

No. 4187

NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM and LUXEMBOURG

Exchange of notes constituting an agreement concerning the liberalization of trade in fishing products between the three countries. Brussels, 24 June 1954, The Hague, 4 November 1954, Luxembourg, 9 November 1954, and Brussels, 29 November 1954

Official texts : French and Dutch.

Registered by the Netherlands on 5 March 1958.

PAYS-BAS, BELGIQUE et LUXEMBOURG

Échange de notes constituant un accord concernant la libération des échanges entre les trois pays des produits de la pêche. Bruxelles, 24 juin 1954, La Haye, 4 novembre 1954, Luxembourg, 9 novembre 1954, et Bruxelles, 29 novembre 1954

Textes officiels français et néerlandais.

Enregistré par les Pays-Bas le 5 mars 1958.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 4187. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG CONCERNING THE LIBERALIZATION OF TRADE IN FISHING PRODUCTS BETWEEN THE THREE COUNTRIES. BRUSSELS, 24 JUNE 1954, THE HAGUE, 4 NOVEMBER 1954, LUXEMBOURG, 9 NOVEMBER 1954, AND BRUSSELS, 29 NOVEMBER 1954

I

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND FOREIGN TRADE

Brussels, 24 June 1954

Your Excellency,

With reference to the Pre-Union Agreement signed at Luxembourg on 15 October 1949 and to the subsequent ministerial discussions concerning the liberalization of fishing products,

I have the honour to confirm to you that the Committee of Ministers, at its meeting of 27 March 1954, reached the following conclusions :

(1) Trade in fishing products between the three countries shall be free from all restrictions, except as otherwise provided in conclusions 2 and 3 hereunder regarding prepared and unprepared shrimps and sea fish of less than 40 cm.

(2) Trade in prepared and unprepared shrimps between the three countries shall be free from all restrictions with effect from 1 March 1955. Pending this liberalization, reciprocal trade in prepared and unprepared shrimps shall be subject to a quota system.

(a) The quota for the exportation of prepared shrimps from the Netherlands to the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union shall be 200 tons for the period from 1 March 1954 to 1 March 1955 ;

(b) The quota for the exportation of unprepared shrimps from the Netherlands to the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union shall be 400 tons for the period of 1 March 1954 to 1 March 1955, it being understood that this quota may be raised by agreement by not more than 100 tons if market conditions permit ;

(c) The quarterly allocations out of the quotas referred to in (a) and (b) shall be determined by the "Agriculture, Food and Fisheries" Commission on the advice of the Fisheries Sub-Commission.

¹ Came into force on 8 May 1957, the date of receipt by the Government of Belgium of a note from the Netherlands Government stating that the approval constitutionally required in the Netherlands has been obtained, in accordance with the provisions of the said notes.

(3) Trade in fish of less than 40 cm between the three countries shall be free from all restrictions with effect from 1 March 1956. Pending this liberalization, trade in fish of less than 40 cm between the partners shall be subject to a reciprocal system of quotas which shall be progressively expanded.

The quarterly quotas shall be as follows :

- 80 tons for the period from 1 April 1954 to 1 June 1954
- 125 tons for the period from 1 June 1954 to 1 September 1954
- 175 tons for the period from 1 September 1954 to 1 December 1954
- 175 tons for the period from 1 December 1954 to 1 March 1955
- 225 tons for the period from 1 March 1955 to 1 June 1955
- 225 tons for the period from 1 June 1955 to 1 September 1955
- 250 tons for the period from 1 September 1955 to 1 December 1955
- 250 tons for the period from 1 December 1955 to 1 March 1956.

If the trade in fish of less than 40 cm should result in a catastrophic development seriously threatening the existence of that branch of fishing in one of the countries during the transitional period up to 1 March 1956, the Committee of Ministers established pursuant to article 12 of the Protocol concerning the Co-ordination of Economic and Social Policies, signed at The Hague on 24 July 1953, shall adopt measures as soon as possible, taking into account the special exigencies of the prevailing situation.

The proposals to be formulated in this matter shall be submitted by the "Agriculture, Food and Fisheries" Commission, on the basis of particulars supplied by the Fisheries Sub-Commission, which shall submit a report on this subject to the "Agriculture, Food and Fisheries" Commission.

(4) The conclusions reached at the Ministerial Conference held at Ulvenhout on 14 February 1952 shall continue to be applicable except insofar as they are amended by the present conclusions.

I should be grateful if you would signify your agreement to the foregoing.

I am addressing a letter in identical terms to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Luxembourg. I shall not fail to inform you of the contents of his reply.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) P. H. SPAAK

Minister of Foreign Affairs

His Excellency Mr. J. N. A. Luns
Minister of Foreign Affairs
The Hague

II

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The Hague, 4 November 1954

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to confirm the receipt of your letter of 24 June 1954, which reads as follows :

[See note I]

I have the honour to inform you of the Netherlands Government's agreement to the foregoing.

The Agreement concluded by this exchange of notes shall enter into effect on the date on which the Belgian Government receives a note informing it on behalf of the Netherlands Government that the approval required under the Netherlands Constitution has been obtained, it being understood that the relevant provisions of this Agreement shall be applied provisionally.

I am writing to the same effect to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Luxembourg. I shall not fail to notify you of the contents of his reply.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) J. LUNS

His Excellency Mr. P. H. Spaak
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Brussels

III

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The Hague, 4 November 1954

Your Excellency,

With reference to the Pre-Union Agreement signed at Luxembourg on 15 October 1949 and to the subsequent ministerial negotiations concerning the liberalization of fishing products,

I have the honour to confirm to you that the Committee of Ministers, at its meeting of 27 March 1954, reached the following conclusions :

[See note I]

I should be grateful if you would signify your agreement to the foregoing.

The present Agreement shall enter into effect on the date on which the Luxembourg Government receives a note informing it on behalf of the Netherlands

Government that the approval required under the Netherlands Constitution has been obtained, it being understood that the relevant provisions of this Agreement shall be applied provisionally.

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of a letter received from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belgium and a copy of the reply I have addressed to him.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) J. LUNS

His Excellency Mr. J. Bech
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Luxembourg

IV

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Luxembourg, 9 November 1954

Your Excellency,

In your letter of 4 November 1954 you informed me as follows :

[See note I]

I have the honour to inform you of the Luxembourg Government's agreement to the foregoing.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) BECH

Minister of Foreign Affairs

His Excellency Mr. J. M. A. H. Luns
Minister of Foreign Affairs
The Hague

V

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND FOREIGN TRADE

Brussels, 29 November 1954

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to confirm the receipt of your reply to my letter of 24 June 1954 concerning the liberalization of fishing products.

I note that the aforesaid reply contains the following additional provision :

“The Agreement concluded by this exchange of notes shall enter into effect on the date on which the Belgian Government receives a note informing it on behalf of the Netherlands Government that the approval required under the Netherlands Constitution has been obtained, it being understood that the relevant provisions of this Agreement shall be applied provisionally.”

I have the honour to inform you of my agreement to the aforesaid additional provision.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) P. H. SPAAK

Minister of Foreign Affairs

His Excellency Mr. J. M. Luns
Minister of Foreign Affairs
The Hague