

No. 7239

**ALGERIA, BELGIUM, FRANCE,
GREECE, ISRAEL, etc.**

**International Olive Oil Agreement, 1963 (with annexes).
Adopted at the United Nations Conference on Olive
Oil at Geneva, on 20 April 1963**

Official texts: English, French and Spanish.

Registered by Spain on 5 May 1964.

**ALGÉRIE, BELGIQUE, FRANCE,
GRÈCE, ISRAËL, etc.**

**Accord international sur l'huile d'olive, 1963 (avec annexes).
Adopté à la Conférence des Nations Unies sur l'huile
d'olive, à Genève, le 20 avril 1963**

Textes officiels anglais, français et espagnol.

Enregistré par l'Espagne le 5 mai 1964.

No. 7239. INTERNATIONAL OLIVE OIL AGREEMENT,¹ 1963.
ADOPTED AT THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON OLIVE OIL AT GENEVA, ON 20 APRIL 1963

PREAMBLE

(i) *Recalling* that the olive :

—is a perennial fruit tree which, under conditions regarded as normal, begins to produce at an age varying between 6 and 15 years and attains maturity between the age of 80 and 120,

—is a plant indispensable for the maintenance and conservation of certain soils, and allows of developing lands which will not yield any other crop,

—is a plant on which depend the existence and standard of living of millions of families who are wholly dependent on the measures that are taken for maintaining and developing the consumption of its products, both in the producing countries themselves and to non-producing consumer countries,

Recalling that, while olive oil, which is the chief of the resources derived from olive-growing, occupies a relatively restricted place in world nutrition at the present time, it nevertheless forms an essential basic commodity in the regions where olive-growing is established,

Stressing in this connexion the extreme importance of this production in the economy of numerous countries ;

(ii) *Recalling* that the essential feature of the olive oil market lies in the irregularity of harvests and in that of supplying the market, and these irregularities result in fluctuations in the value of the production and in instability of prices and of

¹ In accordance with paragraph 4 of article 36, the Agreement came into force on 17 March 1964, the day on which the Governments of five mainly producing countries and the Governments of two mainly importing countries had deposited with the Government of Spain their instruments of ratification, accession or approval. The following countries deposited their instruments of ratification (r), approval, or accession (a) on the dates indicated :

France**	28 June	1963
Libya*	13 August	1963 (a)
Israel*	28 September	1963 (r)
Morocco*	30 September	1963 (r)
Turkey*	26 October	1963
Algeria*	28 October	1963 (r)
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** (also applicable to the Isle of Man, Jersey and the Bailiwick of Guernsey)	17 March	1964 (r)

* Mainly producing countries.

** Mainly importing countries.

receipts from exportation, as well as in considerable differences in the incomes of producers,

Recalling that these facts give rise to special difficulties that may cause serious damage to the interests of producers and consumers and may jeopardize the general policies of economic expansion in the countries of the regions where olive-growing is established and is capable of undergoing the necessary expansion,

Recalling that it is particularly necessary to remedy this situation by suitable measures, taking account of the very special features of olive-growing and of the olive oil market ;

(iii) *Recalling* that such measures transcend the national field and international action is indispensable ;

(iv) *Considering* that it is essential to continue and develop the work already undertaken within the framework of the 1956 International Agreement on Olive Oil¹ modified by the Protocol of 3rd April 1958,²

The contracting Governments have agreed as follows :

CHAPTER I

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

Article 1

The objectives of this Agreement are :

1. To ensure fair competition among countries exporting olive oil, whether producers or not, and to ensure to importing countries delivery of a commodity that conforms to all the specifications of the contracts concluded ;
2. To put into operation, or to facilitate the application of such measures as are calculated to extend the production and consumption of, and international trade in, olive oil ;
3. To reduce the disadvantages due to fluctuations of supplies on the market ;
4. To continue and develop the work of the International Agreement on Olive Oil, 1956.

CHAPTER II

PARTICIPATION

Article 2

Participation in the Agreement is open to the Governments of all States Members of the United Nations or of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 336, p. 177 ; Vol. 340, p. 424 ; Vol. 341, p. 421 ; Vol. 354, p. 432 ; Vol. 376, p. 455 ; Vol. 435, p. 364, and Vol. 450, p. 451.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 302, p. 121, and Vol. 307, p. 335.

Nations which consider themselves interested in problems concerning olive oil and which fulfil the conditions laid down under Article 36 of this Agreement.

CHAPTER III

DEFINITIONS

Article 3

1. The "Council" means the Olive Oil Council referred to in Article 21 of this Agreement.

2. The "Executive Committee" means the Committee established under the conditions laid down in Article 30 of this Agreement.

3. The "olive crop year" means the period between the first of October of each year and the thirtieth of September of the following year.

4. The "Government of a mainly producing country" means a Participating Government whose metropolitan territory and other territories, whatever the provisions of domestic law linking them to the metropolitan territory, taken as a whole at the time it became a Party to the present Agreement, produced on the average, during the olive crop years 1956-57 to 1961-62, a volume of olive oil greater than their average annual imports of olive oil during the period 1957 to 1962.

5. The "Government of a mainly importing country" means a Participating Government whose metropolitan territory and other territories, whatever the provisions of domestic law linking them to the metropolitan territory, taken as a whole at the time it became a Party to the present Agreement, produced on the average, during the olive crop years 1956-57 to 1961-62, a volume of olive oil smaller than their average annual imports of olive oil during the period 1957 to 1962.

CHAPTER IV

GENERAL OBLIGATIONS

Article 4

The Participating Governments undertake not to adopt any measures contrary to the obligations contracted under this Agreement or to the general objectives set forth in Article 1.

Article 5

The Participating Governments undertake to adopt such measures as they deem appropriate to facilitate trade in, and to develop consumption of, olive oil.

Article 6

The Participating Governments declare that, in order to raise the standard of living of populations and to avoid the introduction of unfair competitive practices in world trade in olive oil, they will endeavour to maintain fair standards in working conditions throughout the olive-growing and olive oil industry and in activities deriving therefrom.

Article 7

The Participating Governments undertake to make available and supply all statistics, data and documentation necessary to enable the Council to discharge its functions under this Agreement, and, in particular, all information required to establish the olive oil balance-sheet, and to acquire a knowledge of the national olive oil policies of Participating Governments.

CHAPTER V

DESIGNATIONS AND DEFINITIONS OF OLIVE OIL

Appellations of origin and indications of source in International Trade

Article 8

1. The designation "Olive oil" shall be restricted to the oil obtained exclusively from olives, without any admixture of oil derived from any other oil-bearing fruits or seeds, or any oil obtained from animal fats.

2. The Participating Governments shall undertake to suppress within their territories within two years after they become Parties to this Agreement any use of the designation "olive oil", alone or in combination with other words, which is not in conformity with this Article.

3. The designation "Olive oil" used alone will in no case be applied to residue olive oils.

Article 9

1. For international trade purposes, the designations of olive oils of different qualities are given in Annex A to this Agreement, which specifies for each designation the corresponding characteristics.

2. The use of such designations shall be compulsory for each quality of olive oil and they shall appear in clearly legible characters on all containers.

Article 10

1. Participating Governments undertake to adopt all necessary measures, in the manner prescribed by their respective legislations, to ensure the application of the principles and provisions set forth in Articles 8, 9, 11 and 12 of this Agreement.