

N° 760.

**BELGIQUE,
EMPIRE BRITANNIQUE,
FRANCE, GRÈCE,
ITALIE, etc. ET ALLEMAGNE**

Arrangement entre les Gouvernements alliés et l'Allemagne pour l'exécution du Plan des Experts du 9 avril 1924, signé à Londres, le 30 août 1924.

**BELGIUM,
BRITISH EMPIRE, FRANCE,
GREECE,
ITALY, etc. AND GERMANY**

Agreement between the Allied Governments and the German Government to carry out the Experts' Plan of April 9, 1924, signed at London, August 30, 1924.

No. 760. — AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE ALLIED GOVERNMENTS AND THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT TO CARRY OUT THE EXPERTS' PLAN OF APRIL 9, 1924, SIGNED AT LONDON, AUGUST 30, 1924.

Textes officiels anglais et français, communiqués par le Ministère des Affaires étrangères de Sa Majesté Britannique. L'enregistrement de cet arrangement a eu lieu le 20 octobre, 1924.

THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BELGIUM, THE GOVERNMENT OF HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY (WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA, THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA, THE DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND, THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA, AND INDIA), THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GREEK REPUBLIC, THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF ITALY, THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC, THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF ROUMANIA AND THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF THE SERB-CROAT-SLOVENE STATE, of the one part, and THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GERMAN REPUBLIC, of the other part,

Animated with the desire to bring into being as soon as possible as regards matters affecting them, the plan presented to the Reparation Commission on April 9, 1924, by the First Committee of Experts appointed by it on November 30, 1923, "to consider the means of balancing the budget and the measures to be taken to stabilise the currency of Germany," approved by the Commission and accepted by each of the interested Powers,

Have resolved to conclude an agreement for this purpose, and, therefore, the undersigned duly authorised have agreed as follows :

Article 1.

(A) The Experts' Plan of April 9, 1924, will be considered as having been put into execution, except as regards measures to be taken by the Allied Governments, when the Reparation Commission has declared that the measures prescribed by it in its decision No. 2,877 (4) of July 15, 1924, have been taken, that is to say :

- (1) That Germany has taken the following measures :
 - (a) The voting by the Reichstag in the form approved by the Reparation Commission of the laws necessary to the working of the plan, and their promulgation.
 - (b) The installation with a view to their normal working of all the executive and controlling bodies provided for in the plan.
 - (c) The definitive constitution, in conformity with the provisions of the respective laws, of the Bank and the German Railway Company.
 - (d) The deposit with the trustees of certificates representing the railway bonds and such similar certificates for the industrial debentures as may result from the report of the Organisation Committee.

(2) That contracts have been concluded assuring the subscription of the loan of 800 million gold marks as soon as the plan has been brought into operation and all the conditions contained in the Experts' Report have been fulfilled.

¹ Cet Arrangement n'est pas sujet à ratification.

(B) The fiscal and economic unity of Germany will be considered to have been restored in accordance with the Experts' Plan when the Allied Governments have taken the following measures :

(1) The removal and cessation of all vetoes imposed since January 11, 1923, on German fiscal and economic legislation ; the re-establishment of the German authorities with the full powers which they exercised in the occupied territories before January 11, 1923, as regards the administration of Customs and taxes, foreign commerce, woods and forests, railways (under the conditions specified in Article 5), and, in general, all other branches of economic and fiscal administration ; the remaining administrations not mentioned above will operate in every respect in conformity with the Rhineland Agreement ; the formalities regarding the admission or re-admission of German officials will be applied in such a manner that the re-establishment of the German authorities, in particular the Customs administration, may take place with the least possible delay ; all this without other restrictions than those stipulated in the Treaty of Versailles, the Rhineland Agreement and the Experts' Plan.

(2) The restoration to their owners of all mines, cokeries and other industrial, agricultural, forest and shipping undertakings exploited under Allied management or provisionally leased by the occupying authorities since January 11, 1923.

(3) The withdrawal of the special organisations established to exploit the pledges and the release of requisitions made for the working of those organisations.

(4) The removal, subject to the provisions of the Rhineland Agreement, of restrictions on the movement of persons, goods and vehicles.

(5) In general, the Allied Governments, in order to ensure in the occupied territories the fiscal and economic unity of Germany, will cause the Inter-allied Rhineland High Commission to proceed, subject to the provisions of the Rhineland Agreement, to an adjustment of the ordinances passed by the said commission since January 11, 1923.

Article 2.

The Experts' Plan will be put into execution with the least possible delay. For this purpose the measures indicated in Article 1 will be taken as rapidly as possible ; in particular, the laws necessary for the working of the plan will be promulgated immediately after they have been voted.

Article 3.

(1) Every effort shall be made to bring the Experts' Plan into full operation not later than October 22, 1924.

(2) On September 2, 1924, at the latest, the Reparation Commission ought to be in a position to announce that the German laws necessary for the working of the plan have been promulgated in the terms approved by it, and also that the Agent-General for Reparation Payments has taken up his duties.

(3) Within five weeks (35 days) from the date of this first announcement (*i. e.*, not later than October 7, 1924), the Commission should be in a position to announce that the other measures prescribed in its decision of July 15, 1924, mentioned in Article 1, have been fulfilled.

The Reparation Commission shall have power if necessary to advance these dates if circumstances permit, or to postpone them so far as may be deemed indispensable for the complete fulfilment of the above provisions.

The French and Belgian Governments undertake to fulfil within a fortnight after the date of the second announcement (*i. e.*, by October 22, 1924), the programme laid down in Article 1 for the

restoration of Germany's fiscal and economic unity. They will notify the Reparation Commission of such fulfilment. The decision that the programme has been fully executed will be taken by the Reparation Commission.

Article 4.

(a) As soon as the first announcement referred to in Article 3 (2) has been made (*i.e.*, on September 2, 1924), and during the transition period between the first and second announcements (*i.e.*, between September 2 and October 7, 1924), without waiting for the complete execution of the measures prescribed by the Reparation Commission in its decision of July 15, 1924, the French and Belgian Governments, being desirous of restoring in a large measure Germany's fiscal and economic unity as soon as possible, will take the following steps :

Eight days after the first announcement (September 10, 1924) the levy of duties on the eastern Customs line (*i.e.*, the Customs barrier between occupied and unoccupied Germany) will cease.

Twenty days after the first announcement (September 22), and earlier if possible, the Allied authorities will reduce as far as possible the restrictions imposed since January 11, 1923, on the movements of persons, goods and vehicles, especially between occupied and unoccupied Germany. Within the same period the French and Belgian Governments will have abolished the said eastern Customs line and will apply solely the legislation and tariffs in force in unoccupied Germany to collections and charges of all kinds levied by them in the occupied territories, as well as to the régime for external trade, except so far as concerns the Franco-Belgian Railway Régie, which will continue to apply its own tariffs.

(b) The aforesaid Governments will continue to levy the collections and charges thus adjusted, but will hand over to the Agent-General for Reparation Payments the receipts accruing to them after the first announcement (September 2, 1924), from the application of the new régime, including the net profits from the Franco-Belgian Railway Régie, but less the monthly deduction of a lump sum of 2 million gold marks to cover the cost of collection during the transition period.

(c) On its side the German Government will pay over to the Agent-General for Reparation Payments during the transition period such monthly instalments as, added to the receipts above provided for, shall place at his disposal each month an amount equal to one-twelfth of the first annuity under the Experts' Plan, less the estimated receipts during the month from the operation of the British Reparation Recovery Act or corresponding measures which may be adopted by the other Allied Governments and the paper marks supplied to the armies of occupation. It is understood that the monthly burden to fall upon Germany during the transition period shall be one-twelfth of the first annuity of the global payment incumbent on Germany, as such global payment is defined in Section XI of the Experts' Plan ; to such monthly burden is to be added each month during the transition period the 2 millions of gold marks mentioned above.

(d) Payments towards the above-mentioned monthly sums will be made every ten days.

The first payment by Germany will take place on the date of the first announcement (September 2, 1924).

The first payment by the French and Belgian Governments will be made ten days later (September 12, 1924).

The first and second payments by Germany will amount to 20 million gold marks each. The third payment will consist of the balance of the payment to be made by Germany during the first month.

The subsequent payments by Germany shall be fixed by the Agent-General for Reparation Payments and shall be such as to place at the disposal of the Agent-General during each period of ten days one-third of the monthly instalment stipulated above, taking into account the payments made by the French and Belgian Governments and the receipts from the Reparation Recovery Acts, &c.

The payments by the French and Belgian Governments will only fall due in so far as the German Government has on its part effected its payments.

(e) With the resources thus placed at his disposal the Agent-General for Reparation Payments shall provide for the payment of reparation and other treaty charges during the transition period, in conformity with the decisions as to distribution which will be taken by the Allied and Associated Governments.

In particular he shall place at the disposal of the interested Governments the sums necessary :

(1) To ensure the complete financing of all agreements concerning deliveries in kind continued or entered into by them or by their representatives during the transition period, including the cost of the transport of the said deliveries, as provided by the Treaty of Versailles ;

(2) To cover the working expenses of mines and cokeries under Allied management, including the cost of transport to the frontiers.

As a consequence of the above provisions and in order that the period during which German payments are made at the rate prescribed for the first annuity shall not exceed one year, the period corresponding to the first annuity in the Experts' Plan will be reduced by a period equal to that of the transition period, and the second annuity will begin immediately thereafter (*i.e.*, September 2, 1925).

Article 5.

Upon the second announcement (October 7, 1924), the railway system of the Reich will be transferred to the new company contemplated by the Experts' Plan. As from that date the operation of all the lines now worked by the Deutsche Reichsbahn will pass to the said company. As from a fortnight after the second announcement (October 22, 1924), the lines now operated by the Régie will be worked on account of the company under the control of the Railway Organisation Committee.

As soon as the present Agreement has been signed, the Organisation Committee will place itself in communication with the Régie in order to arrange the details of the transfer. The actual transfer from the Régie to the company will be made step by step under the control of the Organisation Committee with as little delay as is compatible with an orderly transfer. It shall be completed within a period of six weeks (by December 7, 1924), the Organisation Committee, however, having authority to grant extensions of time for the arrangement of details.

Article 6.

The detailed measures to be applied and the machinery to be set up in order to carry out the provisions of articles 1 B, 2, 3 and 4 (*a*) will be studied by technical conferences between the representatives of the interested Allied authorities and the German departments concerned. These conferences will begin at Coblenz and Dusseldorf immediately after the London Conference.

The measures to be applied as well as transitional measures shall be put into force in the occupied territories in the customary form.

Article 7.

In order to bring about mutual conciliation and in order to wipe out the past to the utmost possible extent, the Allied Governments and the German Government have agreed on the following stipulations, it being understood that, as regards future incidents, the jurisdiction and legislation of Germany, notably in the matter of the security of the State, and the jurisdiction and the

legislation of the occupying authorities, notably in the matter of their security, will respectively follow their normal course in conformity with the Treaty of Peace and the Rhineland Agreement.

(1) No one shall, under any pretext, be prosecuted, disturbed or molested or subjected to any injury, whether material or moral, either by reason of acts committed exclusively or principally for political reasons or by reason of his political attitude in the occupied territories from January 11, 1923, up to the putting into force of the present Agreement, or by reason of his obedience or disobedience to orders, ordinances, decrees or other injunctions issued by the occupying authorities or the German authorities respectively and relating to events which have taken place within the same period, or by reason of his relations with the said authorities.

(2) The German Government and the Allied Governments concerned will remit all sentences and penalties, judicial or administrative, imposed for the above facts from January 11, 1923, up to the putting into force of the present Agreement. It is understood that fines or other pecuniary penalties, whether judicial or administrative, already paid will not be reimbursed.

(3) The provisions of paragraphs (1) and (2) do not apply to crimes committed against the life of persons and resulting in death.

(4) The offences to which the amnesty provided for in the stipulations of paragraphs (1) and (2) does not apply and which are at the present moment subject to the jurisdiction of the occupying authorities by reason of the creation of special organisations which are to be suppressed under the terms of the present Agreement, will be transferred to the German tribunals.

(5) The Governments concerned will each take, so far as they are concerned, the measures necessary to assure the fulfilment of this article. If need arises, this fulfilment will be amicably arranged by the Governments concerned, and if necessary by means of mixed commissions set up by common agreement.

Article 8.

German-Allied commissions of arbitration, similar to those appointed in 1920, charged with the duty of deciding any disputes which the change of régime may give rise to between Allied merchants and the German authorities, shall be set up by the Governments concerned.

Article 9.

The suppression of the Bad-Ems Sub-Committee on October 22, 1924, shall not prejudice the full execution of Articles 264 to 267 of the Treaty of Versailles.

Article 10.

All disputes which may arise between the Allied Governments or one of them on the one side and Germany on the other side with regard to the present Agreement shall, if they cannot be settled by negotiation, be submitted to the Permanent Court of International Justice.

Article 11.

The present Agreement, of which the French and English texts are both authentic, shall come into force from the moment of signature.

Done at London, the 30th day of August, 1924, in a single copy, which will remain deposited in the archives of His Britannic Majesty's Government, which will transmit certified copies to each of the Parties.

BN. MONCHEUR.
EYRE A. CROWE.
N. A. BELCOURT.
JOSEPH COOK.
J. ALLEN.
E. H. WALTON.
DADIBA MERWANJEE DALAL.
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