

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

GATS/EL/122

21 May 1997

(97-2122)

Trade in Services

Original: English

THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

List of Article II (MFN) Exemptions

(This is authentic in English only)

THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA - LIST OF ARTICLE II (MFN) EXEMPTIONS

| Sector or subsector | Description of measure indicating its inconsistency with Article II | Countries to which the measure applies | Intended duration | Conditions creating the need for the exemption |
|---|---|---|-------------------|--|
| Audiovisual Services - Production and Distribution of Cinematographic Works and Television Programmes | Measures based upon government-to-government framework agreements and bilateral and plurilateral agreements on co-production of audiovisual works, which confer national treatment to audiovisual works covered by these agreements, in particular in relation to distribution and access to funding. | All countries with which cultural co-operation may be desirable or already exists, and with which such agreements are already concluded or in the process of conclusion | Indefinite | Promotion of cultural links between the countries concerned, as well as promotion of greater diversity of foreign audiovisual works in the Bulgarian market. |
| Audiovisual Services - Production and Distribution of Cinematographic and Other Audiovisual Works, and Radio and Television Programmes. | Measures taken for the implementation of, and in conformity with, preferential agreements and financial and/or other support programmes such as the Convention on Transfrontier Television of the Council of Europe, the Action Plan for Advanced Television Services, MEDIA or EURIMAGES, which treat works and programmes of European origin, where these works or programmes meet certain linguistic and origin criteria, in such a way that they enjoy national treatment with respect to support and/or access to broadcasting or similar forms of transmission. | European countries | Indefinite | Promotion of cultural exchanges within Europe, which are based upon traditional cultural links. |

| Sector or subsector | Description of measure indicating its inconsistency with Article II | Countries to which the measure applies | Intended duration | Conditions creating the need for the exemption |
|--|---|---|-------------------|---|
| Passenger and Freight Transportation on Internal Waterways | Measures taken under existing or future agreements which govern access and/or traffic rights and the terms of conduct of this kind of economic activity in the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria or between the countries which are parties to the corresponding agreements including agreements relating to the use of the Rhine-Main-Danube system. | All countries with which agreements are or will be in force | Indefinite | Protection of the integrity of the infrastructure, as well as environmental protection, and regulation of traffic rights in the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria and between the countries concerned. |
| Passenger and Freight Transportation by Rail | Measures taken under existing or future agreements which govern access and/or traffic rights and the terms of conduct of this kind of economic activity in the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria or between the countries which are parties to the corresponding agreements. | All countries with which agreements are or will be in force | Indefinite | Protection of the integrity of the infrastructure, as well as environmental protection, and regulation of traffic rights in the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria and between the countries concerned, taking account the regional specificity of this kinds of services. |
| Road Passenger and Freight Transportation | Measures taken under existing or future agreements which reserve and/or restrict the supply of these kinds of transportation services and specify the terms and conditions of this supply, incl. transit permits and/or preferential road taxes, in the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria or across the borders of the Republic of Bulgaria. | All countries with which agreements are or will be in force | Indefinite | Protection of the integrity of the infrastructure, as well as environmental protection, and regulation of traffic rights in the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria and between the countries concerned. |

| Sector or subsector | Description of measure indicating its inconsistency with Article II | Countries to which the measure applies | Intended duration | Conditions creating the need for the exemption |
|---|--|--|-------------------|---|
| Road Passenger and Freight Transportation | Vehicle tax and VAT-exemption on the basis of conventions or on the grounds of de facto reciprocity limited to the countries indicated in column 3. | Austria and other European countries | Indefinite | Reciprocity. Historical links and specific regional aspects. |
| Maritime Transport | Preferential treatment of national lines belonging to countries which are parties to the UN Convention on a Code of Conduct on Liner Conference. | The parties to the UN Convention on a Code of Conduct on Liner Conference. | Indefinite | International agreement. |
| Maritime Transport: Cargo Sharing between Bilateral Partners | Equality in freight liftings originating in the ports of partners to the agreement and equality in freight earnings. | India and other countries with which bilateral cargo sharing agreements are or will be concluded | Indefinite | Bilateral international agreements in the context of overall trade relations. |
| Sales and Marketing Services for Air Transport, Including CRS | The obligations relating to transport services shall not apply where equivalent treatment of Bulgarian suppliers of like services is not accorded in the country of origin of the foreign service supplier. | All countries | Indefinite | The aim of the application of such a measure is to guarantee equal access to the market of other countries for Bulgarian suppliers of such kinds of services. |
| Cargo-Handling Services and Storage and Warehouse Services in Sea and River Harbours, Including Services Relating to Containers and Goods in Containers | The right to supply these kinds of services is granted upon a reciprocity basis and under bilateral agreements with the countries concerned. | All countries | Indefinite | The aim of the application of such a measure is to guarantee equal access to the market of other countries for Bulgarian suppliers of such kinds of services |
| Legal Services | Full national treatment on the establishment and operation of companies, as well as on the provision of services by foreign citizens, may be extended only to companies established in, and citizens of, the countries listed in column 3. | Countries with which preferential arrangements are or will be concluded | Indefinite | Obligations under international agreements. |

| Sector or subsector | Description of measure indicating its inconsistency with Article II | Countries to which the measure applies | Intended duration | Conditions creating the need for the exemption |
|-----------------------------|---|--|-------------------|--|
| Medical and Dental Services | Public medical insurance, subsidization and compensation plans and programs, which cover the cost and expenses relating to medical and dental services provided to foreign citizens in the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, are granted on the basis of reciprocity in the framework of bilateral agreements. | Countries with which such bilateral agreements are or will be concluded. | Indefinite | Obligations under international agreements. |