

No. 1004

**GREECE
and
BELGO-LUXEMBOURG ECONOMIC UNION**

**Commercial Agreement (with exchange of letters). Signed at
Brussels, on 27 December 1948**

Official text: French.

Registered by Greece on 3 January 1951.

**GRÈCE
et
UNION ÉCONOMIQUE BELGO-LUXEMBOURGEOISE**

**Accord commercial (avec échange de lettres). Signé à Bruxelles,
le 27 décembre 1948**

Texte officiel français.

Enregistré par la Grèce le 3 janvier 1951.

TRANSLATION—TRADUCTION

No. 1004. COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF GREECE AND THE BELGO-LUXEMBOURG ECONOMIC UNION. SIGNED AT BRUSSELS, ON 27 DECEMBER 1948

The Government of the Kingdom of Greece and the Belgian Government, acting both on its own behalf and on behalf of the Luxembourg Government in virtue of existing agreements,

Desirous of developing commercial exchanges between their two countries, have agreed upon the following provisions:

Article 1

Each Contracting Party shall grant the other Contracting Party the most favourable possible treatment in the reciprocal granting of import and export authorizations.

Article 2

The Greek Government shall authorize the exportation to the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union of the goods enumerated in list A annexed hereto, within the limits of the quantities or values shown therein.

The Belgian and the Luxembourg Governments shall issue the corresponding import licences without discrimination, to the extent that such licences are required for importation.

The Belgian and the Luxembourg Governments shall authorize the exportation to Greece of the goods enumerated in list B annexed hereto, within the limits of the quantities or values shown therein. The corresponding import licences shall be issued, without discrimination, by the Greek Government.

Article 3

It is understood that lists A and B annexed hereto are not restrictive and that additions may be made thereto by agreement between the parties.

If, as a result of circumstances, one or more of the products enumerated in the lists cannot be exported, it is understood that the Greek and Belgian Governments shall institute the necessary consultations through the diplomatic channels with a view to deciding upon substitute products.

¹ Came into force on 27 December 1948, as from the date of signature, in accordance with article 9.

Article 4

The quotas established in lists A and B annexed hereto are valid until 30 June 1949.

The total amount of the quotas is expressed in Belgian francs.

Article 5

The two Governments shall see that licences are granted without discrimination between the various quotas in order to maintain a proper balance between the various goods included in the lists; authorizations granted shall automatically give entitlement to the transfer of their value in exchange in accordance with the terms of the commercial contracts to which they relate, without prejudice to the legislative provisions in force in the two countries.

Imports under the quotas established in the lists shall be spread uniformly over the period of validity of the lists, save in the case of goods which are seasonal in character.

Article 6

Import licences applied for and outstanding at this date shall be granted in accordance with the provisions of article 2 of the present Agreement.

Article 7

Payment for goods exchanged shall be effected in accordance with the provisions of the Payments Agreement signed this day.

Article 8

The two Governments shall set up a Joint Commission to supervise the application of the present Agreement. The Commission shall meet at the request of one of the Contracting Parties and shall be empowered to make any proposals for the improvement of commercial relations and matters of payment between the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union and the Kingdom of Greece.

Article 9

The present Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature and shall terminate on 30 June 1949.

It shall be renewed for periods of twelve months, by exchange of letters between the two Contracting Parties, not less than one month before the date of its expiry.

Operations approved during the period of validity of the present Agreement and not completed on its expiry shall continue to be settled in accordance with the provisions of the said Agreement.

DONE at Brussels, in two copies, on 27 December 1948.

For the
Kingdom of Greece:
T. TRIANTAFYLLAKOS

For the
Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union:
GÉRARD

LIST A

EXPORTS FROM GREECE TO THE BELGO-LUXEMBOURG ECONOMIC UNION

	<i>Value in thousands of Belgian francs</i>
Sultana raisins	P.M.
Currants	P.M.
Figs	P.M.
Wines	P.M.
Tomato purée	P.M.
Citrus fruits	P.M.
Tobacco in leaf	P.M.
Cigarettes	1,750
Sponges, unworked	P.M.
Olive-husk oil (for soap-making) (200 T.)	3,960
Raw hides of small livestock	P.M.
Guts	P.M.
Colophony (800 T.)	6,400
Turpentine essence	P.M.
Zinc ore	P.M.
Chrome ore	P.M.
Naxos emery	P.M.
Medicinal plants	2,200
Miscellaneous (including valonia extract, sea salt, prepared fur skins, wool carpets, olives, Chios mastic for pastry, bulk saffron, etc.)	300
Calcined magnesite	P.M.
The Greek goods shown in the above list <i>pour mémoire</i> only are at present subject to the declaration-licence system. It is estimated that the total value of Greek exports to the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union during the period ending 30 June 1949 will be	72,310

LIST B

EXPORTS FROM THE BELGO-LUXEMBOURG ECONOMIC UNION TO GREECE

	<i>Value in thousands of Belgian francs</i>
Ardennes horses	2,000.5
Hops	500
Nursery products	500
Distilled glycerine	600
Waxes, white and refined, vegetable, animal, artificial, mineral	500
Benzol and the like	250
Ethyl alcohol	1,000
Gelatine, for foodstuffs and for technical purposes	1,000
Purified naphthalene	1,000
Mineral oils, processed in Belgium for lubrication of machines	7,000
Asphalt (bitumen)	4,000
Sodium bicarbonate	350
Calcium carbide	2,000
Plastic materials, in bulk, moulding powders, sheets, etc.	2,000
Alkaloids (including quinine salts to not less than the value of 2 million)	5,000
Lithopone	2,500
Ultramarine	1,000
Mineral organic colours paints and varnishes	4,000
Chemical products and phyto-pharmaceutical preparations: insecticides, fungicides, disinfectants	2,000
Pharmaceutical products, raw materials and preparations	2,000
Sensitized products for photography, cinematography and radiography	6,000
Miscellaneous chemical products	3,800
Nitrogenous fertilizers	147,860
Natural plantation rubber (Belgian Congo) (200-250 T.)	3,000
Tyres, outer covers and inner tubes for motor vehicles	5,000
Outer covers and inner tubes for bicycles	1,000
Miscellaneous rubber articles	2,000
Hard wood fibre panels (wall boards)	4,000
Prepared vegetable fibres for brush-making	450
Vamp leather	2,200
Leather for hats	1,000
Leather for belts	1,000
Leather transmission belts	2,200
Wool, washed and carbonized	1,150
Carded wool yarn	5,300
Combed wool yarn	22,000
Knitting wool (10 T.)	2,650
Cordage (hemp, flax, sisal and other textile materials)	2,200
Sewing cotton	1,300
Carded wool fabrics	3,000
Combed wool fabrics	8,700
Cotton fabrics (10 T.)	2,600

	<i>Value in thousands of Belgian francs</i>
Oiled and rubbered cotton fabrics	1,300
Elastic cloth for medical use	225
Industrial fabrics (including canvas of cotton or linen, industrial oilcloths)	1,750
Felts for paper-making	1,750
Cellophane paper	875
Emery paper and cloth	450
Blotting paper and filter paper	220
Stencils for duplicating machines	200
Miscellaneous kinds of paper	450
Kraft paper bags for cement	1,750
White cement	875
Refractory bricks	2,200
Other finished refractory products	2,200
Asbestos and cement products (300 T.)	1,000
Finished ceramic products	2,200
Polished glass (over 5 mm. for manufacture of mirrors)	1,300
Reinforced glass	875
Safety glass	875
Glass bulbs for electric lamps	1,300
Coloured glass for railway equipment	1,100
Special glassware for laboratories and scientific use	2,200
Ordinary and semi-crystal hollow glassware	1,750
Semi-finished articles of aluminium and aluminium alloys (bars, wire, sheets, tubes, castings)	4,400
Ingots of aluminium and aluminium alloys	4,350
Electrolytic copper	7,450
Ingots of copper and copper alloys	6,555
Castings of copper and copper alloys: nozzles, jets, bearings	1,300
Semi-finished articles of copper and copper alloys, obtained by mechani- cal means: bars and wire, tubes and sheets, pipes	26,300
Unworked zinc, ordinary, refined and electrolytic	2,200
Zinc alloys in ingots	650
Rolled zinc	3,750
Tinplate	6,500
Steel strip tubes, butt welded	4,400
Cold rolled, cold drawn	8,750
Metal drums	4,400
Iron wire	8,750
Metal cordage	7,300
Rolled steels (including bars, sheets, angle irons, bands, special steels, sections, rails and sleepers, metal sheets)	153,500
Steel castings	8,750
Iron castings	2,200
Agricultural machinery and implements	7,700
Caterpillar tractors	11,000
Machine-tools	2,200

	<i>Value in thousands of Belgian francs</i>
Machines for the textile industry and accessories (including card clothing), agriculture, timber, chemical and leather industries	18,800
Transformers	4,400
Prime movers	2,200
Generators	4,400
Fluorescent tubes and accessories	310
Radio valves	310
Telephone materials	3,000
Mine locomotives	3,500
Mine wagons	4,400
Mine materials	2,200
Gas and electricity meters	4,400
Miscellaneous hardware	1,400
Scientific instruments	3,300
Surgical instruments	1,000
Motorcycles (subject to public tender for the public services), payment not subject to quota	P.M.
Coffee (Robusta) (200 T.)	3,000
Copal (15 T.)	130
Cocoa beans, broken (100 T.)	1,750
Derris (50 T.)	1,500
Ground-nut and palm-oil cakes (500 T.)	1,100
Cost of the transit via Belgian ports of goods from third countries to Greece and vice versa, up to a maximum of	4,500
First instalment of repayment of Greek debit balance of Belgo-Greek pre-war clearing operations	3,000
Miscellaneous	207.5
	642,067.5

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS

I

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BELGO-LUXEMBOURG DELEGATION

Brussels, 27 December 1948

Sir,

I have the honour to confirm that in list A of the Commercial Agreement concluded this day between the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union and Greece, the items listed below were, at your request, entered *pour mémoire*.

The importation of these goods into the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union is at present subject to the declaration licence system, i.e., importation is completely free.

It is understood that, if one or more of these goods should be subjected to the import licence system before 30 June 1949, the authorities of the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union undertake to grant import licences for the following quantities of these products:

Sultana raisins	T.	500
Currants	T.	150
Figs	T.	250
Wines	Hl.	7,500
Tomato puree	Frs.	1,500,000
Citrus fruits	T.	250
Tobacco in leaf	T.	100
Sponges, unworked	T.	6
Raw hides of small livestock	T.	100
Guts	T.	10
Turpentine essence	T.	200
Zinc ore	T.	2,000
Chrome ore	T.	500
Naxos emery	T.	500
Calcined magnesite	T.	500

I should be glad if you would inform me of the Greek Government's acceptance of the foregoing.

I have the honour, etc.

(Signed) GÉRARD
Chairman of the Belgo-Luxembourg Delegation

The Chairman of the Greek Delegation
Brussels

II

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GREEK DELEGATION

Brussels, 27 December 1948

Sir,

In a letter of today's date, you kindly informed me of the following:

[See letter I]

I have the honour to inform you of the Greek Government's acceptance of the foregoing.

I have the honour, etc.

(Signed) T. TRIANTAFYLAKOS
Chairman of the Greek Delegation

The Chairman of the Belgo-Luxembourg Delegation
Brussels

III

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BELGO-LUXEMBOURG DELEGATION

Brussels, 27 December 1948

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you of the following:

The list of products of the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union to be exported to Greece (list B) in the period between the present date and 30 June 1949 totals 642,067,500 francs.

This figure is based on the total of the drawing rights granted by the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union to Greece under the Agreement for Intra-European Payments and Compensations of 16 October 1948, representing the exchange value of 13 million dollars, plus the proceeds of the Greek exports in list A, amounting to 72,310,000 francs.

It is to be noted that at the present time Greek drawing rights on the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union are in fact reduced by the authorizations for off-shore purchases for the third quarter of 1948 effected by Greece in the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union.

These off-shore purchases amount to some three million dollars.

The goods bought as off-shore purchases are to be deducted from the quotas provided for the same goods in list B of the Commercial Agreement between the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union and Greece.

According to the information in our possession, Greek off-shore purchases in the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union are to include metal drums to the value of \$1,119,000.

If this figure is subsequently confirmed, the difference between the amount of the actual purchases and the amount under the item "metal drums" in the Agreement is to be compensated by the reduction of other items in the quota lists.

This reduction shall be effected in the following manner.

(a) 70 % of the total amount to be deducted shall be spread over the following items:

Rolled steels, tin, electrolytic copper, semi-finished articles of copper, copper ingots and copper alloys, cold rolled and cold drawn, iron wire;

(b) 30 % of the total to be deducted shall be spread over the other metal, mechanical and electrical items.

I should be glad if you would inform me of the Greek Government's acceptance of the foregoing.

I have the honour, etc.

(Signed) GÉRARD
Chairman of the Belgo-Luxembourg Delegation

The Chairman of the Greek Delegation
Brussels

IV

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GREEK DELEGATION

Brussels, 27 December 1948

Sir,

In a letter of today's date, you informed me of the following:

[See letter III]

I have the honour to inform you of the Greek Government's acceptance of the foregoing.

I have the honour, etc.

(Signed) T. TRIANTAFYLAKOS
Chairman of the Greek Delegation

The Chairman of the Belgo-Luxembourg Delegation
Brussels

V

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BELGO-LUXEMBOURG DELEGATION

Brussels, 17 December 1948

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you of the Belgian Government's desire that steps should be taken to secure the rapid liquidation of the Belgian claim on Greece, arising under the Agreement for the settlement by compensation of commercial debts between Greece and the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union, concluded at Brussels on 6 June 1934 by the Belgian and the Greek Governments.

I have the honour to inform you that the Belgian Government agrees to the transfer, as provided in article 3 of the Payments Agreement¹ signed this day, of a sum of three million Belgian francs half-yearly, which shall be deposited to the credit of the pooled account opened by the National Bank of Belgium in the Bank of Greece, in application of article 2 of the aforementioned Agreement of 6 June 1934.

I have duly noted that the sums deposited in this way will be used by the National Bank of Belgium to pay off Belgian and Luxembourg creditors in the chronological order laid down in article 3 of the Agreement of 6 June 1934.

The first payment of three million Belgian francs will be made during the month of January 1949 and subsequent payments at intervals of not more than six months.

Finally, I have noted that the National Bank of Belgium will inform the Bank of Greece when all outstanding claims have been settled.

I should be glad if you would inform me of the Greek Government's acceptance of the foregoing.

I have the honour, etc.

(Signed) GÉRARD
Chairman of the Belgo-Luxembourg Delegation

The Chairman of the Greek Delegation
Brussels

¹ See p. 293 of this volume.

VI

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GREEK DELEGATION

Brussels, 27 December 1948

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of today's date in which you inform me of your Government's desire that steps should be taken to secure the rapid liquidation of the Belgian claim on Greece, arising under the Agreement for the settlement by compensation of commercial debts between Greece and the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union, concluded at Brussels on 6 June 1934 by the Belgian and the Greek Governments.

I have the honour to inform you that the Greek Government agrees to the transfer, as provided in article 3 of the Payments Agreement signed this day, of a sum of three million Belgian francs half-yearly, which shall be deposited to the credit of the pooled account opened by the National Bank of Belgium in the Bank of Greece, in application of article 2 in the aforementioned Agreement of 6 June 1934.

I have duly noted that the sums deposited in this way will be used by the National Bank of Belgium to pay off Belgian and Luxembourg creditors in the chronological order laid down in article 3 of the Agreement of 6 June 1934.

The first payment of three million Belgian francs will be made during the month of January 1949 and subsequent payments at intervals of not more than six months.

Finally, I have noted that the National Bank of Belgium will inform the Bank of Greece when all outstanding claims have been settled.

I have the honour, etc.

(Signed) TRIANTAFYLAKOS
Chairman of the Greek Delegation

The Chairman of the Belgo-Luxembourg Delegation
Brussels

VII

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GREEK DELEGATION

Brussels, 27 December 1948

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to the Commercial Agreement between the Kingdom of Greece and the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union concluded this day.

I am able to confirm that Belgian and Luxembourg firms manufacturing metal, mechanical and electrical goods will be authorized to submit valid tenders for the supply of material or installations for Greek public services or administrations and, in particular, for railway rolling stock.

If the tenders of such Belgian or Luxembourg firms are acceptable, the Greek Government will give consideration to the measures to be taken to ensure the conclusion of the contract, within the framework of the ERP or of special United States aid to Greece.

I have the honour, etc.

(Signed) TRIANTAFYLAKOS
Chairman of the Greek Delegation

The Chairman of the Belgo-Luxembourg Delegation
Brussels

VIII

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BELGO-LUXEMBOURG DELEGATION

Brussels, 27 December 1948

Sir,

In a letter of today's date, you informed me of the following:

[See letter VII]

I have the honour to confirm the Belgian Government's acceptance of the foregoing.

I have the honour, etc.

(Signed) GÉRARD
Chairman of the Belgo-Luxembourg Delegation

The Chairman of the Greek Delegation
Brussels

IX

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BELGO-LUXEMBOURG DELEGATION

Brussels, 27 December 1948

Sir,

With reference to the Commercial Agreement signed this day, I have the honour to inform you that if the par value of the Belgian franc in relation to the dollar should be modified before 30 June 1949, the unutilized quotas of goods included in list B will be adjusted by the Belgian Government on the date of such modification and in proportion thereto.

Notification thereof will be given to the Greek Government.

I should be glad if you would inform me of the Greek Government's acceptance of the foregoing.

I have the honour, etc.

(Signed) GÉRARD
Chairman of the Belgo-Luxembourg Delegation

The Chairman of the Greek Delegation
Brussels

X

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GREEK DELEGATION

Brussels, 27 December 1948

Sir,

In a letter of today's date, you informed me of the following:

[See letter IX]

I have the honour to inform you of the Greek Government's acceptance of the foregoing.

I have the honour, etc.

(Signed) TRIANTAFYLAKOS
Chairman of the Greek Delegation

The Chairman of the Belgo-Luxembourg Delegation
Brussels