

FRANCE



Treaty Series No. 33 (1967)

Exchange of Notes

between the Government of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
and the Government of the French Republic
amending Article 9 of the Protocol respecting the
New Hebrides signed at London on 6 August 1914
with regard to the Registration of the Births, Marriages and
Deaths of Natives of the New Hebrides

London, 15 February 1967

*Presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
by Command of Her Majesty
June 1967*

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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 FRENCH REPUBLIC AMENDING
ARTICLE 9 OF THE PROTOCOL RESPECTING THE NEW
HEBRIDES SIGNED AT LONDON ON 6 AUGUST 1914 WITH
REGARD TO THE REGISTRATION OF THE BIRTHS,
MARRIAGES AND DEATHS OF NATIVES OF THE NEW
HEBRIDES**

No. 1

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to the French Ambassador

*Foreign Office, S.W.1,
15 February, 1967*

Your Excellency,

Following recent discussions between Representatives of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the French Republic concerning the introduction of effective machinery for the registration of births, marriages and deaths of natives of the New Hebrides, I have the honour to propose that Article 9 of the Protocol respecting the New Hebrides of the 6th August, 1914⁽¹⁾ shall be abrogated and replaced by the following:

Article 9

“The High Commissioners shall arrange, by Joint Regulation, made after consultation with their Governments for the registration wherever possible of births, marriages and deaths, and more generally of all civil status acts, of persons who are not nationals of the administering powers, or of persons who are not required to opt for the civil legislation of one or the other of those powers.

They may make this registration compulsory.”

2. If the foregoing proposal is acceptable to the Government of the French Republic, I have the honour to suggest that the present Note and Your Excellency's reply in that sense shall be regarded as formally recording the Agreement of the two Governments to amend the said Protocol of the 6th of August, 1914, accordingly, with immediate effect.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest consideration,
Your Excellency's obedient Servant,
(For the Secretary of State)
D. F. MURRAY.

⁽¹⁾ “Treaty Series No. 7 (1922)”, Cmd. 1681.

The French Ambassador to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs

*Ambassade de France
à Londres,*

Monsieur le Secrétaire d'Etat,

Le 15 février 1967

J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception de votre lettre en date de ce jour dont la teneur suit:

“ Monsieur l'Ambassadeur,

A la suite des récents entretiens entre représentants du gouvernement du Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord et du gouvernement de la République française, relatifs à l'institution d'une organisation efficace pour l'enregistrement des naissances, mariages et décès des personnes originaires des Nouvelles-Hébrides, j'ai l'honneur de vous proposer que l'article 9 du Protocole du 6 août 1914 relatif aux Nouvelles-Hébrides soit abrogé et remplacé par le texte suivant:

Article 9 :

“ Les Hauts-Commissaires organiseront par règlement conjoint pris après avis de leurs gouvernements respectifs, partout où la chose est possible, l'enregistrement des naissances, mariages, décès et plus généralement de tous actes d'état civil des personnes non nationales des puissances administrantes ou non soumises à l'option pour la législation civile de l'une ou de l'autre de ces puissances.

Ils pourront rendre cet enregistrement obligatoire.”

Si la proposition ci-dessus reçoit l'accord du gouvernement de la République française, j'ai l'honneur de suggérer que la présente lettre et celle que Votre Excellence m'enverra en réponse soient considérées comme constatant officiellement l'accord des deux gouvernements pour modifier en conséquence ledit Protocole du 6 août 1914, et cela avec effet immédiat.”

En réponse, j'ai l'honneur de vous informer que la proposition ci-dessus emporte l'accord du Gouvernement français qui, dans ces conditions, approuve la suggestion de Votre Excellence que Sa lettre et la présente réponse soient considérées comme constatant officiellement l'accord des deux Gouvernements pour amender en conséquence ledit Protocole du 6 août 1914 et ceci avec effet immédiat.

Je saisis cette occasion de renouveler à Votre Excellence les assurances de la très haute considération avec laquelle j'ai l'honneur d'être

Son très humble et très
obéissant serviteur,
G. DE COURCEL.

[*Translation of No. 2*]

Your Excellency,

*Embassy of France,
London, 15 February, 1967*

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Note of today's date which reads as follows:

[As in No. 1]

In reply, I have the honour to inform you that the foregoing proposal has the agreement of the French Government who therefore approve Your Excellency's suggestion that your Note and the present reply should be considered as formally recording the agreement of the two Governments to amend the said Protocol of 6 August 1914 accordingly, with immediate effect.

I take this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration and I have the honour to be

Your humble and
obedient Servant,
G. DE COURCEL.

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