au Royaume-Uni.

L'Ambassade du Royaume de Belgique saisit cette occasion pour renouveler au Ministère des Affaires étrangères du Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord, l'assurance de sa très haute considération.

Translation of No. 3

The Embassy of the Kingdom of Belgium presents its compliments to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and has the honour to inform it that the formalities required by its legislation for the entry into force of the Agreement, concluded by exchange of letters dated 21 March and 7 June 2005 at Brussels, amending the Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium relating to the delimitation of the continental shelf between the two countries, signed at Brussels on 29 May 1991, have been completed by Belgium.

The Embassy would be grateful to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office if it could send it an acknowledgment stating the date of receipt of this notification and inform it of the state of proceedings in the United Kingdom.

The Embassy of the Kingdom of Belgium avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland the assurance of its highest consideration.

[No. 4]

*The Foreign and Commonwealth Office to the Embassy of the Kingdom of Belgium
in London*

London
24 May 2007

The Maritime Team of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office presents its compliments to the Embassy of Belgium and has the honour to refer to the Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium relating to the Delimitation of the Continental Shelf between the Two Countries, done at Brussels on 29 May 1991.

The Maritime Team further has the honour to refer to the British Embassy's Note of 21 March 2005 proposing an amendment to Article 1(1) of the Agreement and the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs' acknowledgement of 7 June 2005.

Recognising that in the Embassy's Note No. B1.1: 5637 dated 2 October 2006 the Embassy have confirmed that the consitutional formalities required to bring the Agreement into effect in Belgium have now been completed, and noting that there are no further procedures to be completed in the United Kingdom, it is the understanding of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland that the Agreement entered into force on 2 October 2006.

The Maritime Team avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy the assurance of its highest consideration.



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