



Forestry Department

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Forest Protection Working Papers

Legal Frameworks for Forest Fire Management: International Agreements and National Legislation

*Follow-up Report to FAO/ITTO International Expert Meeting on Forest Fire
Management, March 2001*

Based on the work of
Fernando Fernández Arriaga
and
Frédéric St-Martin
Francesca Raimondi
Legal Consultants

And

Tom Frey
Ricardo Vélez- Muñóz
Fire Management Specialists

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Forest Resources Development Service
Forest Resources Division
Forestry Department

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Comments and feedback are welcome.

For further information please contact:

Mr. Petteri Vuorinen, Forestry Officer (Forest Fire Management)

Mr. Peter Holmgren, Chief

Forest Resources Development Service

Forest Resources Division, Forestry Department

FAO

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla

I-00100 Rome, Italy

e-mail: petteri.vuorinen@fao.org

peter.holmgren@fao.org

or: FAO Publications and Information Coordinator:

andrea.perlis@fao.org

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following on from a previous report by Bob Mutch and Maresa Bors, entitled *Follow-up Report to FAO/ITTO International Expert Meeting on Forest Fire Management, March 2001* (Rome, October 2001), this report focuses on some legal aspects of forest fire management, namely international agreements and national legislation dealing with forest fires.

The main objectives of this follow-up work were to: (i) identify existing national and sub-national legislation on forest fire management; (ii) update the inventory of international agreements on forest fires maintained by FAO; and (iii) prepare an outline for developing forest fire agreements.

In July 2001, the FAO Representatives in all countries were requested to locate international agreements on forest fires with a view to updating the list of those already available within FAO. In January 2002, a second request was made to the FAO Representatives for assistance in locating new agreements that might have been signed or drafted since the previous request, as well as any in-country fire agreements that may exist. The national legislation dealing with forest fires was identified through a systematic search in FAOLEX, the FAO legislative database.

The international agreements and the national legislation identified through this review were clustered into two categories of forest fire legal documents: (i) international and national agreements, including emergency response agreements and other agreements; and (ii) national legislation consisting of texts which either deal specifically or more or less fully with forest fires, or partly deal with some aspects of forest fire management.

The legal documents on forest fires that were identified in the course of this work included: (i) 21 emergency response international agreements (plus one which is still under negotiation); (ii) 16 international agreements not dealing with emergency response but covering other aspects of co-operation on forest fires, plus 6 national agreements; and (iii) 276 national legal texts, of which 111 are specific to forest fires, and the others deal with forestry generally and cover forest fires to some extent. The full texts of the above legal documents, together with summaries for the international agreements, have been entered into a database and are available online in FAO's website.

Based on the review of this documentation, as well as on the first set of guidelines developed in the above mentioned *Follow-up Report to FAO/ITTO International Expert Meeting on Forest Fire Management, March 2001*, common elements were identified in existing international agreements on forest fires; this enabled the preparation of an outline for developing such agreements.

Finally, three recommendations were made for future action by FAO in relation to the legal aspects of forest fire management: (i) regularly update the information on international agreements and national legislation; (ii) further elaborate the outline for developing international agreements, and develop new outlines for related operational guidelines and operating plans; and (iii) further review and assess the national legislation on forest fires.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Following on a previous report by Bob Mutch and Maresa Bors, entitled *Follow-up Report to FAO/ITTO International Expert Meeting on Forest Fire Management, March 2001* (Rome, October 2001), this report focuses on some legal aspects of forest fire management, namely international agreements and national legislation dealing with forest fires.

The main objectives of this follow-up work were to:

- (i) identify and classify existing national and sub-national legislation on forest fire management;
- (ii) update the inventory of international agreements on forest fires that is maintained by FAO; and,
- (iii) prepare an outline for developing forest fire agreements.

This report briefly describes the activities undertaken (section 2) and the results achieved (section 3) under this assignment. It also makes some recommendations for further action by FAO in respect of both national and international legal aspects of forest fire management (section 3). Finally, the annexes provide more detailed information on the structure and contents of the various legal texts that were identified and analyzed.

2. ACTIVITIES

In July 2001, the FAO Representatives in member countries were requested to locate international agreements on forest fires with a view to updating the list of those already available within FAO. In January 2002, a second request was made to the FAO Representatives for assistance in locating new agreements that might have been signed or drafted since the previous request, as well as any in-country fire agreements that may exist.

In-country agreements are those signed within a country either between states, provinces or other local government entities, or between institutions and/or departments in the national government.

More than 30 responses were received from the following countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, El Salvador, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Mauritius, Morocco, Peru, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sierra Leona, Sri Lanka, Syria, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uruguay and Venezuela. Most answers given by the FAO Representatives were in the negative (i.e., no agreements in place). However, a number of cooperation agreements exist, which are summarized in Annex 1. It is recommended that this list be regularly updated as replies are sent by FAO Representatives and new information becomes available.

In June 2004, FAO Representatives in member countries were again requested to provide information on forest fire agreements and legislation. Many countries responded by sending new documents concerning national legislation specific to forest fires or related to it, that have been introduced in this latest version.

In particular, Belize, Canada, Italy, Hungary and the Russian Federation had significantly changed their forest fire legislation.

3. OUTCOME

The international agreements and the national legislation identified were clustered into two categories of forest fire legal documents:

- (i) international agreements, consisting of:
 - (a) emergency response agreements;
 - (b) other agreements; and,
- (ii) national legislation consisting of instruments which:
 - (a) either deal specifically and more or less fully with forest fires;
 - (b) deal in part with some aspects of forest fire management.

Altogether, the legal documents on forest fires that were identified in the course of this work included:

- (i) 21 emergency response international agreements (plus one which is still under negotiation);
- (ii) 16 international agreements on other matter, plus 6 national inland agreements; and,
- (iii) 276 national legal texts, of which 111 are specific to forest fires, and the others deal with forestry generally and cover forest fires to some extent.

3.1 International Agreements

3.1.1 Emergency Response Agreements

To date FAO has received copies of 21 emergency response international agreements. The agreements are listed below, with an indication of: the parties to the agreement, the name and date of the agreement, and a brief outline of the purpose of the agreement. Summaries of the agreements are included in Annex 1 and their full text is accessible at the FAO Forestry Department's website (http://www.fao.org/forestry/foris/index.jsp?start_id=5288).

Some of these international agreements on forest fires have annual Operational Guidelines or Operating Plans, which contain procedural details for the implementation of the agreements. These documents are regularly reviewed, in general every year, to adjust the implementation modalities of the agreements to the specific circumstances of the parties involved. Examples of operational guidelines, such as those developed under the agreements Mexico / USA or Canada / USA can be accessed through FAOLEX¹ (<http://www.fao.org/Legal/default.htm>).

¹ FAOLEX has been included in a larger legal database, ECOLEX. It is still accessible through the same website.

Emergency Response International Agreements

Parties to the agreement	Name and date of the agreement	Purpose of the agreement
Spain / Portugal	Protocol between the Kingdom of Spain and the Republic of Portugal regarding technical co-operation and mutual assistance on civil protection, 1993	Preparation and execution of projects on scientific and technical co-operation regarding civil protection (Article 1)
Spain/Portugal	Additional Protocol on Mutual Assistance in case of Forest Fires in Border Zones, adopted within the terms of the Protocol between the Queen of Spain and the Republic of Portugal on Technical Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in Civil Protection Matters, made in Evora on March 9 th 1992, Figueira da Foz, 2003.	This Protocol facilitates the intervention of both parties in case of forest fires occurring within a strip of 5 kilometers from the common border. It aims to reduce the period of time between the occurrence of the fire and the response from the fire-fighting bodies.
France / Spain	Agreement on mutual assistance between the French and Spanish fire fighting and assistance services, 1960	Facilitate mutual aid and prompt sending of assistance in case of emergencies occurring in border areas
Morocco / Spain	Agreement on technical co-operation and mutual assistance in civil protection, 28 December 1992	To improve scientific and technical research, and to provide mutual aid in case of catastrophes or emergencies
Argentina / Chile	Agreement between the Republic of Argentina and the Republic of Chile on co-operation in cases of catastrophes, 1997	Co-operation between the Parties shall be in the following areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exchange of information in order to prevent catastrophes and their effects 2. Exchange of information and experiences regarding actions in cases of emergencies 3. Exchange of technological information to apply in cases of emergencies 4. Elaboration and development of programmes, projects and joint plans for emergencies 5. Development of plans for mitigation and operative coordination to face common risks 6. Collaboration in cases of emergencies through: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Provision of personnel and means of assistance b) Use of means of technical assistance and logistics c) Supply of medical care and food at the request to mitigate the effects of emergencies (Article 2)
Argentina / Chile	Agreement on the protection of	Establish an effective system of co-

	border forests against fires, 1967	operation for the protection of the common forests of the border area covered by the Agreement, including a mechanism to prevent, verify and extinguish fires (Article 1)
Finland / Russian Federation	Agreement by and between the Government of the Finnish Republic and the Government of the Russian Federation about Co-operation to avert disasters and to prevent their consequences, 1994	To foster co-operation in the following areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. development of actions and methods that increase the contracting parties' possibilities of averting disasters, to notifying them and to prevent their consequences; 2. notification of disasters that have adverse effects across state borders; 3. mutual assistance to prevent the consequences of disasters (Article 2)
Mexico / United States of America	Wildfire protection agreement between the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture of the United States of America and the Secretariat of Environment, Natural Resources, and Fisheries of the United Mexican States for the common border, 1999	The purpose of this Agreement is to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. enable wildfire protection resources originating in the territory of one country to cross the US/Mexico border in order to suppress wildfires on the other side of the border within the zone of mutual assistance in appropriate circumstances; 2. give authority for Parties to co-operate on other fire management activities outside the zone of mutual assistance (Article I)
New Zealand / United States of America	Wildfire Arrangement between the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture of the United States of America and the National Rural Fire Authority of New Zealand, 2001	To provide a framework within which one Participant may request and receive wildfire suppression resources from the other Participant and to encourage co-operation on other fire management activities (Article I.1)
China / Russian Federation	Agreement on Joint Control of Forest Fire between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of Russian Federation, 1995	To improve forest fire control in border areas, to share experience in forest fire control, and to help each other to prevent forest fires and to reduce losses therefrom
United States of America / Australia-New Zealand	International Agreement between the US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service for the National Multi-agency coordination group for and on behalf of the Government of the United States of America, and the Secretariat of the Department of Natural Resources and	To facilitate mutual assistance in wildland firefighting between Australia, New Zealand and the United States of America (Article I)

	Environment for itself and as agent of the Crown in the right of each Australian State and Territory and the Crown in the right of New Zealand, 2000	
Canada / United States of America	Northwest Wildland Fire Protection Agreement, 1998	To promote effective prevention, presuppression and control of forest fires in the Northwest wildland region of the United States and adjacent areas of Canada, by providing mutual aid in prevention, presuppression and control of wildland fires, and by establishing procedures in operating plans that will facilitate such aid (Article I)
Canada / United States of America	The Northeastern Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact Public Law #129 – 81 st Congress, 1949.	Promotion of effective prevention and control of forest fires in the northeastern region of the United States and adjacent areas in Canada by the maintenance of the adequate forest fire fighting services, and by providing mutual aid in fighting forest fires among the states or provinces of the region (Article 1).
Canada / United States of America	Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States of America on cooperation in comprehensive civil emergency planning and management, 1986.	To set up a consultative group on comprehensive civil emergency planning and management, which shall meet once every calendar year. This consultative group will ensure that in areas of common concern, the plans of the two governments for the emergency use of manpower, materiel resources, supplies, systems and services shall, where feasible and practicable, will be harmonized. Both governments will also assist each other in dealing with such emergency situations (Article 2).
Mongolia / Russian Federation	Draft Agreement on Co-operation for Forest and Steppe Fire Protection between Russian Federation and Mongolia.	Improve fire protection in the forest and steppe regions along the Russian and Mongolia border (20 km on both sides) by sharing firefighting means, preventing fires, and reducing fire losses.
Bulgaria/Greece	Protocol for cooperation between the National Service of Fire Protection of the Republic of Bulgaria and the National Service of Fire Protection of the Republic of Greece, 1993.	Both parties will render mutual assistance for the liquidation of fires and related accidents and for the minimization of their dangerous consequences.
France/Italy	Agreement regarding the intervention by water bombers in case of mutual assistance for forest fires, 1994.	This agreement delimitates when mutual assistance is needed, the procedure to ask for assistance and the period of time for which it is applicable.
Italy/Switzerland	Agreement between the Italian Republic and the Swiss Confederation on the cooperation	This agreement defines the conditions in which one party will lend, in the limits of their

	in the field of fire risk prevention and on mutual assistance in case of natural catastrophes or human activities, 1995.	possibilities, assistance in case of the occurrence of a natural catastrophe or due to human activities which will threaten life, goods or the environment.
Greece/Malta	Agreement between the Government of Hellenic Republic and the Government of Malta in the field of Civil Protection, 2001.	This Agreement favours the cooperation between these states regarding sharing of scientific and technical resources in the management of emergencies, enactment of policies in the field of prevention and protection of natural disasters, and regarding collaboration for the emergencies which extend beyond the state borders or that cannot be eliminated by one country's own means.
Greece/Cyprus	Agreement between the Ministry of Public Order of the Hellenic Republic and the Ministry of Justice and Public Order of the Republic of Cyprus on co-operation of the national Fire Departments within their competency.	No translation from Greek was available at the time of the update of this report in March 2004.
Finland/Estonia	Operational Agreement between the Rescue Board of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Finland, 1995.	Agreement providing a framework for the exchange of information, request for assistance and giving mutual assistance.
China/Mongolia	Agreement between China and Mongolia on Forests and Grassland Fire Management in the Boundary Areas signed on July 15, 1999	No translations from Chinese and Mongolian were available at the time of the update of this report in August 2004.

3.1.2 Other Agreements

Sixteen international agreements not dealing with emergency response matters but covering other aspects of co-operation on forest fires were also received. These are as follows:

- Ghana / Province of British Columbia (Canada). Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Ghana and the Government of the Province of British Columbia, 1999 (on training and consultation around fire suppression).
- Finland / Burkina Faso. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Finland and the Government of Burkina Faso regarding Finnish support to the management of bush fires, 1998.
- Indonesia / Malaysia. Standard procedures of the Memorandum of Understanding on Natural Disasters between Indonesia and Malaysia. This is the document establishing the procedures to implement the Memorandum of Understanding, 2001.
- Brazil / United States of America. *Acordo de cooperação entre o Serviço Florestal do Departamento de Agricultura dos Estados Unidos da América e o Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente e Recursos Naturais Renováveis do Ministério do Meio Ambiente para cooperação em fogo e mudanças ambientais nos ecossistemas tropicais, 1999.*
- Brazil / Peru. *Annexo del D.S. No. 118-2003-RE que ratificó el Protocolo para la implementación de un sistema de prevención y control de incendios forestales suscrito con Brasil.*
- Greece / China. Agreement Between the Ministry of Agriculture of the Hellenic Republic and the State Administration of the People's Republic of China on Forestry Cooperation, June 2002.
- Turkey / Uzbekistan. Protocol Related to Forestry Between the Ministry of Forestry of the Republic of Turkey and the Ministry of Forestry of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 1997.
- Nicaragua / Costa Rica. International Agreement for Collaboration in the Field of Forest Fires, 1996.
- Cyprus / Lebanon / Morocco / Syria / Tunisia. Draft of the International Cooperation Agreement in the Field of Information Sharing on Forest Fires and Their Prevention in the Mediterranean Area, 1996.
- Lebanon / France. Draft Agreement for the Protection of Forests Against Forest Fires within the Framework of the Cooperation with France, 1997.
- Angola / Democratic Republic of Congo / Malawi / Seychelles / Swaziland / Zambia / Lesotho / Mauritius / South Africa / Tanzania / Zimbabwe. Protocol on Forestry, Southern African Development Community, October 2002.
- Colombia/ Spain (Agencia Española de cooperación internacional) *Proyecto Formulación y puesta en marcha de los programas nacionales de capacitación, educación e*

información pública en prevención y mitigación de incendios forestales en Colombia, Diciembre 2001.

- Brunei / Cambodia / Indonesia / Laos / Malaysia / Myanmar / Philippines / Singapore / Thailand / Viet Nam. ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution, 2002.
- Lesotho / South Africa. Gentleman's agreements with South Africa's Natal Parks Board Personnel.
- Togo / Ghana. Agreement between traditional chiefs on either side of the border between Ghana and Togo.
- Brazil / Bolivia. Proposed agreement on forest fire management.
- Venezuela / Chile. Proposed agreement covering, among other areas, forest fires.
- Protocol on mountain forests implementing the 1991 Alpine Convention, 27 February 1996 (Signatories: Austria, France, Germany, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Slovenia, Switzerland, Italy, and the European Union).

These agreements are available through FAOLEX, the FAO legislative database. References to inland agreements have also been provided by country representatives:

- Ethiopia. Negotiations for an Agreement between the Ministry of Agriculture and the National Meteorological Service Authority (NMSA) on Fire Hazards.
- Honduras. Convenio para el manejo de la Reserva biológica el Chile entre la Administración forestal del Estado (COHDEFOR), la Compañía Azucarera Tres Valles y la municipalidad de San Juan de Flores, 7 de Septiembre del 2001.
- Morocco. Accord de partenariat entre le Directeur provincial des eaux et forêts et le Président du Conseil de la Commune rurale de Kaf El Ghar (Province de Taza).
- Morocco. Projet de convention cadre entre le Ministère de l'intérieur, le Ministère chargé des eaux et forêts et l'agence du nord.
- Philippines. Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of Environmental and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Department of Interior and Local Government's Bureau of Fire Protection (DILG-BFP). This agreement favours the cooperation between the central government and local authorities for fire prevention and fire fighting.
- Philippines. Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of the Interior of the Philippines Government and Local Government - Bureau of Fire Protection regarding Forest Fire Protection Management, 7 January 2002.

3.1.3 Outline for Developing Agreements

Based on the review of the documentation available, as well as on the first set of guidelines for developing agreements contained in the *Follow-up Report to FAO/ITTO International Expert Meeting on forest Fire management, March 2001*, the main common elements of existing international agreements on forest fire were identified and used for the preparation of an outline for developing such agreements. The outline is reproduced in Annex 2.

The proposed outline covers most of the elements that were found in all the international agreements reviewed. However, their relevance to individual countries and to specific environments will obviously be dependent on the particular conditions of the parties willing to enter into an agreement, as well as on the type of agreement to be developed.

The full texts of the abovementioned agreements as well as their summaries will be available online in FAOLEX (<http://www.fao.org/Legal/default.htm>) as well as at the FAO Forestry Department website (http://www.fao.org/forestry/foris/index.jsp?start_id=5288).

3.2 National Legislation

Through a systematic search in FAOLEX, 276 national legal texts were identified. These were clustered into two categories:

- legislation specific to forest fires; and
- forestry-related legislation covering forest fires.

3.2.1 Legislation Specific to Forest Fires

The category “legislation specific to forest fires” addresses distinctively, and more or less fully, forest fires. 111 legal instruments of this type were found and are listed in Annex 4.

Forty-three countries were identified as having this type of legislation, namely: Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Central African Republic, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Dominica, Fiji, France, Grenada, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Madagascar, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Philippines, Portugal, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Syria, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, Togo, Uruguay and Viet Nam.

3.2.2 Forestry-Related Legislation Covering Forest Fires

Under the category “forestry-related legislation covering forest fires”, 165 texts with provisions dealing with some aspects of forest fire management were found. They are listed in Annex 6, with an indication of the provisions addressing forest fire matters.

All the legislation mentioned above can be accessed through the FAO Forestry Department website (http://www.fao.org/forestry/foris/index.jsp?start_id=5288) or through FAOLEX (<http://www.fao.org/Legal/default.htm>).

The main features of national legislation regarding forest fires are briefly described in the following box.

National legislation on forest fire management

National legislation on or touching upon forest fires generally deals with the following matters:

- general firefighting measures, making it an obligation for the relevant government departments or agencies to combat or help in controlling forest fires, usually without regard to the ownership of the forested areas;
- vesting responsibility in individual persons to report forest fires or situations of possible risk that may result from them, with some laws making it an offence if such an obligation is not fulfilled;
- the creation of mechanisms for exchange of information and data on projected weather changes, for example through committees or other coordinating methods, which help anticipate situations of forest fire risk and facilitate rapid response;
- demarcation of the authority of responsible officers at both national and grassroots levels, for maximum control and efficiency in firefighting operations;

- identification of special protection measures and the responsibility for them in situations of fire or fire risk, to protect the public and the environment;
- compensation mechanism(s) for damage suffered by those involved in firefighting and incentive measures to ensure that potentially risky situations are reported in a timely manner;
- the restoration of forest lands affected by fires.

Prospects

A number of other countries are currently in the process of formulating national legislation specific to forest fire management or are contemplating such legislation. Bulgaria, Guatemala and the Syrian Arab Republic are currently receiving assistance from FAO in the drafting of their legislation, while Croatia, Nicaragua and Seychelles are considering embarking on the process and have requested FAO support. The incidence of forest fires is likely to prompt yet more countries to consider enacting comprehensive legislation which will give them the scope to prevent or address forest fire situations more effectively.

Further research, preferably at the field level, is needed to get a sense of how effectively the existing legislation is enforced, and of what practical use it has been in forest fire management and control. However, legislation appears to have been useful as a framework enabling decision-makers to take the necessary action. FAO's work in the countries that have requested assistance in forest fire management may lead to further research and analysis of legal frameworks and feed into case studies for the benefit of other countries.

Source: V. MOSOTI and A. MEKOUAR, *National legal frameworks for forest fire management*, Unasylva 217, Vol. 55, 2004/2.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

In light of the findings of this report, the following recommendations are made for future action by FAO in relation to the legal aspects of forest fire management:

1. **Updating legal information:** the information available to FAO on international agreements and national legislation on forest fire management should be regularly updated with a view to maintaining a complete and reliable database of legal texts on forest fire.
2. **Developing guidelines for international agreements:** (i) the outline for developing international agreements contained in this report should be further elaborated in the form of detailed guidelines; (ii) outlines for developing operational guidelines and operating plans, which periodically detail the procedure for implementing such agreements, should also be prepared.
3. **Assessing national legislation:** the national legislation dealing with forest fires that was identified in this report should be further reviewed and assessed with a view to evaluating its effectiveness to better advise member countries on the revision or formulation of national legislation on forest fires.

Annex 1

International Agreements on Forest Fires

Standard Entries Used to Identify Common Elements in International Agreements on Forest Fires

1. Name of the Agreement and date
2. Parties
3. Purpose
4. Definitions
5. Information and Coordination
6. Personnel and Equipment
7. Expenses
8. Liabilities, Claims and Compensations
9. Limited territorial application
10. Border crossing
11. Operating plans / Guidelines
12. Interpretation and settlement of disputes
13. Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal
14. Amendments
15. Other provisions

Summaries of the International Agreements on Forest Fires

Protocol between the Kingdom of Spain and the Republic of Portugal regarding technical co-operation and mutual assistance on civil protection, 1993

Purpose

- Preparation and execution of projects on scientific and technical co-operation regarding civil protection (Article 1)

Definitions

- N/A

Information and Coordination

- Each Party can request assistance from the other Party in cases of emergency or catastrophe or as a preventive measure. (Article 3.1)
- The operations shall be directed by the authorities of the territory where the catastrophe takes place, nevertheless the assisting teams though acknowledging their objectives and missions to the Chief of Expedition, will act under their original superiors. (Article 3.7)

Personnel and Equipment

- The equipment and relief supplies that leave a country to provide assistance to the other Party's territory, must return to their original country once the assistance is finished, and if that should not happen without a valid reason, the equipment and relief supplies shall remain under each country's applicable laws and regulations. (Article 3.6)

Expenses

- There will be no compensation of expenses caused by the assistance or by vehicles or any other material lost, damaged or destroyed. (Article 4.1)
- The Assisted Party shall pay for the expenses caused by the supply of the relief equipment, and for the costs of the articles needed by the vehicles or any other material. (Article 4.2)

Liabilities, Claims and Compensations

- Each Party waives its claims against the other Party for compensation in the case of death occurring as a consequence of the assistance. (Article 4.3)
- Any damage to a third party, caused as a consequence of the assistance, will be covered by the Assisted Party, even in case of false manoeuvre and technical error. The Assisting Party shall only be responsible in the case of criminal negligence. (Article 4.4)
- Any damage to a third party caused during the transport of the means of assistance shall be covered by the Assisted Party. (Article 4.5)

Limited territorial application

- The Agreement will only apply in the continental territory of both countries. (Article 3.2)

Border crossing

- The parties shall undertake all reasonable steps to facilitate the crossing of their borders. (Article 3.3)
- The authorities of both Parties shall ensure rapid opening of their respective borders whenever the assistance requires it. Both Parties shall study practical solutions in order to ensure the opening alternative temporary border-crossing points to facilitate the assistance to the receiving Party as well as border-crossing in zones without permanent frontier customhouses. (Article 3.4)

- To facilitate the prompt presence of aircraft used for the assistance, both Parties will authorize the uninterrupted opening of their air space for as long as the mission requires it. (Article 3.5)

Operating plans / Guidelines

- N/A

Interpretation and Settlement of disputes

- Any disputes arising from the application and execution of the Agreement shall be settled through negotiations in accordance with international law. (Article 10)

Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal

- This Protocol shall remain in force for four years, and shall be automatically extended for another four years, unless one party gives notice to the other, three months before its expiration. Thereafter it shall be renewed in the same manner. (Article 9.2)
- This Protocol may be terminated at any time by either Party upon six months diplomatic notice to the other Party. The termination of the Protocol shall not affect the implementation of the projects and programmes being carried out at the time when it was in force. (Article 9.3)

Amendments

- N/A

Other provisions

- Scientific and technical cooperation between Parties can cover the following:
 - a) Preparation and execution of concrete projects and programmes.
 - b) Exchange of technicians for professional assistance and consultation.
 - c) Fellowships in each party's institutions.
 - d) Design and development of joint exercises.
 - e) Meetings, workshops and seminars.
 - f) Exchange of information, documents, publications and didactic materials.
 - g) Any other kind of scientific and technical cooperation agreed by the Parties. (Article 1.2)

Additional Protocol on Mutual Assistance in case of Forest Fires in Border Zones, adopted within the terms of the Protocol between the Queen of Spain and the Republic of Portugal on Technical Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in Civil Protection Matters, made in Evora on March 9th 1992, Figueira da Foz, 2003.

Purpose

- The object of the present protocol is the establishment of conditions and procedures for carrying out help and assistance in case of emergency related to forest fires occurring in common border zones between Spain and Portugal (Article 1).

Information and Coordination

- When the competent authority from one party must ask for help and assistance from the other party to combat forest fires on its own territory, it will do it through agreed communication means as fax or electronic mail, and will send the information required information contained in annex 1. The other party will answer to what extent assistance can be provided, and under which means as formulated in annex 2 (Article 4).
- Special procedure for first action against a forest fire occurring within the border zone of five kilometers on each side of the common border:

1. When a forest fire is detected by national authorities in the area of the other party covered by this agreement, if there are high probabilities that the fire spreads to the other country in a short period of time, these authorities may decide to intervene with their fire services to contain the fire, without any other requirements than communicating the intention to act to the authorities of the country where the fire occurred. This is conditional to the availability of the resources of the country providing the assistance.
 2. The said competent authorities will inform immediately the appropriate authorities of the other party. If the intervention is not an answer to a request for assistance, it will not be necessary to use the forms referred to in this agreement (Article 5).
- In case a forest fire requires urgent actions to be contained, the competent authorities in charge of the management and request of assistance are the relevant local civil governments in Portugal and the relevant local government representatives in Spain, which are acting in coordination with the competent authority from the corresponding independent community. In these cases, the local authorities must contact immediately their executive bodies, which will be entitled to overtake the direct management of the request and management of assistance, within the limits of their competences, and when the characteristics of the state of emergency render this necessary (Article 3).
 - The local civil governments in Portugal, and the provincial representatives of the central government in Spain, in coordination with the corresponding independent community will exchange the maps of the zones involving risks of forest fires in border zones, as well as the list of means and available resources. This will be part of a mutual assistance plan that should involve all the relevant entities (Article 6.1).

Personnel and equipment

- N/A

Expenses

- N/A

Liabilities, claims and compensations

- N/A

Limited territorial application

- This protocol will only be in force in border zones constituted by the municipalities along the border. The border zone is a stripe of 5 kilometers on each side of the common border (Article 2).

Border crossing

- The fire services of the country providing the assistance can cross the border without any other requirement than the notification through the mean of communication provided in the agreement, if the fire is occurring in the border zone, and if it is likely to extend from one country to the other in a short period of time (Article 5).

Operating plans/guidelines

- Maps showing the areas where the risks of forest fires are high will be exchanged between the parties, and this will be part of a more general mutual assistance plan including all the relevant entities involved in combating forest fires (Article 6.2).

Interpretation and settlement of disputes

- N/A

Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal

- The present protocol will be in force thirty (30) days after the reception of the last notification about the fulfilment of the intern requirements of both parties necessary for this protocol to be into force (Article 7.1).
- This protocol will last two (2) years, and will be automatically renewable. It may be brought to an end with a notification from the interested party to the other of at least six (6) months (Article 7.2).

Amendments

- N/A

Other provisions

- N/A

Agreement on mutual assistance between the French and Spanish fire fighting and assistance services, 1960
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Purpose

- Facilitate mutual aid and prompt sending of assistance in case of emergencies occurring in the border areas.

Definitions

- N/A

Information and Coordination

- N/A

Personnel and Equipment

- The equipment and relief supplies that leave a country to give assistance to the other Party's territory, must return to their original country once the assistance is finished, and if that should not happen without a valid reason, the equipment and relief supplies shall remain under each country's applicable laws and regulations. (Article 4)

Expenses

- There will be no compensation of costs for the assistance received, or for any lost, damaged or destroyed material used in the rescue operations. Nevertheless, the costs and expenses of furnishing the equipment and material used for the operations will be covered by the Assisted Party. (Article 5)

Liabilities, Claims and Compensations

- In cases of personal injury or death occurring as a consequence of the assistance, each Party waives its claims for compensation against the other one. (Article 6.1)
- The Assisted Party shall cover any damage to a third party caused as a consequence of the assistance, even in cases of false manoeuvre and technical error. (Article 6.2)
- If there is any damage to a third party as a consequence of the transport of the instruments of assistance, the Party from the territory in which the damage was caused shall cover the compensations.(Article 6.3)

Limited territorial application

- N/A

Border crossing

- The parties shall undertake all reasonable steps to facilitate the crossing of their borders. The Chief of Mission of the Assisting Party shall present identification and give a list of the Personnel to the competent authorities of the Assisted Party. The Chief of Mission shall also present a list of the vehicles and materials which intend to cross the border in order to facilitate the customs procedures. (Article 2)

Operating plans / Guidelines

- Complementary agreements shall be developed between those Prefects of the French Departments interested, and the corresponding competent local authorities from Spain, regarding the intervention to be applied for the assistance. This Plan, that will be constantly updated, shall be submitted to the International Commission of the Pyrenees, and shall contain:
 - a) The nature, number and location of the equipment and material of assistance that could be used for rescue operations, at the request of the other Party.
 - b) The competent authority that shall request the assistance.
 - c) The competent authority to which the Chief of the Mission shall address at the arrival to the Assisted Party's territory.
 - d) Any non-classified document that could facilitate the operations and in particular the existing telephone directory to reach the competent authorities involved. (Article 7)

Interpretation and Settlement of disputes

- N/A

Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal

- This Agreement shall be effective for five years. (Article 8.1)
- This Agreement shall be automatically extended, unless any one Party gives its written notice 90 days before its expiration. (Article 8.2)

Amendments

- May be amended at the request of one of the Parties with the consent of the other Party. (Article 8.1)

Other provisions

- N/A

Agreement between Morocco and Spain on technical co-operation and mutual assistance in civil protection, 28 December 1992
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Purpose

- To improve scientific and technical research, and to provide mutual aid in case of catastrophes or emergencies.

Definitions

- N/A

Information and Coordination

- Any information that arises as from the execution of this Agreement can be excluded, restricted or limited whenever any one Party expresses its desire to do so. (Article 1.5)
- The operations shall be directed by the authorities of the territory where the catastrophe takes place, however the assisting teams, even if acknowledging their objectives and missions to the Chief of Expedition, will act under their original superiors. (Article 2.8)
- The contracting Parties shall exchange information on possibilities and means of aid and assistance that could be mobilized if needed. (Article 2.9)
- The Parties agree that all aspects about the application and execution of this Agreement, as well as the facilities to be given in accordance with Article 1, shall be settled through diplomatic channels. (Article 5.1)
- The National Organizations responsible for international technical cooperation shall be acquainted and shall coordinate the execution of the programmes and projects mentioned in Article 1. (Article 5.2)

Personnel and Equipment

- In cases where assisting aircraft need to make technical stops, the authorities of the Assisted Party shall provide the crew with accommodation and ensure the security of the aircraft. (Article 4.3)

Expenses

- The Parties shall define in each specific case the ways of financing the actions of technical cooperation in a bilateral way, and can request and interest the participation of International Institutions and Organizations in developing joint programmes and projects in any of its forms. (Article 1.4)
- The expense of furnishing the assistance equipment and materials during the operations shall be covered by the Assisted Party. (Article 4.2)
- The Assisted Party shall cover the expense of maintenance or substitutions due to loss, destruction or deterioration of aircraft, ground vehicles or assistance materials caused as a consequence of the rescue operations. (Article 4.4)

Liabilities, Claims and Compensations

- During the assistance, in cases of emergency, the Assisting Party can require from the Assisted Party the reimbursement of all of the expenses caused by the rescue operations. (Article 4.1)
- Each Party waives its claims against the other Party for compensation in the case of death occurring as a consequence of the assistance. (Article 4.5)
- Any damage to a third party caused as a consequence of the assistance, will be covered by the Assisted Party, even in case of false manoeuvre and technical error. The Assisting Party will only be responsible in the case of criminal negligence. (Article 4.6))
- Any damage to a third party during the transport of the means of assistance will be covered by the Party in whose territory the accident occurred. The Assisting Party will only be responsible in the case of criminal negligence. (Article 4.7)

Limited territorial application

- N/A

Border crossing

- Each Party shall undertake all reasonable steps to facilitate entry and exit from its territory, without entry fees and without payment of any duties or taxes. The assisting Chief of Unit shall provide a certificate, from the competent authority of the assisting country in its original language, explaining its mission, the status of its unit and a list of the personnel and equipment. (Article 2.3)
- The authorities of both Parties shall ensure fast opening of their respective borders whenever necessary for the assistance. Both Parties shall study practical solutions in order to open

alternative temporary border-crossing points to facilitate the assistance to the receiving Party as well as border-crossing in zones without permanent frontier customs house. (Article 2.4)

- The personnel of the Assisting Party mentioned in Article 2.3 shall be allowed to cross the border without Passports and residence permit. (Article 2.5)
- To facilitate the prompt presence of aircraft used for the assistance, both Parties will authorize their permanent entry for as long as necessary. (2.6)
- All the equipment and materials used or intended to be used for the assistance, brought by the Assisting Party, shall go back to that Party's territory after the termination of the rescue operations.

Operating plans / Guidelines

- N/A

Interpretation and Settlement of disputes

- Any disputes arising from the application and execution of this Agreement shall be settled through Diplomatic channels (Article 5.1)
- A Mixed Commission of Civil Protection will be created to ensure the effectiveness of this Agreement. This Commission shall discuss in periodical meetings the activities to be held and shall follow their development, and make proposals and amendments when needed. (Article 7)
- Any controversy arising from the interpretation or the effects of this Agreement shall be settled in accordance with international law. (Article 10)

Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal

- This Agreement shall be effective for four years, and shall be automatically extended, unless any one Party gives its written notice three months before its expiration.
- This Agreement may be terminated by any one Party at any time with six months notice to the other Party. The termination of this Agreement shall not affect the implementation of any programme or project being carried out at the moment of its termination unless agreed by both Parties. (Article 9.3)

Amendments

- N/A

Other provisions

- N/A

Agreement between the Republic of Argentina and the Republic of Chile on co-operation in cases of catastrophes, 1997

Purpose

- Co-operation between the Parties shall be in the following areas:
 1. Exchange of information in order to prevent catastrophes and their effects
 2. Exchange of information and experiences regarding actions in cases of emergencies
 3. Exchange of technological information to apply in cases of emergencies
 4. Elaboration and development of programmes, projects and joint plans for emergencies
 5. Development of plans for operative coordination to face common risks and their mitigation
 6. Collaboration in cases of emergencies through:
 - a) Provision of personnel and means of assistance
 - b) Use of means of technical assistance and logistics
 - c) Supply of medical care and food at the request to mitigate the effects of emergencies
- (Article 2)

Definitions

- Catastrophe, any event considered as such by any one Party, which shall produce risks to the life, health, essential services or property of the population, or to the environment.
- Competent Organizations, those Organizations that, according to each Party's laws and regulations, shall be competent to intervene in case of a catastrophe.
- Actions in case of a catastrophe, any action carried out in order to mitigate, prevent or suppress the effects of a catastrophe. (Article 1)

Information and Coordination

- Procedures in case of an emergency:
 1. The Parties shall notify each another, through diplomatic channels, of disasters taking place in their respective territories, and shall request assistance to the other Party. Once the notice has been received, the requesting Party shall ensure the prompt intervention of its competent authorities.
 2. All the communications and requests of assistance between both Parties shall be through their Ministries of Foreign Affairs.
 3. The above mentioned, shall not affect the existing channels of communication between *the Gendarmería Nacional Argentina y de Carabineros de Chile*, established by Articles VI and VII of the "Agreement between the Republic of Argentina and the Republic of Chile on cooperation between *the Gendarmería Nacional Argentina y Carabineros de Chile*", signed August 2nd, 1991, in Buenos Aires. (Article 4)

Personnel and Equipment

- Immunities and privileges of the Assisting Party's personnel:
 1. Official immunity. Not applicable in case of felony.
 2. Civil, criminal and administrative, jurisdictional immunity, including executive immunity and exception of giving testimony. These immunities shall not apply in case of acts or omissions taken place out of the duties relating to the implementation of this Agreement.
 3. The only taxes to be paid shall be the ones indirectly included in the prices of the services or goods
 4. Exemption of entry fees, and payment of any duties or taxes imposed by reason of importation. All the equipment shall go back to the Assisting Party territory once the mission is completed.
 5. Unless there is a valid reason, no inspection of the luggage of the Assisting Party's personnel shall be carried out by the Assisted Party.

These privileges and immunities shall be effective for all the time that the Assisting Party shall be in the territory of the Assisted Party. (Article 8)

Expenses

- The expenses caused as a consequence of the activities of the Assisting Party shall be paid as follows (unless agreed differently by the Parties):
 1. Each Party shall pay for its costs of transportation.
 2. The Assisted Party shall pay for the accommodation of the personnel of the Assisting Party.
 3. The maintenance and operational costs of the equipment shall be paid equally by both Parties. (Article 6)

Liabilities, Claims and Compensations

- The Assisting Party shall be responsible for any illegal act of its personnel arising from assistance activities in case of catastrophe. (Article 9)

Limited territorial application

- N/A

Border crossing

- Border crossing procedure applicable to the assistance sending personnel:
 1. The Assisting Party shall notify through diplomatic channels, the place, date and time of arrival of its personnel, and shall specify:
 - a) Name, standard, functions and identification of its personnel.
 - b) Organization or Organizations to which the personnel belongs.
 - c) Description and means of technical assistance and any other object to be used in the mission, to be introduced to the Assisted Party's territory.
 2. Facilitate the entry of the personnel and the equipment referred in point a) of this Article.
 3. The elements described in Article 1.c) shall be exempt from all customs duties, import duties and other dues.
 4. In case of a catastrophe in one Party's territory for which shall be needed to enter through the others Party's territory, shall be applied the same procedures mentioned in this Article. (Article 5)

Operating plans / Guidelines

- N/A

Interpretation and Settlement of Disputes

- Any dispute between the Parties from the interpretation and application of this Agreement shall be settled through the procedures established by Articles 4, 5 and 6 and Annex 1 of the Treaty of Peace and Friendship of 1984. (Article 10)

Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal

- The validity of this Agreement shall be 10 years, extended automatically for the same period of time. This Agreement may be terminated by any one Party with one-year notice to the other Party. The termination of this Agreement shall not affect the implementation of any fire suppression effort being carried out under this Agreement at the time when it was in force. (Article 12)

Amendments

- N/A

Other provisions

- N/A

Agreement between Argentina and Chile on the protection of border forests against fires, 1967**Purpose**

- Establish an effective system of co-operation for the protection of the common forests of the border area covered by the Agreement, including a mechanism to prevent, verify and extinguish fires (Article 1)

Definitions

- N/A

Information and Coordination

- In cases of fire in the area designated in this Agreement, the forest authority of the Party of the territory where such fire is taking place shall communicate it to the other Party, which shall take the necessary measures to collaborate in the suppression of the fire. (Article 10)

Personnel and Equipment

- Points of observations shall be established as a permanent system of fire prevention.(Article 7)
- Each Party shall supply the points of observation with an adequate radiocommunication system that makes contact possible with the other Party (Article 8)

Expenses

- N/A

Liabilities, Claims and Compensations

- The Government of both Parties shall forbid the use of fire between the 1st of November and the 31st of March every year. (Article 3)
- For the use of fire out of the dates of prohibition, the Parties shall follow the next provisions:
 - a) Each Party shall communicate the other Party the programmes authorized, thirty days before the beginning of the season.
 - b) Both Parties shall try to authorize fires in adjacent lands during the same dates.
 - c) These dispositions apply only to the area established in Article 2. (Article 4)
- Both Parties shall require from all aircraft crossing the mountain range between parallels 35 and 46 South Latitude, notification of any possible fire to the nearest competent authorities. (Article 5)

Limited territorial application

- The area established by this Agreement, shall be a 15 kilometres strip of forests both sides of the border, between parallels 36 and 45 South Latitude. (Article 2)

Border crossing

- The aircraft used for prevention and assistance in cases of fire, shall limit their activities to the territory of the Party' to which they belong, without entering in any case to the other Party's territory. (Article 9)

Operating plans / Guidelines

- N/A

Interpretation and Settlement of disputes

- N/A

Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal

- This Agreement shall remain in force indefinitely, and may be terminated by any one Party upon one-year notice to the other Party. (Article 11)

Amendments

- N/A

Other provisions

- N/A

<p>Agreement by and between the Government of the Finnish Republic and the Government of the Russian Federation about Cooperation to avert disasters and to prevent their consequences, 1994</p>

Purpose

- To foster co-operation in the following areas:

1. Development of actions and methods that increase the contracting parties' possibilities of averting disasters, notifying them and preventing their consequences;
2. Notification of disasters that have adverse effects across state borders;
3. Mutual assistance to prevent the consequences of disasters (Article 2)

Definitions

- The terms applied in this Agreement are interpreted as follows:
 1. A disaster is understood to be an industrial accident, an explosion, a fire, a cave-in, an earthquake, a flood, or another comparable event or natural catastrophe, which causes or may cause injury or damage to people, property or the environment;
 2. The assistance requesting contracting party is the Government that makes the other contracting party a request to send relief teams, necessary equipment and relief supplies;
 3. The assistance giving contracting party is the Government that fulfils the other contracting party's request for relief teams, necessary equipment and relief supplies;
 4. Relief teams are organized groups of experts set up by the assistance giving contracting party, also military personnel and other groups, meant for assistance and provided with required equipment;
 5. Equipment refers to the relief teams' vehicles and other materials, as well as to the tools needed for assistance;
 6. Relief supplies are supplies distributed to the people who have suffered from the disaster;
 7. Rescue operations are measures taken after the disaster to prevent an aggravation of the situation and to keep the damage as small as possible;
 8. The competent authorities of the contracting parties are the Finnish Ministry of the Interior and the Russian Ministry in charge of civil defence, disaster situations and prevention of the consequences of natural catastrophes in the Russian Federation;
 9. The competent regional and local authorities are the municipalities, federations of municipalities and consolidated local government areas, provincial administrative boards and pertinent state authorities in the district administrations in the Finnish provinces of Lapland, Oulu, Northern Karelia and Petersburg, as well as the regional administrations of Leningrad and Murmansk in Russia. (Article 1)

Information and Coordination

- The contracting parties shall notify one another, without delay and using the stipulated channels, of such disasters in their respective areas that have or may have detrimental consequences in the other contracting party's territory. The notification shall contain information on the nature of the disaster and its scene, as well as on the measures which have been taken or shall be taken in and outside the disaster area, and on other relevant circumstances. This information shall also be supplied on the development of the situation. (Article 4)
- The competent authorities of the contracting parties shall inform one another the channels that are used to transmit and receive the notifications and information referred to in Article 6 of this Agreement. These channels shall also be disposable at all times. The competent authorities of the contracting parties shall immediately inform one another of any change in the information on the communication channels. (Article 7)
- Rescue operations shall be directed by the contracting party's competent authority, or by the regional and local competent authorities in whose area the operations are carried out. The relief teams shall be available under the direction of their own officers, operating in the assistance requesting contracting party's territory in accordance with the regulations effective in their own country. (Article 10)
- Information received in connection with the implementation of this Agreement may be used without restriction, unless agreed differently by the parties. (Article 14)

Personnel and Equipment

- The relief teams shall have sufficient equipment for independent operation in the disaster area. The assistance requesting contracting party shall provide, if necessary, the relief teams with more equipment and relief supplies, as well as provide the maintenance and service needed by the teams.
Proper medical care shall also be given to the relief teams as needed. (Article 9)
- Provisions on the import of relief supplies and equipment:
 1. Relief teams may only bring into the country, freely and exempt from duty, such equipment that is intended for rescue operations, as well as personal belongings.
It is not permitted to bring into the country equipment or materials, the import of which into the country is forbidden, except if specially agreed case by case.
 2. A complete list, signed by the team leader, of the relief team's equipment and relief supplies shall be submitted to the customs authorities.
 3. If the medical first-aid kits, carried by the relief teams, include medical preparations which contain narcotics, the leaders of the relief teams shall report these to the customs officials who shall allow their free entry into the country. Such preparations may only be used by the competent medical staff of the assistance giving contracting party in accordance with the legislation of the assistance giving contracting party.
 4. At the termination of the rescue operations, the remaining preparations which contain narcotics shall be taken out of the country and a consumption report, signed by the team leader and the doctor, shall be submitted to the customs; this report shall specify the consumption of the preparations and it must be certified by a representative of the assistance requesting party's competent authority.
 5. If for some reason it is not possible or expedient to take out of the country equipment brought into the country temporarily for rescue operations, this equipment shall be surrendered to the assistance requesting contracting party's competent authority on the mutually agreed terms and conditions. No payment is collected in this situation from the assistance giving contracting party. (Appendix)

Expenses

- Each contracting party shall bear the costs of their own arbitrator as well as the costs caused by the hearing of the matter by the court of arbitration. The chairman's costs and other expenses shall be shared equally by the contracting parties. The court of arbitration may also decide on a different cost distribution. (Article 16)

Liabilities, Claims and Compensations

- The assistance requesting contracting party shall compensate the assistance giving contracting party for the costs caused by the assistance, including the expenses of medical care, unless agreed differently by the contracting parties in view of the nature and proportions of the disaster.
The assistance requesting contracting party may cancel their request for the assistance at any time. In that case the assistance giving party is entitled to compensation for the costs caused to them.
If not agreed differently between the contracting parties, the costs shall be compensated immediately after the assistance giving contracting party has demanded this to the assistance requesting party. (Article 12)
- Both contracting parties waive all demands for compensation from the other contracting party on account of a death or a bodily injury, or for other damages caused to the health of their experts or other personnel, or to their personal property, if these events have taken place while carrying out duties relating to the implementation of this Agreement. The assistance giving contracting party shall take out insurance, according to the regulations effective in their country, for their personnel taking part in the assistance in the assistance operation. The insurance costs are included in the general costs for the assistance and the assistance requesting contracting party shall pay them as provided for in this Agreement.

- If a member of the assistance giving party's relief team, while carrying out duties relating to the implementation of this Agreement, should cause damage to a third party in the territory of the assistance requesting state, the assistance requesting contracting party shall pay the damages under the legislative provisions that would be applied if the damage had been caused by their own relief troops.
- The assistance requesting contracting party shall have the right of recourse to file a lawsuit for any compensation, paid under this article, against a member of the relief team who has caused the damage intentionally or by gross negligence.
The contracting parties' competent authorities shall exchange pertinent information about the situation in which the damage referred to in this article took place (Article 13).

Limited territorial application

- N/A

Border crossing

- Each contracting party shall ensure that the other contracting party's relief teams have fast and simple border and customs inspection at the crossing of the state border.
- The contracting parties shall exempt the equipment and relief supplies of the relief teams, coming into their territory for rescue operations, from all customs duties, import duties and other dues.
- After the termination of the rescue operations, the assistance giving contracting party shall remove all of their relief teams' equipment from the assistance requesting party's territory, with the exception of destroyed or lost equipment. This equipment shall be exempt from export duties, import duties, and other dues. All the relief supplies shall be distributed to the assistance requesting party's suffering people, or surrendered to their competent authority.
- If military personnel, state-owned vessels, state-owned aircraft and military vehicles, requiring a special entry and exit permit, are taking part in the rescue operations, the assistance requesting contracting party's competent authority shall obtain such a permit. The state border cannot be crossed before the permit is issued.
- The customs and inspection procedures followed by the two contracting parties' customs officers and border guards at the crossing of the border by the relief teams, as well as their equipment and relief supplies for rescue operations, are agreed in the Appendix to this Agreement. This Appendix is an integral part of the Agreement. (Article 11)

Operating plans / Guidelines

- N/A

Interpretation and Settlement of disputes

- Any disputes arising from the interpretation and application of this Agreement that cannot be settled through negotiations by the competent authorities, shall be settled through diplomatic channels.
- If the contracting parties fail to reach an agreement through diplomatic channels, the dispute shall be submitted, on the request of either contracting party, to a court of arbitration.
- The court of arbitration shall consist of three members. Each contracting party shall appoint one member and these two shall mutually agree and elect the chairman of the court of arbitration. The chairman of the court of arbitration shall not be a citizen of either contracting party.
- The contracting parties shall appoint the members of the court of arbitration within two months of the notice given by either contracting party to the other party of their intention to refer the dispute to a court of arbitration.
- The appointed members of the court of arbitration shall elect the chairman within a month of the designation of the last appointed member.
- If the arbitrators appointed by the contracting parties fail to reach an agreement with the chairman within two months, the appointment shall be made by the chairman of the

International Court of Justice on the request of the contracting party who has submitted the matter to the court of arbitration.

- The court of arbitration shall give their award following, as a guideline, the provisions of this Agreement and other applicable norms of international law. The court of arbitration shall determine its own procedure. The arbitration award shall be binding on both parties.
- Each contracting party shall bear the costs of their own arbitrator as well as the costs caused by the hearing of the matter by the court of arbitration. The chairman's costs and other expenses shall be shared equally by the contracting parties. The court of arbitration may also decide on a different cost distribution. (Article 16)

Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal

- The validity of this Agreement shall expire 12 months after notification in writing by either contracting party to the other party of their intention to terminate the Agreement. (Article 17)

Amendments

- N/A

Other provisions

- Relationship to other agreements:
This Agreement shall have not effect on either contracting party's rights or obligations under other bilateral or multilateral treaties or conventions. (Article 15)

Wildfire protection agreement between the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture of the United States of America and the Secretariat of Environment, Natural Resources, and Fisheries of the United Mexican States for the common border, 1999

Purpose

- The purpose of this Agreement is to:
 1. Enable wildfire protection resources originating in the territory of one country to cross the US/Mexico border in order to suppress wildfires on the other side of the border within the zone of mutual assistance in appropriate circumstances;
 2. Give authority for Parties to co-operate on other fire management activities outside the zone of mutual assistance (Article I)

Definitions

- 1. "Wildfire" means a fire that occurs in a wildland area, such as a range or forest, in which development is essentially non-existent except for roads, railroads, power lines, and similar transportation facilities, and structures, which if these exist, are widely scattered and are used primarily for recreation or agricultural purposes.
 2. "Wildfire protection resources" means personnel, supplies, equipment, aircraft, vehicles, vessels, radios and specialized machinery or other resources, whether owned or contracted, that are intended for wildfire suppression equipment or personnel.
 3. "Zone of mutual assistance" means the area of up to 16 kilometres (10 miles) on each side of the United States-Mexico border.
 4. "Receiving Party" means the party receiving wildfire protection resources.
 5. "Sending Party" means the party furnishing wildfire protection resources. (Article II)

Information and Coordination

- N/A

Personnel and Equipment

- 1. Each Any service performed in furtherance of this Agreement by an employee of a Party shall constitute service performed on behalf of that Party.
- 2. The performance of a service under this Agreement by an employee, contractor, subcontractor or agent of one Party shall in no case render such person an employee, contractor, subcontractor or agent of the other Party. (Article VIII)

Expenses

- Each Party shall assume all of its costs and expenses of furnishing wildland fire protection resources, including costs or damaged wildfire protection resources, according to the performances of this Agreement, unless otherwise agreed by the Parties. (Article IV)

Liabilities, Claims and Compensations

- 1. Each Party hereby waives its claims against the other Party for compensation for loss, damage, personal injury, or death occurring as a consequence of the performance of this Agreement.
- 2. Each Party shall, by contract or otherwise, extend the cross-waiver of liability set forth in paragraph 1 above to any contractors or subcontractors or agents or any state, regional, local, private or tribal fire organizations it may designate or assign to perform activities under this Agreement.
- 3. The cross-waiver of liability set forth in paragraph 1 above shall not apply to:
 - a) Claims between a Party and its agencies, employees, contractors, subcontractors or agents;
 - b) Claims arising from wilful misconduct; and
 - c) Claims arising from criminal conduct. (Article V)

Limited territorial application

- 16 kilometres (10 miles) on each side of the United States-Mexico border. (Article II.3)
- Nevertheless, this Agreement gives authority for Parties to cooperate on other fire management activities outside the zone of mutual assistance. (Article I)

Border crossing

- The Parties are committed to work together, with the involved agencies of their respective governments, to process appropriate legal documentation, within the applicable laws and regulations of both countries, and to otherwise facilitate entry to and exit from its territory of all personnel engaged in wildfire protection pursuant to this Agreement. Also, each Party shall undertake all reasonable steps and use its best efforts, within applicable laws and regulations of both countries, to facilitate the admission of all supplies, equipment, aircraft, vehicles, specialized machinery, or other equipment whether owned or contracted, that are used or intended for used in wildfire suppression or transport of wildfire suppression equipment or personnel pursuant to this Agreement without entry fees and without payment of any duties or taxes imposed by reason of importation. (Article VI)

Operating plans / Guidelines

- 1. Each Annual Operating Plans shall be concluded and executed between the Parties.
- 2. Each Annual Operating Plan shall:
 - a) Identify designated points of contact responsible for fire suppression within the applicable subregion within the zone of mutual assistance.
 - b) Set forth specific criteria for approving requests for wildfire protection resources;
 - c) Develop plans for mobilization of wildfire protection resources on each side of the United States-Mexico border;
 - d) Establish procedures for efficient and timely communication of relevant information between designated points of contact;
 - e) Provide for complete and timely reporting and record-keeping of all wildfire suppression incidents occurring in the subregion within the zone of mutual assistance;

- f) Identify the necessary procedures and legal documentation, which are to be completed, with agencies of the governments, for the expeditious cross-border movement of wildfire protection resources;
 - g) Specify the conditions and procedures for the reimbursement, as deemed appropriate, of the Sending Party for the furnishing of wildfire protection resources; and
 - h) Include terms consistent with Article V a cross waiver for compensation for loss, damage, personal injury, or death occurring in consequence of the performance of this Agreement.
3. The Parties may recommend the development of operating plans for other fire management activities outside the zone of mutual assistance, subject to the approval of their respective governments.
 4. The Parties shall maintain on file copies of all Annual Operating Plans. (Article VII)

Interpretation and Settlement of disputes

- Any differences that arise in the interpretation or application of the provisions of this Agreement or any Annual Operating Plan negotiated pursuant hereto shall be resolved by the Parties by means of negotiations and consultations. (Article X)

Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal

- This Agreement shall enter into force upon signature by the Parties and shall remain in force for five years. (Article XI.1)
- This Agreement may be terminated at any time by either Party upon six months written notice to the other Party. (Article XI.3)
- The termination of this Agreement shall not affect the implementation of any fire suppression effort being carried out under this Agreement at the time when it was in force. (Article XI.4)

Amendments

- This Agreement may only be amended or executed by mutual, written agreement of the Parties, and such agreement shall specify the date upon which such amendments shall take effect. (Article XI.2)

Other provisions

- Activities under this Agreement shall be subject to the applicable laws, regulations, and policies of each Party and subject to the availability of funds.
- This Agreement is without prejudice to rights and obligations of the Parties under existing bilateral and multilateral agreements. (Article IX)

Wildfire Arrangement between the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture of the United States of America and the National Rural Fire Authority of New Zealand, 2001

Purpose

- To provide a framework within which one Participant may request and receive wildfire suppression resources from the other Participant and to encourage co-operation on other fire management activities. (Article I.1)

Definitions

- 1. "Receiving Participant" means the Participant receiving Wildfire Suppression Resources
- 2. "Sending Participant" means the Participant furnishing Wildfire Suppression Resources
- 3. "Wildfire" means any forest, range or bush fire

4. "Wildfire Suppression Resources" means personnel, supplies, equipment, and other resources required for pre-suppression and suppression activities for wildfire. (Article II)

Information and Coordination

- Established in the Annual Operating Plans.

Personnel and Equipment

- 1. Each Participant shall undertake all reasonable steps and use its best efforts, within and subject to applicable laws and regulations of both countries, to facilitate the admission of all supplies, equipment, aircraft, vehicles, specialized machinery, or other equipment whether owned or contracted, that are used or intended for use in wildfire suppression or transport of wildfire suppression equipment or personnel pursuant to this Arrangement without entry fees and without payment of any duties or taxes imposed by reason of Importation. (Article VI.2)
 2. Any service performed in furtherance of this Arrangement by an employee of a Participant should constitute service performed on behalf of that Participant.
 3. The performance of a service under this Arrangement by any employee, contractor, subcontractor or agent of one Participant should in no case render such person an employee, contractor, subcontractor or agent of the other Participant. (Article VIII)

Expenses

- Except for the costs set forth in Part V of this Arrangement, the Sending Participant should be reimbursed by the Receiving Participant for the costs incurred by the Sending Participant in furnishing Wildfire Suppression Resources for, or on behalf of the Receiving Participant. The costs may include the cost of premiums to purchase liability insurance and death personal injury insurance for the Sending Participant and its employees, servants and agents, as more fully described in the Annual Operating Plan provided for in Part VII of this Arrangement. The specific costs and procedures for reimbursement should be set forth in the Annual Operating Plan, which should be a binding contract. (Article IV)

Liabilities, Claims and Compensations

- 1. In the Annual Operating Plan, the Receiving and Sending Participant should include provisions by which each Participant and each component of that Participant intends to waive its claims against the other Participant and each component of that Participant for compensation for loss, damage, personal injury, or death occurring as a consequence of the performance of activities undertaken pursuant to the Annual Operating Plan.
 2. Each Participant should, by contract or otherwise, extend the cross-waiver of liability contemplated in paragraph 1 to any contractors or subcontractors or agents or any state, regional, local, private or tribal/aboriginal fire organizations it may designate or assign to perform activities under this Arrangement or the Annual Operating Plan
 3. The Participants understand that the cross-waiver of liability contemplated in paragraph 1 above should not apply to claims between a Participant and its agencies, employees, contractors, subcontractors or agents. (Article V)

Limited territorial application

- N/A

Border crossing

- The Participants intend to work together, within the applicable laws and regulations of both countries, and to otherwise facilitate entry to and exit from each Participant's respective territory of all personnel engaged in wildfire suppression pursuant to this Arrangement. (Article VI.1)

Operating plans / Guidelines

- 1. The plan should be concluded and executed between the Participants as a binding contract.
- 2. The Annual Operating Plan should:
 - a) identify designated points of contact for a better communication in cases of fire suppression actions;
 - b) set forth specific criteria and procedures for approving requests for Wildfire Suppression Resources;
 - c) establish procedures for efficient and timely communication of relevant information between designated points of contact;
 - d) identify the necessary procedures and legal documentation relevant to allow the entry into each country of Wildfire Suppression Resources;
 - e) specify the conditions, costs and procedures for the reimbursement, as deemed appropriate, of the Sending Participant for the furnishing of Wildfire Suppression Resource;
 - f) include terms consistent with Part V, a cross-waiver of compensation for loss, damage, personal injury or death occurring in consequence of the performance of this Arrangement and the Annual Operating Plan;
 - g) establish equivalent standards for qualifications, including physical fitness, training and experience;
 - h) provide for recall rights of the Sending Participant.
- 3. The Participant should use their best endeavours to complete a review of the Annual Operating Plan by 15 May each year. Until the review is completed, the last Annual Operating Plan should continue to apply. (Article VII)

Interpretation and Settlement of disputes

- Should be resolved by the Participants by means of discussions and consultations. (Article XI)

Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal

- The activities included in this Arrangement shall begin upon the signature of the parties and continue until 15 May 2010 unless terminated earlier. After that date this Arrangement continues from year to year until terminated. (Article XII.1)
- This Arrangement may be terminated by any Participant at any time by providing reasonable, written notice to the other Participant. (Article XII.3)
- The termination of this Arrangement should not affect the implementation of any Wildfire suppression initiated under this Arrangement prior to such termination. (Article XII.4)

Amendments

- This Arrangement may only be modified by mutual written consent of the Participants. (Article XII.2)

Other provisions

- This Arrangement is not intended to create legally enforceable obligations between the Participants (Article I.2)
- This Arrangement does not constitute a treaty between the sovereign states of the United States of America and of New Zealand. (Article I.3)
- This Arrangement constitutes a reaffirmation of the importance of engaging in cooperative fire management activities. This Arrangement is intended to encourage and strengthen other cooperative fire management activities, through sharing among the Participants, fire management skills, and innovations. The objective of these activities is to improve the fire fighting assistance to one another when necessary. Each Participant should bear all of its costs and expenses of participating in these cooperative activities, unless otherwise mutually arranged. (Article IX)

Agreement on Joint Control of Forest Fire between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Russian Federation, 1995
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Purpose

- To improve forest fire control in border areas, to share experience in forest fire control, and to help each other to prevent forest fires and to reduce losses therefrom.

Definitions

- N/A

Information and Coordination

- Command units for forest fire control shall be established in areas designated in the Article I of the current Agreement inside China and the Russian Federation, and shall work under the leadership of the local governments. (Article II.1)
- The command units in respective areas of joint control shall be responsible for the work of joint forest fire control and ensure smooth liaison among them. They shall promptly inform one another through proper liaison channels in case of forest fire. (Article II.2)
- The Parties shall establish specific liaison stations for joint forest fire control in joint control areas inside their respective borders. The liaison stations shall establish direct liaison among them, with methods of liaison to be decided by the stations of both Parties and the local governments. (Article II.3)
- The liaison stations work under the responsibility of the local command units for joint forest fire control, and the number of stations may be increased, if necessary, subject to the agreement of both Parties. The heads of command units of both Parties shall meet to communicate fire risks, share experience and information as well as consult each other and agree on matters related to the join forest fire control. (Article II.4)
- If an airplane or helicopter needs an emergency landing, the responsible air control unit of the party accepting such an emergency landing shall promptly inform the responsible air control unit of the other party and provide necessary assistance to the airplane/helicopter and its crew. (Article V.4)

Personnel and Equipment

- For the purpose of forest fire suppression, one party may allow the participation of the personnel from the other party, subject to the agreement of the corresponding units of both Parties. (Article V.2)
- The fire fighting personnel sent abroad by the authorities of both Parties shall be lead by a team leader and carry fire-fighting equipment with them. The authority of the recipient party shall designate a responsible representative to arrange work for the incoming Assisting Party and provide their accommodation. The team leader and the designated representative shall together ensure the return of the assisting fire fighters to their home country. (Article V.5)

Expenses

- N/A

Liabilities, Claims and Compensations

- If the incoming assisting fire fighters are unfortunately wounded or lose their life during the accomplishment of their tasks, the subsidies for their temporary or permanent loss of labour, or the pensions for their dependents in case of death shall be paid by social security agencies

of the party where these wounded or deceased fire fighters belong to, in the manner provided for by the national law and regulations of that party. (Article V.6)

- The recipient authority shall compensate the other authority with all the costs related to the assistance and make the payment within one month of receiving the confirmation bill. (Article VI.1)
- The cost of materials, equipment and fuel consumed during the fire fighting shall be calculated at the international market price. (Article VI.2)
- The payment procedure for the compensation shall be negotiated by the heads of the authorities of both Parties in accordance with specific circumstances. (Articles VI.3)

Limited territorial application

- Both Parties shall establish areas for joint control of forest fire in a 10 kilometre-wide strip on both sides of the border between the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation. (Article I)

Border crossing

- The staff of the liaison stations, when required by work to cross borders of both Parties, shall go through the formalities in accordance with the respective current laws of both Parties and bilateral agreements. (Article II.5)
- The entry and exit formalities for fire fighting personnel shall be implemented in accordance with the Article 21 of the Agreement on the System of the Sino-Russian Border Management between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of Russian Federation, signed on May 27, 1994. (Article V.2)
- The airplanes and helicopters participating in the forest fire fighting shall obtain the approval of the authorities of both Parties and the permission of the responsible units of air control of both Parties before they cross the Sino-Russian border. Such a request of cross border flight shall be submitted by liaison stations and be studied in time. (Article V.3)

Operating plans / Guidelines

- N/A

Interpretation and Settlement of disputes

- N/A

Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal

- This Agreement shall come into force on the day of signature and shall be valid for five years. Upon its expiration, the Agreement shall be automatically extended for another five years, unless any party gives its written notice of termination to the other party six months before the expiration of the Agreement, and thereafter shall be renewed in the same manner. (Article VII.1)

Amendments

- N/A

Other provisions

- As for the day when this Agreement comes into effect, the Joint Agreement on Forest Protection and Fire Prevention, signed on 29 January 1960, between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Soviet Union of Socialist Republics shall terminate. (Article VII.2)

International Agreement between the US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service for the National Multi-agency coordination group for and on behalf of the Government of the United States of America, and the Secretariat of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment for itself and as agent of the Crown in the right of each Australian State and Territory and the Crown in the right of New Zealand, 2000

Purpose

- To facilitate mutual assistance in wildland firefighting between Australia, New Zealand and the United States of America (Article I)

Definitions

- N/A

Information and Coordination

- Request for assistance will be channelled by the most expeditious means to the appropriate authorized official in accordance with the following:
 1. Request for assistance from the USA will be made from the relevant Australian and New Zealand agencies via NRE to the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) at the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) in Boise, Idaho. The authorized officials are the B.L.M. Director or the US Forest Service Director at NIFC. (Article III.1)
 2. Requests for assistance from participant Australian and New Zealand agencies will be made from NIFC to the Chief Fire Officer of NRE. (Article III.2)
 3. NRE and NIFC will be responsible for providing the US and Australian and New Zealand officials with the names of the authorized Australian and New Zealand officials within fourteen days of request for assistance. (Article III.3)
 4. The recall of resources from the receiving agency shall be communicated through NICC and the NRE Emergency Coordination Centre and the lending agency will attempt to give 24 hours notice. (Article VIII)

Personnel and Equipment

- The parties to this Agreement may request overhead personnel with specialized expertise for fire assignments. (Article IV.2)
- Personnel assigned as part of a resource order will receive an adequate orientation and health and safety session prior to deployment and should be debriefed prior to demobilization. (Article IV.3)
- Each agency assigning personnel to a resource order will certify that the personnel assigned will meet requirements of the position ordered. (Article IV.4)
- The lending agency will attempt to provide all the safety equipment required meeting their regulations. Should additional equipment be requested by the receiving agency, the receiving agency will supply these at their expense. (Article IV.5)
- When appropriate the lending agency and receiving agency will provide the means for an adequate liaison. The liaison from the receiving agency will be responsible for the health, safety, welfare, and commissary needs of all personnel engaged. (Article IV.6)
- All personnel should carry with them two examples of identification and any conviction may prohibit mobilization to the receiving country. (Article IV.9)
- If an individual is deemed inadmissible due to minor criminal/felony offences, the individual will be required to undergo an interview process with Immigration. All costs associated with the process will be borne by the individual or the receiving agency. (Article IV.10)
- Some specialized equipment may be accompanied by trained technicians and/or operators to ensure safe and efficient set up and operation of equipment. (Article V.4)

- It is recommended that all equipment be registered with the respective lending agencies' customs authority prior to mobilization. (Article V.5)

Expenses

- Reimbursement for personnel will be on the following basis:
 - a) All salaries, overtime and hazard pay submitted for payment by the sending agency will be reimbursed by the receiving agency, in accordance with salary schedules and/or union contracts in existence with the lending agency or at rates agreed in advance of engagement.
 - b) The costs of travel, and daily personnel care costs shall in all cases be reimbursed by the receiving agency. Where daily rates are not in effect receipts are required for all expenses.
 - c) All medical and associated compensation costs incurred in the course of the deployment to the requesting agency. (Article IV.1)
- All transportation costs will be reimbursed by the receiving agency. (Article V.6)
- Reimbursement will be made on the following basis:
 - a) All direct flight costs will be reimbursed by the receiving agency.
 - b) Minimum contract guarantees will be reimbursed by the receiving agency when the resource order is for aircraft services. Contract guarantees will not be assessed if the aircraft is used solely to transport personnel between countries.
 - c) Unless otherwise agreed upon between parties to this Agreement, maintenance and/or damage to the aircraft are the responsibility of the contractor and/or owner, and are not reimbursable. Damage to an aircraft caused as a direct result of agency personnel actions are the receiving agency's responsibility and are reimbursable. (Article VI.1)
- All contract aircraft mobilized to the USA will be reimbursed by the USA (Article VI.2)
- All aircraft will meet the receiving agency's specifications for standards and pilot qualifications and will be inspected prior to being put into service. (Article VI.3)

Liabilities, Claims and Compensations

- Costs for medical services will be covered by the requesting agency until the employee is returned to the fireline or sending agency, other than costs for ongoing rehabilitation which shall continue to be met by the requesting agency. (Article IV.7)
- Death or long compensation claims will go through sending agencies workers compensation programme and billed for reimbursement to the receiving agency. (Article IV.8)
- Expendable equipment and supplies shall be considered purchased on delivery, and full replacement costs will be reimbursed by the receiving agency. Items should be considered expendable if they are not reusable or cannot be recycled. (Article V.1)
- Non-expendable and accountable equipment and supplies will be credited to the receiving agency upon return to the lending agency. The costs of refurbishing are reimbursable by the receiving agency unless the sending agency agrees that the receiving agency will perform the work. (Article V.2)
- In the event that any equipment or supplies are damaged beyond repair or not returned, they will either be replaced by the receiving agency with new equipment or supplies of the same quantity and to the lending agency's standards, or full replacement cost will be reimbursed by the receiving agency. (Article V.3)
- The Government of the United States of America hereby indemnifies and undertakes to keep indemnified the Secretary to the Department of Natural Resources and Environment of the State of Victoria, Australia and the State of Victoria and their offices, employees, servants and agents from and or against all actions, claims, demands, costs and expenses of whatever nature (including the costs of defending or setting any action, claim or demand) and howsoever arising either directly or indirectly from or in consequence of any act or omission of any Department of Natural Resources and Environment and or State or Victoria officer, employee, servant or agent as defined in Schedule 1 and Schedule 2 attending the United States to assist any entity or person within the United States National Interagency, Multi Agency,

Coordination Group or any similar request made for and on behalf of the United States. Such indemnity will be extended to all agencies listed in schedules 1 & 2 of this agreement and to their associated government officers, employees, servants and agents. (Article VII.1)

- The receiving agency agrees to reimburse to a sending agency all extra workers' compensation insurance costs incurred by the sending agency as a result of worker's compensation claim being made in respect of any injury occurring during the term of this agreement. (Article VII.2)

Limited territorial application

- N/A

Border crossing

- N/A

Operating plans / Guidelines

- N/A

Interpretation and Settlement of disputes

- N/A

Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal

- Any one of the parties, in writing, may terminate their portion of this instrument in whole, or in part, at any time. Full credit shall be allowed for each party's expenses and all non-cancellable obligations properly incurred up to the effective date of termination. (Article X.3)
- This International Agreement is executed as of the date of the last signature and, unless terminated sooner, is effective through five years from that date at which time it will be received. (Article X.4)

Amendments

- Modification within the scope of this International Agreement shall be made by mutual consent of all parties, by the issuance of a written modification, signed and dated by all parties, prior to any changes being performed. The Forest Service, BLM and NRE are not obliged to fund any changes not properly approved in advance. (Article X.2)

Other provisions

- N/A

Northwest Wildland Fire Protection Agreement between the United States of America and Canada, 1998

Purpose

- To promote effective prevention, presuppression and control of forest fires in the Northwest wildland region of the United States and adjacent areas of Canada by providing mutual aid in prevention, presuppression and control of wildland fires, and by establishing procedures in operating plans that will facilitate such aid. This Agreement applies to the States of Washington, Idaho and Montana and the Provinces of British Columbia and Alberta. (Article I)

Definitions

- N/A

Information and Coordination

- Whenever the forces of any Member are aiding another Member under this Agreement, the employees of such Member shall operate under the direction of the officers of the Member to which they are rendering aid and be considered agents of the Member they are rendering aid to and, therefore, have the same privileges and immunities as comparable employees of the Member to which they are rendering aid. (Article VI.1)
- The Members may request the United States Forest Service to act as the coordinating agency of the Northwest Wildland Fire Protection Agreement in cooperation with the appropriate agencies for each Member. (Article IX.1)

Personnel and Equipment

- For purposes of the Agreement, personnel shall be considered employees of each sending Member for the payment of compensation to injured employees and death benefits to the representatives of deceased employees injured or killed while rendering aid to another Member pursuant to this Agreement. (Article VI.4)

Expenses

- Any Member rendering outside aid pursuant to this Agreement shall be reimbursed by the Member receiving such aid for any loss or damage to, or expense incurred in the operation of any equipment and for the cost of all materials, transportation, wages, salaries and maintenance of personnel and equipment incurred in connection with such request in accordance with the provisions of the previous section. Nothing contained herein shall prevent any assisting Member from assuming such loss, damage, expense or other cost or from loaning such equipment or from donating such services to the receiving Member without charge or cost. (Article VI.3)
- When appropriations for support of this agreement, or for the support of common services in executing this agreement, are needed, costs will be allocated equally among the Members. (Article VII.1)
- As necessary, Members shall keep accurate books of account, showing in full, its receipts and disbursements, and the books of account shall be open at any reasonable time to the inspection of representatives of the Members. (Article VII.2)

Liabilities, Claims and Compensations

- No Member or its officers or employees rendering aid within another State, Territory, or Province, pursuant to this Agreement shall be liable on account of any act or omission on the part of such forces while so engaged, or on account of the maintenance or use of any equipment or supplies in connection therewith to the extent authorized by the laws of the Member receiving the assistance. The receiving Member, to the extent authorized by the laws of the State, Territory, or Province, agrees to indemnify and save-harmless the assisting Member from any such liability. (Article VI.2)
- The Members shall formulate procedures for claims and reimbursement under the provisions of this Article. (Article VI.5)

Limited territorial application

- N/A

Border crossing

- N/A

Operating plans / Guidelines

- The Members may develop cooperative operating plans for the programmes covered by this Agreement. Operating plans shall include definition of terms, fiscal procedures, personnel contacts, resources available, and standards applicable to the programme. Other sections may be added as necessary. (Article III.2)

- The Members will hold an annual meeting to review the terms of this Agreement, any applicable Operating Plans, and make necessary modifications. (Article IX.2)

Interpretation and Settlement of disputes

- N/A

Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal

- This Agreement shall be kept in force on each Member until such Member takes action to withdraw therefrom. Such action shall not be effective until 60 days after notice thereof has been sent to all other Members. (Article X)

Amendments

- Can be made by simple majority vote of the Members and will take effect immediately upon passage. (Article IX.3)
- The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is expressly reserved. (Sec, 3. Rights Reserved)

Other provisions

- N/A

The Northeastern Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact Public Law #129 – 81st Congress, between United States and Canada

Purpose

- Promote effective prevention and control of forest fires in the northeastern region of the United States and adjacent areas of Canada by the maintenance of adequate forest fire fighting services by the member states, by providing for mutual aid in fighting forest services among the states of the region and for procedures that will facilitate such aid, and by the establishment of a central agency to coordinate the services of member states and perform such common services as member states may deem desirable. This agreement applies to the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island and the provinces of Quebec, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia (Article 1).

Definitions

- N/A

Information and Coordination

- The Commission in charge of the application of this agreement shall make inquiries and ascertain from time to time the methods, practices, circumstances and conditions as may be disclosed for bringing about the prevention and control of forest fires in the area comprising the member states. The coordination of the forest fire plans and the work of the appropriate agencies of the member states to facilitate the supply of assistance by the member states to each other in fighting forest fires (Article IV).
- The Commission may request the United State Forest Service to act as the primary research and coordinating agency of the Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission in cooperating with the appropriate agencies in each state, and the United States Forest Service may accept the initial responsibility in preparing and presenting to the Commission its recommendations with respect to the regional fire plan (Article VI).
- Whenever the state forest fire control agency of a member state requests aid from the state forest fire control agency of any other member state in combating, controlling or preventing forest fires, it shall be the duty of the state forest fire control agency of the state to render all

possible aid to the requesting agency which is consonant with the maintenance of protection at home (Article VIII.2).

- Whatever the forces of any member state are rendering outside aid pursuant to the request of another member state under this compact, the employees of such state shall, under the direction of the officers of the state to which they are rendering aid, have the same powers (except the power to arrest), duties, rights privileges and immunities as comparable employees of the state to which they are rendering aid (Article IX.1).

Personnel and Equipment

- For the purpose of this compact the term employee shall include any volunteer or auxiliary legally included within the forest fire fighting forces of the aiding state under the laws thereof (Article IX.6).
- Nothing in this compact shall be construed to authorize or permit any member state to curtail or diminish its forest fighting forces, equipment, services or facilities, and it shall be the duty and responsibility of each member state to maintain adequate forest fire fighting forces and equipment to meet normal needs for forest fire protection within its borders (Article XIII).

Expenses

- Except in cases where member states join in the same designation for common services, the representatives of any group of such designating states in the Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission shall constitute a separate section of such Commission for the performance of common service or services so designated provided that, if any additional expense is involved, the states so acting shall appropriate the necessary funds for this purpose (Article V).
- Any member state rendering outside aid pursuant to this compact shall be reimbursed by the member state receiving such aid for any loss or damage to, or expense incurred in the operation of any equipment answering a request for aid and for the cost of all materials, transportation, wages, salaries, and maintenance of employees and equipment incurred in connection with such request. Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent any assisting member state from assuming such loss, damage, expense or other cost or from loaning such equipment or from donating such services to the receiving member state without charge or cost (Article IX).

Liabilities, Claims and Compensations

- No member state or its officers or employees rendering outside aid pursuant to this compact shall be liable on account of any act or omission on the part of such forces while so engaged, or on account of maintenance or use of any equipment or supplies in connection therewith (Article IX.2).
- All liabilities that may arise either under the laws of the requesting state or under the laws of the aiding state or under the laws of a third state on account of or in connection with a request for aid, shall be assumed and borne by the requesting state (Article IX.3).
- Each member state shall provide for the payment of compensation and death benefits to injured employees and the representatives of deceased employees in case employees sustain injuries or are killed while rendering outside aid pursuant to this compact, in the same manner and on the same terms as if the injury or death were sustained within such state (Article IX.5).
- Aid by a member state to an area subject to federal jurisdiction beyond the borders of such state shall not be required under this compact unless substantially the same provisions of this article relative to powers, liabilities, losses and expenses in connection with such aid are embodied in federal laws (Article IX.6).

Limited Territorial Applications

- Any state or province not mentioned in this article which is contiguous with any member state or province may become a party to this compact (Article II).

Border Crossing

- N/A

Operating Plans / Guidelines

- The Commission shall formulate and, in accordance with need, from time to time, revise a regional forest fire plan for the entire region covered by the compact which shall serve as a common forest fire plan for that area (Article IV).
- It is the duty of each member state to formulate and put in effect a forest fire plan for that state and to take such measures as may be recommended by the commission to integrate such forest fire plan with the regional fire plan (Article VIII.1).

Interpretation and Settlement of Disputes

- N/A

Entry into Force, Duration, Termination and Withdrawal

- This agreement shall become operative immediately as those states ratifying it whenever any two or more of the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New-York and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has ratified it and the Congress has given its consent (Article II).
- This compact shall continue in force and remain binding on each state or province ratifying it until the legislature or the governor of such state or province takes action to withdraw therefrom. Such action shall not be effective until six months after notice thereof has been sent by the chief executive of the state desiring to withdraw to the chief executives of all states then Parties to the compact (Article XIV).

Amendments

- N/A

Other Provisions

- Each state joining herein shall appoint three representatives to a Commission hereby designed as the Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission. One shall be State Forester or officer holding an equivalent position in such state who is responsible for forest fire control. The second shall be a member of the legislative of such state designated by the Commission or committee on interstate cooperation of such state, or if there be none, or if said Commission on the interstate cooperation cannot constitutionally designate the said member, such legislator shall be designated by the governor thereof: provided that if it is constitutionally impossible to appoint a legislator as a Commissioner from such state, the second member shall be appointed by the governor of said state in his discretion. The third member shall be a person designated by governor as the responsible representative of the governor. In the event that any province of the Dominion of Canada shall become a member of this commission, it shall designate three members who will approximate this pattern of representation to the extent possible under the law and practices of such province. This Commission shall be a corporate body with powers and duties set forth herein (Article III).

Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States of America on cooperation on civil emergency planning and management, 1986.

Purpose

- To set up a consultative group on comprehensive civil emergency planning and management, which shall meet once every calendar year. This consultative group will ensure that in areas of common concern, the plans of the two governments for the emergency use of manpower,

materiel resources, supplies, systems and services shall, where feasible and practicable, will be harmonized. Both governments will also assist each other in dealing with such emergency situations (Article 2).

Definitions

- N/A

Information and coordination

- The consultative group will seek to ensure that in areas of common concern, plans of the two governments for the emergency use of manpower, material resources, supplies, systems and services shall, where feasible and practicable, be consistent with this principle.
- Transportation and other equipment originating in one country but located in the other country at the onset of the emergency may by mutual agreement be temporarily employed by the appropriate authority of the country in which the equipment is located.
- Perishable or other readily consumable supplies located in one country at the time of an emergency but owned by parties in the other country may by mutual agreement be disposed of by the appropriate civil emergency authorities for the two countries.
- Both governments will, insofar as consistent with national plans and policies, also encourage and facilitate cooperative emergency arrangements between adjacent jurisdictions on matters falling within the competence of such jurisdictions (Article 2).

Personnel and equipment

- In emergency planning, each government will include provisions for adequate security and care for the personnel, equipment and resources of the other country entering by mutual agreement in pursuance of authorized civil emergency activities. Both governments will use their best efforts to ensure that such provisions provide access to supplies necessary for their return (Article 2).

Expenses

- When transportation, communications and related facilities and equipment which are subject to the control of one government are made available for emergency use for the other government, the two governments will use their best efforts to ensure that the charges to the using government will not exceed those paid by similar agencies of the government making these resources available. To this end mutually acceptable arrangements will be worked out as necessary by the two governments. Each government will use its best efforts to encourage other levels of government to do likewise (Article 2).

Liabilities, claims and compensations

- N/A

Limited territorial application

- N/A

Border crossing

- Each government will use its discretionary powers as far as possible to avoid a levy of any national tax on the services, equipment and supplies of the other country when the latter are engaged in civil emergency activities in the territory of the other, and will use their best efforts to encourage states and local authorities to do likewise (Article 2).

Operating plans / guidelines

- N/A

Interpretation and settlement of disputes

- N/A

Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal

- This agreement shall enter into force upon signature and shall remain in effect for a period of five years. Unless written notice of termination is given by either party at least thirty days prior to the end of the five-year period, this agreement shall be automatically renewed for an additional five year period. Notwithstanding the above, the agreement may be terminated at any time upon six months written notice by either party to the other. The terms of the agreement may be reviewed at any time at the request of either party (Article 7).

Amendments

- This agreement and the annex may be amended (and additional annexes may be added) by agreement of the parties. The annex (and any additional annexes) may also be amended as provided therein, subject to the requirement that such amendments shall be consistent with this agreement (Article 5).

Other provisions

- N/A

Draft Agreement on Cooperation for Forest and Steppe Fire Protection between the Russian Federation and Mongolia

Purpose

- Improve the protection of the forest and steppe areas from fire along the Russian and Mongolia border (20 km on both sides of the border) by sharing firefighting actions, preventing fires, and reducing fire losses.

Definitions

- N/A

Information and Coordination

- Local administration shall establish and provide leadership for the Firefighting Center. (Article 1)
- Establish radio communication system to communicate in case of fire. (Article 2)
- Combined patrolling and firebreaks shall be done. (Article 9)
- If the helicopter or plane has to make an emergency landing in the territory of other Party, the flight team shall report the situation immediately to the receiving Party's Flight control department and the receiving Party shall provide help to flight team and plane or helicopter. (Article 14)

Personnel and Equipment

- If firefighters who cross the border to provide assistance are injured, the receiving Party shall provide medical care and evacuation shall be provided. (Article 15)

Expenses

- The Party who receives the support shall pay all fire suppression costs to the sending Party within one month (the cost will be accounted for in international standards). (Article 16)

Liabilities, Claims and Compensations

- N/A

Limited territorial application

- 20 kilometers on both sides of the border.

Border crossing

- In case of fire, the border transfer procedure shall be simplified regarding the law; and temporary border transfer points will be established. (Article 11)
- Firefighters shall get identification Cards in order to facilitate the border crossing. (Article 12)
- Trans-border flights shall be reported to the other party and agreed upon in advance. (Article 13)

Operating plans / Guidelines

- N/A

Interpretation and Settlement of disputes

- N/A

Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal

- The contract will become effective starting with the day of approval signatures; and the contract duration will be five years. The previous Fire Protection Agreement between the Russian Federation and Mongolia will be terminated at that time. (Article 17)
- If one of the Parties has not expressed its dissatisfaction or broken the Agreement in writing, the Agreement will be automatically extended for the next five years. (Article 18)

Amendments

- N/A

Other provisions

- N/A

Protocol for cooperation between the National Service of Fire Protection of the Republic of Bulgaria and the National Service of Fire Protection of the Republic of Greece, 1993.
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Purpose

- Render mutual assistance for the liquidation of the originated fires and accidents, for the minimization of their dangerous consequences, observing the international conventions signed by the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Greece as well as the Internal Acts of the two states (Article 1).

Definitions

- N/A

Information and Coordination

- The leadership of the fire services of the two states shall determine the sites for the mentioned border towns which will be controlled according to national acts (Article 2).
- Annual common and large-scale exercises shall be carried on (Article 2).
- The authorities in charge of the leadership of the fire fighting are the ones from the territory where the fire is (Article 7).

- The supporting party shall send resources according to the gravity of the situation and to its possibilities (Article 6).
- Both parties exchange information on new technologies for firefighting and cooperate in R&D matters (Article 12).
- Both parties will render assistance to each other in the training and upgrading the firefighting staff (Article 13).

Personnel and equipment

- N/A

Expenses

- In case of a prolonged emergency, fuel, food, and other services for the supporting party shall be ensured by the requesting party (Article 10).

Liabilities, claims and compensations

- Compensations for damaged or destroyed equipment, injuries or loss of life of the supporting party shall be estimated and paid by the requesting party in conformity with the legislation of the country that is more profitable to the party who has suffered a loss (Article 11).

Limited territorial application

- Joint actions will be carried out on sites where there are increased risks of a large scale fire like chemical refineries or where there are a large number of inhabitants (Article 3).
- Request for supporting resources can be sent only to major fires in the sites and forests that cannot be extinguished with own resources, and according to the agreement between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Greece for border accidents from 1955 and the Particular Protocol- Application N27 for the fire prevention activities and fire extinguishing (Article 5).

Border-crossing

- The country having the fire within its borders shall ensure the movement of the requested assistance through its territory and provide an interpreter (Article 8).

Operating plans / Guidelines

- The management of the firefighting is done according to plans worked out by the authorities of the state within which the fire occurs (Article 9).

Interpretation and settlement of disputes

- N/A

Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal

- N/A

Amendments

- N/A

Other provisions

- The parties shall organize the four members committee, which must organize a yearly meeting in order to write a protocol of action (Article 15).
- The expenses for the realization of this protocol shall be paid by one party according to the circumstances (Article 15).

Agreement between the Government of the Hellenic Republic and the Government of Malta in the Field of Civil Protection, 2001.

Purpose

- Enhance the cooperation between the two countries regarding civil protection, the management of emergencies, the exchange of scientific and technical information and the protection of their ecological systems (preamble).

Definitions

- 1. Requesting contracting party, is the contracting party that requests from the other contracting party to send groups for the provision of assistance, equipment and support materials.
 2. Providing contracting party, is the contracting party responding to the request of the other contracting party.
 3. Competent authority, is designated by each contracting party to forward the request for the provision of assistance and make decision on the provision of assistance, also entrusted with coordination of the activities derived from the application of the present agreement.
 4. Provision of assistance, is the assistance provided by the providing contracting party to eliminate the consequences of natural and technological disasters and major accidents, as well as for the rescue, by sending the required experts and by rendering services and providing materials and goods.
 5. Assistance providing team, includes the experts sent by the providing contracting party, including the members of the civil protection or other organizations selected by the providing contracting party for the provision of assistance and having sufficient background and all the required means.
 6. Emergency state and major accident, means a state at a particular area of installation caused by a destructive natural phenomenon or human activity, causing damages or threatening to a significant degree the life or even the health of people, the material goods or the environment.
 7. Prevention of natural and technological hazards, is a set of measures taken in advance to eliminate the consequences of a probable natural and technological risk.
 8. Emergency area, is an area where an emergency or a serious accident has occurred.
Emergency rescue actions, are all the actions taken in the case of an emergency or a major accident to rescue people, protect the health of population and eliminate the environmental, cultural and material losses, as well as the resulted consequences.
 9. Equipment, is what is required for the provision of assistance, as the material and transport means, the equipment of the assistance providing group and the required for the function materials, the rescue dogs, as well as the personal primary necessities of the persons participating in the provision of assistance.
 10. Support materials, are what is needed to eliminate the consequences of natural and technological major accidents and which are intended to be distributed free of charge to the population affected by the emergency situation.
 11. Transit state, is the state of one of the contracting parties, through whose territory the assistance providing groups go through in order to fulfil their duties (Article 1).

Information and coordination

- The cooperation within the framework of the present agreement shall include the following:
 1. Assessment and management of the natural and technological risks and the elimination of their consequences.
 2. Evaluation of the pollution caused by major accidents to the environment and population.

3. Mutual assistance in the provision of technical equipment and the conduct of activities in the prevention and management of emergencies.
 4. The dissemination of emergency-related information to the public, and their training in the provision of first-aid.
 5. Education and sensibilization of the public to emergency situations.
 6. Transfer of technology and knowledge.
 7. Preparation of publication and exhibition.
 8. Exchange of trainers and trainees, scientifics and experts.
 9. Meetings of the competent authorities (Article 3).
- The contracting parties may request and promote the cooperation between all the involved international and national organizations, institutions and other persons acting in the field of prevention and management of emergencies and major accidents (Article 4).
 - A joint commission should be formed by the contracting parties that will issue policies and strategies on prevention and management on emergencies. This commission shall meet as occasions serve (Article 5).
 - 1. Assistance may be provided by sending assistance providing groups, equipment and support materials, as well as relevant expertise.
 2. The activities shall be coordinated by the authorities that are entitled to do so according to the legal rules of the requesting contracting party.
 3. The requesting contracting party is in charge of the distribution of the support material to the population affected by the emergency situation (Article 8).

Personnel and equipment

- The requesting contracting party shall take care of the safety of assistance providing groups, ensure free medical treatment of immediate priority, supply them with food, accommodations and primary necessities, if the supplies of such groups have run out (Article 8(5)).

Expenses

- Subsistence of the officials and other representatives of the providing contracting party shall be provided by the requesting contracting party, which include domestic travel expenses, unless otherwise stipulated between the contracting parties. The return travel expenses of these officials shall be covered by the providing contracting party (Article 6).
- 1. The assistance shall be granted free of charge, unless otherwise stipulated by the contracting parties.
 2. The providing contracting party shall be exempted from expenses for the flight, landing, stationing at the airport, take-off and radionautical services concerning the assistance providing aircraft.
 3. Reimbursement for the fuels and maintenance of the aircraft, with reference to flights intending to the provision of assistance, shall be dealt with by the competent authorities of the contracting parties as the case may be (Article 12).

Liabilities, claims and compensation

- 1. Any legal claim for compensation concerning material damages, including damages to environment and ecosystems, are waived by the parties when the damage is caused when duties related to the agreement are carried out, as it is also the case for personal injuries or death (Article 13(1)).
 2. Any damage to a third party caused by the providing contracting party must fall on the responsibility of the requesting contracting party when the damage is caused while carrying the duties related to the application of this agreement, according to the domestic legislative regulations concerning the damages caused by its own assistance providing group (Article 13(2)).
 3. The previous rules do not apply in case of damages done deliberately or due to a serious negligence (Article 13(3)).

4. These rules start to apply to the assistance providing groups when they enter the territory of the requesting contracting party (Article 13(4)).

Limited territorial application

- N/A

Border crossing

- 1. The assistance providing groups shall cross the border of the requesting contracting party at the borders check points open for international communication, by using valid passports, and may stay in the territory of the requesting contracting party without visa and stay permit (Article 9(1)).
 2. The leader of the assistance providing group shall be in possession of an authorisation mentioning the names of the members of the group from the requesting contracting party's authorities (Article 9(2)).
- The contracting parties shall facilitate the transport of equipment and support materials through their state borders according to the following conditions:
 1. A separate list of the equipment required for the activity of the group and a separate list of the goods transported as support materials should be provided to the customs authority.
 2. If support materials consist of pharmaceutical specialities containing and psychotropic substances, a separate and detailed list should be prepared and sent to the accredited authority. (These are submitted to a special regime laid down at paragraph 9).
 3. It is allowed to import and export only equipment, supplies for the trip and support materials.
 4. Support materials must be exempted from duties, taxes and other financial charges applied to the import or export of goods, as well as the vehicles used to provide the assistance.
 5. The unused material should be transported to the assistance providing party's territory within 30 days.
 6. If some material needs to remain in the requesting party territory, it should be declared to the customs authority of the requesting contracting party.
 7. Arms and explosive are prohibited for importation, apart for the explosives required for the provision of assistance.
 8. The requesting contracting party shall give the possibility of cleaning from chemical and radioactive substances and disinfection of equipment. If the cleaning is impossible, the equipment shall remain in the territory of the requesting contracting party (Article 10).

Operating plans/ Guidelines

- N/A

Interpretation and settlement of disputes

- All the disputes which may arise from the interpretation and application of the present agreement shall be settled by negotiations between the competent authorities of the contracting parties (Article 15).

Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal

- 1. The agreement shall enter into force on the date of the latest notification by which a party informs the other about the completion of its relevant internal procedures.
 2. The time period for the validity of this agreement is indefinite. The agreement will expire six months after the date when a party receives the termination notice from the other party.
 3. The termination of this agreement shall not affect the fulfilment of the obligations undertaken during its validity, unless otherwise stipulating by the contracting parties (Article 16).

Amendments

- N/A

Other provisions

- N/A

Agreement between the Italian Republic and the Swiss Confederation on the cooperation in the field of fire risk prevention and on mutual assistance in case of natural catastrophes, or due to human activities, 1995.

Purpose

- Define the framework which the contracting parties will provide, within the limits of their possibilities, mutual assistance in case of the occurrence in the territory of the other party of a natural catastrophe or due to human activity, that may threaten persons, goods or the environment (Article 1).

Definitions

- 1. Requesting party, is the contracting party of which the competent authorities ask the other party to send groups of intervention with equipment, means of rescue and other materials for assistance.
 2. Providing party, is the contracting party of which the competent authorities agree to at the request of the requesting party regarding sending intervention teams and equipment, means of rescue other material for assistance.
 3. Rescue team, is a group specialized in rescue intervention and equipped with adequate means of rescue and support.
 4. Equipment and means of rescue, are personal equipment, materials and vehicles in possession of the rescue teams.
 5. Materials for assistance, are the goods intended to be distributed to the population affected by the emergency situation.
 6. Materials for operation are the goods necessary to the use of the equipment and the provisioning of the rescue teams, as fuel and food (Article 2).

Information and coordination

- The nature, the length and the modalities in carrying out the operation are fixed case by case by common agreement of both competent authorities (Article 4).
- The leadership of the operations is assumed by the authorities of the requesting party. When the request is made to the providing party, it should include the tasks that are intended to be delegated to its rescue teams, but without mentioning the details of the intervention. The authorities of the requesting party must offer protection and assistance to the rescue teams of the providing party. At the end of the operation, the rescue teams from the providing party shall transmit a report on the intervention made. The authorities of the requesting party shall also transmit a report to the providing party on the details of the operation (Article 6).
- The parties to the present convention may cooperate within their possibilities and can conclude agreements, especially concerning the execution of the rescue missions and the prevention and fighting measures against natural catastrophes or due to human activity. They may exchange any useful technical and scientific information, including the information regarding forest fire management. They may also build common research programmes, organize seminars, scientific or technical courses (Article 13).

Personal and Equipment

- The assistance must be carried out by rescue teams that have received a special formation, particularly in these sectors: firefighting, intervention while there are risks of radioactive or chemical contamination, emergency rescue and first aid, and rescue. The rescue teams must be equipped with special material intended for these ends (Article 5).

Expenses

- The expenses of the rescue operation, including the expenses related to the lost, partial or total destruction of the material are assumed by the authorities of the providing party. The rescue teams of the providing state are maintained and lodged, during their operations, on the expenses of the requesting state, and are supplied as to fulfil their duties. They shall also receive the necessary health care (Article 11).

Liabilities, claims and compensation

- The requesting party will be responsible for the damages assessed as directly related to the rescue intervention according to the present agreement. In case of death, corporal or other damages to health to the rescue team of the providing party, the latter must give up to claim these damages to the requesting party if the damages are directly related to the execution of the intervention. The parties will exchange any useful information related to the intervention while which the damages were caused (Article 12).

Border crossing

- To ensure the efficiency of the intervention, the parties engaged themselves to limit as much as possible the border crossing formalities. The officer in charge of a rescue unit shall have a detailed list of the staff members, equipment and materials that are crossing the border. If the circumstances justify it, the crossing of the borders may be done outside the authorized passages. The border crossing formalities may also be modified in case of evacuation obligations.
- The parties must facilitate the passage of equipment, means of rescue, materials necessary for the operation, and translation material outside the usual custom points. It should be however known by the competent authorities and the other authorities in charge of the surveillance of the borders. The rescue teams shall not carry other goods than the ones that are necessary to the fulfilment of their duties. These goods are not submitted to any import or export costs. The medicines that contain narcotics are not considered as importations or exportations of pharmaceutical products according to international agreements. However, these products should cross the borders only in case they are needed to respond an emergency and shall be used by qualified medical staff. All the goods and equipment brought in the requesting state that were not used in the operations shall return to the providing party territory by usual custom points authorized by the authorities (Article 8).

Operating plans/ Guidelines

- To establish the technical and policy aspects as well as to organize the cooperation arising from the present convention, experts from both parties will meet once a year at least, and more than once a year under the request of one party (Article 14).

Interpretation and settlements of disputes

- In the eventuality of a dispute on the interpretation or the implementation of this agreement, the conflict will be settled diplomatically. If the parties do not reach an agreement under this procedure, the dispute will be sent to arbitration. The tribunal will be composed of three referees, one from each party and the other from third country. The decision of the tribunal is compulsory (Article 16).

Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal

- The convention enters into force when both parties will have exchanged the ratification instruments. The agreement may be terminated by one party with a notice sent at least six months before the termination date (Article 18).

Amendments

- N/A

Other provisions

- N/A

Agreement between France and Italy regarding mutual assistance by intervention with water bombers in case of forest fires, a supplement to the Convention for the prevention of major risks and mutual assistance in case of natural catastrophe or due to human activity, 1995.

Purpose

- To define the procedure for cooperation in order to obtain better results in the future operations of mutual assistance by air means.

Definitions

- N/A

Information and coordination

- The request for assistance must be sent by fax, and it must include an informative note. The reply is not obligatory positive, and the country has the discretion to send fewer effectives than requested, considering the risks, the operation already in course and the availability of aircrafts. In case the request is accepted by the providing country, it must let the requesting party know by fax the number and of aircrafts that will be involved, the estimated time of arrival of these aircrafts, the radio frequency used by these aircrafts, and other potential requirements (Article 3).
- From the moment the requesting country is notified of the acceptance of the providing country, the officials must arrange the arrival of the aircrafts. Particularly, the Director of the operations must be informed of the number and type of aircrafts that are coming as reinforcements, as well as their time of arrival. Moreover these following measures must be carried out:
 1. Ensure a permanent listening of the involved actors on a defined radio frequency, and ensure that the reinforcement aircrafts contact the Director of operations when they are close to the zone of operations.
 2. Mention the purpose of the aircraft involved in the intervention (reconnaissance aircraft, water bomber or helicopter).
 3. Indicate the zone where the aircrafts can be refilled with water (Article 4).

Personnel and equipment

- The aircrafts are available to the Director during the rescue operations (Article 5).
- When the fire is extinguished, the Director releases the aircrafts and they are returned to the home base. They must be refuelled prior to go back to the territory of the providing country. If the operations are suspended and the fire is not extinguished, the aircrafts must remain available to the director of the rescue operations. In that case, it must be indicated to the pilots the airport where they are assigned, the lodging the food and the means of transport must be dispensed, and the planes shall be refuelled and receive technical assistance (Article 6).
- When the requesting country gives back the aircraft to the providing country, the Director of the operations must inform the pilots and the relevant authorities of that country (Article 7).

- When the providing country decides to interrupt its assistance, the aircrafts must be returned to that country. The decision must be communicated by fax to the requesting country, and the information shall be communicated immediately to the pilots of the aircrafts. Such a decision must be respected without delays and cannot be the object of discussions (Article 7).

Expenses

- N/A

Liabilities, claims and compensation

- N/A

Limited territorial application

- For Italy: Liguria, Sardegna, Piemonte and Toscana.
- For France: Corse, Côte d’Azur and the Alpes (Article 1).

Border crossing

- N/A

Operating plan/ Guidelines

- To finalize the technical or administrative aspects and to organize the cooperation described in this convention, there will be a reunion of officials and experts nominated by both parties, that will meet once a year at least, and more often at the request of one party. The national authorities will exchange information on the composition of their rescue teams, the means of rescue and the equipment, the conditions of engagement, and the modalities for the request of special means (Article 9).

Interpretation and settlement of disputes

- N/A

Entry into force, duration, termination and withdrawal

- N/A

Amendments

- N/A

Other provisions

- N/A

Annex 2

International Wildland Fire Management Cooperation Agreements Template and Issues Concerning Such Agreements

The following is an outline for a template of areas that need to be considered when countries are developing international cooperative agreements. There may be other areas that need definition and consideration besides those listed below. This FAO document provides excellent reference materials, which should be reviewed prior to entering into international agreements.

Developing countries will require special consideration because they may not be able to reciprocate in a partnership as fully as a developed country can. The important role of Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) should be considered as part of any bilateral or regional assistance arrangement.

It is strongly recommended that the parties to a mutual assistance agreement should exercise the agreement through exchanges, field exercises and low-level assistance prior to it being activated at a time of crisis.

Outline for International Cooperative Agreements

1. Parties to the Agreement
 - Includes governmental and non-governmental agencies and organizations at a variety of levels.
2. Purpose
 - Defines areas and forms of cooperation.
 - Defines the scope of the cooperation.
3. Definition of Terms
 - Defines terms used in the agreement to insure there is no confusion or misinterpretation in the meaning or the content of the agreement.
4. Expenses and Costs
 - Personnel- Defines how personnel costs will be set, such as per person, per crew, per day or per assignment.
 - Equipment - Defines how equipment cost use will be set, such as per day or per assignment.
 - Reimbursement of costs – Sets the procedures, amount, and criteria for reimbursement. Some agreements call for reimbursement only after a certain threshold of time or level of support has been reached.
 - Non-reimbursable – Under certain agreements all parties may agree to assist each other on a mutual aid, non-reimbursable basis.
5. Information and Coordination
 - Communication channels – Defines the protocols and methods to coordinate and exchange information.
 - Information exchange – Defines the types, amount and timing of information exchange.
 - Notifications – Sets the notification procedures for emergencies or for other significant events.
 - Direction of emergency teams.

- Coordination of work – Defines how and under what organizational structure the coordination of work will take place.
6. Liabilities, Claims and Compensations
- Cross-wavier of claims/exemption from liability – Lists and defines how and when the cross-waivers and exemptions are in force for personnel that are being exchanged.
 - Exemptions to cross-wavier of claims – Lists and defines those areas or circumstances where the exemptions do not pertain to personnel that are being exchanged.
 - Damage to a third party – Outlines remediation methods and limitations for third party damage.
 - Medical assistance for injured personnel – Defines the protocols and procedures for assisting and possibly evacuating injured personnel.
 - Compensation in case of injury or death – Defines the timing, levels and limitations of compensation for injury or death. This may also be addressed above in the cross waivers and exemptions.
 - Privileges and immunities for the assisting personnel – Describes and defines the levels and limitations of privileges and immunities that the receiving country will provide to assisting country personnel.
7. Operating Plans / Operational Guidelines
- Provision for operating plans/operational guidelines – Operating plans/operational guidelines are a critical component of all cooperative agreements. They should be carefully crafted and reviewed by all parties to the agreement. The plans and guidelines outline and define specific operational areas to insure that the agreement can implemented in a timely and efficient manner. They include items such as points of contact, procedures for requesting resources, entry procedures, annual updates of costs, reimbursements, and cross waivers, and updated standards, qualifications or training requirements. Also identifies how often and by whom the plans and guidelines will be reviewed, updated and the method for revalidating the contents of the plans and guidelines.
8. Border Crossings
- Sets protocols and procedures for simplifying of border crossing taking into account sovereignty issues, including the following:
 - Opening of alternative border-crossing points to facilitate the assistance
 - Customs provisions:
 - Concerning personnel
 - Concerning equipment and materials
 - Concerning officer responsible for equipment
 - Concerning aircraft
- Portions of this information will also be included in the operational plans and guidelines.
9. Link to Disaster Management Plan for the receiving country.
- Explains how the fire assistance plan sits within the wider disaster management plan for the receiving country, including legislation giving the necessary powers.
10. General Provisions
- Entry of force of the agreement – Defines when agreement is activated.
 - Duration – Specifies how long the agreement will remain in force
 - Withdrawal – Defines how countries or organizations can withdraw from the agreement.
 - Termination – Defines under what circumstances the agreement will be revoked.

- Interpretation – Provides understandings and interpretations for countries and organizations concerning under what circumstances and limitations each party is entering into the agreement.
- Settlement of disputes – Defines the method of dispute resolution.
- Amendments – Defines when and how amendments to the agreement may be submitted, reviewed, and acted upon.

11. Standard Operation Procedures

- These procedures describe in detail the methodology to be followed when the agreement is activated, especially in relation to command and control, fire suppression procedures to be followed, communications systems and safety procedures to be used.
- The SOPs should be tested and refined using tabletop exercises, dry field exercises and low scale operations before being deployed in a full scale emergency.

12. Other Provisions

- Provides the opportunity for any country, agency or organization signing this agreement to define other areas of cooperation that they want to include in the agreement such as:
 - Shared training activities, including materials;
 - Study tours, technical exchanges, and joint exercises;
 - Relationship of this agreement to other agreements;
 - Standards for personnel;
 - Safety equipment;
 - Limitations on the type and use of telecommunications equipment;
 - Method of recall of firefighting resources.

13. Participating Countries/Agencies/Organizations Signature Page

- It is important that all potential participants review and confirm their authorities to sign such an agreement.

Types of Cooperation and Assistance

International cooperation and assistance occurs in a variety of ways. Some agreements are non-reimbursable while others call for reimbursement. Some assistance is offered on a technical non-reimbursable basis and other assistance is offered or solicited during periods of disaster. When countries develop international cooperative agreements the purpose and method of cooperation and assistance need to be clearly identified and understood between all parties. The following describes several types of cooperation and assistance that currently exist.

Mutual Assistance:

Mutual Assistance agreements often deal with fire management issues along shared borders. Assistance by one country to another is usually non-reimbursable with the understanding that both countries may benefit at different times from assistance along mutual borders.

Cooperative Assistance:

These agreements are for assistance and cooperation throughout the countries or states that have signed the agreement, not just for the border areas. These agreements are usually set up on a reimbursable basis.

They may also include non-reimbursable exchanges of experts. These exchanges may include areas such as fire prevention and mitigation, prescribed fire, personnel exchanges, and broad based study tours of fire management programs.

Technical Exchanges:

Activities carried out under technical exchanges are similar to cooperative assistance agreements but are much more informal and exchanges are not always tied directly to an ongoing agreement. These are usually self-funded, non-reimbursable activities that occur on an as needed or as desired basis. They remain at technical and informational exchange level and do not include exchanges of resources to help with direct fire suppression activities.

Technical Assistance:

An offer of or a request for technical assistance may or may not be a part of a formal agreement. Technical assistance provides experts from one country to another country in need of technical assistance, to improve and strengthen the receiving country's abilities and capacity to deal with wildland fire management issues. The goal of technical assistance should be to reduce the need for outside assistance in the future. This type of assistance is usually non-reimbursable and is paid for by the country offering the assistance.

Disaster Assistance:

When wildland fires involve trans-border issues from a humanitarian, ecological, medical, economic, or diplomatic standpoint, some countries will offer immediate disaster assistance to affected countries on a non-reimbursable basis. Disaster assistance is meant to assist the affected country during a critical time period and may or may not be based on existing cooperative agreements. Disaster assistance may be the genesis for future cooperative agreements or technical assistance programs.

Responsibilities of Sending Country and Receiving Countries

Countries sending or receiving assistance through the methods and agreements identified above need to understand that certain responsibilities are inherent in these relationships. The following paragraphs identify the responsibilities of all countries, agencies, or organizations involved. There are certainly more issues than those listed below that should be discussed prior to sending or receiving assistance but the information below attempts to identify some of the key elements of the responsibilities involved in these types of arrangements.

Sending Countries:

It is important to note that as countries enter into formal cooperation agreements with other countries, the success or failure of those agreements rests just as much on the personal conduct of the sending country's representatives as it does on the effectiveness of their fire management capabilities. It is critical to always send the country's most appropriate and qualified personnel, as the receiving country will quickly detect whether they are receiving the help they need or individuals who were selected on rank or seniority and not on skills and capabilities. This is especially critical with reimbursable agreements. Of particular importance is cultural sensitivity towards the people of the receiving country. Personnel being sent will be seen as ambassadors for their country and qualities appropriate to such a role should be included in the selection criteria.

Teams and individuals must also be made aware of local issues dealing with laws, customs, language, dress, food, etc. They must also be briefed on the command and control arrangements and their role and responsibilities within the fire management system of the receiving country.

Sending countries should prepare lists of resources, funding, materials and manpower that may be made available to receiving countries. It is essential that this information is kept accurate and current.

Both sending and receiving countries should maintain and exchange data on the nature, extent and frequency of fires so that the level of assistance sought and made available can be anticipated in any particular season.

Receiving Countries:

Just as sending countries have certain responsibilities, receiving countries must also accept the responsibilities involved in hosting personnel from other countries. Receiving countries must be prepared to brief sending country teams and representatives on the issues mentioned above as well as fire issues such as fuels, weather, topography, safety, management structure on the fires, fire fighting techniques and equipment, types and lengths of assignments, etc. Of particular importance is briefing on communications and legal issues within fire management as well as political and social sensitivities within the wider community. Receiving countries must also be prepared to provide logistical and operational support including welfare support as required.

Conclusion

The fire management issues identified and discussed at the 3rd International Wildland Fire Conference highlight the connections and common concerns of the global community about wildland fire. This Summit represents an extension of the work accomplished at the Conference and provides a mechanism to identify ways to continue that progress. This paper has identified issues and provided a template to encourage countries to cooperate in dealing with wildland fire.

Annex 3

Legislation Specific to Forest Fires

Only the French titles were translated into English, the other denominations not officially translated were left in their original language.

ALBANIA

Instructions No. 778 on protection of forests from insects, pests, fires, and on related expenses, 17 February 1993.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Bush Fires Ordinance (Chapter 301), 14 June 1901.

ARGENTINA

Resolución N° 700/99 - Crea el Registro de consorcios de productores para la prevención y control de incendios en bosques implantados, 8 November 1999.

AUSTRALIA

Victoria: **Forests (Fire Protection) Regulations 2004**, 29 June 2004, implementing the Forestry Act of 1958 (consolidated on 1 August 2004). Its aim is to provide for the protection of State forests, national parks and protected public land from damage by fire.

Queensland: Fire and Rescue Service Act 1990, consolidated 6 December 2002.

Fire and Rescue Service Regulation 2001, implementing the Fire and Rescue Service Act of 1990. Reprinted on 30 August 2002.

BELIZE

National Fire Service Act No. 33 of 2001, establishing a National Fire Service.

Agricultural Fire Act, 28 July 1958. Consolidated on 31 December 2001.

Forest Fire Protection Act, 10 November 1962, consolidated on 31 december 2000, establishing several rules concerning forest fires (prevention, extinguishing, protected areas, protection plans, etc.)

Fire (Negligent Use of) Act, 15 August 1912, consolidated on 31 December 2000, implemented by the Burning of Vegetation Rules of 31 May 2003. This Act prohibits the setting of fire and the negligent use or management of any fire in or upon any land or place and in general creating the danger of fire to any land, forest, wood, cultivated or uncultivated tree, plant or other produce of the soil, etc.

BOLIVIA

Resolución N° 131 - Reglamento especial de desmontes y quemas controladas, 9 June 1997.

BRAZIL

Decree No. 2.959 establishing measures to be applied to combat forest fires, 10 February 1999.

Decree No. 97.635 regulating article 27 of New Forestry Code concerning forest fires, 10 April 1989.

Order No. 292-P approving the model form for obtaining the authorization to light forest fires, 12 October 1988.

Order No. 231-P regulating forest fires according to article 26 of New Forestry Code (Act No. 4.771), 8 August 1988.

Decree No. 2.661 regulating fire lighting during sylvo-pastoralism activity, 8 July 1998, implementing the New Forestry Code (Act n. 4.771), 15 September 1965.

Acre State: Order No. 346 regulating forest fires within the State of Acre, 15 September 1999, implementing Decree No. 2.661 regulating fire lighting during sylvo-pastoral activities, and regulating forest fires within the State of Acre, under the control of the Environmental Institution of Acre.

CANADA

Alberta: Fire Control Zone Regulation, 1983. Consolidation in 2003, and expires in 2005 to ensure its revision.

British Columbia: Forest Fire Prevention and Suppression Regulation, 12 April 1995, reprinted on 5 September 2003.

Ontario: Forest Fires Prevention Act (Chapter F.24), 30 May 1968, reprinted on 2002, dealing with forest fires; forestry protection measures; offences and penalties.

Ontario: Fire Protection and Prevention Act (Chapter F.4), 1997, reprinted on 2004, dealing with forest fires; institution; enforcement and compliance

Manitoba: Wildfires Act, Chapter W128, 28 June 1997, consolidated on 1 January 1998.

Manitoba: Fires Prevention Act (Chapter F80), 1987.

Newfoundland: Forest Fires Act (Chapter 141), 1976.

Newfoundland: Forest Fire Regulations, 11/1996 on the prevention of forest fires and related matters, implementing the Forest Act of 1990.

Newfoundland: Fire Prevention Act, 11 December 1991, revising and consolidating the Law respecting the prevention of fire.

New Brunswick: Regulation 70-42 under the Forest Fires Act, 22 April 1970.

New Brunswick: Forest Fires Act (Chapter 3), 16 April 1970.

New Brunswick: General Regulation (84-204) - Forest Fires Act (O.C. 84-676), 10 August 1984, reprinted on 30 September 2003, establishing categories for which burning permits are required.

Prince Edward Island: (Fire Prevention Act (Chapter F-7), 1969). Fire Prevention Act (Chapter F-11), 1988, dealing with forest fire management

Northwest Territories: Forest Protection Ordinance (Chapter 38), 1 August 1956.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Decree n° 83-127 for the organisation and the operation of the Bushfire National Counsel, 12 March 1983.

Ordinance n° 83-013 on the enactment of the Bushfire National Committee, 7 February 1983.

CHINA

Fire Protection Regulations, 13 May 1984.

COLOMBIA

Decreto N° 2.340 - Medidas para la organización en materia de prevención y mitigación de incendios forestales, 19 September 1997.

Decreto N° 2.762 - Crea el Consejo Nacional de Previsión y Control de Incendios Forestales, 31 December 1973.

Decreto N° 1105 - Crea la Comisión para la prevención, mitigación y control de incendios forestales del departamento del Valle del Cauca y se dictan otras disposiciones, 2001

COMOROS

Decree n° 66-398/PROD on the application and deliberation of the decree n° 65-19 of 14 december 1965 ruling on land clearing and forest fires, 31 March 1966.

Decree n° 65-19 ruling on land clearing and forest fires, 14 December 1965.

COSTA RICA

Decreto N° 29.149/MINAE - Estrategia nacional de manejo del fuego, 13 November 2000.

DOMINICA

Bush Fires Ordinance (Chapter 76), 31 December 1961.

ESTONIA

Regulation No. 46 of 1998 of the Ministry of the Environment regarding approval of fire safety requirements for areas covered with forest or other vegetation, 15 June 1998.

EUROPEAN UNION

Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2121/2004 of 13 December 2004 amending Regulation (EC) No. 1727/1999 laying down certain detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2158/92 on protection of the Community's forests against fire (and Regulation (EC) No. 2278/1999 laying down certain detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3528/86 on the protection of the Community's forests against atmospheric pollution), as regards the competent bodies to be designated by the Member States.

The Council of the European Union Regulation No. 2158/92 of 31 July 1992 on protection of the Community's forests against fire.

Commission Regulation No. 1727/1999 of 28 July 1999 laying down certain detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation No. 2157/92 on protection of the community's forests against fire.

Commission Regulation No. 804/94 of 11 April 1994 laying down certain detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation No. 2158/92 as regards forest fire information systems.

The Council of the European Decision of 2 October 2001 establishing a community mechanism to facilitate reinforced cooperation in civil protection.

FIJI

Forest (Fire Prevention) Regulations, 1972, consolidated in 1985.

FRANCE

Law No. 87-565 on the organisation of civil security, forest protection against fires, and prevention of major hazards.

Decree n° 92-273 relative to operating plans in forest fires high risk areas, 23 March 1992.

Decree n° 2002-679 of 29 April 2002 on the defense and fight against forest fires and on the modification of the Forest Code.

Decree No. 88-622 on emergency plans, for the application of the law No. 87-565 on the organization of civil security, forest protection against fires and the prevention of major hazards, 6 May 1988.

GHANA

Control and Prevention of Bushfires Law, 20 April 1990.

GRENADA

Agricultural Fires Ordinance No. 7 of 1951.

HUNGARY

Decree No. 12 of the Ministry of the Interior on the protection of forests against fire, 26 February 1997, consolidated on 27 April 2001, applicable to forests covered by the Act on Forests and Protection of Forests, providing for the classification of forest land, design of protection plans, prevention and suppression measures, and other related activities regarding forest fires.

INDONESIA

Decree No. 260/Kpts-II/95 of the Ministry of Forestry relative to Guidelines for Efforts to Prevent and Extinguish Forest Fires, 16 May 1995.

ISRAEL

Prevention of Field Fires Law, 1949.

ITALY

Decree-Law No. 130 establishing urgent measures to prevent and combat forest fires throughout the national territory, and concerning interventions in the field of civil protection, environment and agriculture, 19 May 1997.

Decree-Law No. 377 providing emergency measures to deal with forest fires throughout the national territory, 15 June 1994.

Legge 21 novembre 2000, n.353: Legge-quadro in materia di incendi boschivi. This Law sets out the principles governing fire-fighting activities aimed at the protection and conservation of forests. Within this legislative framework, the Regions shall lay down further provisions, in particular approve programmes related to fire prediction, prevention and fighting, without prejudice to the guidelines and directives adopted by the Government.

Decreto Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri (Dip. Protezione Civile) del 20 dicembre 2001: Linea guida relative ai piani regionali per la programmazione delle attività di previsione, prevenzione e lotta attiva contro gli incendi boschivi. This Decree implements Act No. 353 of 2000 on forest fires, under which Regions and the Autonomous Provinces must adopt their own plans to forecast, prevent and combat forest fires.

Basilicata: Regional Act No. 13 on the protection of forests against fires, 22 February 2005. In compliance with the principles and rules laid down in Act No. 353 of 2000, this Regional Act aims at the preservation of regional forests and their protection against fires.

Veneto: Legge regionale 24 gennaio 1992 n.6, Provvedimenti per la prevenzione ed estinzione degli incendi boschivi.

Piemonte: Legge regionale 9 giugno 1994, n. 16: Interventi per la protezione dei boschi dagli incendi. With this Act, the Piemonte Region guarantees the protection of forests by implementing the Regional Plan for the Protection of Forests against Fires (Act n.353, 21 November 2000). For this purpose, the Region shall promote studies and research on fire-fighting methods and equipment, encourage the development of training courses and take measures for the restoration of destroyed or damaged forests.

Puglia: Legge Regionale 30 novembre 2000, n.18: Conferimento di funzioni e compiti amministrativi in materia di boschi e foreste, protezione civile e lotta agli incendi boschivi.

Toscana: Regional Act No. 73 laying down provisions for the prevention of forest fires, 13 August 1996.

Valle d'Aosta: Regional Act No. 85 on the protection of forests against fires, 3 December 1982. This Act aims at the preservation of forests and their protection against fires. The Service for the Protection of the Natural Environment and Forests must develop a special plan subdividing the regional territory into different areas according to fire risks, and arranging fire-fighting activities.

Trento: Provincial Act No. 30 laying down provisions for the protection of forests against fires, 31 October 1977. This Act aims at the prevention of forest fires. It provides for the development of a Provincial Plan for forest fires prevention and fire-fighting activities

Friuli Venezia Giulia: Regional Act No. 8 on the protection of forests against fires, 18 February 1977. This Act aims at the protection of forests against fires. To this end, the regional administration shall draw up a Regional Plan for the Protection of the Forest Heritage against Fires, which shall cover: (a) forest fires risks; (b) prohibitions and measures for forest fire prevention; (c) fire-fighting activities; and (d) institutional arrangements for fire-fighting. A programme for the restoration of forests damaged by fire shall be attached to the plan.

Campania: Regional Act No. 57 on regional interventions to preserve and protect forests against fires, 5 June 1975. With a view to preserving and protecting forests against fires, the regional authority shall: (a) draw up and fund special plans for the prevention of forest fires; (b) adopt programmes for the restoration of forests damaged by fires; (c) draw up education programmes to raise awareness in this field; (d) purchase the necessary equipment for fire prevention.

MADAGASCAR

Decree No. 2002-793 defining the incentive measures for the prevention and suppression of bushfires.

Decree No. 87-143 of 28 April 1987 fixing the modalities for land clearings and forest fires.

Ordinance n° 76-030 édicting exceptional measures for the prosecution of wildfires instigators, infringement provided by the modified Ordinance n° 60-127 of 3 october 1960, 21 August 1976.

Decree n° 61-079 regulating the modalities for the application of the ordinance n° 60-127 of 3 october 1960 regarding land clearings and bushfires regimes, 8 February 1961.

Decree n° 058 for the authorization of pasture fires, 7 January 1961.

Ordinance n° 60-127 fixing the land clearing and bushfires regimes, modified the ordinances n° 62-127 and n° 75-028, 3 October 1960.

MALI

Decree n° 95-2487/MDRE.SG determining the modalities for the early use of fire in the state's forest domain and in decentralized communities, 14 November 1995.

Law n° 86-66/AN-RM – Forest Fire Code, 26 July 1986.

MEXICO

NOMEM-003-SEMARNAP/SAGAR-1996: Uso del fuego en terrenos forestales y agropecuarios, y que establece las especificaciones, criterios y procedimientos para promover y ordenar la participación social y de gobierno en la detección y el combate de los incendios forestales, 6 December 1996.

NOMEM-003-SEMARNAP/SAGAR-1996: Uso del fuego, en terrenos forestales y agropecuarios, y que establece las especificaciones, criterios y procedimientos para ordenar la participación social y de gobierno en la detección y el combate de los incendios forestales, 9 April 1996.

MOROCCO

Decree regarding the measures that shall be taken in order to prevent forest fires, 4 September 1918.

Convention for forest fires surveillance and fighting, 14 October 1976.

NAMIBIA

Policy on Combatting Bushfires in Namibia, Ministry of Regional and Local Government and Housing, 1998.

NEW ZEALAND

Forest and Rural Fires Act No. 52, 1 April 1979.

Forest and Rural Fires Regulations No. 1956/155, 17 November 1956.

NICARAGUA

Decreto N° 37/98 - Medidas para prevenir incendios forestales, 4 May 1998.

Decreto N° 207/DRN/72 - Reglamento de defensa contra incendios forestales, 21 July 1972.

NIGER

Decree No. 0096/SF of 18 January 1955 fixing the conditions of implementation of the Decree of the 12 July 1954 supplementing the decree of the 4 July 1935 fixing the forestry regime in A.O.F.

PORTUGAL

Resolution No. 58/2005, 8 March 2005, establishing a national system of forest fire prevention. It provides for awareness raising measures and creates a body responsible for forest fire control.

Decree-Law No. 156/2004, 30 June 2004, on measures to be implemented under the National System of Forest Fires Prevention and Protection, which include a National Plan for Forest Fires Prevention and Protection, and monitoring activities and authorities.

Order No. 1056/2004, 19 August 2004, on priority areas for the implementation of forest fire prevention and protection measures. Critical areas to be registered as priority areas for implementing these measures are determined based on their economic, social and ecological importance.

Order No. 1061/2004, 21 August 2004, on controlled fires, which can be used for the purposes of forestry, fuel, hunting and agro-pastoral activities, as well as preservation and restoration of habitats and landscapes

Order No. 1060/2004, 24 August 2004, on forest fires zoning, which classifies forests according to the fire risks.

Decree Law No. 94/2004, 22 april 2004, on the Forest Fire Brigade, providing for the fire service structure, fire prevention plans, subsidies for training and equipment, and support to fire fighting.

Law No. 14/2004, 8 May 2004, establishing the Municipal Commissions for Forest Fires Defence. These Commissions shall coordinate all local actions, defending municipal forests against fires

Decree No. 5/2004, 21 April 2004, on the Agency for the Prevention of Forest Fires, which is created to improve the coordination of local and central action for forest fire prevention.

Order No. 449/2001 creating the System to combat fires (SSLI).

Decree-Law No. 179/99, 21 May 1999, creating the Forest Fire Brigade and regulating its activities.

Resolution of the Council of Ministers No. 23/2001 establishing the National Commission for Forest Fires, 7 February 2001.

Order No. 204/2002 amending the Regulation of sub action application no.3.4 “ Prevention of Biotic and Abiotic Risk Agents” of action 3 “Management and ecological forestry sustainable development” under the Agricultural and Rural Development Measure (AGRI) approved by Order No. 52/2001, 29 January.

Decree-Law No. 327/80 providing for the prevention and detection of forestry fires, 26 August 1980.

Law No. 10/81 amending Decree-Law No. 327/80 on forestry fires detection, 10 July 1981.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Federal Law No. 38-FZ, 10 May 2004, amending Federal Law No.69-FZ on fire prevention,.

Ministerial Decree No. 35 regarding the validation of the Federal Special Program "Forest-fire prevention for the period of 1999-2005", 10 January 1999.

Order No. 68, 24 March 1999, of the Federal Forest Service regarding validation of the Recommendations on setting up protective fire-prevention zones within forest areas by means of controlled burning.

Order No. 100, 30 June 1995, of the Federal Forest Service validating the Regulation on detection and suppression of forest fires.

Order No. 290, 29 October 1993, of the Federal Forest Service validating rates of provision of fire prevention and suppression equipment.

Order No. 289, 29 October 1993, of the Federal Forest Service validating the Instruction on forest fire prevention arrangements and the Regulation on the forest fire prevention service,.

Federal Law No. 69-FZ, 21 December 1994, on fire prevention, determining the legal, economic and social basis for ensuring fire prevention, and regulating the relations between relevant bodies (public and private).

SOUTH AFRICA

Fire Protection Association Regulations, 2003, providing for the establishment, registration, duties and functioning of fire protection associations.

National Forest and Fire Laws Amendment Act No. 12, 18 July 2001

National Veld and Forest Fires Act No. 101, 27 November 1998.

Fire Brigade Services Ordinance No. 10, 1978.

SPAIN

Orden por la que se publica el Acuerdo del Consejo de Ministros que aprueba la Directriz Básica de Planificación de Protección Civil de Emergencia por Incendios Forestales, 2 April 1993.

Orden por la que se establecen las bases reguladoras para el otorgamiento de subvenciones para la realización de campañas de prevención de incendios forestales a través de agentes sociales, 2 July 1992.

Resolución of 5 July 2002 – Procedimientos operativos específicos para operaciones de trabajos aéreos y agroforestales.

SYRIA

Resolution No. 41/T creating the Department for Afforestation, Reforestation and Development of Burnt and Destroyed Forests, 28 October 2000.

TANZANIA

Protection of Grassland and Forest from Fire By-Laws, G.N. No. 501 of 1998, 13 December 1996.

TOGO

Ordinance n° 6 portant ruling on bushfires, 15 March 1973.

Decree n° 74-160 supplementing the organization modalities in the fight against bushfires and instituting measures on early fires, 17 October 1974.

Decree n° 84-61 ruling on the provisions laid down at articles 2 and 7 of the ordinance no. 6 et the article no. 1 of the ordinance 84-06, 24 March 1984.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Agricultural Fires Act, Chapter 63:02, 24 November 1965, with the principal aim to make better provisions for the prevention and control of agricultural fires.

TURKMENISTAN

Law on fire safety, 2004, determining the legal relations between state bodies, natural and legal persons, to ensure fire safety in the national territory.

URUGUAY

Decreto N° 111/989 - Prevención de incendios, 14 March 1989.

Decreto N° 849/988 - Combate de incendios forestales, 14 December 1988.

Resolución del poder ejecutivo de 1996 por la cual se crea un Grupo de Trabajo en Prevención y Combate de Incendios Forestales, integrado por los Ministerios de Interior, Relaciones Exteriores, Vivienda Ordenamiento Territorial y Medio Ambiente, Transporte y Obras Públicas, Ganadería Agricultura y Pesca, la Oficina de Planeamiento y Presupuesto y la Sociedad de Productores Forestales.

VIET NAM

Joint Circular No. 144/2002/TTLT/BNNPTNT-BCA-BPQ, 13 December 2002, on coordination among Forest Rangers, Public Security and Army Forces in protecting forests.

Directive No. 21/2002/CT-TTg of 12 December 2002, enhancing rules on forest fire prevention and fighting.

Decision No. 76/2002/QĐ-BNN of August 22, 2002 stipulating the functions, tasks and organizational structure of Forest Protection Technical Centers No. I and II under the Ranger Department.

Law on Fire Prevention and Fighting of August 12, 2001, dealing with the prevention, the evaluation of danger, safety protection areas and fire fighting activities.

Order No. 08/2001/L/CTN of July 12, 2001 on the Promulgation of Law: Law on Fire Prevention and Fighting.

Decision No. 86/1998/QĐ-TTg on the establishment of the Central Steering Committee for Forest Fire Prevention and Fight, 21 April 1998.

Directive No. 19/1998/CT-TTg on urgent measures to combat forest fires, 17 April 1998.

Annex 4

Forestry-Related Legislation Covering Forest Fires

Only the French titles were translated into English, the other denominations which were not officially translated were left in their original language.

ALGERIA

1. Law n° 84-12 ruling on the general forest regime, 23 June 1984.

Contents: forest management; public forest; land clearing; forest fires; pests/diseases; agro-forestry/sylvo-pastoralism; traditional customary rights; planning; inventory; classification/declassification; protection forest; afforestation/reforestation; soil conservation/erosion; offences/penalties; private forest; forest service/forest officers; forest protection measures.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

1. Forestry Act (Cap. 178), 1941.

Contents: forest management; afforestation; protected area; timber extraction/logging; offences/penalties.

Article specific to Forest Fires: 6

2. Forestry Regulations (Cap. 178), 1941. Consolidated 1952.

Contents: forest management; afforestation/reforestation; protected area; timber extraction/logging; forest fires; grazing/transhumance; offences/penalties

Article specific to Forest Fires: 3

ARGENTINA

1. Ley N° 13.273 - Ley de defensa de la riqueza forestal, 30 September 1948.

Contents: forest management; forest protection measures; afforestation/reforestation; public forest; forest fires; legal/administrative proceedings

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24

AUSTRALIA

1. Queensland: Forestry Act, an Act to provide for forest reservations, the management, silvicultural treatment and protection of State forests, and the sale and disposal of forest products and quarry material, the property of the Crown on State forests, timber reserves and on other lands; and for other purposes, 1959 – Reprinted as in force on 3 March 2005

Contents: basic legislation; forest management/forest conservation; forestry protection measures; public forest; forest fires; forest service/forest officers.

Articles specific to forest fires: 39 A, 58, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69.

2. Forestry Regulation of 24 September 1998, reprinted 1 July 2005

Contents: covers activities in recreation areas, including camping and fire control, and activities in state forests and timber reserves, including fire control.

Articles specific to forest fires: 7, 11, 12

2. Victoria: Forests Act, 1958, to consolidate the Law for the Management and Protection of State Forests, consolidated 1 August 2004. It is implemented by the Forests (Fire Protection) Regulations of 29 June 2004.

Contents: basic legislation; enforcement/compliance; environmental planning; forest fires; forest management/forest conservation; forestry licence/permit; forestry protection measures; institution; protected area; public forest

Articles specific to forest fires: 62, 62-A, 62 B, 62 C, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 70, 71.

3. Victoria: Sustainable Forests (Timber) Act, 16 June 2004, consolidated 1 August 2004

Contents: provides a framework for sustainable forest management and sustainable timber harvesting in State forests. Part 8 deals with fire prevention and suppression.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 18, 78 to 83, 112, 113, 115, 122

4. Victoria: Forests (Murrindindi Scenic Reserve) Regulations of 13 April 1999

Contents: provide for the management and conservation of the Murrindindi Scenic Reserve, and regulate fires in this protected area.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 3, 6, 8

5. New South Wales: Forestry Regulation of 27 August 1999, reprinted 1 January 2005.

Contents: regulates forestry operations, including fire controls.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 11, 16 to 30, 58

BELGIUM

1. Forest Decree of 13 June 1990.

Contents: basic legislation; forest management/forest conservation; forest service/forest officers; afforestation/reforestation; land clearing; private forest; forestry protection measures; subsidy/incentive; public forest; recreational forest

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 20, 69, 98, 102, 104

BELIZE

1. Forest Rules, 1980.

Contents: forestry licence/permit; protection forest; timber extraction/logging; logging fee/charge; forest fires; transport/storage; marking

Article specific to Forest Fires: 24

BENIN

1. Loi n° 93-009 ruling on the forest regime in the Republic of Benin, 2 July 1993.

Contents: public forest; private forest; soil conservation; protection forest; classification/declassification;

traditional rights/customary rights; forestry licence/permit; planning; forest management; contract/agreement; timber extraction/logging; marking; forest fires; agro-forestry/sylvo-pastoralism; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 56, 57

2. Decree n° 96-271 ruling on the application modalities of the law n° 93-009, 2 July 1996.

Contents: public forest; private forest; soil conservation; protection forest; classification/declassification; traditional rights/customary rights; forestry licence/permit; planning; forest management; contract/agreement; timber extraction/logging; marking; forest fires; agro-forestry/sylvo-pastoralism; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 76, 77, 78, 79

BOLIVIA

1. Ley N° 1.700 - Ley Forestal, 12 July 1996.

Contents: afforestation; forestry institution; concession; forestry licence/permit; ecosystem preservation; forest management; legal/administrative proceedings; contract/agreement; forest protection measures; offences/penalties

Article specific to Forest Fires: 42

2. Decreto Supremo N° 24.453 - Reglamento de la nueva Ley Forestal, 21 December 1996.

Contents: forestry licenses; forest management; legal/administrative proceedings; afforestation/reforestation; timber extraction/logging; forest fires; forestry institution; inventory; timber; inspection; land clearing; forest service/forest officers; public forest; protected area

Article specific to Forest Fires: 87

BOTSWANA

1. Forest Act, 10 March 1968.

Contents: protection forest; timber extraction/logging; forest management; forestry licence/permit; forest fires; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 12, 13, 17, 30

BRAZIL

1. Order No. 1.846/70 establishing forest protective measures and implementing New Forestry Code (Act No. 4.771), 26 October 1970.

Contents: forest management; forest fires; forest protection measures

Article specific to Forest Fires: 1

2. Resolution Conama No. 11 establishing protective measures for protected areas, 14 December 1988.

Contents: protected area; forest fires; ecosystem preservation

Article specific to forest fires: 3

BULGARIA

1. Law on Forests, 1997, amended.

Contents: Chapter V on “Protection of the forests and lands of the forest fund” provides for people involvement in forest fire control, including the responsibilities of private owners.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 14.6, 25.6, 34.5, 42.2, 58.3, 68.11, 74.2, 76-a, 77, 81, 94.7, 95.17

BURKINA FASO

1. Law n° 006/97/ADP ruling on the forestry code of Burkina Faso.

Contents: forest management; special fund; public forest; classification; private forest; timber extraction ; logging

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 52, 53, 88, 117, 131, 169, 258, 259, 260

2. Ordinance No. 85-47 of 29 august 1985 ruling on bushfires, the exploitation of coal and fuelwood, and domestic animals.

Contents: forest management/forest conservation; forest fires; fuelwood; charcoal

Articles specific to forest fires: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

BURUNDI

1. Law n° 1-02 – forestry code, 25 March 1985.

Contents: planning; forest management; public forest; timber extraction/logging; private forest; traditional customary rights; land clearing; forest fires; protection forest; mountain area; afforestation/reforestation; soil conservation/erosion; forestry seeds/planting material; forest protection measures; protected area; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102

CAMBODIA

Forestry Law, 2002.

Contents: The Act establishes a general prohibition to set fires in the Permanent Forest Estate (except for the Forest Administration), provides for the creation of Forest Fire-Fighters Committees, and for penalties in case of violations.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 36, 37, 97

CAMEROON

1. Law n° 94/01 ruling on forest, fauna and fisheries regimes, 20 January 1994.

Contents: basic forestry legislation; offences/penalties; forest protection measures

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 14, 154

2. Decree n° 95-531/PM fixing the application modalities of the forest regime, 23 August 1995.

Contents: forest fires; land clearing; forest management; protected area; classification/declassification; public forest; social forestry/community forestry; private forest; forestry institution; inventory; planning; timber extraction/logging; contract/agreement; concession; forestry licence/permit; non-timber products; fuelwood; EIA-Environmental Impact Assessment; processing/handling; internal trade; offences/penalties; non-governmental entity.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

CANADA

1. British Columbia: Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act (Chapter 159), 6 July 1990.

Contents: forestry institution; forest management; forestry licence/permit; timber; forest fires; agro-forestry/sylvo-pastoralism; environmental institution; management/conservation; authorization/permit; environmental planning; biodiversity

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95

2. Québec: Law on forests, 19 December 1986, updated 1 June 2005.

Contents: Chapter I of Title III deals with forest fires

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 3, 79, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 172-11, 13), 14), 185 – 6), 7), 8), 186.8 – 2).

3. Alberta: Forest and Prairie Protection Regulations - Part II, 1972.

Contents: forest management; management/conservation; inland waters; forest fires; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20

4. Alberta: Forest and Prairie Protection Act, 16 April 1971. Consolidation in 2001.

Contents: forest management; forest fires; forestry institution; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 4, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17 to 30, 31, 36

5. Alberta: Forest and Prairie Protection Regulations, 1972.

Contents: forest management; forest fires; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 3, 4, 5, 8

6. New Brunswick: Crown Lands and Forests Act (Chapter C-38.1), 16 July 1980, reprinted 21 January 2005.

Contents: This Act prescribes the development of fire protection plans, and sets out the powers of the Minister in this regard

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 29(4), 38, 73, 95

7. Newfoundland: Forest Land Management and Taxation Regulations n. 961/1996.

Contents: These Regulations on forest land taxation provide that the “annual tax rate” must take into consideration the costs related to of forests fires.

Article specific to Forest Fires: 2-b

8. Newfoundland: Forest Travel Restricted Area Order, 23 May 1975.

Contents: protection forest; forest fires; forest management; forestry institution

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 6, 7

9. Northwest territories: Forest Protection Act, 1988.

Contents: This Act sets provisions to secure the protection of forests in Northwest Territories. It covers fire suppression measures, fire fighting equipment, competent enforcement officers, and offences and penalties.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9 to 15, 19, 20, 24, 27, 28

10. Nunavut: Forest Protection Act, 1988.

Contents: This Act provides for the protection of forests against fires. It contains provisions on competent officers, forest fire management, clearing of areas at risks, and offences and penalties.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9 to 15, 19, 20, 24, 27, 28

11. Saskatchewan: Forest Act (Chapter 49), 1965, consolidated in 1973.

Contents: timber extraction/logging; transport/storage; forestry licence/permit; forest management; forest fires; protection forest; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 4, 5, 12, 19, 34, 35, 36, 37, 42

12. Yukon: Forest Protection Regulation 57/2003, updated 24 November 2004.

Contents: The Regulations provide definitions related to forest fires and determines protection measures.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12.

13. Yukon: Forest Protection Act, 2002.

Contents: This Act contains provisions on forest fire prevention and management, and on related matters.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 1, 8 to 23, 25, 29, 30, 33.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

1. Law 90-003 on Central African Forest Code of 9 June 1990.

Contents: basic legislation; forest management/forest conservation; public forest; protected area; forestry licence/permit; planning; traditional rights/customary rights; land clearing; timber extraction/logging; processing/handling; private forest; social forestry/community forestry; classification/declassification; logging fee/charge; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 13, 45, 94

CHINA:

1. Forestry Act, 23 February 1979.

Contents: public forest; forest management; forestry institution; inventory; planning; special fund; forest fires; land clearing; protected area; protection forest; mountain area; timber extraction/logging; forestry licence/permit; transport/storage; offences/penalties; forest service/forest officers

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22

COMOROS:

1. Decree n° 55-582 on the protection of forests in African territories under the French Ministry for overseas departments, 20 May 1955.

Contents: forest management; classification/declassification; protection forest; traditional rights/customary rights; forest fires; afforestation/reforestation; forest protection measures

Article specific to Forest Fires: 7

CONGO, REPUBLIC OF:

1. Law n° 16-2000 on the forestry code, 20 November 2000.

Contents: classification/declassification; public forest; protection forest; afforestation/reforestation; protected area; traditional rights/customary rights; forest management; planning; special fund; timber extraction/logging; forestry licence/permit; forest fires; logging fee/charge

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 137, 138, 139, 140

2. Law No. 32-82 modifying the Law No. 004-74 on the Forestry Code.

Contents: classification/declassification; public forest; protection forest; afforestation/reforestation; protected area; traditional rights/customary rights; forest management/forest conservation; planning; inventory; special fund; timber extraction/logging; contract/agreement; forestry licence/permit; forest fires; right of use.

Articles specific to forest fires: 81-82

3. Law No. 4-74 on the Forestry Code, 4 January 1974.

Contents: basic legislation; classification/declassification; public forest; protection forest; afforestation/reforestation; protected area; traditional rights/customary rights; forest management/forest conservation; planning; inventory; special fund; timber extraction/logging; contract/agreement; forestry licence/permit; forest fires; right of use.

Articles on forest fires: 15, 22, 81, 82, 83

CONGO, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF:

1. Law No. 011/2002 of 29 august 2002 – forestry code.

Contents: basic legislation; afforestation/reforestation; classification/declassification; concession; forest fires; forest management/forest conservation; forestry protection measures; inventory; land clearing; public forest; right of use; social forestry/community forestry; species; timber; timber extraction/logging; logging fee/charge

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 45, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64

CROATIA

1. Law on Forests, 04 December 1990.

Contents: basic legislation; institution; protection forest; timber extraction/logging; public forest; protected area; planning; afforestation; classification; forest management; offences/penalties; forest fires

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 17, 43, 49, 51, 73, 77, 83, 84, 87

2. Amendments of the Law on Forests of 22 February

Contents: forest fires; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 85a

CUBA:

1. Resolución N° 330/99 - Reglamento de la Ley Forestal, 7 September 1999.

Contents: forest management; forestry institution; forest protection measures; afforestation/reforestation; forest service/forest officers; subsidy/incentive; classification/declassification; protection forest; timber extraction/logging; transport/storage; internal trade; contract/agreement; legal/administrative proceedings; zoning; exotic species; pests/diseases; agro-forestry/sylvo-pastoralism; forest fires; land clearing

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147

2. Ley N° 85 - Ley Forestal, 21 July 1998.

Contents: forest management; agro-forestry; mountain area; forestry institution; forest protection measures; afforestation; concession; contract/agreement; forest service/forest officers

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 1, 2, 7, 9, 50, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64

DOMINICA

1. Central Water Authority Regulations, 1972 S.R.O. No. 1 of 1973, 15 March 1972.

Contents: protection forest; forest fires

Articles specific to forest fires: 56

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC:

1. Ley N° 118 - Código Forestal, 23 December 1999.

Contents: forestry institution; forest management; zoning; afforestation/reforestation; public forest; timber extraction/logging; forest protection measures; special fund; forest service/forest officers; classification/declassification; logging fee/charge; protection forest; catchment/watershed; protected area; forestry licence/permit; transport/storage; forest fires; research; subsidy/incentive; legal/administrative proceedings

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 67, to 86

2. Reglamento Forestal, Junio 2004

Contents: basic legislation; institutions; forest management; public forest; private forest; forest fire; extraction/logging; forest protection measures; afforestation/reforestation

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 47 to 54

EL SALVADOR

1. Decreto No. 852 – Ley Forestal.

Contents: basic legislation; institution; afforestation/reforestation; forest management/forest conservation; forest fires; forest service/forest officers; public forest; timber extraction/logging; timber; private forest; non-timber products; land clearing; forestry seeds/planting material

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 25-26-27

ETHIOPIA:

1. Forestry Conservation, Development and Utilization Proclamation No. 94, 1994.

Contents: forest management; private forest; public forest; protected area; forest service/forest officers; offences/penalties

Article specific to Forest Fires: 5, 6, 8, 16

2. Protection of Private Forests Regulations, L.N. No. 343, 30 September 1968.

Contents: forest management/forest conservation; private forest; forest fires; offences/penalties.

Articles specific to forest fires: 4, 5

EUROPEAN UNION

1. Regulation (EC) No. 2152/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning monitoring of forests and environmental interactions in the Community (Forest Focus), 17 November 2003.

Contents: forest management/forest conservation; monitoring; forest fires; access-to-information; data collection.

Articles specific to forest fires: 1, 2, 3, 5, 13, 16

FIJI:

1. Forest Decree No. 31, 12 May 1992.

Contents: public forest; private forest; forest management; forestry institution; protection forest; timber extraction/logging; forestry licenses; traditional customary rights; forest fires; classification/declassification; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 23, 24, 25, 26, 27

FRANCE:

1. Law n° 92-613 modifying the forestry code and ruling on diverse agricultural and hunting provisions, 6 July 1992.

Contents: forest protection measures; forest fires; agro-forestry/sylvo-pastoralism

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 5, 12

2. Law n° 2001-602 on forestry orientation, 9 July 2001.

Contents: basic forestry legislation; forestry institution; forest management

Article specific to Forest Fires: 33

3. Décret n° 97-1163 modifiant le Code forestier et portant déconcentration des décisions relatives aux aménagements des forêts, aux défrichement de forêts incendiées et aux transactions en matière d'infractions à la législation sur le défrichement du 17 décembre 1997.

Contents: forestry protection measures; forest fires; forest management/forest conservation; forest service/forest officers; land clearing

Article specific to forest fires: 4

4. Decree n° 79-113 – forestry code, regulation part, 25 January 1979.

Contents: forestry institution; forest service/forest officers; timber extraction/logging; forest protection measures; agro-forestry/sylvo-pastoralism; traditional rights/customary rights; public forest; fuelwood; forest management; offences/penalties; private forest; planning; afforestation/reforestation; land clearing; forest fires; protection forest; soil conservation/erosion; mountain area; inventory; special fund; species; forestry seeds/planting material; external trade; non-governmental entity

Article specific to Forest Fires: 321

GAMBIA:

1. Forest Act, 1998.

Contents: forest management; forestry institution; planning; forest protection measures; forestry licence/permit; contract/agreement; social forestry/community forestry; special fund; dispute settlement; private forest; public forest; protection forest; protected area; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 85, 87, 88, 109, 112, 113, 116, 117, 118

2. Forest Regulations, L.N. No. 12, 2 February 1978.

Contents: protection forest; timber extraction/logging; forest fires; soil conservation/soil improvement; offences/penalties.

Articles specific on forest fires: 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 16.

GRENADA

1. Protected Forests (Tuilleries-Bagatelle) Rules, 18 March 1946.

Contents: In protected forests areas, no person shall light any fire without written approval of the Chief Forest .

GUATEMALA:

1. Decreto N° 101/96 - Ley Forestal, 30 October 1996.

Contents: forestry institution; forest management; forestry licence/permit; private forest; public forest; afforestation/reforestation; timber extraction/logging; forest fires; forestry seeds/planting material; non-timber products

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 2, 36, 37, 38, 48, 57, 93, 116

GUINEA:

1. Law n° L99/013/AN adopting and promulgating the law in the forestry code, 22 June 1999.

Contents: public forest; basic forestry legislation; planning; forestry institution; forest management; social forestry/community forestry; classification/declassification; inventory; timber extraction/logging; contract/agreement; forestry licence/permit; protection forest; forest fires; afforestation/reforestation; special fund; forest service/forest officers

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87

2. Decree n° 227/PRG/SGG/89 on the application of the forestry code, 20 December 1989.

Contents: public forest; basic forestry legislation; planning; forestry institution; forest management; social forestry/community forestry; classification/declassification; registration; timber extraction/logging; contract/agreement; forestry licence/permit; afforestation/reforestation; transport/storage; land clearing; species; protected area; forest fires; traditional rights/customary rights; special fund; offences/penalties; protection forest

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 60, 61, 62

3. Ordinance No. 081/PRG/SGG/89 on the Forestry Code, 20 December 1989.

Contents: public forest; basic legislation; planning; institution; forest management/forest conservation; social forestry/community forestry; classification/declassification; registration; timber extraction/logging; contract/agreement; forestry licence/permit; afforestation/reforestation; transport/storage; land clearing; forest species; protected area; forest fires; traditional rights/customary rights; special fund; offences/penalties; protection forest.

Articles specific to forest fires: 65 to 71

GUINEA-BISSAU:

2. Decree-Law No. 4-A/91 approving the Forestry Act, 29 October 1991.

Contents: forestry institution; special fund; timber extraction/logging; classification/declassification; forestry licence/permit; forest fires; forest protection measures; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47

GUYANA

1. Forests Act, 2 May 1953. Consolidated in 1973.

Contents: public forest; timber extraction/logging; timber; forest fires; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 15, 16, 42

HAITI

1. Decree-law on forestry regulations, 23 June 1937.

Contents: forest protection measures; forest management; forest fires; land clearing; agro-forestry/sylvo-pastoralism; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 1, 3

HONDURAS

1. Decreto N° 85/72 - Ley Forestal, 10 February 1972.

Contents: forestry institution; forest management; forest protection measures; public forest; inventory; forest service/forest officers; afforestation; timber extraction/logging; agro-forestry; land clearing; forestry licence/permit; concession

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 42 to 50, 52, 53, 54, 64, 114

2. Acuerdo N° 634/84 - Reglamento general forestal, 9 April 1984.

Contents: forestry institution; non-governmental entity; public forest; private forest; social forestry/community forestry; inventory; forest fires; land clearing; afforestation/reforestation; timber extraction/logging; logging fee/charge; internal trade; research

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 91 to 120

INDONESIA

1. Government Regulation No. 34/2002 concerning forest structuring and making of forest management plans, utilization of forests and use of forest areas, 08 June 2002.

Contents: The purpose of this Regulation is to design and plan activities related to forest structuring and making of forest management plans, utilization of forests and use of forest areas.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: Section 12 Letter c), 47 Letter e), 92 Letter a),

2. Government Regulation No. 28 re Forest Protection, 7 June 1985.

Contents: forest management; protected area; classification/declassification; protection forest; soil conservation/erosion; forest fires; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 3, 10

ISRAEL

1. Forest Ordinance, 1926.

Contents: forest management; protected area; species; forestry licence/permit; forest fires; timber extraction/logging; protected plant/protected tree

Articles specific to Forest Fires: Miscellaneous provisions

ITALY

1. Lombardia: Regional Act No. 3/2002 on the Regional Agency for agricultural and the forests services (Ente Regionale per i Servizi dell'Agricoltura e delle Foreste), 12 January 2002.

Contents: The Agency's functions include the management and protection of forests, in particular against fires.

Article specific to forest fires: 3. 2.

2. Lombardia: Regional Act No. 27/2000 on forestry incentives.

Contents: The Lombardia Region must establish plans for forest fire control and may receive assistance to this end.

Article specific to forest fires: 3-b, 6, 12. 4, 21. 8

3. Lombardia: Tutela dell'ambiente naturale: Protezione della natura, L.R. 27 gennaio 1977, n.9.

Contents: This Act provides for reforestation after fires, and for the prevention and suppression of fires in protected areas. .

Article specific to forest fires: 3, 5. 2, 10

4. Bolzano: Legge provinciale 21 ottobre 1996 n.21: Ordinamento forestale

Contents: forestry protection measures; forest management/forest conservation; public forest; private forest; protection forest; agro-forestry/silvo-pastoralism; pests/diseases; grazing/transhumance; forest fires; expropriation; mountain area; special fund; subsidy/incentive; authorization/permit; inspection; offences/penalties; planning; institution

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 25, 26, 27, 28, 29

5. Liguria: Legge regionale n.4 del 22-01-1999: Norme in materia di foreste e di asseto idrogeologico.

Contents: afforestation/reforestation; forest fires; forest management/forest conservation; forestry protection measures; offences/penalties; planning

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46

6. Umbria: Legge regionale n. 28 del 19-11-2001: Testo unico regionale per le foreste.

Contents: This Regional Act lays down rules to arrange and coordinate fire prediction, prevention and fighting activities. The Regional Authority is responsible for the co-ordination of these activities.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24

7. Toscana: Legge Regionale 2 gennaio 2003, n. 1 Modifiche alla legge regionale 21 marzo 2000, n. 39 (Legge forestale della Toscana).

Contents: forest management/forest conservation; afforestation/reforestation; protection forest; institution; offences/penalties; planning; forest fires

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 21, 26, 42, 44, 45, 46, 47, 50, 51, 52, 66

8. Toscana: Regolamento forestale della Toscana DPGR 8 Agosto 2003, n.48/R

Contents: forest management/forest conservation; forestry protection measures; plant protection; pests/diseases; protected plant/protected tree; land clearing; authorization/permit; soil conservation/soil improvement; erosion; afforestation/reforestation; agro-forestry/silvo-pastoralism; protection forest; grazing/transhumance; forest fires

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 62, 63, 64, 66, 67

9. Toscana: Regional Act No.39 on Forestry of 21 March 2000.

Contents: forest management/forest conservation; afforestation/reforestation; mountain area; inventory; forest fires; land clearing; protected plant/protected tree; offences/penalties

Articles specific to forest fires: 2 c), 17, 27, 29, 69, 70, 71, 72, 74, 75, 76

10. Lazio: Legge Regionale N. 39 Del 28-10-2002: Norme in materia di gestione delle risorse forestali.

Contents: afforestation/reforestation; agro-forestry/silvo-pastoralism; ecosystem preservation; expropriation; forest fires; forest management/forest conservation; forestry seeds/planting material; inventory; offences/penalties; pests/diseases; planning; plant protection; private forest; protection forest; public forest; subsidy/incentive; access-to-information

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72

11. Molise: Legge Regionale 18 gennaio 2000, n. 6.

Contents: forest management/forest conservation; afforestation/reforestation; soil conservation/soil improvement; forest fires; protected plant/protected tree

Articles specific to forest fires: 1 b), 2 e), 9 (5)c), 14

12. Sicilia: Regional Act No. 16 re-arranging the legislation relating to forestry and vegetation protection, 6 April 1996.

Contents: forestry protection measures; forest fires; inventory; forest service/forest officers; afforestation/reforestation; expropriation; public forest; planning; institution.

Articles specific to forest fires: 29, 33, 34(2), 36(2), 37, 38, 39, 40(3), 41, 42, 43, 45, 56, 57, 62, 64, 68, 81

13. Sicilia: Regional Act No. 11 laying down provisions on forest interventions, 5 June 1989.

Contents: forest management/forest conservation; planning; forest fires; expropriation; public forest.

Articles specific to forest fires: 2, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20

14. Friuli Venezia Giulia: Decree No. 32 on the preservation and utilization of forests and the protection of lands subjected to particular hydrogeological restrictions

Contents: forest management and conservation, including protection measures

Articles specific to forest fires: 22, 26, 27, 29, 51

15. Friuli-Venezia Giulia: Regional Act No. 22 in matter of afforestation, 2 April 1982.

Contents: afforestation/reforestation; forest fires; forest management/forest conservation; inventory; planning.

Articles specific to forest fires: 13

16. Sardegna: Regional Act No. 24, 9 June 1999

Contents: establishment of Forest Entity responsible for anti-fire campaigns.

Articles specific to forest fires: 3

17. Regional Act No. 6 on forestry, 23 February 2005.

Contents: provides for the protection of forests against fires (periods for burnings, security distances, protected areas, etc.)

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 12, 19

IVORY COAST:

1. Law n° 65-425 – forestry code, 20 December 1965.

Contents: public forest; traditional rights/customary rights; timber extraction/logging; private forest; afforestation/reforestation; forest fires; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 32, 33, 34, 35

LAOS

1. Decree on the Management and use of Forests and Forested Lands, Council of Ministers Decree No. 117/CCM.

Contents: forest management/forest conservation; forest service/forest officers; planning; afforestation/reforestation; authorization/permit; forestry licence/permit; land clearing; logging fee/charge; planning; social forestry/community forestry; subsidy/incentive

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 9

LESOTHO

1. Forestry Act No. 17, 18 December 1998.

Contents: forest management; forest protection measures; planning; forestry institution; special fund; social forestry/community forestry; protection forest; agro-forestry/sylvo-pastoralism; timber extraction/logging; forestry licence/permit; forest fires; pests/diseases; protected area; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 26, 27

LITHUANIA

1. Forestry Law No. I-671, 22 November 1994.

Contents: classification/declassification; private forest; forestry institution; public forest; special fund; forestry licence/permit; timber extraction/logging; planning; registration; forest management; forest fires; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 3, 8, 9, 10, 13, 18, 19, 20, 21

MADAGASCAR

1. Law n° 97-017 revising forestry legislation, 8 August 1997.

Contents: public forest; timber extraction/logging; forestry licence/permit; forest management; private forest; protection forest; traditional rights/customary rights; forest fires; social forestry/community forestry; mangroves; wetlands; special fund; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 42, 51, 54

MALI

1. Law n° 95-004 fixing the management conditions of forest resources, 18 January 1995.

Contents: forest management; public forest; classification/declassification; planning; timber extraction/logging; traditional rights/customary rights; forest fires; agro-forestry/sylvo-pastoralism; social forestry/community forestry; protection forest; private forest; offences/penalties; timber; land clearing; forestry licence/permit; contract/agreement

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 21, 22, 23, 42, 44, 48

MAURITANIA

1. Law n° 97-007 repealing and replacing the ordinance no. 82-171 – forestry code, 20 January 1997.

Contents: land clearing; forestry licence/permit; forest management; public forest; protected area; afforestation/reforestation; classification/declassification; traditional rights/customary rights; agro-forestry/sylvo-pastoralism; timber extraction/logging; private forest; transport/storage; forest fires; offences/penalties; social forestry/community forestry

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35

MEXICO

1. Ley Forestal, 17 December 1992.

Contents: forestry institution; planning; timber extraction/logging; afforestation/reforestation; transport/storage; forest service/forest officers; protected area; forest fires; forest protection measures; research; inspection; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 5, 12, 27, 28, 29, 45, 46

2. Reforma a la Ley Forestal, 29 April 1997.

Contents: forest management; afforestation/reforestation; forestry institution; registration; inventory; legal/administrative proceedings; timber; transport/storage; forest service/forest officers; forest fires; inspection

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 3, 5, 12, 17, 29, 43, 47

3. Reglamento de la Ley Forestal, 23 September 1998.

Contents: forest management; forestry institution; forest service/forest officers; protected area; registration; concession; forestry licence/permit; forest fires; pests/diseases; afforestation/reforestation; timber extraction/logging

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 3, 11, 21, 22, 25, 26, 37, 45, 47, 75, 81, 84, 85, 86, 95

4. Ley de Desarrollo Forestal Sustentable, 21 February 2003.

Contents: basic legislation; institution; planning; timber extraction/logging; afforestation/reforestation; transport/storage; forest service/forest officers; protected area; forest fires; forestry protection measures; research; inspection; offences/penalties; ecosystem preservation; legal proceedings/administrative proceedings

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 122, 123, 124, 125

MONGOLIA

1. Forest Law, 31 March 1995.

Contents: forest management; timber; non-timber products; classification/declassification; protected area; forestry licence/permit; forest fires; afforestation/reforestation; timber extraction/logging; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 4, 9, 18, 19, 23, 26, 31

MOROCCO

1. Dahir on the conservation and exploitation of forests, modified, 10 October 1917. Modified in 1959 and 1960.

Contents: forest management; forest protection measures; private forest; public forest; soil conservation; timber extraction/logging; forestry licence/permit; contract/agreement; traditional rights/customary rights; afforestation/reforestation; land clearing; offences/penalties; forest fires

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56

MOZAMBIQUE

1. Lei nr. 10/99 De 07 de Julho

Contents: Protection of forest/fauna; forest resources; sustainable management; reforestation; inspections; offences and penalties.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 36, 40

2. Resolução no. 8/97 de 1 de Abril, Política e Estratégia de Desenvolvimento de Florestas e Fauna Bravia

Contents: Macro-economic policies; forest resources exploitation; forest management; reforestation; forest fires; implementation of strategies and policies; involvement of local communities; surveillance.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 53, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 66, 67

NAMIBIA

1. Forest Act, No. 12, 2001.

Contents: provides for the possibility to establish fire management areas and plans, and prohibits to light or cause fires in protected areas.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 36 to 42

NICARAGUA

1. Acuerdo N° 146/98 - Restauración y defensa del patrimonio forestal, 5 June 1998.

Contents: forest management; forest protection measures; afforestation/reforestation; forest fires; subsidy/incentive

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 1, 4

NIGER

1. Law n° 74-7 fixing the forestry regime, 4 March 1974.

Contents: public forest; traditional rights/customary rights; agro-forestry/sylvo-pastoralism; forest fires; timber extraction/logging; private forest; afforestation/reforestation; logging fee/charge; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 18, 19, 20

2. Decree n° 74-226/PCMS/MER/CAP fixing the conditions of application of the law n° 74-7 fixing the forestry regime, 23 August 1974.

Contents: classification/declassification; traditional rights/customary rights; agro-forestry/sylvo-pastoralism; contract/agreement; forestry licence/permit; forest fires; timber extraction/logging; logging fee/charge; private forest; transport/storage; afforestation/reforestation; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 28, 29, 30, 31

NIGERIA

1. Forest Law, 1956

Contents: forest management; protection forest; protected area; private forest; forestry licence/permit; logging fee/charge; timber extraction/logging; offences/penalties

Article specific to Forest Fires: 33

2. Eastern Nigeria: Forest Regulations, 1956.

Contents: forest management; protection forest; forestry licence/permit; timber extraction/logging; marking; forest fires; offences/penalties

Article specific to Forest Fires: 7

PAKISTAN

1. North-West Frontier Province Forest Ordinance, 2002.

Contents: prohibits to set fires in protected areas, and directs people working in these areas to take part in fires prevention and suppression activities.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 26, 29, 33, 34, 44, 45, 62, 90

PERU

1. Ley N° 25.268 - Declara de necesidad pública e interés nacional la protección, preservación o reforestación de pastos naturales y árboles, existentes en el territorio nacional, 20 June 1990.

Contents: forest management; afforestation/reforestation; forest fires; crops/grasses

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 2, 3, 4, 5

PORTUGAL

1. Regional Decree No. 26/2005/M, 7 July 2005.

Contents: establishes the Regional Directorate for Forestry, which is responsible for forest fire prevention and detection, and investigations on forest fire causes.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 24

2. Order No. 52/2001 approving the programme for the prevention of biotic and abiotic agents and sustainable exploitation of forests, 29 January 2001.

Contents: forest management; subsidy/incentive; forest fires; pests/diseases

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 2, 3, 10, 19

3. Order No. 533-D/2000 approving the application rules of actions 3.1 and 3.2: Silviculture support and Reestablishment production potential in the Agriculture and Rural Development Operational Programme of 1 August 2000.

Contents: afforestation/reforestation; subsidy/incentive; agricultural development; soil conservation/soil improvement; erosion; forest fires

Articles specific to forest fires: 2, 4, 12, 47

4. Madeira: Regional Decree No. 1/99/M approving the Statute of the Forestry Guard, 5 January 1999.

Contents: wildlife institution; forestry institution; forest fires

Article specific to Forest Fires: 4

5. Order No. 49/97 giving a new classification to the Natural Reserve of Paul de Boquilobo, 20 November 1997.

Contents: classification/declassification; forest fires; management/conservation; protected area; migratory species.

Articles specific to forest fires: 10m), 11i)

6. Regional Decree No. 21/89/M establishing protective measures to be applied on forestry resources, 17 August 1989.

Contents: forest management/forest conservation; forestry protection measures; forest fires; forestry licence/permit.

Articles specific to forest fires: Full version not available

ROMANIA

1. Law No. 26 - Forest Code, 24 April 1996.

Contents: planning; forest management; marking; protection forest; mountain area; forest fires; afforestation/reforestation; timber; fuelwood; timber extraction/logging; public forest; protected plant/protected tree; non-timber products; private forest; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

1. Ministerial Decree No. 283, 16 June 2004, on the Federal Forest Agency,.

Contents: the Agency is responsible for the prevention of forest fires.

2. Federal Law No. 22-FZ - Forest Code, 29 January 1997.

Contents: forest management; forestry institution; legal/administrative proceedings; offences/penalties; public forest; right of use; afforestation; timber; timber extraction/logging

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 28, 47, 53, 83, 86, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 100, 123

3. Ministerial Decree No. 850 regarding the validation of the Statute of the Federal Forest Service, 27 July 1998

Contents: public forest; forest service/forest officers; offences/penalties; forestry institution; forest management; forest protection measures; forest fires; afforestation/reforestation

4. Order No.58 of the Federal Forest Service regarding the validation of the General Statute of the Forestry Institution at the regional level, 15 April 1998.

Contents: public forest; forest service/forest officers; planning; legal/administrative proceedings; ecosystem preservation; inventory; forest fires; afforestation/reforestation; forestry institution; forest management; forest protection measures; afforestation/reforestation

5. Ministerial Decree No. 839 of 1999 regarding validation of the Federal Special Program of support of Cossack societies for the period of 1999-2001.

Contents: forest fires; forestry protection measures

SAMOA

1. Forests Act No. 12, 1967.

Contents: forest management; public forest; private forest; timber extraction/logging; forest fires; forestry licence/permit; contract/agreement; forestry institution; planning; protected area; pests/diseases

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45

SENEGAL

1. Law n° 98-03 – forestry code, 8 January 1998.

Contents: timber extraction/logging; public forest; concession; private forest; special fund; social forestry/community forestry; planning; offences/penalties; forest service/forest officers

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 25, 47, 48, 49, 50

2. Decree n° 98-164 – forestry code – regulations part, 20 February 1999.

Contents: public forest; classification/declassification; protected area; planning; forest management; land clearing; agro-forestry/sylvo-pastoralism; forest fires; timber extraction/logging; non-timber products; forestry licence/permit; special fund; forest protection measures

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 56, 57

3. Decree No. 95-357 on the Forestry Code – Regulations, 11 April 1995.

Contents: public forest; classification/declassification; afforestation/reforestation; protected area; registration; planning; forest management/forest conservation; contract/agreement; institution; land clearing; agro-forestry; forest fires; timber extraction/logging; non-timber products; forestry licence/permit; private forest; transport/storage; internal trade; special fund; subsidy/incentive; offences/penalties

Articles specific to forest fires: 37, 38, 39

SOUTH AFRICA

1. Forest Act 1968 (No. 72 of 1968).

Contents: basic legislation; forest management/forest conservation; timber extraction/logging; protection forest; protected area; forest fires; private forest; public forest; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 12, 13, 14, 15, 21, 23

2. Forest Amendment Act 1971 (No. 37 of 1971).

Contents: basic legislation; forest management/forest conservation; protection forest; protected area; forest fires

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 4, 5, 6

3. Forest Amendment Act, 1975 (No. 36 of 1975).

Contents: basic legislation; institution; forest fires; public forest; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 7, 8, 31i

4. General Regulations under the Forest Act 1968 No. R.1591, 8 September 1972.

Contents: forest management/forest conservation; timber extraction/logging; afforestation/reforestation; internal trade; processing/handling; agro-forestry; forest fires; public forest.

Articles specific to forest fires: 16

SPAIN

1. Comunidad Autónoma de Castilla y León: Ley N° 5/1994 de fomento de montes arbolados, 16 May 1994.

Contents: afforestation/reforestation; non-governmental entity; protected area; subsidy/incentive; planning; mountain area; forest protection measures; forest fires

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 1, 16

2. Comunidad Autónoma de Valencia: Ley N° 3/1993 - Ley forestal, 9 December 1993.

Contents: classification/declassification; forestry institution; recreational forest; planning; non-governmental entity; afforestation/reforestation; protection forest; forest fires; subsidy/incentive; forest service/forest officers; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 6, 20, 22, 24, 45, 46, 49, 50, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 63, 68, 72, 73

3. Comunidad Autónoma de Andalucía: Ley N° 2/1992 - Ley Forestal, 15 June 1992.

Contents: protection forest; afforestation/reforestation; recreational forest; planning; forest management; forestry institution; public forest; protected area; forest fires

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 69, 75, 76, 87

SUDAN

1. Forests and Renewable Natural Resources Act No.11/2002, 6 November 2002.

Contents: prohibits to set fires in protected areas, and makes it an obligation for all to communicate any information on the existence of fires, and to help in their suppression..

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 3, 5-f, 35-c, 37, 38, 39, 41, 42, 54

SWAZILAND

1. Private Forests Act No. 3, 1951.

Contents: private forest; forest fires; forest service/forest officers; forest management

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 3, 4, 6, 7

SWITZERLAND

1. Ordinance on Forests of 30 November 1992. Consolidation on 31 July 2001.

Contents: basic legislation; forest management/forest conservation; subsidy/incentive; credit; land clearing; planning; forestry seeds/planting material; forest service/forest officers; agro-forestry/silvo-pastoralism; forestry protection measures

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 28

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

1. Resolution No. 41/T, 28 October 2000, creating the Department for Afforestation, Reforestation and Development of Burnt and Destroyed Forests .

Contents: establishes the Department with provincial branches and sets out its powers.

TANZANIA

1. Un. Rep. of: Forests Act, 2002 (Act No. 7 of 2002), of 4 July 2002.

Contents: The Act provides for the conservation and management of forest resources in Tanzania and regulates the trade of forest produce. It deals specifically with forest fires on Part IX.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 70 to 76

2. Zanzibar: Forest Resources Management and Conservation Act No. 10, 27 October 1996.

Contents: biodiversity; forest management; ecosystem preservation; public forest; private forest; forestry licence/permit; classification/declassification; inventory; protection forest; social forestry/community forestry; contract/agreement; forestry institution; forest fires; protected area; special fund; forest service/forest officers; protected animal/protected game; protected plant/protected tree; inspection; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 77, 78, 79

3. Muleba District: Muleba District Council (Tree Planting, Conservation of Trees, Forest, Soil and Land Use) By-laws, 20 October 1993.

Contents: forest management; forestry institution; forestry licence/permit; protected area; forest fires; afforestation/reforestation; classification/declassification; land clearing; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 5, 6

4. Mwanza Municipality: Mwanza Municipal Council (Planting and Conservation of Trees and Forests) (Amendment) By-laws, 21 May 1993.

Contents: forest management; afforestation/reforestation; forestry institution; protection forest; forest fires

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 5, 6, 7, 8

TONGA

1. Forests Act n. 7, 1961

Contents: The Act doesn't regulate directly forest fires, but it establishes the possibility for the Minister to make regulations on prohibiting or regulating any acts or omissions that can endanger by fire or otherwise a forest reserve.

Article specific to Forest Fires: 4-i

TOGO

1. Decree of 5 february 1938 organizing the forestry regime in Togo.

Contents: forest fires; forest management/forest conservation; forestry protection measures; basic legislation; classification/declassification; private forest; public forest; offences/penalties.

Articles specific to forest fires: 22, 23, 24, 25

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

1. Forest Act, Chapter 66:01, Act n. 42, 1915, amended by Act No. 23, 1999,

Contents: This Act deals in particular with the extraction of gum from Balata trees and sets the offences to the forests and the consequent punishment.

Articles specific to forest fires: 8. b, 14

TURKEY

1. Law No. 4533 on historic Gallipoli Peninsula national park, 17 February 2000.

Contents: national park; protected area; management/conservation; community wildlife management; forest fires; forest service/forest officers; offences/penalties; planning; public forest; special fund.

Articles specific to forest fires: No translation of the full text available, March 2003. A special fire fighting plan will be prepared and implemented for the Park.

2. Forest Law No. 6831, 31 August 1956

Contents: establishes the obligation to inform competent authorities of any signs of fire within or around the forest, and for all men aged between 18 and 50 years from villages and towns around the forest the obligation to collaborate in fire suppression operations.

Articles specific to forest fires: 68, 69, 106

3. Law amending some provisions of the Forest Law No. 6831, 2 July 2004.

Contents: provides for compensations to be paid to those who participate in forest fire fighting efforts.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1. Puerto Rico Forest Act No. 133, 1 July 1975.

Contents: forest management; catchment/watershed; protected area; public forest; forest fires; forest service/forest officers; forestry institution; contract/agreement; hunting; special fund

Article specific to Forest Fires: 8

VENEZUELA

1. Ley Penal del Ambiente, 2 January 1992.

Contents: basic environmental legislation; offences/penalties; legal/administrative proceedings

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 59

2. Ley Forestal de Suelos y Aguas, 30 December 1965.

Contents: water conservation zone; catchment/watershed; land use planning; environmental planning; timber extraction/logging; land clearing; forest fires; afforestation/reforestation; forestry institution; forest management; agro-forestry/sylvo-pastoralism; protected area; basic forestry legislation; offences/penalties

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33

3. Decreto N° 1.333 - Reglamento de la Ley Forestal, de Suelos y de Aguas, 11 February 1969.

Contents : afforestation/reforestation; timber extraction/logging; land clearing; agro-forestry; institution; classification/declassification; mountain area; forest fires; institution; forest management/forest conservation; offences/penalties; transport/storage

Articles specific to forest fires: 60, 61, 62

VIET NAM

1. Law on Forest Protection and Development, 14 December 2004

Contents: sets out measures on forest fire prevention and fighting

Article specific to Forest Fires: 12. 5,

2. Directive No. 12/2003/CT-TTg, 16 May 2003, on urgent measures to protect and develop forests,.

Contents: provides for urgent enforcement of protection measures and plans in order to effectively manage and protect forests in Vietnam.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 1-c.

3. Decision No. 34/1999/QĐ-BNN-TCCB promulgating the Regulations on working relationship between the Ranger Department and the National Parks under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, 12 February 1999.

Contents: institution; forest service/forest officers; forestry protection measures; forest fires; data collection/reporting; inspection

Articles specific to forest fires: 5

ZAMBIA

1. Forests Act No. 7, 1999.

Contents: forest management; forest protection measures; forestry licence/permit; ecosystem preservation; timber extraction/logging; protected area; protection forest; catchment; public forest; marking; forestry institution; classification

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 13, 14, 36, 46, 80, 81, 82

2. Forest Regulations, 1976 (S.I. No.98 of 1976)

Contents: forest management/forest conservation; timber extraction/logging; forest fires; forestry licence/permit; logging fee/charge

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 19, 20, 21, 22, 23

ZIMBABWE

1. Forest Act, 1949. Consolidated in 1996.

Contents: forestry institution; forest management; public forest; private forest; timber extraction/logging; forestry licence/permit; protected area; forest fires; classification/declassification; timber; external trade; afforestation/reforestation; forest service/forest officers; offences/penalties.

Articles specific to Forest Fires: 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75