

**No. 7978**

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**MALTA  
and  
SWITZERLAND**

**Agreement on trade, protection of investments and technical  
co-operation. Signed at Valletta and Berne, on 20 Jan-  
uary 1965**

*Official texts: English and French.*

*Registered by Malta on 23 November 1965.*

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**MALTE  
et  
SUISSE**

**Accord de commerce, de protection des investissements et  
de coopération technique. Signé à La Valette et à Berne,  
le 20 janvier 1965**

*Textes officiels anglais et français.*

*Enregistré par Malte le 23 novembre 1965.*

No. 7978. AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN MALTA AND THE SWISS CONFEDERATION ON TRADE, PROTECTION OF INVESTMENTS AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION. SIGNED AT VALLETTA AND BERNE, ON 20 JANUARY 1965

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The Government of Malta and the Government of the Swiss Confederation, desirous of strengthening the existing friendly relations and developing trade and technical co-operation between the two countries, have agreed as follows :

*Article 1*

TREATMENT OF THE MOST FAVOURED NATION

The two Contracting Parties agree to grant each other, with regard to customs duties and customs formalities, treatment not less favourable than that granted to third countries.

However, such Most Favoured Nation Treatment shall not extend to advantages, concessions and exemptions which the Contracting Parties grant or will grant

- to neighbouring countries in the border-trade
- to countries participating with this Party in a customs union, in a customs preference system or in a free trade area already in existence or which might be established in the future.

*Article 2*

IMPORT POLICY

With regard to the importation of goods each Party shall grant to the other the same facilities in respect of import liberalization or global import quotas as may be applied to the products of third countries.

*Article 3*

REVIEW OF TRADE

Any review of the exchange of goods and of the trade balance between the two countries shall be based on their import statistics.

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 23 February 1965, the date on which the Contracting Parties notified each other that the constitutional formalities for the conclusion and entry into force of the Agreement had been complied with, in accordance with article 9.

*Article 4*

## PAYMENTS

Payments between Malta and Switzerland shall not be treated less favourable than those between either country and any third country.

*Article 5*

## PROTECTION OF INVESTMENTS

Investments made by as well as property, rights and interests pertaining to nationals, foundations, associations or companies of one of the Contracting Parties in the territory of the Other or held indirectly by such nationals, foundations, associations or companies shall receive just and equitable treatment at least equal to the treatment which is applied by each Party to its own nationals or the treatment granted to nationals, foundations, associations or companies of the most favoured nation, if the latter is more favourable.

Each of the Contracting Parties undertakes to authorize the free transfer of the produce of professional and business activities, on its territory, of the nationals, foundations, associations or companies of the Other, as well as the free transfer of interests, dividends, royalties and other income, of amortizations and, in case of partial or total liquidation, of the product of such liquidation.

If a Contracting Party expropriates or nationalizes property, rights or interests of nationals, foundations, associations or companies of the other Contracting Party or held indirectly by such nationals, foundations, associations or companies, or if it takes any other measure with a view to direct or indirect dispossession of these nationals, foundations, associations or companies, it shall, according to international law, provide for the payment of an effective and adequate compensation. The amount of this compensation, which has to be fixed at the time of expropriation, nationalization or dispossession, shall be settled in a transferable currency and paid without undue delay to the persons, foundations, associations or companies entitled to it irrespective of their place of residence or seat. The measures of expropriation, nationalization or dispossession shall not, however, be discriminatory nor shall they be contrary to any specific undertaking.

*Article 6*

## CLAUSE OF ARBITRATION REGARDING THE PROTECTION OF INVESTMENTS

If a dispute arises between the Contracting Parties as to the interpretation or application of the provisions of Article 5 above and if it cannot be settled in a satisfactory way by means of diplomatic negotiations within six months, it shall, upon the request of either Contracting Party, be submitted to an arbitral tribunal consisting of three members. Each Contracting Party shall appoint one arbitrator. The

two arbitrators so appointed shall nominate a chairman who has to be a national of a third State.

If either Contracting Party fails to appoint its arbitrator and does not follow the invitation of the other Contracting Party to do so within two months, such arbitrator shall be appointed upon the request of this Contracting Party by the President of the International Court of Justice.

If both arbitrators cannot agree upon the choice of a chairman within two months following their appointment, such chairman shall, upon the request of either Contracting Party, be appointed by the President of the International Court of Justice.

If, in the cases specified under paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article, the President of the International Court of Justice is prevented from carrying out the said function or if he is a national of either Contracting Party, the appointments shall be made by the Vice-President. If the Vice-President is prevented from discharging his function or if he is a national of either Contracting Party, the appointments shall be made by the oldest member of the Court who is not a national of either Contracting Party.

Unless the Contracting Parties decide otherwise, the tribunal shall determine its own procedure.

The decisions of the tribunal shall be binding upon the Contracting Parties.

#### *Article 7*

##### ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION

The Government of Malta and the Government of the Swiss Confederation agree to co-operate and to extend to each other, within their legislation and possibilities, reciprocal aid with a view to developing their countries, in particular in the economic and technical field.

#### *Article 8*

##### MIXED COMMITTEE

A mixed committee shall meet at the request of either of the two Contracting Parties in order to review the application of the present Agreement and the possibilities of improving economic relations between the two countries. The mixed committee shall determine its own procedure.

#### *Article 9*

##### COMING INTO FORCE AND RENEWAL

The present Agreement shall be applicable provisionally as from the day of its signature, its coming into force depending on the notification of each Contracting

Party to the other that the constitutional prescriptions for the conclusion and entering into force of international agreements have been complied with. It shall hereafter be valid for a period of one year and continue in force from year to year without formal renewal for a new period of one year, unless and until terminated by either of the two Contracting Parties by three months' written notice.

In case of termination of the present Agreement, the provisions of articles 5 and 6 heretofore shall continue to apply for ten years with respect to investments made before the termination of the Agreement.

DONE in two originals in Valletta and Berne this twentieth day of January, 1965, in English and French both texts being equally authoritative.

For the Government  
of Malta :

Salvino MIZZI

for Secretary, Industrial Development

For the Government  
of The Swiss Confederation :

H. BUHLER

Vice-Director of the Division of Commerce of the Federal Department of Public Economy

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