

**No. 10889**

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**BULGARIA  
and  
GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**

**Convention concerning co-operation in the protection and quarantine  
of plants. Signed at Berlin on 14 April 1969**

*Authentic texts : Bulgarian and German.*

*Registered by Bulgaria on 23 December 1970.*

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**BULGARIE  
et  
RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE ALLEMANDE**

**Convention sur la coopération dans le domaine de la protection des  
végétaux et de la quarantaine des plantes. Signée à Berlin le 14  
avril 1969**

*Textes authentiques : bulgare et allemand.*

*Enregistrée par la Bulgarie le 23 décembre 1970.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

CONVENTION<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA AND THE GOV-  
ERNMENT OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC  
CONCERNING CO-OPERATION IN THE PROTECTION  
AND QUARANTINE OF PLANTS

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The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Government of the German Democratic Republic, with a view to averting damage to plants and plant products from pests, diseases and weeds, preventing the latter's introduction and spread and facilitating trade in plants and plant products, have agreed to take effective joint measures and are therefore concluding this Convention.

They have for that purpose appointed as their plenipotentiaries :

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria :

Dimitar Yurukov, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Food Industry of the People's Republic of Bulgaria;

The Government of the German Democratic Republic :

Dr. Erwin Neu, Vice-President of the Agricultural Production and Food Board of the German Democratic Republic,

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

I. PLANT PROTECTION MEASURES

*Article 1*

In order to prevent the spread of dangerous diseases and pests of agricultural plants and of weeds, hereinafter referred to as "quarantinable agents", from the territory of one Contracting Party to the territory of the other, the Contracting Parties undertake :

1. To take all necessary measures to prevent the introduction of quarantinable agents into the territory of one Contracting Party from the territory of the other in consignments of plants, parts of plants and plant products, hereinafter referred to as "plant consignments"

The said measures shall include :

- (a) Detection of the appearance and spread of quarantinable agents in agri-

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 14 April 1969 by signature, in accordance with article 17.

cultural, horticultural and forestry crops, on uncultivated land, and in stored plants, parts of plants and plant products ;

- (b) The localization and destruction of centres of infection of quarantinable agents by chemical, biological, agro-technical and other methods available to the Contracting Parties;
  - (c) The imposition of quarantine measures in areas where quarantinable agents appear;
  - (d) Compliance with the quarantine regulations of the importing country in connexion with the export of plants and plant products.
2. To refrain from exporting plant consignments from areas affected by quarantinable agents.

## II. PLANT QUARANTINE

### *Article 2*

For the purposes of this Convention, the term “ quarantinable agents ” shall mean dangerous diseases and pests of agricultural plants, and weeds, which have been declared to be such by each Contracting Party in respect of its territory.

Lists of quarantinable agents have been exchanged for purposes of information and may be supplemented and amended by the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties. The plant quarantine administrations of the Contracting Parties shall be required to notify each other of any changes within 30 days.

### *Article 3*

The Contracting Parties undertake to provide all plant consignments to be exported from one country to the other, including packaging materials of vegetable origin, with a phytosanitary certificate. The certificate must be issued by the plant quarantine service of the exporting country and conform to the model certificate prescribed by the International Plant Protection Convention (Rome, 1951).<sup>1</sup>

The certificate must attest that the plant consignment is free of quarantinable agents whose import is prohibited under the existing regulations of the importing country (article 2 of this Convention) and that the required disinfection measures have been taken.

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 150, p. 67.

Means of transport employed for the export of plant consignments must be free of quarantinable agents in all stages of development.

This article shall not apply to plant consignments which have undergone industrial processing of such a nature as to neutralize any quarantinable agents.

#### *Article 4*

The export, import and transit of plants and plant products shall take place exclusively through the frontier crossing points designated by the laws of the Contracting Parties.

Lists of the currently designated frontier crossing points have been exchanged for purposes of information.

The Contracting Parties shall endeavour, as necessary and in so far as possible, to provide facilities for the fumigation and disinfection of plants and plant products at the principal frontier crossing points.

#### *Article 5*

In order to prevent the introduction of quarantinable agents from third countries, the Contracting Parties shall regulate the transit of plant consignments through their territory in accordance with article 3 of this Convention.

Transit consignments which have been contaminated by quarantinable agents whose introduction into the country of transit is prohibited shall, where the agent in question represents a direct danger to the country of transit, require a certificate from the exporting country attesting that they have been disinfected.

#### *Article 6*

The Contracting Parties reserve the right of their plant quarantine services to carry out phytosanitary inspections of plant consignments which are imported or conveyed in transit. The Contracting Parties may also take such other measures as are provided for by their laws.

Phytosanitary inspections of plant consignments shall normally take place at the frontier crossing point immediately upon the arrival of the consignment. By prior agreement between the plant quarantine services of the two Contracting Parties or pursuant to a relevant provision in a trade agreement, inspections may also be carried out in the exporting country by experts of the plant quarantine service of the importing country.

If a plant consignment is not accepted for import or transit by the plant quarantine service of one of the Contracting Parties or is subjected to special

quarantine measures, the plant quarantine administration of the other Contracting Party shall be immediately so notified.

#### *Article 7*

Consignments of plants and plant products intended for the needs and purposes of diplomatic, consular and other missions of the Contracting Parties shall be subject to the provisions of this Convention even if they form part of consignments containing other goods.

#### *Article 8*

The Contracting Parties undertake, in their mutual trade in plants and plant products, to employ packaging materials which are unlikely to carry quarantinable agents (sawdust, peat dust, cork, etc.).

Plants and plant products exported from the territory of one Contracting Party to the territory of the other must be free of earth.

### III. CO-OPERATION AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE

#### *Article 9*

The Contracting Parties shall co-operate with each other in controlling particularly dangerous or unusually widespread plant diseases or pests and shall, in so far as possible, make equipment, tools, means of disinfection and qualified specialists available to each other on request.

#### *Article 10*

The Contracting Parties, recognizing the value and necessity of maintaining the most frequent possible contact between their plant protection and quarantine specialists, agree :

- (a) To undertake joint scientific activities, as necessary, for the study of particularly dangerous plant diseases and pests and the development of effective methods for their control;
- (b) To exchange specialists, as necessary, for the study of scientific findings and the interchange of experience in the field of plant protection and quarantine;

- (c) To provide opportunities for each other's specialists to pursue specialized studies at their respective plant protection and quarantine institutes.

Separate agreements concerning articles 9 and 10 shall be concluded between the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties in each particular case.

#### *Article 11*

The Contracting Parties shall provide each other with the following types of material :

- (a) The findings of research on new methods and preparations for controlling dangerous plant diseases, plant pests and weeds in agriculture and forestry;
- (b) By 1 April of each year, reports on the appearance and spread of quarantinable agents and the measures taken to control them; in the event of the appearance of particularly dangerous or new quarantinable diseases or pests, this information shall be furnished immediately;
- (c) Laws relating to plant protection and quarantine, within 30 days of their publication;
- (d) Technical literature and publicity material (posters, public notices, pamphlets, etc.) on the control of plant diseases and pests.

#### *Article 12*

In application of this Convention, the Contracting Parties shall hold joint meetings, as necessary but at least once every three years, for the purpose of discussing and dealing with practical and scientific problems and exchanging experience in the field of plant protection and quarantine. The said meetings shall take place alternately in the People's Republic of Bulgaria and in the German Democratic Republic. The time, place and agenda of the meetings shall be determined by agreement between the respective plant protection services.

#### *Article 13*

Specialists of one Contracting Party working in the other country shall enjoy the privileges accorded to foreign specialists in that country. In the event of their serious illness, the host country shall bear the cost of medical care for the duration of their stay.

#### *Article 14*

Costs incurred under article 9 shall be borne by the Contracting Party requesting assistance.

Costs incurred under article 10 shall be borne by the sending Party.

Costs incurred under article 11 shall be borne by the sending Party.

Costs connected with the exchange of experience under article 12 shall be borne by the Contracting Party in whose territory the meeting takes place. Subsistence expenses and the cost of travel in both directions shall be borne by the sending Party.

#### *Article 15*

Payments arising from the implementation of this Convention shall be made in accordance with the provisions of the payments agreement in force between the Contracting Parties.

#### *Article 16*

The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties may communicate with each other directly at any time for the purpose of discussing and settling matters relating to the implementation of this Convention.

### IV. FINAL PROVISIONS

#### *Article 17*

This Convention shall enter into force on the date of its signature and is concluded for a term of five years.

It shall be extended for successive terms of five years unless it is denounced in writing by one of the Contracting Parties at least one year before the expiry of the current term.

#### *Article 18*

Upon the entry into force of this Convention, the Agreement between the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Government of the German Democratic Republic concerning plant quarantine and the protection of agricultural plants against pests and diseases, signed on 17 July 1955, shall cease to have effect.

DONE at Berlin on 14 April 1969, in duplicate in the Bulgarian and German languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government  
of the People's Republic  
of Bulgaria :

[DIMITAR YURUKOV]

[SEAL]

For the Government  
of the German Democratic  
Republic :

[ERWIN NEU]

[SEAL]