

No. 6837

**UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS,
GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC and POLAND**

Agreement (with annexes) concerning the load line for ships sailing under the flags and between the ports of the German Democratic Republic, the Polish People's Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Baltic Sea. Signed at Moscow, on 7 June 1963

Official texts: Russian, German and Polish.

Registered by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on 24 July 1963.

**UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES
SOVIÉTIQUES, RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE
ALLEMANDE et POLOGNE**

Accord (avec annexes) relatif à la ligne de charge des navires naviguant sous le pavillon de l'URSS, de la République démocratique allemande ou de la République populaire de Pologne entre les ports de ces pays situés sur la mer Baltique. Signé à Moscou, le 7 juin 1963

Textes officiels russe, allemand et polonais.

Enregistré par l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques le 24 juillet 1963.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 6837. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC CONCERNING THE LOAD LINE FOR SHIPS SAILING UNDER THE FLAGS AND BETWEEN THE PORTS OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, THE POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC AND THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS ON THE BALTIC SEA. SIGNED AT MOSCOW, ON 7 JUNE 1963

The Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the German Democratic Republic and the Polish People's Republic,

Being parties to the International Load Line Convention signed at London on 5 July 1930,²

Recognizing that the sheltered nature of voyages between the Baltic ports of the Contracting Parties makes it unnecessary to apply certain provisions of the Convention to ships engaged on such voyages,

Have decided, in accordance with article 2, paragraph 2, of the said Convention, to conclude this Agreement and for this purpose have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries :

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics :

Vladimir Adamovich Zabrodsky;

The Government of the German Democratic Republic :

Martin Lehmann;

The Government of the Polish People's Republic :

Walter Fiderkiewicz,

who, having exhibited their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows :

¹ Came into force on 7 June 1963, the date of the signature, in accordance with article II.
² League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. CXXXV, p. 301; Vol. CXLII, p. 392; Vol. CXLVII, p. 354; Vol. CLII, p. 313; Vol. CLVI, p. 256; Vol. CLX, p. 417; Vol. CLXIV, p. 393; Vol. CLXXII, p. 423; Vol. CLXXXIII, p. 405, and Vol. CXCIII, p. 271; and United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 54, p. 413; Vol. 186, p. 381; Vol. 190, p. 394; Vol. 193, p. 368; Vol. 199, p. 366; Vol. 214, p. 394; Vol. 233, p. 342; Vol. 267, p. 391, Vol. 315, p. 369, and Vol. 327, p. 388.

Article I

Ships engaged on voyages between the Baltic ports of the Contracting Parties and under their flags may be exempted, so long as they are engaged on such voyages, from certain provisions of the International Load Line Convention of 1930. Such exemptions shall be granted in accordance with the " Rules concerning the load line for ships sailing under the flags and between the ports of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the German Democratic Republic and the Polish People's Republic on the Baltic Sea ", drawn up in accordance with article 2, paragraph 2, of the said Convention, which are annexed to and constitute an integral part of this Agreement.

Article II

The Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature and shall remain in force until the Contracting Parties decide otherwise.

Each of the Contracting Parties shall have the right to denounce this Agreement at any time; the Agreement shall cease to have effect for the denouncing Party six months after notice of denunciation has been transmitted to the depositary.

Article III

This Agreement shall be open for accession by all Baltic States.

For each Baltic State acceding to it, this Agreement shall enter into force on the date of transmission of the instrument of accession to the depositary.

Article IV

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall exercise depositary functions in respect of this Agreement and shall register it with the United Nations Secretariat in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

DONE at Moscow on 7 June 1963, in one copy each in the Russian, German and Polish languages, all three texts being of equal force.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the above-mentioned Plenipotentiaries have signed this Agreement.

For the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics :

ZABRODSKY

For the Government of the German Democratic Republic :
Martin LEHMANN

For the Government of the Polish People's Republic :
W. FIDERKIEWICZ

RULES CONCERNING THE LOAD LINE FOR SHIPS SAILING UNDER
THE FLAGS AND BETWEEN THE PORTS OF THE UNION OF SOVIET
SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
AND THE POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC ON THE BALTIC SEA

I. General provisions

Rule 1. Sea-going ships may, at the desire of the organization operating the ship concerned, be assigned a special load line for navigation between the Baltic ports of the Contracting Parties.

Rule 2. In all cases, unless expressly provided otherwise, the following definitions shall apply :

(a) The expression " a ship of the restricted area of navigation " means a ship engaged on voyages between the Baltic ports of the Contracting Parties;

(b) the expression " the Convention " means the International Load Line Convention of 1930;

(c) The expression " the Convention Rules " means the Rules laid down in annex I to the International Load Line Convention of 1930;

(d) Other definitions, unless expressly provided otherwise below, shall correspond to those adopted in article 3 of the Convention and in the Convention Rules.

Rule 3. These Rules shall apply to all sea-going ships of the restricted area of navigation having a gross tonnage of 150 register tons and upwards in navigation on the Baltic Sea, except :

(a) Ships of war;

(b) Ships intended solely for the fishing industry;

(c) Pleasure yachts and sports craft;

(d) Ships not carrying cargo or passengers (scientific research vessels, hydrographic vessels, training ships, etc.);

(e) Sailing ships.

Rule 4. In order to obtain a special load line for the restricted area of navigation, a ship must comply with these Rules and, save as otherwise provided in these Rules, with all requirements of the Convention.

On the basis of the foregoing, the ship shall be provided with a special certificate for the restricted area of navigation, issued by the Government of the country to which the ship belongs or by an organization or person duly authorized by such a Government. However, the Government shall in every case bear responsibility for the certificate issued.

The special load line for the restricted area of navigation shall be marked on both sides of the ship, as prescribed in rule 6 below. It may be marked in addition to the International Load Line if such Line be marked on the ship's sides.

Rule 5. The form of ship's certificate for restricted navigation is given in the annex to these Rules. The text of the form shall be written in the language of the country to which the ship belongs.

Rule 6. (1) The special load line for the restricted area of navigation shall consist of a vertical line 25 mm in breadth, marked 1,200 mm forward of the centre of the disc of the International Load line, or aft of it in the case of timber-carriers, and horizontal lines 250 mm in length and 25 mm in breadth meeting the vertical line and representing :

(a) Summer draught for the restricted area of navigation (JI in Russian, S in German, L in Polish).

(b) Winter draught for the restricted area of navigation (З in Russian, W in German, Z in Polish).

(c) Fresh water draught for the restricted area of navigation (II in Russian, F in German, S in Polish).

The draught shall be indicated by the upper edges of the said lines.

At an interval of 200 mm above the fresh water draught line (II in Russian, F in German, S in Polish), a line 200 mm in length shall be drawn symmetrically about the vertical line, and above it shall be placed the letters "RA", indicating that the load line has been assigned under Regional Agreement Rules.

(2) If an International Load Line in conformity with the Convention is not marked on the ship's sides, then in addition to the marks referred to in rule 6, paragraph (1), a disc with a horizontal line and a deck line as prescribed by the Convention shall be marked amidships. The organization by which the load lines are assigned shall be indicated by letters 115 mm in height and 75 mm in breadth marked alongside the disc above the line passing through the centre of the disc. The letters "RA" may be of the same size.

(3) The letters on the lines marked on the ship's sides shall be in the language of the country issuing the certificate.

(4) The disc, line and letters shall be painted in white or yellow on a dark ground or in black on a light ground. They shall also be carefully cut in or centre-punched on the sides of steel ships, and on wooden ships they shall be cut into the planking for at least 3 mm. The marks shall be plainly visible.

II. Supplementary conditions for the assignment of special load lines for the restricted area

Rule 7. Ships having an International Load Line shall be assigned a special load line for the restricted area of navigation on the basis of the appropriate computations of freeboard set forth in rules 8-15 below.

Rule 8. The freeboard computation tables (tables 1 and 2) give the basic summer freeboards in salt water.

Table 1 relates to dry-cargo ships and table 2 to tankers.