men who are imprisoned or detained by authorities of the State in which they exercise their consular functions; to assist them in proceedings before or relations with such authorities; and to inquire into any incidents which have occurred within the consular district affecting the interests of their countrymen.

Nationals of either of the High Contracting Parties shall have the right at all times to communicate with the consular officers of their country.

Article IX

A consular officer of either High Contracting Party shall within his district have the right to appear personally or by delegate in all matters concerning the administration and distribution of the estate of a deceased person under the jurisdiction of the local authorities for all such heirs or legatees in said estate, either minors or adults, as may be non-residents and nationals of the country represented by the said consular officer, with the same effect as if he held their power of attorney to represent them, unless such heirs or legatees themselves have appeared, either in person or by duly authorised representative.

A consular officer of either High Contracting Party may on behalf of his non-resident countrymen collect and receipt for their distributive shares derived from estates in process of probate or accruing under the provisions of so-called Workmen's Compensation Laws or other like statutes, for transmission through channels prescribed by his Government to the proper distributees.

Note: The other provisions of this Convention are similar to the corresponding provisions of the Treaty between Cuba and the United States of America (Treaty No. 10 above).

19. Consular Convcution 1 hetween the United States of America and the United Mexican States, signed at Mexico, on 12 August 1942 2

Article I

5. A consular officer or a diplomatic officer of either High Contracting Party, a national of the State by which he is appointed and duly commissioned or accredited by such State, may, in the capital of the other State, have the rank also of a diplomatic officer or of a consular officer, as the case may be, provided that and for so long as permission for him to exercise such dual functions has been duly granted by the Government of the State in the territory of which he exercises his functions as a consular officer and to which he is accredited as a diplomatic officer, and provided further that in any such case the rank as a diplomatic officer shall be understood as being superior to and independent of the rank as a consular officer.

² Came into force on 1 July 1943.

¹ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 125, p. 302.

1. Consular officers and employees in a consulate, nationals of the State by which they are appointed, and not engaged in any private occupation for gain within the territory of the State in which they exercise their functions, shall be exempt from all taxes, national, State, provincial and municipal, including taxes on fees, wages or salaries received specifically in compensation for consular services, and they shall be exempt from all kinds of charges incident to the licensing, registration, use or circulation of vehicles. However, they shall not be exempt from taxes levied on account of the possession or ownership of immovable property situated within the territory of the State in which they exercise their functions or taxes levied against income derived from property of any kind situated within such territory or belonging thereto.

2. The exemptions provided in paragraph 1 of this article shall apply equally to other officials who are duly appointed by one of the High Contracting Parties to exercise official functions in the territory of the other High Contracting Party, provided that such officials shall be nationals of the State appointing them and shall not be engaged in any private occupation for gain within the territory of the State in which they exercise their functions; and provided further that permission for them to exercise such official functions has been duly granted by the Government of the receiving State. The Government of the State appointing such officials shall communicate to the Government of the receiving State satisfactory evidence of the appointment and shall indicate the character of the services which will be performed by the officials to whom the exemptions are intended to apply.

Article VI

2. Consular officers shall, within their respective consular districts, have the right:

- (a) To interview and communicate with the nationals of the State which appointed them;
- (b) To inquire into any incidents which have occurred affecting the interest of the nationals of the State which appointed them;
- (c) Upon notification to the appropriate authority, to visit any of the nationals of the State which appointed them who are imprisoned or detained by authorities of the State; and
- (d) To assist the nationals of the State which appointed them in proceedings before or relations with authorities of the State.

Article IX

1. A consular officer of either High Contracting Party shall within his district have the right to appear personally or by authorized representative in all matters concerning the administration and distribution of the estate of a deceased person under the jurisdiction of the local authorities, for all such heirs or legatees in the estate, either minors or adults, as may be non residents of the country and nationals of the State by which the consular officer was appointed, unless such heirs or legatees have appeared, either in person or by authorized representatives.

Article XI

- 1. A consular officer of either High Contracting Party shall have the right to inspect within the ports of the other High Contracting Party within his consular district, the private vessels of any flag destined to and about to clear for ports of his country, for the sole purpose of observing the sanitary conditions and measures taken on board such vessels, in order that he may be enabled thereby to execute intelligently bills of health and other documents required by the laws of his country and to inform his Government concerning the extent to which its sanitary regulations have been observed at ports of departure by vessels destined to one of its ports, with a view to facilitating entry of such vessels, provided that the captain of the vessel shall have requested of the consular officer the issuance or visa of the appropriate bill of health.
- 2. In exercising the right conferred upon them by this Article, consular officers shall act with all possible despatch and without unnecessary delay.

Note: The other provisions of this Convention are similar to the corresponding provisions of the Treaty between Cuba and the United States of America (Treaty No. 10 above).

20. Traité ¹ entre la République de Chine et l'Umon économique belgo-luxembourgeoise relatif à l'abolition des droits d'exterritorialité en Chine et au règlement des questions s'y rapportant, signé le 20 octobre 1943 ²

Article VI

Les Hautes Parties Contractantes conviennent mutuellement que les fonctionnaires consulaires d'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes, dûment pourvus d'exequaturs, pourront résider dans les ports, les localités et les villes du territoire de l'autre qui seront convenus de commun accord. Les fonctionnaires consulaires de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes, dans les limites respectives de leurs circonscriptions, auront le droit de voir et de questionner leurs ressortissants ainsi que de communiquer avec eux et de leur donner des conseils. Ils seront immédiatement informés quand un de leurs ressortissants dans leurs circonscriptions consulaires sera détenu ou arrêté ou en prison ou attendra le jugement, et, en avisant les autorités appropriées, ils pourront les visiter et en général, les fonctionnaires consulaires de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes auront les droits, les privilèges et les immunités dont jouissent les fonctionnaires consulaires en vertu de la coutume internationale moderne.

Il est aussi entendu que les ressortissants de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes, dans le territoire de l'autre, auront le droit, en tout temps, de communiquer avec les fonctionnaires consulaires de leur propre pays. Les communications adressées aux fonctionnaires consulaires de la part

² Entré en vigueur le 1er juin 1945.

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¹ Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Treaties between the Republic of China and Foreign States (1927-1957), p. 33.