

No. 3128

**GREECE
and
ITALY**

**Trade Agreement (with additional protocol and exchange
of letters). Signed at Rome, on 10 November 1954**

Official text: French.

Registered by Greece on 26 January 1956.

**GRÈCE
et
ITALIE**

**Accord commercial (avec protocole additionnel et échange
de lettres). Signé à Rome, le 10 novembre 1954**

Texte officiel français.

Enregistré par la Grèce le 26 janvier 1956.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 3128. TRADE AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF GREECE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC. SIGNED AT ROME, ON 10 NOVEMBER 1954

The Government of the Kingdom of Greece and the Government of the Italian Republic, being desirous of promoting the development of trade between the two countries within the framework of European economic co-operation, have agreed on the following provisions:

Article 1

The Contracting Parties shall apply to goods originating in and imported from their respective territories all measures taken or to be taken in accordance of OEEC decisions.

All liberalization measures taken or to be taken in accordance with such decisions shall therefore apply automatically to goods originating in and imported from Greece and Italy respectively.

Article 2

The two Governments undertake to issue any licences and other authorizations required for importation into either country, under the general systems laid down in the countries themselves, on an equal footing with goods originating in and imported from other countries members of the European Payments Union; similarly, the two Governments undertake to issue, under the general systems laid down and without any discrimination, any export licences and other authorizations required for exportation to the other country.

Article 3

The Greek Government undertakes to issue such import licences and other authorizations as may be requisite in addition to those referred to in the preceding article in respect of the goods enumerated in schedule A annexed hereto up to the values specified therein.

Article 4

The Italian goods to be imported into Greece and the Greek goods to be imported into Italy shall be invoiced in United States dollars.

¹ Came into force retroactively from 1 July 1954, in accordance with article 7.

Article 5

The settlement of payments relating to trade between the two countries shall be effected in accordance with the provisions of the Payments Agreement dated 4 February 1953.¹

Article 6

A Joint Commission consisting of representatives of the Governments concerned shall be set up in order to promote the development of trade between the territories of the two Parties.

It shall meet at the request of either Party and shall have the duty of supervising the application of this Agreement and of periodically reviewing the schedules annexed hereto, with special reference to such decisions as may be taken by the OEEC in respect of the liberalization of trade and multilateral payments.

Article 7

This Agreement, which supersedes the Trade Agreement signed at Rome on 4 February 1953,² shall remain in force for a period of twelve months. It shall be deemed to have come into force on 1 July 1954.

Unless denounced not less than three months before the date on which the above-mentioned period of validity expires, it shall be deemed to be renewed by tacit agreement for successive periods of one year.

DONE at Rome, in two copies, in French, on 10 November 1954.

For Greece:
N. GREGORIADES

For Italy:
F. PESCATORI

SCHEDULE A

ITALIAN EXPORTS TO GREECE

	<i>U.S. dollars</i>
Reptile skins	p.m.
Furs	p.m.
Precious stones	p.m.
Knives, spoons, forks, gilded or silver-plated, gold or silver watches . . .	25,000
Perfumery	25,000
Silk fabrics, squares, scarves, trimmings, ribbons and silk hosiery	50,000

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 189, p. 295.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 189, p. 269.

ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE TRADE AGREEMENT OF
10 NOVEMBER 1954

Following the negotiations leading to the Trade Agreement signed this day, the Greek and Italian delegations reached agreement on the following points:

1. The Italian delegation pressed strongly for the inclusion in the schedule annexed to the said Agreement of a quota for the importation of goods subject to prior authorization by the Greek Ministry of Industry.

The Greek delegation stated that the importation of such goods into Greece from any country whatever was authorized in each specific case by the said Ministry and that it was therefore impossible to establish an *ad hoc* quota.

The Greek delegation stated, however, that following a review of the relevant customs tariffs, its Government intended to liberalize the importation of such goods.

The Italian delegation notes these statements and the assurances given by the Greek delegation that in the meantime any concession granted on whatever ground to third countries in respect of the importation of goods subject to authorization by the Greek Ministry of Industry would automatically be extended on the same terms to the importation of such goods originating in Italy.

2. If the liberalization measures taken by either of the two Governments are revoked, the competent authorities of the importing country shall immediately make the necessary arrangements to ensure the continuity of exchanges.

In the case specified above, the Joint Italian-Greek Commission shall meet at the earliest possible date, and, in any case, within three months, in order to adjust the Agreement to the new situation.

In the case specified above, the competent authorities of the importing country shall, with due regard to the situation, take appropriate measures for the execution of current contracts, including long-term contracts, and the delivery of goods of a seasonal nature.

The two Contracting Parties agree that if the formalities connected with the grant of a customs clearance permit, such as examination of invoices, bond discharge certificate, etc., should ever, in the view of either country, constitute an obstacle to the free exchange of goods, the Government of the other country shall give the most sympathetic consideration to the recommendations which may be submitted to it in the matter.

DONE at Rome, in two copies, in French, on 10 November 1954.

For Greece:
N. GREGORIADES

For Italy:
F. PESCATORI

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS

I

The Chairman of the Greek delegation to the Chairman of the Italian delegation

Rome, 10 November 1954

Sir,

In the course of the negotiations leading to the conclusion of the Trade Agreement signed this day, the Greek delegation raised the question of the customs regulations existing in Italy with respect to Greek cotton.

So far as we are aware, Greek cotton imported into Italy has not yet been classified in one of the four groups established by the customs authorities, i.e.: (1) American and similar cotton; (2) Egyptian "long-staple" cotton; (3) Egyptian "short-staple" and similar cotton; and (4) Indian and similar cotton, for which *ad valorem* duty is charged under a tariff published weekly by the Central Customs Office. In the case of Greek cotton, on the other hand, customs duty is charged on the basis of the value shown in the invoice, a system operative to the disadvantage of Greek as compared with Turkish cotton of the same quality, which is included in the group "Indian and similar cotton".

I accordingly have the honour to request you to make representations to the competent Italian authorities to have Greek cotton included, for customs purposes, in category (4), "Indian and similar cotton".

I have the honour to be, etc.

N. GREGORIADES

II

The Chairman of the Italian delegation to the Chairman of the Greek delegation

Rome, 10 November 1954

Sir,

In your letter of today's date you were good enough to inform me as follows:

[See letter I]

I note the desire expressed above and I have the honour to inform you that I shall not fail to convey it to the competent Italian authorities and to recommend that they should give the matter sympathetic consideration.

I have the honour to be, etc.

PESCATORI

N° 3128

III

The Chairman of the Italian delegation to the Chairman of the Greek delegation

Rome, 10 November 1954

Sir,

In the course of the negotiations leading to the conclusion of the Trade Agreement signed this day, the Italian delegation drew the Greek delegation's attention to the fact that as the Greek customs tariff makes no special provision for liquefied gases, classification by analogy affects the importation of this product to a degree disproportionate to its value, particularly as customs duty is charged according to gross weight. As a result, the selling price of this product is considerably increased.

In view of the fact that liquefied gases are a source of energy intended chiefly for popular consumption and for the handicrafts industry, the Italian delegation would be grateful if the Greek delegation would make representations to the competent Greek authorities recommending that they should re-examine the customs classification of liquefied gases with a view to reducing the customs duty to the level of duties applicable to products used for similar purposes, such as lamp oil (kerosene).

I have the honour to be, etc.

Federico PESCATORI

IV

The Chairman of the Greek delegation to the Chairman of the Italian delegation

Rome, 10 November 1954

Sir,

In your letter of today's date you were good enough to inform me as follows:

[See letter III]

I note the desire expressed above and have the honour to inform you that I shall not fail to convey it to the competent Greek authorities and to recommend that they should give the matter sympathetic consideration.

I have the honour to be, etc.

N. GREGORIADES

V

The Chairman of the Italian delegation to the Chairman of the Greek delegation

Rome, 10 November 1954

Sir,

The Italian Government has already had occasion to draw the Greek Government's attention to the fact that in certain cases the facilities afforded to Italy to export proprietary medicines to Greece are rendered inoperative through the fact that the Greek health authorities refuse to register certain Italian medicines on various grounds, the most usual of which is that the medicine whose registration is applied for "does not contribute to the furtherance of public health".

I wish to draw your attention to the fact that such an attitude is contrary to the spirit of the Treaty of Friendship, Trade and Navigation between Italy and Greece signed at San Remo on 5 November 1948.

In view of the fact that certain Italian proprietary medicines whose registration has been refused in Greece have been duly registered in many other foreign countries, a fact which bears witness to their fitness for registration in accordance with international principles, I would request you to be good enough to make representations in the proper quarters to ensure that sympathetic consideration is given in future to the registration of Italian proprietary medicines.

I have the honour to be, etc.

Federico PESCATORI

VI

The Chairman of the Greek delegation to the Chairman of the Italian delegation

Rome, 10 November 1954

Sir,

In your letter of today's date you were good enough to inform me as follows:

[See letter V]

I note the desire expressed above and have the honour to inform you that I shall not fail to convey it to the competent Greek authorities and to recommend that they should give the matter sympathetic consideration.

I have the honour to be, etc.

N. GREGORIADES

VII

The Chairman of the Italian delegation to the Chairman of the Greek delegation

Rome, 10 November 1954

Sir,

In the course of the negotiations leading to the conclusion of the Trade Agreement signed this day, the Italian delegation emphasised that in the view of the interests concerned, trade between the two countries would be greatly facilitated if Greek commercial banks could be authorized to give their guarantee for the importation of goods in cases where credit settlement is permissible under Greek regulations.

In connexion with the foregoing, I should be grateful if you would draw the Greek financial authorities' attention to the view held in Italian business circles with a view to a possible revision of existing regulations.

I have the honour to be, etc.

Federico PESCATORI

VIII

The Chairman of the Greek delegation to the Chairman of the Italian delegation

Rome, 10 November 1954

Sir,

In your letter of today's date you were good enough to inform me as follows:

[See letter VII]

I note the desire expressed above and have the honour to inform you that I shall not fail to convey it to the competent Greek authorities and to recommend that they should give the matter sympathetic consideration.

I have the honour to be, etc.

N. GREGORIADES

IX

The Chairman of the Greek delegation to the Chairman of the Italian delegation

Rome, 10 November 1954

Sir,

With reference to the conversations which led to the conclusion of the Trade Agreement signed this day, I have the honour to inform you that the competent Greek authorities will automatically extend to Italy any concession granted or to be granted to any third country in respect of the carriage by sea or air of goods entering into direct or indirect trade and the conveyance by sea or air of persons resident in Greece.

The competent Greek authorities will also give close attention to the matter of improving the present procedure for the sale of steamship tickets by the agencies of Italian companies.

I have the honour to be, etc.

N. GREGORIADES

X

The Chairman of the Italian delegation to the Chairman of the Greek delegation

Rome, 10 November 1954

Sir,

In your letter of today's date you were good enough to inform me as follows:

[See letter IX]

I wish to state that I agree to the foregoing. I have the honour to be, etc.

Federico PESCATORI