N° 434.

COLOMBIE
ET LE ROYAUME-UNI


COLOMBIA
AND THE UNITED KINGDOM

Exchange of Notes concerning the Importation from the United Kingdom into Colombia of Morphine and Similar Drugs. Bogota, March 6 and 8, 1923.

Textes officiels anglais et espagnol communiqués par le Ministère des Affaires étrangères de Sa Majesté Britannique. L’enregistrement de cet échange de notes a eu lieu le 8 juin 1923. Official English and Spanish texts communicated by His Britannic Majesty’s Foreign Office. The registration of this exchange of notes took place June 8, 1923.

BRITISH LEGATION, BOGOTA.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

March 6, 1923.

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that in pursuance of the steps which His Majesty’s Government are taking to assist in preventing the improper consumption of opium, morphine, cocaine and similar drugs, they have prohibited the exportation from the United Kingdom to all destinations of the drugs specified below, except under licence. Applications for the grant of licences for exportation to Colombia should be accompanied by certificates previously issued under the authority of the Colombian Government to the effect that the Colombian Government are satisfied that the consignment is required exclusively for legitimate medicinal or scientific purposes and will not be re-exported.

The drugs for which certificates will be required are raw opium, morphine, cocaine, ecdine and diamorphine (commonly known as heroin) and their respective salts, and medicinal opium, and any preparation, admixture, extract or other substance containing not less than one-fifth per cent of morphine or one-tenth per cent of cocaine, ecdine or diamorphine. His Majesty’s Government may, however, find it necessary to extend this list to include any new derivative of morphine or cocaine or any other alkaloid or opium or any other drug of whatever kind which may, in their opinion, be productive, if improperly used, of ill effects substantially of the same character or nature as or analogous to those produced by morphine or cocaine.

I shall be grateful if Your Excellency will enclose, in your reply, a copy of the form of certificate mutually agreed upon by this Legation and the Ministry, signifying the assent of the Colombian Government to the issue of certificates in proper cases, and their acquiescence in the proposals set forth.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

(Signed) HERBERT HERVEY.

His Excellency
Sr. don Jorge VELEZ,
Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Bogota.
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Monsieur le Ministre,

Bogota, March 8, 1923.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of March 6, informing me of the steps taken by His Majesty's Government to prevent the improper consumption of opium, morphine, cocaine and similar drugs. Your Excellency further suggests that in order to obtain satisfactory results in Colombia in this connection, every application for a licence to import into this country, should be accompanied by a certificate previously issued under the authority of the Government to the effect that the consignment is required exclusively for medicinal or scientific purposes, and will not be re-exported.

I have the honour to inform you, in reply, that the Colombian Government has always sympathised with the campaign undertaken by His Britannic Majesty's Government since the Opium Conference with a view to preventing the improper consumption of certain dangerous drugs, and, in conformity with the favourable opinion expressed by the Central Health Committee, agrees to the procedure suggested by Your Excellency's Government to ensure the legality of importations of the drugs in question, by means of a certificate in the form indicated by Your Excellency, model of which I have the honour to transmit herewith for the purpose of comparison with the form communicated by His Majesty's Government.

I have the honour, etc.,

(Signed) Jorge Velez

His Excellency
Lord Herbert Hervey,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Great Britain,
Bogota.

CERTIFICATE.

At the request of ................. for a certificate for permission to import from the United Kingdom the following narcotic drugs:

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The Central Health Committee, which is authorised by the Government of Colombia for the purpose, is satisfied that the goods referred to are exclusively intended for actual scientific or medical purpose, and will not be re-exported.

Bogota, ................. 192.................

(for the Health Committee.)

1 Traduct par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations.