

N° 595.

**BELGIQUE, LUXEMBOURG
ET FINLANDE**

Echange de notes en vue de régler,
par un arrangement commercial
provisoire, les relations économi-
ques entre l'Union économique
belgo-luxembourgeoise et la Fin-
lande. Stockholm le 9, Helsingfors
le 12 février 1924.

**BELGIUM, LUXEMBURG
AND FINLAND**

Exchange of Notes with a view to re-
gulating, by means of a provisional
Commercial Agreement, the econo-
mic relations between the Belgo-
Luxemburg Economic Union and
Finland. Stockholm, February 9,
Helsingfors, February 12, 1924.

¹ TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

No. 595. — EXCHANGE OF NOTES² BETWEEN THE BELGIAN AND FINNISH GOVERNMENTS WITH A VIEW TO REGULATING, BY MEANS OF A PROVISIONAL COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT, THE ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE BELGO-LUXEMBURG ECONOMIC UNION AND FINLAND. STOCKHOLM, FEBRUARY 9, HELSINGFORS, FEBRUARY 12, 1924.

*French official text communicated by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Finnish Republic.
The registration of this exchange of Notes took place March 31, 1924.*

— I —

No. 163

STOCKHOLM, *February 9, 1924.*

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

In view of the fact that the negotiations entered into by the GOVERNMENT OF THE FINNISH REPUBLIC and THE GOVERNMENT OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE BELGIANS for the regulation, by means of a provisional commercial Agreement, of the economic relations between Finland and the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg have reached a successful conclusion, I have the honour, in the name and by order of my Government, to endorse by the present communication the conclusion of the said Agreement, the text of which Your Excellency will find below :

In all matters connected with trade, Customs, industry, navigation and all dues, charges and taxes affecting persons, companies, vessels or goods, the two High Contracting Parties mutually guarantee to each other most-favoured-nation treatment.

This treatment shall not, however, be accorded in the case of advantages which either of the High Contracting Parties may have granted or may in future grant to the adjacent States to facilitate local traffic within a zone not exceeding 15 km. in depth on either side of the frontier.

The Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg further undertakes not to demand most-favoured-nation treatment in regard to :

(1) Advantages which are or may in future be granted by Finland to Esthonia, provided that such advantages are not extended to any third Power.

(2) Advantages, arising out of the obligation to employ pilots, which Finland has granted or may in future grant to Sweden in regard to navigation north of 58 degrees north latitude.

¹ Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations.

¹ Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations.

² This agreement does not entail ratification.

(3) Advantages which have been or may in future be granted by Finland to Russia in regard to fisheries and seal-hunting grounds in Finnish territorial waters in the Arctic Ocean.

(4) The advantages specified in Articles 2 and 6 of the Commercial Convention of July 13, 1921, between Finland and France, except such of those advantages as relate to the products enumerated in List A annexed hereto. These products, if they are produced in or exported from the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg, shall, as long as the said Convention remains in force, be subject to the same abatements of Customs duty as are accorded to France by the Convention, provided that such products are accompanied by a certificate of origin on the model prescribed in the said Convention. It is further understood that any advantage which, as an exception to most-favoured-nation treatment, Finland may thus grant, wholly or in part, to more than one State in addition to France, shall at the same time be unconditionally extended to products produced in or exported from the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg.

Similarly, Finland undertakes not to claim the advantages of most-favoured-nation treatment in regard to Customs duties levied on any goods not enumerated in List B annexed hereto at their entry into the territory of the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg.

Nevertheless, the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg undertakes to grant Finland most-favoured-nation treatment without reservation in the event of Finland's granting the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg all the abatements of Customs duty which are granted by Finland to France and which are not specified in the above-mentioned List A.

The provisions concerning Customs duties and the regime of commercial navigation shall be put into effect as soon as the conclusion of the present Agreement has been endorsed by an exchange of Notes between the representatives of the two High Contracting Parties, and the Agreement as a whole shall come into force 15 days after the necessary legislative action has been taken in Finland.

The present Agreement shall continue in force until the conclusion of a commercial Treaty between the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg and Finland, and shall remain operative until six months after the date of its denunciation by either of the Contracting Parties.

I have the honour to be, etc.

PAUL MAY.

— 2 —

No. 2693.

HELSINGFORS, *February 12, 1924.*

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Note No. 163 dated February 9, in which you were good enough to inform me that the Government of His Majesty the King of the Belgians, like the Government of the Republic, is disposed to regulate the economic relations between Finland and the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg by means of a provisional commercial Agreement, the text of which is embodied in your Note and the conclusion of which you were good enough to endorse by your communication above mentioned.

In the name of the Government of the Republic, I have the honour, by the present Note, to confirm and record the conclusion of the said Agreement, the text of which you will find below :

In all matters connected with trade, customs, industry, navigation and all dues, charges and taxes affecting persons, companies, vessels or goods, the two High Contracting Parties mutually guarantee to each other most-favoured-nation treatment.

This treatment shall not, however, be accorded in the case of advantages which either of the High Contracting Parties may have granted or may in future grant to the adjacent States to facilitate local traffic within a zone not exceeding 15 km. in depth on either side of the frontier.

The Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg further undertakes not to claim most-favoured-nation treatment in regard to :

(1) Advantages which are or may in future be granted by Finland to Esthonia, provided that such advantages are not extended to any third Power.

(2) Advantages arising out of the obligation to employ pilots, which Finland has granted or may in future grant to Sweden in regard to navigation north of 58 degrees north latitude.

(3) Advantages which have been or may in future be granted by Finland to Russia in regard to fisheries and seal fisheries in Finnish territorial waters in the Arctic Ocean.

(4) The advantages specified in Articles 2 and 6 of the Commercial Convention of July 13, 1921, between Finland and France, except such of those advantages as relate to the products enumerated in List A annexed hereto. These products, if they are produced in or exported from the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg, shall, as long as the said Convention remains in force, be subject to the same abatements of Customs duty as are accorded to France by the Convention, provided that such products are accompanied by a certificate of origin on the model prescribed in the said Convention. It is further understood that any advantage which, as an exception to most-favoured-nation treatment, Finland may thus grant, wholly or in part, to more than one State in addition to France, shall at the same time be unconditionally extended to products produced in or exported from the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg.

Similarly, Finland undertakes not to claim the advantages of most-favoured-nation treatment in regard to Customs duties levied on any goods not enumerated in List B annexed hereto at their entry into the territory of the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg.

Nevertheless, the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg undertakes to grant Finland most-favoured-nation treatment without reservation in the event of Finland's granting the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg all the abatements of Customs duty which are granted by Finland to France and which are not specified in the above-mentioned List A.

The provisions concerning Customs duties and the regime of commercial navigation shall be put into effect as soon as the conclusion of the present Agreement has been endorsed by an exchange of Notes between the representatives of the two High Contracting Parties, and the Agreement as a whole shall come into force 15 days after the necessary legislative action has been taken in Finland.

The present Agreement shall continue in force until the conclusion of a commercial treaty between Finland and the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg, and shall remain operative until six months after the date of its denunciation by either of the Contracting Parties.

I have the honour to be, etc.

CARL ENCKELL.

LIST A.

PRODUCTS OF THE ECONOMIC UNION OF BELGIUM AND LUXEMBURG WHICH BENEFIT BY THE ABATEMENTS OF DUTY PROVIDED FOR IN THE COMMERCIAL CONVENTION OF JULY 13, 1921, BETWEEN FINLAND AND FRANCE.

No. in Finnish Tariff	Description of Articles	Abatement %
Ex. 74	Grapes	50
108	Petits-Fours, cakes, biscuits, gingerbread and other similar articles not included in confectionery	75
123	Miscellaneous confectionery	50
147	Dessert fruits and berries, vegetables and edible mushrooms of all kinds... ..	75
151	Other preserved foods	75
166	Prepared tobacco, other kinds (than cigars and cigarettes), and tobacco substitutes... .. <i>Spun silk even if combined with other textile fabrics.</i>	30
232	Silk in small packages for retail trade, such as skeins, reels, etc	75
233	Other forms <i>Pure wool or mixed wool fabrics (except wool mixed with silk).</i> Carpets.	75
268	Knotted, not more than 180 knots per metre	75
269	More than 180 knots per metre	75
270	Imitation plush, not knotted, in lengths or cut	75
271	Other kinds	75
	<i>Lace, lace and net fabrics not otherwise specified.</i> Of cotton or vegetable materials not otherwise specified :	
287	Net for curtains, not less than 50 cm. wide	75
288	Other kinds	75
289	Made of pure flax or with the addition of fibre other than wool or silk... ..	75
291	Made of silk, with or without admixture of other materials... ..	75
	<i>Half-silk materials.</i>	
300	Sold by the metre	75
301	Other kinds	75
323	Corsets, pure silk or half silk... ..	85
	<i>Dresses and wearing apparel, miscellaneous.</i> Made of lace, lace and net fabrics :	
325	Pure silk or half silk	85
326	Other kinds	85
327	Manufactured with a pure spun silk	75
328	Manufactured with a half-silk fabric	75
	Of woollen materials :	
329	Trimmed with embroidery or lace or lined, faced or trimmed with material containing silk	75
	<i>Fully manufactured articles in wood, miscellaneous.</i> Of net weight more than 2 kilogrammes each :	
374	Imitation bronze, gilt or silver-gilt, carved or inlaid	50
375	Coloured, beeswaxed, lacquered, polished or subjected to any similar surface process... .. Weighing not more than 2 kilogrammes each :	50
379	Imitation bronze, gilt or silver gilt, carved or inlaid	50
380	Coloured, beeswaxed, lacquered, polished, painted or varnished... ..	50
	<i>Paper not specially described.</i>	
415	Coloured subsequently to manufacture, lacquered, glazed, gold silver or covered with any other metal or with chalk, bearing designs printed in one or several colours, crinkled, pressed or engraved	90

No. in Finnish Tariff	Description of Articles	Abatement %
<i>Paper Articles.</i>		
422	Cards unprinted for addresses ; menus, visiting cards, etc., and for labels of all kinds	90
427	Painted paper and friezes of all kinds, even when attached to other substances...	90
<i>Leather goods.</i>		
Boots and shoes :		
473	Covered with silk or half silk... ..	50
474	Turned, other kinds	25
475	Patent leather	50
479	Leather gloves, including those partly made of fabric, miscellaneous	50
481	Boxes, belts, parts of belts and braces, cases, wallets and purses ; leather handbags, with or without trimmings, even if other materials are included — weight not more than 0.5 kgs. each	75
<i>Articles in Precious Metals.</i>		
Gold :		
499	Miscellaneous articles wholly or partly of gold and set with stones or pearls	75
Silver :		
502	Wrought bars and wire, gilt or covered with gold by mechanical process	75
503	Miscellaneous articles wholly or partly of silver, and also gilt or covered with gold by mechanical process, and set with stones or pearls	50
Platinum :		
505	Miscellaneous articles wholly or partly of platinum ; also set with stones and pearls	50
614	Firearms of all kinds, e.g., spring or compressed-air carbines, shot-guns or rifles, machine-guns, pistols or revolvers and fully manufactured parts of arms.	60
<i>Transport Materials.</i>		
708.	Carriages and vehicles not otherwise specified, and their frames ; rubber-tyred wheels for such vehicles and carriages ; except vehicles for the conveyance of bark from saw-mills, and lorries, together with rubber-tyred wheels for this class of vehicle	75
<i>Musical Instruments.</i>		
714	Phonographs, gramophones, barrel-organs, musical boxes and other unspecified instruments for reproducing music, and parts of such instruments	75
715	Other unspecified instruments, and parts and accessories consigned separately... ..	75
<i>Soaps.</i>		
828	Scented soaps, toilet soaps and similar products ; liquid or soft soaps in tubes, bottles and other similar receptacles of all kinds ; transparent soaps... ..	75
945	Jewellery of every kind, except gold, silver and platinum, bracelets, brooches, studs, tie-pins, necklaces and watch chains, hat buckles, slides and other hair ornaments which cannot be otherwise classified, cuff links, watch attachments, watch stands and other ornaments for personal use	80

LIST B.

FINNISH GOODS WHICH ENJOY THE MOST-FAVoured-NATION TREATMENT IN THE ECONOMIC UNION OF
BELGIUM AND LUXEMBURG.

No. in Belgian Tariff	Description of goods
4	Butter and margarine.
6	Timber.
13	Coal, coke, charcoal and peat.
14	Preserved foodstuffs.
16	Cream and milk.
17	Groceries.
26	Grains and their derivatives.
33	Machinery, mechanisms and tools.
36	Mineral raw materials, not specially tarified.
38	Drapery and ironmongery.
39	Metals.
40	Furniture.
46	Paper.
48	Hides.
49	Stones.
50	Fish and shellfish.
54	Miscellaneous products for industrial purposes.
57	Resin and tar.
65	Vegetables and vegetable substances not specially tarified.
67	Meat.