

No. 7980

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND
and
MALDIVE ISLANDS**

**Agreement (with annexure and exchange of letters). Signed
at Colombo, on 26 July 1965**

Official text: English.

Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 24 November 1965.

**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD
et
ÎLES MALDIVES**

**Accord (avec annexe et échange de lettres). Signé à Colombo,
le 26 juillet 1965**

Texte officiel anglais.

Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le 24 novembre 1965.

No. 7980. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE MALDIVE ISLANDS. SIGNED AT COLOMBO, ON 26 JULY 1965

Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Maldive Islands ;

Desiring to consolidate the friendship and close association between their two countries and desiring for this purpose to revise the Agreement concluded between them on 14th February 1960,² agree as follows :

Article 1

The provisions of the aforesaid Agreement of 1960 shall cease to have effect and they shall be replaced by the provisions of this present Agreement.

Article 2

The United Kingdom Government confirm their recognition of the State of the Maldive Islands as a composite sovereign and fully independent State possessing all rights to have direct relations politically and otherwise with all countries and international organisations.

Article 3

The Maldivian Government confirm the grant made by them to the United Kingdom Government by the Agreement of 14th February 1960,² of the unrestricted and exclusive use of the whole area of the island of Gan in Addu Atoll and a demarcated area of 110 acres on the island of Hithadoo (Maamendu) of the same atoll, until the 15th day of December 1986 as a free gift. The said areas are hereafter referred to as "the Agreed Areas".

The Maldivian Government undertake that during the period until 15th December 1986 they will not permit the entry into or use of the territory, territorial waters or air space of the Maldive Islands for any purpose by any of the armed forces of any other State or the establishment by any other State of rights or facilities of a military character, unless the United Kingdom Government has consented thereto. This

¹ Came into force on 26 July 1965, in accordance with article 6.

² United Kingdom, Cmnd. 948.

undertaking shall not apply to courtesy visits by aircraft and by vessels of war in accordance with normal international practice.

The United Kingdom Government may establish, operate and maintain an Airfield on Gan Island, and a Radio Station on Hithadoo Island, and shall have unrestricted access by sea and air to the Agreed Areas, and the unrestricted use of the lagoon of Addu Atoll and the territorial waters adjacent to the Agreed Areas for Her Majesty's ships as may be required. The United Kingdom Government may further utilise the lagoon of Addu Atoll and the territorial waters adjacent to the Agreed Areas for recreational purposes for the British Forces and for the maintenance of such facilities as are specified and agreed in this Agreement and Annexure.

Until the 15th day of December, 1986, the United Kingdom Government may maintain within the Agreed Areas such Armed Forces as they may think fit for the exercise and use of the rights and facilities accorded to them under this Agreement. Nothing herein or hereafter contained in this Agreement shall impair the Sovereign Status of the Agreed Areas as part of the State of the Maldive Islands.

Article 4

The United Kingdom Government undertake to utilise the facilities granted to them by the Maldivian Government in the Agreed Areas only for Commonwealth defence.

Article 5

The Annexure which contains provisions relating to the implementation and interpretation of this Agreement shall form part of this Agreement.

Article 6

This Agreement shall come into force on the Twenty-sixth day of July 1965, from which date all previous agreements and understandings shall cease to be effective.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorised by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

DONE in duplicate at Colombo this Twenty-sixth day of July 1965 in the English language.

For Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland :

Michael WALKER

For the Government of the Maldive Islands :

Ibrahim NASIR

ANNEXURE

CLAUSE A

During the period until the 15th day of December 1986 the Maldivian Government will, if the United Kingdom Government so request, receive a Representative of the United Kingdom Government.

CLAUSE B

For the purpose of the exercise of the rights of the United Kingdom Government under this Agreement the Maldivian Government will afford all reasonable assistance.

CLAUSE C

The United Kingdom Government shall have the right to lay and maintain submarine cables between Gan Island and the Radio Station on Hithadoo Island in the intervening and adjacent waters.

CLAUSE D

The activities of Her Majesty's Forces in the Agreed Areas shall in no way interfere with any legitimate rights of the people of Addu Atoll outside the Agreed Areas except for such precautions as may be necessary for the safety and security of life and property.

CLAUSE E

During the continuance of this Agreement, the Maldivian Government undertake not to grant any private rights to any person or persons in the Agreed Areas, without securing the prior agreement of the United Kingdom Government in writing. Similarly, the United Kingdom Government undertake not to grant any such rights without securing the prior agreement of the Maldivian Government in writing.

CLAUSE F

If, on the expiry of the period stipulated in this Agreement, further provision by the agreement of both Governments has not been made and signed to extend the period of this Agreement, the United Kingdom Government shall at their discretion be free to remove from the Agreed Areas all the equipment and supplies of the United Kingdom Government, within a period of one year. The United Kingdom Government will ensure that in removing the equipment and supplies no avoidable damage shall be done to any buildings or constructions. All that remains behind at the end of the said one year shall be the property of the Maldivian Government.

CLAUSE G

The Maldivian Government agree that they will not interfere in any way with the exercise by the United Kingdom Government of their rights under this Agreement.