No. 32545

GERMANY and ALBANIA

Agreement concerning the employment of workers in order to improve their vocational and linguistic skills (Guest Workers Agreement). Signed at Tirana on 10 December 1991

Authentic texts: German and Albanian.

Registered by Germany on 8 February 1996.

et ALBANIE

Convention relative à l'emploi de travailleurs en vue d'approfondir leurs connaissances professionnelles et linguistiques (Convention relative aux travailleurs migrants). Signée à Tirana le 10 décembre 1991

Textes authentiques : allemand et albanais. Enregistré par l'Allemagne le 8 février 1996.

[Translation — Traduction]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA CONCERNING THE EMPLOYMENT OF WORKERS IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THEIR VOCATIONAL AND LINGUISTIC SKILLS (GUEST WORKERS AGREEMENT)

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Government of the Republic of Albania

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

- (1) This Agreement shall apply to Germans and Albanians residing in the area covered by this Agreement and seeking employment as guest workers, within the meaning of article 2.
 - (2) For the purposes of this Agreement, the competent authorities shall be:
- (a) On the German side: the Federal Employment Office (Central Employment Office in Frankfurt am Main);
 - (b) On the Albanian side: the Employment and Social Welfare Commission.

Article 2

- (1) The term "guest workers" means workers who:
- (a) Have completed vocational training or have comparable vocational skills;
- (b) Take up temporary employment in order to improve their vocational and linguistic skills; and
- (c) Are not under 18 or over 40 years of age on the date on which they take up the employment.
- (2) The period of employment as a guest worker shall normally be one year, although it may be extended to a total of 18 months.
- (3) Should an employment contract be terminated prematurely, the competent authority of the Contracting Party which is the host country shall endeavour to place the guest worker in other equivalent employment.

Article 3

- (1) The requisite permits shall be issued to guest workers, in accordance with the national regulations on entry and residence of foreigners, to enable them to live and work in the host country for the duration of their employment.
- (2) Prior to entry into the host country, guest workers shall apply to the competent mission abroad for the necessary entry visa.

 $^{^{1}}$ Came into force on 10 December 1991 by signature, in accordance with article 9 (1).

(3) The requisite work permit shall be issued regardless of the situation and trends in the labour market.

Article 4

Remuneration and other terms of employment shall be determined in accordance with the collective agreements and the provisions of the labour law and social insurance regulations of the host country.

Article 5

- (1) The number of guest workers who can be admitted by each side shall be fixed at 500 per year. As soon as this number has been reached, the figure will rise to 1,000.
- (2) The maximum figure may be changed by agreement of the two sides through an exchange of notes.
- (3) If the maximum figure is not reached, unfilled job placements shall not be carried over to the following year. An extension of the period of employment, as provided for in article 2, shall not be deemed to constitute a new placement.

Article 6

- 1. Guest workers wishing to be admitted under this Agreement may submit an application for placement to their competent national authority responsible for implementing the Agreement. Such authority shall transmit the application to the competent authority of the other Contracting Party.
- 2. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall promote the exchange programme and endeavour to find suitable employment for the guest workers; each authority shall notify the competent authority of the other Contracting Party of the results of its endeavours.

Article 7

No charges or fees shall be levied for job placement. In all other respects, the legislation of the Contracting Party concerned shall apply to charges and the payment of fees.

Article 8

The Federal Minister for Labour and Social Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Employment and Social Welfare Commission of the Republic of Albania shall work closely together under this Agreement. If necessary, a joint German-Albanian working group shall be formed, at the request of either Contracting Party, to discuss questions relating to the implementation of this Agreement.

Article 9

- (1) This Agreement shall enter into force on the date on which it is signed.
- (2) This Agreement shall remain in force for a term of three years and shall be extended for further one-year terms, unless it is denounced in writing by either Contracting Party not less than six months prior to the expiry of the current term.
- (3) The period granted in work permits issued under this Agreement shall not be affected by such denunciation.

Done at Tirana on 10 December 1991, in two originals, each in the German and Albanian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany:

Dr. Wolfgang Vorwerk

For the Government of the Republic of Albania:

Dr. Theodhor Bej