

Note from the WEU Secretary-General on the agreements concluded in accordance with the Paris Protocols on armaments control (London, 21 December 1959)

Caption: In a note dated 21 December 1959, the WEU Secretary-General outlines the situation regarding the ratification of the Convention making provision for due process of law in accordance with Protocol No IV and the Agreement drawn up in implementation of Article V of Protocol No II, both signed in Paris on 14 December 1957. Despite the fact that the Convention was signed two years ago, no Member States have yet ratified it. As regards the Agreement, it has so far been approved only by Belgium, Italy, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and France. This state of affairs is limiting the ability of the Agency for the Control of Armaments to supervise the level of armaments of forces under national command.

Source: Council of the Western European Union. Secretariat-General note. Agreements concluded in accordance with the Paris Protocols. London: 21.12.1959. C (59) 184. 2 p. Archives nationales de Luxembourg (ANLux). <http://www.anlux.lu>. Western European Union Archives. Secretariat-General/Council's Archives. 1954-1987. Foundation and Expansion of WEU- Ratification of Paris Protocols & Agreements. Year: 1954, 01/10/1954-31/12/1959. File 110. Volume 1/2 .

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C (59) 184

Original : French

21st December 1959

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S NOTE

Armaments Control

Agreements concluded in accordance with the Paris Protocols

(C (58) 74 and 75)

The Secretary-General again draws attention to the fact that the Armaments Control Agency of W.E.U. will be unable effectively to discharge its duties under the Agreements signed in Paris on 23rd October 1954, until the two following Conventions come into force:

1. the Convention making provision for due process of law in accordance with Protocol No. IV, signed in Paris on 14th December 1957;
2. the Agreement drawn up in implementation of Article V of Protocol No. II, signed in Paris on 14th December 1957.

Article 23 of the first Convention provides that it must be ratified and instruments of ratification deposited as soon as possible with the Belgian Government, and that it shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the deposit of the instruments of ratification by the last country to complete this procedure.

So far no member State has ratified this Convention which was signed two years ago.

Its entry into force is of major importance to the work of the Agency, particularly as regards on the spot controls, which cannot be carried out effectively until the Tribunal is functioning normally.

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The Agreement drawn up in implementation of Article V of Protocol No. II and signed in Paris on 14th December 1957 relates to the level of armaments of forces under national command. Article 7 provides that it shall enter into force when all signatory States have notified their acceptance to the Belgian Government.

This Agreement has so far been approved by Belgium, Italy, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and France (chronological order), but not by Luxembourg and the Federal Republic of Germany.

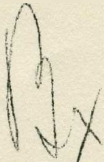
Until the Agreement enters into force, the Agency will be unable to discharge its duties under the Paris Protocols in the essential matter of controlling levels of armaments of forces under national command.

It is urged, therefore, that the procedure for the ratification or approval of the two instruments in question should be completed as quickly as possible (see CR (59) 8, VII).

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This question will be discussed at the meeting of the Council on 7th January 1960.


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London, S.W.1.

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