

Annex 700.

C. 791. 1924. I.

COMMERCIAL TREATIES CONCLUDED BETWEEN POLAND AND OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH AFFECT THE FREE CITY OF DANZIG.

ARTICLE 6 OF THE TREATY BETWEEN POLAND AND DANZIG OF NOVEMBER 9TH, 1920.

Report by M. Quiñones de León, adopted by the Council on December 8th, 1924.

In a letter dated October 28th, 1924, the High Commissioner of the League of Nations at Danzig forwarded to the Secretary-General copies of the following commercial treaties which have been concluded between Poland and other countries and which affect the Free City of Danzig

1.	Treaty with Roumania	dated July 1st, 1921.
2.	» » Czechoslovakia	» October 20th, 1921.
3.	» » France	» February 6th, 1922.
4.	» » the Allied Powers (for the Territory of Memel)	» April 6th, 1922.
5.	» » Italy	» May 12th, 1922.
6.	» » Switzerland	» June 26th, 1922.
7.	» » Austria	» September 25th, 1922.
8.	» » the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes	» October 23rd, 1922.
9.	» » Japan	» December 7th, 1922
10.	» » Belgium and Luxemburg	» December 30th, 1922.
11.	» » Great Britain and the Irish Free State	» November 26th, 1923.
12.	» » the Netherlands	» May 30th, 1924.

In a subsequent letter dated November 20th, 1924, the High Commissioner informed the Secretary-General that he had been notified of the consultation which had taken place between Poland and the Free City in conformity with the stipulations of Article 6, paragraph 1, of the Treaty between Poland and Danzig of November 9th, 1920. This stipulation is as follows

“Poland shall conclude no treaty or international agreement affecting the Free City without previous consultation with the Free City, the High Commissioner of the League of Nations shall be informed of the result of this consultation.”

By virtue of paragraph 2 of the same Article

“The High Commissioner shall in all cases have the right to veto any treaty or international agreement, in so far as it applies to the Free City of Danzig, which, in the opinion of the Council of the League of Nations, is inconsistent with the provisions of the present Treaty or with the status of the Free City.”

In his letter of November 20th, the High Commissioner stated that in his opinion there was nothing in these treaties which might justify his recommending to the Council that his right of veto shall be applied.

Furthermore, the Free City of Danzig has not requested the Council's intervention in the matter. Accordingly I think that the Council might merely note the communication which has been made to it by the High Commissioner.

I propose the following resolution

“The Council approves the conclusions of the present report.”

Annex 701.

C. 791 1924. I.

FREE CITY OF DANZIG RETIREMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE HARBOUR BOARD.

Report by M. Quiñones de León, adopted by the Council on December 8th, 1924.

Article 19 of the Treaty concluded at Paris on November 9th, 1920, between Poland and the Free City of Danzig lays down that “the President of the Port and Waterways Board shall be chosen by agreement between the Polish Government and the Government of the Free City. In the event of no such agreement being reached, the Council of the League of Nations shall be requested by the High Commissioner of the League at Danzig to appoint

a President of Swiss nationality In the case of a vacancy in the office of President, the same procedure shall be adopted in the month after the going out of office of the former President. The President shall be appointed for three years and shall be eligible for re-appointment"

The present President of the Harbour Board is Colonel James de Reymer, who was appointed by the Council on November 26th, 1921, for a period of three years dating from March 10th, 1921. He was re-appointed by agreement with the two parties for a period of one year ending March 10th, 1925.

In a letter dated October 8th, 1924, Colonel de Reymer informed the Secretary-General that he had decided not to accept a second re-appointment. He added that he was at the Council's disposal if, in the event of no agreement being reached by the two parties, the Council were requested to appoint a successor and if the successor could not enter upon his duties on the exact date in question — March 10th, 1925.

The agreement between the two Governments referred to in Article 19 of the Treaty of Paris must be reached "in the month after the going out of office of the former President" Accordingly the Council will not be required to appoint Colonel de Reymer's successor until after April 10th, 1925. Nevertheless, the two parties could, I think, inform the High Commissioner before that date should they desire the Council to appoint the President's successor. If so, the Council might appoint a new President of the Harbour Board at its March session, and thereby thanks to Colonel de Reymer's kind offer to remain at Danzig for a short time until his successor can enter upon his duties, avoid having any period without a President of the Board. Moreover, the two Governments must, of course, be allowed sufficient time to agree, if possible, upon the present President's successor.

For the present the Council need do no more than take note of Colonel de Reymer's statement to the Secretary-General that he is unable to accept re-appointment and express its thanks for the work he has done at Danzig during his term of office of almost four years as President of the Harbour Board.

Annex 702.

C. 707 1924. XIII.

TRANSFER OF THE WORK FOR THE RUSSIAN AND ARMENIAN REFUGEES TO THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

*Report by Dr Fridtjof Nansen, High Commissioner for Refugees, dated November 24th, 1924,
adopted by the Council, December 8th, 1924.*

The resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation at its meeting on October 10th, 1924, relating to future work for the Russian and Armenian refugees has already been communicated to the Council in Document C. 680. 1924. XIII. of November 18th, 1924¹

Immediately after the communication to me of the decision of the Governing Body I resumed my negotiations with the Director of the International Labour Office in order to give effect to the proposal made in the concluding paragraph of my report to the Council of June 7th, 1924² That report, which was approved by the Council at its meeting of June 12th, acquainted the Council with the progress of the negotiations for the transfer of the refugee work to the International Labour Organisation and intimated that I would submit concrete proposals to the Council as soon as the conclusions of the Governing Body had been communicated to me.

The resolution of the Governing Body of October 10th implies an acceptance of the transfer of the work connected with the Russian and Armenian refugees to the International Labour Organisation in accordance with the proposals adopted by the fifth Assembly, but the Director of the International Labour Organisation agrees that questions of a political or legal character may arise which may not fall entirely within the sphere of that Organisation and on which he may think it necessary to have recourse to the assistance of the League. It would be understood, however, that such recourse would not derogate from the administrative and technical responsibility which would henceforth be vested in the International Labour Organisation

The resolution reads as follows

" The Governing Body instructs the Director to draw up a scheme of the services providing employment for the refugees which he thinks could be set up with the 203,000 francs voted by the Assembly of the League of Nations and to check this estimate with the expenditure of the High Commissariat in previous years.

" It is understood that what the International Labour Office is asked to undertake is an investigation, co-ordination and communication of offers of employment made to the refugees, the conditions in which the refugees can take advantage of such offers, and an estimate of the number of refugees for whom employment is to be found. The expenditure may not exceed the allotted credit.

" It is understood that there can be no question of providing relief or paying the fares of the hundreds of thousands of refugees out of the small funds allotted.

" It is also understood that it is entirely a temporary service, which is to be terminated as soon as possible. "

See *Official Journal*, July 1924, page 958.