



## Australian Treaty Series

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### Australian Treaty Series 1935 No 23

#### DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE

#### CANBERRA

← **Universal Postal** → **Convention, Final Protocol and Detailed Regulations; Provisions relating to the Conveyance of Letter Mails by Air, and Final Protocol**

(Cairo, 20 March 1934)

**Entry into force generally: 1 January 1935**

#### AUSTRALIAN TREATY SERIES

**1935 No. 23**

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#### ← **UNIVERSAL POSTAL** → **CONVENTION**

← **Universal Postal** → Convention concluded between Afghanistan, the ← **Union** → of South Africa, Albania, Germany, United States of America, the whole of the Island Possessions of the United States of America other than the Philippine Islands, the Philippine Islands, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Argentine Republic, the Commonwealth of Australia, Austria, Belgium, the Colony of the Belgian Congo, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Republic of Colombia, Republic of Costa Rica, Republic of Cuba, Denmark, the Free City of Danzig, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ecuador, Spain, the whole of the Spanish Colonies, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Algeria, the French Colonies and Protectorates of Indo-China, the whole of the other French Colonies, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Greece, Guatemala, Republic of Haiti, Republic of Honduras, Hungary, British India, Iraq, the Irish Free State, Iceland, Italy, the whole of the Italian Colonies, Japan, Chosen, the whole of the other Japanese Dependencies, Latvia, Levant States under French Mandate (Syria and Lebanon), Republic of Liberia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Morocco (except the Spanish Zone), Morocco (Spanish Zone), Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, New Zealand, Republic of Panama, Paraguay, Netherlands, Curaçao and Surinam, Netherlands Indies, Peru, Persia, Poland, Portugal, Portuguese Colonies in West Africa, Portuguese Colonies in East Africa, Asia and Oceania, Roumania, Republic of San Marino, Republic of El Salvador, Territory of the Saar, Siam, Sweden, Swiss Confederation, Czechoslovakia, Tunis, Turkey, the ← **Union** → of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Eastern Republic of Uruguay, the State of the City of the Vatican, United States of Venezuela, Yemen and the Kingdom of Yugoslavia.

The undersigned, Plenipotentiaries of the Governments of the abovenamed countries, being assembled in congress at Cairo, by virtue of Article 12 of the ← **Universal Postal** → Convention concluded at London on 28 June 1929, have, by mutual consent and subject to ratification, revised the said Convention to read as follows:

## PART I

### ← UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION →

#### CHAPTER I

#### ORGANISATION AND EXTENT OF THE ← UNION →

##### Article 1

##### Constitution of the ← Union →

The countries between which the present Convention is concluded form, under the title of the ← **Universal Postal Union** →, a single ← **postal** → territory for the reciprocal exchange of correspondence.

It is also the object of the ← **Postal Union** → to secure the organisation and improvement of the various international ← **postal** → services.

##### Article 2

##### New accessions. Procedure

Any country shall be allowed at any time to accede to the Convention.

Accession must be notified through diplomatic channels to the Government of the Swiss Confederation, and by the latter to the Governments of all the countries of the ← **Union** →.

##### Article 3

##### Convention and Agreements of the ← Union →

The letter post shall be governed by the provisions of the Convention.

Other services, such as those relating to insured letters and boxes, ← **postal** → parcels, money orders, transfers to and from ← **postal** → cheque accounts, collection of bills, drafts, etc, and subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals, shall form the subject of agreements between countries of the ← **Union** →.

These Agreements shall be binding only upon the countries which have acceded to them.

Accession to one or more of these Agreements shall be subject to the provisions of Article 2.











##### Article 4

##### Detailed Regulations

The ← **Postal** → Administrations of the ← **Union** → countries shall draw up, by mutual agreement, in the form of Detailed Regulations, the detailed rules necessary for the carrying out of the Convention and the Agreements.



##### Article 5

## Special treaties and agreements. Restricted **unions**

1. Countries of the  **Union**  shall have the right to maintain and to conclude treaties, as well as to maintain and to establish restricted  **unions** , with a view to the reduction of postage rates or to any other improvement of  **postal**  relations.
2. In countries where the internal legislation does not forbid, Administrations shall be authorised to make with one another any necessary agreements on the subject of questions which do not concern the  **Union**  generally, provided that conditions less favourable than those laid down by the Acts of the  **Union**  are not introduced. In the letter post, for example, they may conclude mutual arrangements for the adoption of lower rates of postage.



### Article 6

#### Internal laws

The provisions of the Convention and of the Agreements of the  **Union**  shall not override the legislation of any country as regards anything which is not expressly covered by these Acts.





### Article 7

#### Exceptional relations

Administrations which provide a service with certain territories not included in the  **Union**  shall be required to be the intermediaries of the other Administrations. The provisions of the Convention and its Detailed Regulations shall apply to these exceptional relations.

### Article 8

#### Colonies, protectorates, etc.

The following shall be considered as forming a single country or Administration of the  **Union** , as the case may be, within the meaning of the Convention or of the Agreements so far as concerns, in particular, their right to vote at a congress or conference, and in the interval between meetings, as well as their contribution to the expenses of the International Bureau of the  **Universal Postal Union** :

1. The whole of the island possessions of the United States of America, except the Philippine Islands, and comprising Hawaii, Porto-Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands of the United States of America;
2. The Philippine Islands;
3. The Colony of the Belgian Congo;
4. The whole of the Spanish Colonies;
5. Algeria;
6. The French Colonies and Protectorates of Indo-China;
7. The whole of the other French Colonies;

8. The whole of the Italian Colonies;
9. Chosen;
- 10 The whole of the other Japanese Dependencies;
11. Curaçao and Surinam;
12. The Netherlands Indies;
13. The Portuguese Colonies in West Africa;
14. The Portuguese Colonies in East Africa, Asia and Oceania.



## Article 9







### Application of the Convention to colonies, protectorates, etc.











1. Any Contracting Party may declare, either at the time of signing, of ratifying, of acceding, or later, that its acceptance of the present Convention includes all its colonies, overseas territories, protectorates or territories under suzerainty or under mandate, or certain of them only. The said declaration, unless made at the time of signing the Convention, must be addressed to the Government of the Swiss Confederation.
2. The Convention shall apply only to the colonies, overseas territories, protectorates or territories under suzerainty or under mandate in the name of which declarations have been made in virtue of SS1.
3. Any Contracting Party may, at any time, forward to the Government of the Swiss Confederation a notification of the withdrawal from the Convention of any colony, overseas territory, protectorate or territory under suzerainty or under mandate in the name of which it has made a declaration in virtue of SS1. This notification shall take effect one year after the date of its receipt by the Government of the Swiss Confederation.
4. The Government of the Swiss Confederation shall forward to all the Contracting Parties a copy of each declaration or notification received in virtue of SSSS1 to 3.
5. The provisions of this Article shall not apply to any colony, overseas territory, protectorate or territory under suzerainty or under mandate which is mentioned in the preamble of the Convention.

## Article 10

### Extent of the Union





The following shall be considered as belonging to the  Universal Postal Union .

- (a) Post offices established by  Union  countries in territories not included in the  Union .
- (b) The Principality of Liechtenstein, as subordinate to the  Postal  Administration of Switzerland;
- (c) The Farøe Islands and Greenland, as forming part of Denmark;

- (d) The Spanish possessions on the North Coast of Africa, as forming part of Spain;
- (e) The Valleys of Andorra, as served by the  **Postal**  Administrations of Spain and France;
- (f) The Principality of Monaco, as subordinate to the  **Postal**  Administration of France;
- (g) Walfisch Bay, as forming part of the  **Union**  of South Africa; Basutoland, as subordinate to the  **Postal**  Administration of the  **Union**  of South Africa.

## Article 11

### Arbitration

1. In case of disagreement between two or more members of the  **Union**  as to the interpretation of the Convention and the Agreements, or as to the responsibility imposed on an Administration by the application of these Acts, the question in dispute shall be decided by arbitration. To that end, each of the Administrations concerned shall choose another member of the  **Union**  not directly interested in the matter.

If one of the Administrations in disagreement does not take any action on a proposal for arbitration within a period of six months, or of nine months in the case of distant countries, the International Bureau, on a request to that effect, shall call on the defaulting Administration to appoint an arbitrator, or appoint one officially.

2. The decision of the arbitrators shall be given on an absolute majority of votes.



3. In case of an equality of votes, the arbitrators shall choose, with the view of settling the difference, another Administration with no interest in the question in dispute.

Failing an agreement in the choice, this Administration shall be appointed by the International Bureau from among the members of the  **Union**  not proposed by the arbitrators.

4. If the disagreement concerns one of the Agreements, the arbitrators may not be appointed from among Administrations which do not participate in that Agreement.

## Article 12

Withdrawal from the  **Union** . Cessation of participation in the Agreements



Each Contracting Party shall be free to withdraw from the  **Union**  or to cease to participate in the Agreements by notice given one year in advance through diplomatic channels to the Government of the Swiss Confederation and by that Government to the Governments of the contracting countries.

## CHAPTER II

### CONGRESSES. CONFERENCES. COMMITTEES

## Article 13



### Congresses

1. Delegates of the countries of the  **Union**  shall meet in congress not later than five years after

the date of the entry into force of the Acts of the preceding congress with a view to revising these Acts or of completing them as necessary.

Each country shall be represented at the congress by one or several plenipotentiary delegates furnished by their Government with the necessary powers. It may, if it so desires, be represented by the delegation of another country. But it shall be understood that one delegation can undertake the representation of two countries only, including the country it primarily represents.

In the deliberations each country shall have one vote only.

2. Each congress shall settle the place of meeting of the next congress. The Government of the country in which it is to take place shall be responsible, in consultation with the International Bureau, for convening the congress, and also for notifying to all the Governments of the countries of the  **Union**  the decisions taken by the congress.

## Article 14

### Ratifications. Entry into force and duration of the Acts of Congresses

The Acts of congresses shall be ratified as soon as possible and the ratification shall be communicated to the Government of the country in which the congress was held, and by that Government to the Governments of the contracting countries.

If one or more of the Contracting Parties do not ratify one or other of the Act signed by them, these Acts shall be not less binding on the States which have ratified them.

These Acts shall come into force simultaneously and have the same duration.

From the date fixed for the entry into force of the Acts adopted by a congress, all the Acts of the preceding congress shall be repealed.

## Article 15

### Extraordinary congresses

When a request to that effect is made or approved by at least two-thirds of the contracting countries, an extraordinary congress shall be held, after arrangement with the International Bureau.

The regulations laid down by Articles 13 and 14 shall apply equally to the delegations, to the deliberations and to the Acts of extraordinary congresses.



## Article 16

### Standing orders of congresses

Each congress shall draw up the standing orders for its work and deliberations.

## Article 17

### Conferences

Conferences for the consideration of purely administrative questions may be held at the request or with the assent of at least two-thirds of the Administrations of the  **Union** .

They shall be convened after arrangement with the International Bureau.

Each conference shall draw up its own standing orders.

## Article 18

### Committees

Committees charged by a congress or a conference with the examination of one or more particular questions shall be convened by the International Bureau after arrangement, if necessary, with the Administration of the country where these committees are to sit.

## CHAPTER III

### PROPOSALS MADE BETWEEN MEETINGS

## Article 19

### Introduction of proposals

In the interval between meetings, any Administration shall have the right to address to the other Administrations, through the medium of the International Bureau, proposals concerning the Convention, its Final Protocol and its Detailed Regulations.

The same right shall be accorded to the Administrations of the countries participating in the Agreements so far as these Agreements, their Detailed Regulations and the Final Protocols are concerned.

In order to be considered, every proposal introduced by an Administration in the interval between meetings must be supported by at least two other Administrations. A proposal shall lapse when the International Bureau does not receive, at the same time, the necessary number of declarations of support.

## Article 20

### Examination of proposals

Every proposal shall be subject to the following procedure:

A period of six months shall be allowed to Administrations to examine the proposal and to communicate their observations, if any, to the International Bureau. Amendments are not admitted. The answers shall be collected by the International Bureau, and communicated to the Administrations, with an invitation to declare themselves for or against. Administrations which have not notified their vote within a period of six months shall be considered as abstaining. The periods quoted above shall be calculated from the date of the circulars from the International Bureau.

If the proposal concerns an Agreement, its Detailed Regulations or the Final Protocol of either, only the Administrations which have acceded to that Agreement may take part in the procedure indicated above.

## Article 21

### Conditions of approval

1. In order to become binding, the proposals must obtain:

- (a) A unanimous vote if they involve the addition of new provisions or the modification of the provisions of Parts I and II, or of Articles 33 to 37, 54 to 59, 61 to 63, 65 to 68, 70 to 82 of the Convention, of any of the Articles of its Final Protocol and of Articles 101, 105, 116, 161, 171 and 192 of its Detailed Regulations;
- (b) A two-thirds vote if they involve a modification of the provisions other than those mentioned in the preceding paragraph;
- (c) A simple majority if they affect the interpretation of the provisions of the Convention, of its Final Protocol and its Detailed Regulations, except in the case of disagreement to be submitted to arbitration as provided for by Article 11.

2. The conditions to be fulfilled for the approval of proposals concerning the Agreements shall be fixed by the Agreements themselves.

## Article 22

### Notification of decisions

Additions to and modifications of the Convention, the Agreements and the Final Protocols of these Acts shall be sanctioned by a diplomatic declaration, which the Government of the Swiss Confederation undertakes to prepare and forward at the request of the International Bureau to the Governments of the contracting countries.

Additions to and modifications of the Detailed Regulations and their Final Protocols shall be drawn up and notified to the Administrations by the International Bureau. The same shall apply to the interpretations referred to under Article 21, SS1(c).

## Article 23

### Execution of decisions







No addition or modification adopted shall come into force until at least three months after its notification.



## CHAPTER IV



### INTERNATIONAL BUREAU



## Article 24

### General functions

1. A central office, situated at Berne, known as the International Bureau of the  **Universal Postal Union** , and placed under the supervision of the Swiss  **Postal**  Administration, shall serve as a medium of liaison, information and consultation for the countries of the  **Union** .

This office shall be entrusted especially with the duty of collecting, collating, publishing and distributing information of every kind which concerns the international  **postal**  service; of giving, at the request of the Parties concerned, an opinion upon questions in dispute; of making known proposals for modifying the Acts of the congress; of notifying alterations adopted, and, in



general, of taking up such enquires and work in connection with editing and arranging material as the Convention, the Agreements and their Detailed Regulations shall assign to it, or as may be entrusted to it in the interest of the  **Union** .

2. It shall act as clearing-house for the settlement of accounts of every description relative to the international  **postal**  service between the Administrations which may claim its assistance.

## Article 25

### Expenses of the International Bureau

1. Each congress shall fix the maximum figure for the ordinary annual expenditure of the International Bureau.

These expenses, as well as the special expenditure occasioned by the meetings of a congress, conference or committee, and the costs which may arise out of special work entrusted to the International Bureau, shall be borne in common by all the countries of the  **Union** .

2. To this end, the latter shall be divided into seven classes, each contributing to the payment of the expenses in the following proportion:

1st class 25 units.

2nd class 20 units.

3rd class 15 units.

4th class 10 units.

5th class 5 units.

6th class 3 units.

7th class 1 unit.

3. In the case of a new accession, the Government of the Swiss Confederation shall settle, by agreement with the Government of the country concerned, the class in which the country is to be placed for the apportionment of the expenses of the International Bureau.


## PART II



### GENERAL REGULATIONS

#### CHAPTER I

### Article 26

#### Freedom of transit

1. Freedom of transit shall be guaranteed throughout the entire territory of the  **Union** .

2. Freedom of transit for  **postal**  parcels shall be limited to the territory of the countries taking part in this service.

Insured articles may be forwarded in closed mails through the territory of countries which do not undertake the insured letter and box service or by the sea services in respect of which responsibility for insured articles is not accepted by the countries concerned, but the responsibility of these countries is limited to that prescribed for registered articles.

The transit of small packets through the territory of countries which do not accept those articles shall be optional.

## Article 27

### Prohibition of unauthorised charges

It is forbidden to impose any  **postal**  charge whatever except those prescribed by the Convention and the Agreements.

## Article 28

### Temporary suspension of services

When an Administration finds itself obliged, owing to exceptional circumstances, temporarily to suspend its services, either wholly or in part, it must at once notify the fact, if necessary by telegraph, to the Administration or Administrations concerned.



## Article 29

### Monetary standard

The franc regarded as the monetary unit in the provisions of the Convention and the Agreements shall be the gold franc of 100 centimes of a weight of  $10\frac{10}{31}$  of a gram and of a fineness of 0.900.

## Article 30

### Equivalents

In each country of the  **Union** , postage rates shall be fixed at the closest possible equivalent of the value of the franc in the currency of the country.

## Article 31

### Forms. Language

1. The forms used by the Administrations in their mutual relations must be drawn up in French, with or without an interlinear translation in another language, unless the Administrations concerned arrange otherwise by direct agreement.
2. The forms used by the public must include an interlinear translation in French when they are not printed in that language.
3. So far as the forms referred to in SSSS1 and 2 are concerned, the wording, colours, and dimensions must be those prescribed by the Detailed Regulations of the Convention and of the Agreements.
4. Administrations may by common consent decide upon the language to be used in official



correspondence in their reciprocal relations.

## Article 32

### Identity cards

1. Each Administration may issue, to persons who apply for them, identity cards to serve as evidence of identity for all kinds of post office business in the countries which have not notified their refusal to admit them.

2. The Administration which issues an identity card shall be authorised to make, on this account, a charge which may not exceed 1 franc.

3. Administrations shall be relieved from all responsibility when it is established that a  **postal**  packet was delivered or a money order was paid on presentation of a valid identity card.

Administrations shall not be responsible for the consequences of the loss, abstraction or fraudulent use of a valid identity card.

4. The identity card shall be valid for three years from the date of issue.

## PART III

### PROVISIONS REGARDING CORRESPONDENCE

#### CHAPTER I

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

### Article 33



#### Definition of correspondence

The term correspondence shall cover letters, postcards, both single and reply paid, commercial papers, printed papers of every kind, including articles printed in relief for the use of the blind, samples of merchandise and small packets.

The small packet service shall be limited to those countries which agree to maintain it in their reciprocal relations or in one direction only.



### Article 34

#### Rates of postage and general conditions

1. The prepaid rates of postage for the conveyance of correspondence throughout the entire extent of the  **Union** , including delivery at the residence of the addressees in the countries where a delivery is or shall be organized, as well as the limits of weights and dimensions, shall be fixed as indicated in the following table:

Articles	Units of	Rates	Limits	
	weight		of weight	of size

1	2	3	4	5
	gr.	c.		
Letters {first unit of weight } 20 {each succeeding unit }	25	15	} 2 kilos }	{Length, width and depth {combined: 90cm., but the {greatest dimension may {not exceed 60 cm.;  {In roll form: Length and {twice the diameter, 100 {cm., but the greatest {dimension may not {exceed 80 cm.
Post-cards {Single	-	15	-	}Maximum: 15 x 10.5 cm.
{Reply paid	-	30	-	}Minimum: 10 x 7 cm.
Commercial papers	50	5	2 kilos	}As for letters.  }Printed papers sent }unenclosed in the form of }cards, whether folded or }not, are subject to the }same minimum }dimensions as postcards.  }  }  }
Minimum charge	-	25	(3 kilos for	
Printed papers	50	5	volumes sent	
Blind literature	1,000	3	singly)	
Samples of merchandise	50	5	5 kilos	
Minimum charge	-	10	500 gr.	
Small packets	50	10	-	
Minimum charge	-	50	1 kilo	

2. The limits of weight and size fixed by SS1 shall not apply to correspondence relating to the  postal  service, as specified in Article 49, SS1, hereafter.

3. Each Administration shall have the right, in its relations with those Administrations which have so agreed, to allow a reduction of 50 percent of the ordinary rate for printed papers to newspapers and periodicals published in its country and posted directly by the publishers or their agents; but commercial printed papers such as catalogues, prospectuses, price lists, etc, however regularly they are issued, shall be excluded from this reduction.

Administrations may equally, with the consent of the Administration of the country of destination, allow a similar reduction to books including pamphlets or sheets of music, no matter who is the sender, provided they contain no publicity matter or advertisements other than that appearing on the cover or the fly leaves.

4. Articles, other than sealed registered letters, may not contain coin, bank notes, currency notes, negotiable instruments payable to bearer, platinum, gold or silver, manufactured or not, precious stones, jewels and other valuable articles.

5. The Administrations of the countries of origin and of destination shall have the right to treat, according to their internal legislation, letters which contain documents having the character of current and personal correspondence, addressed to persons other than the addressee or persons living with him.

6. Except as provided in the Detailed Regulations, commercial papers, printed papers, samples of merchandise, and small packets:

(a) Must be made up in such a manner as to be easy of examination;

(b) May not bear any notes or contain any document having the character of current and personal correspondence;

(c) May not contain any postage stamp or form of prepayment, whether obliterated or not, nor any paper representing a monetary value.

7. Packets of samples of merchandise may not contain any article having a saleable value.

8. The enclosure in one and the same packet of correspondence of different categories (articles grouped together) shall be authorised under the conditions laid down in the Detailed Regulations.

9. Apart from the exceptions prescribed by the Convention and its Detailed Regulations, articles which do not fulfil the conditions laid down in the present Article and the corresponding Articles of the Detailed Regulations shall not be forwarded.

Articles which have been wrongly accepted must be returned to the Administration of the country of origin. Nevertheless, the Administration of the country of destination shall be authorised to deliver such articles to the addressees. In that case it must, if necessary, apply to them the rates of postage and surcharges prescribed for the category of correspondence in which they are placed by reason of their contents, weight or size. Articles of which the weight exceeds the maximum limits laid down in SS1 may be taxed according to their actual weight.

## Article 35

### Prepayment

As a general rule, all the articles mentioned in Article 33 must be fully prepaid by the sender.

Correspondence, other than letters and single post-cards, which is unpaid or insufficiently prepaid, and reply-paid postcards of which the two halves are not fully prepaid at the time of posting, shall not be forwarded.

## Article 36

### Charge on unpaid or insufficiently prepaid correspondence

Apart from the exceptions laid down in Articles 145, SSSS3, 4 and 5, of the Detailed Regulations for certain classes of redirected articles, letters and single postcards not prepaid or insufficiently prepaid shall be liable to a charge equal to double the amount of the deficient postage to be paid by the addressees; but that charge may not be less than 5 centimes.

The same treatment may be applied in similar circumstances to other articles of correspondence which have been incorrectly forwarded to the country of destination.

#### Article 37

##### Surtaxes

Over and above the rates fixed by Article 34, a surtax proportionate to the expenses incurred may be levied on every article forwarded by extraordinary services which involve special charges.

When the rate of prepayment for the single postcard comprises the surtax authorised by the preceding paragraph, the same rate shall be applicable to each half of the reply-paid postcard.

#### Article 38

##### Special charges

1. Administrations shall be authorised to make an additional charge, in accordance with their own legislation, on articles posted after the ordinary hour of collection.
2. Articles addressed *poste restante* may be taxed by Administrations of the countries of destination with the special charge prescribed by their legislation for similar articles in the inland service.
3. The Administrations of countries of destination shall be authorised to levy a special charge not exceeding 50 centimes on each small packet delivered to the addressee. This charge may be increased by a sum not exceeding 25 centimes when the packet is delivered at the addressee's domicile.

#### Article 39

##### Articles liable to Customs duty

Small packets and printed paper packets liable to Customs duty shall be admitted.

The same shall apply to letters and sample packets containing articles liable to Customs duty when the country of destination has given its consent.

Packets containing serums and vaccines, included in the exception shown in Article 122 of the Detailed Regulations, shall be admitted in every case.



#### Article 40

##### Customs control

The Administration of the country of destination shall be authorised to submit to the Customs the correspondence mentioned in Article 39, and, if necessary, to open it officially.



#### Article 41

### Customs clearance fee

A Customs clearance fee of 50 centimes at most per article may be collected as a  **postal**  charge on articles submitted to the Customs in the country of destination.





### Article 42

#### Customs and other non- **postal** charges

Administrations shall be authorised to collect from the addressees the Customs charges and any other non- **postal**  charges which may be due.

### Article 43

#### Correspondence for delivery free of charges



1. In the relations between those countries which have notified their agreement to that effect, the senders may, by means of a previous declaration of the office of despatch undertake to pay the whole of the  **postal**  and non- **postal**  charges due to be collected on the delivery of the articles.

In this case, the senders must undertake to pay the amounts which the office of destination may claim, and, if necessary, pay a sufficient deposit. The Administration of the country of destination shall be authorised to collect a fee not exceeding 50 centimes per article, this fee being independent of that authorised by Article 41.

2. Any Administration shall be entitled to limit the service of delivery free of charges to registered articles.

### Article 44

#### Cancellation of Customs duty and other non- **postal** charges

Administrations shall undertake to request the appropriate services in their country to cancel the Customs duty and other non- **postal**  charges on articles returned to the country of origin, destroyed owing to the complete damage of the contents or redirected to a third country.

### Article 45

#### Express packets

1. Correspondence shall be, at the request of the senders, sent out for delivery by special messenger immediately after arrival, in the countries of which the Administration agree to undertake this service in their reciprocal relations.

2. Such correspondence, which shall be called "express", shall be subject, in addition to the ordinary postage, to a special charge amounting as a minimum to double the postage on a single-rate ordinary letter and as a maximum to 70 centimes. This charge must be fully paid in advance by the sender.

3. When the addressee's house is situated outside the local delivery zone of the office of destination, a complementary charge not exceeding that prescribed in the inland service may be collected for express delivery.

In this case, however, express delivery shall not be obligatory.



4. Express packets, upon which the total amount of the charges payable in advance has not been prepaid, shall be delivered by the ordinary means, unless they have been treated as express by the office of origin. In the latter case, they shall be taxed according to the provisions of Article 36.

5. Administrations shall not be obliged to make more than one attempt to deliver correspondence by express. If this attempt is unsuccessful, the article may be treated as an ordinary article.

## Article 46

### Prohibitions

1. It is forbidden to send by post the articles indicated in column 1 of the following table. If these articles have been wrongly admitted to the post, they must be treated as indicated in column 2.

Articles 1	Treatment of packets wrongly admitted 2
(a) Articles which, from their nature or by their packing may expose  <b>postal</b>  officials to danger, or soil or damage correspondence;	} } }
	} To be treated according to the inland
(b) Articles liable to Customs duty (apart from the exceptions laid down in Article 39) as well as samples sent in quantities with the intention of avoiding the payment of this duty;	} regulations of the Administration which } discovers them; nevertheless, articles indicated } under (c) may, in no case, be forwarded to } destination or delivered to the addressees or
	} returned to origin.
(c) Opium, morphine, cocaine, and other narcotics;	}
	}
(d) Articles of which the importation or the circulation is forbidden in the country of destination;	} } }
(e) Explosive, inflammable or dangerous substances;	} To be destroyed on the spot by the
	} Administration which discovers them.
(f) Obscene or immoral articles;	}
(g) Living animals, except bees, leeches and silkworms.	To be returned to the country of origin; nevertheless, if they are discovered by the Administration of the country of destination, that Administration is authorised to deliver them to the addressees under the conditions prescribed by its inland regulations.

2. If packets wrongly admitted to the post are neither returned to origin nor delivered to the addressee, the Administration of origin must be advised exactly how the packets have been treated.

3. The right shall, moreover, be reserved to every country to refuse to convey *à découvert* over its territory articles other than letters and postcards in regard to which the legal requirements which regulate the conditions of their publication or circulation in that country have not been complied with.

These articles must be returned to the Administration of the country of origin.

## Article 47



### Methods of prepayment

1. Prepayment of postage shall be effected either by means of postage stamps valid in the country of origin for the correspondence of private individuals, or by means of impressions of stamping machines, officially adopted and working under the immediate control of the Administration, or, in the case of printed papers, by means of printed impressions or by any other process when such a system is authorised by the inland regulations of the Administration of origin.

2. The following shall be considered as duly prepaid: reply postcards bearing postage stamps, impressed or affixed, of the country of issue, articles properly prepaid for their first transmission and on which complementary postage has been paid before their redirection, as well as newspapers or packets of newspapers and periodicals with the words "*Abonnement-poste*" which are sent in virtue of the Agreement for subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals.









## Article 48



### Prepayment of postage on board ship

Correspondence posted on the high seas in the letter box on board a ship or handed to  **postal**  officials on board or to the commanders of ships may, in the absence of different arrangements between the Administrations concerned, be prepaid by means of the postage stamps and according to the tariff of the country to which the said ship belongs or by which it is maintained. If the posting on board takes place during the stay at one of the two terminal points of the voyage or at any intermediate port of call, prepayment shall be valid only if it is effected by means of the postage stamps and according to the tariff of the country in the waters of which the ship happens to be.

## Article 49

### Exemptions from postage

1. The following shall be exempt from all  **postal**  charges: Correspondence on  **postal**  service exchanged between  **Postal**  Administrations, between these Administrations and the International Bureau, between post offices of  **Union**  countries, and between these offices and Administrations, as well as correspondence of which the free transmission is expressly provided for in the Convention, the Agreements and their Detailed Regulations.



2. With the exception of articles marked with a trade charge, correspondence intended for prisoners of war or despatched by them shall also be exempt from all  **postal**  charges, not only in the countries of origin and destination, but in intermediate countries.

The same privilege shall be accorded to correspondence concerning prisoners of war, despatched or received, either directly by, or through the agency of, information bureaux established on behalf of such persons in belligerent countries or in neutral countries which have received belligerents on their territories.

Belligerents received and interned in a neutral country shall be treated like prisoners of war, properly so called, in so far as the application of the abovementioned rules is concerned.

## Article 50

### Reply coupons

Reply coupons shall be on sale in the countries of the  **Union** .



The selling price of a reply coupon shall be fixed by the Administrations concerned, but may not be less than 35 centimes, or the equivalent in the money of the country of issue.

Each coupon shall be exchangeable in any country for a stamp or stamps representing the postage on a single-rate letter for abroad originating in that country.

Moreover, any country shall have the right to demand that reply coupons and the correspondence to be prepaid by means of the stamps received in exchange for these coupons shall be presented at the same time.

## Article 51

### Withdrawal of correspondence. Alteration of address

1. The sender of a  **postal**  packet shall be entitled to have it withdrawn from the post or have its address altered, so long as the article has not been delivered to the addressee.
2. The request to this effect shall be sent by post or by telegraph at the expense of the sender, who must pay, for every request by post, the charge for a registered single-rate letter and, for every request by telegraph, the charge for the telegram.

If the request for withdrawal of correspondence or alteration of address concerns several packets posted simultaneously at the same office by the same sender to the same addressee, the sender shall pay, for every request by post, the charge for one registered single-rate letter and, for every request by telegraph, the charge for the telegram containing particulars of all the packets in question.

## Article 52

### Redirection. Undelivered correspondence

1. If the addressee changes his address, the correspondence shall be redirected to him, unless the sender has forbidden redirection, by means of a note to that effect on the address side of the correspondence, in a language known in the country of destination.
2. Correspondence which is not delivered must be returned immediately to the country of origin.
3. The period of retention for correspondence held at the disposal of the addressees or addressed "*poste restante*" shall be fixed by the rules of the country of destination. This period may not, however, exceed two months as general rule, except in particular cases when the Administration of

destination considers it necessary to prolong the period up to a maximum of four months. The return to the country of origin must take place within a shorter period if the sender has so requested by a note on the address side in a language known in the country of destination.

4. Printed papers of no value shall not be returned to origin, unless the sender, by means of a note on the outside of the article, has asked for their return. Registered printed papers must always be returned.

5. No supplementary postage shall be charged for the redirection of correspondence from country to country or its return to the country of origin, apart from the exceptions provided for in the Detailed Regulations.

6. Correspondence which is redirected or which is undeliverable shall be delivered to the addressees or senders, against payment of the charges raised on departure or arrival or in course of transmission in consequence of redirection after the first transmission, without prejudice to the repayment of Customs duty or other special charges which the country of destination does not cancel.

7. In case of redirection to another country or of non-delivery, the "*post restante*" fee, the Customs clearance fee, the commission fee, the complementary express fee, and the special fee for delivery of small packets to the addressees shall be cancelled.

## Article 53

### Enquiries

1. For an enquiry in respect of any  **postal**  packet a fixed fee not exceeding 50 centimes may be charged.

This fee shall be charged for each packet, even if the enquiry concerns several packets posted at the same time by the same sender to the same addressee.

As regards registered articles, no fee shall be charged if the sender has already paid the special fee for an advice of delivery.

2. An application will only be entertained if made within a year, counting from the day following the posting of the article.

Every Administration shall be bound, however, to furnish information, if requested by another Administration, after this lapse of time, concerning packets despatched within two years.

3. Every Administration shall be obliged to accept enquiries concerning articles posted on the territory of other Administrations.

4. When an enquiry has arisen through a service error, the enquiry fee shall be repaid.

## CHAPTER II

### REGISTERED ARTICLES

## Article 54

### Charges

1. The articles specified in Article 33 may be registered.
2. The charge on every registered article must be paid in advance. It shall be made up of:
  - (a) The postage ordinarily prepayable on the packet according to its class;
  - (b) A fixed registration fee of 40 centimes at most.

The registration fee on the reply half of a reply-paid postcard can only be validly prepaid by the sender of this half.

3. A receipt must be issued free of charge to the sender of a registered article at the time of posting.
4. Countries prepared to undertake risks arising from causes beyond control shall be authorised to collect a special charge of 40 centimes at most for each registered article.
5. Unpaid or insufficiently prepaid registered articles which have been incorrectly forwarded to the country of destination shall be liable to a charge, to be paid by the addressee, equal in amount to the deficient postage.

## Article 55

### Advice of delivery

The sender of a registered article may request an advice of delivery by paying, at the time of posting, a fixed fee of 40 centimes at most.

An advice of delivery may be applied for after the posting of the article within the period and on payment of the fee prescribed for enquiries by Article 53.

## Article 56

### Responsibility

1. Except in the cases provided for in Article 57 hereafter, Administrations shall be responsible for the loss of registered articles.

The sender shall be entitled, in respect of the loss, to compensation, of which the amount is fixed at 50 francs per article.

2. Administrations will assume no responsibility for articles seized by the Customs authorities by reason of a false declaration of their contents.

## Article 57

### Exceptions in respect of responsibility

Administrations shall be relieved from all responsibility for the loss of registered articles:

- (a) In circumstances beyond control; the responsibility, however, shall still attach to the Administration of origin if it has undertaken to cover risks arising from causes beyond control (Article 54, SS4). The country responsible for the loss must decide, according to its internal legislation, whether the loss is due to circumstances constituting causes beyond control;

- (b) Which they cannot account for in consequence of the destruction of official documents through a cause beyond control, provided that their responsibility has not been proved otherwise;
- (c) Of which the contents fall within the prohibitions specified in Articles 34, SSSS4 and 6(c), and 46, SS1;
- (d) When the sender has not made any application within the period of one year prescribed by Article 53.

## Article 58

### Cessation of responsibility

Administrations shall cease to be responsible for registered articles which have been delivered under the conditions prescribed by their internal regulations for packets of the same class.

## Article 59

### Payment of compensation

The payment of the compensation must be undertaken by the Administration to which the despatching office is subordinate, subject to its right to make a claim on the Administration responsible.

## Article 60

### Period for payment of compensation

1. The payment of compensation must take place as soon as possible, and at the latest within six months from the day following the date of the application. This period shall be extended to nine months in relations with distant countries.

An Administration of origin which does not accept responsibility in cases of loss through a cause beyond control may exceptionally postpone settlement of the compensation beyond the period mentioned in the preceding paragraph when the question whether the loss of the article is due to a case of this nature has not been decided.

2. The Administration of origin shall be authorised to settle with the sender on account of the Administration, whether intermediate or of destination, which, duly informed of the application, has let three months pass without settling the matter; this period shall be extended to six months in relations with distant countries.

## Article 61

### Fixing of responsibility

1. Until the contrary is proved, responsibility for the loss of a registered article shall rest with the Administration which, having received the article without making any observation, and being furnished with all the materials for enquiry prescribed by the regulations, cannot establish delivery to the addressee or regular transfer to the following Administration, as the case may be.

Until the contrary is proved, an Administration, whether intermediate or of destination, shall be relieved of all responsibility:

- (a) When it has carried out the provisions of Article 159, SS3, of the Detailed Regulations;
- (b) When it can prove that it has not received the enquiry until after the destruction of its service documents relating to the article enquired for, the period of retention prescribed by Article 177 of the Detailed Regulations having expired. This reservation shall not affect the rights of the claimant.

Nevertheless, if the loss has occurred in course of conveyance without its being possible to ascertain on the territory or in the service of which country the loss took place, the Administrations concerned shall bear the loss in equal shares.

- 2. When a registered article has been lost in circumstances beyond control, the Administration on the territory or in the service of which the loss has occurred shall be responsible to the Administration of origin only when both countries undertake risks arising from causes beyond control.
- 3. The Customs and other charges which cannot be cancelled shall be borne by the Administrations responsible for the loss.
- 4. The Administration which has made payment of compensation shall take over the rights of the person who has received it, up to the amount of this compensation, in any action which may be taken against the sender, the addressee, or third parties.
- 5. If a registered article considered as lost is subsequently found, the person to whom the compensation has been paid must be advised that he may take possession of the article against repayment of the amount of the compensation.

## Article 62

### Repayment of compensation to the Administration of origin

- 1. The Administration responsible or on whose account payment is made in accordance with Article 60 shall be bound to repay to the Administration of origin within a period of three months, reckoning from the date of despatch of the notice of payment, the amount of the compensation actually paid to the sender.

If the compensation is to be borne by several Administrations in accordance with Article 61, the whole of the compensation due must be paid to the Administration of origin within the period mentioned in the preceding paragraph, by the first Administration which, having duly received the packet under enquiry, is unable to prove its regular transfer to the next service. It shall rest with this Administration to recover from the other Administrations responsible their share of the amount of compensation paid to the sender.

- 2. The repayment shall be made free of cost to the creditor Administration by means of either a money order, a cheque or a draft payable at sight in the capital or a commercial centre in the creditor country, or in coin current in that country.

When responsibility is admitted, as well as in the case provided for in Article 60, SS2, the amount of indemnity may be recovered from the country responsible by means of an account, either directly or through the intermediary of an Administration which exchanges accounts regularly with the Administration responsible.

After the period of three months, the sum due to the Administration of origin shall bear interest at the rate of 5 percent pre annum, counting from the day of expiry of the said period.

- 3. The Administration of origin may only claim repayment from the Administration responsible

within a period of two years counting from the date of despatch of the notification of the loss or, if the case arises, from the date of expiry of the period prescribed by Article 60, SS2.

4. The Administration whose responsibility is duly proved and which has at first declined to pay the compensation must bear all additional charges resulting from the unwarranted delay in payment.

5. Administrations may come to an agreement to liquidate periodically the compensation which they have paid to the senders and which they have agreed to be justified.

### CHAPTER III

#### CASH-ON-DELIVERY PACKETS



##### Article 63



##### Charge and conditions. Settlement

1. Registered correspondence with trade charges to be collected on delivery may be exchanged between countries of which the Administrations agree to provide this service.



2. Packets with trade charges shall be subject to the same regulations and charges as registered articles. In addition, the sender shall pay in advance:

(a) A fixed charge which must not exceed 50 centimes per packet and a proportional charge not exceeding 1/2 percent of the amount of the trade charge, if he requests that the amount should be liquidated by means of a trade charge money order issued free of commission in his favour;

(b) A fixed charge which must not exceed 25 centimes, if he requests settlement by means of a  **postal**  cheque account in the country of destination of the packet.

3. The method of liquidation provided for under SS2(b) shall apply only if the Administrations concerned undertake to apply this method of liquidation. The Administration of destination shall pay into the  **postal**  cheque account, by means of an inland transfer note, the amount collected from the addressee, after deduction of a fixed charge not exceeding 25 centimes and the ordinary charge for payments applicable in its internal service.

4. Whatever may be the method of liquidation, the maximum trade charge shall be equal to the maximum amount fixed for money orders addressed to the country in which the article originated.

5. In the absence of any contrary arrangement, the amount of the trade charge shall be expressed in the money of the country in which the packet originated. Nevertheless, in all cases of payment into a  **postal**  cheque account in the country of destination of the packet, the amount must be indicated in the money of that country.

6. Each Administration may adopt, for the collection of the proportional charge prescribed by SS2 (a), the scale which best suits its service.

##### Article 64

##### Cancellation or reduction of the amount of the trade charge



The sender of a registered article marked with a trade charge may demand the total or partial cancellation of the amount of the trade charge.

Requests of this nature shall be subject to the same conditions as requests for the withdrawal of correspondence from the post or alteration of address.

If the request for total or partial cancellation of the amount of the trade charge has to be sent by telegraph, the charge for the telegram shall be added to the charge for a single-rate registered letter.





## Article 65

### Responsibility in case of loss of the packet

The loss of a registered article marked with a trade charge shall involve the responsibility of the  **postal**  service under the conditions laid down in Articles 56 and 57.

## Article 66

### Sums duly collected: guarantee

The sums duly collected from the addressee, whether or not they have been converted into money orders or paid into a  **postal**  cheque account, shall be guaranteed to the sender under the conditions laid down by the Agreement concerning the money order service or by the regulations governing the  **postal**  cheque and transfer service.

## Article 67

### Compensation in case of failure to collect the amount of the trade charge or of insufficient or fraudulent collection

1. If the packet has been delivered to the addressee without the collection of the trade charge, the sender shall be entitled to compensation, provided that application has been made within the period prescribed by Article 53, SS2, and unless the failure to collect the charge is due to fault or negligence on his part, or unless the contents of the packet fall within the prohibitions prescribed by Articles 34, SSSS4 and 6(c), and 46, SS1.

The same rule shall apply if the amount collected from the addressee is less than the amount of the trade charge indicated or if it has been collected fraudulently.

The compensation may not, in any case, exceed the amount of the trade charge.

2. The Administration which has made payment of compensation shall take over the rights of the person who has received it up to the amount of the compensation in any action which may be taken against the addressee, the sender or third parties.

## Article 68

### Sums duly collected. Compensation. Payments and claims

Payment of the sums duly collected or of the compensation referred to in Article 67 must be undertaken by the Administration to which the despatching office is subordinate, subject to its right to make a claim on the Administration responsible.

## Article 69



### Period for payment

The provisions of Article 60 concerning the periods for payment of compensation for the loss of a registered article shall apply also to the payment of sums collected or of the compensation in respect of packets marked with trade charges.

## Article 70

### Fixing of responsibility

The payment by the Administration of origin of sums duly collected or of the compensation prescribed by Article 67 shall be made on behalf of the Administration of destination. The latter shall be responsible, unless it can prove that the fault is due to a breach of the regulations by the despatching Administration.

In the case of fraudulent collection following upon the disappearance in the  **postal**  service of a trade charge packet, the responsibility of the Administrations concerned shall be fixed in accordance with the provisions of Article 61 for the loss of a registered article.

Nevertheless, the responsibility of an intermediate Administration which does not participate in the cash-on-delivery service shall be limited to that prescribed by articles 56 and 57 for registered articles. The other Administrations shall bear in equal shares the amount not covered.

## Article 71

### Repayment of sums advanced

The Administration of destination shall be bound to repay to the Administration of origin, under the conditions prescribed by Article 62, the sums which have been advanced on its behalf.

## Article 72

### Trade charge money orders and transfer notes

1. The amount of a trade charge money order which has not been paid to the payee for any reason whatever shall not be repaid to the Administration of issue. It shall be held at the disposal of the payee by the Administration which despatched the trade charge packet and shall accrue definitively to that Administration after the expiry of the legal period of validity.

In all other respects, and with the reservations prescribed by the Detailed Regulations, trade charge money orders shall be subject to the provisions of the Agreement concerning the money order service.

2. When, for any reason, a transfer note, issued in accordance with the provisions of Article 63, cannot be carried to the credit of the beneficiary indicated by the sender of the trade charge packet, the amount of this note must be placed, by the Administration which has collected it, at the disposal of the Administration of origin to be paid to the sender of the packet.

If this payment cannot be effected, the procedure prescribed by SS1 shall be followed.

## Article 73

### Division of the cash-on-delivery charge and fee

The Administration of origin shall credit to the Administration of destination, in the conditions

prescribed by the Detailed Regulations, a fixed share of 20 centimes for each trade charge packet, plus 1/4 percent of the total amount of the trade charge money orders paid.

## CHAPTER IV

### ALLOCATION OF POSTAGE CHARGES. TRANSIT RATES

#### Article 74

##### Allocation of postage charges

Except in the cases expressly provided for by the Convention, each Administration shall keep the whole of the charges which it collects.

#### Article 75

##### Transit rates

1. Correspondence exchanged in closed mails between two Administrations, by means of the services of one or more other Administrations (third services), shall be subject to transit charges to be paid to each of the countries traversed or whose services take part in the conveyance, as indicated in the following table:

	Per kilogram	
	of letters and postcards	of other articles
	Fr. c.	Fr. c.
1. Land transit:		
Up to 1,000 km.	0.60	0.08
Above 1,000 up to 2,000 km.	0.80	0.12
Above 2,000 up to 3,000 km.	1.20	0.16
Above 3,000 up to 6,000 km.	2.00	0.24
Above 6,000 up to 9,000 km.	2.80	0.32
Above 9,000 km.	3.60	0.40
2. Sea transit:		
Up to 300 nautical miles	0.60	0.08
Above 300 up to 1,500 nautical miles	1.60	0.20
Between Europe and North America	2.40	0.32
Above 1,500 up to 6,000 nautical miles	3.20	0.40
Above 6,000 nautical miles	4.80	0.60

2. The transit charges for sea conveyance over a distance not exceeding 300 nautical miles shall be

fixed at one-third of the amounts specified in SS1 if the Administration concerned already receives, on account of the mails conveyed, the payment applicable to land transit.

3. In the case of sea conveyance performed by two or more Administrations, the charges paid for the entire sea transit may not exceed 4.80 francs per kilogram of letters and postcards, and 60 centimes per kilogram of other articles. Should occasion arise, these maximum amounts shall be shared between the Administrations participating in the service, in proportion to the distances traversed.







4. In the absence of any other arrangement, the direct sea conveyance between two countries by means of vessels maintained by one of them shall be considered as a third service, as well as conveyance between two offices of the same country, by means of services maintained by another country.

5. Small packets, newspapers or packets of newspapers and periodicals sent in virtue of the Agreement concerning subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals, as well as insured boxes despatched under the Agreement concerning insured letters and boxes, shall be considered as other articles as regards transit.

6. Missent mails shall be regarded, in respect of the payment of transit charges, as if they had followed their normal route.

## Article 76

### Exemption from transit charges

The correspondence exempt from postage mentioned in Article 49, reply postcards returned to the country of origin, redirected articles, undelivered articles, advices of delivery,  **postal**  money orders, and all other documents relative to the  **postal**  service, eg, communications concerning the  **postal**  cheque service, shall be exempt from all charges for land or sea transit.

## Article 77

### Extraordinary services

The transit rates specified in Article 75 shall not apply to conveyance by means of extraordinary services specially established or maintained by one Administration at the request of one or more other Administrations. The conditions of this class of conveyance shall be regulated by mutual consent between the Administrations concerned.

## Article 78

### Payment and accounting

1. The cost of transit shall be borne by the Administration of the country of origin.

2. The general accounting for these expenses shall be based on data obtained from statistics taken once in every three years, during a period of 14 days. This period shall be extended to 28 days for mails exchanged less than six times a week by the services maintained by any one country.

The Detailed Regulations shall fix the period of the statistics and the duration of their application.





3. Every Administration shall be authorised to submit for the consideration of a committee of arbitrators the results of statistics which, in its opinion, differ too much from reality. The

arrangements for arbitration shall be as laid down in Article 11.

The arbitrators shall be empowered to fix the transit charges proper to be paid.

## Article 79



### Exchange of closed mails with ships of war

1. Closed mails may be exchanged between the post offices of any one of the contracting countries and the commanding officers of naval divisions or ships of war of the same country stationed abroad, or between the commanding officer of one of those naval divisions or one of those ships of war and the commanding officer of another division or of another ship of the same country, through the medium of the land or sea services maintained by other countries.
2. Correspondence of every description enclosed in these mails must consist exclusively of such as is addressed to or sent by the officers and crews of the ships to or from which the mails are forwarded; the rates and conditions of despatch applicable to them are settled, according to its internal regulations, by the  **Postal**  Administration of the country to which the ships belong.
3. In the absence of any contrary arrangement between the Administrations concerned, the  **Postal**  Administration which despatches or receives the mails in question shall be accountable to the intermediate Administrations for transit charges calculated in accordance with the provisions of Article 75.

## MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

### Article 80





#### Freedom of transit: Non-observance

When a country does not observe the provisions of Article 26, relating to freedom of transit, Administrations shall have the right to suppress the  **postal**  service with that country. They must give previous notice of this measure, by telegraph, to the Administrations concerned.



### Article 81

#### Undertakings

The contracting countries undertake to adopt or to propose to their respective legislatures the necessary measures:

- (a) For punishing the counterfeiting of postage stamps and international reply coupons;
- (b) For punishing the fraudulent use of international reply coupons, and the fraudulent use, for the prepayment of correspondence, of counterfeit or used postage stamps, as well as of counterfeit impressions of stamping or printing machines or of impressions already used;
- (c) For prohibiting and suppressing the fraudulent manufacture, sale, hawking, or distribution of impressed and adhesive stamps in use in the  **postal**  service, forged or imitated in such a manner that they could be mistaken for the impressed and adhesive stamps issued by the Administration of any one of the contracting countries;
- (d) For punishing the fraudulent manufacture and circulation of  **postal**  identity cards, as well

as the fraudulent use of these cards;

(e) For preventing and, if necessary, for punishing the insertion of opium, morphine, cocaine and other narcotics in  **postal**  packets, unless their insertion is expressly authorised by the Convention and Agreements.

## FINAL PROVISIONS

### Article 82

#### Entry into force and duration of the Convention

The present Convention shall come into force on 1 January 1935 and shall remain in operation for an indefinite period.

IN FAITH WHEREOF the Plenipotentiaries of the Governments of the abovenamed countries have signed the present Convention in a single copy which shall remain in the archives of the Government of Egypt and of which a copy shall be delivered to each Party.[\[1\]](#)

DONE at Cairo, the 20th day of March, 1934.

[Signatures not reproduced here.]

## FINAL PROTOCOL OF THE CONVENTION

At the moment of proceeding to sign the  **Universal Postal**  Convention concluded this day, the undersigned Plenipotentiaries have agreed as follows:

### I

#### WITHDRAWAL OF CORRESPONDENCE. MODIFICATION OF ADDRESS

The provisions of Article 51 shall not apply to Great Britain and to the British Dominions, colonies and protectorates, whose internal legislation does not permit the withdrawal or the modification of the address of correspondence at the request of the sender.

### II

#### EQUIVALENTS: MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM LIMITS

1. Each country shall have the right to increase up to 40 percent or to reduce by as much as 20 percent the postage rates prescribed by Article 34, SS1, as indicated in the following table:

	Lower limit	Higher limit
	Centimes	Centimes
Letters { first unit	20	35
{ each succeeding unit	12	21
Postcards { single	12	21
{ reply-paid	24	42

Commercial papers (per 50 grams)	4	7
Minimum charge	20	35
Printed papers (per 50 grams)	4	7
Blind literature (per 1,000 grams)	2.4	4.2
Samples of merchandise (per 50 grams)	4	7
Minimum charge	8	14
Small packets (per 50 grams)	8	14
Minimum charge	40	70

The rates adopted must, as far as possible, maintain the same proportions to one another as the basic rate, each Administration being empowered to round up its rates to suit its currency.

2. It shall be open to any country to reduce to 10 centimes the postage on a single postcard and to 20 centimes that on a reply-paid postcard.

3. The rates adopted by a country shall apply to the charges to be collected on unpaid or insufficiently prepaid inward correspondence.

### III

#### OUNCE AVOIRDUPOIS

As an exceptional measure, it is agreed that countries which, by reason of their internal regulations, are unable to adopt the metric-decimal system of weight, shall be empowered to substitute for it the ounce avoirdupois (28.3465 grams) taking one ounce as equivalent to 20 grams for letters, and two ounces as equivalent to 50 grams for commercial papers, printed papers, samples and small packets.

### IV

#### POSTING OF CORRESPONDENCE ABROAD

No country shall be bound to forward, nor to deliver to the addressees, correspondence which the senders domiciled in its territory post or cause to be posted in a foreign country with the object of profiting by the lower rates in force there. The rule shall be applied without distinction both to correspondence made up in the country where the sender resides and then carried across the frontier, and to correspondence made up in a foreign country. The Administration concerned shall be empowered either to return to origin the articles in question or to tax them at its inland rates. The method of collecting the charges shall be left to its discretion.

### V

#### REPLY COUPONS

Administrations shall have the right not to undertake the sale of reply coupons.



### VI

#### REGISTRATION FEE

Countries which cannot fix at 40 centimes the registration fee prescribed by Article 54, SS2, of the Convention shall be authorized to charge a fee which may amount to 50 centimes or to the charge fixed for their inland service.



## VII

### AIR SERVICES

The provisions regarding the conveyance of letter mails by air shall be annexed to the  **Universal Postal**  Convention and be considered as forming an integral part of it and of its Detailed Regulations.





But, notwithstanding the general rules of the Convention, the modification of these provisions may be considered from time to time by a conference composed of the representatives of the Administrations directly concerned.

This conference may be summoned by the intermediary of the International Bureau at the request of at least three of these Administrations.

The whole of the provisions proposed by this conference must be submitted, by the intermediary of the International Bureau, to the vote of the countries of the  **Union** . The decision shall be taken by a majority vote.

## VIII

### SPECIAL TRANSIT RATES BY THE TRANS-SIBERIAN AND THE TRANSANDINE RAILWAYS

In modification of the provisions of Article 75, SS1(table), the  **Postal**  Administration of the  **Union**  of Soviet Socialist Republics shall be authorised to collect transit rates for the Trans-Siberian Railway for both routes (Manchuria or Vladivostok) at the rate of fr. 4.50 per kilogram for letters and postcards and fr. 0.50 per kilogram for others articles for distances exceeding 6,000 kilometres.

The Administration of the Argentine Republic shall be authorised to collect a fee of 30 centimes per kilogram over and above the transit rates mentioned in Article 75, SS1(1), of the Convention, in respect of correspondence of all kinds forwarded in transit by the Argentine section of the Transandine Railway.

## IX

### SPECIAL TRANSIT RATES FOR THE EASTERN REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY

Exceptionally, the Eastern Republic of Uruguay shall be authorised to collect, for all oversea mails landed at Montevideo which it forwards by its own services to countries beyond, the land transit rates prescribed by Article 75, ie, 60 centimes per kilogram of letters and postcards and 8 centimes per kilogram of other articles.

## X

### SPECIAL WAREHOUSING CHARGES AT ADEN

As an exceptional measure, the Administration of British India shall be authorised to collect a fee of

40 centimes per bag for all bags warehoused at Aden, provided that the Administration of British India does not receive payment for a land or sea transit in respect of the bags in question.



## XI

### SPECIAL TRANSHIPMENT CHARGES

Exceptionally, the Portuguese Administration shall be authorised to collect 40 centimes per bag on all the mails transhipped at the port of Lisbon.

## XII

### PROTOCOL LEFT OPEN TO THE COUNTRIES NOT REPRESENTED

As Afghanistan, the Republic of Haiti, the Republic of Liberia, Luxemburg, the Republic of El Salvador, the Territory of the Saar, Siam and Yemen, which form part of the  **Postal Union** , were not represented at the congress, the Protocol shall remain open to them in order to accede to the Convention and the Agreements there concluded, or only to one or other of them.



## XIII

### PROTOCOL LEFT OPEN TO THE COUNTRIES REPRESENTED FOR SIGNATURES AND ACCESSIONS

The Protocol shall remain open to those countries whose representatives have today signed only the Convention, or only a certain number of the Agreements drawn up by the congress, in order to permit them to accede to the other Agreements signed this day, or to one or other of them.

## XIV

### PERIOD FOR THE NOTIFICATION OF ACCESSIONS

The accessions referred to in Articles XII and XIII must be notified through diplomatic channels by the Governments concerned to the Government of Egypt, and by it to the other States of the  **Union** . The period allowed to the said Governments for this notification shall expire on 1 January 1935.

IN FAITH WHEREOF the undermentioned Plenipotentiaries have drawn up the present Protocol, which shall have the same force and validity as if the provisions which it contains were inserted in the text itself of the Convention to which it relates, and they have signed it in a single copy which shall remain in the archives of the Government of Egypt and of which a copy shall be delivered to each Party.

DONE at Cairo, the 20th day of March, 1934.

[Signatures not reproduced here.]

### DETAILED REGULATIONS FOR THE EXECUTION OF THE **UNIVERSAL POSTAL** CONVENTION

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### PROVISIONS REGARDING THE CONVEYANCE OF LETTER MAILS BY AIR

## CHAPTER I

### GENERAL PROVISIONS



#### Article 1

##### Classes of correspondence admitted in the air mails

1. All the classes of correspondence indicated in Article 33 of the Convention shall be admitted to air conveyance, for the whole or part of the journey, viz, letters, single and reply-paid postcards, commercial papers, printed papers of every kind (including impressions in relief for the use of the blind), samples of merchandise, small packets, as well as  **postal**  money orders, accounts for collection (*valeurs à recouvrer*) and subscribers' newspapers (*abonnements-poste*). In that case, the articles shall be called "*Correspondances-avion*" (Air mail correspondence).
2. The articles mentioned in Article 33 of the Convention may be registered and marked with trade charges to be collected on delivery.
3. Insured letters and boxes may also be conveyed by air in the relations between countries which agree to the exchange of such articles by air.

#### Article 2

##### Freedom of transit



The freedom of transit prescribed by Article 26 of the Convention shall be guaranteed for air mail correspondence throughout the entire territory of the  **Union** , whether or not the intermediate Administrations take part in retransmitting the correspondence.

#### Article 3

##### Routing of air mail correspondence



1. The Administrations which use air communications for the conveyance of their own correspondence shall be bound to forward, by the same means, the air mail correspondence which reaches them from other Administrations.
2. Administrations which have no air service shall forward air mail correspondence by the most rapid routes used for mails.

The same regulations shall apply if, for any reason whatever, transmission by these other routes offers advantages over an existing air route.

3. Attention must be paid to the routing instructions placed on air mail correspondence by the senders, provided that the route is one normally used by the  **postal**  service for the journey concerned.
4. Closed air mails must be forwarded by the route requested by the Administration of the country of origin, provided that this route is used by the Administration of the country of transit for the transmission of its own mails.

#### Article 4

## Rates of postage and general conditions for the acceptance of air mail correspondence

1. Articles for transmission by air mail shall be prepaid, in addition to the ordinary  **postal**  charges, with a special air mail fee, the amount of which shall be fixed by the Administration of the country of origin.
  2. In the services which are considered as ordinary services (Article 12, SS10, hereafter), this fee must not exceed 15 centimes per 20 grams per 1,000 kilometres of air conveyance; for postcards and money orders the maximum fee is 15 centimes for each article per 1,000 kilometres of air conveyance.
- Uniform fees must be fixed for the whole of the territory of the country of destination, whatever route is used.
- In the services between European countries the maximum fee shall be 15 centimes per 20 grams, irrespective of distance.
3. The fees on air mail correspondence conveyed by extraordinary services (Article 12, SS11, hereafter) shall be fixed with regard to the extraordinary expenditure which the use of these services occasions.
  4. For articles other than letters, postcards, money orders, and accounts for collection, the fees collected in accordance with the provisions of SSSS2 and 3 may be reduced to  $\frac{1}{5}$ th as a minimum.
  5. Administrations shall have the option of charging no special fee for transmission by air, provided that information is given to the country of destination and previous agreement is reached with the transit countries.
  6. The fees must be paid before despatch.
  7. The fee for a reply-paid postcard shall be collected for each half separately at the point of departure of each of these halves.
  8. Air mail correspondence shall be prepaid in the manner laid down in Article 47 of the Convention. However, without regard to the class of correspondence, the prepayment may be represented by a manuscript note, in figures, of the amount collected, expressed in the currency of the country of origin in the form:

*"Taxe perçue: Fr. c."* (Amount collected: Fr. c.).



This indication may appear either in a special stamp impression or on an adhesive stamp or special label, or simply be inscribed on the address side of the article by any method whatever. In all cases, the indication must be supported by an impression of the date-stamp of the office of origin.

## Article 5

### Unpaid or insufficiently prepaid air mail correspondence

1. In the case of entire absence of prepayment, air mail correspondence shall be treated in conformity with the provisions of Articles 35 and 36 of the Convention. Articles on which the prepayment of postage is not compulsory before despatch shall be transmitted by ordinary routes.
2. In the case of insufficient prepayment, air mail correspondence shall be transmitted by air mail if

the charges prepaid represent at least the amount of the air mail fee. Administrations of origin shall have the option of forwarding this correspondence by air when the charges prepaid represent 25 percent at least of the amount of the air mail fee.

The provisions of Article 36 of the Convention shall apply as regards the collection of  **postal**  charges not prepaid at the time of despatch.

3. When articles not prepaid at least 25 percent of the air mail fee shall be forwarded by ordinary route, the office of posting or the office of exchange must strike out all notes relating to transmission by air mail and indicate briefly the reasons for the transmission by the ordinary route.



## Article 6

### Delivery of air mail correspondence

1. Air mail correspondence shall be delivered with the utmost rapidity possible and must at least be included in the first delivery which follows its arrival at the office of delivery.
2. The senders shall have the right to request delivery by special messenger, immediately after arrival, on prepayment of the special express delivery fee prescribed by Article 45 of the Convention. This right shall exist only in relations between countries which have organised the express delivery service in their reciprocal relations.
3. When the regulations of the country of destination permit, the addressees may request the delivering office to deliver air mail correspondence to their address immediately on its arrival. In this case, the Administrations of destination shall be authorised to collect on delivery a special fee which may not exceed the express fee prescribed by Article 45 of the Convention.
4. On payment of a supplementary charge, Administrations may, after agreement, effect delivery by special means, in particular by the use of pneumatic tubes.

## Article 7

### Redirection and return of air mail correspondence

1. Air mail correspondence addressed to persons who have changed their address shall be forwarded to the new address by ordinary means of conveyance, unless the addressee has expressly asked for redirection by air mail and has paid in advance to the redirecting office the air mail fee for the new transmission. Undeliverable correspondence shall be returned to origin by ordinary route.
2. If redirection or return takes place through ordinary  **postal**  channels, the air mail label "*Par avion*" and all annotations relative to transmission by air mail must be struck out officially by means of two thick transverse strokes.

## CHAPTER II

### REGISTERED ARTICLES AND INSURED ARTICLES

## Article 8

### Registered articles

Registered articles shall be subject to the postage charges and general conditions of acceptance

prescribed by the Convention. They must be prepaid, in addition, with the same air mail fees as ordinary articles.

## Article 9

### Responsibility

← **Postal** → Administrations shall accept, for registered articles sent by air mail, the same responsibility as for other registered articles.

## Article 10

### Insured articles

1. Administrations which admit insured articles to conveyance by air mail shall be authorised to collect on account of those articles a special insurance fee of which they shall fix the amount.

The total of the ordinary insurance fee and of the special fee must not exceed double the limit fixed by Article 3(c) of the Agreement concerning insured letters and boxes.

2. So far as concerns insured articles sent in closed mails through the territory of countries which are not parties to the Agreement concerning insured articles or transmitted by air services for which the countries in question do not accept responsibility for insured articles, the responsibility of these countries shall be limited to that prescribed for registered articles.

## CHAPTER III

### ALLOCATION OF AIR MAIL FEES. RATES FOR CONVEYANCE

## Article 11

### Allocation of air mail fees

Each Administration shall keep the whole of the air mail fees which it collects.

## Article 12







### Rates for air conveyance of closed mails

1. The provisions of Article 75 of the Convention concerning transit shall apply only to the land or sea transport, if any, of air mail correspondence.

2. Administrations which undertake the transmission of air mail correspondence by air, either as the intermediate Administration or as the Administration of destination, shall be entitled, on this account, to be credited with the rates for conveyance.

In so far as concerns the Administration of destination, this credit must be uniform for all the services effected in its internal system.

3. If two countries are connected by several air lines, the rates for conveyance shall be calculated according to the mean distance of these routes and their importance for international traffic. The same shall apply to the credit due for transport within the country of destination.

4. The rates for conveyance applicable to the same air service shall be uniform for all Administrations which use this service without sharing in the working expenses.
5. Apart from the exceptions allowed in SSSS6 and 7 below, the rates for air conveyance shall be payable to the  **Postal**  Administration of the country in which is situated the aerodrome at which the mails are taken over by the air service.
6. The Administration which hands to an air transport undertaking mails intended for conveyance successively by several distinct air services may, if it has agreed with the intermediate Administrations, pay directly to that undertaking the rates for conveyance for the whole route. The intermediate Administrations shall have, for their part, the right to demand the application pure and simple of the provisions of SS5.
7. As an exception to the provisions of SSSS5 and 6, each Administration which maintains an air service shall retain the right to collect direct from each Administration which uses that service the rates for conveyance applicable to the whole of the route.
8. The rates for air conveyance of air mail correspondence despatched in closed mails shall be borne by the Administration of the country of origin.
9. In the absence of agreement to the contrary between the  **Postal**  Administrations concerned, the transfer in the same aerodrome, in course of transmission, of mails conveyed successively by several distinct air services must be performed by the  **Postal**  Administration of the country in which the transfer takes place. This rule shall not apply when the transfer takes place between machines performing successive stages of the same service.
10. The basic tariff to be applied to the settlement of accounts between Administrations in respect of air transport (ordinary services) shall be fixed per kilogram of gross weight and per kilometre, at .006 francs as a maximum. This tariff shall be applied proportionally to fractions of a kilogram.  
  
Air mails conveyed in the internal service shall be subject to the same tariff.
11. The charges for conveyance specified above shall not apply to conveyance effected by means of services of which the establishment and maintenance entail extraordinary expenditure (extraordinary services). The cost of transport applicable to these services shall be fixed, per kilogram, by the Administrations to which these services belong. They shall be applied proportionally to fractions of a kilogram.
12. The rates for conveyance mentioned above shall be due also for correspondence exempt from transit rates, as well as for mails or correspondence missent, in cases where these are despatched by air.
13. The Administrations of the countries flown over shall have no right to payment for mails conveyed by air over their territory.

### Article 13

#### Rates for conveyance "*à découvert*" of air mail correspondence

1. The charges for conveyance of air mail correspondence which is exchanged *à découvert* between two Administrations must be calculated in accordance with the provisions of Article 12, SSSS1 to 5 and 10 to 12.

In order to determine the charges for conveyance, the net weight of these articles shall be increased by 10 percent.

2. An Administration which despatches air mail correspondence in transit *à découvert* to another Administration must pay to that Administration all the charges due in respect of subsequent air conveyance.

## CHAPTER IV

### INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

#### Article 14

Communications to be addressed to the International Bureau and to Administrations

1. Administrations must communicate to the International Bureau by means of a list identical with form AV1, annexed, full information concerning air mails.
2. The list prescribed by SS1 must be forwarded regularly twice a year, at least a fortnight before the commencement of the summer and winter services. Any modification must be notified without delay.
3. The International Bureau shall draw up, from the information entered on the forms AV1 and the other communications which it receives, a list of general information concerning the air mail service.

This general list, which must conform to form AV1, shall be distributed to Administrations without delay.

The International Bureau shall also be entrusted with the preparation of maps indicating the internal and international air mail lines of all countries.

4. For provisional information, a copy of list AV1, referred to at SS1, shall be forwarded by each Administration directly to all Administrations which request it.
5. In addition, Administrations shall communicate regularly to all Administrations with which they are connected by air liens complete timetables of their internal and international air services at least a fortnight before the commencement of each season. In their relations with other Administrations, these particulars shall be furnished only on demand.

## CHAPTER V

### ACCOUNTING REGULATIONS

#### Article 15

##### Statistics

1. The general accounting for the charges for air conveyance shall be based on statistical returns taken in the seven days which follow 14 June and 14 November in each year. The data obtained from the June statistics shall form the basis for the payments due for the summer service; those from the November statistics shall form the basis in regard to the winter service.
2. The statistics relating to services which are not in operation during the regular statistical periods

shall be taken after agreement between the Administrations concerned.

3. As a temporary measure, the Administration responsible for the conveyance by air shall have the right to demand that the settlement of accounts shall take place quarterly or half-yearly on the basis of the gross weight of the mails or of the net weight increased by 10 percent of articles sent *à découvert* actually conveyed during the period in question. In this case, the provisions of Articles 17, 19 and 20 hereafter shall be applied to the verification of the weights and to the preparation of the accounts, it being understood that the statements AV3 and AV4 must be drawn up monthly for all the air services performed.

## Article 16

### Make-up of ordinary or air mails during air mail statistical periods

The provisions of Article 162 of the Detailed Regulations of the Convention shall not be applicable to the half-yearly statistics for calculating the charges for conveyance by air. However, during these statistical periods, the labels or addresses of mails containing air mail correspondence must be conspicuously marked "*Statistique-avion*".

## Article 17

### Establishment of the weight of air mails

1. During the statistical periods, the date of despatch and the gross weight of the mail shall be entered on the label or outer address of the mail. The enclosure of one air mail in another mail of the same kind shall be forbidden.
2. If correspondence *à découvert* intended for onward transmission by air is included in an ordinary or air mail, it must be made up into a bundle labelled "*Par avion*" accompanied by a statement identical with Form AV2 annexed. The weight of transit correspondence forwarded *à découvert* shall be shown separately for each country of destination. The letter bill shall be headed "*Bordereau AV2*".
3. These entries shall be checked by the office of exchange of destination. If that office finds that the actual weight differs by more than 20 grams from the weight advised, it shall correct the label or the statement AV2 and notify the error immediately to the despatching office of exchange by means of a verification note. In the case of closed mails, a copy of this verification note shall be sent to each intermediate Administration. If the differences in weight ascertained are within the abovementioned limits, the entries of the office of despatch shall be accepted as valid.

## Article 18

### List of closed air mails

As soon as possible and, in every case, within a period of 15 days after each statistical period, the Administrations which have despatched closed air mails shall send a list of these mails to the different Administrations whose air services they have used, including if necessary, the Administration of destination.

## Article 19

### Accounting for air transport charges on the basis of statistics

1. During the statistical periods, the intermediate Administration shall take note, in a statement in

accordance with form AV3 annexed, of the weights shown on the labels or outer addresses of the air mails that they have reforwarded by air either in their internal services or beyond the frontier of their countries. A statement shall be prepared for each office of exchange despatching air mails.

2. The Administrations receiving air mails which undertake the retransmission by air of the air mail correspondence contained therein, either in their internal service or beyond the frontiers of their countries, shall prepare a statement, in accordance with form AV4 annexed, from the particulars given on the statements AV2. The same procedure shall apply as regards air mail correspondence contained in ordinary mails.

3. As soon as possible, and, at the latest, six weeks after the close of the statistical operations, the statements AV3 and AV4 shall be forwarded to the despatching offices of exchange for acceptance. These offices, after having accepted the statements, shall forward them, in their turn, to their central Administration, which shall return them to the central creditor Administration.

4. If the creditor Administration has received no notice of amendments within an interval of three months reckoning from the date of despatch, the statement shall be regarded as fully accepted. In the case of distant countries, this period shall be extended to four months.

## Article 20

### Accounting for air transport charges

1. The gross weights of mails and the net weight increased by 10 percent of *à découvert* correspondence shown in statement AV3 and AV4 shall be multiplied by a figure corresponding to the frequency of the summer and winter services, and the products thus obtained shall serve as the basis of special accounts determining in francs the transport payments accruing to each Administration for the current half-year.

2. The duty of preparing these accounts shall devolve on the creditor Administration which forwards them to the debtor Administration.

3. The special accounts shall be prepared in duplicate and forwarded to the debtor Administration as soon as possible. If the creditor Administration has received no notice of amendments within an interval of three months reckoning from the date of despatch, this account shall be regarded as fully accepted.

## Article 21

### General account

In the absence of any understanding to the contrary between the Administrations concerned, the general account of air transport charges shall be prepared twice a year by the International Bureau in accordance with the regulations fixed for the account relating to transit charges.

## CHAPTER VI

### MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

## Article 22

### Special marking of air mail correspondence

A special blue label or stamp impression bearing the words "*Par avion*" (by Air Mail) and optionally

with a translation in the language of the country of origin shall be affixed to air mail correspondence on despatch.

## Article 23

### Special marking of air mails

When the articles forwarded by air necessitate the making-up of separate mails, the latter must be enclosed in blue covers or in bags either entirely blue or bearing wide blue bands.

## Article 24

### Partial transmission by air

When the sender desires that his correspondence shall be forwarded by air for part of the air route only, he must indicate this on the correspondence by means of a note in the language of the country of origin and in the French language: "*Par avion de ... à ...*". At the end of the air transmission, the air mail label "*Par avion*" as well as the special annotation must be struck out officially by means of two thick transverse strokes.

## Article 25

### Method of despatching air mail correspondence

1. The provisions of Articles 154, SS2(a), and 156 of the Detailed Regulations of the Convention shall apply by analogy to air mail correspondence included in ordinary mails. The labels of the bundles must bear the annotation "*Par avion*".

In the case of the inclusion of registered air mail correspondence in the ordinary mails, the note "*Par avion*" (by Air Mail) must be made in the space prescribed in SS2 of Article 156 for the note "*Exprès*" (Express).

If insured air mail correspondence is included in the ordinary mails, the note "*Par avion*" (by Air Mail) shall be entered in the "Observations" column of the despatch lists against the respective entries.

2. Transit air mail correspondence forwarded *à découvert* in an air mail or in an ordinary mail, and which is to be reforwarded by air by the country of destination of the mail, shall be made up into a special bundle and labelled "*Par avion*".

3. The country of transit may request the formation of special bundles according to the country of destination. In this case, each bundle shall be provided with a label bearing the note "*Par avion pour ...*".

## Article 26

### Notes to be made on the letter bills, despatch lists and labels of air mails

The letter bills and the despatch lists which accompany air mails must bear an air mail label "*Par avion*" at the head. The same label shall be affixed to the labels and addresses of these mails.

## Article 27

### Interruption in the flight of an air mail aeroplane owing to an accident

1. If, in consequence of an accident *en route*, an aeroplane is unable to continue its journey and call at the prescribed stopping-places, the staff on board must deliver the mails to the post office nearest to the place of the accident or to the office most suitable for reforwarding the mails. This office, after checking the state of the mails and, if necessary, repairing damaged correspondence, shall forward the mails by the most rapid routes to the offices of destination.
2. The particulars of the incident and the measures taken shall be notified by verification note to the offices of destination of the mails concerned; a copy of the verification note shall be sent to the office of origin of the mails.

### Article 28

#### Customs clearance of correspondence liable to Customs duty

The Administrations shall take steps to accelerate as much as possible the clearance through the Customs of air mail correspondence liable to Customs duty.

### Article 29

#### Application of the provisions of the Convention and Agreements

The provisions of the Convention and Agreements, and their Detailed Regulations, except the Parcel Post Agreement and its Detailed Regulations, shall be applicable as regards everything which is not expressly provided for in the preceding Articles.

### Article 30

#### Entry into force and duration of the provisions adopted

The present provisions shall come into force on the day on which the Convention comes into operation.

They shall have the same duration as that Convention, unless they are renewed by common consent between the Parties concerned.



DONE at Cairo, the 20th day of March, 1934.

[Signatures not reproduced here.]

### FINAL PROTOCOL TO THE PROVISIONS REGARDING THE CONVEYANCE OF LETTER MAILS BY AIR

#### I

#### AIR TRANSPORT CHARGES FOR CLOSED MAILS

The Administrations for British India and of the  **Union**  of Soviet Socialist Republics shall have the option of collection for each section of their inland air service the transport charges prescribed by Article 12.

#### II

## RIGHT OF REDUCING THE UNIT OF WEIGHT FOR AIR MAIL CORRESPONDENCE

Where the system of weights permits, Administrations shall have the right to adopt a unit of weight less than that of 20 grams prescribed by Article 4, SS2. In this case, the fee shall be fixed according to the unit of weight adopted.

### III

## EXCEPTIONAL CHARGES IN FAVOUR OF CERTAIN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

European Administrations which, owing to the geographic situation of their country, experience difficulty in adopting a uniform charge for the whole of Europe shall be authorised to collect charges proportionate to the distances, in accordance with the provisions of Article 4, SS2.

This right shall also be accorded to the other European countries for their traffic with the countries referred to in the preceding paragraph.

**DONE** at Cairo, the 20th day of March, 1934.

[Signatures not reproduced here.]

### ANNEXES

#### FORMS AV1 to AV4

[Forms not reproduced here.]

[1] The Convention, Final Protocol and Detailed Regulations, and the Provisions relating to the Conveyance of Letter Mails by Air, and Final Protocol, were signed for Australia 20 March 1934 with following declaration under the Convention:

"The present Convention applies to overseas territories or mandated territories given below:

Lord Howe Island.

Nauru.

Norfolk Island.

Papua.

The territory of New Guinea and other territories of the Pacific Ocean under the mandate of the Commonwealth of Australia."