

N° 691.

**FRANCE ET COMMISSION
DE GOUVERNEMENT
DU BASSIN DE LA SARRE**

Convention ayant pour objet de déterminer les conditions financières d'aménagement des gares douanières à la frontière sarro-allemande, signée à Paris le 30 novembre 1922.

**FRANCE AND SAAR BASIN
GOVERNING COMMISSION**

Convention for fixing the financial conditions which are to govern the adaptation of Customs Stations on the frontier between Germany and the Saar, signed at Paris, November 30, 1922.

¹ TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

No. 691. — CONVENTION² BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE SAAR BASIN GOVERNING COMMISSION FOR FIXING THE FINANCIAL CONDITIONS WHICH ARE TO GOVERN THE ADAPTATION OF CUSTOMS STATIONS ON THE FRONTIER BETWEEN GERMANY AND THE SAAR, SIGNED AT PARIS, NOVEMBER 30, 1922.

Official French text communicated by the Chairman of the Saar Basin Governing Commission. The registration of this Convention took place August 9, 1924.

THE SAAR BASIN GOVERNING COMMISSION and THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC being desirous of ensuring the construction of the customs stations required for the regular working as from January 10, 1925, of the customs regime established under the Treaty of Peace of Versailles, have decided to conclude a Convention for this purpose, and have agreed upon the following provisions :

Article 1.

The expenses connected with the work necessitated by the adaptation of the stations on the Saar-German frontier to be utilised in common by France and the Territory of the Saar Basin as from January 10, 1925, in application of the provisions of paragraph 31 of the Saar Annex to the Treaty of Peace of Versailles, will be met in the first instance by means of a sum of 80,000,000 fr. advanced by the French Government. Any expenses over and above this sum shall be advanced out of the budget of the Territory of the Saar Basin. In such case interest and amortisation charges shall be allocated between France and the Territory in the same manner and on the same basis as the like charges in respect of the funds advanced by France.

Article 2.

The funds advanced by France shall bear interest at the rate of 6% as from the day on which they are actually placed at the disposal of the Administration of the Territory of the Saar Basin. The amount of such interest shall be added to the capital sum paid in at January 1, 1925.

Subject to the foregoing considerations, the funds advanced shall also be subject to annual amortisation at the same rate of interest, the first annual instalment falling due at January 1, 1926, and the last at January 1, 1935.

In case the advances are made later than January 1, 1925, they shall bear interest at the above-mentioned rate as from the date on which they are paid in until December 31 next following, and shall be subject subsequently to annual amortisation, the last annual payment thereon falling due at January 1, 1935.

¹ Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations.

¹ Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations.

² Came into force August 10, 1923.

The advances made by the Territory of the Saar Basin shall bear interest as from the day on which payment was actually made to contractors and creditors. They shall be repayable as under the arrangements established for the advances made by the French Treasury, by annual instalments, of which the last shall fall due at January 1, 1935.

The rate of interest (6 ⁰/₁₀) shall hold good both for the discounting of interest and for the calculation of annual payments.

Article 3.

Interest and amortisation shall be levied as charges for collection on the total customs receipts collected on the Saar-German frontier in accordance with the following rules :

They shall be charged respectively to France and the Territory of the Saar Basin on the goods consigned to the territory of one or other of the Contracting Parties, in proportion to the receipts collected for the account of each Government.

Consequently there shall be deducted from the Territory's share of the customs receipts that part of the French annual payments which is to be borne by the Territory according to the proportion indicated in the preceding paragraph ; and on the other hand there shall be added to it that part of the Saar annual payments which is to be borne by France in the same proportion.

It is understood that if, owing to international conventions in force or for any other cause, customs duties on goods imported over the Saar-German frontier, either into France or into the Territory of the Saar Basin, are collected in the interior of the country, the sums thus collected shall be regarded as forming an integral part of the Saar-German frontier receipts. Such receipts shall consequently be included either in the French or in the Saar accounts, and shall be taken into consideration in the allocation of the annual payments between the two countries.

Article 4.

The competent departments of the Governing Commission shall carry out the work in accordance with the methods ordinarily followed by the Public Works Department of the Saar, that is to say, by contract or by requests for tenders issued simultaneously within and outside the Saar Territory. Schemes under which work of a definitive character can immediately be carried out shall be approved for this purpose by the French Government and by the Governing Commission ; and these two bodies shall by common agreement draw up the accounts required for the application of Article 2

Article 5.

The present Convention shall not come into force until it has been ratified.

In faith whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Convention and have affixed their seals thereto.

Done in duplicate, at Paris, on November 30, 1922.

(Signed) POINCARÉ.

(Signed) V. RAULT.