

**No. 2436**

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**SYRIA  
and  
JAPAN**

**Commercial Arrangement (with exchange of letters). Signed  
at Damascus, on 8 June 1953**

*Official text: French.*

*Registered by Syria on 13 January 1954.*

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**SYRIE  
et  
JAPON**

**Arrangement commercial (avec échange de lettres). Signé  
à Damas, le 8 juin 1953**

*Texte officiel français.*

*Enregistré par la Syrie le 13 janvier 1954.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 2436. COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SYRIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN, SIGNED AT DAMASCUS, ON 8 JUNE 1953

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The Government of the Republic of Syria and the Government of Japan, desirous of developing commercial exchanges between the two countries, have agreed on the following provisions :

*Article I*

The two Governments shall grant each other as favourable treatment as possible in developing exchanges of goods between their respective countries, in accordance with the general system of imports and exports in force in each country and with the provisions of this arrangement.

*Article II*

1. The Government of the Republic of Syria shall authorize the import into Syria of Japanese goods imported directly into Syria. The Government of Japan shall in turn authorize the export of such goods.

2. The Government of Japan shall authorize the import into Japan of Syrian goods imported directly into Japan. The Government of the Republic of Syria shall in turn authorize the export of such goods.

*Article III*

1. Payments between the Republic of Syria and Japan resulting from the application of this arrangement shall be made in accordance with the legislation on exchange control in force in each of the countries.

2. Such payments shall be made in US dollars or in any other currency accepted by the creditor country.

3. Both Governments undertake to authorize the transfer of currency from one country to the other to cover such payments made in the respective countries.

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 16 August 1953, in accordance with article IV, the exchange of letters having taken place on 1 August 1953.

*Article IV*

The present arrangement shall enter into force fifteen days following the exchange of notes between the two Governments stating that it has been approved in accordance with the legal procedure in each country. It shall be valid for one year and shall be extended from year to year by tacit agreement unless it is denounced in writing by either Government at least three months before its expiry.

DONE at Damascus, in two copies in French, 8 June 1953.

For the Government of Japan :

(*Signed*) Shigeru YOSANO  
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister  
Plenipotentiary of Japan in Egypt

For the Government of  
the Republic of Syria :

(*Signed*) M. SAID EL-ZAIM  
Minister of Finance, Acting Minister  
of Economic Affairs of the Republic  
of Syria

## EXCHANGE OF LETTERS

## I

Damascus, 8 June 1953

Your Excellency,

With reference to article II of the commercial arrangement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Republic of Syria signed today,

I have the honour to confirm that the Government of Japan shall issue each year, beginning in 1953, the import licences and currency required for the import of at least 5,000 (five thousand) tons of ginned cotton from Syria. This quantity of cotton to be imported each year by Japan may be revised yearly by the two Governments.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(*Signed*) Shigeru YOSANO  
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister  
Plenipotentiary of Japan in Egypt

Mr. M. Said el-Zaim  
Minister of Finance, Acting Minister  
of Economic Affairs of the Republic of Syria

## II

Damascus, 8 June 1953

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of today's date informing me of the following :

[See letter I]

I have the honour to confirm the contents of the above letter.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) M. SAID EL-ZAIM  
Minister of Finance, Acting Minister  
of Economic Affairs of the Republic of Syria

Mr. Shigeru Yosano  
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary  
of Japan in Egypt

## III

Damascus, 8 June 1953

Your Excellency,

With reference to the conversations which have been held regarding the Syrian port of Lattaquie in the course of the negotiations between the Syrian and Japanese delegations for the conclusion of the commercial arrangement signed today between the Government of the Republic of Syria and the Government of Japan.

I have the honour to confirm that it would satisfy the Syrian Government if the competent Japanese authorities recommended that Japanese shipping companies operating in the Eastern Mediterranean should extend their shipping route to the Syrian port of Lattaquie, subject to the same tariff conditions as those applicable to transport between Japanese ports and the ports of the east coast of the Mediterranean.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) M. SAID EL-ZAIM  
Minister of Finance, Acting Minister  
of Economic Affairs of the Republic of Syria

Mr. Shigeru Yosano  
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary  
of Japan in Egypt

## IV

Damascus, 8 June 1953

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to confirm that in the course of the negotiations which have just taken place at Damascus, the Syrian and Japanese delegations agreed upon the following :

(1) Japanese goods imported directly into Syria, as well as Syrian goods imported directly into Japan, shall be subject, upon entry into the importing country and so long as the commercial arrangement signed today between the Government of the Republic of Syria and the Government of Japan shall remain in force, to the duty rates normally applicable in the importing country.

(2) Japanese goods imported directly into Syria shall, however, become subject to the normal duty rates by gradual stages, in accordance with the following procedure :

(a) During a period of four months from the date in which this arrangement shall come into force, goods now subject to the maximum duty in Syria shall be liable to a duty amounting to 150 per cent of the normal duty rates.

(b) Upon expiration of that period of four months, Japanese goods imported directly into Syria shall be subject to the normal duty rates.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of the two foregoing paragraphs, each Government reserves the right, on the basis of fair treatment, to apply to the import of certain industrial products from the country of the other Government measures designed to protect its local industry, wherever the legislation in force in its country permits the application of such measures to imports from any country whatsoever.

It is understood that any such measures which might be taken by either of the two Governments shall be for the sole purpose of providing legitimate protection for local industry and shall be taken with respect to products from any country whatsoever on the same terms.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) M. SAID EL-ZAIM  
Minister of Finance, Acting Minister  
of Economic Affairs of the Republic of Syria

Mr. Shigeru Yosano  
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary  
of Japan in Egypt

## V

Damascus, 8 June 1953

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to confirm that in the course of the negotiations which have just taken place at Damascus between the Syrian and Japanese delegations it was agreed that the Syrian and Japanese Governments shall grant each other as favourable treatment as possible, on a reciprocal basis, in matters of :

(1) Free access of ships to ports open to foreign trade and shipping, use of port installations, servicing of ships, facilities for loading and unloading and the duties and taxes relating to those various services.

(2) The entry, sojourn, establishment and activities of merchants and industrialists of either Government in the country of the other Government, in accordance with the laws in force in the territory of the latter.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) M. SAID EL-ZAIM  
Minister of Finance, Acting Minister  
of Economic Affairs of the Republic of Syria

Mr. Shigeru Yosano  
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary  
of Japan in Egypt