

N° 1681.

BELGIQUE ET PORTUGAL

Convention concernant diverses questions d'intérêt économique dans les colonies du Congo belge et de l'Angola. Signée à Saint-Paul de Loanda, le 20 juillet 1927.

BELGIUM AND PORTUGAL

Convention regarding various Questions of Economic Interest in the Colonies of the Belgian Congo and Angola. Signed at São-Paulo de Loanda, July 20, 1927.

Em fé do que os Plenipotenciários assinam a presente Convenção.

Feita em S. Paulo de Loanda, aos 20 de Julho de 1927, em quatro exemplares entregues, respectivamente, dois a cada um dos Estados signatários.

António Vicente FERREIRA.
Ernesto Júlio de CARVALHO E VASCONCELOS.
M. RUTTEN.
F. CATTIER.

En foi de quoi, les plénipotentiaires ont revêtu la présente convention de leurs signatures.

Fait à Saint-Paul de Loanda, le 20 juillet 1927, en quatre exemplaires, dont deux seront remis à chaque Etat signataire.

M. RUTTEN.
F. CATTIER.
Antonio Vicente FERREIRA.
Ernesto Julio DE CARVALHO E VASCONCELOS.

¹ TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

No. 1681. — CONVENTION BETWEEN BELGIUM AND PORTUGAL REGARDING VARIOUS QUESTIONS OF ECONOMIC INTEREST IN THE COLONIES OF THE BELGIAN CONGO AND ANGOLA, SIGNED AT SAO-PAULO DE LOANDA, JULY 20, 1927.

BELGIUM and PORTUGAL, being desirous of determining the methods to be adopted for the application of the various principles laid down in the agreement reached by their delegates, at Lisbon on December 10, 1926, which the two Powers have already approved, have decided to conclude a Convention and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries, for this purpose :

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE BELGIANS :

M. Martin RUTTEN, Governor-General of the Belgian Congo ;
M. Félicien CATTIER, Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Overseas Bank, Honorary Professor at the University of Brussels ;

THE PRESIDENT OF THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC :

M. Antonio Vicente FERREIRA, High Commissioner of the Republic and Governor-General of the Province of Angola ;
M. Ernesto Julio DE CARVALHO E VASCONCELOS, Vice-Admiral, Director-General of the Ministry for the Colonies ;

Who, having exchanged their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed on the following provisions :

¹ Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations.

¹ Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations.

Article I.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS.

The Administrations of the Belgian Congo and of Angola shall gradually connect their network of roadways by branch roads across the common frontier.

In application of this principle it is agreed forthwith that the Administration of the Belgian Congo shall construct in its territory three roads to connect respectively :

- (1) Songololo with the road running from San Salvador to the Congo frontier.
- (2) Banana to the road running from Cabinda to the Congo frontier.
- (3) Tumba to the road running from Maquela de Zombo to the Congo frontier.

The first two of these roads shall be constructed as follows :

The first within eight months and the second within twelve months from the date of the completion of the new railway from Matadi to Leopoldville.

The third shall be constructed within eighteen months from the date of the completion of the above railway, provided, within this period, the road in Portuguese territory has reached the Congo frontier.

The construction of these three roads shall be completed before the above-mentioned dates if the necessary labour can be obtained.

Article II.

THE M'POZO DAM.

The Portuguese Government agrees that the Belgian Government shall, as a result of the construction of a dam in the section of the waterway which is situated in Congo territory, be entitled to raise the level of the River M'Poza in that part of its course which is situated in Angola territory.

The Portuguese Government's consent is given subject to the following conditions, accepted by both Governments :

(1) The holder of the concession for the use of the above-mentioned dam shall be obliged to maintain at the disposal of the Portuguese Government or of nationals specified by the latter, in Angola territory, an amount of electrical power equal to 15 % of the total power produced by the dam.

(2) When work on the construction of the dam is about to be started the fact shall be notified by the Governor-General of the Belgian Congo to the High Commissioner of the Republic, Governor-General of Angola, who shall state the quantity of electrical power he desires to have at his immediate disposal within the above-mentioned limits.

If he does not do so before the work has begun, the High Commissioner may at any time send this notification to the Governor-General of the Belgian Congo, but his communication shall only take effect after two years.

(3) The electrical power to be furnished to the Portuguese Government shall be taken from the terminals of the central station. It shall be transmitted to its destination by lines which shall, in Congo territory, be set up at the utiliser's expense by the holder of the concession for the dam.

(4) In the territories crossed, the transmission-lines and all installations connected therewith shall be subject to local laws and regulations.

(5) The electrical power in question shall be supplied to the Portuguese Government at cost price. The cost price shall include all costs of production and the same required for the amortization of installations.

Accounts shall be settled at fixed periods.

It is understood that the Portuguese Government may not retail the current in Belgian territory nor in Angola at a price lower than that which the holder of the concession of the dam charges to his own customers.

Article III.

SMUGGLING OF FIRE-ARMS AND AMMUNITION.

Each of the two Governments undertakes to punish any person or persons exporting arms or ammunition from its colonial territory into the colonial territory of the other without the permission of the authorities of the colony into which the said arms and ammunition are to be imported.

The two Governments shall inform each other of any smuggling offences committed in their territories, and of the repressive measures taken ; they shall prohibit traders guilty of such offences from residing in the vicinity of the common frontier.

At the end of each year the Governments shall publish statistics concerning the imports of fire-arms and ammunition into their respective territories.

Article IV.

CUSTOMS RÉGIME.

The two Governments undertake not to introduce any import duty on foodstuffs which constitute the habitual diet of the native population, nor any import duties on live-stock, provided the place of origin of these foodstuffs and live-stock be the respective possessions of the Contracting Parties, and that they be imported direct from one colony to the other.

At the end of any period of ten years the above undertaking may be denounced by either of the Parties, subject to one year's notice.

The two Governments will establish Customs offices at places on the frontier where the volume of traffic justifies such action.

Article V.

All disputes between the Parties concerning the interpretation of this Convention shall be settled by arbitration.

Article VI.

The present Convention shall be ratified and the instruments of ratification shall be deposited in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Lisbon.

In faith whereof the Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Convention.

Done at São-Paulo de Loanda, July 20, 1927, in four copies, two copies being transmitted to each signatory State.

Antonio Vicente FERREIRA.

Ernesto Júlio DE CARVALHO E VASCONCELOS.

M. RUTTEN.

F. CATTIER.