

No. 1009

**GREECE
and
FINLAND**

**Payments Agreement (with exchange of letters). Signed at
Athens, on 24 March 1949**

Official text: French.

Registered by Greece on 3 January 1951.

**GRÈCE
et
FINLANDE**

**Accord de paiement (avec échange de lettres). Signé à Athènes,
le 24 mars 1949**

Texte officiel français.

Enregistré par la Grèce le 3 janvier 1951.

TRANSLATION—TRADUCTION

No. 1009. PAYMENTS AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF GREECE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF FINLAND. SIGNED AT ATHENS, ON 24 MARCH 1949

The Royal Government of Greece and the Government of Finland, with a view to facilitating current payments between Greece and Finland, have agreed as follows:

Article I

The Bank of Finland, acting as agent of the Finnish Government, shall open in the name of the Bank of Greece, acting as agent of the Greek Government, a non-interest-bearing account in United States dollars.

Article II

The account referred to in the above article shall be credited with the equivalent in United States dollars of the sums paid by Finnish importers to Greek exporters for Greek exports to Finland. It shall be debited with the amount in United States dollars of the payment orders issued by the Bank of Greece in favour of Finnish exporters for Finnish exports to Greece. By agreement between the two Governments, this account shall also be used for the settlement of other current payments.

Article III

All payments to the credit or debit of the account referred to in article I above shall be calculated at the official United States dollar rate in force on the date of payment to the Bank of Finland.

All payments received by the Bank of Greece to be settled through the said account and all payments to be made in settlement of credit notes given by the Bank of Finland shall be calculated at the rate of exchange in United States dollars based on the official rate in force on the date of payment to the Bank of Greece, and the ruling price of exchange certificates in United States dollars used by the Bank of Greece on that date.

Article IV

In order to effect payments to creditors in the two countries, under the provisions of this Agreement, the Bank of Finland and the Bank of Greece shall inform each other from day to day of their orders for payment.

¹ Came into force on 24 March 1949, as from the date of signature, in accordance with article X.

Article V

If the credit balance of the account referred to in article I above is insufficient to meet the needs of the Bank of Greece in respect of Greek payments provided for in this Agreement, the Bank of Finland shall effect the payments by debiting the account, in accordance with the orders of the Bank of Greece up to a limit of 750,000 United States dollars.

The Bank of Greece for its part shall settle the credit notes of the Bank of Finland, provided that the balance of the account referred to in article I does not exceed the sum of 750,000 United States dollars to the credit of the Bank of Greece.

Article VI

If the credit or debit balance of the account referred to in article I above exceeds the limit established by the preceding article, the Government of the creditor country shall have the right to limit the issue of permits for exports to the debtor country to the extent necessary to bring the debit down to the established limit.

The debtor bank may however reimburse the sum in excess of the established limit by the transfer of gold or foreign exchange as may be agreed between the Bank of Finland and the Bank of Greece.

Article VII

The Bank of Finland and the Bank of Greece shall agree on technical arrangements for the proper operation of this Agreement and on the details of its application.

Article VIII

If during the period of validity of this Agreement one or both of the Contracting Governments accede to a multilateral monetary agreement, they shall review the terms of this Agreement with a view to making any amendments that may be required.

Article IX

If, at the end of the three months following the date of expiry of this Agreement, the account referred to in article I above shows a credit or debit balance, the Government of the debtor Party shall take the necessary steps to settle the balance in kind, as promptly as possible, unless otherwise agreed between the two Governments.

Article X

This Agreement shall come into force on the date of its signature and shall remain in force for an indefinite period, either Party being entitled to terminate it upon giving one month's prior notice.

DONE at Athens, in two copies, in French, on 24 March 1949.

For the Greek Government:
C. TSALDARIS

For the Finnish Government:
Leo TUOMINEN

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS

I

THE PRESIDENT OF THE FINNISH DELEGATION

Athens, 24 March 1949

Monsieur le Ministre,

I have the honour to inform you of the following:

With reference to the Payments Agreement between Greece and Finland signed this day, I have the honour to propose that payments in respect of the following items be considered current payments:

1. Supplies of goods;
2. Expenses relating to commercial operations, such as costs of transport, repair and other commercial services.

In addition, any other payments which the two Governments or the competent authorities designated by them for the purpose may agree to include in the above list shall be treated as current payments.

The two Governments or the competent authorities designated by them for the purpose, shall, within the limits of their relevant exchange regulations and on a basis of reciprocity, authorize the transfer of the following payments in accordance with the provisions of article II of the Payments Agreement:

1. Remuneration, fees;
2. Maintenance and subsistence expenses;
3. Cost of travel, study, hospitalization;
4. Expenses and receipts of public services (taxes, fines, etc.);
5. Periodic settlements between postal, telegraphic and telephonic administrations and between public transport agencies;

6. Fees, contributions, subscriptions, patent licence and trademark fees, authors' royalties, etc.

I should be grateful if you would signify the agreement of the Greek Government with regard to the foregoing.

I have the honour to be, etc.

President of the Finnish Delegation

Leo TUOMINEN

H. E. M. Constantin Tsaldaris

Minister of Foreign Affairs

etc., etc., etc.

Athens

II

ROYAL MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Athens, 24 March 1949

Sir,

With reference to the Payments Agreement between the Kingdom of Greece and Finland, signed this day, I have the honour to inform you that under the system at present in force in Greece:

1. Ships flying the Greek flag enjoy complete freedom to choose the currency in which they contract for any operation;

2. Greek traders, whether importing or exporting, enjoy complete freedom regarding the choice of flag under which their goods are to be shipped; and

3. The Bank of Greece grants to all Greek traders the necessary foreign currency to pay for the transport of goods imported or exported.

I have the honour to be, etc.

Constantin TSALDARIS

Mr. Leo Tuominen

President of the Finnish Delegation

Athens