

No. 3838

**ITALY
and
LEBANON**

**Trade Agreement (with exchange of letters). Signed at
Beirut, on 4 November 1955**

Official text: French.

Registered by Italy on 15 May 1957.

**ITALIE
et
LIBAN**

**Accord sur les échanges commerciaux (avec échange de
lettres). Signé à Beyrouth, le 4 novembre 1955**

Texte officiel français.

Enregistré par l'Italie le 15 mai 1957.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 3838. TRADE AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC AND THE LEBANESE REPUBLIC. SIGNED AT BEIRUT, ON 4 NOVEMBER 1955

The Government of the Italian Republic and the Government of the Lebanese Republic, desirous of developing trade between their two countries on the basis of reciprocity of interests and of mutual co-operation, have agreed upon the following provisions :

Article 1

The importation of Italian goods into Lebanon shall be effected in conformity with the regulation applicable to the importation of the like goods originating in any other country, subject to the exceptions specified in article 7.

Article 2

The Lebanese Government shall facilitate the exportation, and the Italian Government shall authorize the importation, of the goods originating in or exported from Lebanon specified in list A² annexed hereto.

Changes in the list aforementioned may be agreed upon by the two Governments at any time while the Agreement is in force by a simple exchange of letters.

Article 3

The High Contracting Parties undertake to consider any matters relating to trade not provided for in this Agreement, in particular if they contemplate any change in their existing import and export regulations.

In the event of the imposition of general import quotas, each of the High Contracting Parties shall allocate to the other Contracting Party a share of the established quotas, after prior consultation between the two Parties.

Article 4

Subject to the provisions of the legislation of their respective countries, the Government of the Italian Republic and the Government of the Lebanese Republic shall encourage :

¹ Came into force on 11 September 1956, five days after the deposit in Rome, on 6 September 1956, of the Lebanese instrument of ratification, in accordance with article 10.

² See p. 119 of this volume.

- (a) Transit trade of interest to their two countries ;
- (b) Triangular trade ;
- (c) Trade transactions under private clearing arrangements, which shall be permitted as a means of expanding trade. Such transactions may include, among other goods, Lebanese goods not specified in list A annexed hereto.

Article 5

Payments relating to any commercial transactions provided for in this Agreement shall be made in any free currency accepted by the exporting country.

Article 6

The two Contracting Parties shall grant each other most-favoured-nation treatment, in particular in matters concerning :

- (a) Customs duties and any other duties or charges, the methods of levying duties and charges, and the regulations and formalities relating to customs clearance, in connexion with both importation and exportation ;
- (b) Formalities relating to the importation and exportation of goods ;
- (c) The free access of vessels to ports, the use of port installations, taxes and charges, services to vessels and the provision of marine stores, loading and unloading facilities and the temporary disembarkation of the crew, with the exception of the advantages and privileges granted in respect of navigation in territorial waters, including the coastal trade and fishing.

Article 7

The provisions of this Agreement relating to most-favoured-nation treatment shall not apply :

- (a) To such special benefits as have been or may be granted by either of the two Contracting Parties with a view to facilitating frontier traffic with adjoining States ;
- (b) To such benefits as have been or may be granted by either of the two Contracting Parties to other States with a view to the formation of a customs union or the establishment of a free trade area ;
- (c) To such benefits as have been or may be granted by Italy to the United Kingdom of Libya, to the Republic of San Marino, to the Vatican City State and to Somaliland ;
- (d) To such special privileges and benefits as have been or may be granted by Lebanon to the member States of the League of Arab States ;
- (e) To such privileges and benefits as have been or may be granted by one of the two Contracting Parties by virtue of its participation in a community

instituted between a number of countries for the purpose of jointly organizing one or more branches of production, trade and services, or safeguarding their security.

Article 8

A Mixed Commission composed of Italian and Lebanese representatives shall be established. The function of the Commission shall be to study economic relations between the two countries, to make proposals for their development, and to adjust any difficulties that might arise in the application of this Agreement. It shall make annual proposals to the two Governments concerning possible changes in the quotas provided for under article 2.

The Commission shall meet at the request of either of the two Governments.

Article 9

This Agreement shall remain in force for a period of one year, renewable by tacit agreement. It may be denounced by either of the Contracting Parties three months before its expiry.

Article 10

This Agreement shall enter into force five days after the deposit in Rome of the Lebanese instrument of ratification.

DONE at Beirut, in two copies in French, on 4 November 1955.

For the Government
of the Italian Republic:
Raffaele FERRETTI

For the Government
of the Lebanese Republic:
S. LAHOUD

LIST A

LEBANESE GOODS TO BE EXPORTED TO ITALY

	<i>Tons</i>
1. Grains	p. m.
2. Leguminous vegetables	150
3. Raisins	400
4. Bananas	1,000
5. Olive oil ¹	1,500
6. Cottonseed oil ¹	1,000
7. Other vegetable oils	150
8. Onions	p. m.
9. Leaf tobacco	p. m.

¹ Goods admitted to Italy as temporary imports.

	<i>Kg.</i>
10. Natural floss silk	25,000
11. Horsehair and other animal hair	30
12. Cotton yarn	p. m.
13. Raw hides and skins, other than furskins	200
14. Tanned or semi-tanned hides and skins	250
15. Guts, salted	50
16. Iron ore	10,000
17. Iron scrap	2,500
18. Natural sponges	p. m.
19. Raw wool	300
20. Eggs	100
21. Oil-cake	1,000
22. Craft products	p. m.
	<i>LL.</i>
23. Other goods	500,000

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS

I

Beirut, 4 November 1955

Your Excellency,

With reference to the negotiations which concluded in the signature today of a Trade Agreement¹ between our two countries, and with a view to contributing, in accordance with the spirit of the Agreement, to the expansion of Italian-Lebanese trade, I have the honour to request you to facilitate, in so far as the requirements and possibilities of our two markets allow, any transactions involving the exchange of hard wheat from Lebanon for flour or soft wheat from Italy which may be proposed by traders in the two countries.

I should be grateful if you would confirm your Government's agreement to the foregoing.

I have the honour to be, etc.

Raffaele FERRETTI

His Excellency Mr. Salim Lahoud
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Beirut

¹ See p. 115 of this volume.

II

Beirut, 4 November 1955

Your Excellency,

With reference to your letter of today's date concerning the exchange of hard wheat from Lebanon for flour or soft wheat from Italy, I have the honour to confirm my Government's agreement to the contents of your letter, subject to the commitments arising from the participation of Lebanon in the International Wheat Agreement.¹

I have the honour to be, etc.

S. LAHOUD

His Excellency Mr. Raffaele Ferretti
Minister Plenipotentiary
Chairman of the Italian Economic Delegation
Beirut

III

Beirut, 4 November 1955

Your Excellency,

Article 7 (e) of the Trade Agreement between the Lebanese Republic and the Italian Republic signed today provides that the provisions relating to most-favoured-nation treatment shall not apply to such privileges and benefits as have been or may be granted by one of the two Contracting Parties by virtue of its participation in a community instituted between a number of countries for the purpose of jointly organizing one or more branches of production, trade or services, or safeguarding their security.

I have the honour to explain that this text refers to the privileges and benefits that Italy has agreed to grant to its partners in the European Coal and Steel Community.

I have the honour to be, etc.

Raffaele FERRETTI

His Excellency Mr. Salim Lahoud
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Beirut

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 203, p. 179, and Vol. 256, p. 364.