



Treaty Series No. 56 (1965)

**Exchange of Notes**  
containing an Agreement on the  
**Privileges and Immunities in the United  
Kingdom of the South-East Asia  
Treaty Organisation**

Bangkok, 12 March, 1965

[The Agreement entered into force in respect of the United Kingdom  
on 26 April, 1965]

*Presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs  
by Command of Her Majesty  
July 1965*

*LONDON*  
**HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE**  
SIXPENCE NET

**EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONTAINING AN AGREEMENT ON THE  
PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM  
OF THE SOUTH-EAST ASIA TREATY ORGANISATION**

No. 1

*Her Majesty's Ambassador at Bangkok to the Secretary-General of the  
South-East Asia Treaty Organisation*

Your Excellency,

*Bangkok, 12 March, 1965.*

I have the honour to refer to discussions which have taken place between representatives of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and representatives of the South-East Asia Treaty Organisation pursuant to the decision of the Council of the Organisation made known by their representatives at a meeting on 10 March, 1965, concerning the legal status, privileges and immunities to be accorded in the United Kingdom to the Organisation, national representatives and international staff.

2. The Governments of the Member States of the Organisation having duly empowered Your Excellency to conclude an Agreement on their behalf in this matter, I now have the honour to propose an Agreement in the following terms:

- (1) The legal status, privileges and immunities to be accorded in the United Kingdom to the South-East Asia Treaty Organisation (hereinafter referred to as the Organisation), national representatives and international staff shall be governed by the terms of the present Agreement including the provisions of the Annex to the present Note which shall form an integral part of the Agreement.
- (2) The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland shall inform the Secretary-General of the Organisation when the legislative action necessary to enable effect to be given to the Agreement has been completed.<sup>(1)</sup> The Secretary-General shall then so inform the Governments of the other Member States of the Organisation.
- (3) Thereafter, the Agreement shall enter into force between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and any other government of a Member State of the Organisation on the date of receipt by the Secretary-General of a notification from that government that all necessary constitutional requirements in respect of the Agreement have been fulfilled.<sup>(2)</sup> The Secretary-General shall inform all Member States of the receipt of each such notification.
- (4) The present Agreement may be denounced by any Contracting Party by giving written notification of denunciation to the Secretary-General

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<sup>(1)</sup> The Agreement entered into force with respect to the United Kingdom on 26 April, 1965.

<sup>(2)</sup> Notifications were received from New Zealand and Thailand on 19 and 23 March respectively.

of the Organisation who shall notify all Member States of each such notification. The denunciation shall take effect six months after the receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General.

3. If the above proposal is acceptable, I have the honour further to propose that the present Note together with Your Excellency's reply to that effect shall be regarded as placing on record an Agreement in the terms set out herein and that copies of the two Notes should be transmitted by Your Excellency to the Governments of all the Member States of the Organisation.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's obedient Servant,

A. RUMBOLD.

#### ANNEX

##### **The Organisation**

The Organisation shall have legal personality. It shall have immunity from suit and legal process. Its property, assets and archives shall be immune from search, requisition, confiscation, expropriation and any other form of interference whether by executive, administrative or other action to the same extent as the property, assets and archives of the United Nations Organisation.

2. The Organisation shall have the right to use codes and cyphers, to despatch and receive correspondence and other official communications by courier or by sealed bags having the same status as diplomatic couriers and bags.

3. Without being restricted by financial controls, regulations or moratoria of any kind, the Organisation may hold funds, gold or currency of any kind and operate accounts in any currency. It may freely transfer its funds, gold or currency from one country to another or within the United Kingdom and convert any currency held by it into any other currency at the most favourable official rate of exchange for a sale or purchase, as the case may be.

4. The Organisation shall also be accorded such other similar facilities as can be accorded administratively in the United Kingdom.

##### **National Representatives**

5. National Representatives on any of the organs of the Organisation and members of the official staff shall enjoy the privileges and immunities accorded to members of diplomatic missions of comparable rank. The Government of the United Kingdom shall not, however, be required to grant such privileges and immunities to any person who is a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies or who is a representative of Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom or who is a Member of the staff of such a representative.

## **International Staff**

6. The Secretary-General of the Organisation and the Deputy Secretary-General shall be accorded the privileges and immunities accorded to the members of diplomatic missions of comparable rank.

7. Other officials of the Organisation shall be accorded the privileges and immunities accorded to United Nations officials of comparable rank.

No. 2

*The Secretary-General of the South-East Asia Treaty Organisation to  
Her Majesty's Ambassador at Bangkok*

Your Excellency,

*Bangkok, March 12, 1965.*

I have the honour to refer to Your Excellency's Note of today's date proposing an Agreement concerning the legal status, privileges and immunities to be accorded in the United Kingdom to the South-East Asia Treaty Organisation, national representatives and international staff, which Note read as follows:

[As in No. 1]

Duly empowered by the Governments of the Member States of the South-East Asia Treaty Organisation to conclude an Agreement on their behalf in this matter, I have the honour to confirm that the proposal contained in Your Excellency's Note is acceptable and that Your Excellency's Note together with the present Note shall be regarded as placing on record an Agreement in the terms set out therein. Copies of the two Notes will be transmitted to the Governments of all Member States of the South-East Asia Treaty Organisation.

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

**KONTHI SUPHAMONGKHON.**

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