

N° 3941.

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ALLEMAGNE, BELGIQUE,  
ESPAGNE,  
ESTONIE, FINLANDE, etc.

Convention internationale pour le  
marquage des œufs dans le com-  
merce international, avec annexes  
et protocole de signature. Signés  
à Bruxelles, le 11 décembre 1931.

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GERMANY, BELGIUM,  
SPAIN,  
ESTONIA, FINLAND, etc.

International Convention for the  
Marking of Eggs in International  
Trade, with Annexes and Protocol  
of Signature. Signed at Brussels,  
December 11th, 1931.

<sup>1</sup> TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

No. 3941. — INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION <sup>2</sup> ON THE MARKING OF EGGS IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE. SIGNED AT BRUSSELS, DECEMBER 11TH, 1931.

*French official text communicated by the Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs and by the Netherlands Minister for Foreign Affairs. The registration of this Convention took place July 27th, 1936.*

THE PRESIDENT OF THE GERMAN REICH ; HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE BELGIANS ; THE PRESIDENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SPANISH REPUBLIC ; THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA ; THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND ; THE PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC ; THE PRESIDENT OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC ; HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF ITALY ; HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF NORWAY ; HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF THE NETHERLANDS ; THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF THE SWISS CONFEDERATION ; THE PRESIDENT OF THE ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY,

Having recognised the advantages of international co-operation in regard to the marking of eggs, and in order to occasion as little difficulty as possible in international trade, by this measure, have decided to conclude a Convention for the purpose, and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries :

THE PRESIDENT OF THE GERMAN REICH :

His Excellency Count Hugo LERCHENFELD AUF KÖFERING UND SCHÖNBERG, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to His Majesty the King of the Belgians ;  
Dr. Alex WALTER, Ministerial Counsellor at the Ministry of Supply and Agriculture of the Reich ;  
M. Gerhard LICHTER, Higher Counsellor at the Ministry of Supply and Agriculture of the Reich ;

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE BELGIANS :

M. Albert HENRY, Director General at the Ministry of Agriculture, Delegate to the Permanent Committee of the International Institute of Agriculture ;  
His Excellency Count DE ROMRÉE DE VICHENET, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary ;  
M. E. WARNANTS, Principal Inspector at the Ministry of Agriculture ;

<sup>1</sup> Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations, à titre d'information.

<sup>1</sup> Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations, for information.

<sup>2</sup> *Ratifications deposited at Brussels :*

SWITZERLAND . . . . .	December 30th, 1932.
ITALY . . . . .	November 13th, 1933.
BELGIUM . . . . .	July 19th, 1934.
THE NETHERLANDS (for the Kingdom in Europe)	September 26th, 1935.
SPAIN . . . . .	January 27th, 1936.

*Accession :*

BULGARIA . . . . . April 30th, 1932.

Came into force July 27th, 1936.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SPANISH REPUBLIC :

Dr. Carlos BADIA, Commercial Adviser to the Embassy at Paris ;

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA :

M. Jüri SAMMUL, Consul at Paris ;

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND :

M. Hjalmar GÖÖS, Consul General at Hamburg ;

THE PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC :

FOR FRANCE :

M. Jean LEROY, Doctor of Law, Principal Inspector for the Repression of Frauds, Head of the Disputed Claims Department at the Ministry of Agriculture ;

FOR ALGERIA :

M. Jean LEROY, as above ;

THE PRESIDENT OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC :

M. Sp. D. SALTAFERA, Chargé d'Affaires at Brussels ;

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF ITALY :

Dr. Ernesto SANTORO, Head of Department at the Royal Ministry of Corporations ;

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF NORWAY :

M. William Mathe JOHANNESSEN, Consul General at Antwerp ;

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF THE NETHERLANDS :

Dr. J. J. L., VAN RIJN, Agricultural Counsellor, Delegate to the Permanent Committee of the International Institute of Agriculture ;

M. J. G. TUKKER, Engineer, Councillor of State for Agriculture ;

M. J. BREUKERS, Director of the Co-operative Society " Roermondsche Eiermijn " ;

THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF THE SWISS CONFEDERATION :

His Excellency M. F. BARBEY, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to His Majesty the King of the Belgians ;

THE PRESIDENT OF THE ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY :

M. Pedro SEOANE ;

Who, being duly authorised for the purpose and meeting at Brussels in the Palais des Académies on the initiative of the International Institute of Agriculture, have agreed as follows :

*Article I.*

Contracting States which at present require that eggs shall, before importation, be marked on the shell and the packing, or on one or the other, and contracting States which may subsequently impose such an obligation, undertake to accept the names contained in the list reproduced in Annex A, as sufficient indication of the origin of the eggs imported into their respective territories.

*Article 2.*

Contracting States which desire, with a view to making a distinction between imported eggs, to prescribe the use of different colours, undertake to impose for that purpose the following obligations only :

(a) *Fresh eggs* : The use of black during the period from March 15th to August 31st, and of red during the period from September 1st to March 14th. Eggs shipped before the beginning of these periods may be marked with the colour prescribed for the period of the date of shipment.

(b) *Preserved eggs* : The use of black throughout the whole year.

*Article 3.*

Any contracting State may permit the use of a general mark of origin in place of the mark mentioned in Annex A.

*Article 4.*

Contracting States which decide to make a distinction between fresh eggs and preserved eggs undertake not to oblige exporters to place on the shell or the packing, or on one or the other, any other inscriptions or marks regarding the method of preservation of the product than those contained in Annex B.

*Article 5.*

The contracting States shall recognise the mark of origin or of preservation as sufficient, in accordance with the Convention, provided that it is inscribed on the shell clearly and legibly, in indelible colour, and in Latin characters two millimetres in height.

Exporting countries, however, may employ larger characters ; each of them shall be free as regards choice of colour if the importing country does not insist on the use of the colours provided for in Article 2.

*Article 6.*

The contracting States undertake to prescribe that packings containing eggs must bear an inscription indicating the nature of the contents. They will recognise as sufficient an inscription in indelible capital letters (Latin characters) at least three centimetres in height.

*Article 7.*

In case of dispute regarding the interpretation of the clauses of the present Convention or of practical difficulties in its application, either Party concerned may, in agreement with the other Party, request the International Institute of Agriculture to attempt conciliation.

For this purpose, a Technical Committee composed of three experts shall examine the dispute ; each of the two States concerned shall appoint one expert and the International Institute of Agriculture the third. This Committee shall make its report, which shall be communicated by the International Institute of Agriculture to each of the countries concerned, all further freedom of action being reserved for the Governments.

The Governments concerned undertake to share the expenses of the task entrusted to the experts.

*Article 8.*

The present Convention, which may be signed by the States participating in the Brussels Conference up to March 31st, 1932, shall be ratified as soon as possible and the ratifications shall be deposited with the Belgian Government.

Notice of each ratification shall be given by the Belgian Government to the other contracting States and also to the International Institute of Agriculture.

*Article 9.*

States which have not signed the present Convention may accede to it if they so request.

Each acceding State shall have the right of indicating, at the time of its accession, the name which it proposes as an indication of origin for eggs coming from its territory, and also the inscriptions or marks regarding the distinction between fresh eggs and preserved eggs which are to be inserted in the lists annexed to the Convention.

This proposal shall be communicated, at the same time as the accession, to all the contracting States, with the request that they should give their approval within a period of six months, and also to the International Institute of Agriculture. At the end of that period contracting countries which have not replied shall be deemed to have given their approval.

New names must be of such a nature as not to cause confusion with the other names already appearing in Annex A of the present Convention.

*Article 10.*

Any contracting State may, at any time, notify the Belgian Government that the present Convention is applicable to all or some of its Colonies, Protectorates, Mandated Territories, Territories under its sovereignty or authority, and all Territories under its suzerainty. The Convention shall apply to all the Territories mentioned in the notification. Unless such notification is given, the Convention shall not apply to these Territories.

*Article 11.*

The present Convention shall come into force : for the first five sovereign States ratifying it, within a period of six months from the date of the fifth ratification ; for the other States, within a period of six months from the deposit of their ratification or accession.

*Article 12.*

Any contracting State which wishes to denounce the present Convention, either for the whole of its Territories or only for all or some of its Colonies, Protectorates, Possessions or Territories mentioned in Article 10, must notify the Belgian Government, which shall immediately advise the other acceding States and the International Institute of Agriculture, informing them of the date on which this denunciation was received.

The denunciation shall take effect only in regard to the State giving notification, or the Colonies, Protectorates, Possessions or Territories mentioned in the instrument of denunciation, and then only one year after the Belgian Government receives the notification.

In faith whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Convention.

Done at Brussels, the 11th day of December, 1931, in a single copy, which shall be deposited in the archives of the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

A certified copy shall be transmitted through diplomatic channels to each State signing the present Convention.

For Germany :

*Ad referendum.*

(Signed) Gerhard LICHTER.

For Belgium :

(Signed) Albert HENRY.

(Signed) DE ROMRÉE.

(Signed) E. WARNANTS.

For Spain:

(Signed) Carlos BADIA,

*Ad referendum.*

For Estonia :

(Signed) Jüri SAMMUL,

*Ad referendum.*

For Finland :

(Signed) Hjalmar GÖÖS,

*Ad referendum.*

For France :

(Signed) Jean LEROY.

For Algeria :

(Signed) Jean LEROY.

For the Hellenic Republic :

(Signed) S. D. SALTAFERA.

For Italy :

(Signed) Ernesto SANTORO.

For Norway :

(Signed) W. M. JOHANNESSEN,

*Ad referendum.*

For the Netherlands :

(Signed) J. J. L. VAN RIJN.

(Signed) J. G. TUKKER.

For Switzerland :

(Signed) BARBEY.

For Uruguay :<sup>1</sup>

#### ANNEX A<sup>2</sup>.

Germany . . . . .	Deutsch
Belgium . . . . .	Belgica
Spain . . . . .	España
Estonia . . . . .	Estonia
Finland . . . . .	
France . . . . .	France
Greece . . . . .	Grèce
Italy . . . . .	Italia
Norway . . . . .	
Netherlands . . . . .	Holland
Switzerland . . . . .	Suisse
Uruguay . . . . .	Uruguay

<sup>1</sup> The Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Uruguay did not sign the Convention.

<sup>2</sup> By a communication dated April 30th, 1932, the Bulgarian Legation at Brussels declared that the Bulgarian Government desires the mark "Bulgaria" to be included in Annex A. This desire has been communicated to the Governments of the other contracting States, which have made no objection.

## ANNEX B.

	Refrigerator eggs	Sterilised eggs	Eggs preserved by other means
Germany . . . . .	(a) on the eggs : K. (b) on packing : Kühlhaus- eier.		(a) Konserviert  (b) Konser- vierte Eier.
Belgium . . . . .			
Spain . . . . .			
Estonia . . . . .			
Finland . . . . .			
France . . . . .			
Greece . . . . .			
Italy . . . . .			
Norway . . . . .			
Netherlands . . . . .	(a) on the eggs : Koelhuis, (b) on packing : Koelhuis- eieren.	gesteriliseerd  gesteriliseerde eieren.	geconserveerd  geconserveerde eieren.
Switzerland . . . . .			
Uruguay . . . . .			

## PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE.

## I.

On proceeding to sign the present Convention, the contracting States declare that they are prepared to enter into negotiations among themselves with a view to establishing a uniform code of the inscriptions or marks referred to in Annex B and intended to distinguish preserved eggs from fresh eggs.

## II.

The States signing the present Convention reserve the right, up to March 31st, 1932, to communicate to the Belgian Government the marks which they wish to have included in Annexes A and B.

The Government in question shall inform the other signatory States and the International Institute of Agriculture. Additions to Annex A shall, however, require the approval of the contracting States in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 3.

States which are not in a position to communicate the information in question by the above-mentioned date shall indicate the date by which they expect to be able to do so.

## III.

The States signing the present Convention reserve the right to indicate, at the time of depositing their instrument of ratification, the States on whose ratification they make its validity conditional.

For Germany :  
(Signed) Gerhard LICHTER.

For Belgium :  
(Signed) Albert HENRY.  
(Signed) DE ROMRÉE.  
(Signed) E. WARNANTS.

For Spain:  
(Signed) Carlos BADIA,  
*Ad referendum.*

For Estonia :  
(Signed) Jüri SAMMUL,  
*Ad referendum.*

For Finland :  
(Signed) Hjalmar GÖÖS,

For France :  
(Signed) Jean LEROY.

For Algeria :  
(Signed) Jean LEROY.

For the Hellenic Republic :  
(Signed) S. D. SALTAFERA.

For Italy :  
(Signed) Ernesto SANTORO.

For Norway :  
(Signed) W. M. JOHANNESSEN.

For the Netherlands :  
(Signed) J. J. L. VAN RIJN.  
(Signed) J. G. TUKKER.

For Switzerland :  
(Signed) BARBEY.

For Uruguay :

In accordance with paragraph II of the Protocol of Signature, the Government of Finland informed the Belgian Government of its desire that the mark " Finland " should appear in Annex A of the Convention. This desire has been communicated to the Governments of the other contracting States, which have made no objection.

The Governments of the following States have intimated their desire that the marks indicated hereunder opposite the names of the States should appear in Annex B :

	Refrigerator eggs	Sterilised eggs	Eggs preserved by other means
Estonia . . . . .	" Coldstored Estonia "		" Preserved Estonia "
Finland . . . . .	(a) on the eggs : C. (b) on packing : " Coldstored eggs "	(a) " Sterilized ". (b) " Sterilized eggs "	
Greece . . . . .	R.	S.	C.
Italy . . . . .	(a) on the eggs : R. (b) on packing : " Uova Refrigerate "	(a) S. (b) " Uova sterilizzate "	(a) C. (b) " Uova conservate "
Switzerland . . . . .	" Frigor "	" Steril "	" Conserv. "