

N° 3963.

BULGARIE ET FRANCE

Accord de paiements. Signé à Sofia,
le 6 juillet 1936.

BULGARIA AND FRANCE

Agreement concerning Payments.
Signed at Sofia, July 6th, 1936.

¹ TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

No. 3963. — AGREEMENT CONCERNING PAYMENTS BETWEEN
BULGARIA AND FRANCE. SIGNED AT SOFIA, JULY 6TH, 1936.

THE BULGARIAN and FRENCH GOVERNMENTS, being desirous of eliminating the difficulties that experience has revealed in the operation of the Compensation Convention of January 16th, 1933, have agreed upon the following provisions, which shall supersede the aforesaid Convention :

Article 1.

Unless they have been paid for in free foreign exchange derived from the sale of Bulgarian products in a third country, French goods imported into Bulgaria after the entry into force of the present additional Agreement may be paid for only by private compensation with Bulgarian products imported into France, account being taken of :

1. The charge in free foreign exchange imposed by the Bulgarian National Bank, in accordance with its ordinances, on exported Bulgarian products ;
2. The charge of 17.5 per cent of the f.o.b. value of the Bulgarian products imported into France, which amount shall be paid into the Franco-Bulgarian Compensation Office.

Article 2.

The liquidation of debts arising out of the sale of French goods consigned to Bulgaria before the publication of the present Agreement in the *Official Journal* of the French Republic shall be effected out of the charge of 17.5 per cent. imposed (in francs) on the f.o.b. value of Bulgarian products imported into France and paid for by private compensation with French products exported to Bulgaria.

Such liquidation shall be carried out in the chronological order of payments into the Bulgarian National Bank of the sums due by the Bulgarian debtors, regard being had to the dates on which that Bank was advised of payments made into other banks, at the Bulgarian National Bank's rate of exchange on the day of the payment in leva, on the understanding that the creditor shall receive the amount of his claim in francs irrespective of exchange fluctuations between the date on which the Bulgarian National Bank received the leva and the date of the final transfers. Debts expressed in currencies other than francs or leva shall be converted in France into francs at the rate prevailing on the day of payment, on the basis of the rates officially quoted on the market of the debtor country.

The amounts paid in francs to French creditors by the Franco-Bulgarian Compensation Office shall, after every payment, be placed to the credit of the Bulgarian National Bank.

Article 3.

Holders of old French trade debts shall be entitled to use the leva paid to their credit, or to the credit of other holders of old French trade debts, for purchasing Bulgarian goods intended for export, in accordance with the terms of the ordinances of the Bulgarian National Bank.

The charge of 17.5 per cent. shall not be imposed on the importation into France of Bulgarian products paid for by means of old debts.

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

¹ Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations, for information.

Evidence of such payment must be produced, prior to the importation of the goods, in the form either of a certificate from the Bulgarian National Bank addressed to the Franco-Bulgarian Compensation Office, or of a payment order issued by the Franco-Bulgarian Compensation Office and endorsed by the Bulgarian National Bank. The Bulgarian National Bank and the Compensation Office shall advise each other of the establishment of such documents whenever they are issued.

Article 4.

The Bulgarian National Bank shall likewise authorise without restriction the transfer of old French trade debts to French or Bulgarian citizens resident in France or Bulgaria for all operations in Bulgaria in inland leva. The Bulgarian National Bank shall advise the Franco-Bulgarian Compensation Office of such transfers whenever they occur.

Article 5.

The Bulgarian National Bank undertakes to transfer the sums paid to it only up to the amount of the foreign exchange available for the liquidation of old debts as provided in this Agreement. Should the present Agreement be denounced, a fresh understanding shall be reached regarding the transfer of untransferred leva.

Article 6.

The Bulgarian National Bank will continue, as hitherto, to accept direct payments in leva up to a total of 40 million leva. When that total is reached, acceptance of payments in leva will be suspended, and will be resumed to the extent to which the aforesaid uncovered balance may have been reduced by conversions.

Article 7.

In order to prevent fresh arrears from developing, the Bulgarian Government will authorise the importation of French goods into Bulgaria only to the extent to which provision can be made for payment under the conditions laid down in Article 1.

Article 8.

It is understood that the holders of old French trade debts referred to in Article 3 may be either the original creditors or persons to whom they have transferred their claims.

Article 9.

The present Agreement shall also be applicable to Algeria.

Article 10.

Each Government will take, for its own part, such internal measures as it may deem necessary to enforce the provisions of the present Agreement upon its nationals.

Article 11.

The present Agreement shall come into force ten days after the date of its signature. The period of its validity shall be six months. It may be denounced three months before the date of its expiry. It shall be tacitly extended for further periods of six months until such time as one of the High Contracting Parties gives notice, as provided above, of his desire to bring it to a close.

Done in duplicate at Sofia, the 6th day of July, 1936.

(Signed) Jacques LABOURET,
French Plenipotentiary.

(Signed) G. KIOSSÉIVANOV,
Bulgarian Plenipotentiary.