

No. 17654

**FINLAND
and
GREECE**

**Agreement on the international road transport. Signed at
Athens on 20 June 1977**

Authentic text: English.

Registered by Finland on 27 March 1979.

**FINLANDE
et
GRÈCE**

**Accord relatif au transport routier international. Signé à
Athènes le 20 juin 1977**

Texte authentique : anglais.

Enregistré par la Finlande le 27 mars 1979.

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC ON THE INTERNATIONAL ROAD TRANSPORT

The Government of the Republic of Finland and the Government of the Hellenic Republic,

Desiring to facilitate international road transport between their two States and in transit through their territories,

Have agreed as follows:

I. PASSENGER TRANSPORT

Article 1. Regular passenger bus services between the two countries need authorization from the competent authorities of both Contracting Parties. Applications for such authorizations shall be submitted and dealt with in accordance with a procedure to be established jointly by these authorities.

Article 2. Passenger transports other than regular services, which are to be performed by carriers of one Contracting Party with a bus registered in the territory of that Contracting Party to or from the territory of the other Contracting Party, require previous authorization from the competent authority of the latter Contracting Party except if the passengers are being carried

- a) On a round trip beginning and ending in the territory of the Contracting Party where the vehicle is registered, or
- b) On a journey starting in the country where the vehicle is registered and ending in the territory of the other Contracting Party, provided that the vehicle returns empty to the country where it is registered, or
- c) On a transit service of occasional character.

II. GOODS TRANSPORT

Article 3. A carrier authorized in the territory of one Contracting Party shall be permitted, without being required to obtain an operator's (transport) licence for that purpose in accordance with the laws and regulations of the other Contracting Party, to import either an empty or laden goods vehicle temporarily into the territory of that other Contracting Party for the purpose of the carriage of goods, including return loads:

- a) Between any point in the territory of one Contracting Party and any point in the territory of the other Contracting Party; and
- b) In transit through the territory of that other Contracting Party.

Article 4. 1. Except as provided in article 5 of this Agreement, a carrier authorized in the territory of one Contracting Party, including a carrier on own account, shall require a permit in order to engage in the transport operations

¹ Came into force on 17 February 1979, i.e., 30 days after the date on which the Contracting Parties informed each other in writing (on 31 July 1978 and 18 January 1979) of the completion of the required procedures, in accordance with article 14 (1).

referred to in article 3. Such permits shall be issued by the competent authority of the Contracting Party by which the carrier is authorized within the limits of annual quotas fixed jointly by the competent authorities.

2. A permit shall not be transferable.

3. A permit shall be valid for use of one motor vehicle or one combination of vehicles (articulated vehicle or road train).

4. Permits may be of two types:

- a) Journey permits valid for one journey (outward and return) with a maximum period of validity not exceeding six months;
- b) Period permits valid for any number of journeys within a period of one calendar year.

5. Each competent authority shall send to the other on request an adequate supply of blank permits.

Article 5. The permits referred to in article 4 of this Agreement shall not be required for:

- a) Carriage of damaged vehicles or movement of unladen breakdown vehicles for the purpose of such carriage or operation of a vehicle in substitution for a damaged vehicle;
- b) Carriage of works of art and antiques;
- c) Carriage of articles and equipment exclusively for publicity or educational purposes;
- d) Carriage of properties, equipment or animals to or from theatrical, musical, cinematographic or circus performances or sporting events, exhibitions or fairs, or to or from the making of radio or television broadcasts or films;
- e) Carriage of goods for fairs or exhibitions;
- f) Funeral transport;
- g) Carriage of household effects;
- h) Carriage of perishable goods in refrigerated vehicles;
- i) Carriage of medical equipment and stores in cases of emergency.

III. OTHER PROVISIONS

Article 6. If the weights and dimensions of a vehicle or combination of vehicles, whether laden or unladen, registered in the territory of one Contracting Party exceed the maximum weights and dimensions laid down under the laws or regulations of the other Contracting Party special permission in writing, in addition to any permit required under article 4, shall be obtained from the competent authority of that other Contracting Party to operate the vehicle or combination of vehicles in its territory.

Article 7. 1. Nothing in this Agreement shall be held to permit a carrier authorized in the territory of one Contracting Party to pick up passengers or goods at a point in the territory of the other Contracting Party for setting down or delivery at any other point in that territory.

2. A carrier of one Contracting Party may not pick up passengers or goods in the territory of:

- a) A third country for setting down or delivery in the territory of the other Contracting Party; or
- b) The other Contracting Party for setting down or delivery in a third country, unless special permission in writing to carry out such an operation has been obtained from the competent authority of that other Contracting Party.

Article 8. Permits issued in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement must be carried on the vehicle and produced on demand to any person who is duly authorized in the territory of either Contracting Party to demand them.

Article 9. Vehicles which are registered in the territory of one of the Contracting Parties and temporarily imported into the territory of the other Contracting Party shall be exempted from all taxes and charges levied on the circulation or the possession of vehicles in that territory. This exemption shall not apply to tolls, taxes or charges on consumption, including fuel consumption, or taxes or charges on transport.

Article 10. 1. No import of fuel shall be permitted into the territory of one Contracting Party by a vehicle registered in the territory of the other Contracting Party except for the quantity contained in the standard supply tank(s) of the vehicle, as has (have) originally been mounted to the vehicle by its manufacturer.

2. Spare parts, temporarily imported into the territory of the other Contracting Party for the repair of vehicles performing transport operations within the scope of this Agreement, are exempt from customs duties and all other taxes and charges on import on the basis of issuing a document of temporary importation by entry customs authorities. Unused spare parts shall be re-exported. The replaced parts shall be transported back to the country of registration of the vehicle or shall be destroyed under the control of the competent customs officials of the other Contracting Party.

Article 11. 1. Subject to the provisions of this Agreement, a carrier authorized in the territory of one Contracting Party shall, when in the territory of the other Contracting Party, comply with the laws and regulations in force in that territory concerning road transport and road traffic.

2. In the event of a carrier of one Contracting Party failing to comply with the provisions of the preceding paragraph, the competent authority of the other Contracting Party may notify the competent authority of the Contracting Party in which the carrier is authorized and may request that authority either

- a) To issue a warning to that carrier;
- b) To issue such a warning together with a notification that any subsequent infringement will lead to the temporary or permanent exclusion of vehicles owned or operated by that person from the territory of the Contracting Party in which the infringement occurred; or
- c) To issue a notification of such exclusion.

3. The competent authority receiving any such request shall comply therewith and shall as soon as possible inform the competent authority of the other Contracting Party of the action taken.

4. The provisions of this article shall be without prejudice to any lawful sanctions which may be applied by the courts or enforcement authorities of the Contracting Party whose laws or regulations have not been complied with.

Article 12. The questions which are not envisaged by the provisions of this Agreement or those of international conventions to which the two countries are parties will be subject to the national legislation of each of the Contracting Parties.

Article 13. 1. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall keep in contact with each other regarding any questions arising out of the application of this Agreement.

2. For the purposes of the preceding paragraph, the Contracting Parties may establish a Joint Committee.

3. The Joint Committee shall meet at the request of the competent authority of either Contracting Party.

Article 14. 1. This Agreement shall enter into force thirty days after the Contracting Parties have informed each other in writing that the measures necessary to give effect to the Agreement in their respective territories have been taken.

2. The Agreement shall remain in force for a period of one year after its entry into force. Thereafter it shall continue in force unless it is terminated by one Contracting Party giving six months' notice thereof in writing to the other Contracting Party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Athens this 20th day of June 1977 in two copies in the English language, both being equally authoritative.

For the Government of the Republic of Finland:
HEIKKI KALBA

For the Government of the Hellenic Republic:
GEORGE VOYATZIS