

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF ICELAND
AND
THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF DENMARK

I. PARTICIPANTS

This instrument constitutes a Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as “MOU”) between the Ministry of Justice of Iceland and the Ministry of Defence of Denmark (hereinafter referred to as the Participants).

II. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

A. Background

In 1996, as part of the Icelandic – Danish co-operation in the North Atlantic area, an Agreement regarding Standing Operational Procedures for Co-operation between the Icelandic Coast Guard and Danish Forces under the operational control of ISCOMFAROES and ISCOMGREENLAND was signed. The Agreement was named SOP COOP SAGA.

Since the conclusion of the SOP COOP SAGA, it has been the main instrument regarding the co-operation between the Participants and has only been corrected to a minor extent.

Although signed by the Participants, the SOP COOP SAGA has not fully been incorporated by the Participants.

B. Purpose

The purpose of this MOU is to reaffirm the political will of co-operation between the Participants in this field and of widening its scope.

C. Scope

This MOU is not intended to conflict with national or international law or with any existing applicable international agreements between Participants. In the event of such conflict, national or international law and existing international agreements between the Participants will prevail. The Participants will notify each other in the event of any such conflict.

D. Principles

The Participants will abide by the following principles:

1. Fishing observation and reporting

This MOU promotes the possibility to extend the co-operation of the Participants to include mutual observation and reporting of all fishing activities within the Exclusive Economic Zones of Iceland, Greenland and the Faeroe Islands.

2. Pollution surveillance

This MOU promotes the possibility to extend the co-operation of the Participants to include pollution surveillance within the Exclusive Economic Zones of Iceland, Greenland and the Faeroe Islands.

3. Exchange of personnel

This MOU promotes the possibility to exchange personnel between the Participants for the purpose of education and better mutual understanding.

III. AUTHORITIES

A. The Chief of Defence of Denmark has the overall responsibility for the Danish military involvement in implementing this MOU. The Chief of Defence of Denmark may delegate all or some of his authority to other Danish military authorities.

B. The General Director of the Icelandic Coast Guard has the overall responsibility for the Icelandic involvement in implementing this MOU. The General Director may delegate all or some of his authority to other Icelandic authorities.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTICIPANTS

A. The Participants agree to participate in the development of methods and procedures that should improve the co-operation between them, including in the area of fishing observation and reporting, pollution surveillance and exchange of personnel.

B. The Participants agree to provide general oversight of activities conducted pursuant to this MOU.

C. The Participants agree to promote the identification of the software, databases, know-how, intellectual property rights, personnel and equipment necessary to implement the exchange of information.

V. COSTS

Each Participant shall bear the costs of its own activities under this MOU. This MOU contemplates no transfer of funds between the Participants.

VI. GENERAL PROVISIONS

This MOU will become effective when signed by both Participants. The MOU may be amended at any time by mutual agreement of the Participants. Either Participant may terminate this MOU by providing 120 days written notice to the other Participant.

Done at _____ on _____.

Björn Bjarnason

Minister of Justice of Iceland

Søren Gade

Minister of Defense of Denmark