

No. 1431

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**BELGIUM**  
and  
**BRAZIL**

**Exchange of letters constituting an agreement on customs immunity for career diplomatic and consular officers. Brussels, 31 July and 11 August 1951**

*Official text: French.*

*Registered by Belgium on 27 September 1951.*

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**BELGIQUE**  
et  
**BRÉSIL**

**Échange de lettres constituant un accord en matière de franchise douanière en faveur des agents diplomatiques et des agents consulaires de carrière. Bruxelles, 31 juillet et 11 août 1951**

*Texte officiel français.*

*Enregistré par la Belgique le 27 septembre 1951.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 1431. EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN BELGIUM AND BRAZIL ON CUSTOMS IMMUNITY FOR CAREER DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR OFFICERS. BRUSSELS, 31 JULY AND 11 AUGUST 1951

I

Brussels, 31 July 1951

No. 45.

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to assure you that the Brazilian Government has decided to grant total exemption from import duties for the following articles :

- I. Articles imported directly and intended for the personal use of all Belgian career diplomatic and consular officers stationed in Brazil, provided that the persons concerned are not Brazilian citizens and are not gainfully employed apart from their official functions.
- II. Chancery furnishings sent by, or on behalf of, the Belgian Government to its diplomatic missions and to the offices of its career or non-career consuls in Brazil.

Requests for exemption shall be made 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 attached to the said mission and by the chief consular representative in the case of consular officers attached to the said consulate. In the exceptional circumstances mentioned above, the request may be signed by the acting head of the diplomatic mission or the acting consular representative concerned, as the case may be.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) Ilmar PENNA MARINHO  
Chargé d'Affaires

To His Excellency Mr. J. Meurice  
Minister of Foreign Trade  
In charge of the Department of Foreign Affairs  
Brussels

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 11 August 1951, by the exchange of the said letters. This Agreement is not automatically applicable to the Belgian Congo or to Ruanda-Urundi.

## II

Brussels, 11 August 1951

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

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 45 of 31 July last in which you inform me that your Government has decided to grant total exemption from import duties for :

[See letter I, paragraphs I and II]

As the condition of reciprocity stipulated in articles 15 and 16 of the Ministerial Decree of 19 December 1947, relating to the application of customs exemption is complied with :

- (1) All Brazilian career diplomatic and consular officers stationed in Belgium shall henceforth be entitled to exemption from import duty on all articles destined for their personal use, provided that they are in the same position as the same categories of Belgian officers stationed in Brazil who are entitled to 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 import duty.

The exemption shall be granted on production of a statement in which the applicant indicates his standing and certifies that the articles are intended for his personal use. The statement shall also give a description of the articles, indicating the type, number and markings of the packages.

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 certifies that the articles are intended for official use and on verification of the fact that they have been sent direct to the head of the post by his Government or by the representative of that Government in another country.

The present agreement is not automatically applicable to the Belgian Congo or to Ruanda-Urundi.

It may be terminated or amended should either of the Contracting Parties so desire.

It is understood that your above-mentioned note and the present note constitute a formal agreement between our two Governments on this matter which will come in effect immediately.

I have the honour to be, etc.

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

To Mr. Ilmar Penna Marinho  
Chargé d'Affaires of the United States of Brazil  
at Brussels