

No. 5373

**YUGOSLAVIA
and
BULGARIA**

**Agreement concerning the construction and equipment of
vehicles and trailers intended for the transport of goods
and the customs treatment of such vehicles and goods.
Signed at Belgrade, on 21 March 1958**

Official texts: Serbo-Croat and Bulgarian.

Registered by Yugoslavia on 26 September 1960.

**YOUGOSLAVIE
et
BULGARIE**

**Accord sur la construction et l'aménagement des véhicules
et remorques destinés au transport des marchandises,
ainsi que sur le traitement douanier de ces véhicules
et marchandises. Signé à Belgrade, le 21 mars 1958**

Textes officiels serbo-croate et bulgare.

Enregistré par la Yougoslavie le 26 septembre 1960.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 5373. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA CONCERNING THE CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF VEHICLES AND TRAILERS INTENDED FOR THE TRANSPORT OF GOODS AND THE CUSTOMS TREATMENT OF SUCH VEHICLES AND GOODS. SIGNED AT BELGRADE, ON 21 MARCH 1958

The Government of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, desiring to facilitate the movement of road vehicles and the transport of goods by such vehicles, have agreed as follows :

Article 1

Road vehicles (hereinafter referred to as " vehicles ") used for the transport of goods must be constructed and equipped in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

Article 2

Goods may be carried in closed vehicles, open vehicles, platform vehicles and the trailers of such vehicles.

" Closed vehicles " shall be deemed to mean vans (which may be equipped to carry textiles, furniture, perishable goods, etc.), tankers and other vehicles having a closed body designed to hold goods.

" Open vehicles " shall be deemed to mean lorries and similar vehicles equipped for covering with tilts.

" Platform vehicles " shall be deemed to mean vehicles having only a floor on which the goods are loaded.

Article 3

Closed vehicles must conform to the following conditions :

(1) The loading compartment (sides, floor and roof) must be constructed of such material (metal plates, boards and other hard material), and be of such

¹ Came into force on 14 August 1958 by an exchange of notes signifying the approval of the two Governments, in accordance with article 18.

thickness and strength as is appropriate to the nature of the goods carried, and must be so constructed that once it is closed it is impossible to introduce or remove goods without leaving visible traces;

(2) They must be so constructed that the goods for which they are intended can be loaded in such a way as to permit Customs inspection and Customs sealing;

(3) If the goods in question require ventilation, the apertures for ventilation must be such that the said goods cannot be introduced into or removed from the loading compartment (vehicle body) through the said apertures, and must be protected by a suitable device (metal lattice-work, netting, etc.) which cannot be removed without leaving visible traces;

(4) The closing systems (doors and the like) of the loading compartment (vehicle body) must be so arranged that they cannot be removed while the goods are in transit and that the necessary Customs seals can be affixed to them.

Article 4

Open vehicles must conform to the following conditions :

(1) The loading compartment (vehicle body) must be walled in on all four sides by metal plates, boards or other similar material of sufficient thickness and strength to protect the goods and prevent them from scattering, falling out, etc. The sidewalls of such vehicles must be fitted with metal rings to secure the tilt;

(2) The tilt (tarpaulin, etc.) must be made of strong waterproof fabric, pierced at the edges with eyelets reinforced with metal or leather for attaching the tilt to the rings on the sides of the vehicle;

(3) The tilt must be in good condition and be made of a single piece of material, so that no goods can be introduced into or removed from the vehicle without leaving visible traces;

(4) The spaces between the rings on the side walls of the vehicle must be the same as the spaces between the eyelets at the edges of the tilt so that the tilt can be secured to the rings by means of a cord or bar and the Customs seal can be affixed;

(5) The tilt hoops must be so fitted that they cannot be removed from the outside.

Article 5

Platform vehicles shall be used only for the transport of heavy and bulky goods which cannot be carried in a closed compartment under Customs seal. In the case of transport by such vehicles, facilities must be provided for the affixing of the necessary Customs seals to the goods carried.

Article 6

The provisions of articles 3, 4 and 5 of this Agreement shall also apply to trailers.

Article 7

Every vehicle must carry a certificate, issued by the competent authority of the Contracting Party in whose territory it is registered, attesting that it fulfils the technical conditions required by this Agreement for the international transport of goods.

Article 8

The loaded vehicle must be examined by the Customs authority of the country in which the goods are loaded and must be placed under Customs supervision. When the vehicle enters the territory of the other Contracting Party it must be produced to the frontier Customs office for completion of the appropriate Customs formalities.

If the goods are to be cleared through the Customs, not at the frontier Customs office but at some Customs office in the interior, and are not consigned in transit, the frontier Customs office shall prescribe the shortest appropriate itinerary for the vehicle carrying the goods to the Customs office of destination.

The vehicle must follow the prescribed itinerary.

In the foregoing cases, the frontier Customs office of entry shall affix its Customs seal to the vehicle.

Article 9

The goods carried must be accompanied by a "manifest" in which the guaranteeing organization and the carrier undertake, subject to compliance with the laws of the Contracting Party whose territory the vehicle is to enter, to produce the vehicle and goods at the Customs office of destination with the seals intact and to follow the prescribed itinerary.

The said "manifest" must be certified by the Customs authorities of the Contracting Party in whose territory the goods are loaded on to the vehicle. Particulars of the container shall also be entered on the said manifest.

Article 10

1. The container shall be accorded the Customs privileges prescribed for temporary imports for a period of three months from the date of entry.

2. The container must carry a special document, issued by the competent guaranteeing organization, bearing the essential particulars and a technical description of the container: name and business address of owner, period of validity, kind of container, identification marks and numbers, tare, external dimensions, particulars of structure, date and place of issue of the document, and signature and stamp of issuing office.

3. The period of validity of the document shall not exceed two years.

4. The term "container" shall mean an article of goods transport equipment (lift-van, box, movable tank, etc.) of durable type and hence strong enough for repeated use, specially constructed to facilitate the carriage of goods without breaking bulk, fitted with devices permitting its ready handling, so constructed as to be easy to fill and empty, and having an internal volume of one cubic metre or more. The term "container" shall not be deemed to include conventional vehicles or conventional packing.

Article 11

The Contracting Parties, each for its own part, shall designate guaranteeing organizations.

The guaranteeing organizations so designated shall agree, in conjunction with the Customs and other authorities of each Contracting Party, on the model for the "manifest" to accompany the vehicle and goods.

The responsibility of the guaranteeing organization shall extend not merely to goods shown in the "manifest" but also to goods which, although not shown in the "manifest", are present in the vehicle or among the articles enumerated in the manifest.

Article 12

In the case of goods which are to be cleared at the frontier Customs office of the country of destination, the manifest (article 9) must be drawn up in three copies, one copy to be kept by the Customs office of the Contracting Party in whose territory the goods are loaded, the second copy to be kept by the Customs office of departure of the same country, and the third copy to be produced at the Customs office of the other Contracting Party in whose territory the goods are to be cleared.

If the goods are to be cleared at a Customs office in the interior of the country of destination, the manifest shall be drawn up in four copies. The first copy shall remain at the Customs office where the goods were cleared on loading, the second copy shall be kept by the Customs office of departure in the country of origin of the goods, the third copy shall be produced at the Customs office of

entry in the territory of the other Contracting Party, and the fourth copy shall be forwarded with the vehicle and the goods to the Customs office designated for clearance, after which the said Customs office shall return a certified copy of the manifest to the Customs office which sent it.

In the case of goods in transit through the territory of one Contracting Party, the manifest must be drawn up in two copies for each country.

Article 13

The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties may, if they consider it necessary, require the vehicle and goods to be escorted by Customs personnel and to be examined *en route*.

Article 14

The carrier shall comply with the Customs regulations of the country in which he is operating.

Article 15

In the event of the Customs seal being broken *en route*, the carrier shall be required to notify the nearest Customs authority of the fact immediately, with a view to verification and the preparation of a report. If there is no Customs office at the place where the Customs seal was broken, the carrier shall report the breakage to the competent People's Committee.

The competent Customs office of destination of the goods shall verify whether, following the breaking of the Customs seals, the goods have arrived in good condition in accordance with the certified manifest, and shall check the goods against the said manifest.

The carrier shall be liable to an administrative penalty, in accordance with the Customs provisions, for any breakage of the Customs seal and for any discrepancy between the goods and the certified manifest.

Article 16

If it is necessary, for good and sufficient reasons, to transfer the goods to another vehicle, this may only be done in the presence of the authorities mentioned in article 15, first paragraph, of this Agreement, and the same procedure shall be followed as in the case of breakage of the Customs seal.

Where the vehicle to which the goods are to be transferred does not conform to the conditions prescribed by this Agreement, the Customs or other competent authority may refuse to permit the transfer of the goods unless transfer to another vehicle is necessary in order to protect them.

In any event, the Customs seal must be affixed to the goods in such a manner as to facilitate effective Customs supervision thereof.

Article 17

Any person contravening the provisions of this Agreement shall be answerable to the authorities of the Contracting Party in whose territory the contravention is committed.

Article 18

This Agreement shall be subject to approval by both Governments and shall enter into force on the date of the exchange, through the diplomatic channel, of notes communicating such approval.

The Agreement shall be valid for one year from the date of its entry into force and shall be automatically prolonged from year to year unless it is denounced by either Contracting Party not later than three months before the expiry of its current term.

This Agreement is signed at Belgrade, this twenty-first day of March one thousand nine hundred and fifty-eight, in two original copies, each in the Serbo-Croat and Bulgarian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the Federal People's Republic
of Yugoslavia :

(Signed) Dr. Jovan PAUNOVIĆ

For the Government
of the People's Republic
of Bulgaria :

(Signed) Dr. Avram S. MELAMED