

No. 14924

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**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND NORTHERN IRELAND  
and  
SWITZERLAND**

**Agreement on the international carriage of goods by road.  
Signed at London on 20 December 1974**

*Authentic texts: English and French.*

*Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern  
Ireland on 27 July 1976.*

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**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE  
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD  
et  
SUISSE**

**Accord relatif aux transports internationaux de marchan-  
dises par route. Signé à Londres le 20 décembre 1974**

*Textes authentiques : anglais et français.*

*Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord  
le 27 juillet 1976*

AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE SWISS FEDERAL COUNCIL ON THE INTERNATIONAL CARRIAGE OF GOODS BY ROAD

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The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Swiss Federal Council;

Desiring to facilitate the international carriage of goods by road between their countries and in transit through their territories;

Have agreed as follows:

*Article 1. SCOPE*

The provisions of this Agreement shall apply to the carriage of goods by road in vehicles as defined in Article 2.

*Article 2. DEFINITIONS*

(1) The term “carrier” shall mean a person (including a legal person) who, in either the United Kingdom or Switzerland, is authorised in accordance with the relevant national laws and regulations to carry goods by road for hire or reward or on his own account.

(2) The term “vehicle” shall mean any mechanically propelled road vehicle which is:

- (a) constructed or adapted for use and used on the roads for the carriage of goods;
- (b) registered in the territory of one Contracting Party; and
- (c) temporarily imported into the territory of the other Contracting Party for the purpose of the international carriage of goods for delivery at or collection from any point in that territory or in transit through that territory;

or any trailer or semi-trailer for coupling to any vehicle which fulfils the conditions prescribed in sub-paragraphs (a) to (c) of this paragraph. The term “vehicle” is also deemed to include trailers and semi-trailers which are owned or operated by United Kingdom carriers, are authorised for use in the United Kingdom without being registered, and are temporarily exported from the United Kingdom.

(3) The term “territory” shall mean in relation to the United Kingdom England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland; in relation to Switzerland it shall mean the territory of the Swiss Confederation.

(4) The term “competent authority” shall mean for the United Kingdom the Department of the Environment and for Switzerland the Federal Department of Transport, Communications and Power.

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 21 November 1975, i.e., the thirtieth day after the date of the later of the notifications by which each Contracting Party informed the other of the completion of the procedures required by its law, in accordance with article 8 (1).

### *Article 3. CARRIAGE OF GOODS*

A carrier of one Contracting Party shall be permitted, without being required to be licensed for that purpose in accordance with the laws of the other Contracting Party, to import either an empty or a laden vehicle temporarily into the territory of that other Contracting Party for the purpose of the carriage of goods:

- (a) between any point in the territory of one Contracting Party and any point in the territory of the other Contracting Party; or
- (b) between any point in the territory of the other Contracting Party and any point in the territory of a third State, or vice versa, insofar as the laws of that State and the provisions of any Agreement for the time being in force between that State and the other Contracting Party concerned permit such operations and provided that in the course of this journey the vehicle passes in transit through the territory of the Contracting Party in which it was registered or in case of an unregistered vehicle such as is mentioned in the last sentence of paragraph (2) of Article 2 of this Agreement passes in transit through the territory of the United Kingdom; or
- (c) in transit through the territory of the other Contracting Party.

### *Article 4. EXCLUSION OF CABOTAGE*

Nothing in this Agreement shall be held to permit a carrier of one Contracting Party to pick up goods at a point in the territory of the other Contracting Party for delivery at another point in that territory.

### *Article 5. COMPLIANCE WITH NATIONAL LAW*

Carriers of one Contracting Party are required to observe the laws and regulations of the other Contracting Party for all matters concerning road transport and road traffic which are not covered by this Agreement.

### *Article 6. INFRINGEMENTS*

(1) Carriers of one Contracting Party who in the territory of the other Contracting Party have committed serious or repeated infringements of the provisions of this Agreement or of the laws and regulations in force in that territory relating to road transport and road traffic, may be temporarily prohibited by the competent authority of the latter Contracting Party from engaging in the transport operations governed by Article 3 of this Agreement. Such action shall be without prejudice to any lawful sanction which may be applied in respect of such infringements by the Courts or competent authority of that Contracting Party.

(2) The competent authority of the Contracting Party which takes such action or which has knowledge of infringements shall inform the competent authority of the other Contracting Party; which latter authority may apply to its carriers such sanctions as it considers to be necessary in accordance with its national law.

### *Article 7. REVIEW OF OPERATION*

(1) At the request of the competent authority of one Contracting Party, the competent authority of the other Contracting Party shall provide any informa-

tion in its possession concerning the development of traffic covered by this Agreement.

(2) At the request of either competent authority representatives of both shall meet at a mutually convenient time as a joint committee to review the operation of the Agreement.

*Article 8.* ENTRY INTO FORCE AND DURATION

(1) Each Contracting Party shall notify the other of the completion of the procedures required by its law to bring the Agreement into force. The Agreement shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of the later of these notifications.

(2) This Agreement shall remain in force for a period of one year after its entry into force. Thereafter, it shall continue in force from year to year unless it is terminated by either Contracting Party giving three months' written notice thereof to the other Contracting Party.