

No. 9185

**FINLAND
and
FRANCE**

**Agreement concerning international road transport. Signed at
Helsinki, on 27 October 1967**

Official texts: Finnish and French.

Registered by Finland on 15 August 1968.

**FINLANDE
et
FRANCE**

**Accord concernant les transports routiers internationaux.
Signé à Helsinki, le 27 octobre 1967**

Textes officiels finnois et français.

Enregistré par la Finlande le 15 août 1968.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 9185. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL ROAD TRANSPORT. SIGNED AT HELSINKI, ON 27 OCTOBER 1967

The Government of the Republic of Finland and the Government of the French Republic, desiring to promote the transport of passengers and goods by road between the two States and in transit through their territory, have agreed as follows :

Article 1

Enterprises established in Finland or France shall be entitled to carry passengers or goods, by means of vehicles registered in either State, between the territories of the two Contracting Parties or in transit through their territory, subject to the conditions laid down by this Agreement.

PASSENGER TRANSPORT

Article 2

All passenger transport operations between the two States or in transit through their territory carried out by means of vehicles designed to carry more than eight seated persons, not including the driver shall require prior authorization, with the exception of the transport operations referred to in article 3 of this Agreement.

Article 3

Prior authorization shall not be required for occasional tourist transport operations which fulfil the following conditions :

(a) The vehicle must carry the same group of passengers throughout the journey and must return to the starting point without taking up or setting down passengers *en route*;

(b) The transport operation must not be carried out at night and must comprise daily stages not exceeding 500 kilometres.

¹ Came into force on 15 May 1968, the date fixed by agreement following the fulfilment of the required constitutional procedures, in accordance with article 25.

Article 4

1. Applications for authorization for regular services shall be submitted to the competent authority of the State in which the vehicle is registered. The application must be accompanied by the following information :

- (a) The proposed itinerary;
- (b) The proposed time-table;
- (c) The proposed starting date of operations;
- (c) The proposed tariff.

2. If the competent authority of the State in which the vehicle is registered raises no objection with regard to the application referred to in paragraph 1, it shall transmit a copy of the application to the competent authority of the other Contracting Party.

3. The competent authority of each Contracting Party shall issue an authorization for its own territory and shall forthwith transmit a copy of the authorization to the competent authority of the other Contracting Party.

4. The competent authorities shall issue authorizations in accordance with the principle of reciprocity.

Article 5

For transport operations other than the regular services referred to in article 4, applications for authorizations shall be submitted by the carrier directly to the competent authority of the other Contracting Party.

Article 6

1. Carriers undertaking occasional tourist transport operations which fulfil the conditions laid down in article 3 of this Agreement shall draw up a statement, the model for which shall be agreed upon by the competent authorities of the two States.

2. The said statement shall be stamped by the customs authorities on entry into and departure from the territory of the State in which it is valid.

GOODS TRANSPORT

Article 7

In order to carry out transport operations in the territory of one of the States, vehicles registered in the other State must be provided with an authorization.

No authorization shall, however, be required for :

(a) The transport of luggage by trailers attached to vehicles intended for passenger transport, and the transport of luggage by vehicles of any type to and from airports;

- (b) Postal transport operations;
- (c) The entry of breakdown and towing vehicles, and the transport of damaged vehicles;
- (d) The transport of refuse;
- (e) The transport of animal carcasses for flaying;
- (f) The transport of bees and fish fry;
- (g) Funeral transport operations.

Article 8

The following shall require authorization but shall not be subject to quota :

- (a) The transport of goods by means of motor vehicles whose total weight when loaded (including trailers) does not exceed six tons;
- (b) The transport of *objets d'art* and works of art intended for exhibitions or for commercial purposes;
- (c) The occasional transport of articles and material intended exclusively for publicity or information purposes;
- (d) Furniture removals carried out by enterprises employing specialized staff and equipment;
- (e) The transport of equipment, properties and animals to and from theatrical, musical and cinematographic presentations, sports events, circuses and fairs and the transport of equipment, properties and animals for use in radio, cinematographic and television productions.

Article 9

1. Authorizations shall be of two types :

- (a) Short-term authorizations valid for one or several journeys and for a period not exceeding three months;
- (b) Long-term authorizations valid for an indefinite number of journeys and for a period of one year.

2. Authorizations shall entitle the carrier to take on a return load.

Article 10

The competent authorities of the country in which the vehicle is registered shall issue authorizations on behalf of the other Contracting Party subject to a quota to be agreed upon annually by the two Contracting Parties.

Article 11

1. Authorizations shall be printed in the languages of the two Contracting Parties in conformity with models to be agreed upon by the competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties.

2. The competent authorities of the two countries shall send each other as many blank authorization forms as are required in order to carry out transport operations under this Agreement.

3. The authorization forms shall be accompanied by a log-book which shall be stamped by the customs authorities on entry into and departure from the territory of the State in which the authorizations are valid.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Article 12

1. Transport enterprises of one Contracting Party may not carry passengers or goods between two places situated in the territory of the other Contracting Party.

2. Transport enterprises of one Contracting Party may carry out transport operations between the territory of the other Contracting Party and a third State if they have obtained a special authorization from the other Contracting Party.

Article 13

1. Authorizations shall be carried on board vehicles and shall be produced whenever required by inspection officials.

2. Authorizations shall be issued free of charge by the competent authorities of each Contracting Party and shall be exempt from stamp duty and other fees.

Article 14

1. Were the weight or dimensions of a vehicle or load exceed the limits permitted in the territory of the other Contracting Party, the vehicle must be provided with a special authorization issued by the competent authority of the said Contracting Party.

2. Where the authorization referred to in paragraph 1 restricts the vehicle to a specified route, the transport operation may be carried out only over that route.

Article 15

The two Contracting Parties agree to exchange notes at a later date specifying the extent to which reciprocal exemptions or reductions may be granted, with a view to preventing double taxation or lessening its effects, in respect of taxes levied in each of the two States on vehicles engaged in transport operations covered by this Agreement.

Article 16

Members of the crew of vehicles may import, free of duty and without an import licence, their personal effects and such equipment as may be needed for the performance of their duties for the length of their stay in the country of importation. They may re-export the said articles without a licence.

Article 17

Parts required for the repair of vehicles carrying out transport operations covered by this Agreement shall be exempt from customs duty and import restrictions. They must be re-exported in their original state or incorporated into the vehicle.

Article 18

The mutual settlement of debts and claims arising from the provisions of this Agreement shall be effected in accordance with the provisions governing payments in force between Finland and France.

Article 19

Transport enterprises and their personnel shall be required to comply with the provisions of this Agreement and with the laws and regulations concerning transport and road traffic in force in the territory of the Contracting Parties.

Article 20

The domestic legislation of each Contracting Party shall apply to all matters not regulated by this Agreement.

Article 21

1. If the provisions of this Agreement are violated in the territory of one of the Contracting Parties, the competent authorities of the State in which the vehicle is registered shall, at the request of the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party, take one of the following steps :

- (a) Deliver a warning;
- (b) Withdraw temporarily or permanently the authorization provided for in this Agreement.

2. The competent authorities of the other Contracting Party shall be informed of the action taken.

Article 22

The Contracting Parties shall inform each other which authorities are competent to take the measures set out in this Agreement and to exchange all necessary statistical or other information.

Article 23

1. The two Contracting Parties shall establish a mixed commission for the purpose of ensuring the proper application of the provisions of this Agreement.

2. The said commission shall meet at the request of either Contracting Party alternately, in the territory of each Contracting Party.

Article 24

1. The Contracting Parties shall determine the procedures for the application of this Agreement in a protocol signed at the same time as the Agreement.

2. The commission established under article 23 of this Agreement shall be competent to make any necessary amendments to the said protocol.

Article 25

This Agreement shall enter into force on a date to be agreed upon by the two Governments upon the completion of the necessary constitutional procedures.

Either Contracting Party may denounce this Agreement on notice of not less than ninety days.

DONE at Helsinki on 27 October 1967, in duplicate in the Finnish and French languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government of the Republic of Finland :
Paul GUSTAFSSON

For the Government of the French Republic :
B. DUFOURNIER