

No. 431

**NORWAY
and
FRANCE**

Protocol of the Joint French-Norwegian Commission concerning commercial and financial questions. Signed at Paris, on 9 February 1949

Norwegian and French official texts communicated by the Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations. The registration took place on 15 April 1949.

**NORVEGE
et
FRANCE**

Protocole de la Commission mixte franco-norvégienne concernant des question commerciales et financières. Signé à Paris, le 9 février 1949

Textes officiels norvégien et français communiqués par le représentant permanent de la Norvège auprès de l'Organisation des Nations Unies. L'enregistrement a eu lieu le 15 avril 1949.

TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION

No. 431. PROTOCOL OF THE JOINT FRENCH-NORWEGIAN
COMMISSION CONCERNING COMMERCIAL AND
FINANCIAL QUESTIONS. SIGNED AT PARIS, ON 9 FEB-
RUARY 1949

The Joint French-Norwegian Commission, provided under article 4 of the Commercial Agreement of 11 June 1948,¹ met in Paris from 26 January to 9 February 1949.

It was composed of:

France:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. LUCIEN FÉLIX, Consul-General, Chairman
Mr. MICHEL, Secretary of Embassy
Mr. LE GUEN DE KERGOLAN, Secretary of the Delegation

Ministry of Economic Affairs

Mr. LEGUÉ, French Commercial Counsellor at Oslo
Mr. METTETAL, Administrator
Mr. MARET DE GREANT, Chargé de mission (North Africa Department)

Ministry of Finance

Mr. CAU, Administrator

Ministry of Industry and Commerce

Mr. ZUCCO, Chargé de mission

Ministry of Agriculture

Miss NAUDAN, Administrator

Ministry of Mercantile Marine

Mr. LORANCHET, Head of Section
Mr. PASTEAU, Head of Section

Ministry of France Overseas

Mr. PAPILLARD, Colonial Administrator

¹ Came into force on 9 February 1949, by signature.

Office of the High Commissioner for Food

Mr. GATIGNOL, Chargé de mission

Bank of France

Mr. BONNET, Inspector

Norway:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. BOYE, Head of Division, Chairman

Mr. JORGENSEN, Norwegian Commercial Counsellor at Paris

Mr. LYDVO, Secretary

Ministry of Commerce

Mr. CAPPELEN, Head of Division

Mr. HOGEVOLD, Head of Division

Bank of Norway

Mr. BORRENSEN, Head of Section

Federation of Cellulose Manufacturers

Mr. MICHELET, Director

Shipowners' Association

Mr. SELAND

A. SITUATION UNDER THE COMMERCIAL AND PAYMENTS AGREEMENTS

The two delegations noted that the issue of import licences within the quotas fixed under the Commercial Agreement of 11 June 1948 had so far been carried out under very satisfactory conditions.

The Norwegian delegation stated that from the entry into force of the agreement until 31 December 1948 the Norwegian authorities had issued import licences for French products up to an amount of 174 million crowns (the total value of lists A and A1 being estimated at approximately 208 million crowns).

The French delegation stated that during the same period the value of the licences issued for the importation into France of Norwegian goods amounted approximately to 130 million crowns (the total value of lists B and B1 being estimated at 148 million crowns).

As regards the operation of the Payments Agreement, it should be noted that, whereas the balance of French-Norwegian accounts had been consistently unfavourable to France since 1946, the accounts were nearer to becoming balanced at the beginning of 1949.

B. COMMERCIAL QUESTIONS

The two delegations agreed upon the following provisions:

- (1) The products in list A2 appended hereto shall be added, in the quantities and to the values set out therein, to list A of the Commercial Agreement of 11 June 1948.
- (2) The products in list B2 appended hereto shall be added, in the quantities and to the values set out therein, to list B of the Commercial Agreement of 11 June 1948.
- (3) The allocation of the quota in list B of one million crowns for "herrings and other dried, salted or smoked fish", which was modified in the first instance by the Joint Commission's *Procès-Verbal* of 13 October 1948, shall be fixed as follows:

Metropolitan France	Nil
Colonies	550,000 Norwegian crowns
New overseas departments (Martinique, Guadeloupe, Guiana, Reunion)	450,000 Norwegian crowns

- (4) The French delegation requested the Norwegian delegation to be so good as to approach its Government with a view to studying the possibility of authorizing the transfer to France of a certain number of merchant vessels, it being understood that the French authorities would be ready, in return, to grant additional licences for the export to Norway of French goods and, in particular, iron and steel products. The Norwegian delegation agreed to take the necessary steps.
- (5) Talks are now taking place at Oslo with a view to laying down the conditions for alumina and aluminium barter transactions during 1949.

Pending the completion of those negotiations, the two delegations agreed to the temporary prolongation of the French-Norwegian arrangement of 29 July 1948 on the following basis:

- (a) France will export 3,800 tons of alumina to Norway without payment.
- (b) Of the 1,900 (one thousand nine hundred) tons of aluminium produced from these 3,800 tons of alumina, 1,300 tons will be imported into France without payment and 600 tons will be reserved for sale in Norway or for export which may take place only with the prior consent of the Norwegian authorities.

- (c) The payment of 1,200,000 crowns (one million two hundred thousand) representing part of the conversion costs will be settled within the terms of the French-Norwegian Payments Agreement.

C. FINANCIAL QUESTIONS

(1) The two delegations noted that the trend of the current balance of French-Norwegian payments had not yet given rise to the exercise by France of the drawing right in respect of 5 million dollars established in favour of France by Norway under article 9, part II, of the Agreement for intra-European payments and compensations of 16 October 1948.

In order to meet this situation, the two delegations drew up a special programme of goods to be exported from Norway to France of a value corresponding to 50 per cent of the amount of the drawing, namely, the equivalent of 2½ million dollars. These goods, which include 50,000 tons of mechanical pulp and 2,500 tons of rayon cellulose, appear in list B2 annexed to this *Procès-Verbal*.

Both delegations made reservations, each in so far as it was concerned, regarding the inferences which might be drawn by their Governments if the drawing right had not been fully exercised by 30 June 1949.

(2) The Norwegian delegation pointed out that the regular Norwegian lines between the United States and France were encountering great difficulties in the transport to France of goods delivered under the Marshall Plan. These difficulties were due to the fact that the competent French authorities often refused to issue import licences involving freight charges in foreign currencies.

The French delegation stated that the French authorities concerned were giving full consideration to these difficulties and that this question, which was linked with the operation of the E.R.P. and arose in other countries also, had been raised at the meeting of the Maritime Transport Committee of the O.E.E.C. held on 31 January 1949. The French delegation considered that the problem could be solved only within the framework of the O.E.E.C.

DONE at Paris, on 9 February 1949.

The Chairman of the
Norwegian delegation:

(Signed) Thore BOYE

The Chairman of the
French delegation:

(Signed) Lucien FÉLIX

LIST A 2

FRENCH EXPORTS TO NORWAY

	Quantity	<i>Value in millions of francs</i>
Spices, including vanilla.....	—	5
Beeswax	—	1.5
Wines and spirits.....	—	53
Gypsum	500 tons	—
Caustic potash.....	200 tons	—
Blood albumen.....	50 tons	—
Water, alcohol and ether tannins.....	5 tons	—
Essential oils.....	—	5
Animal glues.....	—	3
Gelatines	—	10
Amorphous carbon electrodes and brasquing vessels.....	Not specified	—
Sheepskins	—	10
Dressed fur skins and fur skins sewed together in the form of sheets	—	106
Made-up fur skins.....	—	26
Colonial woods other than okoumé.....	500 tons	—
Veneers	—	5
Cigarette paper in rolls.....	—	5
Woollen thread and yarn, carded and combed.....	—	88
Woollen thread and yarn for hand knitting.....	—	13
Flax spun yarns.....	—	10
Linen thread for sewing and boot and shoe manufacture.....	—	10
Mending thread.....	—	13
Woollen fabrics.....	—	20
Silk or rayon fabrics.....	—	20
Various cotton fabrics.....	—	20
Tulles, veiling and guipures.....	—	5
Bleached sailcloth.....	—	10
Silk or rayon ribbons.....	—	5
Woollen stockings.....	—	16
Machine thread.....	500 tons	—
Commercial steels.....	5,500 tons	—
Wheel tyres	700 tons	—
Welded tubes.....	1,000 tons	—
Cast-iron pipes.....	1,000 tons	—
Ribbed tubes.....	300 tons	—
High-pressure pipes.....	1,000 tons	—
Wire-drawn and drawn articles.....	1,500 tons	—
Bath-tubs	—	5
Fasteners, press-buttons, hooks, etc.....	—	5
Petrol and Diesel engines, and detached parts thereof, for agriculture, industry and public works.....	—	16
Pumps, compressors, etc., and detached parts thereof.....	—	5
Public works material.....	—	19
Detached parts and fittings of automobiles.....	—	15
Sundry electrical machinery, including large apparatus, electric motors and generators.....	—	148
Apparatus for regulation, control and measurement, etc.....	—	26
Fishing tackle, in particular, casts and nylon lines.....	—	13

LIST B 2

NORWEGIAN EXPORTS TO FRANCE

	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Value in thousands of Norwegian crowns</i>
Raw fur skins.....	—	2,500
Raw seal skins.....	—	300
Essence d'Orient.....	—	30
Fish oil for the canning industry.....	700 tons ¹	—
Marine oil for industrial purposes.....	500 tons	—
Medicinal cod-liver oil.....	200 tons	—
Veterinary cod-liver oil.....	100 tons	—
Cod's roc.....	3,000 barrels ²	—
Whalebone.....	—	20
Granite and labrador, including paving blocks.....	500 tons	—
Feldspar.....	1,000 tons	—
Cement (for the colonies).....	20,000 tons	—
Pyrites.....	10,000 tons	—
Cadmium.....	15 tons	—
Calcium carbide.....	Not specified	—
Refined aluminium.....	150 tons	—
Mechanical pulp (wet weight).....	50,000 tons ³	—
Chemical paper pulp.....	7,000 tons ⁴	—
Rayon cellulose pulp.....	4,500 tons	—
Kraft paper.....	1,500 tons ⁵	—
Uncoated heliogravure paper.....	300 tons	—
Various types of paper.....	—	550 ⁶
Miscellaneous (for the new overseas departments).....	—	300

¹ Including 200 tons for North Africa.

² And additional quantities as available; of the 3,000 barrels, 300 are reserved for North Africa.

³ Including 1,000 tons for the colonies.

⁴ Including 300 tons for the colonies.

⁵ Including 200 tons for North Africa, 200 tons for the colonies and 200 tons for the new overseas departments.

⁶ Including 300,000 Norwegian crowns for North Africa and 250,000 Norwegian crowns for the colonies.