

CONVENTION<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ROMANIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC CONCERNING MEASURES TO PREVENT FLOODS AND TO REGULATE THE WATER RÉGIME OF THE RIVER PRUT. SIGNED AT KISHINEV, 25 DECEMBER 1952

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government of the Romanian People's Republic, desiring to prevent floods and to ensure the proper regulation of the water regime of the Prut river basin in the Soviet-Romanian frontier area, have decided to conclude a Convention concerning joint measures to prevent floods and to regulate the water regime...

Article 1

Each Contracting Party pledges itself not to undertake any unilateral activity in the water systems of the Prut river basin in connexion with the erection or removal of hydraulic installation or to carry out any other measures connected with these water systems which might under present conditions cause damage, on discharge of water, to flood water areas of the other Contracting Party.

Article 2

The Contracting Parties undertake to carry out works for the purpose of regulating the water systems of the Prut river basin, and to develop the existing hydraulic installations and construct new ones in order to protect their territories against floods.

The works shall be carried out by each Party in its own territory. The extent and nature of the works shall be determined by agreement between the Parties.

Article 3

All the planning and survey operations necessary for execution of the measures provided for in article 2 of this Convention shall be carried out by each Party in its own territory, with its own staff and materials.

If need arises for one of the Contracting Parties to carry out survey work with its own staff and materials in the territory of the other Contracting Party, the latter Contracting Party, after the plan and organization of the work has been agreed on, shall duly authorize it.

Article 4

All expenses connected with the planning, survey and construction works provided for in articles 2 and 3 of this Convention shall be borne by the Parties in their respective territories.

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<sup>1</sup> Entered into force on the date of its signature, according to article 15 of the Convention.

## Article 5

All the hydraulic works referred to in article 2 of this Convention must be completed within such time-limits as shall be determined by agreement between the Parties.

## Article 6

The Contracting Parties undertake to exchange all data in their possession which are necessary for carrying out survey work.

## Article 7

The Contracting Parties pledge themselves to maintain the operation of the water control system (of rivers, canals and hydraulic installations) in good order. With a view to the execution of the necessary measures and, in particular, to the prevention of floods and the prompt execution of repairs during periods of high water, the Contracting Parties undertake to keep in readiness, in adequate quality and in good condition, the materials and also tools required for protection purposes.

The cost of operating the installations referred to in this article and maintaining them in good working order shall be borne by the State in whose territory the said installations have been or are to be constructed.

## Article 8

Should either Contracting Party wish to entrust to the other Party the execution of the works referred to in articles 2 and 3 of this Convention, the commission must be registered in official form, the other Contracting Party's consent having been obtained, through the signature of a protocol concerning the execution and cost of the works and the procedure for the reimbursement of expenses.

The parties shall not entrust the execution of the said works to any third State.

## Article 9

On the execution of the measures referred to in article 8 of this Convention, construction materials, tools and equipment imported from the territory of one Contracting Party into the territory of the other shall be exempt from duties, fees and other taxes. On completion of the work, the tools and equipment must be returned.

## Article 10

With a view to the discharge of the functions specified in article 11 of this Convention, each Party shall appoint, not later than thirty days after the signature of the Convention, one Commissioner and two Deputy Commissioners; the Commissioners shall be entitled to call in experts as necessary.

## Article 11

The functions of the Commissioners shall *inter alia* be:

- (a) To co-ordinate the works referred to in article 2 and 3 of this Convention;
- (b) To inspect periodically the condition of the protective dikes and other hydraulic installations on both banks of the river Prut. With an inspection of the said installations is to be carried out by representatives of one Party in the territory of the other, the competent authorities of the latter Party must be notified of such inspection, which must be carried out in the presence of its competent authorities, not later than forty-eight hours in advance, with an indication of the time at which it is to begin, and must be informed on completion of the inspection of its results.
- (c) To prepare specific measures in matters relating to joint protection against floods;
- (d) To co-ordinate and agree plans of works for the following year;
- (e) To agree on all other matters arising out of the execution of this Convention.

## Article 12

The results of negotiations between the Commissioners and Deputy-Commissioners on the matters referred to in articles 2,3, and 9 of this Convention shall be recorded in bilateral protocols which shall be signed by the Commissioners of both Contracting Parties or, in the absence of the Commissioners, by their Deputies. The decisions recorded in such protocols shall be submitted to the competent authorities of each Party for confirmation. Save as may be otherwise agreed, the Commissioners shall meet as necessary, in the territory of each Contracting Party alternately.

## Article 13

Commissioners, Deputy-Commissioners, experts called in by them and technical personnel shall cross the frontier in accordance with the following arrangements:

The Commissioner of the USSR, his deputy, experts and technical staff- on presentation of a special certificate signed by the Minister for Agriculture of the USSR and visaed by the frontier authorities of the USSR and the Romanian People's Republic; the Commissioner of the Romanian People's Republic, his deputy, experts and technical staff- on presentation of a special certificate signed by the Minister for Agriculture of the Romanian People's Republic, also visaed by the frontier authorities of the USSR and the Romanian People's Republic.

## Article 14

The Contracting Parties shall notify each other of the competent authorities responsible for giving effect to this Convention. The said authorities, as also the Commissioners of the two Contracting Parties, for matters relating to this Convention, may correspond with each other directly in the languages of the Contracting Parties.

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