No. 5871

HUNGARY and UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Agreement concerning co-operation and mutual assistance in customs matters. Signed at Budapest, on 21 July 1958

Official texts: Hungarian and Russian.

Registered by Hungary on 26 September 1961.

HONGRIE

et

UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES SOVIÉTIQUES

Accord relatif à la coopération et à l'aide mutuelle en matière douanière. Signé à Budapest, le 21 juillet 1958

Textes officiels hongrois et russe.

Enregistré par la Hongrie le 26 septembre 1961.

[Translation — Traduction] .

No. 5871. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC AND THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS CONCERNING CO-OPERATION AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CUSTOMS MATTERS. SIGNED AT BUDAPEST, ON 21 JULY 1958

The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, desiring to develop co-operation between the customs authorities of the two countries and to expedite customs clearance at the frontier, have decided to conclude this Agreement and for this purpose have appointed as their plenipotentiaries:

The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic: Ernő Szemelka, National Commander of the Customs Guard;

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: Andrei Grigoryevich Morozov, Director of the Principal Customs Administration,

who, having exchanged their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows:

CHAPTER 1

Co-operation in customs matters

Article 1

The customs authorities of the Contracting Parties which exercise control over vehicles, goods, passengers' luggage, currency and currency equivalents crossing the common frontier of the two countries shall assist each other in ensuring compliance with the customs legislation of the two countries and with their currency regulations and other provisions relating to customs matters.

The customs administrations of the Contracting Parties shall, within three months after the entry into force of this Agreement, exchange all statutes relating to customs matters, as well as such administrative regulations, including foreign exchange regulations, and provisions of criminal law as relate to the matters governed by this Agreement, and shall thereafter notify each other forthwith concerning the amendment or repeal of such laws and regulations and concerning all new provisions issued in connexion with the above matters.

¹ Came into force on 23 November 1958, the thirtieth day after the exchange of notes signifying its approval, in accordance with article 11.

Article 2

The passage of vehicles, goods, passengers' luggage, currency and currency equivalents across the common frontier of the Contracting Parties shall take place at frontier crossings established by agreement.

The hours of duty of the frontier customs authorities shall be determined by agreement between the customs administrations of the Contracting Parties.

Article 3

Vehicles, goods, passengers' luggage, currency and currency equivalents which are to be taken across the common frontier of the Contracting Parties and which are subject to customs clearance must be accompanied by the documents required by the Hungarian and Soviet customs authorities.

Article 4

The customs authorities of each Contracting Party shall recognize the official markings placed on goods and vehicles by the customs authorities of the other Contracting Party to designate the goods and to indicate weight, volume, etc.

Article 5

The customs authorities of one Contracting Party shall admit to the territory of their country only such goods, passengers' luggage, currency of the other Contracting Party and currency equivalents subject to customs clearance as have been cleared and released by the customs authorities of the other Contracting Party.

Where the customs authorities of one Contracting Party find that goods, passengers' luggage, currency of the other Contracting Party and currency equivalents subject to customs clearance have not been cleared by the customs authorities of the other Contracting Party, such goods, passengers' luggage, currency and currency equivalents shall be detained and the customs authority of the other Contracting Party shall be informed accordingly. The goods, passengers' luggage, currency and currency equivalents in question shall be dealt with further according to the instructions of the customs authority of the other Contracting Party.

Article 6

The customs authorities of the Contracting Parties shall make every effort to expedite the passage of vehicles, goods and passengers' luggage across the common State frontier. To that end, the customs administrations of the Contracting Parties shall, in conformity with the legal provisions of both countries, draw up joint proposals to expedite customs clearance at the frontier.

CHAPTER II

MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CUSTOMS MATTERS

Article 7

The customs authorities of the Contracting Parties shall assist each other to prevent violations of the customs and foreign exchange regulations and, in particular, to prevent smuggling.

In the event of any violation of the customs or foreign exchange regulations of the Contracting Parties, the customs administration of the Party which discovered the violation shall, where necessary, grant any request which the customs administration of the other Contracting Party may make for the transmittal of information concerning the inquiry into the violation, or shall indicate the circumstances which prevent it from transmitting such information.

Article 8

The customs laws applicable to smuggled goods, passengers' luggage, currency and currency equivalents shall be those of the Contracting Party in whose territory the smuggled articles were discovered.

Article 9

Documents transmitted under this Agreement shall be used by the customs authorities of the Contracting Parties for official purposes only.

CHAPTER III

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 10

Representatives of the customs administrations of the Contracting Parties shall meet periodically as necessary, alternately in the territory of each of the Contracting Parties, to discuss matters relating to the application of this Agreement.

The customs administrations of the Contracting Parties shall determine the modes of communication to be employed between them, and between the Hungarian and Soviet customs authorities stationed at the common frontier, for the purpose of giving effect to this Agreement.

Article 11

This Agreement is subject to approval in accordance with the domestic provisions of the Contracting Parties; it shall enter into force thirty days after the relevant exchange of notes and shall remain in force for a term of five years.

Unless one of the Contracting Parties gives notice in writing, one year before the expiry of the aforementioned term, of its desire to terminate the Agreement, the latter shall remain in force for the next and, similarly, the succeeding terms of five years.

DONE at Budapest on 21 July 1958, in duplicate in the Hungarian and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic:

SZEMELKA E.

For the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:

Morozov