

No. 800

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND**
and
ITALY

Exchange of notes constituting an agreement for the recruitment of Italian workers for employment in foundries in the United Kingdom. Rome, 11, 16, 17 and 24 January and 30 May 1947

Official texts : English and Italian.

Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 25 May 1950.

**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD**
et
ITALIE

Echange de notes constituant un accord concernant le recrutement de travailleurs italiens destinés à être employés dans les fonderies du Royaume-Uni. Rome, 11, 16, 17 et 24 janvier et 30 mai 1947

Textes officiels anglais et italien.

Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le 25 mai 1950.

No. 800. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ITALY FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF ITALIAN WORKERS FOR EMPLOYMENT IN FOUNDRIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. ROME, 11, 16, 17 AND 24 JANUARY AND 30 MAY 1947

I

Sir Noel Charles to Signor Nenni

BRITISH EMBASSY

Rome, 11th January, 1947

Monsieur le Ministre,

In accordance with instructions received from His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, I have the honour to refer to conversations which have taken place between representatives of the Italian Government on the one hand and representatives of the United Kingdom Ministry of Labour and National Service on the other, regarding recruitment of Italian workers for employment in foundries in the United Kingdom. The results of these discussions, in terms set out in the Annex to the present note, have been approved by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom for their part. If you will be good enough to confirm that these terms are acceptable to the Italian Government, I would propose that the present note, together with your reply, shall be regarded as constituting an agreement between the two Governments in the matter. I would further propose that agreement shall become effective as from the date of your reply and shall remain in force until terminated by mutual consent.

I have, &c.

(Signed) Noel CHARLES

¹ Came into force on 16 January 1947 by the exchange and according to the terms of the said notes.

II

Signor Nenni to Sir Noel Charles

ITALIAN TEXT — TEXTE ITALIEN

TRANSLATION¹ — TRADUCTION²

MINISTRO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Roma/16 Gen. 1947

Rome, 16th January, 1947

Signor Ambasciatore,

Mr. Ambassador,

Ho l'onore di informare l'E. V. di aver ricevuto la Sua nota N. 19 dell'11 corrente con la quale mi comunica che il Governo britannico approva i termini fissati nel memorandum annesso alla nota stessa circa il reclutamento ed il trattamento da usare ai lavoratori italiani di fonderia che si trasferiranno nel Regno Unito, termini sui quali era stato raggiunto un accordo provvisorio tra i Rappresentanti dei nostri due Governi.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that I have received your Note of 11th January in which you stated that the British Government approved the terms of the memorandum attached to your Note regarding the recruitment of, and the treatment to be given to, Italian foundry-workers who are to proceed to the United Kingdom, these terms having formed the subject of a provisional agreement between representatives of our two Governments.

Mi onoro portare a conoscenza dell'E. V. che convengo nella Sua proposta di attribuire alla Sua nota dell'11 corrente, alla mia presente risposta ed al memorandum precitato, il valore di un impegno formale fra i due Governi avente piena efficacia a partire dalla data odierna e fino a che non venga altrimenti disposto con mutuo consenso.

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that I agree to your proposal to regard your Note of 11th January, my present reply and the above-mentioned memorandum as having the status of a formal agreement between the two Governments and as having full effect from to-day until otherwise decided by mutual consent.

Voglia gradire, &c.

Pray accept, &c.

(Firmato) NENNI*(Signed)* NENNI

¹ Translation by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

² Traduction du Gouvernement du Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord.

III

Signor Nenni to Sir Noel Charles

ITALIAN TEXT — TEXTE ITALIEN

MINISTRO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI

Roma/17 Gen. 1947

Signor Ambasciatore,

A seguito della mia nota di ieri con la quale mi onoravo portare a conoscenza dell'E.V. l'accettazione da parte del Governo italiano delle clausole concordate dai rappresentanti dei nostri due Governi circa il reclutamento e il trattamento da usare ad operai italiani della fonderia destinati a trasferirsi nel Regno Unito, prego V.E. di voler prendere in considerazione, ed in caso affermativo darmene atto, la raccomandazione che in caso di eventuali controversie o impreviste emergenze, compreso il licenziamento per motivi disciplinari in cui possano incorrere operai italiani durante il loro soggiorno in Gran Bretagna, ne venga tempestivamente informato il Consolo italiano giurisdizionalmente competente a cura dell'Impresa dalla quale l'operaio stesso dipenda.

Voglia gradire, &c.

(Firmato) NENNI

TRANSLATION¹ — TRADUCTION²

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Rome, 17th January, 1947

Mr. Ambassador,

In pursuance of my Note of yesterday in which I had the honour to inform your Excellency that the Italian Government accepted the terms agreed by representatives of our two Governments regarding the recruitment of and the treatment to be given to Italian foundry-workers who are to proceed to the United Kingdom, I shall be grateful if you will examine and, in the case of approval, inform me thereof, the suggestion that in the event of possible controversies or of unforeseen emergencies, including dismissal for disciplinary reasons, involving Italian workers during their stay in Great Britain, the appropriate Italian Consul may be promptly informed by the firm which employs the worker concerned.

Pray accept, &c.

(Signed) NENNI

¹ Translation by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

² Traduction du Gouvernement du Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord.

IV

Sir Noel Charles to Signor Nenni

BRITISH EMBASSY

Rome, 24th January, 1947

Monsieur le Ministre,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Note of 17th January in which you requested, with reference to my Note of 11th January and to your reply of 16th January, that the appropriate Italian Consul should be informed whenever an Italian workman is dismissed for disciplinary reasons in the United Kingdom.

In reply, I have the honour to inform you that I am referring your enquiry to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, with a request for instructions, and I shall not fail to communicate with you again as soon as instructions reach me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) Noel CHARLES

V

Sir Noel Charles to the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs

BRITISH EMBASSY

Rome, 30th May, 1947

Monsieur le Ministre,

I have the honour to invite reference to my letter of 24th January addressed to Signor Nenni, which contained an interim reply to his Note of 17th January requesting that the appropriate Italian Consul should be informed whenever an Italian workman was dismissed for disciplinary reasons in the United Kingdom.

I am now instructed by His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to inform you that he agrees in principle with the request made by Signor Nenni in his Note, to which I have referred, but that, pending the appointment of Italian Consuls in the provinces of England, he considers that notification should be made to the Italian Embassy in London.

I have, &c.

(Signed) Noel CHARLES

ANNEX

AGREEMENT FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF ITALIAN WORKERS
FOR EMPLOYMENT IN FOUNDRIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

1. The present Agreement relates to the recruitment of up to 2,800 Italian foundry workers, of whom not more than 800 shall be skilled and the remainder workers with experience in foundry work.
2. The recruitment will be organised by the appropriate Italian authority, which will submit candidates regarded as having the appropriate technical experience to a representative of the Government of the United Kingdom who will select them on the basis of their technical abilities subject to the results of a medical examination being satisfactory.
3. The Government of the United Kingdom will contribute to the cost of the Medical Examination at the rate of 4s. for each worker selected for employment.
4. The travelling expenses of the workers selected for employment from their homes to their places of work in the United Kingdom will be paid by the Government of the United Kingdom. The Government of the United Kingdom will also undertake to pay for the subsistence of the workers during the journey, that is to say, for lodging in the event of overnight stops and for meals, and will pay to each of them a daily allowance of 5s. during the journey from the Assembly Centre to their place of work.
5. The allocation of the workers to their various workshops in the United Kingdom will be the responsibility of the Government of the United Kingdom, and each worker will be paid a settling-in grant of 24s. 6d. Such payment will also be paid on every occasion that a worker is required by the Government of the United Kingdom to work in a different district necessarily involving a change of residence.
6. The Government of the United Kingdom will pay an expatriation grant of £3 to workers selected for employment who produce satisfactory evidence of having dependants. This grant will be paid to the dependants at the time of the worker's departure from the Assembly Centre.
7. On departure from the Assembly Centre or on arrival in the United Kingdom, each worker will receive, at the expense of the Government of the United Kingdom, an overcoat, a pullover, a suit of overalls and a pair of boots. The Government of the United Kingdom will facilitate the acquisition in the United Kingdom of rationed articles of clothing which they may require later.
8. Italian workers in the United Kingdom will be employed under the same conditions as British workers. In particular, they will enjoy the same treatment as regards wages, welfare and social insurance and as regards hours of work, holidays, overtime and piece-work payments and as regards recreational facilities as British workers of the corresponding category employed in the same district, and will be liable to pay the same contributions for social insurance and income tax.

If an Italian worker is temporarily unemployed in the United Kingdom, the Government of the United Kingdom will make a payment sufficient to ensure his reasonable maintenance.

9. The Government of the United Kingdom will make a payment to the Italian Government of 10s. per month for each Italian worker employed in the United Kingdom, as a contribution towards the preservation of his social insurance rights in Italy. The method of payment will be agreed between the two Governments.

10. Each Italian worker will, throughout the period in which he remains in the United Kingdom, become a member of a United Kingdom Trade Union, which will safeguard his rights on the same basis as those of British workers.

Italian workers will pay contributions to the Trade Unions at the same rate as British workers.

The Italian General Confederation of Labour will deal directly with the British T.U.C. for the purpose of settling details regarding the welfare and working conditions of Italian workers in the United Kingdom.

In addition, measures will be taken to facilitate in the best manner possible the provision of food of Italian type.

11. The Government of the United Kingdom will ensure that the Italian workers are provided with lodging of the same type and standard and at the same rate as British workers working in the same place.

Italian workers shall, as far as possible, be employed and lodged in groups coming from the same region, and in any event billeting with other foreign workers or with prisoners of war shall be avoided.

12. The Government of the United Kingdom guarantees that each Italian worker shall be employed for not less than three months at the rate appropriate to the employment for which he has been accepted.

13. The following repatriation grants will be paid by the Government of the United Kingdom to each Italian worker on departure from the United Kingdom, provided that his employment has been terminated for other than disciplinary reasons :—

- (1) £10 to a worker repatriated after a period of 12 months' employment or more;
- (2) £5 to a worker repatriated after a period of between 6 and 12 months' employment at his own request or because further work is not available in his category;
- (3) £3 to a worker repatriated after between 3 and 6 months' employment because further work is not available for him in his category.

Further, the travelling expenses of each worker from the United Kingdom to his place of residence in Italy will in the cases indicated above be paid by the Government of the United Kingdom together with the subsistence and daily allowance provided for in paragraph 4.

14. Italians with dependants will be permitted to remit to their dependants in Italy sums up to £15 monthly, and men without dependants up to a maximum of £7 10s. monthly.

The Government of the United Kingdom will give favourable consideration to requests which Italian workers may make at the moment of return to Italy for permission to transfer the balance of their earnings during their employment in the United Kingdom.

15. The remittances of Italian workers to Italy and expatriation grants due in accordance with paragraph 6, and also the contributions of the Government of the United Kingdom in accordance with paragraphs 3 and 9 of the present Agreement, as well as any other payments in respect of industrial injury or otherwise, shall be paid into a special account (new Italian account) opened in the name of the Italian Exchange Office, in a United Kingdom bank to be designated. The sums in this special account shall be freely available for use within the sterling area by the Italian Exchange Office, which will arrange for the transmission of remittances from England to the nominated recipients in Italy.

16. The Italian Government agrees that the first contingent of workers shall leave immediately after the Christmas holidays, 1946.