

No. 4480

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND
and
MOROCCO**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement concerning the
Convention of Commerce and Navigation between the
United Kingdom and the Shereefian Empire signed on
9 December 1856. Rabat, 1 March 1957**

Official texts : English and French.

*Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
on 3 September 1958.*

**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD
et
MAROC**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord concernant la
Convention de commerce et de navigation entre le
Royaume-Uni et l'Empire chérifien, signée le 9 décembre
1856. Rabat, 1^{er} mars 1957**

Textes officiels anglais et français.

*Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord
le 3 septembre 1958.*

No. 4480. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF MOROCCO CONCERNING THE CONVENTION OF COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE SHEREEFIAN EMPIRE SIGNED ON 9 DECEMBER 1856. RABAT, 1 MARCH 1957

I

Her Majesty's Ambassador at Rabat to the Moroccan Minister for Foreign Affairs

BRITISH EMBASSY

Rabat, March 1, 1957

Monsieur le Ministre,

On the instructions of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom renounce their rights under Article 7 of the Convention of Commerce and Navigation signed on December 9, 1856, since they recognise that the limitations imposed by this Article on the right of the Moroccan Government to determine rates of custom duties and other charges imposed on or in connexion with the importation of products of the United Kingdom and its dependent territories into the Shereefian Empire are inappropriate to existing political and economic conditions.

I have, &c.

C. B. DUKE

¹ Came into force on 1 March 1957 by the exchange of the said notes.

II

The Moroccan Minister for Foreign Affairs to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Rabat

[TRANSLATION¹ — TRADUCTION²]

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Rabat, March 1, 1957

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur,

I have the honour to express the satisfaction of the Moroccan Government at the successful conclusion of the discussions held in London and in Rabat concerning certain provisions of the Convention of Commerce and Navigation between the United Kingdom and the Shereefian Empire signed on December 9, 1856.

The Moroccan Government note with pleasure the formal declaration by Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom in your Excellency's Note of to-day's date as the result of which Article 7 of the Convention of Commerce and Navigation of December 9, 1856, has ceased to govern the relations between their two countries and to limit the rights of the Moroccan Government to determine the tariffs to be imposed on goods originating in the United Kingdom or in any dependent territory of the United Kingdom and imported into Morocco.

Recognising the spirit of friendship and understanding which has led Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom to renounce their rights under the aforesaid article, the Moroccan Government propose :

1. that Article 7 of the Convention of Commerce and Navigation, 1856, should be regarded as abrogated ;
2. to enter immediately into negotiations with Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom for a new Treaty of Commerce and Navigation ;
3. to provide under the treaty for each party to grant most-favoured-nation treatment to the other ; pending the conclusion of these negotiations, products originating in the United Kingdom and its dependent territories will, in all matters connected with importation, be accorded treatment no less favourable than that accorded to products originating in any other country ;
4. to accord products originating in the United Kingdom and its dependent territories the benefit of the maximum tariff of 12 ½ per cent. at present in force so long as this tariff continues to be applied to the imports from any

¹ Translation by the Government of the United Kingdom.

² Traduction du Gouvernement du Royaume-Uni.

other country. In deciding their new tariff rates the Moroccan Government intend to bear in mind the interests of the two countries.

I have the honour to request that your Excellency will confirm that Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom are in agreement with the four proposals of the Moroccan Government which are set out in paragraph 3 of this Note.

Please believe, &c.

Ahmed BALAFREJ

III

Her Majesty's Ambassador at Rabat to the Moroccan Minister for Foreign Affairs

BRITISH EMBASSY

Rabat, March 1, 1957

Monsieur le Ministre,

I have the honour to acknowledge your Excellency's Note to to-day's date which reads as follows :

[See note II]

The four proposals contained in the third paragraph of your Excellency's Note are acceptable to Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. As regards the third paragraph which refers to most-favoured-nation treatment I am instructed by Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom to record that they do not regard this undertaking as preventing the Government of His Majesty The Sultan from discriminating, in the matter of import prohibitions and restrictions in favour of any country of the monetary area to which the Shereefian Empire belongs, provided the discrimination is no more than is necessary to protect the monetary reserves of the aforesaid area, and that it is applied in such a way as to avoid unnecessary damage to the commercial interests of the United Kingdom.

I have, &c.

C. B. DUKE