

SWEDEN-UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS: AGREEMENT ON
PRINCIPLES FOR THE DELIMITATION OF SEA AREA IN THE BALTIC SEA*

[Done at Stockholm, January 13, 1988]

+Cite as 27 I.L.M. 695 (1988)+

I.L.M. Background/Content Summary

The Agreement on Principles for the Delimitation of Sea Area in the Baltic Sea, signed at Stockholm, January 13, 1988, provides the basis to end a long-standing dispute between Sweden and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The dispute centered on fishing rights in the Baltic Sea; in the absence of agreement, fishermen exploited its waters without restriction. The accord gives Sweden 75 percent of the area while the Soviets receive 25 percent. Within the framework of the agreement, annual quotas are also outlined. Negotiations on the drawing of the delimitation line will begin in the near future.

Agreement between the Kingdom of Sweden and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Principles for Delimitation of the Sea Areas in the Baltic Sea

Aiming further to strengthen the friendly relations and co-operation between the Kingdom of Sweden and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics pursuant to the Charter of the United Nations, the parties have agreed as follows.

The area disputed between Sweden and the Soviet Union shall be divided such that 75 per cent of its surface area falls to Sweden and 25 per cent falls to the Soviet Union. The line of delimitation shall join the most northerly and southerly points and relate to the outer contours of the area in a symmetrical manner.

Within the framework of this Agreement and during a period of 20 years after the line of delimitation has been established, Sweden shall allow the Soviet Union a catch quota of 18,000 tonnes annually, 240 tonnes of which refer to salmon, in its part of the previously disputed area. During the same period,

*[Reproduced from the English text provided to International Legal Materials by the Swedish Embassy at Washington, D.C.]

the Soviet Union shall allow Sweden a catch quota of 6,000 tonnes annually, 80 tonnes of which refer to salmon, in its part of the previously disputed area.

The parties assume that fishery in the previously disputed area shall not be to the detriment of the stocks of living resources.

When the twenty-year period has expired, the two parties shall commence negotiations on future catch quotas paying due regard to the stocks of living resources in the area and also to the traditional fishery of Sweden and the Soviet Union.

In these negotiations, on the basis of the new quotas on which agreement is to be reached, and without impairing its possibilities of allocating catch quotas to other states, each party shall give the other party access, under the terms of this Agreement, to the unutilized part of the highest permitted catch quota in its part of the previously disputed area which the party in question considers it can allot to foreign fishery.

On the basis of this Agreement, authorized representatives of the parties shall, in the near future, draw up one or more agreements for the purpose of implementing these provisions.

This Agreement enters into force on the date on which it is signed.

Which was done at Stockholm on 13 January 1988, in two originals each in the Swedish and Russian languages, both of these texts being equally authentic.

For the Kingdom of Sweden

For the Union of Soviet
Socialist Republics

Ingvar Carlsson

Ryzhkov