

N° 1660.

**GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET LETTONIE**

Accord relatif au traitement en
douane des échantillons des voya-
geurs de commerce. Signé à Riga,
le 16 novembre 1927.

**GREAT BRITAIN
AND LATVIA**

Agreement regarding the Customs
Treatment of Commercial Travel-
lers' Samples. Signed at Riga, No-
vember 16, 1927.

No. 1660. — AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE LATVIAN REPUBLIC REGARDING THE CUSTOMS TREATMENT OF COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' SAMPLES. SIGNED AT RIGA, NOVEMBER 16, 1927.

*Texte officiel anglais communiqué par le Ministère des Affaires étrangères de Sa Majesté britannique.
L'enregistrement de cet accord a eu lieu le 2 mars 1928.*

HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT in Great Britain and the GOVERNMENT OF THE LATVIAN REPUBLIC, being desirous of facilitating the clearance through their respective Customs Departments of samples of dutiable goods brought by commercial travellers to be used as models or patterns for the purpose of obtaining orders and not for sale, mutually agree as follows :

Articles liable to duty serving as patterns and samples, which are introduced into Great Britain or Northern Ireland by commercial travellers representing persons, companies or firms carrying on business in Latvia or into Latvia by commercial travellers representing persons, companies or firms carrying on business in Great Britain or Northern Ireland, shall henceforth be admitted free of duty, subject to the following formalities requisite to ensure their being re-exported or placed in bond :

(1) The officers of Customs at any port or place at which the patterns or samples may be imported shall ascertain the amount of duty chargeable thereon. That amount must either be deposited by the commercial traveller in money, or the guarantee of a bank approved for this purpose by the administration concerned given for it.

(2) For the purpose of identification, the marks, stamps, or seals placed upon the samples by the Customs authorities of one of the Contracting Parties shall be recognised as sufficient by those of the other. Should the samples, however, arrive without bearing any of the above-mentioned marks, or should the marks not appear to be sufficient to the administration interested, a supplementary mark may be affixed to such samples if considered desirable in such a way as not to injure them. In such case the supplementary mark shall be affixed either gratuitously or on payment of a fee not exceeding the usual charge for affixing such marks to imported merchandise.

(3) A permit or certificate shall be given to the importer which shall contain :

(a) A list of patterns or samples imported specifying the nature of the goods and such marks as may be proper for the purpose of identification.

(b) A statement showing the duty chargeable on the patterns or samples, and also whether the amount was deposited in money or whether security was given for it.

¹ Entré en vigueur le 23 décembre 1927.

¹ TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

N^o 1660. — ACCORD² ENTRE LE GOUVERNEMENT DE SA MAJESTÉ BRITANNIQUE EN GRANDE-BRETAGNE ET LE GOUVERNEMENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE LETTONIE RELATIF AU TRAITEMENT EN DOUANE DES ÉCHANTILLONS DES VOYAGEURS DE COMMERCE. SIGNÉ A RIGA, LE 16 NOVEMBRE 1927.

English official text communicated by His Britannic Majesty's Foreign Office. The registration of this Agreement took place March 2, 1928.

LE GOUVERNEMENT DE SA MAJESTÉ BRITANNIQUE en Grande-Bretagne et le GOUVERNEMENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE LETTONIE, désireux de faciliter le passage, par leurs bureaux de douane respectifs, des échantillons de marchandises passibles de droits, introduits par des voyageurs de commerce et destinés non à être vendus, mais à servir de modèles ou d'échantillons, en vue de recueillir des commandes, sont convenus des dispositions suivantes :

Les articles passibles de droits qui servent de modèles et d'échantillons et qui sont introduits en Grande-Bretagne ou dans l'Irlande du Nord par des voyageurs de commerce représentant des personnes, des sociétés ou des entreprises exerçant leur activité en Lettonie, ou qui sont introduits en Lettonie par des voyageurs de commerce représentant des personnes, des sociétés ou des entreprises exerçant leur activité en Grande-Bretagne ou dans l'Irlande du Nord seront désormais admis en franchise, sous réserve des formalités suivantes destinées à assurer leur réexportation ou leur entreposage en douane :

1^o Les fonctionnaires des douanes, dans tout port ou lieu d'entrée des échantillons et des modèles, établiront le montant des droits qui frappent ces articles. Le voyageur de commerce devra déposer le montant de ces droits en espèces ou fournir la garantie d'une banque approuvée à cet effet par l'administration intéressée.

2^o En vue de permettre l'identification des marchandises, les marques, timbres ou sceaux apposés sur les échantillons par les autorités douanières de l'une des Parties contractantes, seront considérés comme suffisants par les autorités douanières de l'autre Partie. Toutefois, s'il est constaté, à l'arrivée, que les échantillons ne portent pas les marques mentionnées ci-dessus, ou si les marques ne semblent pas suffisantes à l'administration intéressée, une marque supplémentaire pourra, le cas échéant, être apposée sur ces échantillons, de manière à ne pas détériorer les marchandises. En pareil cas, la marque supplémentaire sera apposée soit sans frais, soit contre versement d'un droit ne dépassant pas le droit habituel fixé pour l'apposition de marques de ce genre sur les marchandises importées.

3^o Il sera délivré à l'importateur un permis ou certificat qui contiendra :

a) La liste des modèles ou échantillons importés, spécifiant la nature des marchandises et les marques destinées à en permettre l'identification ;

b) Une déclaration mentionnant le montant des droits auxquels sont soumis les modèles ou échantillons, et indiquant également si le dépôt des droits a été effectué en espèces ou si des garanties ont été fournies pour en assurer le paiement.

¹ Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations.

¹ Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations.

² Came into force December 23, 1927.

(c) A statement as to the manner in which the patterns or samples were marked.

(d) A statement of the period (not in any case to be less than six months) at the expiration of which the amount of duty deposited will be carried to public account, or the amount payable will be recovered under the security given, as the case may be, unless it is proved by a certificate issued by the Customs authorities, or in such other manner as may be approved by them, that the patterns or samples have been previously re-exported, or placed in bond. No charge other than the legal stamp duty shall be made for such a certificate or its equivalent.

4. The patterns or samples may also be re-exported through any Customs-House other than the one through which they were imported.

Nevertheless, it is agreed, in respect of Latvia, that in case the re-exportation of patterns or samples takes place through any Latvian Customs-House other than the Customs-House of importation the formalities of re-exportation and the refunding of the duty paid or the cancellation of the bond given must be effected at the Customs-House of importation, unless re-exportation is effected through the Customs-House of Riga, Liepaja (Libau), Ventspils (Windau) or Daugavpils (Dvinsk), each of which is able in this matter to act for any other Latvian Customs-House.

It is understood that commercial travellers representing persons, companies or firms carrying on business in Great Britain or Northern Ireland shall be permitted to import their patterns or samples through any Latvian Customs-House which may be opened for this purpose to the commercial travellers of any other foreign country and shall be placed in this matter as well as in all that relates to the re-exportation of their patterns or samples and the Customs-Houses through, and the conditions under, which the re-exportation may take place in all respects on the footing of the most favoured nation.

5. If before the expiration of the appointed time provided for in paragraph 3 (d) the patterns or samples should be presented at the Customs-House of any port or place for the purpose of re-exportation, or being placed in bond, the officers at such port or place must satisfy themselves by examination that the articles which are brought to them are the same as those for which a permit of entry was granted. If the officers are satisfied that this is the case, they will certify the re-exportation or deposit in bond, and will refund the duty which had been deposited or will take the necessary steps for discharging the security.

It is understood that the foregoing privileges shall not extend to articles which, owing to their quantity or value, cannot be considered as samples or which, owing to their nature, could not be identified on re-exportation.

With a view to facilitating as much as possible the operations of commercial travellers, it is agreed that the respective authorities shall use their best endeavours to complete the formalities of importation or re-exportation in every case in a single working day.

This agreement shall come into force on the day following the day of the notification to His Britannic Majesty's Government in Great Britain of its ratification by the Latvian Government, and shall remain in force until the expiration of three months from the date on which either of the Contracting Parties shall have denounced it.

In witness whereof the undersigned, duly authorised by their respective Governments, have signed the present agreement and affixed thereto their seals.

Done in duplicate at Riga, the 16th day of November, 1927.

(L. S.) J. C. T. VAUGHAN.

(L. S.) F. CIELENS.