

**No. 10494**

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**UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS  
and  
ETHIOPIA**

**Commercial Agreement (with annexes and exchange of notes).  
Signed at Moscow on 11 July 1959**

*Authentic texts of the Agreement: Russian and Amharic.*

*Authentic text of the notes: English.*

*Registered by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on 27 May 1970.*

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**UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES  
SOVIÉTIQUES  
et  
ÉTHIOPIE**

**Accord commercial (avec annexes et échange de notes). Signé  
à Moscou le 11 juillet 1959**

*Textes authentiques de l'Accord: russe et amharique.*

*Texte authentique des notes: anglais.*

*Enregistré par l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques le 27 mai 1970.*

[TRANSLATION <sup>1</sup> — TRADUCTION <sup>2</sup>]

COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT <sup>3</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE IMPERIAL ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT

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The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Ethiopia being desirous of strengthening the existing traditional ties of friendship between the two countries, with the aim of facilitating and developing economic, commercial and cultural relations, have agreed as follows:

*Article I*

Both Governments agree to grant, subject to their respective laws and regulations governing import, export and foreign exchange the maximum possible facilities for import and export of commodities of interest to either party. To this end the two Governments shall periodically exchange lists of articles available for export from their respective countries.

The goods available for export from the USSR to Ethiopia and from Ethiopia to the USSR during the first period of validity of the present Agreement are set out in Lists "A" and "B" respectively attached hereto.

*Article II*

The provisions of Article I of this Agreement are not intended to restrict the import and export of goods between the two countries to those mentioned in the lists referred to. The Soviet foreign trade organisations and traders in Ethiopia remain free to conclude between themselves, subject to the laws and regulations governing import, export and exchange control in force in both countries, commercial transaction for the import and export of any goods whether or not they are enumerated in those lists.

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<sup>1</sup> This is the agreed translation initialled by the two Governments (see exchange of notes, page 166 of this volume). Text supplied by the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

<sup>2</sup> Traduction anglaise agréée et paraphée par les deux Gouvernements (voir échange de notes, page 171 du présent volume). Texte fourni par le Gouvernement de l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques.

<sup>3</sup> Came into force on 11 July 1959 by signature, in accordance with article VIII.

The two Governments undertake to examine in a spirit of cooperation all enquiries relating to such imports and exports.

### *Article III*

The two Governments agree, subject to their respective laws and regulations governing import, export and foreign exchange position, to grant on the basis of reciprocity the most favoured nation treatment to traders and trading organisations of their respective countries and import and/or export licenses for the goods named in the lists exchanged periodically.

### *Article IV*

1. The two Governments agree to grant reciprocally to each other the most favoured nation treatment in respect of all custom duties and other taxes payable on imports and exports, the manner of payment of such duties and taxes, and all custom regulations and formalities.
2. The provisions of para. 1 of this article shall not apply to:
  - (a) advantages accorded or which may later be accorded by either of the contracting parties to adjoining countries in order to facilitate frontier traffic; and
  - (b) advantages resulting from a customs union to which either of the contracting parties may become a party.

### *Article V*

The two Governments agree to enter into consultation periodically and to give full consideration to any suggestions that may be made by either party, for the development and expansion of commerce and the diversification of trade between the two countries.

### *Article VI*

The two Governments agree to explore, in consultation with each other, the possibility of closer economic cooperation and in particular of sharing to

the fullest extent practicable technical knowledge, experience and facilities for technical training.

#### *Article VII*

Payments for goods exchanged and all other payments authorized under the exchange control system in force in each country shall be made in convertible currency.

#### *Article VIII*

The present Agreement shall enter into force from the date of signature and shall remain valid for a period of three years.

It shall continue in force for further periods of one year at a time unless one of the parties denounces it by giving three months notice before the expiry of the respective one year period.

DONE at Moscow this eleventh day of July, 1959 in two original copies, each in the Russian and Amharic languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government  
of the Union of Soviet Socialist  
Republics:

[Initialled — Paraphé] <sup>1</sup>

For the Imperial Ethiopian  
Government:

[Initialled — Paraphé] <sup>2</sup>

*Enclosure to the Commercial Agreement of 11th July, 1959*

#### LIST "A"

OF THE GOODS FOR EXPORT FROM THE USSR TO ETHIOPIA

Machines and equipment,

including: machine-tools, trucks and motor cars, tractors and agricultural machines, road machinery, power plants and electrical equipment.

<sup>1</sup> Initialled by N. Patolichev — Paraphé par N. Patolitchev.

<sup>2</sup> Initialled by Yilma Deressa — Paraphé par Yilma Deressa.

Motor cycles and cycles  
Electric household appliances  
Cameras  
Products of fine mechanics  
Tyres and inner tubes for motor cars  
Sanitary engineering and medical equipment  
Electric lamps  
Ferrous metal rolling mill products  
Metal products  
Cotton textiles and threads  
Chemical goods  
Medicines and pharmaceutical goods  
Oil and oil products  
Window glass  
Canned crab and fish caviar products  
Films

*Enclosure to the Commercial Agreement of 11th July 1959*

LIST "B"

OF THE GOODS FOR EXPORT FROM ETHIOPIA TO THE USSR

Coffee  
Hides  
Goatskins  
Sheepskins  
Groundnuts  
Oil seeds, including linseed, castor seed, cottonseed  
Oilcake  
Pulses, including lentils, peas  
Fish meal  
Dum nuts

## EXCHANGE OF NOTES

## I

IMPERIAL ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Addis Ababa, 11th July, 1959

Excellency,

I have the honour, on behalf of the Imperial Ethiopian Government, to confirm to the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the understanding reached between the two Governments that in the event of a divergence of interpretation resulting from the Amharic and Russian texts of the Commercial Agreement concluded between them on the 11th of July, 1959, resort will be had to the English text, as agreed to and initialled by the representatives of both Governments, for the purpose of resolving such divergence.

May I kindly request Your Excellency to confirm your Government's agreement with the contents of this Note.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

[Signed — Signé]<sup>1</sup>

To His Excellency N.S. Patolichev  
Minister for Foreign Trade of the USSR  
Moscow

## II

11th July, 1959

Excellency,

I acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's Note of the 11th of July, 1959 reading as follows:

[See note I]

I have the honour to signify to Your Excellency the agreement of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, to the understanding as set forth in the above-mentioned Note.

<sup>1</sup> Signed by Yilma Deressa — Signé par Yilma Deressa.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

To his Excellency Ato Yilma Deressa  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of the Imperial Ethiopian Government  
Moscow

[*Signed — Signé*]<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Signed by N. Patolichev — Signé par N. Patolitchev.