

Mlle. Colette Taquet
Counsellor
Embassy of Belgium
103 Eaton Square
London SW1W 9AB

Mademoiselle,

I have the honour to acknowledge the deposit, on behalf of the Kingdom of Belgium, of separate instruments of Ratification for the three Belgian Regions of Brussels-Capitale, Flanders and Wallonia to the:

Agreement on the Conservations of Populations of European Bats (done at London on 4 December 1991), as Amended.

The three instruments were received and deposited in the Archives of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 14 May 2003, in the presence of Mr Nic van de Marliere, representative of the Region of Flanders. In accordance with Article XII of the Agreement, the Ratifications of the Belgian Regions of Brussels-Capitale, Flanders and Wallonia, together comprising the Ratification of the Kingdom of Belgium, shall take effect on 13 June 2003, on the thirtieth day following deposit of their instruments.

In accordance with Article 40(5) of the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, the Kingdom of Belgium is to be considered as bound to the above Agreement as amended by:

- a) the Amendment to the above Agreement which was adopted at a meeting of the Parties to the Agreement held in Bristol on 18-20 July 1995 and which entered into force on 8 January 2000, and
- b) the further Amendment to the above Agreement which was adopted at a meeting of the Parties to the Agreement held in Bristol on 24 to 26 July 2000 and which entered into force on 13 August 2001.

The Kingdom of Belgium shall be considered as bound by the unamended Agreement in relation to any party to the Agreement not bound by either the 1995 or the 2000 Amendments.

A Status List incorporating this information is enclosed. In accordance with its role as depositary, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland shall inform all Contracting Parties to the Agreement accordingly.

I have the honour to convey to you, Mademoiselle, the assurance of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Barnett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

P. Barnett

(For the Secretary of State)