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Ministers wish cooperation

The Greenland and Faroe ministers responsible for hydrocarbon affairs are both in agreement - they wish to see both countries find hydrocarbons in the pending drillings and they would also like more cooperation between the two countries in oilrelated matters. Mr Ove Karl Berthelsen and Mr Johan Dahl This emerged at a meeting between the two ministers in Tórshavn recently. The Greenland minister visited the Faroes in connection with the large tourist conference, Travelmart, which alternates between Greenland, Iceland and the Faroes. Held in the Faroes this time, and he took the opportunity to meet his Faroe counterpart, Mr Johan Dahl, to discuss oil industry developments in both countries and to try and establish a cooperation. Mr Dahl, who last year sent a greeting to his counterpart, containing a wish for more cooperation, said he was very satisfied after having spoken to Mr Berthelsen on this large new industry for both countries. -We have much cooperation with Greenland and it would be very interesting to cooperate with Greenland within an oil industry also. We are in a position to supply them with well educated and trained people, tradesman etc., capable of handling various tasks within the offshore industry, which is in the process of establishing itself in Greenland. Both countries are in the same boat so to speak, with oil and gas exploration wells being drilled. We have a certain degree of knowledge from an oil industry, i.e. the legislative part, where I believe we are in a position to assist Greenland. They on the other hand have various assets from which we could benefit from, says Mr Dahl. Mutual history The minister for hydrocarbon affairs in Greenland is of the very same opinion - -We are always interested in a cooperation with the Faroes, also in an oil industry context. We have a common history and both countries are part of the Danish realm. We know each other and we would

rather cooperate with people we know. We are very open for a discussion on oil industry issues and we would like to see Faroe companies come to Greenland to operate in areas where our own companies are too short on their own. He adds that both the Faroes and Greenland have a mutual interest for a cooperation, not least because both countries wish to take greater responsibility for their own development.