N° 2497.

NORVÈGE ET PERSE


NORWAY AND PERSIA

1 Traduction. — Translation.

No. 2497. — Exchanges of Notes Between the Norwegian and Persian Governments Constituting a Provisional Settlement of the Relations Between the Two Countries. Teheran, November 19 and 21, 1928, and May 9 and 10, 1929.

French official text communicated by the Permanent Delegate of Persia accredited to the League of Nations. The registration of this Exchange of Notes took place October 13, 1930.

I.

Teheran, November 19, 1928.

Your Excellency,

The Norwegian Government, which I have the honour to represent, animated by the sincere desire to bring to a conclusion at the earliest possible date the negotiations at present proceeding for a treaty of friendship and for consular, commercial, and other conventions between Norway and Persia, notes that circumstances have prevented the immediate conclusion of such treaties.

I accordingly have the honour on behalf of the Norwegian Government to make to you the following declaration constituting a provisional settlement of the relations between Norway and Persia.

1. As from November 21, 1928, the diplomatic representatives of Persia in Norwegian territory shall enjoy, subject to full reciprocity, the privileges and immunities established by ordinary international law.

The consular representatives of Persia in Norwegian territory, being duly provided with the exequatur, shall be entitled, subject to full reciprocity, to reside in the places to which they have hitherto been admitted.

They shall enjoy the honorary privileges and personal immunities from jurisdiction and taxation established by ordinary international law, subject to full reciprocity.

The treatment accorded to the diplomatic and consular representatives of Persia in Norwegian territory, subject to reciprocity, shall not in any case be inferior to the treatment accorded to the most favoured nation.

2. As from November 21, 1928, the Norwegian Government shall accord most-favoured-nation treatment in the matter of establishment to Persian nationals in Norway, subject to full reciprocity.

In so far as their personal status is concerned, Persian nationals in Norway shall remain subject to the provisions of their national law. The term "personal status" shall cover questions relating to marriage, property rights of husband and wife, divorce, separation, legal competency, majority, guardianship and curatorship, deprivation of legal rights, rights of succession under testamentary dispositions or in virtue of intestacy, liquidation and division of successions or patrimonies, and in general all questions of family law, including all questions of personal standing.

3. On and after November 21, 1928, and until May 10, 1929, the Norwegian Government shall subject the natural and manufactured products of Persia on entry into Norwegian territory

1 Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations, for information.
to the Organic Customs legislation of Norway. It shall give them the benefit of the Norwegian minimum and of any reductions of that tariff which may be granted to similar products, natural or manufactured, originating in any other country.

I have the honour to be, etc.

His Excellency
Fathollah Khan Pakrevan,
Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Teheran.

(Signed) Wilden.

TEHERAN, November 21, 1928.

Your Excellency,

My Government, animated by the sincere desire to bring to a conclusion at the earliest possible date the negotiations at present proceeding for a treaty of friendship and for consular, commercial, and other conventions between Persia and Norway, notes that circumstances have prevented the immediate conclusion of such treaties.

I have accordingly the honour on behalf of my Government to make to you the following declaration constituting a provisional settlement of the relations between Persia and Norway.

1. As from November 21, 1928, the diplomatic representatives of Norway in Persian territory shall enjoy, subject to full reciprocity, the privileges and immunities established by ordinary international law.

The consular representatives of Norway in Persian territory, being duly provided with the exequatur, shall be entitled, subject to full reciprocity to reside in the places to which they have hitherto been admitted.

They shall enjoy the honorary privileges and personal immunities from jurisdiction and taxation established by ordinary international law, subject to full reciprocity.

The treatment accorded to the diplomatic and consular representatives of Norway in Persian territory, subject to reciprocity, shall not in any case be inferior to the treatment accorded to the most favoured nation.

2. As from November 21, 1928, the Persian Government shall accord most-favoured-nation treatment in the matter of establishment to Norwegian nationals in Persia, subject to full reciprocity.

In so far as their personal status is concerned, Norwegian nationals in Persia shall remain subject to the provisions of their national law. The term "personal status" shall cover questions relating to marriage, property rights of husband and wife, divorce, separation, dowry, paternity, filiation, adoption, legal competency, majority, guardianship and curatorship, deprivation of legal rights, rights of succession under testamentary dispositions or in virtue of intestacy, liquidation and division of successions or patrimonies, and in general all questions of family law, including all questions of personal standing.

3. On and after November 21, 1928, and until May 10, 1929, the Persian Government shall subject the natural and manufactured products of Norway on entry into Persian territory to the organic Customs legislation of Persia. It shall give them the benefit of the Persian minimum tariff and of any reductions of that tariff which may be granted to similar products, natural or manufactured, originating in any other country.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) F. Pakrevan.

His Excellency
Monsieur A. Wilden
French Minister,
Teheran.

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II.

Teheran, May 9, 1929.

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to bring to your notice the fact that under Article 3 of the provisional arrangement between Persia and Norway dated November 21, 1928, the period for the reciprocal application of the minimum tariff in the matter of Customs lapses on May 10, 1929.

The Persian Government is prepared to extend the benefit of the provisions of Article 3, subject to reciprocity, until the conclusion of the convention now in course of negotiations, and not later than September 10, 1929.

The Persian Government has studied with all due interest the draft convention communicated by the Norwegian Government.

We suggest, with a view to more direct contact between the negotiators, that the negotiations should be continued in Paris between the authorised representative of the Norwegian Government and the Persian Minister, to whom we are transmitting the Persian counter-draft in the hope that you will agree to this suggestion.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) M. A. Farzine.

His Excellency
Monsieur Auguste Wilden,
French Minister,
Teheran.

Teheran, May 10, 1929.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

By your letter of May 9, you were good enough to inform me that the Persian Government was prepared to extend the benefit of the provisions of Article 3 of the provisional arrangement between Persia and Norway dated November 21, 1928, to a date not later than September 10, 1929, subject to reciprocity.

At the same time, you are good enough to suggest that the negotiations for the definitive treaty should take place in Paris between the duly authorised representatives of the two Governments.

To this end, after consideration of the draft convention communicated to you by the Norwegian Government, you are transmitting a Persian counter-draft to His Excellency the Persian Minister in Paris.

I hasten to inform you that the Norwegian Government, which I have the honour to represent at Teheran is in entire agreement with the Imperial Government, and that the necessary instructions have been given for the application of the minimum tariff to Persian goods.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) Wilden.

To His Excellency
Farzine,
Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Teheran.

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EXCHANGES

OF NOTES REGARDING VARIOUS PROROGATIONS OF THE AGREEMENT.

I.

GENEVA, September 1, 1929.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I have just received a favourable reply from my Government regarding the extension of the status quo in the relations between our two countries for a further three months.

We shall thus have until December 10 to complete the negotiations and sign the new treaty; but as you are aware time passes quickly, and it is highly desirable that the Norwegian Ministry for Foreign Affairs should expedite its examination of the question.

I shall be here and at your disposal until the end of the Assembly and of the Council session, that is to say until about September 28.

From Geneva I shall go straight back to Paris, where you can always write to me.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(His Excellency Baron de Wedel, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of H. M. the King of Norway, Paris.

(Signed) HUSSEIN ALA.

3 Albemarle Street,
Piccadilly, W. 1.

LONDON, September 25, 1929.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I have duly communicated to my Government your letter from Geneva, in which you were good enough to inform me that the Imperial Government has acceded to our request to extend our present relations with Persia until December 10 next.

My Government now instructs me to express to you, and to request you to convey to your Government, its warmest thanks for this decision.

At the same time I have the honour to transmit in duplicate the Norwegian counter-proposal to the Persian proposal, together with our confidential remarks and explanations. I also enclose a draft for the note to be sent to you at the time of signature, the reasons for which I explained in my letter of August 14 last.

You will see from our counter-proposal that we have endeavoured as far as possible to accept the Imperial Government’s views, and I venture to hope that our negotiations will thus be greatly facilitated.

The changes and new proposals are set out in our counter-draft, and in general they are based on treaties already signed by Persia with Sweden and Germany. As you were good enough to tell me that it is your Government’s intention to treat Norway in the same way as other countries with which Persia has signed treaties, my Government trusts that these new proposals will not give rise to any difficulties.

As I informed you during our conversation in Paris, it is of the greatest importance for our shipping that the words “or that none of their nationals are concerned therein” should be omitted from Article XVIII of the Persian draft. If those words (which do not exist in any of our treaties) were retained this would lead to the greatest difficulties, especially in view of our relations with other countries. If a Persian subject considers that his rights are injured by a decision of the Norwegian Consul, the Persian authorities can in every case take up the matter with the Consul. As the omission of these words affects Norwegian shipping as a whole, I should be very grateful if you

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would inform your Government that the Norwegian Government attaches the greatest importance to this concession on the part of the Imperial Government.

Thanking you in anticipation, and in the hope of seeing you shortly in Paris, where I expect to arrive about October 8,

I have the honour to be, etc.

Wedel Jarlsberg.

His Excellency,
Mirza Hussein Khan Ala,
Persian Minister at Paris.

II.

Paris, December 2, 1929.

Your Excellency,

I have just received a telegram from Teheran authorising me to extend the provisional agreement between Norway and Persia.

If you approve I shall reply that we have agreed upon an extension for three months.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) Hussein Ala.

His Excellency Baron de Wedel Jarlsberg,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of
H. M. the King of Norway,
25, rue de Surène,
Paris.

Paris, December 5, 1929.

Your Excellency,

With further reference to my letter of December 2nd, I have the honour to enclose a copy of the telegram authorising me to extend the provisional agreement between our two countries for three months.

I have also received a reply from my Government to the observations which you submitted to me at the outset of our negotiations with regard to the Persian counter-proposal. A translation of this reply is attached.

If you can accept my Government’s views, I think we could sign the treaty without further delay.

I have the honour to be, etc.

Hussein Ala.

His Excellency Baron de Wedel Jarlsberg,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of
H. M. the King of Norway,
25, rue de Surène,
Paris.

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Norwegian Legation.

Paris, December 10, 1929.

Your Excellency,

In reply to the verbal request which I made to you on behalf of the Norwegian Government, asking you to be good enough to request the Imperial Government to extend the provisional agreement between our two countries, you informed me in your letters of the 2nd and 5th of this month that this request had been granted by your Government.

I at once informed my Government of this fact, and the latter has asked me to convey its warmest thanks to your Government for this favourable reply.

I have the honour to be, etc.

de Wedel Jarlsberg.

His Excellency
Monsieur Mirza Hussein Khan Ala,
Persian Minister,
Paris.

III.

March 14, 1930.

Your Excellency,

With further reference to our telephone conversations, I have the honour to inform you that my Government has now authorised me to extend the provisional agreement between Persia and Norway for three months as from March 10, 1930.

I expect to receive written instructions very shortly with regard to the continuation of our negotiations.

In my opinion the latest proposals which you have been good enough to make in a conciliatory spirit, and which I have duly transmitted to Teheran, should facilitate a favourable solution very shortly.

Thanking you for your valuable co-operation, I have the honour to be, etc.

Hussein Ala.

His Excellency
Baron de Wedel Jarlsberg,
Norwegian Minister,
25, rue de Surène,
Paris, VIII.

Norwegian Legation.


Your Excellency,

I have just received your letter of yesterday, informing me that the Imperial Government has now authorised you to extend the Provisional Agreement between Persia and Norway for three months as from March 10, 1930.

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I beg to thank you for this communication and venture to hope that, thanks to your good offices, it may be possible for us shortly to sign a definitive treaty.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) DE WEDEL JARLSBERG.

His Excellency
Monsieur Mirza Hussein Khan Ala,
Persian Minister,
Paris.

IV.

June 7, 1930.
5, rue Fortuny, 15.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I have the honour to inform you that I have just received authorisation from my Government to extend the provisional agreement between our two countries pending the exchange of ratifications of the new Treaty.

I have also written to Teheran requesting the necessary correction to be made as regards the word "introduire" in Article 24, 1.

I have the honour to be, etc.

HUSSEIN ALA.

His Excellency Baron de Wedel Jarlsberg,
Envoy Extraordinary
and Minister Plenipotentiary of Norway,
25, rue de Surène,
Paris.

NORWEGIAN LEGATION.

PARIS, June 10, 1930.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

In your letter of the 7th of this month you informed me that your Government had been good enough to extend the provisional arrangement between our two countries pending the exchange of ratifications of the new Treaty.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of this communication and to inform you that the Norwegian Government is also prepared to extend this arrangement for the same period.

At the same time I desire to thank you for having requested your Government to correct the drafting error in the two copies of the Treaty and to change the word "introduire" in Article 24, 1, into "interdire".

In my letter of the 7th instant, I had the honour to inform you that on June 6th the Storting had ratified the Treaty between our two countries. I should be glad if you would let me know when you think it will be adopted by the Majlis and when it will be possible for the ratifications to be exchanged.

In the meantime, I have the honour to be, etc.

DE WEDEL JARLSBERG.