

No. 52724*

**United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
and
Sweden**

Exchange of notes between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden concerning the assumption of responsibility for the protection of the diplomatic and consular interests of the United Kingdom Government in the Islamic Republic of Iran by the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden (with annexes). Stockholm, 11 July 2012

Entry into force: *11 July 2012 by the exchange of the said notes, in accordance with their provisions*

Authentic text: *English*

Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations: *United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 29 May 2015*

**No UNTS volume number has yet been determined for this record. The Text(s) reproduced below, if attached, are the authentic texts of the agreement /action attachment as submitted for registration and publication to the Secretariat. For ease of reference they were sequentially paginated. Translations, if attached, are not final and are provided for information only.*

**Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord
et
Suède**

Échange de notes entre le Gouvernement du Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord et le Gouvernement du Royaume de Suède concernant la prise en charge de la sauvegarde des intérêts diplomatiques et consulaires du Gouvernement du Royaume-Uni dans la République islamique d'Iran par le Gouvernement du Royaume de Suède (avec annexes). Stockholm, 11 juillet 2012

Entrée en vigueur : *11 juillet 2012 par l'échange desdites notes, conformément à leurs dispositions*

Texte authentique : *anglais*

Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat de l'Organisation des Nations Unies : *Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord, 29 mai 2015*

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[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

I

Alison Thorpe Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Stockholm to Mr Anders Rönquist, Director-General for Legal Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden

11 July 2012

I have the honour to propose, on behalf of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, an Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of Sweden concerning the assumption of responsibility for the protection of the diplomatic and consular interests of the United Kingdom Government in the Islamic Republic of Iran by the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden, in the terms set out in Annexes 1 and 2 below.

If the arrangements set out above are acceptable to the Government of Sweden, I have the honour to suggest that this Note and your Excellency's reply to that effect shall constitute an Agreement between our two Governments, and that this Agreement shall take effect on the date of your reply.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to the Director-General for Legal Affairs the assurances of my highest consideration.

Alison Thorpe
Chargé d'Affaires
British Embassy Stockholm

Annex 1

SECTION 1

Sweden undertakes to represent the United Kingdom as protecting power in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

1) The commission as protecting power comprises administrative, humanitarian and consular matters (excluding routine entry clearance services). If the commission is to be extended to cover other matters, a separate exchange of notes to that effect is required.

2) In dealing with protection matters, the protecting power may avoid taking action that could damage its position or good name in the receiving country, or in relation to any other country. In case of doubt in dealing with the matter, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Stockholm shall take the decision. This always applies to letters and other messages from the commissioning country to the receiving country.

SECTION 2

1) An Interests Section for the commissioning country under the Swedish Ambassador shall be set up at the Swedish Embassy in Tehran. Staff employed at the Interests Section may on the one hand be Swedish officials, on the other locally engaged personnel of the commissioning country. They may work from premises owned by the commissioning country and taken into custody by the protecting power. The protecting power undertakes, where necessary, to obtain permission from the receiving country with regard to the employment of career officials sent out by the commissioning country.

2) Where locally-engaged personnel of the commissioning country remain employed by the commissioning country, the commissioning country shall remain responsible for payment of their salaries and allowances. The protecting power shall be responsible for the welfare of locally-engaged personnel in connection with their employment.

3) Staff working at the Interests Section may use the diplomatic courier and communications of the protecting power. Diplomatic courier and secure communications may not be established between the commissioning country and its Interests Section at the protecting power without the approval of the receiving country.

SECTION 3

The Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs shall maintain contact with the commissioning country's representatives in Sweden in all matters relating to the commission. In appropriate cases direct communication may, with the consent of the protecting power, be maintained between the commissioning country and the

Swedish Embassy in Tehran. However, the protecting power shall be kept informed of the nature and extent of such contacts. The protecting power may, at its discretion, accept a temporary liaison officer of the commissioning country at its Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Stockholm in order to facilitate this.

SECTION 4

- 1) The premises taken into custody by the protecting power are listed in Annex 2 to this Agreement. The Parties shall exchange information about the contents of the premises taken into custody.
- 2) The protecting power is not under any obligation to accept care of the property of citizens of the commissioning power.

SECTION 5

- 1) The protecting power shall take good care of the property received including its security, in consultation with the commissioning power. If an official sent out by the commissioning country has taken the property into his care the responsibility for it rests with him. The representative of the protecting power shall assist him, if the official requests such assistance.
- 2) If property belonging to the commissioning country is used by agreement as a residence or office for a member of the staff connected with the mission of protection, no rent shall be charged, but the protecting power shall be responsible for the maintenance of the property. Other properties may be leased by the protecting power on terms to be agreed.
- 3) Sale of property belonging to the commissioning country through the agency of the protecting power may not take place without the permission of the commissioning country.

SECTION 6

The commissioning country undertakes to reimburse the protecting power for all expenses incurred in the protecting of its interests. The Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs shall inform the commissioning country's Embassy in Stockholm of the amount in a timely fashion and in any event at least once per quarter. Appropriate information for accounting and audit purposes will be provided according to agreed procedures.

SECTION 7

The bank deposits of the commissioning country in the name of the British Interests Section Tehran may be transferred to special accounts in the Swedish Embassy's name. Appropriate practical arrangements will be made, following consultation between the parties, regarding payments by the commissioning country in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

SECTION 8

Disputes arising between the Parties to this Agreement relating to the commission as protecting power shall be settled by diplomatic means. If a settlement cannot be reached in that way, the dispute shall be submitted to arbitration according to a procedure agreed between the parties.