

NORWAY



Treaty Series No. 48 (1975)

# Exchange of Notes

between the Government of the  
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland  
and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway

concerning the creation of certain Trawler-  
free Zones in Areas adjacent to the present  
Norwegian Fishery Limit

Oslo, 30 January 1975

[The Agreement entered into force on 30 January 1975]

*Presented to Parliament  
by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs  
by Command of Her Majesty  
February 1975*

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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 NORWAY  
CONCERNING THE CREATION OF CERTAIN TRAWLER-FREE  
ZONES IN AREAS ADJACENT TO THE PRESENT NORWEGIAN  
FISHERY LIMIT**

No. 1

*The Minister without Portfolio of Norway to Her Majesty's  
Ambassador at Oslo*

Your Excellency,

*Oslo, 30 January 1975.*

I have the honour to refer to the discussions which have taken place between our two Governments concerning the question of creating certain trawler-free zones in areas adjacent to the present Norwegian fishery limit, and to the letters exchanged between Norway and the European Economic Community on 29 January 1975.

In the discussions, the Norwegian side referred to the inadequacy of the existing arrangements to protect concentrations of Norwegian fixed fishing gear against damage by trawlers. In the light of these discussions and as a further contribution to the endeavours of the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission to conserve fish stocks, my Government wishes to propose the following:

1. Vessels of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland using trawls will not fish in the zones and during the periods specified in the Annex attached to this Note.

2. All vessels using trawls, including Norwegian vessels, will be subject to the same restrictions without any discrimination. Any exemptions from these restrictions or any more favourable conditions for trawlers which Norway may grant to its vessels or agree upon with other states shall equally apply to vessels of the United Kingdom.

3. Each Government shall take the measures necessary to ensure compliance with these provisions. To this end, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland shall ensure that trawlers registered in the United Kingdom do not fish within the areas defined in the Annex during the periods specified.

If there is reason to believe that an infringement of these provisions has occurred, the commander of a Norwegian fishery protection vessel may stop, board and inspect trawlers registered in the United Kingdom in any trawler-free zone defined in the Annex.

Such inspection, which shall be carried out with due regard to the need for safe navigation and the rules of good seamanship, shall be by an authorised officer, who may board the vessel to inspect relevant documents and the fishing gear. If the officer considers that an infringement has occurred, he may instruct the Master of the trawler to cease fishing and to leave the zone. The authorised officer shall draw up a report for submission to the flag state.

Nothing in the provisions of this paragraph shall affect the arrangements already in force between our two countries governing the inspection of fishing vessels.

4. Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to prejudice the views of either Government as to any question concerning the Law of the Sea, including jurisdiction in fishery matters.

5. If the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the United Kingdom Government, I have the honour to propose that this Note and Your Excellency's reply in that sense shall constitute an Agreement between our two Governments which shall become effective today and shall remain in force until terminated by written communication from either Party with not less than four months' notice and having due regard to the effects of termination upon seasonal fishing operations.

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

JENS EVENSEN

## ANNEX

### *ZONE 1* (Jennegga—Malangsgrunnen)

*Definition:* N 68°50' E 13°50', N 69°09' E 13°37',  
N 69°33' E 15°32', N 70°00' E 16°28',  
N 70°00' E 17°28'

*Period of Closure:* 20 October—20 March

### *ZONE 2* (Hjelmsøybanken)

*Definition:* N 71°17' E 23°47', N 71°50' E 23°47',  
N 71°50' E 25°40.5', N 71°23' E 25°40.5'

*Period of Closure:* 1 November—31 March

### *ZONE 3* (Nordbanken/Øverbanken)

*Definition:* N 70°55' E 30°10.5', N 71°12' E 30°43',  
N 70°45' E 31°50', N 70°34' E 31°29'

*Period of Closure:* 1 October—1 March

The zones are bounded on the landward side by the Norwegian fishery limit and on the seaward side by straight lines joining the points specified.

No. 2

*Her Majesty's Ambassador at Oslo to the Minister without Portfolio of Norway*

*British Embassy,  
Oslo.*

Your Excellency,

*30 January 1975.*

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's Note of 30 January 1975, together with its Annex, concerning the question of creating certain trawler-free zones in areas adjacent to the present Norwegian fishery limit.

I have the honour to confirm that the contents of Your Excellency's Note are acceptable to the British Government, who therefore agree that Your Excellency's Note and this reply constitute an Agreement between our two Governments which shall become effective today and shall remain in force until terminated by written communication from either party with not less than four months' notice and having due regard to the effects of termination upon seasonal fishing operations.

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

R. W. SELBY