BELGIUM and GREECE

Agreement concerning the road transport of passengers and goods by commercial vehicle. Signed at Brussels on 16 July 1969

Authentic texts: French, Dutch and Greek. Registered by Belgium on 4 September 1969.

BELGIQUE et GRÈCE

Accord sur le transport de voyageurs et de marchandises par route, effectué au moyen de véhicules commerciaux. Signé à Bruxelles le 16 juillet 1969

Textes authentiques: français, néerlandais et grec. Enregistré par la Belgique le 4 septembre 1969.

[Translation — Traduction]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM AND THE KINGDOM OF GREECE CONCERNING THE ROAD TRANSPORT OF PASSENGERS AND GOODS BY COMMERCIAL VEHICLE

The Government of the Kingdom of Belgium and

The Government of the Kingdom of Greece,

Desiring to facilitate motor traffic between the two States and in transit through their territory.

Have agreed as follows:

I. PASSENGER TRANSPORT

Transport requiring authorization

Article 1

All transport of passengers between the two countries or in transit through their territory shall require authorization, with the exception of the transport operations specified in article 6.

Article 2

Applications for authorizations shall be submitted at least three months before the anticipated date of the inauguration of the service.

REGULAR SERVICES

Article 3

- 1. Regular services between the two countries or in transit through their territory shall be approved by agreement between the competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties.
- 2. The said services shall require an authorization issued on the basis of reciprocity, unless otherwise decided, by the competent authorities of each Contracting Party for the section of route situated in the latter's territory.
- 3. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall establish by agreement the conditions of the authorization, in particular as regards duration, frequency, time-table and route and the tariffs to be applied.

¹ Came into force on 16 July 1969 by signature, in accordance with article 21.

Article 4

- 1. Applications for authorizations shall be submitted to the competent authorities of the country in which the vehicle is registered.
- 2. Applications shall be accompanied by the necessary documentation (proposed time-table, tariffs and route, information on the period of service during the year and on the projected date of the inauguration of the service). In addition, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties may request such other information as they deem useful.
- 3. The competent authorities of each Contracting Party shall transmit to the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party the applications which they have approved, together with all prescribed documents and a copy of the authorization for the section of route situated in their territory.
- 4. All authorizations shall be subject to prior approval by the countries of transit.

OTHER SERVICES REQUIRING AUTHORIZATION

Article 5

Shuttle services and interrupted closed-door tours shall require an authorization, which shall be issued on the basis of an application submitted to the competent authorities of the country in which the vehicle is registered and transmitted to the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party for approval.

Transport not requiring authorization

Article 6

- 1. Carriers having their head office in either country and authorized to operate tourist or occasional transport services in that country may, without further authorization, provide transport service in the territory of the other State, or in transit through that territory, provided that the following conditions are fulfilled:
 - (a) Vehicles must carry the same passengers throughout a single journey, from the boarding point until the return to that point, or
 - (b) Vehicles making the outward journey must return empty to their point of departure or head office.
- 2. Carriers must be able to produce the authorization issued to them in their own country and shall be required to comply with the control measures in force in each country.

II. GOODS TRANSPORT

Transport requiring authorization

Article 7

Carriers domiciled in the territory of either Contracting Party shall be authorized to engage in the transport of goods by road between the two Contracting Parties or in transit through their territory, subject to the conditions laid down in this Agreement.

Article 8

- 1. All transport of goods between the two States or in transit through their territory shall require authorization, with the exception of the transport operations referred to in article 12 of this Agreement.
- 2. The competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties shall establish each year, by agreement, a quota for authorizations.
- 3. The said authorities shall transmit to each other the agreed number of blank authorization forms.

Article 9

Transport authorizations shall be issued to the carriers referred to in article 7 of this Agreement by the competent authorities of the country in which the vehicle is registered.

Article 10

- 1. Authorizations shall be of two types:
 - (a) "Time authorizations", valid for not more than one year;
 - (b) "Journey authorizations", valid for one or more transport operations and for a limited period.
- 2. The holder of the authorization shall be required to complete a transport report before each transport operation.
- 3. The authorization and the report attached to it must be carried in the vehicle on the section of route situated in the territory of the other Contracting Party and must be produced at the request of the control authorities.
- 4. The term "vehicle" shall mean a single vehicle or a series of vehicles coupled together.
- 5. The autorization shall be non-transferable. It shall be issued free of charge.

6. On the return journey the carrier may, in the territory of the other Contracting Party, pick up goods intended for the country in which the vehicle is registered.

Article 11

- 1. Carriers domiciled in the territory of one Contracting Party shall not be authorized to engage in the transport of goods between two points in the territory of the other Contracting Party.
- 2. They may not engage in the transport of goods from the territory of the other Contracting Party to a third country, or vice versa, without special authorization by the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party.

TRANSPORT NOT REQUIRING AUTHORIZATION

Article 12

No authorization shall be required for:

- (a) The transport of human remains by vehicles specially equipped for the purpose;
- (b) The transport of articles by vehicles with a carrying capacity of less than 500 kilogrammes;
- (c) Vehicle breakdown services;
- (d) Transport on own account.

Article 13

The quota system shall not apply to:

- (a) The removal of household effects by vehicles specially equipped for the purpose;
- (b) The transport of articles intended for fairs, exhibitions or displays;
- (c) The transport of racehorses, racing cars or other sports equipment intended for sports events;
- (d) The transport of stage scenery and properties;
- (e) The transport of musical instruments and equipment for making radio and television recordings and cinematographic films;
- (f) Transport in transit.

PROCEDURE FOR THE EXCHANGE OF DOCUMENTS

Article 14

The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall agree on the procedure for exchanging the necessary documents and statistical data.

III. FISCAL AND CUSTOMS PROVISIONS

Article 15

Motor vehicles, as well as trailers of any kind, duly registered in one of the Contracting States and temporarily present in the territory of the other Contracting Party shall be exempt from the taxes and charges levied in the territory of the other Contracting Party on the operation or possession of motor vehicles and trailers.

Article 16

- 1. The exemption shall not apply to customs and excise duties, road and bridge tolls or other similar charges.
- 2. Collection of the transport tax payable in Belgium in respect of paid transport operations carried out by vehicles registered in Greece shall be governed by procedures to be determined by agreement.

Article 17

- 1. Fuel contained in the tanks of road vehicles as normally provided by the manufacturer shall be admitted free of all duties and charges.
- 2. Similarly, full exemption from duties and charges shall be granted for the temporary import of spare parts intended for the repair of a road vehicle imported under the system of temporary exemption which breaks down in the territory of the other Contracting Party.
- 3. Replaced parts shall be exported or destroyed under the supervision of the customs authorities.

Article 18

The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall take any measures necessary to prevent abuse of the exemption provided for in this Agreement. They may refuse to grant the exemption in the event of grave suspicion of abuse.

IV. FINAL PROVISIONS

MIXED COMMISSION

Article 19

The competent representatives of the Contracting Parties shall meet, when the need arises, as a Mixed Commission for the purpose of ensuring the proper application of the Agreement. The findings of the Mixed Commission shall, where necessary, be subject to approval by the Government of each Contracting Party.

NATIONAL LEGISLATION

Article 20

Save as otherwise provided by this Agreement, the national legislation of the Contracting Parties shall apply.

ENTRY INTO FORCE AND PERIOD OF VALIDITY

Article 21

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature for a term of one year.

It shall be extended automatically from year to year unless it is denounced by one of the Contracting Parties three months before the expiry of its term.

DONE at Brussels on 16 July 1969, in duplicate in the French, Dutch and Greek languages, all three texts being equally authentic.

For the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium:

[SEAL]

For the Government of the Kingdom of Greece:

B. Calevras

[SEAL]