

ANNEX 1515.

FREE CITY OF DANZIG

C.370.1934.VII.

POLISH-DANZIG AGREEMENTS OF AUGUST 6TH, 1934.

NOTE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL.

[Translation.]

Geneva, September 4th, 1934.

The Secretary-General has the honour to communicate for the information of the Council a letter, dated August 24th, 1934, from the High Commissioner of the League of Nations in Danzig regarding the conclusion, on August 6th, 1934, of six agreements between Poland and the Free City of Danzig.

The texts of the agreements in question are kept in the archives of the Secretariat at the disposal of Members of the Council.

LETTER FROM THE HIGH COMMISSIONER OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS IN DANZIG TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL.

Danzig, August 24th, 1934.

The direct negotiations opened several months ago between the Governments of Poland and the Free City with a view to reaching a friendly agreement on several current economic questions have been brought to a successful conclusion by the signature at Danzig, on August 6th, 1934, of the following six Agreements, the text of which I am sending you under separate cover:

1. *Agreement on the Settlement of Certain Customs Questions, with Additional Protocol (in French)*

This Agreement is concluded for a period of two years, after which (Article 18) it will be automatically renewed from year to year unless denounced by one of the parties at six months' notice. It enters into force on September 1st, 1934.

In case of any difference of opinion regarding the application of Articles 12 and 14 of this Agreement (which deal with the application by the Customs unit at Danzig of the Customs measures laid down by the Central Customs Administration, and the appointment and recall in certain cases of a few officials employed in the administration of the Danzig Customs unit), the parties have expressly agreed (Article 16) that they shall be entitled to resort to the procedure of Article 39 of the Paris Treaty of November 9th, 1920. They have also agreed to waive in these cases, at the request of the applicant party the ordinary time-limits laid down by the procedure in force, and to proceed to the exchange of the documents pertaining to the case within abridged time-limits.

Should the applicant party have recourse to the procedure with abridged time-limits, the parties have expressed the wish that the High Commissioner's decision regarding the dispute in question should be given as early as possible, and in any case within seven days after the expiration of the time-limits laid down for the exchange of the documents pertaining to the case.

Should the parties have recourse to the abridged procedure provided for in Article 16 of the Agreement on Customs questions, I shall, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure laid down in the Council's resolution of June 11th, 1925, take into consideration as far as possible the wish here expressed by the two parties.

Lastly (Article 17), the parties have agreed that the stipulations of the Agreement in question and of the documents annexed thereto constitute provisions supplementary to or interpretative of Part VI and Annex II (Customs) of the Warsaw Agreement of October 24th, 1921.

In case of contradiction between the terms of this Agreement and those of the Warsaw Agreement of October 24th, 1921, the provisions of the Agreement of August 6th, 1934, shall prevail.

In the event of the expiration of the Agreement, the parties reserve their legal standpoint regarding the interpretation of Part VI and Annex II (Customs) of the Warsaw Agreement of October 24th, 1921.

2. *Agreement on the Participation of the Free City in the (Polish) Import Quotas, with Additional Protocol (in French)*

In virtue of this Agreement, the Free City waives, for the duration of the Agreement (Article 1), the rights conferred on it by Article 21 of the Warsaw Agreement of October 24th, 1921, as regards the fixing of quotas for the purpose of meeting the needs of its own population and satisfying the requirements of its own industry agriculture and handicrafts. In return for this renunciation

on the part of the Free City the Polish Government (Article 2) has granted Danzig a share in the Polish import quotas.

An abridged procedure before the High Commissioner, similar to that fixed in Article 16 of the Agreement on Customs questions, has been provided in connection with the application of Articles 2, 3 and 4 of the Agreement on import quotas (Article 9).

As regards the procedure set on foot before the organs of the League of Nations by the Polish petition of February 29th, 1932, regarding the abolition of the Danzig quotas, and by the Danzig petition of June 28th, 1932, regarding the revision of Part VII (imports and exports of an economic character) of the Warsaw Agreement of October 24th, 1921, the parties have agreed that this procedure shall remain pending for the duration of the Agreement of August 6th, 1934, on quotas. This Agreement, which, like the previous one, has been concluded for a period of two years, will be renewed automatically from year to year if one of the parties does not denounce it at six months' notice (Article 11). It will enter into force on September 1st, 1934.

3. *Agreement on the Regulations concerning Foodstuffs and Articles of Current Use, with Annex (in French)*

This Agreement is also concluded for a period of two years. The conditions regarding renewal, denunciation and entry into force are the same as for the Agreements previously mentioned.

The parties have agreed that, in certain cases defined in Articles 2 and 3, connected with the adoption by the Free City of regulations already enacted or about to be enacted by the Polish Government as regards foodstuffs or articles in current use (Article 2), and the promulgation by the Free City of stipulations or regulations in this connection (Article 3), they may in case of a difference of opinion, apply to the High Commissioner in the manner laid down in Article 39 of the Paris Treaty of November 9th, 1920, with a view to finding a solution of the dispute, which will have to be sought "taking into equitable consideration" the mutual interests of the two parties.

4. *Arrangement on the Disposal of Agricultural Products, with Annex and Additional Protocol (in German and Polish.)*

This Arrangement came into force on August 10th, 1934.

5. *Veterinary Convention, with Annexes (in German and Polish).*

In accordance with Article 21, this Convention will come into force on September 1st, 1934. It has been concluded for a period of two years, and will be renewed automatically from year to year if one of the parties does not denounce it at six months' notice.

6. *Agreement regarding the Protection of Plants (in Polish and German).*

This Agreement is subject to the same conditions as regards entry into force, duration and renewal as the previous one.

I should be grateful if you would communicate the foregoing to the Council for its information.

I take this opportunity of expressing to you my keen satisfaction that the negotiations between the parties, which have been long and difficult, have led to the conclusion of agreements on questions of considerable importance to the two countries.

(Signed) Sean LESTER,
High Commissioner