

N° 1025.

**ALLEMAGNE ET
GOUVERNEMENTS ALLIÉS**

Compromis concernant la liquidation
des services interalliés des gages,
signé à Coblenz, les 20|28 octo-
bre 1924.

**GERMANY
AND ALLIED GOVERNMENTS**

Arrangement concerning the Wind-
ing-up of the Interallied Securities
Offices, signed at Coblenz, Octo-
ber 20|28, 1924.

¹ TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

No. 1025. — ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN GERMANY AND THE ALLIED GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING THE WINDING-UP OF THE INTER-ALLIED SECURITIES OFFICES, SIGNED AT COBLENZ, OCTOBER 20/28, 1924.

On the conclusion of the TECHNICAL CONFERENCES provided for in Article 6, Annex III, of the Protocol of London, the ALLIED TECHNICAL DELEGATES, authorised to this effect by THE INTER-ALLIED RHINELAND HIGH COMMISSION, of the one part, and

THE GERMAN TECHNICAL TELELEGATES, authorised to this effect by THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REICH and THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATES concerned, of the other part,

Have concluded the following Arrangement :

I.

RECEIPTS RESULTING FROM OBLIGATIONS ARISING BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 1924.

(a) Receipts resulting from obligations arising before September 1, 1924, and collected by the Inter-Allied Revenue Offices up to twelve o'clock on the night of October 20 and 21, 1924, shall remain the property of the Securities Fund.

The Securities Fund shall, however, be liable for the expenses of winding up the Offices, and in particular for the compensation to be paid to the signatory firms in settlement of the Arrangements of February 21, 22 and 23, 1924, regarding additional timber-cutting in the State forests and for the refunding of customs duties and of import and export licence and exemption fees in conformity with the regulations, in so far as such duties and fees were collected on behalf of the Allied authorities.

(b) As from October 21, 1924, the Inter-Allied Offices shall surrender to the German authorities any debts still remaining to be recovered after that date.

The documents relating to these debts (or certified true copies thereof) and the corresponding securities, shall be handed over to the German authorities on the occasion of the transfer of the Inter-Allied Offices.

Further, the Securities Fund shall pay to the account of the German Minister of Finance at the Reichsbank a sum of two million nine hundred thousand (2,900,000) gold marks in final settlement of the exploitation of the forests.

This payment shall be made on November 1, 1924, it being understood that the German authorities shall take all the necessary measures to ensure the strict execution of the provisions of Article II below and shall not allow any obstacles to be placed in the way of such execution.

II.

FELLING AND REMOVAL OF TIMBER SOLD OR OTHERWISE CEDED BY THE FORESTRY COMMITTEE.

(a) The German authorities shall not hinder the removal of timber felled before September 1, 1924, in the State forests in virtue of any decisions, sales, contracts or arrangements previous to that date.

¹ Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations.

¹ Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations.

(b) The High Commission and the signatories of the Arrangements of February 21, 22 and 23, 1924, shall come to a friendly agreement regarding the liquidation of the said arrangements: it is understood that as a result of this agreement timber shall be felled after September 21, 1924, in the areas covered by these arrangements.

(c) In the other areas sold by the Allied authorities before September 21, 1924, in which the timber is still standing, the German authorities shall make no objection in principle to the timber being felled (subject to their right of felling the timber themselves) and to this timber being removed by the purchasers.

Further, the German authorities shall in principle observe contracts of all kinds concluded by the Forestry Committee before September 21, 1924, as regards subsidiary forest products, without prejudice, however, to their right to convert the sums due into marks.

Nevertheless, in the interests of the forest domains, the Governments of the German States may come to an agreement with the purchasers of the areas referred to in the present Article, and with the persons holding rights in the subsidiary products, with a view to compensating them either by the grant of equivalent supplies or rights, or by a payment in cash.

Should an agreement of this kind be reached, it shall be notified by the two parties concerned to the High Commission.

Should no arrangement be reached, the question shall be examined jointly by the High Commissioner and the German authorities.

(d) The documents relating to these contracts (or certified true copies thereof) and the corresponding securities shall be handed over to the German authorities on the occasion of the transfer of the Inter-Allied Offices.

III.

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO COMMERCE.

(a) The German-Allied Commissions of Arbitration provided for in Article 8 of Annex III of the Protocol of London shall take cognisance, during the period from September 21, 1924, to October 21, 1924, of all requests for the remission or reduction of customs duties, and particularly all requests for the remission of the differences between the customs duties of the inter-Allied customs tariff and those of the Reich.

The rules of procedure of these Commissions shall be determined on the lines of those of the German-Inter-Allied Arbitral Commissions of the year 1920. A unanimous vote will therefore be necessary for the decisions to be valid.

The Commissions shall make their awards in accordance with the following principles :

The difference between the customs duties in the inter-Allied tariff and those in the tariff of the Reich may be wholly or partially remitted in respect of goods sent from abroad by twelve o'clock on the night of September 20 and 21, 1924, to the occupied territories, if an import permit in due form has been issued in respect of such goods and provided that they were declared and presented for clearance at a customs office before October 21, 1924, and that the difference in the customs duties cannot be transferred to the purchaser.

The difference between the customs duties may, moreover, be wholly or partially remitted on goods in respect of which a contract of delivery was entered into before September 1, 1924, and a permit of importation in the proper form was issued before September 21, 1924, provided that the goods were declared and presented at a customs office in the occupied territory before October 21, 1924, and that the difference in the customs duties cannot be transferred to the purchaser.

(b) These German-Inter-Allied Commissions of Arbitration shall also decide any complaints submitted by Allied nationals who, having entered into contracts before September 1, 1924, are prevented from executing them as a result of import or export licence being refused.

It is understood that in principle the execution of such contracts shall not be hindered by the refusal of a licence unless important German economic interests necessitate such refusal.

(c) Goods of all kinds imported in due form into the occupied territories under the inter-Allied regime may be conveyed freely and without previous authorisation from the occupied territories to the non-occupied territories and vice versa.

Once the duties and taxes fixed by the Allied authorities have been paid in respect of such goods, the latter shall be considered throughout Germany as being placed in the category of goods having paid the corresponding duties and taxes imposed by the German authorities. No additional duty or tax may therefore be levied on such goods on the ground that the corresponding German duties and taxes were higher than those fixed by the Allied authorities, nor shall any exceptional or restrictive measure be taken with regard to commercial transactions carried out in respect of such goods.

IV.

REGULATION OF THE QUESTION OF CUSTOMS FRAUDS.

Questions relating to the confiscations of goods, to arrangements for the settlement of customs duties and to the recovery of duties of which the customs authorities have been defrauded shall be settled in accordance with the following rules :

(a) The Inter-Allied Offices shall retain goods which were confiscated by a formal and written administrative act, before twelve o'clock on the night of August 30-31, 1924, and also the sums in respect of arrangements made regarding the said goods paid before October 21, 1924, whatever the date on which these arrangements were signed.

(b) The Inter-Allied Offices shall retain sums collected by them between August 31, 1924, and twelve o'clock on the night of October 20-21, 1924, in virtue of arrangements other than those referred to in Section (a), or of any other financial customs obligations arising before twelve o'clock on the night of August 30-31, 1924, up to an amount not exceeding the unpaid duties in all cases in which offences of this nature are covered by the provisions of Article 7 of Annex III of the Protocol of London.

(c) All goods held up or seized by the Inter-Allied Offices and not finally confiscated by a formal and written administrative decision before midnight on August 30-31, 1924, shall be handed over to the German Customs Administration.

(d) Goods confiscated, held up or seized by the Inter-Allied Offices after midnight on August 30-31, 1924, shall also be handed over to the German Customs Administration if such goods have not been sold before midnight on October 20-21, 1924.

(e) All offences against the customs regulations, arrangements for the settlement of customs duties and financial customs obligations which have not been settled by the Allied authorities before midnight on October 20-21, 1924, shall be left or handed over to the German authorities on October 21, 1924.

(f) The documents and deeds relating to offences against the customs regulations, customs settlements or financial customs obligations which are to be referred to the German customs authorities, together with the securities referring thereto, shall be handed over to the said authorities on the occasion of the transfer of the Inter-Allied Offices.

V.

CONSTITUTION OF A GERMAN-ALLIED PARITATIVE COMMISSION ON CUSTOMS MATTERS.

In cases when, in conformity with the fiscal law of the Reich, the " Reichsfinanzhof " is competent to give a final judgment on appeals relating to law-suits in connection with customs tariffs, a Paritative Commission, with its seat at Coblenz, shall take the place of that body in judging appeals submitted during the period between September 21 and October 21, 1924. This

Commission shall be composed of one member of the "Reichsfinanzhof" and of one member of the Inter-Allied Customs Administration.

The rules of procedure of this Arbitration Commission shall be settled on the lines of those of the German-Inter-Allied Arbitration Commissions of the year 1920. A unanimous vote will therefore be necessary for its decisions to be valid.

VI.

Disputes to which the application of the present arrangement may give rise and which are not within the competence of the Arbitration Commissions provided for in Article III above shall be laid before the High Commission or the German authorities by the parties concerned. These disputes shall be settled by common agreement between the representatives of the High Commission and of the German Government.

VII.

It is understood that the German Customs, Licence, and Forestry Departments may resume their ordinary duties on October 21, 1924, without awaiting October 28, the date on which all the measures provided for in Article IB of Annex III of the Protocol of London must have been carried out, and on which the Inter-Allied Securities Offices will cease to exist.

VIII.

The provisions of the present Arrangement, having been approved and signed by the Allied and German technical delegates on October 20, 1924, entered into force as from midnight on the same date.

Done at Coblenz, October 28, 1924.

For the Allied Technical Delegates :

(Signed) CARTERON.
CESARANO.
E. MATHIEU.
TROUGHTON.

For the German Technical Delegates :

(Signed) DR. HORION.