

No. 8572

**BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG and NETHERLANDS
and
PARAGUAY**

**Agreement on trade and navigation. Signed at Asunción,
on 13 August 1963**

Official texts : French, Dutch and Spanish.

Registered by Belgium on 16 March 1967.

**BELGIQUE, LUXEMBOURG et PAYS-BAS
et
PARAGUAY**

**Accord de commerce et de navigation. Signé à
Assomption, le 13 août 1963**

Textes officiels français, néerlandais et espagnol.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 16 mars 1967.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 8572. AGREEMENT ON TRADE AND NAVIGATION ¹
 BETWEEN THE BENELUX ECONOMIC UNION AND
 THE REPUBLIC OF PARAGUAY. SIGNED AT ASUNCIÓN,
 ON 13 AUGUST 1963

The Kingdom of Belgium, acting in its own name and on behalf of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg according to existing agreements, and

The Kingdom of the Netherlands,

Acting together under the Treaty instituting the Benelux Economic Union, signed at The Hague, on 3 February 1958, ² on the one hand, and

The Government of the Republic of Paraguay, on the other hand,

Recognizing that it is in their interest to develop and foster trade between them and to facilitate sea and river transport,

Inspired by the wish to strengthen their traditional bonds of friendship by according each other unconditional most-favoured-nation treatment as the basis for their trade and shipping relations,

Have resolved to conclude an Agreement on Trade and Navigation between the Benelux Economic Union and the Republic of Paraguay and have for this purpose appointed as their Plenipotentiaries :

His Majesty the King of the Belgians : Mr. Maurice Seynave, Chargé d'Affaires a. i. of Belgium in Paraguay ;

Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands : His Excellency Mr. Johannes Christoffel van Beusekom, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Netherlands to the Government of the Republic of Paraguay, and

His Excellency the President of the Republic of Paraguay : His Excellency Mr. Raul Sapena Pastor, Minister for Foreign Affairs,

Who, having exchanged their respective full powers, found in good and due form,

Have agreed as follows :

¹ Came into force on 13 February 1967, the date of deposit of the last instrument of ratification, in accordance with article XXI. The instruments of ratification were deposited with the Paraguayan Government on the following dates

Netherlands (for the Kingdom in Europe,	Paraguay	25 August 1966
Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles)	Belgium, Luxembourg	13 February 1967
		5 February 1966

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol 381, p 165, Vol 480, p 432 and Vol 565, p. 312.

Article I

The Contracting Parties shall endeavour by every means to consolidate and expand their commercial relations to the greatest possible extent.

To this end, the Contracting Parties shall seek to diversify their trade with each other as far as possible, without prejudice to their traditional imports and exports.

Where import and export permits are required, they shall be issued in as liberal and expeditious a manner as possible, in the spirit of this Agreement and in accordance with the regulations in force in the countries of the Contracting Parties.

Article II

Any advantages, privileges or exemptions which one of the Contracting Parties grants or may grant to products originating in or destined for any third country shall be accorded immediately and unconditionally to similar products originating in or destined for the other Party. This provision concerns customs duties and charges of any kind imposed on or in connexion with the importation, exportation, transit and bonding of goods and the application of customs regulations and formalities

Products originating in one Contracting Party imported into the territory of the other shall not be liable, in the importing country, to higher duties or charges of any kind or to stricter customs regulations or formalities than those to which similar products originating in any third country are or may be liable.

Products originating in one Contracting Party exported to the territory of the other shall not be liable, in the exporting country, to higher duties or charges of any kind or to stricter customs regulations or formalities than those to which similar products destined for any third country are or may be liable.

Article III

Products originating in one Contracting Party imported into the territory of the other Party shall not be liable, in the importing country, to higher taxes or internal charges or to stricter formalities than those applicable to similar products originating in any third country, imported under equivalent conditions.

Conversely, products originating in one Contracting Party exported to the territory of the other Party shall not be liable, in the exporting country, to higher taxes or internal charges or to stricter formalities than those applicable when they are exported to any third country.

Article IV

Payments relating to commercial transactions and payments of any other kind between the countries of the Contracting Parties shall be effected in accordance with the regulations in force in each of the countries of the Contracting Parties concerning payments abroad.

The Contracting Parties shall accord each other treatment at least as favourable as that accorded to any third country to which the same payments system is applied

Article V

The most-favoured-nation treatment mentioned in articles I, II, III and IV of this Agreement shall not extend to :

- (a) Advantages, privileges or exemptions which the Benelux countries grant or may grant for the importation of products originating in the Republic of the Congo (Léopoldville), in the countries of Rwanda and Burundi and in the parts of the Kingdom of the Netherlands situated outside Europe ;
- (b) Advantages, privileges or exemptions which the Republic of Paraguay grants or may grant to adjoining countries and to the Eastern Republic of Uruguay ;
- (c) Advantages, privileges or exemptions which one of the Governments of the Contracting Parties grants or may grant to adjoining countries, in connexion with frontier traffic ;
- (d) The products of national fisheries.

Article VI

The Benelux countries and the Republic of Paraguay note that customs unions and free trade areas and agreements concluded with a view to the establishment of a customs union or free trade area shall as of right constitute exceptions to the most-favoured-nation clause.

Consequently, the commitments assumed under this Agreement by the Benelux countries, on the one hand, and the Republic of Paraguay, on the other hand, may not be interpreted as entailing an obligation to extend to each other the advantages which those countries grant or may grant in pursuance of the Treaties and Conventions instituting the European Communities, signed in Paris on 18 April 1951 and at Rome on 25 March 1957, on the one hand, and the Treaty instituting the Latin American Free-Trade Association, signed at Montevideo on 18 February 1960, on the other hand.