

FRANCE



Treaty Series No. 65 (1972)

Exchange of Notes

between the Government of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
and the Government of the French Republic
amending the provisions of the Protocol
respecting the New Hebrides of
6 August 1914 as regards the establishment
of municipalities

London, 19 April 1972

[The Agreement entered into force on 19 April 1972]

*Presented to Parliament
by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
by Command of Her Majesty
June 1972*

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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 THE
PROVISIONS OF THE PROTOCOL RESPECTING THE
NEW HEBRIDES OF 6 AUGUST 1914 AS REGARDS THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF MUNICIPALITIES**

No. 1

*The French Ambassador at London to the Secretary of State for Foreign and
Commonwealth Affairs*

*Ambassade de France,
Londres.*

Monsieur le Secrétaire d'Etat,

Le 19 Avril 1972.

J'ai l'honneur de me référer aux conversations qui ont eu lieu entre les représentants du Gouvernement du Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord et du Gouvernement de la République Française relatives à la création de municipalités aux Nouvelles-Hébrides et de proposer que les dispositions suivantes soient adoptées :

“ Le Gouvernement de la République Française et le Gouvernement du Royaume-Uni ont décidé d'un commun accord d'abroger les articles 62 à 65 et l'article 67 du Protocole franco-britannique du 6 Août 1914 relatif aux Nouvelles-Hébrides et de les remplacer par l'article 62 nouveau dont la teneur suit :

“ Article 62—Municipalités: sans porter atteinte à l'ensemble des pouvoirs conférés par l'article 7, les Hauts-Commissaires pourront, par règlements conjoints, créer des municipalités dotées de la personnalité morale et déterminer leurs modalités d'organisation, de fonctionnement et de contrôle. Ils pourront également par règlements conjoints donner à ces municipalités compétence pour lever des taxes sur les personnes et les biens à l'intérieur du ressort territorial de leur juridiction selon les modalités qu'il appartiendra aux Hauts-Commissaires de fixer conjointement par de tels règlements ”.

Si les propositions ci-dessus rencontrent l'agrément du Gouvernement du Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord, j'ai l'honneur de suggérer que la présente note et la réponse de Votre Excellence à cet effet constituent un accord entre les deux gouvernements pour amender le dit Protocole de 1914 à compter de la date de ce jour.

Je saisis cette occasion pour 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

No. 2

*The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs to the French
Ambassador at London*

*Foreign and Commonwealth Office,
London, S.W.1.*

Your Excellency,

19 April 1972.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's Note of today's date, which in translation reads as follows:

“ Your Excellency

I have the honour to refer to 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 establishment of municipalities in the New Hebrides and to propose that the following arrangements be adopted:

“ The Government of the French Republic and the Government of the United Kingdom have jointly decided to abrogate Articles 62 to 65 and Article 67 of the Anglo-French Protocol of 6 August 1914 respecting the New Hebrides⁽¹⁾ and to replace them by the following new Article 62:

‘ ARTICLE 62

Municipalities

Without prejudice to the generality of the powers conferred by Article 7, the High Commissioners may, by joint regulations, set up municipalities having corporate legal personality and prescribe the way in which they shall be constituted, function and be controlled. They may also by joint regulations, empower such municipalities to levy taxes on persons and property within the territorial limits of their jurisdiction in accordance with such conditions as the High Commissioners may jointly prescribe in such regulations.’ ”

If the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, I have the honour to suggest that the present Note and Your Excellency's reply in that sense shall constitute an Agreement between the two Governments to amend the said Protocol of 1914 with effect from this day's date.”

In reply, I have the honour to inform you that the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland who in these circumstances approve Your Excellency's suggestion that your Note and the present reply shall constitute an Agreement between the two Governments to amend the said Protocol with effect from this day's date.

I have the honour to be

with the highest consideration

Your Excellency's obedient Servant
(for the Secretary of State)

D. A. SCOTT

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

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