

No. 17567

**SWITZERLAND
and
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC**

**Agreement on trade and economic co-operation. Signed at
Damascus on 29 November 1976**

Authentic texts: French and Arabic.

Registered by Switzerland on 15 February 1979.

**SUISSE
et
RÉPUBLIQUE ARABE SYRIENNE**

**Accord de commerce et de coopération économique. Signé à
Damas le 29 novembre 1976**

Textes authentiques : français et arabe.

Enregistré par la Suisse le 15 février 1979.

AGREEMENT¹ ON TRADE AND ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE SWISS CONFEDERATION AND THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

The Government of the Swiss Confederation and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic,

Desiring to promote economic co-operation and develop trade between their territories,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1. The Contracting Parties shall strive by all suitable means to strengthen trade between the two States in conformity with the legislation and regulations in force in Switzerland and in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Article 2. The Contracting Parties agree to grant one another most-favoured-nation treatment in respect of customs duties and formalities.

Most-favoured-nation treatment shall not, however, apply to the exemptions, concessions and advantages that either of the Contracting Parties grants or may in future grant to:

- Contiguous countries in respect of frontier traffic;
- Countries which form part of a customs union, free-trade area or similar regional association already established or that may be established in the future.

Article 3. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall grant for the importation of products originating in and coming from the other Contracting Party a régime no less favourable than that which it grants to any third country.

Article 4. Payments between Switzerland and the Syrian Arab Republic shall be made in convertible currencies.

Article 5. The Contracting Parties shall strive to promote co-operation in the economic, industrial, technological and tourist sectors, as well as in the service sector. They shall encourage the efforts made in that respect by the enterprises or organizations belonging to both countries.

The activities resulting from the above-mentioned co-operation shall enjoy the most favourable treatment possible within the limits of the legislation and regulations applied in the two countries.

The two Governments shall grant each other, within the framework of their international obligations, all necessary assistance with a view to guaranteeing the rights originating from industrial and commercial ownership and the rights relating to authorship (including designations of origin) with respect to the individuals and corporate bodies of the other Contracting Party.

Article 6. A Joint Commission, consisting of representatives of the Contracting Parties, shall be established. It shall meet, as necessary, at the request

¹ Came into force on 30 September 1977, the date of the exchange of notes by which the Contracting Parties had notified each other of the completion of the required constitutional procedures, in accordance with article 8.

of either Contracting Party (in Switzerland or in the Syrian Arab Republic) to monitor the progress of the economic co-operation envisaged and the possibilities and means of promoting the mutual co-operation provided for in article 5 as well as any difficulties that may arise concerning the implementation of this Agreement.

Article 7. This Agreement is applicable to the principality of Liechtenstein as long as it is linked to the Swiss Confederation by a customs union treaty.

Article 8. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of notes confirming that it has been approved in conformity with the constitutional procedure of the two Contracting Parties and shall be valid for a period of one year. It shall be renewable each year by tacit agreement providing neither Contracting Party denounces it in writing three months prior to the expiration of its validity.

DONE at Damascus on 29 November 1976, in two original copies in the Arabic and French languages. In case of divergence in interpretation, the French text shall prevail.

For the Government
of the Swiss Confederation:

E. MOSER

For the Government
of the Syrian Arab Republic:

AMMAR JAMMAL
