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DRAFT CUSTOMS CONVENTION ON THE TEMPORARY IMPORTATION OF PROFESSIONAL EQUIPMENT

Progress Report received from the Customs Co-operation Council

By letter dated 12 October 1960, the Customs Co-operation Council transmitted the revised text of the draft Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Professional Equipment¹, together with the relevant part of the report to the Council on the 29th and 30th Sessions of the Permanent Technical Committee².

Attention is drawn to the fact that in preparing the revised draft of the Convention the Technical Committee has taken into account the observations made in the report of the GATT Group of Experts on Temporary Importation (document L/1209, dated 28 May 1960).

The Council has suggested the submission of the draft Convention to the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their seventeenth session in October/November 1960 so that any observations they may wish to make on the matter could be communicated to the Customs Co-operation Council before 1 January 1961.

It should be noted that the Permanent Technical Committee of the CCC decided not to draft three conventions but to prepare a single convention covering the three main items: cinematograph equipment, television and radio equipment, and professional equipment. This decision was taken as a result of the replies in favour of a single convention received from governments to an enquiry by the CCC.

¹See Appendix I to this document.

²See Appendix II to this document.

Furthermore it was decided that this convention should be known as the Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Professional Equipment, without reference in the title to television or cinematograph equipment. It was made clear however that these two special types of equipment were to be considered professional.

Three annexes are attached to the draft Convention: Annex A - "Equipment for the Press or for Sound or Television Broadcasting"; Annex B - "Cinematograph Equipment"; Annex C "Other Professional Equipment". Provision has been made for each contracting party, at the time of signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention, to declare in respect of which Annex or Annexes it will be bound. (Article 16, paragraph 2 of the draft Convention).

The preliminary draft Convention, which was submitted to the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their sixteenth session (document L/1179) was considerably altered by the Permanent Technical Committee in view of the decision to draw up a separate Carnet Convention. The Technical Committee felt that the establishment of a carnet independent from the Convention on Professional Equipment would allow the use of such a carnet for all types of temporary importation. The problem then arose of linking the two Conventions.

In this connexion reference could be made to paragraphs 11 and 12 of the report of the GATT Group of Experts (document L/1209) which reads as follows:

"The majority of experts expressed itself strongly in favour of an international document incorporating the necessary guarantees for re-exportation of imported equipment.

"In this connexion it was stressed that under Article 3 of the provisional draft convention, it was open to a country not to accept the proposed international carnet system, by entering an appropriate reservation. If no such reservation had been entered, an importer would be free to choose whether he wished to use the international document or the national system of the country of temporary importation."

To facilitate the study of the draft Convention attention is drawn to the fact that many of the provisions of the Convention on Packings¹ have been incorporated in the draft Convention on Temporary Importation. A comparative table² is attached indicating against the provisions of the draft Convention on Temporary Importation the corresponding provisions of the Convention on Packings.

¹The Convention on Packings was submitted for study to the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their sixteenth session (see document L/1208).

²Appendix III to this document.

APPENDIX I

DRAFT CUSTOMS CONVENTION ON THE TEMPORARY
IMPORTATION OF PROFESSIONAL EQUIPMENT

PREAMBLE

The Governments signatory to the present Convention,

Meeting under the auspices of the Customs Co-operation Council and the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, in consultation with UNESCO,

Having regard to proposals made by the representatives of international trade and other interests for the extension of temporary duty-free importation procedures,

Convinced that the adoption of general rules on the temporary duty-free importation of professional equipment would facilitate the international exchange of specialised skills and techniques.

Have agreed as follows:

CHAPTER I

Definitions

Article I

For the purposes of the present Convention:

- (a) the term "import duties" means Customs duties and all other duties and taxes payable on, or in connexion 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;
- (b) the term "temporary admission" means temporary importation free of import duties and free of import prohibitions and restrictions, subject to re-exportation;
- (c) the term "person" means both natural and legal persons unless the context otherwise requires;
- (d) the term "the Council" means the Customs Co-operation Council set up by the Convention establishing a Customs Co-operation Council, done at Brussels on 15 December 1950.

CHAPTER II

Temporary admission

Article 2

Each Contracting Party shall grant temporary admission to the equipment referred to in any Annex in respect of which it has declared itself bound, subject to the conditions specified in the present Convention and in that Annex. The term "equipment" shall be taken to include any relevant ancillary apparatus and accessories.

Article 3

[The Contracting Parties to the present Convention who are also Contracting Parties to the Convention introducing an international Customs document incorporating a guarantee shall accept that document, in lieu of national documents, for the implementation of the present Convention.]

[The Contracting Parties will endeavour to introduce the use of an international Customs document incorporating a guarantee, in lieu of national documents, for the implementation of the present Convention.]

Article 4

In cases where a Contracting Party requires security for compliance with the conditions attached to temporary admission, the amount of such security shall not exceed the amount of the import duties chargeable by more than 10 per cent.

Article 5

Equipment granted temporary admission shall be re-exported within six months from the date of importation. This period may be extended by the Customs authorities for valid reasons, either at the time of importation or later, within the limits laid down by the legislation in force in the territory into which the equipment has been temporarily imported.

Article 6

Equipment granted temporary admission may be re-exported in one or several consignments, through any Customs office open for such operations, and such re-exportation shall not be confined to the Customs office of importation.

Article 7

1. Notwithstanding the requirement of re-exportation laid down by the present Convention, the re-exportation of all or part of equipment badly damaged in duly authenticated accidents shall not be required, provided that it;

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

2. When all or part of equipment 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 shall be suspended for the duration of the seizure.

Article 8

Component parts imported to repair temporarily admitted equipment shall also be granted the facilities provided by the present Convention.

CHAPTER III

Miscellaneous provisions

Article 9

Any breach of the provisions of the present Convention, any substitution, false declaration or act having the effect of causing a person or goods improperly to benefit from the facilities provided for in the present Convention, may render the offender liable in the country where the offence was committed to the penalties prescribed by the legislation of that country and to payment of any import duties chargeable.

Article 10

The provisions of the present Convention shall not preclude the application of restrictions and controls imposed under national regulations on grounds of public morality, public security, hygiene or public health, or for veterinary or phytopathological considerations.

Article 11

For the purposes of the present Convention the territories of Contracting Parties which form a Customs or economic union may be taken to be a single territory.

Article 12

In the application of the present Convention, the Annex or Annexes for the time being in force to which a Contracting Party is bound shall be construed to be an integral part of the Convention, and in relation to that Contracting Party any reference to the Convention shall be deemed to include a reference to such Annex or Annexes.

Article 13

The provisions of the present Convention set out the minimum facilities to be accorded. They do not prevent the application of greater facilities which certain Contracting Parties grant or may grant in future by unilateral provisions or in virtue of bilateral and multilateral agreements.

CHAPTER IV

Final provisions

Article 14

1. The Contracting Parties shall meet together when necessary in order to consider the operation of the present Convention and, in particular, in order to consider measures to secure uniformity in the interpretation and application of the present Convention.
2. Such meetings shall be convened by the Secretary General of the Council at the request of any Contracting Party and, unless the Contracting Parties otherwise decide, shall be held at the Headquarters of the Council. The Contracting Parties shall lay down the rules of procedure for such meetings.
3. Decisions of the Contracting Parties shall be taken by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Contracting Parties present at the meeting and voting.
4. The Contracting Parties shall not take a decision on any matter unless more than half of them are present.

Article 15

1. Any dispute between Contracting Parties concerning the interpretation or application of the present Convention shall so far as possible be settled by negotiation between them.
2. Any dispute which is not settled by negotiation shall be referred by the Contracting Parties in dispute to the Contracting Parties, who shall thereupon consider the dispute and make recommendations for its settlement.
3. The Contracting Parties in dispute may agree in advance to accept the recommendations of the Contracting Parties as binding.

Article 16

1. The Government of any Member of the Council and of any Member of the United Nations or its specialised agencies may become a Contracting Party to the present Convention:

- (a) by signing it without reservation of ratification;

- (b) by ratifying it after signing it subject to ratification; or
- (c) by acceding to it.

2. Each Government referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall at the time of signing, ratifying or acceding to the present Convention declare the Annex or Annexes in respect of which it will be bound. It may subsequently declare itself to be bound in respect of one or more further Annexes, by notification given to the Secretary General of the Council.

3. The present Convention shall be open until for signature at the Headquarters of the Council in Brussels by the Governments of the States referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article. Thereafter, it shall be open for their accession.

4. In the case envisaged in paragraph 1 (b) of this Article, the present Convention shall be subject to ratification by the signatory Governments in accordance with their constitutional procedures.

5. The Government of any State, not being a Member of the Organizations referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, to whom an invitation to that effect has been addressed by the Secretary General of the Council at the request of the Contracting Parties, may become a Contracting Party to the present Convention by acceding thereto after its entry into force.

6. The instruments of ratification or accession shall be deposited with the Secretary General of the Council.

Article 17

1. The present Convention shall enter into force in relation to any Annex three months after five of the Governments referred to in paragraph 1 of Article 16 thereof have signed it without reservation of ratification or have deposited their instruments of ratification or accession and have declared themselves to be bound in respect of that Annex.

2. For any Government ratifying or acceding to the present Convention after five Governments have signed it without reservation of ratification or have deposited their instruments of ratification or accession and have declared themselves to be bound in respect of the same Annex or Annexes, the present Convention shall enter into force, in relation to that Annex or Annexes, three months after the said Government has deposited its instrument of ratification or accession together with a declaration that it will be bound in respect of that Annex or Annexes or three months after it has subsequently declared itself to be bound in respect of one or more further Annexes.

Article 18

1. The present Convention is of unlimited duration but any Contracting Party may denounce it at any time after the date of its entry into force under Article 17 thereof.

2. The denunciation shall be notified by an instrument in writing, deposited with the Secretary General of the Council.
3. The denunciation shall take effect six months after the receipt of the instrument of denunciation by the Secretary General of the Council.
4. The provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article shall also apply in respect of the Annexes to the present Convention, any Contracting Party being entitled, at any time after the date of their entry into force under Article 17 thereof, to declare that it is no longer bound in respect of one or more Annexes.

Article 19

1. The Contracting Parties may recommend amendments to the present Convention.
2. The text of any amendment so recommended shall be communicated by the Secretary General of the Council to all Contracting Parties, to the Governments of all other signatory or acceding States, to the Secretary General of the United Nations and to the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.
3. Any recommended amendment communicated in accordance with the provisions of the preceding paragraph shall be deemed to be accepted if no Contracting Party has notified its objection to such amendment within six months of the date on which the Secretary General of the Council has communicated the amendment.
4. The Secretary General of the Council shall inform all Contracting Parties if an objection has been notified against a proposed amendment and should there have been no objection the amendment shall enter into force for all Contracting Parties three months after the expiry of the six months referred to in the preceding paragraph.
5. The Secretary General of the Council shall notify all Contracting Parties, the other signatory or acceding Governments, the Secretary General of the United Nations and the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade of accepted amendments or amendments deemed to have been accepted.
6. Any Government ratifying or acceding to the present Convention shall be deemed to have accepted any amendments thereto which have entered into force at the date of deposit of its instrument of ratification or accession.

Article 20

1. The amendment procedure provided for in paragraphs 1 to 5 of Article 19 shall not apply in the case of modifications to the lists of equipment specified in the Annexes to the present Convention. Any such list may be modified by agreement between the Customs Administrations of all the Contracting Parties having declared themselves bound to the relevant Annex.

2. The lists as modified shall replace the previous lists three months after the date on which they shall have been communicated by the Secretary General of the Council to all the Contracting Parties to the Convention.

3. The Secretary General of the Council shall also communicate the lists as modified to the other States referred to in paragraph 2 of Article 19 and also to the international organizations concerned.

Article 21.

1. Any Government may, at the time of signing the present Convention without reservation of ratification, or of depositing its instrument of ratification or accession or at any time thereafter, declare by notification given to the Secretary General of the Council that the present Convention shall extend to all or any of the territories for whose international relations it is responsible and the Convention shall extend to the territories named in the notification three months after the date of the receipt thereof by the Secretary General but not before the Convention has entered into force for the Government concerned.

2. Any Government which has made a declaration under paragraph 1 of this Article extending the present Convention to any territory for whose international relations it is responsible may notify the Secretary General of the Council, in accordance with the provisions of Article 18 of the present Convention, that the territory in question will no longer apply the Convention.

Article 22

No reservation to the present Convention shall be permitted.

Article 23

The Secretary General of the Council shall notify all Contracting Parties, the other signatory and acceding Governments, the Secretary General of the United Nations and the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade of:

- (a) signatures, ratifications and accessions under Article 16 and the declarations of Governments concerning the Annex or Annexes in respect of which they are bound;
- (b) the date of entry into force of the present Convention and of each of the Annexes in accordance with Article 17;
- (c) denunciations and declarations under Article 18;
- (d) the entry into force of any amendment in accordance with Article 19;
- (e) notifications received in accordance with Article 21.

Article 24

In accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations, the present Convention shall be registered with the Secretariat of the United Nations at the request of the Secretary General of the Council.

(i) In witness whereof the undersigned plenipotentiaries have signed the present Convention.

(ii) Done at Brussels this day of
in the English and French languages, both texts being equally authentic,
in a single original which shall be deposited with the Secretary General
of the Council who shall transmit certified copies to all signatory and
acceding Governments.

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ANNEX A

EQUIPMENT FOR THE PRESS OR FOR SOUND OR TELEVISION BROADCASTING

I. DEFINITION AND CONDITIONS

1. Definition

For the purposes of the present Annex the term "equivalent for the press or for sound or television broadcasting" means equipment necessary for representatives of the press or of broadcasting or television organizations visiting a country for purposes of press reportage or in order to transmit or record specified sound broadcasting or television programmes.

2. Conditions of grant of temporary admission

The equipment:

- (a) shall be owned by a person established or resident abroad;
- (b) shall be imported by a person established or resident abroad;
- (c) shall be capable of identification on re-exportation;
- (d) shall be used solely by or under the personal supervision of the visiting person;
- (e) shall not be the subject of a hire contract or similar arrangement to which a person resident or established in the country of temporary importation is a party.

II. ILLUSTRATIVE LIST

A. Equipment necessary for representatives of the press

This includes:

Typewriters;
Photographic or cinematographic cameras;
Sound or image transmitting, recording or reproducing apparatus;
Blank sound or image recording media.

B. Sound broadcasting equipment

This includes:

Transmission and communication apparatus;
Sound recording or reproducing apparatus;
Testing and measuring instruments and apparatus;

Operational accessories (clocks, stop-watches, compasses, generating sets, transformers, batteries and accumulators, heating and ventilating apparatus, etc.);

Blank sound recording media.

C. Television equipment

This includes:

Television cameras;

Telekinema;

Testing and measuring instruments and apparatus;

Transmission and retransmission apparatus;

Communication apparatus;

Sound recording or reproducing apparatus;

Lighting equipment;

Operational accessories (clocks, stop-watches, compasses, generating sets, transformers, batteries and accumulators, heating and ventilating apparatus, etc.);

Blank sound or image recording media.

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ANNEX B

CINEMATOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT

I. DEFINITION AND CONDITIONS

1. Definition

For the purposes of the present Annex, the term "cinematographic equipment" means equipment necessary for a person visiting a country in order to make a specified film or films.

2. Conditions of grant of temporary admission

The equipment:

- (a) shall be owned by a person established or resident abroad;
- (b) shall be imported by a person established or resident abroad;
- (c) shall be capable of identification on re-exportation;
- (d) shall be used solely by or under the personal supervision of the visiting person, provided that this condition shall not apply in the case of articles imported for the production of a film under a co-production agreement to which a person established or resident in the country of temporary importation is a party and which is approved by the competent authorities of that country;
- (e) shall not be the subject of a hire contract or similar arrangement to which a person established or resident in the country of importation is a party.

II. ILLUSTRATIVE LIST

Cameras of all kinds;

Testing and measuring instruments and apparatus;

Camera "dollies" and booms;

Lighting equipment;

Sound recording or reproducing apparatus;

Blank image or sound recording media;

Film "rushes";

Operational accessories (clocks, stop-watches, compasses, generating sets, transformers, batteries and accumulators, heating and ventilating apparatus, etc.);

Other equipment (musical instruments, scenery, costumes, etc.).

ANNEX C

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EQUIPMENT

I. DEFINITION AND CONDITIONS

1. Definition

For the purposes of the present Annex the term "other professional equipment" means equipment, of a kind not referred to in the other Annexes, to the present Convention, necessary for the exercise of the calling, trade or profession of a person visiting a country to perform a specified task. It does not include equipment which is to be used for the industrial manufacture of goods or (except in the case of hand-tools) for the exploitation of natural resources, for the construction, repair or maintenance of buildings or for earth-moving and like projects.

2. Conditions of grant of temporary admission

The professional equipment:

- (a) shall be owned by a person established or resident abroad;
- (b) shall be imported by a person established or resident abroad;
- (c) shall be capable of identification on re-exportation;
- (d) shall be used solely by or under the personal supervision of the visiting person.

II. ILLUSTRATIVE LIST

A. Equipment for erection, testing, commissioning, checking, control, maintenance or repair of machinery, plant, etc., such as:

Tools;

Measuring, checking or testing equipment and instruments (temperature, pressure, distance, height, surface, speed, etc.) including electrical instruments (voltmeters, ammeters, measuring cables, comparators, transformers, recording instruments, etc.) and jigs;

Apparatus and equipment for taking photographs of machines and plant during or after erection;

Mobile inspection units and travelling workshops;

Apparatus for survey of ships.

- B. Equipment necessary for businessmen, business efficiency consultants, productivity experts, accountants and members of similar professions

This includes:

Typewriters;
Sound transmitting, recording or reproducing apparatus;
Calculating instruments and apparatus.

- C. Equipment necessary for experts undertaking topographical surveys or geophysical prospecting work

This includes:

Measuring instruments and apparatus;
Drilling equipment;
Transmission and communication equipment;
Vehicles specially designed for such purposes.

- D. Instruments and apparatus necessary for doctors, surgeons, veterinary surgeons, midwives and members of similar professions.

- E. Equipment necessary for entertainers, theatre companies and orchestras, including all articles used in public or private performances (musical instruments, scenery, costumes, animals, etc.).

- F. Equipment necessary for archeologists, paleontologists and other scientists.

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APPENDIX II

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT TO THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL ON THE
29TH AND 30TH SESSIONS OF THE PERMANENT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON THE
PRELIMINARY DRAFT FOR THE CUSTOMS CONVENTION ON THE TEMPORARY
IMPORTATION OF PROFESSIONAL AND CINEMATOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT

10. The Committee took note of the comments and suggestions made by Members and certain international organizations concerning the draft Customs Convention on the temporary importation of professional equipment.
11. The following principles were approved by a majority of the Committee:
 - (1) a single Convention would be established, dealing with professional, cinematograph and television equipment;
 - (2) this Convention would not contain provisions concerning an international Customs documents incorporating a guarantee (carnet), it being understood that the appropriate form for such a document would be considered as a separate question;
 - (3) the lists to be contained in the Annexes to the Convention would be purely illustrative;
 - (4) provisions should be made for additional Annexes to be added to the Convention;
 - (5) "reservations" would not be allowed, but each Contracting Party should, at the time of signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention, declare the Annex or Annexes in respect of which it will be bound;
 - (6) the time allowed for re-exportation should be the same for all equipment covered by the Convention (professional, cinematograph and television equipment).
12. A Working Party was set up to finalise the text of the preliminary draft of the Convention in the light of the decisions taken by the Committee and of the suggestions and observations made by delegations and by the representatives of the international organizations concerned.
13. The Working Party met under the chairmanship of Mr. QUELOZ (Switzerland). The following countries were represented: Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. Observers from GATT, UNESCO, ICC (BIICC), the IFFPA and the EBU were also present.
14. The Working Party's Report (Document 7345) contained a preliminary draft Convention which is reproduced, as amended by the Committee, as Appendix I to the present Report.

This text calls for the following comments:

Article 2

15. The Austrian, German, Luxembourg and Netherlands delegations preferred the classical reservations procedure and entered reservations in respect of the procedure laid down for the application of the Annexes by the Contracting Parties.

Article 3

16. The representatives of UNESCO, GATT and the BIICC asked that it should be made clear in the text that the use of an international Customs document should be the general rule for the purposes of application of the Convention, and that national Customs regulations should be applied in exceptional cases only. It was pointed out that the use of this document would be greatly facilitated by the existence of the international guarantee networks established for the ECS carnet. They also stressed that the present Convention and the Convention concerning the international Customs document should be opened simultaneously for signature by Members.

Article 9

17. On a question being raised by the Norwegian delegation, the Committee agreed that the term "penalty" would cover confiscation.

Article 19, paragraph 3

18. The German delegation, supported by the Austrian, Belgian and Luxembourg delegations, repeated the reservations entered in respect of Article F, paragraph 3, of the draft formal clauses.

Annex C - Illustrative lists

Paragraph A

19. In reply to a question whether the text of this paragraph could be taken to exclude equipment for the transport of goods from the benefits of the Convention, Mr. QUELOZ, Chairman of the Working Party, explained that the temporary importation of vehicles for the transport of goods was generally authorised under other Conventions and that purely inland transport required a permit issued by a national authority. Moreover, the use of a vehicle for "handling" goods would constitute "industrial manufacture" and was therefore excluded.

For these reasons, the Working Party had agreed that it would generally be unnecessary to grant transport vehicles the facilities afforded by the Convention but that they need not be specifically excluded.

The Committee took note of this statement.

20. Mr. QUELOZ, Chairman of the Working Party, drew attention to the fact that the Working Party had considered it unnecessary to provide in the Convention for facilities in respect of consumable goods, and that no decision had been reached on the question whether or not films were identifiable on re-exportation.
21. The Committee decided that Members and the international organizations concerned should furnish the secretariat with their comments on the draft Convention, as now revised, by 31 December 1960.

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APPENDIX III

COMPARISON OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE DRAFT CONVENTION ON THE
TEMPORARY IMPORTATION OF PROFESSIONAL EQUIPMENT WITH THE PROVISIONS
OF THE CONVENTION ON THE TEMPORARY IMPORTATION OF PACKINGS

Convention on

<u>Professional Equipment</u>		<u>Packings</u>	
Article 1	Definition of - (a) "import duties" (b) "temporary admission" (c) "persons"	Article 1	Definition of - (a) identical (b) " (f) "
Article 2	Scope		Different
Article 3	Relation with carnet convention		No such provision
Article 4	Security limited to 10 per cent of import duties.	Article 4	Contracting parties are invited to dispense with security requirements.
Article 5	Obligation to re-export the imported equipment.	Article 5	Substantially the same, but slightly different delays for re-exportation.
Article 6	Permission to re-export in several consignments and through any customs office.	Article 6	Substantially the same. It seems that the reference "to any country" contained in the Packings Convention and omitted in the Convention on Professional Equipment does not alter the sense.
Article 7	Impossibility of re-exportation	Article 8	Substantially the same
Article 8	Repair of temporary imported equipment		No such provision
Article 9	Breach of the provisions of the Convention	Article 9	Identical
Article 10	Relation with national provisions concerning public morality or security.	Article 10	Identical

Convention on

Professional Equipment

Packings

Article 11	Position of contracting parties forming a customs union.	Article 11	Identical
Article 12	Binding effect of Annexes to Convention.		No corresponding provision exists
Article 13	The provisions of the Convention are minimum facilities.	Article 12	Identical
Article 14	Meetings of contracting parties	Article 13	Identical
Article 15	Disputes	Article 14	Identical
Article 16	Accession to the Convention; Paragraphs 1, 3-6. Paragraph 2 special provisions for Annexes.	Article 15	Paras. 1-5; identical No such provision exists
Article 17	Entering into force of the Convention	Article 16	Provisions differ due to the possibility provided for in the Professional Equipment Convention to accept one or more Annexes.
Article 18	Duration and denunciation Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 Paragraph 4 special provisions for the denunciation of Annexes.	Article 17	Paras. 1,2 & 3; identical No such provision exists
Article 19	General amendment procedure	Article 18	Identical
Article 20	Special amendment procedure for altering lists in Annexes.		No such provision exists
Article 21	Territories of member countries	Article 19	Identical
Article 22	The Convention does not provide for reservations.	Article 20	A special reservation is permitted

Convention on

Professional Equipment

Packings

Article 23 Notification of contracting
parties of important decisions.

Article 21 Identical

Article 24 Registration of the Convention
with the United Nations.

Article 22 Identical