



Treaty Series No. 3 (2024)

# Agreement

on Reimbursement Arrangements between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Kingdom of Norway for Healthcare Costs under the United Kingdom - EEA EFTA Social Security Coordination Convention and the United Kingdom EEA EFTA Separation Agreement

Oslo, 20 December 2023

[The Agreement entered into force 1 January 2024]

*Presented to Parliament  
by the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs  
by Command of His Majesty  
January 2024*



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**AGREEMENT ON REIMBURSEMENT ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN  
THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN  
IRELAND AND THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY FOR HEALTHCARE  
COSTS UNDER THE UNITED KINGDOM - EEA EFTA SOCIAL  
SECURITY COORDINATION CONVENTION AND THE UNITED  
KINGDOM - EEA EFTA SEPARATION AGREEMENT**

**Note No. 1**

*British Embassy Oslo to the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

*Oslo  
20 December 2023*

His Britannic Majesty's Embassy presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway and has the honour to write with reference to recent discussions regarding the reimbursement of healthcare costs under:

- (i) the Convention on Social Security Coordination between Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, dated 30 June 2023 ("Convention"); and
- (ii) the Agreement on arrangements between the EEA EFTA States and the United Kingdom following the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union, the EEA Agreement and other agreements applicable between the United Kingdom and the EEA EFTA States by virtue of the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union, dated 28 January 2020 ("Separation Agreement").

In these discussions, our Governments have agreed that the costs of benefits in kind incurred by the State of residence in respect of pensioners, frontier workers and members of their families insured by the other State, shall be reimbursed in

full under the Convention and the Separation Agreement. It is therefore proposed to:

- (i) agree the reimbursement arrangements set out in Annex A to this Agreement in relation to the Convention; and
- (ii) agree the reimbursement arrangements set out in Annex B to this Agreement in relation to the Separation Agreement.

If the foregoing accords with the understanding of the Government of the Kingdom of Norway, His Britannic Majesty's Embassy has the honour to propose that this Note Verbale together with its Annexes and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' reply to that effect, shall constitute an Agreement between our Governments in this matter.

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date on which the Convention on Social Security Coordination between Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, dated 30 June 2023, enters into force between the United Kingdom and the Kingdom of Norway and shall remain in force unless either the Government of the United Kingdom or the Government of the Kingdom of Norway give at least six months' prior notice of termination.

It is also proposed that, pursuant to Article 8 of Annex 1 to the Convention, this Agreement shall be notified to the Joint Administrative Committee for the Convention.

His Britannic Majesty's Embassy avails itself of the opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway the assurance of its highest consideration.

Annex A: Reimbursement arrangements between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Kingdom of Norway for healthcare costs under the UK-EEA EFTA Social Security Coordination Convention ("the Convention")

1. The reimbursement of the cost of benefits in kind incurred by institutions of one State on behalf of those of the other State shall be mutually waived on the basis of the provisions of Article 36, paragraph 3 and Article 42, paragraph 2 of the Convention and Article 8 of Annex 1 of the Convention in respect of:
  - a. Sickness, maternity and equivalent paternity benefits as laid down in the Convention, Title III, Chapter 1, with the exception of Article 21, Article 24, Articles 28 to 30, and Article 31, paragraph 3; and
  - b. accidents at work and occupational diseases as laid down in Chapter 2, with the exception of Article 37, paragraphs 1, 2 and 3.
2. In cases where under paragraph 1 of this arrangement a waiver of reimbursement is provided instead of the refund of actual costs (as provided under Article 46 of Annex 1 of the Convention), the costs of benefits in kind provided outside the State of residence during a temporary stay in a third State shall be borne by the institution of the place of residence. That institution shall be considered the competent institution.
3. Pursuant to Article 8 of Annex 1 of the Convention, the reimbursement of the costs of medical examination and administrative checks arising under Article 69, paragraph 4 of Annex 1 of the Convention shall be mutually waived.

Annex B: Reimbursement arrangements between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Kingdom of Norway for healthcare costs under the United Kingdom - EEA EFTA Separation Agreement ("the Separation Agreement")

1. In relation to the reimbursement of costs of benefits in kind under Regulation (EO No 883/2004 ("the Regulation")) and Regulation (EO No 987/2009 ("the Implementing Regulation")) as they have effect under the Separation Agreement, the following provisions apply.
2. The reimbursement of the cost of benefits in kind incurred by institutions of one State on behalf of those of the other State in respect of sickness, maternity and equivalent paternity as laid down in Chapter

1 of the Regulation, with the exception of Article 17, Article 18, paragraph 2, Article 20, Article 22, Articles 23 to 26 and Article 27 (3), and in respect of accidents at work and occupational diseases as laid down in Chapter 2 of the Regulation, with the exception of Article 36, paragraphs 1 and 2a, of Title III, shall be mutually waived on the basis of the provisions of Article 35, paragraph 3 and Article 41 of the Regulation.

3. In cases where under paragraph 2 of this Annex a waiver of reimbursement is provided instead of the refund of actual costs as provided under Article 62 of the Implementing Regulation, the costs of benefits in kind provided outside the State of residence during a temporary stay in a third State shall be borne by the institution of the place of residence. That institution shall be considered the competent institution.
4. Pursuant to Article 9 of the Implementing Regulation, the reimbursement of the costs of medical examinations and administrative checks arising under Article 87 of that Regulation shall be mutually waived.
5. The Arrangement between the Competent Authorities of the Kingdom of Norway and the United Kingdom on the reimbursement of costs of benefits in kind under Regulations (EEC) 1408/71 and 574/72, made by Exchange of Letters dated 20 March and 3 April 1997 shall be terminated on the date of entry into force of this Agreement, notwithstanding its provision on termination.
6. The provision modifying the Implementing Regulation in Part III of Annex I of the Separation Agreement shall be amended as between the United Kingdom and Norway as follows:

“ KINGDOM-NORWAY

- (a) The Exchange of Letters of 20 March 1997 and 3 April 1997 concerning Articles 36(3) and 63(3) of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 (reimbursement or waiving of reimbursement of the costs of benefits in kind) , and Article 105 of Regulation (EEC) No 574/72 (waiving of the costs of administrative checks and medical examinations).”

shall be substituted with

“UNITED KINGDOM-NORWAY

(a) Annex B of the Agreement on reimbursement arrangements between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Kingdom of Norway for healthcare costs under the United Kingdom - EEA EFTA Social Security Coordination Convention and the United Kingdom - EEA EFTA Separation Agreement, made by exchange of Notes dated 20 December 2023 and 20 December 2023."

**Note No. 2**

*Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the British Embassy Oslo*

*Oslo  
20 December 2023*

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway presents its compliments to His Britannic Majesty's Embassy and has the honour to write with reference to its Note No. 49/2023 dated 20 December 2023 concerning reimbursement arrangements between the Kingdom of Norway and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for healthcare costs under the UK-EEA EFTA Social Security Coordination Convention and the United Kingdom - EEA EFTA Separation Agreement, and which reads as follows:

‘As Above’

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has the honour to inform His Britannic Majesty's Embassy of the consent of the Kingdom of Norway to the proposed Agreement, and that His Britannic Majesty's Embassy Note including Annexes and this reply shall constitute an Agreement between our Governments in this matter, and which shall enter into force on the date on which the Convention on Social Security Coordination between Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, dated 30 June 2023, enters into force between the United Kingdom and Norway.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway avails itself of the opportunity to renew to His Britannic Majesty's Embassy the assurance of its highest consideration.



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