

No. 4513

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**BELGIUM
and
AUSTRIA**

**Agreement concerning the international transport of goods
by road. Signed at Vienna, on 20 June 1958**

Official texts : French and German.

Registered by Belgium on 10 September 1958.

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**BELGIQUE
et
AUTRICHE**

**Accord sur le transport international de marchandises par
route. Signé à Vienne, le 20 juin 1958**

Textes officiels français et allemand.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 10 septembre 1958.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 4513. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN BELGIUM AND AUSTRIA CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT OF GOODS BY ROAD. SIGNED AT VIENNA, ON 20 JUNE 1958

The Contracting Parties, being desirous of concluding an agreement concerning the international transport of goods by road, have agreed on the following provisions :

Article 1

This Agreement shall apply to international goods traffic, that is to say, to the transport of goods coming from or proceeding to one of the contracting countries by means of motor vehicles registered in the other contracting country, and to traffic in transit through one of the contracting countries carried by motor vehicles registered in the other contracting country.

In no case shall it apply to the performance in the territory of one of the two countries, by a carrier of the other country, of a purely internal transport operation, which is and shall remain subject to the provisions of the national regulations.

This Agreement shall be without prejudice to the legislative provisions relating to Customs in each of the two countries.

Article 2

The carriage of goods by road to a destination or from a starting point in one of the contracting countries or in transit through the territory of one of the countries, by means of vehicles registered in the other contracting country shall be subject to previous authorization (*Ausweis*).

Such authorization shall not be required for the carriage of goods for the account of the carrier or for funeral transport operations.

Article 3

The authorization (*Ausweis*) shall take the form of the issue :

Either of a document hereinafter referred to as "transport licence" (*Dauer-ausweis*), valid for not more than one year and for the transport of specified goods between specified points or in specified areas ;

¹ Came into force on 1 July 1958, in accordance with article 13. Is not applicable to the Territories of the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi.

Or of a document hereinafter referred to as "single-journey permit" (*befristeter Ausweis*) valid for one transport operation in each direction of a specified nature and between specified points. In exceptional cases, the permit may be made valid for several operations within a one-month period. Single-journey permits shall be issued for the purpose of occasional or emergency single-journey transport operations in the territory of the other contracting country which are normally carried out by road vehicles.

Article 4

In accordance with the national regulations in force, transport licences shall be issued by the competent authorities of the foreign State on the proposal of the competent authority of the country of registration of the vehicle.

Blank forms for single-journey permits shall be forwarded by each Government to the other within the limit of quotas fixed by agreement. Upon being duly completed, the permits shall be allocated by the Government concerned to the undertakings which qualify therefor.

Article 5

In addition to the permits referred to in article 4, each Government shall place at the disposal of the other a supply of blank single-journey permit forms required for transit traffic through its territory by carriers of the other country.

Article 6

Permits shall be issued to Belgian carriers only if they hold a Belgian permit for the transport of goods by motor vehicle.

Permits shall be issued to Austrian carriers only if they hold an Austrian permit for the transport of goods by motor vehicle.

Article 7

Permits shall be personal and non-transferable. They shall be valid either for a motor vehicle or for a motor vehicle with trailer.

They shall indicate :

- (a) The maximum authorized carrying capacity of the vehicle or vehicles,
- (b) The tare and other identifying characteristics of the vehicle or vehicles,
- (c) Particulars of the transport operation.

In no case may the total weight of the goods loaded in a given vehicle exceed the maximum authorized carrying capacity indicated on the permit for the vehicle.

The permit must accompany the vehicle on its journey in foreign territory.

Article 8

Carriers shall be authorized to take on in the territory of the other contracting State a return load for a destination in their national territory.

Nevertheless, carriers may not send an empty vehicle across the frontier of the other contracting State without written proof that the vehicle is to carry out a transport operation agreed upon in advance.

This proof may take the form of a declaration by the importer or exporter of the goods or by an agent acting on behalf of the importer or exporter. The declaration must state the place of loading, the name of the consignor and the consignee and the nature and quantity of the goods.

Production of the proof referred to in the preceding paragraph shall not exempt the carrier from the obligation of producing a valid permit for the transport operation in question.

Article 9

The Austrian Ministry of Trade and Reconstruction shall transmit to the Belgian Ministry of Communications a list of Belgian permits issued by it to Austrian transport undertakings. The Belgian Ministry of Communications shall transmit to the Austrian Ministry of Trade and Reconstruction a list of Austrian permits issued by it to Belgian transport undertakings. The list shall include the number and period of validity of the permit, the name and address of the holder, the maximum authorized carrying capacity of the vehicle or vehicles, particulars of the registration plate and, for each transport operation, the loading point, unloading point and weight and nature of the goods.

Article 10

Carriers shall comply with the legislative provisions relating to road haulage and traffic in the other contracting State.

Each contracting State shall extend to vehicles registered in the other contracting State the benefits of the provisions of its national legislation relating to dimensions and weights and, within the framework of that legislation, shall extend the widest possible facilities for the circulation of such vehicles, within the limits of the maximum dimensions and weights provided for in the regulations of the country of registration.

Article 11

The permit may be suspended or revoked, without prejudice to the penal provisions in force in the country in which the transport operation takes place, in the case of abuse and in particular of any infringement of the provisions of articles 7 and 10.

Article 12

The authorities competent to give effect to this Agreement shall be :

On the Austrian side : the Ministry of Trade and Reconstruction ;

On the Belgian side : the Ministry of Communications.

Representatives of these Ministries shall meet, when required, as a Joint Commission for the purpose of ensuring the proper application of this Agreement and in order particularly :

- To decide how permits are to be allocated ;
- To resolve any difficulties which may arise out of the operation of the Agreement ;
- To draw up the forms for permits ;
- To determine the practical arrangements for the issue of the aforementioned documents ;
- To consider the use made by each country of the blank permit forms provided by the other country ;
- To decide on the information to be exchanged by the two countries for statistical purposes ;
- To consider the action taken by each country with regard to infringements committed by its nationals in the territory of the other and reported by the latter.

Article 13

This Agreement shall come into force on 1 July 1958 for a period of one year ; it shall be automatically renewed from year to year unless denounced by one of the Parties by three months' notice in advance.

DONE in duplicate, at Vienna, on 20 June 1958, in French and German, both texts being equally authentic.

For Austria :
Dr. Fritz BOCK

For Belgium :
G. DELCOIGNE