

No. 31871

**NEW ZEALAND
and
FRANCE**

**Agreement on Antarctic cooperation. Signed at Wellington on
16 September 1994**

Authentic texts: English and French.

Registered by New Zealand on 1 June 1995.

**NOUVELLE-ZÉLANDE
et
FRANCE**

**Accord de coopération relatif à l'Antarctique. Signé à Wel-
lington le 16 septembre 1994**

Textes authentiques : anglais et français.

Enregistré par la Nouvelle-Zélande le 1^{er} juin 1995.

AGREEMENT¹ ON ANTARCTIC COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW ZEALAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC

The Government of New Zealand and the Government of the French Republic,
Recalling the Joint Statement on Antarctic Cooperation issued in Christchurch on 23 December 1992, and their desire to conclude a bilateral Agreement;

Noting that New Zealand and France have a commitment to the comprehensive protection of the Antarctic environment;

Recognising that the signature of the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty² (“the Protocol”) by all Consultative Parties represent an historic step;

Recalling the environmental principles of the Protocol which require, *inter alia*, that activities in the Antarctic Treaty Area be planned and conducted so as to limit adverse impacts on the Antarctic environment and dependent and associated ecosystems;

Recalling that New Zealand is one of the most important gateways to Antarctica and that New Zealand, by virtue of its geographical proximity to Antarctica, and its territorial sovereignty over the Ross Dependency, is well placed to provide assistance to Antarctic scientific research programmes;

Recognising France’s wish to develop an air support capability for its Antarctic Research Programme and that transiting New Zealand territory (including the Ross Dependency) will facilitate the operation of an air support link;

Noting that in view of the extensive facilities which the City of Christchurch offers to Antarctic operations, in particular the International Antarctic Centre at Christchurch International Airport, and those available at the International Centre for Antarctic Information and Research (ICAIR), the Government of New Zealand welcomes the use of facilities by the French Antarctic Research Programme;

Further noting that France shall be circulating a final Comprehensive Environmental Evaluation in respect of the establishment of the “Concordia” scientific station at Dome C taking full account of the observations and recommendations of the Antarctic Treaty Parties and Non-Governmental Organisations made in accordance with the Protocol;

Recalling the Agreement between New Zealand and Italy on Cooperation in Antarctic Research done at Wellington on 8 March 1987.³

Have agreed as follows:

1. (a) The two Governments shall develop further their bilateral Antarctic cooperation. In particular, they will consult and cooperate about issues relating to the protection of the Antarctic environment arising from:

— Their national Antarctic Research Programmes, or

¹ Came into force on 16 September 1994 by signature, in accordance with paragraph 11.

² For the Antarctic Treaty, see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, p. 71.

³ Should read 8 April 1987. See United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1675, No. I-28952.