

No. 20703

**SWEDEN
and
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC**

Agreement concerning the international transport of persons and goods by road. Signed at Damascus on 29 April 1978

Authentic text: French.

Registered by Sweden on 26 January 1982.

**SUÈDE
et
RÉPUBLIQUE ARABE SYRIENNE**

Accord relatif aux transports internationaux de personnes et de marchandises par route. Signé à Damas le 29 avril 1978

Texte authentique : français.

Enregistré par la Suède le 26 janvier 1982.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF SWEDEN AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT OF PERSONS AND GOODS BY ROAD

The Government of the Kingdom of Sweden and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic,

Desiring to facilitate the international transport of persons and goods by road between the two countries and in transit through their territories,

Have agreed as follows:

SPHERE OF APPLICATION

Article 1. The provisions of this Agreement shall apply to the transport of persons and goods by road using vehicles as defined in article 2.

DEFINITIONS

Article 2. (1) The term “carrier” shall mean any Swedish or Syrian physical or juridical person who has the right to transport persons or goods by road, in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations in force in his country.

(2) The term “vehicle” shall mean:

- A. Any mechanically propelled road vehicle which is:
- (a) Built or adapted for the transport of persons or goods by road and used for that purpose;
 - (b) Registered in the territory of one of the Contracting Parties; and
 - (c) Temporarily imported into the territory of the other Contracting Party for the purpose of engaging in the international transport of persons or goods to or from any place in that territory or in transit through that territory;
- B. Or a trailer or semi-trailer suitable for attachment to a vehicle referred to under letter A above, so that the vehicle and the trailer or semi-trailer meet the conditions indicated under letters (a) to (c).

(3) The term “competent authorities” shall mean:

- (a) For the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden: Swedish Transport Commission, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Stockholm,
- (b) For the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic: Ministry of Transport, Damascus.

TRANSPORT OF PERSONS

Article 3. (1) Except for occasional tourist transport operations, the organization of other forms of transport of persons between the two countries and in

¹ Came into force on 18 July 1979, i.e., the thirtieth day following the exchange of notes by which the Parties informed each other that it had been approved according to their constitutional provisions, in accordance with article 20 (1).

transit through their territories by vehicles having a minimum of eight seats, not including the driver's seat, shall be governed by a protocol of the Mixed Commission provided for in article 19 of this Agreement.

(2) Occasional tourist transport operations shall be those in which the same group of passengers is transported by the same vehicle:

- (a) Either on a round trip beginning and ending in the country of registration of the vehicle,
- (b) Or on a journey beginning in the country of registration of the vehicle and ending at the point of arrival in the territory of the other Contracting Party, provided — unless otherwise authorized — that the vehicle returns empty to its country of registration.

(3) The driver of the vehicle must possess, in addition to the documents specified in article 13, a list containing the names of the passengers, their nationalities and the country of destination.

TRANSPORT OF GOODS

Article 4. Except for the transport operations defined in article 5 below, the transport of goods between the two countries and in transit through their territories shall require authorization.

Article 5. No authorization shall be required for:

- (a) The transport of articles intended for fairs and exhibitions.
- (b) The transport of stage scenery and properties.
- (c) The transport of musical instruments and equipment for use in radio, cinematographic and television productions.
- (d) The transport of racehorses, racing cars and other sports equipment intended for sports events.
- (e) The entry of damaged vehicles and replacement vehicles or vehicles transporting equipment for the repair of another vehicle.
- (f) The transport of supplies for disaster relief.
- (g) The carriage of human remains.
- (h) The removal of household effects.

Article 6. (1) An authorization shall be issued for each journey and each vehicle; it shall authorize one transport journey between the two countries and in transit through the territories of the two Contracting Parties.

(2) Authorizations shall be issued in the name of the carrier; they may be used by him alone and shall be non-transferable.

(3) The authorization shall entitle the carrier to take on a return load provided that the regulations in force in the country of loading are respected and that the goods are destined exclusively for the carrier's country of origin.

Article 7. Authorizations shall be issued by the competent authorities of the country of registration of the vehicle, on behalf of the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party, subject to quotas established by agreement each year by a Protocol of the Mixed Commission provided for in article 19 of this Agreement.

A model authorization shall be drawn up by the said Mixed Commission.

Article 8. (1) Transport operations effected under this Agreement for hire or reward shall require a consignment note.

(2) Vehicles engaging in goods transport on their own account shall be covered by a transport document, in accordance with the provisions of the national legislation of the country of registration of the vehicle.

COMMON PROVISIONS

Article 9. Carriers of one of the Contracting Parties shall not be authorized to engage in the transport of persons and goods between the territory of the other Contracting Party and the territory of a third country unless a special authorization is granted by the competent authority of the other Contracting Party.

Article 10. No provision of this Agreement shall give a carrier of one Contracting Party the right to take on persons or goods within the territory of the other Contracting Party in order to set them down within the same territory.

Article 11. Where the weights or dimensions of vehicles exceed the limits permitted in the territory of the other Contracting Party, the vehicles shall require a special authorization issued by the competent authority of that Contracting Party.

Article 12. Commercial vehicles used for transport operations shall meet the necessary requirements for the planned operation and shall be maintained in compliance with the provisions of the regulations of the country of registration of the vehicle.

Article 13. (1) Vehicle drivers shall carry the following documents:

- (a) A regular passport for use abroad.
- (b) An international driver's licence authorizing them to drive the category of vehicle which they possess or, failing that, a licence issued by one of the two Contracting Parties and accepted in the territory of the other Contracting Party.

(2) Each vehicle must be provided with the mandatory international documents such as the triptyque or the customs carnet, etc.

Article 14. All the documents specified in this Agreement shall be issued by the competent authorities of the Contracting Party and shall be carried on the vehicle so that they may be produced on demand to officials responsible for inspection.

Article 15. The fiscal arrangements relating to the transport of persons and goods by road under this Agreement shall be established by a protocol of the Mixed Commission provided for in article 19 of this Agreement, with account being taken of the fiscal laws and regulations in force in the two Contracting Parties. The Mixed Commission shall study the possibility of reducing or waiving certain charges and taxes.

Article 16. (1) The fuel contained in the vehicle tanks provided by the manufacturer shall be exempt from all taxes, duties and charges.

(2) Spare parts temporarily imported into the territory of the other Contracting Party to repair vehicles engaged in transport operations under this Agreement shall, in accordance with customs regulations, be admitted free of customs duty and all other import taxes and charges.

(3) The replaced parts shall be re-exported or destroyed under the supervision of the competent customs officials of the other Contracting Party.

Article 17. The carriers and vehicle drivers of each Contracting Party shall, when driving in the territory of the other Contracting Party, observe the laws and regulations concerning roads traffic and transport and concerning working hours and maximum driving time in force in that territory. At the same time, they shall observe the other legal provisions in force in the latter country.

Article 18. (1) Where a carrier of one Contracting Party is guilty of infringements of the provisions of this Agreement in the territory of the other Contracting Party, the competent authorities of the latter Contracting Party may, without prejudice to the legal provisions applicable in the country in which the infringement took place, so inform the competent authorities of the former Contracting Party.

(2) In case of infringements such as those referred to in paragraph (1) of this article, the competent authorities of the Contracting Party where the infringement took place may request the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party:

- (a) To issue a caution to the carrier, together with a notification informing him that, should the violation be repeated, he will be subject to partial or total prohibition from carrying out transport operations using vehicles owned or operated by that carrier in the territory of the Contracting Party where the infringement took place.
- (b) To prohibit the carrier temporarily, partially or totally, from carrying out transport operations in the territory of the Contracting Party where the infringement took place.

(3) An authority which has put such a measure into effect shall so inform the competent authority of the other Contracting Party.

MIXED COMMISSION

Article 19. (1) To facilitate the proper implementation of the provisions of this Agreement, the two Contracting Parties shall establish a Mixed Commission to resolve any difficulties resulting from the application or interpretation of this Agreement.

(2) The said Mixed Commission shall meet towards the end of each year and at the request of one of the Contracting Parties, alternately in the territory of each of them.

(3) For three months following the entry into force of this Agreement, the Mixed Commission provided for in paragraph (1) above shall meet to consider the measures required for the application of this Agreement.

Article 20. (1) This Agreement shall be approved in accordance with the constitutional provisions of each of the two Contracting Parties and shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the mutual exchange of notes confirming its approval.

(2) This Agreement shall remain in force for a period of one year from the date of its entry into force and shall thereafter be automatically extended from year to year unless denounced by one of the two Contracting Parties six months before the end of the year.

DONE at Damascus, on 29 April 1978, in two original copies in French, both copies being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the Kingdom of Sweden:

[*Signed*]

BO TURESSON

For the Government
of the Syrian Arab Republic:

[*Signed*]

SALIM YASIN
