

No. 6863

**AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, CUBA,
CZECHOSLOVAKIA, DENMARK, etc.**

Customs Convention concerning facilities for the importation of goods for display or use at exhibitions, fairs, meetings or similar events. Done at Brussels, on 8 June 1961

Official texts: French and English.

Registered by the Customs Co-operation Council, acting on behalf of the Contracting Parties in accordance with article 25 of the Convention, on 8 August 1963.

**AUSTRALIE, AUTRICHE, CUBA,
TCHÉCOSLOVAQUIE, DANEMARK, etc.**

Convention douanière relative aux facilités accordées pour l'importation des marchandises destinées à être présentées ou utilisées à une exposition, une foire, un congrès ou une manifestation similaire. Faite à Bruxelles, le 8 juin 1961

Textes officiels français et anglais.

Enregistrée par le Conseil de coopération douanière, agissant au nom des Parties contractantes conformément à l'article 25 de la Convention, le 8 août 1963.

No. 6863. CUSTOMS CONVENTION¹ CONCERNING FACILITIES FOR THE IMPORTATION OF GOODS FOR DISPLAY OR USE AT EXHIBITIONS, FAIRS, MEETINGS OR SIMILAR EVENTS. DONE AT BRUSSELS, ON 8 JUNE 1961

PREAMBLE

The States signatory to the present Convention,

Meeting under the auspices of the Customs Co-operation Council, in consultation with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO),

Having regard to proposals made by representatives of international trade and other interests,

¹ In accordance with article 19, the Convention came into force on 13 July 1962, three months after the following five States had, on the dates indicated, signed it without reservation of ratification or deposited their instrument of accession (a) :

Niger	14 March	1962	Central African		
Czechoslovakia	28 March	1962	Republic	1 April	1962 (a)
Portugal	31 March	1962	Madagascar	12 April	1962 (a)

The Convention subsequently came into force, in respect of the following States, three months after the date of the deposit of their instruments of ratification or accession (a) with the Customs Co-operation Council :

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of deposit</i>		<i>Date of entry into force</i>	
Cuba	2 May	1962	3 August	1962
Greece	19 July	1962 (a)	20 October	1962
Austria	20 September	1962	21 December	1962
Morocco	16 November	1962 (a)	17 February	1963
Dominican Republic	12 December	1962 (a)	13 March	1963
Australia	20 December	1962	21 March	1963
Hungary	4 February	1963 (a)	15 May	1963
Spain	11 February	1963	2 May	1963
Cambodia	20 February	1963 (a)	21 May	1963
United Arab Republic	25 March	1963 (a)	26 June	1963
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (extended to Jersey, the Isle of Man and the Bailiwick of Guernsey)	25 March	1963	26 June	1963
Switzerland	30 April	1963	31 July	1963

According to information provided by the Secretariat of the Customs Co-operation Council, the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg, although not yet having formally ratified the Convention or acceded thereto, notified the Secretary-General of the Customs Co-operation Council that the provisions of this Customs Convention would be applied in their respective countries as from 13 July 1962 (Federal Republic of Germany) and 1 October 1962 (Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg) respectively.

Desiring to facilitate the display of goods at exhibitions, fairs, meetings, or similar events of a commercial, technical, religious, educational, scientific, cultural or charitable nature,

Convinced that the adoption of general rules on the Customs treatment of such goods would afford considerable advantages to international trade and promote the international exchange of ideas and knowledge,

Have agreed as follows :

CHAPTER I

DEFINITIONS

Article 1

For the purposes of the present Convention :

(a) the term "event" means :

1. a trade, industrial, agricultural or crafts exhibition, fair, or similar show or display ; or
2. an exhibition or meeting which is primarily organised for a charitable purpose ; or
3. an exhibition or meeting which is primarily organised to promote any branch of learning, art, craft, sport or scientific, educational or cultural activity, to promote friendship between peoples, or to promote religious knowledge or worship ; or
4. a meeting of representatives of any international organisation or international group of organisations ; or
5. a representative meeting of an official or commemorative character ;

except exhibitions organised for private purposes in shops or business premises with a view to the sale of foreign goods ;

(b) the term "import duties" means Customs duties and all other duties and taxes payable on, or in connection with importation and shall include all internal taxes and excise duties chargeable on imported goods, but shall not include fees and charges which are limited in amount to the approximate cost of services rendered and do not represent an indirect protection to domestic products or a taxation of imports for fiscal purposes ;

(c) the term "temporary admission" means temporary importation free of import duties and free of import prohibitions and restrictions, subject to re-exportation ;

(d) the term "the Council" means the Organisation set up by the Convention establishing a Customs Co-operation Council, done at Brussels on 15th December 1950¹;

(e) the term "person" means both natural and legal persons, unless the context otherwise requires.

CHAPTER II
TEMPORARY ADMISSION

Article 2

1. Temporary admission shall be granted to :

- (a) goods intended for display or demonstration at an event ;
- (b) goods intended for use in connection with the display of foreign products at an event, including :
 - (i) goods necessary for the purpose of demonstrating foreign machinery or apparatus to be displayed,
 - (ii) construction and decoration material, including electrical fittings, for the temporary stands of foreign exhibitors,
 - (iii) advertising and demonstration material which is demonstrably publicity material for the foreign goods displayed, for example, sound recordings, films and lantern slides, as well as apparatus for use therewith ;
- (c) equipment including interpretation apparatus, sound recording apparatus and films of an educational, scientific or cultural character intended for use at international meetings, conferences or congresses.

2. The facilities referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be granted provided that :

- (a) the goods are capable of identification on re-exportation ;
- (b) the number or quantity of identical articles is reasonable having regard to the purpose of importation ;
- (c) the Customs authorities of the country of temporary importation are satisfied that the conditions of the present Convention shall be fulfilled.

Article 3

Unless the national laws and regulations of the country of temporary importation so permit, goods granted temporary admission shall not, whilst they are the subject of the facilities granted under the present Convention :

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 157, p. 129, and Vol. 347, p. 379.

- (a) be loaned, or used in any way for hire or reward ; or
- (b) be removed from the place of the event.

Article 4

1. Goods granted temporary admission shall be re-exported within six months from the date of importation. However Customs authorities of the country of temporary importation may, with due regard to the circumstances and in particular the duration and nature of the event, require that the goods be re-exported within a shorter period which shall, nevertheless, extend at least one month after the termination of the event.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article the Customs authorities shall allow such goods which are to be displayed or used at a subsequent event to remain within the country of temporary importation, subject to compliance with such conditions as may be required by the laws and regulations of that country and provided that the goods are re-exported within one year of the date of importation.

3. For valid reasons the Customs authorities may, within the limits laid down by the laws and regulations of the country of temporary importation, either grant longer periods than those provided for in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the present Article or extend the initial period.

4. When goods granted temporary admission cannot be re-exported as a result of a seizure, other than a seizure made at the suit of private persons, the requirement of re-exportation provided for in this Article shall be suspended for the duration of the seizure.

Article 5

1. Notwithstanding the requirement of reexportation laid down by the present Convention, the re-exportation of badly damaged goods, goods of little value and perishable goods, shall not be required, provided that the goods :

- (a) are subjected to the import duties to which they are liable ; or
 - (b) are abandoned free of all expense to the Exchequer of the country into which they were temporarily imported ; or
 - (c) are destroyed, under official supervision, without expense to the Exequer of the country into which they were temporarily imported ;
- as the Customs authorities may require.

2. Goods granted temporary admission may be disposed of otherwise than by re-exportation, and in particular may be taken into home use, subject to compliance with the conditions and formalities applicable under the laws and regulations of the