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Agreement

between the Government of the United Kingdom
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the
Macedonian Government on International Road Transport

Skopje, 18 June 1996

[The Agreement entered into force on 29 July 2005]

*Presented to Parliament
by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
by Command of Her Majesty
September 2005*

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**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM
OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE MACEDONIAN
GOVERNMENT ON INTERNATIONAL ROAD TRANSPORT**

The Government of the United Kingdom and the Macedonian Government (hereinafter called “the Contracting Parties”);

Desiring to facilitate international road transport between their two countries and in transit through their territories;

Have agreed as follows:

DEFINITIONS

ARTICLE 1

For the purposes of this Agreement:

(1) the term “carrier” shall mean any physical or legal person who, in the territories of either Contracting Party, is authorized in accordance with the relevant national laws and regulations to engage in the international carriage of passengers or goods by road for hire or reward or on his own account;

(2) the term “passenger vehicle” shall mean any mechanically propelled road vehicle which:

- (a) is constructed or adapted for use on the roads for the carriage of passengers;
- (b) has more than nine seats including that of the driver;
- (c) is registered in the territory of one Contracting Party and is owned or operated by or on behalf of a carrier authorized in that territory to carry passengers; and
- (d) is temporarily imported into the territory of the other Contracting Party for the purpose of the international carriage of passengers to, from or in transit through that territory;

(3) the term “goods vehicle” shall mean any mechanically propelled road vehicle which is:

- (a) constructed or adapted for use and used on the roads for the carriage of goods;
- (b) registered in the territory of one Contracting Party; and
- (c) temporarily imported into the territory of the other Contracting Party for the purpose of the international carriage of goods for delivery to, collection from or in transit through that territory;

and any trailer or semi-trailer which fulfills conditions (a) and (c) of this paragraph and is operated by a carrier of one Contracting Party; provided that if a trailer or semi-trailer and its towing vehicle both fulfill the conditions of this paragraph the combination shall be regarded as one vehicle;

(4) the term “territory” in relation to the United Kingdom, shall mean England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and Gibraltar;

(5) the competent authorities shall be:

for the Government of the United Kingdom, the Department of Transport;

for the Macedonian Government, the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

PASSENGER TRANSPORT

ARTICLE 2

Transport Services

Carriers licensed in the territory of either Contracting Party shall be permitted to operate transport services using passenger vehicles registered in the territory in which they are based, between the territories of the Contracting Parties or in transit through the territory of either Contracting Party, subject to the conditions laid down in this Agreement.

ARTICLE 3

Authorizations and Exemptions

- (1) The carriage of passengers in passenger vehicles of a carrier authorized in the territory of one Contracting Party to or from any point in the territory of the other Contracting Party or in transit through that territory shall, with the exception of the services referred to in paragraph (3) of this Article, require to be authorized by that other Contracting Party.
- (2) Regular services shall be authorized in accordance with the national requirements of the Contracting Parties.
- (3) The following services shall be exempted from the requirement for authorization referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article:
 - (a) “closed-door tours”: that is, services whereby the same vehicle is used to carry the same group of passengers throughout the journey and to bring them back to the place of departure;
 - (b) “inward services”: that is, services on which a group of passengers is brought into the territory of the other Contracting Party for a temporary stay and the passenger vehicle leaves that territory empty or on a service covered by (c) below;
 - (c) “outward services”: that is, services on which a passenger vehicle is used to enter the territory of the other Contracting Party empty or on a service covered by (b) above and carries to the territory in which the carrier is authorized a group of passengers each of whom:
 - has been carried to the territory of the other Contracting Party by the carrier;
 - before being so carried, had concluded a contract for both journeys in the territory of the Contracting Party in which the carrier is authorized;
 - (d) “shuttle services”: that is, services whereby, by means of repeated outward and return journeys, previously formed groups of passengers are carried from a single place of departure to a single destination. Each group of passengers who have made the outward journey together shall subsequently be carried back to the place of departure together. Passengers shall not be taken up or set down during the journey. The first return journey and the last outward journey shall be made unladen;
 - (e) the transit of the territory of the other Contracting Party by an empty passenger vehicle in the course of a journey to or from a third country;
 - (f) the replacement of a passenger vehicle which has become unserviceable by a serviceable one.

GOODS TRANSPORT

ARTICLE 4

Authorized Carriage of Goods

A carrier authorized in the territory of one Contracting Party shall be permitted, without being required to obtain a permit, license or other authorization for that purpose in accordance with the laws of the other Contracting Party, to import an empty or laden goods vehicle temporarily into the territory of the other Contracting Party for the purpose of the carriage of goods, including return loads:

- (a) between any point in the territory of one Contracting Party and any point in the territory of the other Contracting Party;
- (b) in transit across the territory of the other Contracting Party; and
- (c) between any point in the territory of the other Contracting Party, and any point in the territory of a third country.

ARTICLE 5

Special Permits

Notwithstanding Article 4, each Contracting Party may require a special permit for the use in its territory of any goods vehicle which by reason of its total weight or dimensions or those of its load may not otherwise lawfully be used on roads in the territory of that Contracting Party.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 6

Taxes

- (1) Goods vehicles and passenger vehicles which are registered in the territory of one Contracting Party and are performing transport operations in the territory of the other Contracting Party shall be exempt from the taxes and charges levied on the road use or possession of vehicles and from taxes and charges levied on transport operations carried out in the territory of the other Contracting Party.
- (2) The exemption referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article shall be granted in the territory of each Contracting Party so long as the conditions laid down in the Customs regulations in force in that territory for the temporary admission of such vehicles into that territory without payment of import duties and import taxes are fulfilled.
- (3) The exemption referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article shall not apply to taxes and charges included in the price of fuel or to tolls or charges for the use of particular bridges, tunnels, ferries, or categories of roads.
- (4) The fuel contained in the supply tanks of a vehicle shall be exempt from taxes and duties.
- (5) Spare parts temporarily imported into the territory of the other Contracting Party, intended for the breakdown service of vehicles operating within the framework of this Agreement, shall be exempt from Customs duties and from other import charges and taxes in accordance with Customs regulations. Replaced parts shall be re-exported or destroyed under the control of the competent Customs authorities of the other Contracting Party.

ARTICLE 7

Exclusion of Cabotage

A carrier authorized in the territory of either Contracting Party shall not be permitted to carry out the transport of passengers or goods from any point in the territory of the other Contracting Party to any other point in that territory.

ARTICLE 8

Compliance with National Laws

Except where otherwise provided in Agreements between the Contracting Parties, including this Agreement:

- (a) carriers and drivers of one Contracting Party, passenger vehicles as defined in Article 1(2) of this Agreement and goods vehicles as defined in Article 1(3) of this Agreement shall, when in the territory of the other Contracting Party, comply with the national laws and regulations in force in that territory concerning road transport and road traffic;
- (b) neither of the Contracting Parties shall impose on passenger or goods vehicles of the other Contracting Party requirements which are more restrictive than those applied by its national laws and regulations upon its own passenger or goods vehicles.

ARTICLE 9

Infringements

(1) In the event of any infringement of the provisions of this Agreement by a vehicle or driver of one Contracting Party when in the territory of the other Contracting Party, the competent authority of the Contracting Party in whose territory the infringement occurred may (without prejudice to any lawful sanctions which the courts or enforcement authorities of that Contracting Party may apply) request the competent authority of the other Contracting party to:

- (a) issue a warning to the carrier;
- (b) issue such a warning together with a notification that subsequent infringement will lead to a temporary or permanent exclusion of vehicles owned or operated by the carrier from the territory of the Contracting Party in which the infringement occurred; or
- (c) issue a notice of such exclusion.

(2) The competent authority receiving any such request shall comply therewith and shall as soon as possible inform the competent authority of the other Contracting Party of the action taken.

FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 10

Joint Committee

At the request of either competent authority, representatives of both shall meet as a Joint Committee to review the operation of the Agreement.

ARTICLE 11

Entry into Force and Duration

(1) Each Contracting Party shall notify the other in writing that the measures necessary for giving effect to this Agreement in their territory have been taken. The Agreement shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of the later of these two notifications.

(2) This Agreement shall remain in force for a period of one year after its entry into force. Thereafter, it shall continue in force unless it is terminated by either Contracting Party giving six months' notice thereof in writing to the other Contracting Party.

(3) With the entry into force of this Agreement, all former bilateral Agreements in the field of road transport between the Contracting Parties or to which either of the Contracting Parties has succeeded cease to be valid.

In witness whereof, the undersigned duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

Done in two originals at Skopje this 18th day of June 1996, in the English and Macedonian languages, each text being equally authoritative.

For the Government of the United
Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern
Ireland:

For the Macedonian Government:

T. MILLSON

MITKO



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