

No. 6497

IRAN
and
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Agreement concerning the settlement of frontier and financial questions (with Protocols and annexes). Signed at Tehran, on 2 December 1954

Official texts: Persian and Russian.

Registered by Iran on 24 January 1963.

IRAN
et
**UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES
SOVIÉTIQUES**

Accord sur le règlement de questions de frontière et de questions financières (avec Protocoles et annexes). Signé à Téhéran, le 2 décembre 1954

Textes officiels persan et russe.

Enregistré par l'Iran le 24 janvier 1963.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 6497. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN IRAN AND THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS CONCERNING THE SETTLEMENT OF FRONTIER AND FINANCIAL QUESTIONS. SIGNED AT TEHRAN, ON 2 DECEMBER 1954

His Majesty the Shahinshah of Iran and the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Desirous of developing and strengthening the existing goodneighbourly relations between the two States and,

Wishing to settle frontier questions between Iran and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, as also the mutual financial claims relating to the period of the Second World War,

Have decided for this purpose to conclude the present Agreement and have appointed as their plenipotentiaries :

His Majesty the Shahinshah of Iran :

His Excellency Ambassador Hamid Saiyah

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics :

Anatoly Iosifovich Lavrentiev, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in Iran,

who, having exchanged their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows :

Article I

The High Contracting Parties, animated by the desire to settle differences as to the line of the State frontier between Iran and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in certain sectors and thus to settle the frontier question as a whole on the basis of observance of the mutual interests of the Parties, have agreed that a new State frontier line shall be established in the Mugan, Deman, Eddy-Evlar and Sarakhs sectors, and also in the Atrek sector from the Senger-Tepe (Sygyr-Tepe) hill to the point where the frontier line meets the Caspian Sea. A description of the line to be taken by the new frontier in the above-mentioned sectors is given in article II of this Agreement.

The High Contracting Parties confirm that the frontier between Iran and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall be unchanged throughout its re-

¹ Came into force on 20 May 1955, the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification which took place at Moscow, in accordance with article V.

maining extent, and that the border tract on the right bank of the River Araxes, opposite the former fortress of Abbasabad, and also the village of Hissar with the land adjoining it, shall remain within the boundaries of Iran, while the township of Firyuza and the land surrounding it shall remain within the boundaries of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Accordingly, the High Contracting Parties declare that all questions relating to the line of the State frontier between Iran and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics throughout its entire extent are now settled and that the Parties have no territorial claims against each other.

Article II

In accordance with article I of this Agreement, the State frontier between Iran and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall run as follows :

A. Transcaucasian (western) sector of the frontier

From the junction of the State frontiers of Iran, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Republic of Turkey at the confluence of the Rivers Araxes and Nizhny Kara Su, to a point located in the middle of the channel of the River Araxes, on the north-western outskirts of the Iranian settlement of Tazakend, approximately 5.2 kilometres to the east-south-east of the centre of the Soviet settlement of Ashaga-Karagyuvandli and 3.6 kilometres to the north-north-east of the centre of the Iranian settlement of Kamyshly, the line of the State frontier between Iran and the USSR shall follow the channel of the River Araxes as indicated in the Description of the Frontier between Persia and Russia signed by the Commissioners of the two Powers on 18 January 1829 at Beiramlu, with the exception that the border tract on the right bank of the River Araxes opposite the former fortress of Abbasabad shall remain within the boundaries of Iran, the line of the frontier opposite the above-mentioned fortress following the channel of the River Araxes.

From the above-mentioned point on the River Araxes, the frontier line, turning to the east, shall run along the existing frontier line to a point located approximately 4.5 kilometres to the north-east of the centre of the Iranian settlement of Kamyshly and 4.0 kilometres to the south-east of the southern outskirts of the Soviet settlement of Haji Baba Ali.

From that point the frontier line, leaving the existing frontier line, shall follow a straight line for approximately 4.0 kilometres in an east-south-easterly direction until it reaches a point located approximately 7.0 kilometres to the east-north-east of the centre of the Iranian settlement of Kamyshly, 3.6 kilometres to the south-east of the centre of an unnamed Soviet settlement and 2.0 kilometres to the north-east of the trigonometrical point marked 27.2.

Thereafter, the frontier shall follow a straight line in a south-easterly direction to a point approximately 5.2 kilometres to the south-east of Shagriarski Hill,

1.1 kilometres to the south of the trigonometrical point marked 68.8 and 4.4 kilometres to the north-north-west of the cemetery at the Iranian settlement of Iranian Belyasuvar (Talysh-Mikeyli).

The frontier shall then follow a straight line in a south-easterly direction to a point located on the existing frontier, on the north-eastern outskirts of the Iranian settlement of Iranian Belyasuvar (Talysh-Mikeyli), approximately 1.1 kilometres to the east-north-east of the cemetery at the Iranian settlement of Iranian Belyasuvar (Talysh-Mikeyli) and 5.5 kilometres to the south-east of the trigonometrical point marked 68.8.

Thence, the frontier shall turn to the south and follow the existing frontier to a point in the middle of the River Bolgar Chai (Bolgaru), leaving on the USSR side the settlement of Belyasuvar (Soviet), and on the Iranian side, Iranian Belyasuvar (Talysh-Mikeyli).

(The new frontier line in the Mugan sector from the River Araxes to the River Bolgar Chai is shown on the attached 1:100,000 map—Annex No. 1.)¹

From the point in the middle of the River Bolgar Chai to the Signak Rock, located approximately 1.0 kilometre to the south-west of the summit of Mt. Dzhogeir (Dzhekoira) and 5.5 kilometres to the north-north-west of the centre of the Soviet settlement of Deman, the frontier shall follow the line indicated in the Description of the Frontier between Persia and Russia signed by the Commissioners of the two Powers on 18 January 1829 at Beiramlu.

At the Signak Rock a new frontier line shall begin, running more or less in a straight line to the summit of the height marked 1619.2, located approximately 600 metres to the south-east of Mt. Qaraul Tash and 1.1 kilometres to the north of the centre of the Iranian settlement of Kannybulak.

(The new frontier line in the Deman sector from the Signak Rock to the summit of the height marked 1619.2 is shown on the attached 1:100,000 map—Annex No. 2.)¹

From the summit of the height marked 1619.2 to the Caspian Sea, the frontier shall proceed as indicated in the Description of the Frontier between Persia and Russia signed by the Commissioners of the two Powers on 18 January 1829 at Beiramlu, with the exception that the tract of Soviet territory called Eddy-Evlar goes to Iran, and the frontier in this sector follows the present watercourse of the River Astara-Chay.

(The new frontier line in the Eddy-Evlar sector is shown on the attached 1:100,000 map—Annex No. 3.)¹

B. *Transcaspian (eastern) sector of the frontier*

From the junction of the State frontiers of Iran, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Afghanistan to a point in the middle of the western arm of

¹ See insert in a pocket at the end of this volume.

the River Tedzhen (Hari Rud) approximately 2.7 kilometres to the north-east of Ulibaba mosque and 5.8 kilometres to the north-north-west of the centre of the Soviet settlement of Sarakhs, the frontier between Iran and the USSR shall run along the middle of the deepest channel of the River Tedzhen, in accordance with the description of the frontier set forth in Protocol No. 3 of 19 June 1894 concerning the demarcation of the frontier between Persia and Russia in the sector from Zulfiqar to Khumly-Tepe and as shown on the map attached to that Protocol.

From the above-mentioned point in the River Tedzhen, a new frontier line shall start following the middle of the deepest channel of the River Tedzhen to a point in the middle of the River Tedzhen approximately 3.4 kilometres to the east of the Khomly Kurgan (Khumli-Tepe) and 4.1 kilometres to the north-north-east of the Kessy Kurgan.

From that point the frontier shall turn to the west, running in a straight line for approximately 3.4 kilometres to the top of the Khomly Kurgan. There the new frontier line ends.

(The new frontier line for the Sarakhs sector is shown on the attached 1:100,000 map—Annex No. 4.)¹

From the Khomly Kurgan to frontier mark No. 1, described in the Protocol signed on 30 January 1886 at Ashkhabad defining the frontier between Persia and Russia to the east of the Caspian Sea in the sector from the ruins of Fort Babadurmaz to Gasan Kuli Bay, and located on the Zara-Kev (Zira-Ku) ridge approximately 2.3 kilometres to the south-west of the spring at Babadurmaz, the frontier shall proceed as described in Protocol No. 5 concerning the demarcation of the frontier between Persia and Russia in the sector from Khumly-Tepe to Babadurmaz, signed on 8 November 1894 at Ashkhabad, and as shown on the map attached to that Protocol, leaving the settlement of Khasor-Kala (Hissar) with its adjoining land on the Iranian side.

From the above-mentioned frontier mark No. 1 to frontier mark No. 31, located at the Bir Pass and defined in the Protocol of 30 January 1886, the frontier line shall proceed as described for this sector in the Protocol of 30 January 1886 defining the frontier between Persia and Russia to the east of the Caspian Sea in the sector from the ruins of Fort Babadurmaz to Gasan Kuli Bay, and as shown for this sector on the map attached to that Protocol.

From frontier mark No. 31 at the Bir Pass to frontier mark No. 41 located on the summit of Mount Kenare (Kenera) and defined in the Protocol of 30 January 1886, the frontier line shall proceed as described for the sector from the Bir Pass to Mount Kenare in Protocol No. 6 of 9 November 1894 concerning the demarcation of the frontier between Persia and Russia, and as shown on the map attached to that Protocol, leaving the township of Firyuza and the land adjoining it within the USSR.

¹ See insert in a pocket at the end of this volume.

From frontier mark No. 41 on the summit of Mount Kenare to the Gudri crossing on the River Atrek, the frontier shall proceed as described for this sector in the Protocol of 30 January 1886 defining the frontier between Persia and Russia and as shown for this sector on the map attached to that Protocol.

From the Gudri crossing to a point on the existing frontier line approximately 300 metres to the west of the trigonometrical point marked 6.2 on the Senger-Tepe (Sygyr-Tepe) hill, the frontier line shall proceed as described in the Protocol of 6 March 1886 defining the frontier between Persia and the Transcaspien region from the Gudri crossing to the Caspian Sea, and as this frontier from the Gudri crossing to the Senger-Tepe (Sygyr-Tepe) hill is shown on the map attached to that Protocol.

From the point on the existing frontier line approximately 300 metres to the west of the trigonometrical point marked 6.2 on the Senger-Tepe (Sygyr-Tepe) hill, a new frontier line shall start, proceeding in a straight line to a point approximately 2.2 kilometres to the south of Soviet Fishery No. 1, 22.6 kilometres to the north-west of the Iranian lake Neftli-Ja and 22.0 kilometres to the west-south-west of the centre of the Soviet settlement of Adzhiyab, that is, to the point where the existing frontier line reaches the shore of the Caspian Sea.

(The new frontier line for the western part of the Atrek sector from the Senger-Tepe (Sygyr-Tepe) hill to the Caspian Sea is shown on the attached 1:100,000 map—Annex No. 5.)¹

Article III

The High Contracting Parties have agreed on the demarcation and re-demarcation of the frontier between Iran and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. For this purpose, a Mixed Iranian-Soviet Commission to carry out the demarcation and re-demarcation of the frontier throughout its entire extent shall be established and shall begin work within not more than three months from the date of entry into force of the present Agreement. In demarcating the newly established frontier in the Mugan, Deman, Eddy-Evlar, Atrek and Sarakhs sectors and re-demarcating the whole of the remainder of the frontier between Iran and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Mixed Iranian-Soviet Commission shall be guided by the present Agreement.

The Mixed Iranian-Soviet Commission shall complete the demarcation and re-demarcation of the Iranian-Soviet frontier throughout its entire extent within eighteen months after the establishment of this Commission.

Article IV

The High Contracting Parties have agreed to a final settlement of all mutual financial claims relating to the period of the Second World War, including claims

¹ See insert in a pocket at the end of this volume.

arising out of the Payments Agreement between Iran and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of 18 March 1943, as follows :

(a) Within two weeks after the entry into force of the present Agreement, the State Bank of the USSR shall transfer to the National Bank of Iran in two consignments, at the frontier railway station of Dzhulfa-Iranskaya, 11,196,070.3 (eleven million one hundred and ninety-six thousand and seventy point three) grammes of gold in payment of the claims of the Iranian Side arising out of the Agreement of 18 March 1943 mentioned in this article;

(b) Within one year after the entry into force of the present Agreement, the Soviet Side shall pay the sum of 8,648,619.07 (eight million six hundred and forty-eight thousand six hundred and nineteen point nought seven) American dollars, arising from the above-mentioned Agreement of 18 March 1943, by the delivery of goods to Iran at average world prices, the delivery dates and range of items to be agreed upon between the Ministry of Foreign Trade of the USSR, acting through the USSR Trade Mission in Iran, and the Ministry of National Economy of Iran;

(c) All mutual financial claims of the Parties submitted by them during the negotiations held in 1950-1951 shall be considered settled.

The Parties declare that with the conclusion of the present Agreement they have no financial claims against each other relating to the period of the Second World War.

Article V

The present Agreement shall be subject to ratification and shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which shall take place as soon as possible.

The exchange of instruments of ratification shall be effected in Moscow.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the plenipotentiaries have signed this Agreement and have thereto affixed their seals.

DONE at Teheran on 11 Azar 1333 (2 December 1954) in two copies, each in the Persian and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For His Majesty the Shahinshah
of Iran

For the Presidium of the Supreme
Soviet of the Union of Soviet
Socialist Republics

PROTOCOL

In accordance with the understanding reached on signing the Agreement of 11 Azar 1333 (2 December 1954)¹ between Iran and the Union of Soviet So-

¹ See p. 250 of this volume.

cialist Republics concerning the Settlement of Frontier and Financial Questions, the Parties have agreed on the following :

I. In the Namin sector, the frontier line shall proceed as indicated in the Description of the Frontier between Persia and Russia signed on 18 January 1829, the existing Soviet unsurfaced road over the five segments specified below and marked on the map attached¹ to the present Protocol remaining within the boundaries of the Soviet Union.

These segments are as follows :

Segment No. 1 is located to the south of Mount Kyz-yurdy and extends for 1,100 metres. Its extremities lie on the existing frontier line, the first approximately 250 metres to the south of the summit of Mount Kyz-yurdy, and the second approximately 1,300 metres to the south-south-west of the summit of Mount Kyz-yurdy.

Segment No. 2 is located to the west of the hill marked 2161.7 and extends for 1,100 metres. Its extremities lie on the existing frontier line, the first approximately 520 metres to the north of the summit of the hill marked 2161.7, and the second 500 metres to the south-south-east of the summit of the same hill.

Segment No. 3 is located to the south-west of Mount Bolmadyn and extends for 1,000 metres. Its extremities lie on the existing frontier line, the first approximately 450 metres to the north-west of the summit of Mount Bolmadyn, and the second 450 metres to the south-east of the summit of Mount Bolmadyn.

Segment No. 4 is located to the south of Mount Kezylasar (Khizylasa) and extends for 1,260 metres. Its extremities lie on the existing frontier line, the first approximately 720 metres to the west-south-west of the summit of Mount Kezylasar (Khizylasa), and the second 550 metres to the south-east of the summit of Mount Kezylasar.

Segment No. 5 is located between Mount Merdasigi and Mount Minarek and extends for 6,400 metres. Its extremities lie on the existing frontier line, the first approximately 800 metres to the north-west of the summit of Mount Merdasigi, and the second 100 metres to the north of Mount Minarek.

During the re-demarcation of the frontier, segments Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Soviet unsurfaced road in the Namin sector shall where possible be raised towards the watershed line, taking natural conditions into account. In addition, the State frontier shall be re-demarcated correspondingly.

The length of the five segments in the Namin sector specified above has been measured along the Soviet unsurfaced road as it exists at present.

II. The transfer by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to Iran of the Eddy-Evlar sector, belonging to the USSR and watered by the River Astara-Chay, shall be considered an exception to the established rule of international theory and practice that a change in the course of a frontier river does not entail changes in the State frontier (where there is no special arrangement covering the point between the parties).

¹ See insert in a pocket at the end of this volume.

III. The Protocols referred to in article II of the Agreement (section " B ", Transcaspien (eastern) sector of the frontier), namely, the Protocol of 30 January 1886 defining the frontier between Persia and Russia to the east of the Caspian Sea, in the sector from the ruins of Fort Babadurmaz to Gasan Kuli Bay and the Protocol of 6 March 1886 defining the frontier between Persia and the Transcaspien region from the Gudri crossing to the Caspian Sea, shall be understood to be the Protocols of the demarcation commissions established in accordance with article II of the Convention concluded between Persia and Russia on 9 December 1881.¹

Protocol No. 3 of 19 June 1894 concerning the demarcation of the frontier between Persia and Russia in the sector from Zulfiqar to Khumly-Tepe, Protocol No. 5 of 8 November 1894 concerning the demarcation of the frontier between Persia and Russia in the sector from Khumly-Tepe to Babadurmaz, and Protocol No. 6 of 9 November 1894 concerning the demarcation of the frontier between Persia and Russia in the sector from the Bir Pass to Mount Kenare shall be understood to be the Protocols of the demarcation commissions established in accordance with articles IV and V of the Convention concluded between Persia and Russia on 27 May 1893.²

IV. In settling the frontier disputes in the Atrak sector, the Parties have taken into consideration the frontier described in the Protocol of 6 March 1886 defining the frontier between Persia and the Transcaspien region from the Gudri crossing to the Caspian Sea, as also the *de facto* frontier in that sector, so that from the Senger-Tepe (Sygyr-Tepe) hill to the Caspian Sea, a new frontier line is established, the exact course of which is stated in article II of the Agreement and is shown in the map attached³ to the Agreement. This settlement has been arrived at with due attention to the proposals made by the Soviet Union in the plan for the general settlement of the frontier question.

This Protocol is an integral part of the Agreement of 11 Azar 1333 (2 December 1954).

DONE at Teheran on 11 Azar 1333 (2 December 1954) in two copies, each in the Persian and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For His Majesty the Shahinshah
of Iran

For the Presidium of the Supreme
Soviet of the Union of Soviet
Socialist Republics

PROTOCOL

The undersigned, A. Etesami, Acting *Chargé d'affaires* of Iran in the USSR, and V. S. Semenov, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the USSR, have on this date exchanged the instruments of ratification of the Agreement between

¹ De Martens, *Nouveau Recueil Général de Traités*, deuxième série, tome IX, p. 228.

² De Martens, *Nouveau Recueil Général de Traités*, deuxième série, tome XXXIII, p. 561.

³ See insert in a pocket at the end of this volume.

Iran and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the Settlement of Frontier and Financial Questions¹ and the Protocol thereto, signed at Teheran on 2 December 1954 and ratified by His Majesty the Shahinshah of Iran on 20 March 1955 and by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR on 25 April 1955.

Upon inspection of the instruments of ratification, it has been established that the Soviet instrument is drawn up in good and due form; the Iranian instrument is also drawn up in good and due form, but the texts of the Agreement and Protocol attached to this instrument contain a number of misprints, namely : (1) the Persian text of the Agreement, in article II, section A, fifth paragraph, reads “ ... east of the trigonometrical point ”, whereas, in accordance with the original Agreement, it should read “ ... south-east of the trigonometrical point ”; (2) following the Russian text of the Agreement appears the entry : “ Seal of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR ”. In fact, however, the seal affixed to the Agreement was that of the USSR Embassy in Iran; (3) in article II, section B, second paragraph, of the Persian text of the Agreement, the word “ Adzhen ” appears, whereas according to the original the text should read “ Tedzhen ”; (4) section I, third paragraph, of the Persian text of the Protocol reads “ ... the hill marked 2061.7 ”; this, according to the original of the Protocol should read “ ... the hill marked 2161.7 ”; (5) section III, first paragraph, of the Protocol reads “ ... concluded between Russia and Persia on 9 December 1889 ”, whereas in accordance with the original Protocol the text should read “ ... concluded between Russia and Persia on 9 December 1881 ”.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned have drawn up the present Protocol, signed in two copies, each in the Persian and Russian languages.

DONE at Moscow on 20 May 1955.

¹ See p. 250 of this volume.