

No. 1290

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND
and
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement regarding the
rebate of Customs duties on goods imported into South
Africa for processing in the Union. London, 12 June 1950**

Official text: English.

*Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on
10 July 1951.*

**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD
et
UNION SUD-AFRICAINE**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif à la remise
des droits de douane sur les marchandises importées
dans l'Union Sud-Africaine pour y être transformées.
Londres, 12 juin 1950**

Texte officiel anglais.

*Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le
10 juillet 1951.*

No. 1290. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA REGARDING THE REBATE OF CUSTOMS DUTIES ON GOODS IMPORTED INTO SOUTH AFRICA FOR PROCESSING IN THE UNION. LONDON, 12 JUNE 1950

I

SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE
TRAFALGAR SQUARE
LONDON, W. C. 2

12th June, 1950

Sir,

I have the honour to propose that, in consideration for various concessions offered by the Union of South Africa to the United Kingdom pursuant to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade concluded at Geneva on 30th October, 1947,² the Government of the Union of South Africa and the United Kingdom Government should agree :

- (1) that the provisions of the Union of South Africa Customs Act relating to the rebate of duty on goods imported for processing in the Union of South Africa may be extended, if the Government of the Union of South Africa so desire, to cover any item in the tariff; and that it should be open to the Union of South Africa to rebate the full duty in all such cases, irrespective of whether the Union of South Africa accords a preference to the United Kingdom on such items; on the following understanding :—

- (a) that the rebate facilities will not be extended to goods falling under items in respect of which the Union of South Africa accords a

¹ Came into force on 12 June 1950, by the exchange of the said notes.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 55, p. 188.

preference to the United Kingdom, other than those mentioned hereafter, without prior consultation between the Union of South Africa and the United Kingdom with a view to reaching a mutually satisfactory solution. In particular it is understood that the Union of South Africa shall be free to extend these facilities, without prior consultation with the United Kingdom to goods falling under items 71, 76 (a) (i) and (ii), 76 (c) (i) and 122 of the Union Customs Tariff;

- (b) that in any case in which the rebate is at present so limited as to maintain a margin of preference in favour of the United Kingdom, imports from any country not a party to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade shall not be admitted with full rebate of duty without prior consultation with the United Kingdom;
- (2) that, should the Union of South Africa decide, at any date in the future, to bring into effect a scheme for fixed, duty-paid landed prices, in accordance with section 87 of the Union of South Africa Customs Act, in relation to any or all of the types of steel imported into the Union of South Africa, the existence of the preference will not stand in the way of the introduction and operation of such a scheme; on the understanding that the duties on such types of steel will be retained in the Union Customs Tariff on their present basis, both as regards rates of duty and as regards margins of preference, and that, while such margins of preference would in effect be inoperative during the currency of such a scheme, they would automatically come into operation again when the Union of South Africa abandons such scheme and returns to ordinary importing at scheduled customs duty rates.

This letter and your confirmatory reply thereto in similar terms will be regarded as constituting an Agreement binding upon our two Governments.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant,

(Signed) A. L. GEYER
High Commissioner

The Rt. Hon. P. C. Gordon-Walker, M. P.
Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations

II

12th June, 1950

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter of the 12th June proposing that the Government of the Union of South Africa and the United Kingdom Government should agree :—

[See note I]

I have the honour to confirm that the United Kingdom Government agree to the above proposals.

I have the honour to be,

Your Excellency's most obedient Servant,

(Signed) P. C. GORDON-WALKER

His Excellency the High Commissioner for South Africa
