

## **CLEARING AGREEMENT BETWEEN FINLAND AND LITHUANIA. SIGNED AT HELSINKI, APRIL 12TH, 1938**

With a view to facilitating the settlement of claims arising out of goods transactions between the two countries, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND and THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA have agreed as follows:

### ***Article 1.***

Payments in settlement of claims arising out of the import into Lithuania of goods of Finnish origin and provenance shall be made on the due date to the Bank of Lithuania (Lietuvos Bankas). Payments for accessory costs such as commissions, transport charges and the like in connection with such imports shall be subject to the provisions of the present Agreement.

Payments in settlement of claims arising out of the import into Finland of goods of Lithuanian origin and provenance shall be made on the due date to the Bank of Finland (Suomen Pankki). Payments for accessory costs such as commissions, transport charges and the like in connection with such imports shall be subject to the provisions of the present Agreement.

All and sundry advance payments arising out of goods transactions between the two contracting countries shall also be subject to the provisions of the present Agreement.

It is understood that the present Agreement shall not apply to payments arising in connection with goods in transit traffic.

### ***Article 2.***

The Bank of Lithuania shall credit the amount of the payments in litas so received, converted into pounds sterling at the rate of exchange for which Article 3 provides, to a Clearing Account in sterling, not bearing interest, to be opened by the Bank of Lithuania in favour of the Bank of Finland, and shall advise the latter of all such payments received.

The Bank of Finland shall credit the amount of the payments in Finnish marks so received, converted into pounds sterling at the rate of exchange for which Article 3 provides, to a Clearing Account, not bearing interest, to be opened by the Bank of Finland in favour of the Bank of Lithuania, and shall advise the latter of all such payments received.

Every advice by either bank of payments received shall contain particulars of the date and source of each payment to enable payment to be made to the exporters concerned.

### ***Article 3.***

The conversion into pounds sterling of the claims in litas to which the first paragraph of Article 2 relates, and of the claims in Finnish marks to which the second paragraph of Article 3 relates, shall be effected at the official rate of the Bank of Lithuania or of the Bank of Finland, as the case may be.

The conversion into pounds sterling of claims in currencies other than litas or Finnish marks shall be effected at the latest known London rate.

**Article 4.**

The Bank of Lithuania shall pay exporters of goods of Lithuanian origin and provenance the sums specified in the advices by the Bank of Finland of payments received and debit the Clearing Account for which the first paragraph of Article 2 provides accordingly.

The Bank of Finland shall pay exporters of goods of Finnish origin and provenance the sums specified in the advices by the Bank of Lithuania of payments received and debit the Clearing Account for which the second paragraph of Article 2 provides accordingly.

Save in the case for which the second paragraph of Article 5 provides, payments shall be made in the order of the dates of the advices of payment, within the limits of the amounts available in the Clearing Accounts.

**Article 5.**

Claims arising out of the export of goods with origin and provenance in one or other of the contracting countries may be settled in private compensation through the import of goods with origin and provenance in the other contracting country.

Creditors of either country may obtain satisfaction of their claims under the Clearing Accounts without regard to chronological order by importing products with origin and provenance in the other contracting country.

Such compensation transactions shall nevertheless be conditional on the assent of the Governments of the two Contracting Parties and shall be subject to the directions in each particular case of the Bank of Lithuania and the Bank of Finland respectively.

**Article 6.**

Goods with origin and provenance in one or other of the two countries, which are imported by either Party after the entry into force of the present Agreement, must be accompanied by a certificate of origin.

**Article 7.**

The Bank of Lithuania and the Bank of Finland shall concert together as to the technical arrangements for the application of the present Agreement.

**Article 8.**

On the expiry of the present Agreement, the importers of whichever of the two countries has a balance in its favour in the Clearing Account shall continue to pay the sums due under the provisions of the present Agreement until such time as the said balance has been finally liquidated.

**Article 9.**

The two Contracting Parties undertake to take all requisite steps to ensure the satisfactory working of the present Agreement.

**Article 10.**

The present Agreement shall come into force on May 1st, 1938. It may be denounced at two months' notice.

Done in duplicate at Helsinki, this 12th day of April, 1938.

For Finland: H. VON KNORRING.

For Lithuania: V. BALICKAS.

[Quelle: League of Nations, Treaty Series, Vol. 194, 1939, p.9-13.]