

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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STATE TRADING

Notifications Pursuant to Article XVII:4(a)

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

I. Enumeration of State-trading enterprises

The whole foreign trade of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is carried out by Czechoslovak socialist organizations authorized to this effect by the Federal Ministry of Foreign Trade. A list of these organizations follows:

1. ART CENTRUM

Czechoslovak Centre of Fine Arts

Praha 1, V jámě 10

2. ARTIA

Foreign Trade Corporation for Export and Import

Praha 1, Ve smečkách 30

3. AUTOTURIST

Travel Agency

Praha 1, Opletalova 29

4. BRNO TRADE FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS

Trade fair and exhibitions organizers

Brno, Výstaviště 1

5. CENTROTEX

Foreign Trade Company Limited

Praha 4, Náměstí hrdinů

6. ČECHOFRACHT

International Forwarding and Shipping Corporation
Praha 1, Na příkopě 8

7. ČESKOSLOVENSKÉ HUDEBNÍ NÁSTROJE

Hradec Králové, Škroupova 9

8. CZECHOSLOVAK FILMEX PORT

Praha 1, Václavské náměstí 28

9. CZECHOSLOVAK CERAMICS

Foreign Trade Corporation
Praha 1, V jámě 1

10. CZECHOSLOVAK OCEAN SHIPPING

International Joint - Stock Company
Praha 10, Počernická 168

11. CZECHOSLOVAK REGISTER OF SHIPPING

Praha 7 - Jankovcova 10

12. CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION

Praha 1, Gorkého náměstí 30

13. DREVOUNIA

Foreign Trade Corporation
Bratislava, Dr. V. Clementisa 10

14. EFEKTIM

Company Limited, Representation of Foreign
Companies in Czechoslovakia
Praha 1, Václavské náměstí 1

15. EXICO

Foreign Trade Company Limited
Praha 1, Panská 9

16. FERROMET

Foreign Trade Corporation
Praha 1, Opletalova 27

17. FINCOM

Foreign Trade Joint-Stock Company
Praha 1, Jeruzalémská 12

18. GLASSEXPORT

Joint-Stock Company
Liberec, Třída 1. máje

19. HYDROCONSULT

Bratislava, Radlinského 37

20. CHEMAPOL Praha

Foreign Trade Company Limited
Praha 10, Kodaňská 46

21. CHEMAPOL BRATISLAVA

Bratislava, dr. V. Clementisa 10

22. CHIRANA

Stará Turá

23. IMEX

Import and Export
Praha 1, Revoluční 25

24. INCHEBA

Foreign Trade Corporation
Bratislava, Drienova 24

25. INSPEKTA

Corporation for Superintending Export and Import Goods
Praha 4, Na strži 63

26. INTERAL

Company Limited
Bratislava, Pražská 9

27. INTERGEO

Praha 4 - Pankrác
U družstva Klid

28. INTERCOOP

Foreign Trade Cooperative Company
Bratislava - Dr. V. Clementisa 10

29. INTERSIM

Company Limited, Representation of Foreign
Companies in Czechoslovakia
Praha 10, Topolová 14

30. INVESTA

Foreign Trade Company Limited
Praha 10 - Vršovice, Kodaňská 46

31. JABLONEX

Foreign Trade Corporation
Jablonec nad Nisou, Palackého 41

32. KARAEXPORT

Foreign Trade Company Limited
Praha 2, Vyšehradská 25

33. KERAMETAL

Foreign Trade Company Limited
Bratislava, Jašíkova 2

34. KOOSPOL

Foreign Trade Company Limited
Praha 6, Leninova 178

35. KOVO

Foreign Trade Corporation
Praha 7, Jankovcova 2

36. LIGNA

Foreign Trade Corporation
Praha 1, Vodičkova 41

37. MARTIMEX

Foreign Trade Company Limited
Martin, Mudronova 21

38. MEDIA

Association for Representing Foreign Firms
in Czechoslovakia
Praha 4, Svatoslavova 33

39. MERKANTA

Import Company Limited
Praha 2, Balbínova 22

40. MERKURIA
Foreign Trade Corporation
Praha 7, Argentinská 38
41. METALIMEX
Foreign Trade Corporation
Praha 1, Štěpánská 34
42. MOTOKOV
Foreign Trade Corporation
Praha 4, Na strži 63
43. OMNIA
Foreign Trade Corporation
Bratislava 1, Dunajská 4
44. OMNIPOL
Foreign Trade Corporation
Praha 1, Washingtonova 11
45. PHOENIX
Import Company Limited
Praha 10, Bratři Čapků 32
46. POLYTECHNA
Foreign Trade Corporation
Technical Cooperation Agency
Praha 1, Panská 9
47. PRAGENT
Foreign Trade Company Limited
Praha 1, Vodičkova 30

48. PRAGOEXPORT

Foreign Trade Corporation/
Praha 1, Jungmannova 34

49. PRAGOINVEST

Foreign Trade Corporation
Praha 9 - Vysočany, Českomoravská 23

50. RAPID

Czechoslovak Advertising Agency
Praha 1, ul. 28. října 13

51. REMPO

Bratislava, Duklianská 25

52. REPHACHEM

Company Limited
Praha 10 - Vršovice, Kodaňská 46

53. SIGMA

Olomouc, Kollárovo náměstí 7

54. SIMEX

Foreign Trade Corporation
Praha 1, Václavské náměstí 8

55. SLOVART

Foreign Trade Company Limited
Bratislava, Gottwaldovo nám. 6

56. STROJEXPORT

Foreign Trade Corporation
Praha 1, Václavské náměstí 56

57. STROJIMPORT

Foreign Trade Corporation Limited

Praha 3, Vinohradská 184

58. ŠKODAEXPORT

Foreign Trade Corporation

Praha 1, Václavské náměstí 56

59. TECHNOEXPORT Praha

Foreign Trade Company Limited

Praha 1, Václavské náměstí 1

60. TECHNOEXPORT Bratislava

Foreign Trade Company Limited

Bratislava, Jašíkova 6

61. TRADEX

Association for Representing

Foreign Firms

Praha 1, Jungmannovo nám. 7

62. TRANSAKTA Praha

Foreign Trade Corporation

Commercial Transaction Agency

Praha 1 - Malá Strana, Letenská 11

63. TUZEX

Foreign Trade Company Limited

Praha 1, Rytířská 13

64. UNICOOP

Foreign Trade Co-operative Company

Praha 1, Revoluční 13

65. UNIFRUX

Company Limited for Representing Foreign Firms
Praha 1, V jámě 3

66. UTRIN

Technical Development and Information Institute
Praha 1 - Kampa, U Sovových mlýnů 543/9

67. ZAHRADNÍCTVO A REKREAČNÉ SLUŽBY MESTA BRATISLAVY

Bratislava, ul. Odbojárov 9

68. ZÁVODY SILNOPROUDÉ ELEKTROTECHNIKY

Praha 2, Blanická 28

69. ZENIT

Association for Foreign Trade Representation
Praha 1, Široká 9

The field of the activities of individual organizations engaged in foreign trade is described in the publication of the Czechoslovak Chamber of Commerce "Your Trade Partners in Czechoslovakia" which is on file in the Secretariat.

II. Reason and purpose for introducing and maintaining State-trading enterprises

The development of the Czechoslovak national economy is guided by a system of economic plans including the plan for foreign trade. These plans lay down the guidelines for the economic policy and determine its objectives as well as the economic instruments, measures and activities through which these objectives are achieved.

The balanced and harmonious development of the national economy and of its particular branches is based, besides other factors, on a purposeful and planned development of foreign trade. Its objectives and tasks are fulfilled by Czechoslovak socialist organizations authorized by the Federal Ministry of Foreign Trade to engage in foreign trade activities.

In addition to foreign trade organizations, i.e. corporations and joint stock companies exclusively engaged in carrying out foreign trade also several production enterprises and co-operatives have been authorized to engage in foreign trade activities. Furthermore the access to the Czechoslovak market is facilitated for foreign firms by 11 Czechoslovak organizations specialized and engaged in representation of foreign firms in Czechoslovakia.

The basic legal provision governing the organization of Czechoslovak foreign trade is the Law No. 119 of 28th April 1948 on the Organization of Foreign Trade and International Transport. Its main provisions are contained in document L/784/Add.1 and are on the files of the secretariat. This Law has been supplemented by Order of the Minister of Foreign Trade No. 121 of 19th August 1968 on the granting of authorizations for foreign trade activities, as amended by Order No. 164 of 25th November 1969. This Order sets out the conditions and related procedural provisions for the granting of authorizations for foreign trade activities and for their withdrawal. Since 1st January 1971 the federal authority in foreign economic relations has been based on Law No. 133 of 20th December 1970 defining the competence of the federal ministries and particularly on its provisions concerning the Federal Ministry of Foreign Trade.

By the Notice of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Trade No. 125/1975 foreign enterprises have been offered the possibility to establish trade representation offices in Czechoslovakia subject to authorizations granted by this Ministry. At the same time the way of functioning of Czechoslovak enterprises representing foreign firms in Czechoslovakia has been modified with the aim to assist foreign firms in the most flexible way possible in their commercial transactions in Czechoslovakia.

So far 44 foreign enterprises, including 4 from developing countries, have been authorized to establish trade representation offices in Czechoslovakia.

III. Description of the functioning of the notified enterprises

The enterprises enumerated in section I deal with export as well as with imports in accordance with their authorization. All these organizations are independent legal bodies. The State is not liable for their commitments and they are not responsible for the commitments of the State. The same principle applies in the mutual relations between these organizations. Apart from the enterprises enumerated in section I there are no other enterprises engaged in foreign trade activities, except enterprises and organizations which have been granted by the Federal Ministry of Foreign Trade acting under Law No. 119/48, Article 2, § 4, temporary or otherwise limited authorization as an exception to authorizations of organizations enumerated in section I.

The volume and type of goods to be imported have to satisfy the needs of the individual branches of the economy taking into account the Czechoslovak external financial position. In carrying out imports the organizations engaged in foreign trade do not need any import or foreign exchange licence and are free to choose their foreign sources of supply according to their commercial

considerations. Foreign exchange is available for all imports covered by the import plan and is not allocated by countries. Commercial considerations are the only criteria for the choice of sources of supply.

The volume and composition of exports reflect the endeavour to assure the most effective participation of the Czechoslovak economy in the international division of labour and to secure payments facilities to cover the growing needs for imports, as well as other financial obligations.

The foreign trade organizations determine and negotiate individual export prices in accordance with the general principle to sell at world prices and according to commercial considerations taking into account conditions and terms of sale. Export prices do not comprise the general turnover tax which is imposed on goods for domestic consumption, whether produced in Czechoslovakia or imported.

Imported goods are offered on the internal market at prices which are based on the landing costs and expenses of the foreign trade organizations. Only the prices of a limited number of basic raw materials are identical with the level of internal, centrally regulated wholesale prices.

There is no mark-up on imported goods which would discriminate such goods in relation to similar goods of domestic origin.

The foreign trade organizations negotiate long-term purchase or sale contracts where appropriate.

IV. Statistical information

Trade and production statistics for 1974, 1975, 1976 covering all products are on the files of the secretariat.

Data for 1977 will be supplied in the last quarter of 1978.

