

No. 1242

BELGIUM
and
BRAZIL

Exchange of letters constituting an agreement concerning exemption from Customs duty for diplomatic and consular agents and officers *de carrière* of the foreign service. Brussels, 26 April and 8 May 1951

Official text: French.

Registered by Belgium on 14 June 1951.

BELGIQUE
et
BRÉSIL

Échange de lettres constituant un accord en matière de franchise douanière en faveur des agents diplomatiques, des agents consulaires et des agents de chancellerie de carrière. Bruxelles, 26 avril et 8 mai 1951

Texte officiel français.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 14 juin 1951.

TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION

No. 1242. EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN BELGIUM AND BRAZIL CONCERNING EXEMPTION FROM CUSTOMS DUTY FOR DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR AGENTS AND OFFICERS *DE CARRIERE* OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE. BRUSSELS, 26 APRIL AND 8 MAY 1951

I

Brussels, 26 April 1951

No. 22

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to give you the assurance that the Brazilian Government has decided to grant total exemption from Customs duties for the following types of goods :

I. Articles imported direct and intended for the personal use of all Belgian career diplomatic and consular officers stationed in Brazil, and chancery staff attached to the Belgian Embassy in Rio de Janeiro and the Belgian consulates in Brazil, provided that the persons concerned are not Brazilian citizens and are not gainfully employed outside their official duties.

II. Chancery furnishings sent by or on behalf of the Belgian Government to its diplomatic mission and to the offices of its career or non-career consuls in Brazil.

Requests for exemption shall be addressed to the competent authorities designated by the Brazilian Government and, except in cases of justifiable emergency or unforeseen circumstances, shall be signed and sealed by the head of the diplomatic mission in the case of diplomatic officers or chancery staff attached to the said mission, or by the chief consular representative in the case of consular officers or chancery staff attached to the said consulates. In the exceptional circumstances mentioned above the request may be signed by the acting head of the diplomatic mission or acting consular representative concerned, as the case may be.

¹ Came into force on 8 May 1951, by the exchange of the said letters.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) R. DE L. LAGO

His Excellency Mr. Paul van Zeeland
Minister of Foreign Affairs

II

Brussels, 8 May 1951

DIRECTORATE GENERAL A.
Pers. Ext.
No. 95-107

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 22 of 26 April last, in which you informed me that your Government had decided to grant total exemption from Customs duties for :

[See letter I, paragraphs I and II]

As the requirements of reciprocity under articles 15 and 16 of the Ministerial Decree of 19 December 1947, relating to the application of customs exemption, have been met : (1) all Brazilian career diplomatic and consular officers stationed in Belgium, and all chancery staff attached to the Brazilian Embassy in Brussels and to Brazilian consulates in Belgium shall henceforth be entitled to exemption from Customs duty on goods intended for their personal use, provided that they are in the same position as the same categories of Belgian officers stationed in Brazil who are given such exemption; (2) chancery furnishings sent by or on behalf of the Brazilian Government to its diplomatic mission or its consulates in Belgium shall henceforth be exempt from Customs duty.

The exemption shall be granted on production of a statement in which the claimant indicates his rank and certifies that the articles are intended for his personal use. The statement shall give a description of the goods with an indication of the type, number and marks of the packages.

When the articles are addressed to a chancery staff member attached to the Brazilian Embassy in Brussels or to a Brazilian consulate in Belgium, the above-mentioned document shall be countersigned by the head of the diplomatic mission or consulate, or their deputies.

Furthermore, in the case of chancery furnishings, exemption shall be granted on production of a statement in which the head of mission or the consul

concerned states that the goods are intended for the use of his post and if it is shown that they have been sent direct to the head of post concerned by his Government or by its representative in another country.

The present agreement shall not apply automatically to the Belgian Congo and to Ruanda-Urundi.

I have the honour to be, etc.

For the Minister :
(Signed) Baron DE GRUBEN
Secretary-General

His Excellency Mr. Renato de Lacerda Lago
Ambassador of the United States of Brazil
Brussels