UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

Convention, with final protocol, and provisions concerning transportation of regular mails by air, with final protocol, signed at Buenos Aires May 23, 1939; interpretations [1]

Ratified and approved by the Postmaster General of the United States, with a statement, January 12, 1940 [2]

Approved by the President of the United States January 25, 1940

Entered into force July 1, 1940

Terminated by convention of July 5, 1947 [3]

54 Stat. 2049; Post Office Department print

[TRANSLATION]

UNIVERSAL POSTAL CONVENTION

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[1] For text of regulations for execution of the convention, see 54 Stat. 2105; for postal forms annexed to the provisions concerning transportation of regular mails by air, see 54 Stat. 2258.

[2] The Postmaster General's ratification and approval contained the following statement: "This ratification is applicable to the United States of America, the insular possessions of the United States of America mentioned in Article 8(1°), and to Samoa and the Panama Canal Zone."

[3] *Post*, vol. 4.

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UNIVERSAL POSTAL CONVENTION

Concluded between Afghanistan, the Union of South Africa, Albania, Germany, the United States of America, the whole of the Possessions of the United States of America, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Argentine Republic, the Commonwealth of Australia, Belgium, the Colony of the Belgian Congo, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, the Republic of Colombia, the Republic of Costa Rica, the Republic of Cuba, Denmark, the Free City of Danzig, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, the Republic of El Salvador, Ecuador, Spain, the whole of the Spanish Colonies, Estonia, Finland, France, Algeria, the French Colonies and Pro-

tectorates in Indochina, the whole of the other French Colonies, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the whole of the British Colonies, including the Oversea Territories, the Protectorates and the Territories under Suzerainty or Mandate, Greece, Guatemala, the Republic of Haiti, the Republic of Honduras, Hungary, British India, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, the whole of the Italian Colonies and Possessions other than Italian East Africa, Italian East Africa, Japan, Chosen, the whole of the other Japanese Dependencies, Latvia, the Levant States under French Mandate (Syria and Lebanon), the Republic of Liberia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Morocco (except the Spanish Zone), Morocco (Spanish Zone), Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, New Zealand, the Republic of Panama, Paraguay, the Netherlands, Curaçao and Surinam, the Netherlands Indies, Peru, the Commonwealth of the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Portuguese Colonies in West Africa, the Portuguese Colonies in East Africa, in Asia and Oceania, Rumania, the Republic of San Marino. Siam, Sweden, the Swiss Confederation, Czecho-Slovakia, Tunisia, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Eastern Republic of Uruguay, the Vatican City State, the United States of Venezuela, Yemen, and the Kingdom of Yugoslavia.

The undersigned, plenipotentiaries of the Governments of the countries above enumerated, being assembled in Congress at Buenos Aires by virtue of Article 13 of the Universal Postal Convention concluded at Cairo on March 20, 1934,[4] have, by common consent and subject to ratification, revised the said Convention to read as follows:

TITLE I

UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

CHAPTER I

ORGANIZATION AND EXTENT OF THE UNION

ARTICLE 1

Constitution of the Union

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

The purpose of the Postal Union is also to assure the organization and perfection of the various international postal services.

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[4] *Ante,* p. 163.

ARTICLE 2

New adhesions. Procedure

Any country is permitted at any time to adhere to the Convention.

Notice of the adhesion shall be given thru 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 regular-mail service is governed by the provisions of the Convention.

Other services, such as those of insured letters and boxes, parcel post, money orders, postal checks, collection orders, and subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals, form the subject of Agreements between countries of the Union.

Such Agreements are binding only upon countries which have adhered to them.

Adhesion to one or more of those agreements is subject to the provisions of Article 2.

ARTICLE 4

Regulations of Execution

The Postal Administrations of the countries of the Union draw up, by mutual agreement, in the form of Regulations of Execution,[5] the measures of order and detail necessary for the execution of the Convention and the Agreements.

ARTICLE 5

Restricted Unions. Special Agreements

The countries of the Union and, insofar as their legislation is not opposed to it, the Administrations, may establish restricted Unions and make special agreements among themselves concerning the subjects dealt with in the Convention and its Regulations, on the condition, however, that they do not introduce therein any provisions less favorable, for the public, than those which are provided for by those Acts.

The same option is granted to the countries which participate in the Agreements and, as the case may be, to their Administrations, in regard to the subjects contemplated by those Acts and their Regulations.

[5] See footnote 1, p. 539.

ARTICLE 6

Domestic legislation

The provisions of the Convention and Agreements of the Union do not affect the legislation of any country concerning anything which is not expressly provided for by those Acts.

ARTICLE 7

Exceptional relations

Administrations which serve territories not comprised in the Union are bound to act as intermediary for the other Administrations. The provisions of the Convention and its Regulations are applicable to such exceptional relations.

ARTICLE 8

Colonies, Protectorates, etc.

The following are considered as forming a single country or a single Administration of the Union, as the case may be, in the sense of the Convention and Agreements, particularly in regard to their right to vote in Congresses and Conferences 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 Possessions of the United States of America, comprising Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands of the United States of America; [6]

2° The Colony of the Belgian Congo;

3° The whole of the Spanish Colonies;

4° Algeria;

5° The French Colonies and Protectorates in Indochina;

6° The whole of the other French Colonies;

7° The whole of the British Colonies, including the Oversea Territories, the Protectorates and the Territories under Suzerainty or Mandate;

8° The whole of the Italian Colonies and Possessions other than Italian East Africa;

9° Italian East Africa;

10° Chosen;

11° The whole of the other Japanese Dependencies;

12° Curaçao and Surinam;

13° The Netherlands Indies;

14° The Portuguese Colonies in West Africa;

15° The Portuguese Colonies in East Africa, Asia and Oceania.

[6] For a U.S. statement, see footnote 2, p. 539.

ARTICLE 9

Application of the Convention to Colonies, Protectorates, etc.

1. Any contracting party may declare, either at the time of its signature, ratification or adhesion, or subsequently, that its acceptance of the present Convention includes all its colonies, oversea territories, protectorates and territories under suzerainty or mandate, or certain of them only. The said declaration, unless made at the time of signing the Convention, shall be addressed to the Government of the Swiss Confederation.

2. The Convention will apply only to the colonies, oversea territories, protectorates or territories under suzerainty or mandate in whose name declarations have been made by virtue of Section 1.

3. Any contracting party may at any time address to the Government of the Swiss Confederation a notification with a view to denouncing the application of the Convention to any colony, oversea territory, protectorate or territory under suzerainty or mandate in the name of which that party has made a declaration by virtue of Section 1. That notification will become effective one year after the date of its receipt by the Government of the Swiss Confederation.

4. The Government of the Swiss Confederation will transmit to all the contracting parties a copy of every declaration or notification received by virtue of Sections 1 to 3.

5. The provisions of the present Article do not apply to any colony, oversea territory, protectorate or territory under suzerainty or mandate enumerated in the Preamble of the Convention.

ARTICLE 10

Extent of the Union

The following are considered as belonging to the Universal Postal Union:

(*a*) The post offices established by countries of the Union in territories not included in the Union;

(*b*) The Principality of Liechtenstein, as belonging to the Postal Administration of Switzerland;

(*c*) The Faeroe Islands as forming part of Denmark, and Greenland, as belonging to the Postal Administration of Denmark, in its capacity as a Danish colony;

(*d*) The Spanish possessions on the north coast of Africa, as forming part of Spain;

(*e*) The Valley of Andorra, as served by the Spanish and French Postal Administrations;

(*f*) The Principality of Monaco, as belonging to the Postal Administration of France;

(*g*) Walvis Bay, as forming part of the Union of South Africa; Basuto-

land and Swaziland, as belonging to the Postal Administration of the Union of South Africa.

ARTICLE 11

(See Interpretations)[7]

Arbitration

1. In case of disagreement between two or more members of the Union as to the interpretation of the Convention and Agreements, as well as their Regulations of Execution, or as to the responsibility imposed upon an Administration by the application of those Acts, the question in dispute is settled by arbitration. To that end, each of the Administrations concerned chooses another member of the Union which is not directly interested in the matter.

If one of the Administrations involved in the dispute does not take any action on a proposal for arbitration within a period of six months, or nine months in the case of distant countries, the International Bureau, if a request is made of it to that effect, calls upon the defaulting Administration to appoint an arbitrator, or appoints one itself officially.

2. The decision of the arbitrators is made on an absolute majority of votes.

3. In case of a tie vote, the arbitrators, for the purpose of settling the difference, choose another Administration which likewise has no interest in the dispute.

In case of disagreement as to a choice, that Administration is designated by the International Bureau from among the members of the Union not proposed by the arbitrators.

4. If it is a question of a dispute concerning one of the Agreements, only such Administrations as execute that Agreement may be designated as arbitrators.

ARTICLE 12

Withdrawal from the Union. Termination of participation in the Agreements

Any contracting party has the option of withdrawing from the Union or of ceasing to participate in the Agreements by notice given one year in advance thru diplomatic channels to the Government of the Swiss Confederation and by the latter to the Governments of the contracting countries.

CHAPTER II

CONGRESSES. CONFERENCES. COMMITTEES

ARTICLE 13

Congresses

1. Delegates from the countries of the Union meet in Congress not later than five years after the effective date of the Acts of the preceding Congress, with a view to revising or completing those Acts, if necessary.

[7] *Post*, p. 600.

Each country is represented at the Congress by one or more plenipotentiary delegates, provided with the necessary credentials, by their Government. It may, if necessary, be represented by the delegation of another country. However, it is understood that a delegation may be charged with representing only two countries, including the one by which it was originally accredited.

In the deliberations, each country has but one vote.

2. Each Congress fixes the meeting-place of the next Congress. The latter is called together by the Government of the country in which it is to be held, in consultation with the International Bureau. That Government is likewise charged with notifying all the Governments of the countries of the Union of the decisions made by the Congress.

ARTICLE 14

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

The Acts of Congresses are ratified as soon as possible, and the ratifications are communicated to the Government of the country where the Congress was held, and by that Government to the Governments of the contracting countries.

In case that one or more of the contracting countries do not ratify one or another of the Acts signed by them, the latter will nevertheless be valid for the countries which have ratified them.

Those Acts are put into effect 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 are abrogated.

ARTICLE 15

Extraordinary Congresses

An extraordinary Congress is called together by agreement with the International Bureau when a request to that effect is made or approved by at least two-thirds of the contracting countries.

The rules laid down by Articles 13 and 14 are applicable to the delegations, the deliberations, and the Acts of extraordinary Congresses.

ARTICLE 16

Regulations for Congresses

Each Congress draws up the necessary regulations for its work and deliberations.

ARTICLE 17

Conferences

Conferences charged with the examination of purely administrative questions may be called together at the request or with the consent of at least two-thirds of the Administrations of the Union.

They are called together by agreement with the International Bureau. Each Conference draws up its own regulations.

ARTICLE 18

Committees

Committees charged by a Congress or a Conference with the study of one or more particular questions are called together by the International Bureau, in consultation, if necessary, with the Administration of the country where such Committees are to meet.

CHAPTER III

PROPOSITIONS IN THE INTERVAL BETWEEN MEETINGS

ARTICLE 19

Introduction of propositions

In the interval between meetings any Administration has the right to address to the other Administrations, thru the intermediary of the International Bureau, propositions concerning the Convention, its Final Protocol, and its Regulations.

The same right is accorded to the Administrations of the countries participating in the Agreements in regard to those Agreements, their Regulations, and their Final Protocols.

In order to be considered, all propositions introduced by an Administration in the interval between meetings must be supported by at least two other Administrations. Such propositions are ignored when the International Bureau does not receive, at the same time, the necessary number of declarations of support.

ARTICLE 20

Examination of propositions

Every proposition is submitted to the following procedure:

A period of six months is allowed for the Administrations to examine the propositions and send in their observations, if any, to the International Bureau. Amendments are not admitted. The replies are assembled by the International Bureau and communicated to the Administrations, with an invitation to pronounce themselves for or against. Those which have not sent in their votes within a period of six months are considered as abstaining. The periods above mentioned are counted from the dates of the circulars of the International Bureau.

If the proposition concerns an Agreement, its Regulations, or their Final Protocols, only the Administrations which have adhered to that Agreement may take part in the procedure indicated above.

ARTICLE 21

Conditions of approval

1. In order to become effective, the propositions must obtain:

(*a*) Unanimity of votes, if it is a question of adding new provisions or modifying the provisions of Titles 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, or of Articles 101, 105, 116, 164, 175 and 196 of its Regulations;

(*b*) Two-thirds of the votes, if it is a question of modifying provisions other than those mentioned in the preceding paragraph;

(*c*) A simple majority, if it is a question of interpreting the provisions of the Convention, its Final Protocol or its Regulations, except in the case of disagreement to be submitted to arbitration as provided for by Article 11.

2. The Agreements fix the conditions to which the approval of propositions concerning them is subject.

ARTICLE 22

Notification of decisions

Additions to and modifications of the Convention, the Agreements and the Final Protocols of those Acts are sanctioned by a diplomatic declaration which the Government of the Swiss Confederation is charged with making up and transmitting, at the request of the International Bureau, to the Governments of the contracting countries.

Additions to and modifications of the Regulations and their Final Protocols are drawn up and communicated to the Administrations by the International Bureau. The same applies to the interpretations contemplated in Article 21, Section 1, letter (*c*).

ARTICLE 23

Effective date of decisions

No addition or modification adopted is effective until at least three months after its notification.

CHAPTER IV

INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

ARTICLE 24

General functions

1. A central Office, operating at Berne under the name of *International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union,* and placed under the supervision of the Swiss Postal Administration, serves as an organ of liaison, information and consultation for the countries of the Union.

That Bureau is charged, in particular, with assembling, coordinating, publishing and distributing information of all kinds concerning the international postal service; with giving, at the request of the interested parties, an opinion on questions in dispute; with making known requests for modification of the Acts of the Congress; with giving notice of the changes adopted; and, in general, with undertaking such studies and work in connection with editing and arranging material as the Convention, the Agreements and their Regulations may assign to it, or which may be entrusted to it in the interests of the Union.

2. It acts as a clearing-house for the settlement of accounts of all kinds relative to the international postal service, between Administrations requesting such intervention.

ARTICLE 25

Expenses of the International Bureau

1. Each Congress fixes the maximum figure for the ordinary annual expenses of the International Bureau.

Those expenses, as well as the extraordinary expenses arising from the meeting of a Congress, a Conference or a Committee, and the expenses incurred in connection with special work entrusted to that Bureau, are shared by all the countries of the Union.

2. The latter are divided, for that purpose, into 7 classes, each of which contributes to the payment of the expenses in the following proportion:

1st	class,	25	units
2d	"	20	"
3d	"	15	"
4th	"	10	"
5th	"	5	"
6th	"	3	"
7th	"	1	unit

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

TITLE II

GENERAL REGULATIONS

SOLE CHAPTER

ARTICLE 26

(See Interpretations)[8]

Liberty of transit

1. Liberty of transit is guaranteed thruout the entire territory of the Union.

2. Liberty of transit for parcel post to be sent by the land and sea routes is limited to the territory of countries participating in that service.

Insured articles may be sent in transit in closed mails thru the territory of countries which do not take part in such service, or by maritime services where responsibility for insured articles is not accepted by the countries, but the responsibility of those countries is limited to that prescribed for registered articles.

3. Liberty of transit for airmail parcels is guaranteed thruout the entire territory of the Union. However, the Administrations which have not adhered to the Agreement concerning parcel post may not be obliged to participate in the transmission of air-mail parcels by the land and sea routes.

ARTICLE 27

Prohibition against unauthorized charges

It is forbidden to collect postal charges of any kind whatever other than those prescribed by the Convention and Agreements.

ARTICLE 28

Temporary suspension of services

When, as a result of exceptional circumstances, an Administration finds itself obliged to suspend the execution of services temporarily, in whole or in part, it is bound to give notice thereof immediately, by telegraph if necessary, to the Administration or Administrations concerned.

ARTICLE 29

Monetary standard

The franc used as the monetary unit in the provisions of the Convention and Agreements is the gold franc of 100 centimes weighing 10/31 of a gram and having a fineness of 0.900.

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[8] *Post*, p. 600. See also final protocol, p. 578.

ARTICLE 30

Equivalents

In each country of the Union, the postage rates are fixed according to equivalents corresponding as exactly as possible to the value of the franc in the money of that country.

ARTICLE 31

Forms. Language

1. The forms used by the Administrations in their reciprocal relations shall be drawn up in the French language, 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 shall include an interlinear translation in the French language when they are not printed in that language.

3. The texts, colors and dimensions of the forms mentioned in Sections 1 and 2 shall be those prescribed by the Regulations of the Convention and of the Agreements.

4. Administrations may come to agreements as to the language to be employed for official correspondence in their reciprocal relations.

ARTICLE 32

Identity cards

1. Any Administration may issue, to persons who apply for them, identity cards valid as proof of identity for all postoffice business in the countries which have not given notice of their refusal to admit them.

2. The Administration issuing an identity card is authorized to collect a charge therefor not exceeding 70 centimes.

3. Administrations are released from all responsibility when it is proved that a mail article was delivered or a money order paid upon presentation of a valid identity card.

Neither are they responsible for the consequences of loss, theft or fraudulent use of a valid identity card.

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

TITLE III

PROVISIONS CONCERNING POSTAL CORRESPONDENCE

CHAPTER I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 33

Articles of correspondence

The term *articles of correspondence* applies to letters, single and reply-

paid post cards, commercial paper, prints, raised print for the blind, samples of merchandise, small packets, and *Phonopost* articles.

The service of small packets is limited to the countries which agree to execute it in their reciprocal relations or in one direction only.

ARTICLE 34

(See Interpretations)[9]

Postage rates and general conditions

1. The postage rates for the transportation of articles of correspondence throughout the entire extent of the Union, including their delivery at the residence of the addressees in countries where the delivery service is or may be established, and the limits of weight and dimensions, are fixed in accordance with the indications of the following table:

Articles	Units of weight	Rates	Limits of—	
			Weight	Dimensions
1	2	3	4	5
	g	c		
Letters: First unit of weight	20	20	2 kg	Length, breadth, and thickness combined, 90 cm.; but greatest length, 60 cm.; in rolls: length and twice the diameter, 100 cm.; but greatest length, 80 cm.
Letters: Each additional unit		12		
Post cards: Single	.....	12	.....	Maximum 15 by 10.5 cm.; minimum 10 by 7 cm.
Post cards: With reply paid	.....	24	.....	
Commercial papers	50	4	2 kg	As for letters.
Minimum charge	.....	20	.....	
Prints	50	4	2 kg. (3 kg. for single volumes).	Prints sent open in the form of folded or unfolded cards are subject to the same minimum limits as post cards.
Raised print for the blind	1,000	2	7 kg	
Samples of merchandise	50	4	500 g	
Minimum charge	.....	8	.....	
Small packets	50	8	1 kg	
Minimum charge	.....	40	.....	
Phonopost articles: First unit of weight	20	15	60 g	Length, breadth, and thickness combined, 60 cm.; but the greatest dimension may not exceed 26 cm.
Phonopost articles: Each additional unit		10		

2. The limits of weight and dimensions fixed by Section 1 do not apply to the correspondence relative to the postal service mentioned in Article 49, Section 1, hereafter.

[9] *Post*, p. 601. See also final protocol, p. 577.

3. In relations with Administrations which have given their consent, each Administration has the option of granting to newspapers and periodicals published in its country a reduction of 50 percent in the general rate for prints, while reserving the right to limit that reduction to newspapers and periodicals sent direct by the publishers or their representatives. There are excluded from the reduction, regardless of the regularity of their publication, commercial prints such as catalogs, prospectuses, price lists, etc.

Administrations may also, with the consent of the Administrations of destination, grant the same reduction, irrespective of the senders, to books and pamphlets, sheet-music and maps which do not contain any publicity or advertising other than that appearing on the covers or fly-leaves of these articles.

In a general manner, the Administrations of origin which have accepted, in principle, the reduction of 50 percent, reserve the right to fix, for the articles contemplated in the 1st and 2d paragraphs above, a minimum charge which, while remaining within the limits of the reduction of 50 percent, is not lower than the charge applicable to the same articles in their domestic service.

4. Articles other than registered letters in sealed envelopes may not contain coins, banknotes, paper money or any values payable to the bearer; manufactured or unmanufactured platinum, gold or silver; precious stones, jewelry, or other precious articles.

5. The Administrations of the countries of origin and destination have the option of treating, in accordance with their domestic legislation, letters which contain documents having the character of actual personal correspondence addressed to persons other than the addressee or persons residing with the latter.

6. With the exceptions provided for in the Regulations, commercial papers, prints, prints for the use of the blind, samples of merchandise, and small packets shall:

(*a*) be made up in such a way as to be able to be easily inspected;

(*b*) not bear any annotation or contain any document having the character of actual personal correspondence;

(*c*) not contain any postage stamp or form of prepayment, canceled or uncanceled, or any paper representing a value.

7. Packages of samples of merchandise may not contain any article having a salable value.

8. The service of *Phonopost* articles is limited to the countries which have agreed to exchange such articles, either in their reciprocal relations or in one direction only.

The provisions applicable to letters are likewise applicable to *Phonopost* articles, in regard to everything not expressly prescribed for the latter class of articles.

9. The inclusion in a single package of articles of correspondence of different classes (grouped articles) is authorized under the conditions fixed by the Regulations.

10. With the exceptions provided for by the Convention and its Regulations, articles which do not fulfill the conditions prescribed by the present Article and the corresponding Articles of the Regulations are not forwarded.

Articles which have been wrongly accepted shall be returned to the country of origin. However, the Administration of destination is authorized to deliver them to the addressees. In such a case, it applies to them, if need be, the rates and surcharges prescribed for the class of correspondence in which they have to be placed because of their contents, weight or dimensions. As for articles exceeding the maximum weight-limits fixed by Section 1, they may be rated in accordance with their actual weight.

ARTICLE 35

(See Interpretations)[10]

Prepayment

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

Articles other than letters and single post cards which are unprepaid or insufficiently prepaid, or reply post cards both halves of which are not fully prepaid at the time of mailing, are not dispatched.

ARTICLE 36

Charge on unprepaid or insufficiently prepaid correspondence

With the exceptions provided for by Article 54, Section 5, for registered articles, and by Article 147, Sections 3, 4, and 5 of the Regulations for certain classes of redirected articles, letters and single post cards not prepaid or insufficiently prepaid are liable to a charge equal to double the amount of the missing postage, to be paid by the addressee; but that charge may not be lower than 5 centimes.

The same treatment may be applied, in the cases above contemplated, to other articles of correspondence which have been improperly dispatched to the country of destination.

ARTICLE 37

Surcharges

There may be collected, in addition to the rates fixed by Article 34, for every article transported by extraordinary services involving special expenses, a surcharge proportionate to those expenses.

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[10] *Post*, p. 601.

When the rate of prepayment of the single post card includes the surcharge authorized by the preceding paragraph, the same rate is applicable to each half of the reply-paid post card.

ARTICLE 38

Special charges

1. The Administrations are authorized to charge late fees in accordance with the provisions of their own legislation for articles posted in their services for dispatch after the mails have closed.

2. Articles addressed to general delivery may be subjected by the Administrations of the countries of destination to such special charge as may be prescribed by their legislation for articles of the same kind in the domestic service.

3. The Administrations of the countries of destination are authorized to levy a special charge of 40 centimes at most for each small packet delivered to the addressee. That charge may be increased by 20 centimes at most in case of delivery at the addressee's residence.

ARTICLE 39

Dutiable articles

Small packets and prints liable to customs duty are admitted.

The same applies to letters and samples of merchandise containing dutiable articles when the country of destination has given its consent.

Shipments of serums and vaccines, benefiting by the exception stipulated by Article 123 of the Regulations, are admitted in all cases.

ARTICLE 40

Customs inspection

The Administration of the country of destination is authorized to submit the articles mentioned in Article 39 to customs inspection and, if necessary, to open them officially.

ARTICLE 41

Customs-clearance fee

Articles submitted to customs inspection in the country of destination may be charged on that account, by the postal service, with a customs-clearance fee of 40 centimes at most per article.

ARTICLE 42

Customs duties and other non-postal charges

The Administrations are authorized to collect from the addressees of mail articles the customs duties and all other non-postal charges which may be due.

ARTICLE 43

(See Interpretations)[11]

Prepayment of customs duty, etc.

1. In relations between countries which have come to an agreement to that effect, senders may, by means of a previous declaration at the office of mailing, assume payment of the whole of the postal and non-postal charges with which the articles are assessed on delivery.

In such a case, senders must promise to pay such amounts as may be claimed by the office of destination, and, if need be, post sufficient surety.

The Administration of destination is authorized to collect a commission fee which may not exceed 40 centimes per article. This fee is independent of the one provided for by Article 41.

2. Any Administration has the right to limit this prepayment service to registered articles.

ARTICLE 44

Cancelation of customs duty and other non-postal charges

The Administrations undertake to make representations to the interested services of their countries with a view to having the customs duties and other non-postal charges annulled on articles returned to the country of origin, destroyed because of complete deterioration of the contents, or forwarded to a third country.

ARTICLE 45

(See Interpretations)[11]

Special-delivery articles

1. Articles of correspondence are, at the request of the senders, delivered to the addressees by special messenger immediately after their arrival, in countries whose Administrations agree to undertake that service in their reciprocal relations.

2. Such articles, known as *special-delivery articles,* are liable, in addition to the regular postage, to a special fee amounting at least to the postage on an ordinary single-rate letter, and at most to 60 centimes. This fee must be fully prepaid.

3. When the addressee's residence is situated outside the local delivery zone of the office of destination, delivery by special messenger may give rise to the collection of a supplementary charge not exceeding that collected in the domestic service for articles of the same kind.

However, special delivery is not obligatory in such cases.

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[11] *Post,* p. 601.

4. Special-delivery articles upon which the total amount of the charges payable in advance has not been prepaid are delivered by the ordinary means, unless they have been treated as special-delivery articles by the office of origin. In the latter case, the articles are rated in accordance with the provisions of Article 36.

5. It is permissible for Administrations to make only one attempt to deliver by special messenger. If such attempt is unsuccessful, the article may be treated as an ordinary article.

ARTICLE 46

Prohibitions

1. The sending of the articles mentioned in Column 1 of the table below is prohibited. When mail articles containing them have been wrongly accepted for mailing, they shall undergo the treatment indicated in Column 2.

Articles 1	Treatment of articles wrongly accepted 2
(*a*) Articles which, by their nature or packing, may expose postal employees to danger, or soil or damage the mails; (*b*) Articles liable to customs duty (with the exceptions provided for by Article 39) as well as samples sent in quantities for the purpose of avoiding the collection of such duty; (*c*) Opium, morphine, cocaine, and other narcotics; (*d*) Articles whose admission or circulation is prohibited in the country of destination: (*e*) Live animals, with the exception of: 1° Bees, leeches and silkworms; 2° Parasites and predators of injurious insects intended for the control of such insects and exchanged between officially recognized agencies;	To be treated in accordance with the domestic regulations of the Administration which discovers their presence; however, the articles mentioned under (c) are in no case either forwarded to destination, delivered to the addressees or returned to origin;
(*f*) Explosive, inflammable or dangerous substances; (*g*) Obscene or immoral articles.	To be destroyed on the spot by the Administration which discovers their presence.

2. In cases where articles wrongly accepted for mailing are neither returned to origin nor delivered to the addressee, the dispatching Administration shall be notified, in a precise manner, of the disposal made of such articles.

3. Moreover, the right is reserved for any country not to convey in transit in open mail over its territory articles other than letters and post cards in regard to which the legal provisions regulating the conditions of their publication or circulation in that country have not been observed.

Such articles shall be returned to the country of origin.

ARTICLE 47

Methods of prepayment

1. Prepayment of postage is 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 operating under the immediate control of the Administration; or, in the case of prints, by means of impressions, printed or otherwise obtained, when such a system of indicia is authorized by the domestic regulations of the Administration of origin.

2. The following are considered as duly prepaid: Reply post cards bearing printed or adhesive postage stamps of the country of issue of such cards; articles regularly prepaid for their first transmission on which the additional postage has been paid before their redirection; as well as newspapers or packages of newspapers and periodicals whose address bears the words *Abonnements-poste* (Subscription by mail) which are sent under the Agreement concerning subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals.

ARTICLE 48

Prepayment of correspondence on board ships

Correspondence mailed on the high seas, in the box on board a vessel, or handed to postal agents on board or to the commanders of vessels, may be prepaid, barring contrary agreement between the Administrations concerned, by means of the postage stamps and according to the postage rates of the country to which the said vessel belongs or by which it is maintained. If the mailing on board takes place during the stay at one of the two terminal points of the voyage or at one of the ports of call, the prepayment is valid only if it is effected by means of the postage stamps and according to the postage rates of the country in whose waters the vessel happens to be.

ARTICLE 49

Franking privilege

1. Correspondence relating to the postal service exchanged between Postal Administrations, between those Administrations and the International Bureau, between post offices of countries of the Union, and between those offices and the Administrations, as well as that for which the franking privilege is expressly provided by the stipulations of the Convention, the Agreements and their Regulations, is exempt from all postal charges.

2. Except when they bear C. O. D. charges, mail articles addressed to prisoners of war or mailed by them are likewise exempt from all postal charges, not only in the countries of origin and destination but also in the intermediary countries.

The same is true of correspondence concerning prisoners of war, sent or received either directly or as intermediary by the information offices which may be established on behalf of such persons in belligerent countries or in neutral countries which have received belligerents on their territory.

Belligerents received and interned in a neutral country are assimilated to prisoners of war properly so called, insofar as the application of the above provisions is concerned.

ARTICLE 50

Reply coupons

Reply coupons are placed on sale in the countries of the Union.

Their selling-price is determined by the interested Administrations, but may not be less than 28 centimes or the equivalent in money of the country selling them.

Each coupon is exchangeable in any country for a stamp or stamps representing the postage on a single-rate ordinary letter originating in that country and addressed to a foreign country.

Moreover, the right is reserved for any country to require that the reply coupons and the articles of correspondence for the prepayment of which they are to be exchanged be presented at the same time.

ARTICLE 51

(See Interpretations)[12]

Withdrawal. Change of address

1. The sender of an article of correspondence may cause it to be withdrawn from the mails or have its address changed, provided that such article has not been delivered to the addressee.

2. The request to be made to that effect is sent by mail or by telegraph at the expense of the sender, who shall pay, for every request by mail, the charge applicable to a single-rate registered letter; and, for every request by telegraph, the charge for the telegram.

If the request for withdrawal or modification of address relates to several articles mailed simultaneously at the same office by the same sender addressed to the same addressee, the sender pays, for every request by mail, the charge applicable to one single-rate registered letter; and, for every request by telegraph, the charge for the telegram containing the particulars of all the articles contemplated.

ARTICLE 52

Forwarding. Undelivered correspondence

1. In case of change of residence by the addressee, articles of correspondence are forwarded to him, unless the sender has forbidden the forwarding

[12] *Post,* p. 602. See also final protocol, p. 576.

by a notation placed on the address side in a language known in the country of destination.

2. Correspondence which is undeliverable shall be returned immediately to the country of origin.

3. The period of retention for correspondence held at the disposal of the addressees or addressed to general delivery is fixed by the regulations of the country of destination. However, such period may not exceed two months as a general rule, except in particular cases where the Administration of destination deems it necessary to extend it to four months at most. The return to the country of origin must take place within a shorter period, if the sender has so requested by a notation placed on the address side in a language known in the country of destination.

4. Prints without value are not returned, unless the sender has requested their return by a notation placed on the article. Registered prints shall always be returned.

5. The forwarding of articles of correspondence from country to country, or their return to the country of origin, does not give rise to the collection of any additional charge, apart from the exceptions provided for by the Regulations.

6. Forwarded or returned articles of correspondence are delivered to the addressees or senders upon payment of the charges due on them on departure, on arrival or in the course of transmission, as a result of redirection after the first transmission, without prejudice to the repayment of the customs duties or other special charges which the country of destination does not agree to cancel.

7. In case of forwarding to another country, or of non-delivery, the general-delivery fee, the customs-clearance fee, the commission fee, the additional special-delivery fee, and the special fee for the delivery of small packets to the addressees, are canceled.

ARTICLE 53

(See Interpretations)[13]

Inquiries and requests for information

1. An inquiry or request for information as to the disposal made of any article may give rise to the collection of a fee of 40 centimes at most.

That fee is collected only once for inquiries or requests for information concerning several articles mailed simultaneously by the same sender addressed to the same addressee.

As for registered articles, no fee is collected if the sender has already paid the special fee for a return receipt.

2. Inquiries are accepted only within the period of one year, counting from the day following the date of mailing of the article.

[13] *Post*, p. 602.

However, every Administration is bound to comply with simple requests for information presented after that period which it receives from another Administration regarding articles mailed less than two years previously.

3. Every Administration is obliged to accept inquiries and requests for information concerning articles mailed on the territory of other Administrations.

4. When an inquiry or a request for information has been made necessary thru a fault of the service, the fee collected therefor is returned.

CHAPTER II

REGISTERED ARTICLES

ARTICLE 54

Charges

1. The articles of correspondence designated in Article 33 may be sent under registration.

2. The postage on all registered articles must be paid in advance. It consists of:

(*a*) The ordinary postage on the article, according to its class;
(*b*) A fixed registration fee of 40 centimes at most.[14]

The fixed registration fee applicable to the reply half of a post card can not be legally paid by anyone but the sender of that half.

3. A receipt shall be delivered without charge to the sender of a registered article at the time of mailing.

4. Countries disposed to undertake risks arising from *force majeure* (causes beyond control) are authorized to collect a special charge of 40 centimes at most for each registered article.

5. Unprepaid or insufficiently prepaid registered articles which have been wrongly sent to the country of destination are liable, at the expense of the addressees, to a charge equal to the amount of the missing postage.

ARTICLE 55

Return receipts

The sender of a registered article may request a return receipt by paying, at the time of mailing, a fixed charge of 30 centimes at most.

The return receipt may be requested after the mailing of the article, within the period of one year and upon payment of the fee prescribed by Article 53 for inquiries.

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[14] See also final protocol, p. 578.

ARTICLE 56

(See Interpretations)[15]

Extent of responsibility

1. With the exceptions provided for by Article 57 following, Administrations are responsible for the loss of registered articles.

The sender is entitled, on that account, to indemnity, the amount of which is fixed at 50 francs per article.

2. Administrations assume no responsibility for articles seized by the customs as a result of false declaration of their contents.

ARTICLE 57

Exceptions to the principle of responsibility

Administrations are released from all responsibility for loss of registered articles:

(*a*) In case of *force majeure;* however, responsibility is maintained in regard to an Administration of origin which has undertaken to cover risks of *force majeure* (Article 54, Section 4). The country responsible for the loss must decide, in accordance with its domestic legislation, whether such loss is due to circumstances constituting a case of *force majeure;*

(*b*) When, proof of their responsibility not having been furnished otherwise, they can not account for articles as a result of destruction of service records due to a case of *force majeure;*

(*c*) When it is a question of articles whose contents fall within the scope of the prohibitions laid down by Articles 34, Sections 4 and 6, letter (*c*), and 46, Section 1;

(*d*) When the sender has not made any inquiry within the period of one year contemplated by Article 53.

ARTICLE 58

Termination of responsibility

Administrations cease to be responsible for registered articles the delivery of which they have effected under the conditions prescribed by their domestic regulations for articles of the same nature.

ARTICLE 59

Payment of indemnity

The obligation of paying indemnity falls upon the Administration to which the office of origin of the article belongs, subject to its right to make a claim against the responsible Administration.

[15] *Post,* p. 602.

ARTICLE 60

Period for payment of indemnity

1. Payment of indemnity must take place as soon as possible, and at the latest within the period of six months, counting from the day following the date of the inquiry. That period is extended to nine months in relations with distant countries.

A dispatching Administration which does not accept risks arising from *force majeure* may postpone settlement for the indemnity beyond the period prescribed by the preceding paragraph when the question of knowing whether the loss of the article was due to a case of that kind has not yet been settled.

2. The Administration of origin is authorized to settle with the sender on behalf of an Administration of intermediation or destination which, duly notified, has let three months pass without settling the matter; that period is 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 falls on the Administration which, having received the article without making any observations, and, being furnished all particulars of inquiry prescribed by the regulations, can not establish either delivery to the addressee or regular transmission to the next Administration, as the case may be.

An Administration of intermediation or destination is, until the contrary is proved, released from all responsibility:

(*a*) When it has observed the provisions of Article 162, Section 3, of the Regulations;

(*b*) When it can establish that it did not receive the inquiry until after the destruction of the service records relating to the article sought, the retention-period prescribed by Article 181 of the Regulations having expired; this reservation does not affect the rights of the claimant.

However, if the loss has taken place in the course of transmission, without its being possible to determine on the territory or in the service of what country the loss occurred, the Administrations concerned bear the loss in equal shares.

2. When a registered article has been lost under circumstances of *force majeure,* the Administration on whose territory or in whose service the loss took place is not responsible therefor to the Administration of origin unless both countries undertake risks arising from cases of *force majeure.*

3. The customs duties and other charges whose cancelation it has been impossible to obtain are charged to the Administrations responsible for the loss.

4. The Administration which has effected payment of the indemnity is subrogated up to the amount of such indemnity in the rights of the person who has received it for all eventual recourse against the addressee, the sender, or third parties.

5. In case of subsequent recovery of a registered article considered as lost, the person to whom indemnity has been paid shall be advised that he may obtain possession of the article upon repayment of the amount of the indemnity.

ARTICLE 62

Repayment of the indemnity to the Administration of origin

1. The Administration which is responsible, or on whose behalf payment is made in accordance with Article 60, is bound to reimburse the Administration of origin, within a period of three months, counted from the sending of the notification of payment, for the amount of indemnity actually paid to the sender.

If the indemnity must be paid by several Administrations in conformity with Article 61, the whole of the indemnity due must be turned over to the Administration of origin, within the period mentioned in the preceding paragraph, by the first Administration which, having duly received the article inquired about, can not establish its regular transmission to the corresponding service. It is incumbent upon that Administration to recover from the other responsible Administrations any share of each of them in the indemnity paid to the rightful claimant.

2. The reimbursement of the creditor Administration is effected without expense for that Administration by means of either a money order, a check or a draft payable at sight on the capital or a commercial city of the creditor country, or in coin current in that country.

When responsibility has been acknowledged, as well as in the case contemplated by Article 60, Section 2, the amount of indemnity may likewise be recovered from the responsible country officially thru any account, either directly or thru the intermediary of an Administration which regularly exchanges accounts with the responsible Administration.

At the expiration of the period of three months, the sum due to the Administration of origin bears interest at the rate of 5 per cent a year, counting from the date of expiration of the said period.

3. The Administration of origin may claim repayment of the indemnity from the responsible Administration only within the period of one year, counting from the date of sending the notification of the loss; or, if occasion arises, from the date of expiration of the period contemplated by Article 60, Section 2.

4. An Administration whose responsibility is duly established and which has at first declined to pay the indemnity must bear all the additional expenses resulting from the unjustified delay in making payment.

5. Administrations may agree among themselves to make periodical settlements of the indemnities which they have paid to the senders and the justness of which they have recognized.

CHAPTER III

COLLECT-ON-DELIVERY ARTICLES

ARTICLE 63

Rates and conditions. Settlement

1. Registered articles may be sent C. O. D. in relations between countries whose Administrations agree to perform such service.

2. Articles sent C. O. D. are subject to the conditions and rates applicable to registered articles. Moreover, the sender pays in advance:

(*a*) A fixed fee which may not exceed 40 centimes per article and a proportional fee of ½ per cent at most of the amount of the C. O. D. charge, if he desires that such amount be settled by means of a C. O. D. money order issued free of charge in his favor;

(*b*) A fixed fee of 20 centimes at most, if he requests settlement by means of a transfer to a current postal-check account in the country of destination of the article.

3. The method of settlement contemplated by Section 2, letter (*b*), is permitted only if the Administrations concerned undertake to apply such procedure for settlement. The Administration of destination turns over to the current account, by means of a domestic transfer bulletin, the amount collected from the addressee, after deducting a fixed fee of 20 centimes at most and the ordinary transfer fee applicable in its domestic service.

4. Irrespective of the method of settlement, the maximum amount of C. O. D. charge is equal to that fixed for money orders addressed to the country of origin of the article.

5. In the absence of contrary agreement, the amount of the C. O. D. charge is expressed in money of the country of origin of the article. However, in case of transfer to a current postal-check account held in the country of destination of the article, such amount shall be indicated in the money of that country.

6. Each Administration has the option of adopting, for the collection of the proportional fee contemplated by Section 2, letter (*a*), the scale which is most convenient for its service.

ARTICLE 64

Cancelation or modification of the amount to be collected

The sender of a registered C. O. D. article may request total or partial cancelation of the amount to be collected, or an increase therein. In the

latter case, he must pay, for the amount of the increase, the proportional fee fixed by Article 63.

Requests of this nature are subject to the same provisions as requests for withdrawal or change of address.

If the request for total or partial cancelation of the C. O. D. charge or an increase therein must be sent by telegraph, the charge for the telegram is increased by the rate applicable to a single-rate registered letter.

ARTICLE 65

Responsibility in case of loss of articles

The loss of a registered C. O. D. article involves the responsibility of the postal service under the conditions laid down by Articles 56 and 57.

ARTICLE 66

Guarantee of sums regularly collected

The sums regularly collected from the addressees, whether or not they have been converted into money orders or turned over to a current postal-check account, are guaranteed to the sender under the conditions laid down by the Agreement concerning money orders, or by the provisions governing the postal-check service.

ARTICLE 67

(See Interpretations)[16]

Indemnity in case of non-collection, insufficient or fraudulent collection of the C. O. D. charge

1. If the article has been delivered to the addressee without collecting the amount of the C. O. D. charge, the sender is entitled to indemnity, provided that inquiry has been made within the period of one year prescribed by Article 53, and unless the non-collection is due to fault or negligence on his part, or unless the contents of the article come under the prohibitions laid down by Articles 34, Sections 4 and 6, letter (*c*), and 46, Section 1.

The same applies if the sum collected from the addressee is lower than the amount of the C. O. D. charge indicated, or if the collection has been made fraudulently.

In no case may the indemnity exceed the amount to be collected on delivery.

2. The Administration which has effected payment of the indemnity is subrogated up to the amount of such indemnity in the rights of the person

[16] *Post*, p. 602.

who has received it for all eventual recourse against the addressee, the sender, or third parties.

ARTICLE 68

Sums regularly collected. Indemnity. Payment and recourse

The obligation of paying the sums regularly collected, or the indemnity referred to in Article 67, falls upon the Administration to which the office of origin of the article belongs, subject to its right to make a claim against the responsible Administration.

ARTICLE 69

Period for payment

The provisions of Article 60 concerning the periods for payment of indemnity for the loss of a registered article are applicable to the payment of the sums collected or of the indemnity for C. O. D. articles.

ARTICLE 70

Fixing of responsibility

The payment by the dispatching Administration of the sums regularly collected, or of the indemnity provided for by Article 67, is effected on behalf of the Administration of destination. The latter is responsible, unless it can prove that the irregularity was due to the failure of the dispatching Administration to observe a provision of the regulations.

In case of fraudulent collection as a result of the loss of a C. O. D. article in the service, the responsibility of the Administrations involved is determined in accordance with the rules laid down by Article 61 for the loss of a registered article. However, the responsibility of an intermediate Administration which does not participate in the C. O. D. service is limited to that prescribed by Articles 56 and 57 for registered articles. The other Administrations pay the amount not covered in equal shares.

ARTICLE 71

Repayment of sums advanced

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

ARTICLE 72

C. O. D. money orders and transfer bulletins

1. The amount of a C. O. D. money order which, for any reason, has not been paid to the payee, is not repaid to the Administration of issue. It

is held at the disposal of the payee by the Administration of origin of the C. O. D. article, and finally reverts to that Administration, after the expiration of the period prescribed by law.

In all other respects, and apart from the exceptions laid down by the Regulations, C. O. D. money orders are subject to the provisions of the Agreement concerning money orders.

2. When, for any reason, a transfer bulletin issued in accordance with the provisions of Article 63 can not be entered to the credit of the payee indicated by the sender of the C. O. D. article, the amount of such bulletin shall be placed, by the Administration which has cashed it, at the disposal of the Administration of origin, to be paid to the sender of the article.

If this payment can not be effected, the procedure outlined in Section 1 is followed.

Article 73

Sharing of C. O. D. charges and fees

The Administration of origin credits the Administration of destination, under the conditions fixed by the Regulations, with a fixed quota of 20 centimes per C. O. D. article, plus ¼ per cent of the total amount of C. O. D. money orders paid.

Chapter IV

Retention of postage. Transit charges

Article 74

Retention of postage

Except in cases expressly provided for by the Convention, each Administration retains the whole of the postage which it collects.

Article 75 [17]

Transit charges

1. Articles of correspondence exchanged in closed mails between two Administrations, by means of the services of one or more other Administrations (third services), are liable, for the benefit of each of the countries traversed or whose services participate in the conveyance, to the transit charges indicated in the following table:

[17] See also final protocol, p. 579.

	Per kilogram	
	of letters and post cards	of other articles
1° Territorial transit:	Fr. c.	Fr. c.
Up to 1,000 km	0. 60	0. 08
From 1,000 to 2,000 km	0. 80	0. 12
From 2,000 to 3,000 km	1. 20	0. 16
From 3,000 to 6,000 km	2. 00	0. 24
From 6,000 to 9,000 km	2. 80	0. 32
Over 9,000 km	3. 60	0. 40
2° Maritime transit:		
Up to 300 nautical miles	0. 60	0. 08
From 300 to 1,500 nautical miles	1. 60	0. 20
Between Europe and North America	2. 40	0. 32
From 1,500 to 6,000 nautical miles	3. 20	0. 40
Over 6,000 nautical miles	4. 80	0. 60

2. The transit charges for maritime conveyance on a route not exceeding 300 nautical miles are fixed at one-third the amounts set forth in Section 1, if the Administration concerned already receives, on account of the mails transported, compensation for territorial transit.

3. In the case of maritime transit effected by two or more Administrations, the total maritime transit charges may not exceed 4 francs 80 centimes per kilogram of letters and post cards or 60 centimes per kilogram of other articles. When occasion arises, those maximum amounts are divided between the Administrations taking part in the transportation in proportion to the distances traversed.

4. Barring contrary agreement, maritime transportation effected directly between two countries by means of ships of one of them, as well as conveyance effected between two offices of one and the same country thru the intermediary of services of another country, is considered as a third service.

5. Small packets, newspapers or packages of newspapers and periodicals sent by virtue of the Agreement concerning subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals, as well as insured boxes sent by virtue of the Agreement concerning insured letters and boxes, are considered as *other articles* in regard to transit.

6. Missent dispatches are considered, in regard to the payment of transit charges, as if they had followed their normal route.

ARTICLE 76

(See Interpretations)[13]

Freedom from transit charges

The following are exempt from all territorial or maritime transit charges: The correspondence sent free of postage mentioned in Article 49; reply post cards returned to the country of origin; redirected articles; returned undeliverable articles; return receipts; money orders; and all other documents relating to the postal service, particularly correspondence relative to postal checks.

ARTICLE 77

Extraordinary services

The transit charges specified in Article 75 do not apply to transportation by means of extraordinary services specially created or maintained by one Administration at the request of one or more other Administrations. The conditions for that class of conveyance are fixed by mutual agreement between the Administrations concerned.

ARTICLE 78

Payments and accounts

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

2. The general accounting for such charges is effected on the basis of statistics taken once every three years, during a period of fourteen days. That period is extended to twenty-eight days for dispatches exchanged less than six times a week thru the services of any country.

The Regulations determine the period and length of application of the statistics.

3. Any Administration is authorized to submit to a board of arbiters for consideration the results of statistics which, in its opinion, differ too greatly from reality. Such arbitration is effected in accordance with the provisions of Article 11.

The arbitrators are authorized to determine the proper amount of transit charges to be paid.

ARTICLE 79

Exchange of closed mails with warships

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 warships of the same country stationed abroad, or between the command-

[13] *Post*, p. 602

ing officer of one of those naval divisions or warships and the commanding officer of another division or ship of the same country, thru the intermediary of land or sea services of other countries.

2. Correspondence of all kinds comprised in such dispatches shall be exclusively addressed to or sent by the officers and crews of the ships of destination or origin of the mails; the rates and conditions of dispatch applicable to them are determined, according to its domestic regulations, by the Postal Administration of the country to which the ships belong.

3. Barring contrary agreement between the Administrations concerned, the Postal Administration dispatching or receiving the mails in question is indebted to the intermediate Administrations for transit charges calculated in accordance with the provisions of Article 75.

VARIOUS PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 80

Failure to observe liberty of transit

When a country does not observe the provisions of Article 26 concerning liberty of transit, Administrations have the right to discontinue postal service with that country. They must give advance notice of that measure by telegraph to the Administrations concerned.

ARTICLE 81

Obligations relative to penal measures

The contracting countries undertake to adopt, or to propose to their respective legislative bodies, the necessary measures:

(*a*) For punishing the counterfeiting of postage stamps, international reply coupons, and postal identity cards;

(*b*) For punishing the use or placing in circulation of

(1) counterfeit or used postage stamps, as well as counterfeit or used impressions of stamping machines or printed indicia;

(2) counterfeit international reply coupons;

(3) counterfeit postal identity cards;

(*c*) For punishing the fraudulent use of regular identity cards,

(*d*) For prohibiting and suppressing all fraudulent operations of manufacture and placing in circulation of embossed or adhesive stamps in use in the postal service, which are counterfeited or imitated is such a way that they could be confused with embossed or adhesive stamps issued by one of the contracting countries;

(*e*) For preventing, and, if occasion arises, punishing the insertion of opium, morphine, cocaine or other narcotics in mail articles in favor of which such insertion is not expressly authorized by the Convention and Agreements.

FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 82

Effective date and duration of the Convention

The present Convention will become effective on July 1, 1940, and will remain in force for an indefinite period.

In faith of which, the plenipotentiaries of the Governments of the countries above enumerated have signed the present Convention in one copy, which will be filed in the Archives of the Government of the Argentine Republic, and a copy of which will be delivered to each party.

Done at Buenos Aires, May 23, 1939.

For Afghanistan:

For the Union of South Africa:
J. N. REDELINGHUYS
H. C. WAIN

For Albania:

For Germany:

For the United States of America:
For James W. Cole:
JOHN E. LAMIELL
JOHN E. LAMIELL
STEWART M. WEBER

For the whole of the possessions of the United States of America:
For James W. Cole:
JOHN E. LAMIELL
JOHN E. LAMIELL
STEWART M. WEBER

For the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:

For the Argentine Republic:
A. C. ESCOBAR
A. FUNES LASTRA
R. R. TULA
F. VÁZQUEZ
M. SÁENZ BRIONES
RAÚL C. MIGONE
CARLOS H. SAL
R. A. PAN
G. A. GARCÍA
I. RUÍZ MORENO
A. T. COSENTINO

For the Commonwealth of Australia:
M. B. HARRY
A. SLADDIN

For Belgium:
O. SCHOCKAERT

For the Colony of the Belgian Congo:
E. MONS

For Bolivia:
PÉREZ ABASTO
J. GMO. CANEDO
J. LIEVANA

For Brazil:
RAÚL CAMARATE
JOAQUÍM VIANNA
For Confucio Augusto Pamplona:
RAÚL CAMARATE

For Bulgaria:
M. GHÉORGHIEW

For Canada:
JOHN A. SULLIVAN
H. BEAULIEU
R. H. MACNABB

For Chile:
ALBERTO SEPÚLVEDA CONTRERAS

For China:
H. K. CHANG CHIEN

For the Republic of Colombia:
For R. Uribe Escobar:
E. CARRIZOSA
E. CARRIZOSA

For the Republic of Costa Rica:
ALBERTO SEPÚLVEDA CONTRERAS

For the Republic of Cuba:
J. A. MONTALVO
A. TORRADEMÉ
JESÚS LAGO LUNAR

For Denmark:
ARNE KROG

For the Free City of Danzig:
RENÉ MACHALSKI

For the Dominican Republic:
TULIO M. CESTERO
M. ALVAREZ ARÁNGUIZ

For Egypt:
M. WAGUIH

For the Republic of El Salvador:
JOSÉ VILLEGAS MUÑOZ

For Ecuador:
F. GUARDERAS
L. G. DILLON

For Spain:

For the whole of the Spanish Colonies:

For Estonia:
G. JALLAJAS

For Finland:
NIILO ORASMAA

For France:
ED. QUENOT
L. GENTHON
P. GRANDSIMON
F. NAVEGH

For Algeria:
PAOLI

For the French Colonies and Protectorates in Indochina:

For the whole of the other French Colonies:
R. BOURGOIN

For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:
D. J. LIDBURY
D. O. LUMLEY
E. P. BELL
A. L. WILLIAMS

For the whole of the British Colonies, including the Oversea Territories, the Protectorates and the Territories under suzerainty or mandate:

For Greece:
V. DENDRAMIS
S. CAMILIÉRIS

For Guatemala:
M. ARROYO

For the Republic of Haiti:
FAUSTIN G. TRONGÉ

For the Republic of Honduras:
ARTURO MEJÍA NIETO

For Hungary:

For British India:
MOHD. AL HASAN
H. L. JERATH
N. CHANDRA

For Iran:
DR. A A. DAFTARY

For Iraq:
D. J. LIDBURY
D. O. LUMLEY
E. P. BELL
A. L. WILLIAMS

For Ireland:
P. DE BLÁCA
S. S. PUIRSEAL

For Iceland:
ARNE KROG

For Italy:

For the whole of the Italian Colonies and Possessions other than Italian East Africa:

For Italian East Africa:

For Japan:
IWATARO UCHIYAMA
SEIITI OKAZAKI
JIRO NAKAYAMA
TOSIO YAMATO

For Chosen:
SEIITI OKAZAKI
KEISI FUKUDA

For the whole of the other Japanese Dependencies:
IWATARO UCHIYAMA
KANJI ITO

For Latvia:
DR. J. BUSER
L. ROULET

For the Levant States under French Mandate (Syria and Lebanon):
M. USCLAT

For the Republic of Liberia:
DIXON BROWN

For Lithuania:
J. AUKSTUOLIS
B. BLAVESCIUNAS

For Luxemburg:
O. SCHOCKAERT

For Morocco (except the Spanish Zone):
H. F. DUSSOL

For Morocco (Spanish Zone):

For Mexico:
ALFONSO GÓMEZ MORENTÍN
ALMADA BECERRA
E. VALDÉS GENES

For Nicaragua:
RUBÉN DARÍO

For Norway:
STEN HAUG
OSKAR HOMME

For New Zealand:
J. MADDEN

For the Republic of Panama:
VIAL

For Paraguay:
HIGINIO ARBO
RAMÓN LARA CASTRO
J. F. PÉREZ ACOSTA

For the Netherlands:
DUYNSTEE
VAN GOOR

For Curaçao and Surinam:
HOOGEWOONING

For the Netherlands Indies:
VAN DOOREN
HAJENIUS
P. J. LEEMEYER
HOOGEWOONING

For Peru:
ERNESTO CÁCERES
For Jorge Chamot:
ERNESTO CÁCERES

For the Commonwealth of the Philippines:
F. CUADERNO

For Poland:
RENÉ MACHALSKI
M. HERWICH
T. JAROŃ

For Portugal:
DUARTE CALHEIROS
A. BASTOS GAVIÃO
J. QUADRIO MORÃO

For the Portuguese Colonies in West Africa:
ARNALDO DE PAIVA CARVALHO

For the Portuguese Colonies in East Africa, Asia and Oceania:
MARIO MONTEIRO DE MACEDO

For Rumania:
C. STEFANESCO
N. M. GEORGESCO

For the Republic of San Marino:

For Siam:
LUANG KOVID APAIVONGSE

For Sweden:
GUNNAR LAGER
THURE NYLUND
ALLAN HULTMAN

For the Swiss Confederation:
DR. J. BUSER
L. ROULET

For Czechoslovakia:

For Tunisia:
ED. QUENOT

For Turkey:
APTULAHAT AKSIN
ad referendum

For the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:
P. GLINKINE
V. IVANOV

For the Eastern Republic of Uruguay:
F. A. COSTANZO
ADOLFO AGORIO

For the Vatican City State:
RÓMULO ETCHEVERRY BONEO

For the United States of Venezuela:
E. GANTEAUME-TOVAR
F. VÉLEZ-SALAS

For Yemen:

For the Kingdom of Yugoslavia:
SVET. M. DRAGIĆEVIC
MILOMIR LJ. MICIC

FINAL PROTOCOL OF THE CONVENTION

At the moment of proceeding to sign the Universal Postal Convention concluded on the present date, the undersigned plenipotentiaries have agreed as follows:

I

Withdrawal. Change of address

The provisions of Article 51 do not apply to Great Britain, nor to those of the British Dominions, Colonies and Protectorates whose domestic legisla-

tion does not permit the withdrawal or change of address of correspondence at the request of the sender.

II

Equivalents. Maximum and minimum limits

1. Each country has the option of increasing by 40 per cent, or of decreasing by 20 per cent, at most, the postage rates fixed by Article 34, Section 1, in accordance with the indications of the following table:

	Minimum limits	Maximum limits
Letters:	*Centimes*	*Centimes*
First unit	16	28
Each additional unit	9.6	16.8
Post cards:		
Single	9.6	16.8
With reply paid	19.2	33.6
Commercial papers:		
Each 50 grams	3.2	5.6
Minimum charge	16	28
Prints: Each 50 grams	3.2	5.6
Raised print for the blind: Each 1,000 grams	1.6	2.8
Samples of merchandise:		
Each 50 grams	3.2	5.6
Minimum charge	6.4	11.2
Small packets:		
Each 50 grams	6.4	11.2
Minimum charge	32	56
"*Phonopost*" articles:		
First unit	12	21
Each additional unit	8	14

The rates chosen shall, as far as possible, be in the same proportion among themselves as the basic rates, each Administration having the option of rounding off its rates higher or lower as the case may be, in order to suit the convenience of its monetary system.

2. The rates adopted by a country are applicable to the charges to be collected upon arrival as a result of absence or insufficiency of prepayment.

III

Avoirdupois ounce

It is agreed, as an exceptional measure, that countries which, on account of their domestic legislation, can not adopt the decimal metric system of weights, have the option of substituting therefor the avoirdupois ounce (28.3465 grams), assimilating one ounce to 20 grams for letters and *Phonopost* articles, and 2 ounces to 50 grams for commercial papers, prints, raised print for the use of the blind, samples and small packets.

IV

Mailing of correspondence in another country

No country is bound to forward or deliver to addressees articles which any senders domiciled on its territory mail or cause to be mailed in a foreign country with a view to profiting by lower rates which are established there. The rule applies, without distinction, either to articles prepared in the country inhabited by the sender and subsequently transported across the border, or to articles prepared in a foreign country. The Administration concerned has the right either to return the articles in question to origin or to charge them with its domestic postage rates. The methods of collecting the charges are left to its discretion.

V

Reply coupons

Administrations have the option of not undertaking the sale of reply coupons.

VI

Registration fee

Countries which can not fix at 40 centimes the registration fee contemplated by Article 54, Section 2, are authorized to collect a fee which may amount to as much as 50 centimes, or their domestic registration fee if this is higher.

VII

Air services

The provisions concerning the transportation of regular mails by air are appended to the Universal Postal Convention and are considered as forming an integral part of it and its Regulations.

However, by exception to the general provisions of the Convention, the modification of those provisions may be undertaken from time to time by a Conference comprising the representatives of the Administrations directly interested.

That Conference may be called together thru the intermediary of the International Bureau, at the request of at least three of those Administrations.

All the provisions proposed by that Conference shall be submitted, thru the medium of the International Bureau, to the other countries of the Union, to be voted upon. The decision will be made on a majority of the votes cast.

VIII

Exception to liberty of transit for small packets

By exception to the provisions of Article 26 of the Convention, the Postal Administration of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is authorized to

refuse the transit of small packets over its territories, with the understanding that this restriction will apply indiscriminately to all the countries of the Union.

IX

(See Interpretations)[19]

Special transit charges for the Trans-Siberian and Trans-Andean routes

By exception to the provisions of Article 75, Section 1 (Table), the Postal Administration of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is authorized to collect transit charges for the Trans-Siberian Railway for both routes (Manchuria or Vladivostok) at the rate of 4 francs 50 centimes per kilogram of letters and post cards and 50 centimes per kilogram of other articles, for distances exceeding 6,000 kilometers.

The Administration of the Argentine Republic is authorized to collect a charge of 30 centimes in addition to the transit charges mentioned in Article 75, Section 1, Figure 1°, of the Convention, for each kilogram of correspondence of any kind carried in transit by the Argentine section of the Trans-Andean Railway.

X

(See Interpretations)[19]

Special warehousing charges at Aden

As an exceptional measure, the Administration of Aden is authorized to collect a charge of 40 centimes per sack for all dispatches warehoused at Aden, provided that the said Administration does not receive any territorial or maritime transit charges for such dispatches.

XI

(See Interpretations)[19]

Special charges for transshipment

As an exceptional measure, the Portuguese Administration is authorized to collect 40 centimes per sack for all mails transshipped at the port of Lisbon.

XII

Protocol left open to the countries not represented

The Protocol remains open to the countries of the Union which were not represented at the Congress, in order to permit them to adhere to the Convention and Agreements concluded there, or merely to one or another of them.

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[19] *Post*, p. 602.

XIII

Protocol left open to the countries represented for signatures and adhesions

The Protocol remains 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, for the purpose of permitting them to adhere to the other Agreements signed on the date, or to one or another of them.

XIV

Period for notification of adhesions

The adhesions contemplated in Articles XII and XIII shall be communicated by the respective Governments, thru diplomatic channels, to the Government of the Argentine Republic, and by the latter to the other States of the Union. The period which is allowed to the said Governments to make such notification will expire on July 1, 1940.

In faith of which, the undersigned plenipotentiaries have drawn up the present Protocol, which will have the same force and validity as if its provisions were included in the text of the Convention itself, and they have signed it in one copy, which will be filed in the Archives of the Government of the Argentine Republic, and a copy of which will be delivered to each party.

Done at Buenos Aires, May 23, 1939.

For Afghanistan:

For the Union of South Africa:
J. N. Redelinghuys
H. C. Wain

For Albania:

For Germany:

For the United States of America:
For James W. Cole:
John E. Lamiell
John E. Lamiell
Stewart M. Weber

For the whole of the possessions of the United States of America:
For James W. Cole:
John E. Lamiell
John E. Lamiell
Stewart M. Weber

For the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:

For the Argentine Republic:
A. C. Escobar
A. Funes Lastra
R. R. Tula
M. Sáenz Briones
Raúl C. Migone
Carlos H. Sal
R. A. Pan
G. A. García
I. Ruíz Moreno
A. T. Cosentino

For the Commonwealth of Australia:
M. B. Harry
A. Sladdin

For Belgium:
O. Schockaert

For the Colony of the Belgian Congo:
E. Mons

For Bolivia:
Pérez Abasto
J. Gmo. Canedo
J. Lievana

For Brazil:
Raúl Camarate
Joaquím Vianna
For Confucio Augusto Pamplona:
Raúl Camarate

For Bulgaria:
M. Ghéorghiew

For Canada:
JOHN A. SULLIVAN
H. BEAULIEU
R. H. MACNABB

For Chile:
ALBERTO SEPÚLVEDA CONTRERAS

For China:
H. K. CHANG CHIEN

For the Republic of Colombia:
For R. Uribe Escobar:
E. CARRIZOSA
E. CARRIZOSA

For the Republic of Costa Rica:
ALBERTO SEPÚLVEDA CONTRERAS

For the Republic of Cuba:
J. A. MONTALVO
A. TORRADEMÉ
JESÚS LAGO LUNAR

For Denmark:
ARNE KROG

For the Free City of Danzig:
RENÉ MACHALSKI

For the Dominican Republic:
TULIO M. CESTERO
M. ALVAREZ ARÁNGUIZ

For Egypt:
M. WAGUIH

For the Republic of El Salvador:
JOSÉ VILLEGAS MUÑOZ

For Ecuador:
F. GUARDERAS
L. G. DILLON

For Spain:

For the whole of the Spanish Colonies:

For Estonia:
G. JALLAJAS

For Finland:
NIILO ORASMAA

For France:
ED. QUENOT
L. GENTHON
P. GRANDSIMON
F. NAVECH

For Algeria:
PAOLI

For the French Colonies and Protectorates in Indochina:

For the whole of the other French Colonies:
R. BOURGOIN

For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:
D. J. LIDBURY
D. O. LUMLEY
E. P. BELL
A. L. WILLIAMS

For the whole of the British Colonies, including the Oversea Territories, the Protectorates and the Territories under suzerainty or mandate:

For Greece:
V. DENDRAMIS
S. CAMILIÉRIS

For Guatemala:
M. ARROYO

For the Republic of Haiti:
FAUSTIN G. TRONGÉ

For the Republic of Honduras:
ARTURO MEJÍA NIETO

For Hungary:

For British India:
MOHD. AL HASAN
H. L. JERATH
N. CHANDRA

For Iran:
DR. A. A. DAFTARY

For Iraq:
D. J. LIDBURY
D. O. LUMLEY
E. P. BELL
A. L. WILLIAMS

For Ireland:
P. DE BLÁCA
S. S. PUIRSEAL

For Iceland:
ARNE KROG

For Italy:

For the whole of the Italian Colonies and Possessions other than Italian East Africa:

For Italian East Africa:

For Japan:
IWATARO UCHIYAMA
SEITI OKAZAKI
JIRO NAKAYAMA
TOSIO YAMATO

For Chosen:
SEITI OKAZAKI
KEISI FUKUDA

For the whole of the other Japanese Dependencies:
IWATARO UCHIYAMA
KANJI ITO

For Latvia:
DR. J. BUSER
L. ROULET

For the Levant States under French Mandate (Syria and Lebanon):
M. USCLAT

For the Republic of Liberia:
DIXON BROWN

For Lithuania:
J. AUKSTUOLIS
B. BLAVESCIUNAS

For Luxemburg:
O. SCHOCKAERT

For Morocco (except the Spanish Zone):
H. F. DUSSOL

For Morocco (Spanish Zone):

For Mexico:
ALFONSO GÓMEZ MORENTÍN
ALMADA BECERRA
E. VALDÉS GENES

For Nicaragua:
RUBÉN DARÍO

For Norway:
STEN HAUG
OSKAR HOMME

For New Zealand:
J. MADDEN

For the Republic of Panama:
VIAL

For Paraguay:
HIGINIO ARBO
RAMÓN LARA CASTRO
J. F. PÉREZ ACOSTA

For the Netherlands:
DUYNSTEE
VAN GOOR

For Curaçao and Surinam:
HOOGEWOONING

For the Netherlands Indies:
VAN DOOREN
HAJENIUS
P. J. LEEMEYER
HOOGEWOONING

For Peru:
ERNESTO CÁCERES
For Jorge Chamot:
ERNESTO CÁCERES

For the Commonwealth of the Philippines:
F. CUADERNO

For Poland:
RENÉ MACHALSKI
M. HERWICH
T. JAROŃ

For Portugal:
DUARTE CALHEIROS
A. BASTOS GAVIÃO
J. QUADRIO MORÃO

For the Portuguese Colonies in West Africa:
ARNALDO DE PAIVA CARVALHO

For the Portuguese Colonies in East Africa, Asia and Oceania:
MARIO MONTEIRO DE MACEDO

For Rumania:
C. STEFANESCO
N. M. GEORGESCO

For the Republic of San Marino:

For Siam:
LUANG KOVID APAIVONGSE

For Sweden:
GUNNAR LAGER
THURE NYLUND
ALLAN HULTMAN

For the Swiss Confederation:
DR. J. BUSER
L. ROULET

For Czechoslovakia:

For Tunisia:
ED. QUENOT

For Turkey:
APTULAHAT AKSIN
ad referendum

For the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:
P. GLINKINE
V. IVANOV

For the Eastern Republic of Uruguay:
F. A. COSTANZO
ADOLFO AGORIO

For the Vatican City State:
RÓMULO ETCHEVERRY BONEO

For the United States of Venezuela:
E. GANTEAUME-TOVAR
F. VÉLEZ-SALAS

For Yemen:

For the Kingdom of Yugoslavia:
SVET. M. DRAGICEVIC
MILOMIR LJ. MICIC

[For text of regulations for execution of the convention, see 54 Stat. 2105.]

PROVISIONS CONCERNING THE TRANSPORTATION OF REGULAR MAILS BY AIR

CHAPTER I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE I

Articles of correspondence admitted to aerial transportation

1. There are admitted to aerial transportation, over all or part of the route, all the articles designated in Article 33 of the Convention, as well as money orders, collection orders, and subscriptions by mail. Such articles take, in that case, the name of *air-mail correspondence.*

2. The articles mentioned in Article 33 of the Convention may be submitted to the formality of registration and be sent C. O. D.

3. Insured letters and boxes may also be transported by air in relations between countries which agree to exchange articles of that kind by that route.

4. Air-mail articles shall be marked very clearly on the front with the words *"Par Avion"* or a similar indication in the language of the country of origin.

ARTICLE 2

Liberty of transit

The liberty of transit provided for in Article 26 of the Convention is guaranteed to air-mail correspondence thruout the entire territory of the Union, whether or not the intermediate Administrations take part in the forwarding of the correspondence.

ARTICLE 3

(See Interpretations)[20]

Dispatch of air-mail correspondence

1. Administrations which make use of aerial communications for the transportation of their own correspondence are bound to forward by those same routes the air-mail correspondence received by them from other Administrations.

2. Administrations having no air service forward air-mail correspondence by the most rapid routes utilized by the mails.

The same applies if, for any reason, dispatch by such other means offers advantages over an existing air route.

3. If occasion arises, account is taken of the indications of routing placed on air-mail articles by the senders, provided that the routing asked for is normally utilized for the transportation of mails on the stretch concerned,

[20] *Post,* p. 602.

and that dispatch by such route does not result in considerable delay in the arrival of the articles at destination.

4. Closed air-mail dispatches shall be sent by the route requested by the Administration of the country of origin, provided that such route is utilized by the Administration of the transit country for the transmission of its own dispatches.

5. When, as the result of an accident occurring en route, a plane can not continue its trip and deliver the mail at the stops scheduled, the personnel on board shall deliver the dispatches to the post office nearest to the place of the accident or best qualified to reforward the mails. That office, after determining the condition of the damaged correspondence and repairing it if necessary, forwards the dispatches to the offices of destination by the most rapid routes.

6. The circumstances of the accident and the facts determined are reported by bulletin of verification to the offices of destination of the dispatches involved; a copy of the bulletin is addressed to the office of origin of the dispatches.

ARTICLE 4

Aerial transportation over part of the route only

1. Unless practical difficulties would result therefrom, the sender may request that his correspondence be dispatched by air over only a part of the route.

2. When he exercises this option, the sender shall indicate on his correspondence in the language of the country of origin and in French: *"Par avion de _____ à _____"* (By air mail from _____ to _____). At the end of the aerial transmission, the *"Par Avion"* labels mentioned in Article 24 hereafter, as well as the special annotations, shall be officially crossed out by means of two heavy transverse lines.

ARTICLE 5 [21]

Rates and general conditions for admission of air-mail correspondence

1. Air-mail articles are liable, in addition to the regular postage rates, to a special surcharge for aerial transportation, the amount of which shall be fixed by the Administration of the country of origin.

The aerial surcharge is also due for air-mail articles which are exempt from all charges in accordance with Article 49, Section 2, of the Convention.

2. In relations considered as ordinary services (Article 14, Section 8, hereafter), that surcharge shall not exceed 15 centimes per 20 grams and per 1000 kilometers of the air route; for post cards and money orders, it is 15 centimes at most per article and per 1000 kilometers of the air route

[21] See also final protocol, p. 597.

Uniform surcharges shall be fixed for all the territory of one country of destination, regardless of the route used.

In relations between countries of Europe, the surcharge amounts at most to 15 centimes per 20 grams regardless of the distance.

3. The surcharges for air-mail correspondence transported by extraordinary services (Article 14, Section 9, hereafter) are fixed to take account of the extraordinary expenses to which the use of those services gives rise.

4. For articles other than letters, post cards, money orders and collection orders, the surcharges collected by application of Sections 2 and 3 may be reduced to a minimum of ⅕.

5. Administrations have the option of not collecting any surcharge for aerial transportation, on condition that they give information to the country of destination and that a previous agreement has been made with the transit countries.

6. The surcharges shall be prepaid at the time of mailing.

7. The surcharge for a reply post card is collected separately for each half at the place of mailing of each of those halves.

8. Air-mail correspondence is prepaid under the conditions fixed by Article 47 of the Convention. However, regardless of the nature of such correspondence, the prepayment may be represented by a handwritten notation, in figures, of the sum collected, expressed in money of the country of origin, in the following form:

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

That notation may appear either in a special hand-stamp impression or on a special adhesive stamp or label, or finally, it may be simply indicated on the address side of the article by any process whatever. In all cases, the notation shall be supported by the date stamp of the office of origin.

Article 6

Unprepaid or insufficiently prepaid air-mail correspondence

1. In case of total lack of prepayment, air-mailed correspondence is treated in accordance with the provisions of Articles 35 and 36 of the Convention. Articles whose prepayment at the time of mailing is not obligatory are sent by the ordinary means.

2. In case of insufficient prepayment, air-mail correspondence is sent by the air route when the postage paid represents at least the amount of the aerial surcharge. The Administrations of origin have the option of sending such correspondence by the air route when the postage paid represents at least 25 percent of the amount of the aerial surcharge.

The provisions of Article 36 of the Convention are applicable in regard to the collection of charges not paid at the time of mailing.

3. When articles not bearing at least 25 percent of the aerial surcharge are sent by the ordinary means, the office of mailing or the exchange office

shall strike out all annotations relative to the air transportation, and indicate briefly the reason for transmission by the ordinary means.

ARTICLE 7

Delivery of air-mail correspondence

1. Air-mail correspondence is delivered as rapidly as possible, and shall at least be included in the first delivery following its arrival at the office of destination.

2. Senders have the option of requesting delivery at the addressee's residence by special carrier immediately after arrival, by paying the special-delivery fee provided for by Article 45 of the Convention. That option exists only in relations between countries which have organized the special-delivery service in their reciprocal relations.

3. When the regulations of the country of destination permit it, addressees may ask the office charged with the delivery to have air-mail correspondence arriving addressed to them delivered to them upon arrival. In that case, the Administrations of destination are authorized to collect, at the time of delivery, a special fee which may not be higher than the special-delivery fee provided for by Article 45 of the Convention.

4. For additional compensation, Administrations may, after agreement, undertake delivery at the residence of the addressee by special means; for example, by the use of pneumatic tubes.

ARTICLE 8

Redirection and return of air-mail correspondence

1. Air-mail correspondence addressed to persons who have changed their residence is forwarded to the new destination by the ordinary means, unless the addressee has expressly requested redirection by air mail and has paid in advance, to the forwarding office, the aerial surcharge for the new route. Undeliverable correspondence is returned to origin by the ordinary means.

2. If redirection or return is effected by the ordinary means, the *Par avion* label and all notations relative to transmission by the air route shall be crossed out officially by means of two heavy transverse lines.

CHAPTER II

REGISTERED OR INSURED ARTICLES

ARTICLE 9

Registered articles

Registered articles are subject to the postage rates and general conditions for admission provided for by the Convention. They are also liable to the same aerial surcharges as ordinary articles.

ARTICLE 10

Return receipt

Each Administration is authorized to consider the weight of the return receipt form in computing the aerial surcharge.

ARTICLE 11

Responsibility

Administrations assume, in regard to registered articles sent by the air route, the same responsibility as for other registered articles.

ARTICLE 12

Insured articles

1. Administrations which accept insured articles for transportation by air mail are authorized to collect, on account of such articles, a special insurance fee, the amount of which they are to fix.

The sum of the ordinary insurance fee and the special fee shall not exceed double the limit fixed by Article 3, letter (*c*), of the Agreement concerning insured letters and boxes.

2. As for insured articles passing in transit in closed mails thru the territory of countries not adhering to the aforesaid Agreement, or passing in transit thru air services where the countries concerned do not accept responsibility for insured articles, the responsibility of those countries is limited to that provided for registered articles.

CHAPTER III

RETENTION OF AERIAL SURCHARGES. TRANSPORTATION CHARGES

ARTICLE 13

Retention of surcharges

Each Administration retains the whole of the aerial surcharges which it has collected.

ARTICLE 14 [22]

Aerial transportation charges for closed mails

1. The provisions of Article 75 of the Convention concerning transit charges apply to air-mail correspondence only for its transmission, if any, by land or sea.

The aerial transportation charges for air-mail articles sent in closed dispatches are collectible from the Administration of the country of origin.

2. Every Administration which assures the transportation of air-mail correspondence by the air route, as intermediate Administration, is entitled, on

[22] See also final protocol, p. 597.

that account, to payment of transportation charges. These charges are computed in accordance with the actual length of the routes over which the dispatch or the articles have been carried. If the plane stops at several airports, the payment is due as far as the airport where the unloading takes place.

3. Transportation charges must also be paid for transportation within the country of destination. These payments must be uniform for all the routes traversed in the domestic service; they are computed in accordance with the average length of all the routes traversed in the domestic service and their importance for the international service.

4. The transportation charges relative to one and the same air route are uniform for all Administrations using that service without participating in the operating costs.

5. With the exceptions provided for in Sections 6 and 7 following, the aerial transportation charges are payable to the Postal Administration of the country in which the airport where the dispatches have been taken in charge by the air service is located.

6. An Administration which delivers to an air-transport enterprise mails intended for conveyance by several separate air services in succession may, if it has agreed with the intermediate Administrations, settle directly with that enterprise for the transportation charges for the whole route. The intermediate Administrations, for their part, have the right to request the application pure and simple of the provisions of Section 5.

7. By exception to the provisions of Sections 5 and 6, every Administration maintaining an air service reserves the right to collect directly from each Administration utilizing that service the transportation charges for the whole route.

8. The basic rate to be applied in the settlement of accounts between Administrations for ordinary aerial transportation (ordinary services) is fixed, for each kilogram of gross weight and for each kilometer, at 6 thousandths of a franc at most. That rate is applied proportionally to fractions of a kilogram.

The dispatches or articles carried by the domestic service of the countries are subject to the same rate, unless the corresponding countries agree to collect no payment for such transportation.

9. The transportation rate specified above does not apply to transportation effected by means of services whose creation and upkeep give rise to extraordinary expenses (extraordinary services). The transportation charges relative to those services are fixed, for each kilogram, by the Administrations to which such services belong; they are applied proportionally to fractions of a kilogram.

10. The transportation charges mentioned are also payable for articles which are exempt from transit charges. Misdirected or missent dispatches or articles are considered, for purposes of payment of transportation charges,

as having followed their normal route. However, for the conveyance of dispatches to be forwarded by extraordinary services, the intermediary Administration may require reimbursement of the transportation charges. The accounting for the aerial transportation charges then takes place according to Article 21, Sections 1 and 3, of these Air-Mail Provisions.

11. Administrations of countries flown over have no right to any compensation for dispatches transported by air over their territory.

ARTICLE 15

Transportation charges for aerial correspondence in open mail

1. The transportation charges for air-mail correspondence exchanged in open mail between two Administrations shall be calculated in accordance with the provisions of Article 14, Sections 1 to 4 and 8 to 10.

In order to determine the transportation charges, the net weight of such articles is increased by 10 per cent.

2. An Administration which delivers air-mail correspondence in transit in open mail to another Administration shall pay it the entire amount of the transportation charges calculated for all the subsequent aerial transmission.

CHAPTER IV

INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

ARTICLE 16

(See Interpretations)[23]

Communications to be addressed to the International Bureau and to the Administrations

1. The Administrations shall communicate to the International Bureau, by means of a list conforming to Model A V 1 hereto appended,[24] the necessary information concerning the air-mail service.

2. The list contemplated in Section 1 shall be transmitted regularly twice a year, at least one week before the opening of the summer and winter services. Notice of any modification shall be given without delay.

3. The International Bureau prepares, on the basis of the information contained in the forms A V 1 and the other communications which it receives, a list of general information concerning the air-mail service.

That general list, which shall conform to Model A V 1, is distributed without delay among the Administrations.

The International Bureau is also charged with making up maps indicating the lines of domestic and international air-mail communications of all countries.

[23] *Post*, p. 603.

[24] For forms appended to the provisions concerning transportation of regular mails by air, see 54 Stat. 2258.

4. For provisional information, a copy of the list A V 1 contemplated in Section 1 is sent directly by each Administration to all Administrations which express their desire to receive it.

5. The Administrations also communicate regularly, at least fifteen days before the beginning of each season, to all Administrations with which they are connected by air lines, the complete schedules of the air lines of their domestic and international services. In relations with other Administrations, such information is furnished only on request.

CHAPTER V

ACCOUNTING. SETTLEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

ARTICLE 17

Accounting statistics

1. The general accounting for aerial transportation charges is effected in accordance with statistical tables made up during the seven days following the 14th of June and the 14th of November of each year. The results of the June statistics form the basis for the payments due for the summer service; those of November are used for the winter service.

2. Statistics concerning services which do not operate during the regular statistical periods are made up after agreement between the Administrations concerned.

3. As concerns extraordinary services, the Administration charged with the transportation by air has the option of requesting that the settlement of accounts be made, quarterly or semiannually, on the basis of the gross weight of the dispatches, or the net weight increased by 10 percent of the articles in open mail, actually transported during the period involved. In such a case, the provisions of Articles 19, 20, and 21 hereafter are applied to the ascertainment of weight and preparation of accounts, with the understanding that the statements A V 3 and A V 4 are to be made up monthly for all air transportation effected.

ARTICLE 18

Preparation of ordinary or aerial dispatches during the statistical periods for air-mail transportation charges

The provisions of Article 165 of the Regulations of Execution of the Convention do not apply to the semiannual statistics for the fixing of aerial transportation charges. However, during such statistical periods, the labels or addresses of dispatches containing air-mail correspondence shall bear the conspicuous notation *Statistique-avion* (air-mail statistics).

ARTICLE 19

Fixing the weight of air-mail dispatches and correspondence

1. During the statistical periods, the date of dispatch and the gross weight of the mail are indicated on the label or outside address of the dispatch. The inclusion of air-mail dispatches in another dispatch of the same kind is prohibited.

If the letters and post cards, as well as the other articles, are combined in a dispatch carried by routes for which a reduced transportation charge is applied to A. O. [*autres objets* (other articles)], the weight of each of the two classes must be shown in addition to the total weight on the label or outer address of the dispatch. In such case, the weight of the outer wrapping (sack or package) is added to the weight of the other articles.

If a collector sack is used, its weight is ignored.

2. In case that open-mail correspondence intended to be redispatched by the air route is included in an ordinary or air-mail dispatch, such correspondence, made up into a special bundle labeled *Par avion* (by air mail), is accompanied by a list conforming to Model A V 2 hereto appended. The weight of the correspondence in transit in open mail is indicated separately for each country of destination. If an air-mail dispatch contains transit air mail destined to several countries for which the transit charges are uniform, these charges are shown as one entry on the list A V 2. In relations between countries which have agreed not to collect any payment for redispatch by their domestic service, the weight of the articles in open mail for the country of destination itself is not indicated. The letter bill is provided with the note *"Bordereau A V 2"* (List A V 2). Transit countries have the option of requesting the use of special lists A V 2 showing the most important countries and air routes in a fixed order.

3. Those entries are verified by the exchange office of destination. If that office finds that the actual weight of the dispatches differs by more than 100 grams, and that of the open mail articles by more than 20 grams, from the weight announced, it corrects the label or the list A V 2 and immediately reports the error to the dispatching exchange office by bulletin of verification. When it is a question of closed mails, a copy of that bulletin is addressed to each intermediate Administration. If the differences in weight detected remain within the limits above mentioned, the entries of the dispatching office are considered as valid.

ARTICLE 20

List of closed air mails

As soon as possible, and in any case within a period of one month after each statistical period, the Administrations which have dispatched closed air mails send a list of such dispatches, on an appropriate Form C 22, to the different Administrations whose air services they have used, including that of destination, if occasion arises.

ARTICLE 21

Account of air-transportation charges settled on the basis of statistics

1. During the statistical periods, the intermediate Administrations take note, on a form agreeing with Model A V 3 hereto appended, of the weights indicated on the labels or outside addresses of the air-mail dispatches which they have reforwarded by the air route, either in their domestic services or beyond the frontiers of their countries. As concerns air-mail articles in open mail which reach them from other Administrations and which they forward by air, a statement like Form A V 4 hereto appended is prepared in accordance with the indications appearing on the lists A V 2. Air-mail articles contained in ordinary dispatches are subjected to the same procedure. Separate statements are prepared for each dispatching exchange office of air dispatches or air-mail articles in open mail.

2. The Administrations of destination which assure the reforwarding of air dispatches or of air-mail articles by air in their domestic services proceed in the same manner.

3. As soon as possible, and at the latest six weeks after the close of statistical operations, the forms A V 3 and A V 4 are sent in duplicate to the dispatching exchange offices for acceptance. Those offices, after accepting the statements, send them in turn to their central Administration, which forwards a copy to the central Administration of the creditor country.

4. If the creditor Administration has not received any statement of differences within an interval of three months, counting from the date of transmittal, the statements are considered as automatically accepted. In relations between distant countries, that period is extended to four months.

ARTICLE 22

Aerial transportation account

1. The gross weights of the dispatches, and the net weights increased by 10 per cent of the articles in open mail, shown in the statements A V 3 or A V 4, are multiplied by a figure determined by the frequency of the summer and winter services; the products thus obtained serve as the basis for individual accounts showing, in francs, the transportation charges due to each Administration for the current six-month period.

2. The duty of preparing those accounts is incumbent upon the creditor Administration, which transmits them to the debtor Administration.

3. The individual accounts are made up in duplicate and transmitted as soon as possible to the debtor Administration. If the creditor Administration has not received any statement of differences within an interval of three months, counting from the date of transmittal, such accounts are considered as automatically accepted. In relations between distant countries, this period is extended to four months.

ARTICLE 23

General account

In the absence of contrary agreement between the Administrations concerned, the general account of air-transportation charges is made up twice a year by the International Bureau, in accordance with the rules fixed for the transit-charge account.

CHAPTER VI

VARIOUS PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 24

Designation of air-mail correspondence

Air-mail correspondence is provided, at the time of mailing, with a special blue label or imprint bearing the words *Par avion* (by air mail), with an optional translation into the language of the country of origin.

ARTICLE 25

Designation of air-mail dispatches

When the air-mail articles give rise to the formation of separate dispatches, the latter shall be made up with blue paper or by means of sacks either entirely blue or bearing wide blue stripes.

ARTICLE 26

Method of dispatching air-mail correspondence

1. The provisions of Articles 157, Section 2, letter (*a*), and 159 of the Regulations of Execution of the Convention are applied, by analogy, to air-mail correspondence included in ordinary dispatches. The labels of the bundles shall bear the annotation *Par avion* (by air mail).

In case of inclusion of registered air-mail articles in ordinary dispatches, the note *Par avion* shall be entered in the place prescribed by Section 2 of the aforesaid Article 159 for the note *Exprès* (special delivery).

If it is a question of insured air-mail articles included in ordinary dispatches, the note *Par avion* is entered in the *Observations* column of the insured bills, opposite the entry of each of them.

2. Air-mail articles sent in transit in open mail in an air-mail or ordinary dispatch, which are to be forwarded by the air route by the country of destination of the dispatch, are tied in a special bundle labeled *Par avion.*

3. The transit country may request the formation of separate bundles by countries of destination. In that case, each bundle is provided with a label bearing the note: *Par avion pour* _____ (by air mail for _____).

ARTICLE 27

Transfer of air dispatches

Barring contrary agreement between the Administrations concerned, the transfer en route, in one and the same airport, of mails which employ several separate air services in succession, is effected thru the intermediary of the Administration of the country where the transshipment takes place. This rule does not apply when the transfer is made between machines performing successive sections of one and the same service.

ARTICLE 28

Annotations to be made on the letter bills, insured bills, and labels of air-mail dispatches

The letter bills and insured bills accompanying air-mail dispatches shall be provided, in their headings, with the *Par avion* label or the imprint mentioned in Article 24. The same label or imprint is affixed to the labels or addresses of such dispatches.

ARTICLE 29

Customs clearance of correspondence liable to duty

The Administrations take steps to accelerate, as far as possible, the clearance of air-mail correspondence liable to customs duty.

ARTICLE 30

Application of the provisions of the Convention and Agreements

The provisions of the Convention and Agreements, as well as of their Regulations, with the exception of the Parcel-Post Agreement and its Regulations, are applicable in everything which is not expressly regulated by the foregoing Articles.

ARTICLE 31

Effective date and duration of the provisions adopted

The present Provisions will be put into force from the effective date of the Convention.

They will have the same duration as that Convention, unless they are renewed by mutual agreement among the parties concerned.

Done at Buenos Aires, May 23, 1939.

For Afghanistan:

For the Union of South Africa:
J. N. REDELINGHUYS
H. C. WAIN

For Albania:

For Germany:

For the United States of America:
For James W. Cole:
JOHN E. LAMIELL
JOHN E. LAMIELL
STEWART M. WEBER

For the whole of the possessions of the United States of America:
For James W. Cole:
JOHN E. LAMIELL
JOHN E. LAMIELL
STEWART M. WEBER

For the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:

For the Argentine Republic:
A. C. ESCOBAR
A. FUNES LASTRA
R. R. TULA
M. SÁENZ BRIONES
RAÚL C. MIGONE
CARLOS H. SAL
R. A. PAN
G. A. GARCÍA
I. RUÍZ MORENO
A. T. COSENTINO

For the Commonwealth of Australia:
M. B. HARRY
A. SLADDIN

For Belgium:
O. SCHOCKAERT

For the Colony of the Belgian Congo:
E. MONS

For Bolivia:
PÉREZ ABASTO
J. GMO. CANEDO
J. LIEVANA

For Brazil:
RAÚL CAMARATE
JOAQUÍM VIANNA
For Confucio Augusto Pamplona:
RAÚL CAMARATE

For Bulgaria:
M. GHÉORGHIEW

For Canada:
JOHN A. SULLIVAN
H. BEAULIEU
R. H. MACNABB

For Chile:
ALBERTO SEPÚLVEDA CONTRERAS

For China:
H. K. CHANG CHIEN

For the Republic of Colombia:
For R. Uribe Escobar:
E. CARRIZOSA
E. CARRIZOSA

For the Republic of Costa Rica:
ALBERTO SEPÚLVEDA CONTRERAS

For the Republic of Cuba:
J. A. MONTALVO
A. TORRADEMÉ
JESÚS LAGO LUNAR

For Denmark:
ARNE KROG

For the Free City of Danzig:
RENÉ MACHALSKI

For the Dominican Republic:
TULIO M. CESTERO
M. ALVAREZ ARÁNGUIZ

For Egypt:
M. WAGUIH

For the Republic of El Salvador:
JOSÉ VILLEGAS MUÑOZ

For Ecuador:
F. GUARDERAS
L. G. DILLON

For Spain:

For the whole of the Spanish Colonies:

For Estonia:
G. JALLAJAS

For Finland:
NIILO ORASMAA

For France:
ED. QUENOT
L. GENTHON
P. GRANDSIMON
F. NAVECH

For Algeria:
PAOLI

For the French Colonies and Protectorates in Indochina:

For the whole of the other French Colonies:
R. BOURGOIN

For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:
D. J. LIDBURY
D. O. LUMLEY
E. P. BELL
A. L. WILLIAMS

For the whole of the British Colonies, including the Oversea Territories, the Protectorates and the Territories under suzerainty or mandate:

For Greece:
V. DENDRAMIS
S. CAMILIÉRIS

For Guatemala:
M. ARROYO

For the Republic of Haiti:
FAUSTIN G. TRONGÉ

For the Republic of Honduras:
ARTURO MEJÍA NIETO

For Hungary:

For British India:
MOHD. AL HASAN
H. L. JERATH
N. CHANDRA

For Iran:
DR. A. A. DAFTARY

For Iraq:
D. J. LIDBURY
D. O. LUMLEY
E. P. BELL
A. L. WILLIAMS

For Ireland:
P. DE BLÁCA
S. S. PUIRSEAL

For Iceland:
ARNE KROG

For Italy:

For the whole of the Italian Colonies and Possessions other than Italian East Africa:

For Italian East Africa:

For Japan:
IWATARO UCHIYAMA
SEIITI OKAZAKI
JIRO NAKAYAMA
TOSIO YAMATO

For Chosen:
SEIITI OKAZAKI
KEISI FUKUDA

For the whole of the other Japanese Dependencies:
IWATARO UCHIYAMA
KANJI ITO

For Latvia:
DR. J. BUSER
L. ROULET

For the Levant States under French Mandate (Syria and Lebanon):
M. USCLAT

For the Republic of Liberia:
DIXON BROWN

For Lithuania:
J. AUKSTUOLIS
B. BLAVESCIUNAS

For Luxemburg:
O. SCHOCKAERT

For Morocco (except the Spanish Zone):
H. F. DUSSOL

For Morocco (Spanish Zone):

For Mexico:
ALFONSO GÓMEZ MORENTÍN
ALMADA BECERRA
E. VALDÉS GENES

For Nicaragua:
RUBÉN DARÍO

For Norway:
STEN HAUG
OSKAR HOMME

For New Zealand:
J. MADDEN

For the Republic of Panama:
VIAL

For Paraguay:
HIGINIO ARBO
RAMÓN LARA CASTRO
J. F. PÉREZ ACOSTA

For the Netherlands:
DUYNSTEE
VAN GOOR

For Curaçao and Surinam:
HOOGEWOONING

For the Netherlands Indies:
VAN DOOREN
HAJENIUS
P. J. LEEMEYER
HOOGEWOONING

For Peru:
ERNESTO CÁCERES
For Jorge Chamot:
ERNESTO CÁCERES

For the Commonwealth of the Philippines:
F. CUADERNO

For Poland:
RENÉ MACHALSKI
M. HERWICH
T. JAROŃ

For Portugal:
DUARTE CALHEIROS
A. BASTOS GAVIÃO
J. QUADRIO MORÃO

For the Portuguese Colonies in West Africa:
ARNALDO DE PAIVA CARVALHO

For the Portuguese Colonies in East Africa, Asia and Oceania:
MARIO MONTEIRO DE MACEDO

For Rumania:
C. STEFANESCO
N. M. GEORGESCO

For the Republic of San Marino.

For Siam:
LUANG KOVID APAIVONGSE

For Sweden:
GUNNAR LAGER
THURE NYLUND
ALLAN HULTMAN

For the Swiss Confederation:
DR. J. BUSER
L. ROULET

For Czechoslovakia:

For Tunisia:
ED. QUENOT

For Turkey:
APTULAHAT AKSIN
ad referendum

For the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:
P. GLINKINE
V. IVANOV

For the Eastern Republic of Uruguay:
F. A. COSTANZO
ADOLFO AGORIO

For the Vatican City State:
RÓMULO ETCHEVERRY BONEO

For the United States of Venezuela:
E. GANTEAUME-TOVAR
F. VÉLEZ-SALAS

For Yemen:

For the Kingdom of Yugoslavia:
SVET. M. DRAGICEVIC
MILOMIR LJ. MICIC

FINAL PROTOCOL OF THE PROVISIONS CONCERNING THE TRANSPORTATION OF REGULAR MAILS BY AIR

I

Aerial transportation charges for closed mails

The Administrations of British India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics have the option of collecting, for each section of their domestic air systems, the transportation charges provided for in Article 14.

II

Option of reducing the weight-unit for air-mail correspondence

Administrations whose system of weights permits it have the option of adopting units of weight lower than that of 20 grams provided for in Article 5, Section 2. In that case, the surcharge is fixed in accordance with the scale of weight adopted.

III

Exceptional surcharges in favor of certain European countries

Administrations of Europe which, due to the geographic situation of their countries, find it difficult to adopt a uniform surcharge for all Europe, are authorized to collect surcharges in proportion to the distances, in accordance with the provisions of Article 5, Section 2.

That option is also granted to other European countries in their relations with the countries mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

Done at Buenos Aires, May 23, 1939.

For Afghanistan:

For the Union of South Africa:
J. N. REDELINGHUYS
H. C. WAIN

For Albania:

For Germany:

For the United States of America:
For James W. Cole:
JOHN E. LAMIELL
JOHN E. LAMIELL
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M. SÁENZ BRIONES
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J. LIEVANA

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JOAQUÍM VIANNA
For Confucio Augusto Pamplona:
RAÚL CAMARATE

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For the Republic of Cuba:
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A. TORRADEMÉ
JESÚS LAGO LUNAR

For Denmark:
ARNE KROG

For the Free City of Danzig:
RENÉ MACHALSKI

For the Dominican Republic:
TULIO M. CESTERO
M. ALVAREZ ARÁNGUIZ

For Egypt:
M. WAGUIH

For the Republic of El Salvador:
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For Hungary:

For British India:
MOHD. AL HASAN
H. L. JERATH
N. CHANDRA

For Iran:
DR. A. A. DAFTARY

For Iraq:
D. J. LIDBURY
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E. P. BELL
A. L. WILLIAMS

For Ireland:
P. DE BLÁCA
S. S. PUIRSEAL

For Iceland:
ARNE KROG

For Italy:

For the whole of the Italian Colonies and Possessions other than Italian East Africa:

For Italian East Africa:

For Japan:
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SEITI OKAZAKI
JIRO NAKAYAMA
TOSIO YAMATO

For Chosen:
SEITI OKAZAKI
KEISI FUKUDA

For the whole of the other Japanese Dependencies:
IWATARO UCHIYAMA
KANJI ITO

For Latvia:
DR. J. BUSER
L. ROULET

For the Levant States under French Mandate (Syria and Lebanon):
M. USCLAT

For the Republic of Liberia:
DIXON BROWN

For Lithuania:
J. AUKSTUOLIS
B. BLAVESCIUNAS

For Luxemburg:
O. SCHOCKAERT

For Morocco (except the Spanish Zone):
H. F. DUSSOL

For Morocco (Spanish Zone):

For Mexico:
ALFONSO GÓMEZ MORENTÍN
ALMADA BECERRA
E. VALDÉS GENES

For Nicaragua:
RUBÉN DARÍO

For Norway:
STEN HAUG
OSKAR HOMME

For New Zealand:
J. MADDEN

For the Republic of Panama:
VIAL

For Paraguay:
HIGINIO ARBO
RAMÓN LARA CASTRO
J. F. PÉREZ ACOSTA

For the Netherlands:
DUYNSTEE
VAN GOOR

For Curaçao and Surinam:
HOOGEWOONING

For the Netherlands Indies:
VAN DOOREN
HAJENIUS
P. J. LEEMEYER
HOOGEWOONING

For Peru:
ERNESTO CÁCERES
For Jorge Chamot:
ERNESTO CÁCERES

For the Commonwealth of the Philippines:
F. CUADERNO

For Poland:
RENÉ MACHALSKI
M. HERWICH
T. JAROŃ

For Portugal:
DUARTE CALHEIROS
A. BASTOS GAVIÃO
J. QUÁDRIO MORÃO

For the Portuguese Colonies in West Africa:
ARNALDO DE PAIVA CARVALHO

For the Portuguese Colonies in East Africa, Asia and Oceania:
MARIO MONTEIRO DE MACEDO

For Rumania:
C. STEFANESCO
N. M. GEORGESCO

For the Republic of San Marino:

For Siam:
LUANG KOVID APAIVONGSE

For Sweden:
GUNNAR LAGER
THURE NYLUND
ALLAN HULTMAN

For the Swiss Confederation:
DR. J. BUSER
L. ROULET

For Czechoslovakia:

For Tunisia:
ED. QUENOT

For Turkey:
APTULAHAT AKSIN
ad referendum

For the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:
P. GLINKINE
V. IVANOV

For the Eastern Republic of Uruguay:
F. A. COSTANZO
ADOLFO AGORIO

For the Vatican City State:
RÓMULO ETCHEVERRY BONEO

For the United States of Venezuela:
E. GANTEAUME-TOVAR
F. VÉLEZ-SALAS

For Yemen:

For the Kingdom of Yugoslavia:
SVET. M. DRAGICEVIC
MILOMIR LJ. MICIC

[For postal forms annexed to the provisions concerning the transportation of regular mails by air, see 54 Stat. 2258.]

INTERPRETATIONS

CONVENTION, ARTICLE 11

When it relates to a question of little importance, particularly to responsibility deriving from the application of the Convention and the Regulations thereof, the interested parties may designate the Director of the International Bureau as the sole arbiter, or a country signatory to the Convention, named by common consent.

CONVENTION, ARTICLE 26

With the exceptions provided for in Article 46, articles of correspondence in transit, either in open mail or in closed dispatches, shall not be subject to any inspection, nor be seized.

The justification of this principle arises from Article 26 of the Convention and Article 103, Section 1, of its Regulations, according to which liberty of transit is guaranteed over the entire territory of the Union and the transit countries are bound to dispatch by the most rapid means the closed dispatches of correspondence and the articles in open mail which are turned over to them by another Administration.

CONVENTION, ARTICLE 34, SECTION 3, 3RD PARAGRAPH

It is understood that, for these reductions, the consent of the Administrations of destination is also necessary, the same as provided in the 2nd paragraph.

CONVENTION, ARTICLE 34, SECTION 4

Watches may be accepted in small packets, provided that they are not composed of gold, silver or other precious metals.

There may also be accepted in these dispatches fountain pens, and, in general, similar articles, provided that they are not composed of gold, silver, or other precious metals.

CONVENTION, ARTICLE 34, SECTION 6

Receipt forms, paid or unpaid, bearing a handwritten text, may be considered as commercial papers; as for those entirely in print, they shall enjoy the print rate. Receipt forms, although not paid, can not be assimilated to values payable to the bearer, such as a railway or tramway ticket, etc.

CONVENTION, ARTICLE 34, SECTION 7

As a gift always has a salable value, it can not, in principle, be accepted at the rate for samples.

CONVENTION, ARTICLE 35

In the interests of good postal service, shortpaid articles should be dispatched in instances when the sender is unknown, the deficiency in postage being evidently due to error on his part.

CONVENTION, ARTICLE 43, SECTION 1

As long as an article has not been delivered to the addressee, the sender may, after mailing, upon payment of the charge fixed for a single-rate registered letter, request that the article be delivered free of duty. When the sender desires that such request be transmitted by air mail, he shall pay, in addition to the charge above mentioned, the aerial surcharge applicable to a single-rate airmail letter addressed to the country of destination of the article.

CONVENTION, ARTICLE 45, SECTION 5

When the addressee requests another attempt at delivery by special messenger, the Administrations may collect, on this account, the fee applicable in their domestic services for such delivery.

CONVENTION, ARTICLE 45, SECTION 5

When the Regulations of a country so permit, the addressees may make request of the office charged with the delivery of articles, registered or

ordinary, that they be delivered specially upon arrival. In such cases, the Administrations are authorized to collect from the addressees, at the time of delivery, the special charge provided for in Section 2, and also the supplementary charge mentioned in Section 3.

CONVENTION, ARTICLE 51, SECTION 2, 1ST PARAGRAPH

The request form for return or change of address is transmitted by the ordinary means, by air mail or by telegraph at the expense of the sender, who shall pay, for every request by the ordinary means, the fee applicable to a single-rate registered letter; for every request by air mail, the same fee increased by the surcharge due according to the country of destination, and for every request by telegraph, the cost of the telegram.

CONVENTION, ARTICLE 53, SECTION 1

When the sender desires that the reclamation be sent by air, he must pay, in addition to the fee provided in Section 1, the surcharge applicable to an airmail letter destined for the country of destination of the article.

CONVENTION, ARTICLE 56, SECTION 2

Administrations shall not assume any responsibility for the execution of nstructions received as provided for in Articles 51 and 64, unless they have been received in time by the offices concerned.

CONVENTION, ARTICLE 67

It is understood that the last paragraph of Section 1 of Article 67 should be interpreted in the sense that, by "amount to be collected on delivery," is meant the amount which the country of destination should normally take into account.

CONVENTION, ARTICLE 76

Empty sacks are exempt from all territorial and maritime transit charges.

CONVENTION, FINAL PROTOCOL, ARTICLE IX

Article IX of the Final Protocol of the Congress of Cairo is suppressed only for the reason that the provision to which it relates is duplicated in the stipulation provided in the Convention.

CONVENTION, FINAL PROTOCOL, ARTICLES X and XI

The statistics are applicable to the sacks dispatched from the office of origin during the statistical period in the sense that the special warehousing and transshipment charges are to be determined according to the transit charges.

CONVENTION, AIR MAIL, ARTICLE 3, SECTION 4

Whenever the use of the route indicated by the dispatching Administration would result in delay, the intermediary Administration has the option

of utilizing some other means, on condition that no expense will devolve upon the country of origin on account of the change in routing.

The Administration of origin should, however, be informed of the fact.

CONVENTION, AIR MAIL, ARTICLE 3, SECTION 5

When the damage to the airmail or the loss of documents of the dispatch has been caused by an accident along the route, the office which notes the circumstance is bound to prepare duplicate documents and forward them to the Administrations of origin and destination, accompanied by a bulletin of verification showing the number of articles recovered, the weights thereof and the numbers of the registered articles, if any.

CONVENTION, AIR MAIL, ARTICLE 3, SECTION 6

The copy of the bulletin of verification mentioned in Section 6 of Article 3 should be transmitted by the first air service available, if that service assures the most rapid transmission as against ordinary means.

CONVENTION, AIR MAIL, ARTICLE 16

The International Bureau is charged with requesting, at the proper time, by means of appropriate lists, from European Administrations having airports, information regarding the time that airplanes should arrive at the airports in order that delivery may be effected the same day. The said Bureau shall publish this information in the form of lists, which shall be distributed to the Administrations concerned, simultaneously with the List A V 1 for the summer service.