

# UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

*Convention and final protocol of convention signed at Stockholm  
August 28, 1924*<sup>1</sup>

*Ratified and approved by the Postmaster General of the United States  
March 19, 1925*

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[TRANSLATION]

## UNIVERSAL POSTAL CONVENTION

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<sup>1</sup> For text of regulations for execution of the convention, see 44 Stat. 2273.

<sup>2</sup> *Post*, p. 873.

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## UNIVERSAL POSTAL CONVENTION

Concluded between the Union of South Africa, Albania, Germany, the United States of America, the whole of the Insular Possessions of the United States of America other than the Philippine Islands, the Philippine Islands, the Argentine Republic, the Commonwealth of Australia, Austria, 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, Ecuador, Spain, the Spanish Colonies, Esthonia, Abyssinia, Finland, France, Algeria, the French Colonies and Protectorates of Indo-China, the whole of the other French Colonies, Great Britain and various British Colonies and Protectorates, Greece, Guatemala, the Republic of Haiti, the Republic of Honduras, Hungary, British India, the Irish Free State, Iceland, Italy, the whole of the Italian Colonies, Japan, Korea, the whole of the other Japanese Dependencies, Latvia, 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, the Dutch East Indies, the Dutch Colonies in America, Peru, Persia, Poland, Portugal, the Portuguese Colonies of Africa, the Portuguese Colonies of Asia and Oceania, Rumania, the Republic of San Marino, El Salvador, the Saar Territory, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes, the Kingdom of Siam, Sweden, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, Tunis, Turkey, the Union of the Socialistic Soviet Republics, Uruguay and the United States of Venezuela.

The undersigned plenipotentiaries of the countries above enumerated, being assembled in congress at Stockholm by virtue of Article 27 of the Universal Postal Convention concluded at Madrid on November 30, 1920,<sup>3</sup> have, by common consent and subject to ratification, revised the said Convention in accordance with the following provisions:

## TITLE I

### THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

#### CHAPTER I

##### ORGANIZATION AND JURISDICTION OF THE UNION

#### ARTICLE 1

##### *Composition of the Union*

The countries between which the present Convention is concluded form, under the denomination 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.

#### ARTICLE 2

##### *New adhesions. Procedure*

Countries which do not form part of the Union are permitted to adhere to the Convention at any time.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, p. 282.

Notice of their request for adhesion must be given, through diplomatic channels, to the Government of the Swiss Confederation, and by the latter to the Governments of all of 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, especially such as those of insured letters and boxes, parcel post, money orders, postal checks, collections by mail, and subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals, form the subject of Agreements among countries of the Union.

Such Agreements are obligatory only for the countries which have adhered to them.

Adhesion to one or more of those Agreements is subject to the provisions of the preceding Article.

### ARTICLE 4

#### *Regulations of execution*

The Administrations of the Union draw up, by mutual consent, in the Regulations of Execution,<sup>4</sup> the measures of order and detail necessary for the execution of the Convention and the Agreements.

### ARTICLE 5

#### *Special treaties and restricted Unions. Frontier Zones*

1. The countries of the Union have the right to maintain and conclude treaties, as well as to maintain and establish restricted unions, with a view to the reduction of rates or to any other improvement of postal relations.

2. For their part, the Administrations are authorized to make the necessary agreements among themselves relative to questions which do not interest the whole of the Union, on the condition that they do not introduce any provisions less favorable than those provided by the Acts of the Union. They may, in particular, with regard to articles of correspondence, make agreements among themselves for the adoption of reduced postage rates within a radius of 30 kilometers.

### ARTICLE 6

#### *Domestic legislation*

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

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<sup>4</sup> See footnote 1, p. 443.

## ARTICLE 7

*Relations with countries foreign to the Union*

Administrations of the Union which maintain relations with countries foreign to the Union are bound to place those relations at the disposal of the other Administrations for the exchange of correspondence.

The provisions of the Convention apply to the exchange of articles of correspondence between countries of the Union and countries foreign to the Union whenever such exchange employs the services of at least two of the contracting parties.

## ARTICLE 8

*Colonies, Protectorates, etc.*

In the sense of the Convention and the Agreements, particularly in regard to their right to vote in Congresses and Conferences and in the interval between meetings, as well as to their share in the expenses of the International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union, the following are considered as forming a single country or a single Administration of the Union, as the case may be:

- 1° The Colony of the Belgian Congo;
- 2° The whole of the Insular Possessions of the United States of America other than the Philippine Islands, and comprising Hawaii, Porto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands of the United States of America;
- 3° The Philippine Islands;
- 4° The whole of the Spanish Colonies;
- 5° Algeria;
- 6° The French Colonies and Protectorates of Indo-China;
- 7° The whole of the other French Colonies;
- 8° The whole of the Italian Colonies;
- 9° Korea;
- 10° The whole of the other Japanese Dependencies;
- 11° The Dutch East Indies;
- 12° The Dutch Colonies in America;
- 13° The Portuguese Colonies of Africa;
- 14° The Portuguese Colonies of Asia and Oceania.

## ARTICLE 9

*Extent of the Union*

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

- (a) Post Offices established by countries of the Union in countries foreign to the Union;

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

(c) The Faroe Islands and Greenland as forming part of Denmark;

(d) The Spanish possessions on the north coast of Africa, as forming part of Spain; the Republic of Andorra, as belonging to the Spanish Postal Administration;

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

(f) Walfish Bay, as forming part of the Union of South Africa; Basutoland, as belonging to the Postal Administration of the Union of South Africa;

(g) The Norwegian post offices established on the islands of Spitzbergen, as belonging to the Postal Administration of Norway.

## ARTICLE 10

### *Arbitration*

1. In case of disagreement between two or more members of the Union as to the interpretation of the Convention and Agreements, or as to the responsibility imposed upon an Administration by the application of those Acts, the question in dispute is decided 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 oversea countries, the International Bureau, upon a request made of it to that effect, may call upon the defaulting Administration to appoint an arbitrator, or may appoint one itself officially.

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

3. In case of equality of votes, the arbitrators, for the purpose of settling the difference, choose another Administration which likewise has no interest in the dispute. In case of disagreement on a choice, that Administration shall be designated by the International Bureau from among the members of the Union not proposed by the arbitrators.

4. Only such Administrations as are executing the Agreement under litigation may be designated as arbitrators.

## ARTICLE 11

### *Withdrawal from the Union. Termination of participation in the Agreements*

Each 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 by its Government to the Government of the Swiss Confederation.

## CHAPTER II

## CONGRESSES, CONFERENCES, COMMITTEES

## ARTICLE 12

*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 them, if necessary.

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 first accredited.

In the deliberations each country has only one vote.

2. Each Congress fixes the place of meeting of the next Congress. The Congress is called together by the Government of the country in which it is to take place, after agreement with the International Bureau. That Government is likewise charged with notifying all the Governments and Countries of the Union of the decisions made by the Congress.

## ARTICLE 13

*Ratifications. Effective date and duration of the Acts of the Congress*

The Acts of the Congresses are ratified as soon as possible, and the ratifications are communicated to the Government of the country in which the Congress was held.

In case that one or more of the contracting parties do not ratify one or the other of the Acts signed by them, the Acts will be none the less 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, barring contrary agreement.

## ARTICLE 14

*Extraordinary Congresses*

An extraordinary Congress is called together after 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 set forth in Articles 12 and 13 are applicable to the delegations in the deliberations and Acts of the extraordinary Congresses.

#### ARTICLE 15

##### *Regulations of Congresses*

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

#### ARTICLE 16

##### *Conferences*

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

They are called together after agreement with the International Bureau. The Conferences draw up their regulations.

#### ARTICLE 17

##### *Committees*

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

### CHAPTER III

#### PROPOSITIONS DURING THE INTERVAL BETWEEN MEETINGS

#### ARTICLE 18

##### *Introduction of the propositions*

During the interval between meetings, every Administration has the right to address propositions concerning the Convention and its Regulations to the Administrations through the intermediary of the International Bureau.

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

In order to be considered, all propositions introduced during the interval between meetings must be supported by at least two Administrations, without counting the one from which they come. Such propositions are ignored when the International Bureau does not receive, at the same time, the necessary number of declarations of support.

## ARTICLE 19

*Examination of the Propositions*

Every proposition is submitted to the following procedure:

A period of six months is allowed to the Administrations, in order to examine the propositions and send 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, counting from the date of the second circular of the International Bureau notifying them of the observations made, are considered as abstaining.

If the proposition concerns an Agreement or the Regulations relative thereto, only the Administrations which have adhered to that Agreement can take part in the procedure indicated above.

## ARTICLE 20

*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 and of Articles 33 to 36, 38, 48 to 53, 55, 56, 58, 60 to 63, 65 to 75, 77 to 80 of the Convention, and of Articles 1, 4, 17, 53, 66, and 86 of the Regulations.

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

(c) Absolute majority if it is a question of interpreting the provisions of the Convention and its Regulations, except the case of disagreement to be submitted to arbitration contemplated by Article 10.

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

## ARTICLE 21

*Notification of the Resolutions*

The additions to and modifications of the Convention and Agreements 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.

The additions to and modifications of the Regulations are established and communicated to the Administrations by the International Bureau. The same applies to the interpretations contemplated under letter (c) of the preceding Article.

## ARTICLE 22

*Execution of the Resolutions*

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

## CHAPTER IV

## THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

## ARTICLE 23

*General Attributions*

1. A central Office, functioning 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.

This Bureau is charged, principally, with assembling, coordinating, publishing, and distributing information of all kinds which concerns 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 notifying the changes adopted; and, in general, with undertaking the studies and works of editing and documentation which the Convention, the Agreements, and their Regulations attribute to it, or which may be intrusted to it in the interest of the Union.

2. It intervenes, as a disbursing office, in the settlement of accounts of all kinds relative to the international postal service between Administrations requesting such intervention.

## ARTICLE 24

*Expenses of the International Bureau*

1. Each Congress fixes the maximum figure which the ordinary annual expenses of the International Bureau may amount to.

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 confided to the Bureau, are shared by all of the countries of the Union.

2. The countries of the Union are divided, for that purpose, into seven classes, each of which contributes to the expenses in the following proportion:

First class . . . . .	25 units
Second class . . . . .	20 units
Third class . . . . .	15 units
Fourth class . . . . .	10 units
Fifth class . . . . .	5 units
Sixth class . . . . .	3 units
Seventh class . . . . .	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 it is to be placed in view of the division of the expenses of the International Bureau.

## TITLE II

### RULES OF GENERAL ORDER

#### SOLE CHAPTER

#### ARTICLE 25

##### *Liberty of Transit*

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

2. Liberty of transit of parcel post is limited to the territory of the countries participating in that service. Insured articles may be transported in closed mails over the territory of countries which do not adhere to the Agreement relative to that service, but the responsibility of those countries is limited to that prescribed for registered articles.

#### ARTICLE 26

##### *Right To Utilize the Services of the Union*

The countries of the Union recognize the right of all persons to utilize the services which form the subject of the Convention and Agreements.

#### ARTICLE 27

##### *Prohibition Against Unauthorized Charges*

It is forbidden to collect postage charges of any nature whatever, other than those provided by the Convention and the Agreements.

#### ARTICLE 28

##### *Temporary Suspension of Service*

When, as a result of exceptional circumstances, an Administration finds itself obliged to suspend, temporarily, and in a general or partial manner, either the dispatch of articles of correspondence delivered to it by another Administration, or the execution of one or of several special services, it is bound to give notice thereof immediately, if necessary by telegraph, to the Administration or Administrations concerned.

## ARTICLE 29

*Monetary Standard*

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

## ARTICLE 30

*Equivalents*

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

## ARTICLE 31

*Forms. Language*

1. The forms used by the Administrations in their reciprocal relations shall be edited 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 which are not printed in the French language must bear an interlinear translation in that language.

3. The forms covered by Sections 1 and 2 shall have dimensions as near as possible to those prescribed by the Regulations of the Convention and of the Agreements.

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

## ARTICLE 32

*Identity Cards*

1. Each Administration may issue, to persons who apply for them, identity cards valid as proof of identity in all transactions effected by the post offices of the countries which do not give notice of their refusal to admit them.

2. The Administration which issues an identity card is authorized to collect, on that account, a charge not exceeding 1 franc.

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

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

4. An identity card is valid for a period of three years, counting from the date of issue.

## TITLE III

## PROVISIONS CONCERNING POSTAL CORRESPONDENCE

## CHAPTER I

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

## ARTICLE 33

*Articles of Correspondence*

The denomination "articles of correspondence" applies to letters, single and reply-paid post cards, commercial papers, samples of merchandise, and prints of all kinds, including prints in relief for the use of the blind.

## ARTICLE 34

*Rates of Postage and General Conditions*

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

Articles	Units of weight	Rates	Limits		
			Of weight	Of dimensions	
	<i>Grams</i>	<i>Cen- times</i>			
Letters, first unit of weight. . . . .	20	25	} 2 kg. . . . .	{ 45 cm. on each side. In the form of a roll: 75 cm. in length and 10 cm. in diameter.	
Letters, each additional unit. . . . .		15			
Post cards, single. . . . .		15	} . . . . .	{ Maximum: 15 cm. in length and 10.5 cm. in width. Minimum: 10 cm. in length and 7 cm. in diameter.	
Post cards, with reply paid. . . . .		30			
Prints. . . . .	50	5	} 2 kg <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	{ As for letters.	
Prints, raised, for the blind. . . . .	1,000	5			} 3 kg. . . . .
Commercial papers. . . . .	50	5			
Commercial papers, minimum charge. . . . .		25			
Samples of merchandise. . . . .	50	5	} 500 g. . . . .	{ 45 cm. in length; 20 cm. in width; 10 cm. in thickness. In the form of a roll: 45 cm. in length and 15 cm. in diameter.	
Samples of merchandise, minimum charge. . . . .		10			

<sup>1</sup> That weight is increased to 3 kilograms for single volumes.

The Administrations have the option of granting, in their reciprocal relations, to newspapers and periodicals mailed directly by the publishers, a reduction of 50 per cent from the regular rate for printed matter.

The same option is accorded to them in regard to stitched or bound books, with the exception of all price lists and catalogs.

The same also applies to literary and scientific editions exchanged between institutions of learning.

2. Each country of the Union shall fix the rates to be charged for articles of correspondence in accordance with the indications of the foregoing table.

3. Letters shall not contain any letter, note or document addressed to persons other than the addressee or to persons making their domicile with the latter.

4. Commercial papers, samples of merchandise and prints of any kind shall not contain any letter or note having the character of actual and personal correspondence; they shall be so prepared as to facilitate verification, except as provided by the Regulations.

5. The limits of weight and dimensions fixed by Section 1 of this Article shall not apply to the correspondence relative to the postal service mentioned in Section 1 of Article 43.

6. Packages containing samples of merchandise shall not contain any article having a salable value.

7. The inclusion in a single package of different classes of mail matter (grouped articles) is authorized under the conditions set forth in the Regulations.

8. Except as provided by the Convention and the Regulations, articles which do not comply with the requirements shall not be dispatched.

Articles which have been accepted contrary to the requirements may be returned to the country of origin. If the country of destination effects delivery to the addressee, it shall collect such postage and surcharges as are provided for the class of correspondence to which the article actually belongs.

9. Articles bearing letter postage may contain dutiable articles, in the event that the importation of such articles in the form of letters is permitted by the country of destination.

These articles should bear, on the address side, a label conforming to the requirements of the Regulations.

The Administrations of destination are authorized to turn such articles over to the customs service, open them officially and collect the import duties in the manner prescribed by their legislation.

## ARTICLE 35

### *Prepayment*

Articles other than letters and post cards shall be entirely prepaid.

Reply post cards on both halves of which the postage is not fully prepaid at the time of mailing shall not be dispatched.

## ARTICLE 36

*Charge in Case of Absence or Insufficiency of Prepayment*

In case of absence or insufficiency of prepayment, and with the exceptions provided by Article 39 of the Regulations for certain classes of reforwarded mail, articles of correspondence of all classes are subject, at the expense of the addressees, to a charge double the amount of the deficient postage or the insufficiency; but that charge shall not be lower than 10 centimes.

## ARTICLE 37

*Correspondence Outside of the Union*

1. The rates for correspondence addressed to countries outside of the Union must not be lower than the normal Union rates.

2. Correspondence originating in countries outside of the Union which is delivered to a Union country unprepaid or insufficiently prepaid is charged with the amount of the deficient postage by the delivering Administration in accordance with the rules applicable in its own service to similar articles addressed to the countries from which the said correspondence comes.

## ARTICLE 38

*Surtaxes*

There may be collected, in addition to the rates fixed by Articles 34 and 37, for every article transported by services maintained by Administrations foreign to the Union, or by extraordinary services within the Union giving rise to special expenses, a surtax proportionate to those expenses.

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

## ARTICLE 39

*Special Charges*

1. The Administrations are authorized to charge late fees in accordance with the provisions of their own legislation for articles mailed in their services for dispatch at the last moment.

2. Countries of destination which are authorized by their own legislation to deliver articles liable to customs duty may collect a charge of 50 centimes at most per piece for customs service.

3. Countries of destination are authorized to collect a special charge in accordance with their own legislation on articles addressed to general delivery.

## ARTICLE 40

*Special Delivery Articles*

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

2. Such articles, known as "special delivery articles," are subject, besides the regular postage, to a special charge the minimum of which shall be double the postage on an ordinary letter and the maximum 1 franc. This postage must be completely prepaid by the sender.

3. In the event that the addressee's residence is situated outside of the free delivery zone of the office of destination, delivery by special messenger may give rise to the collection of supplementary postage corresponding to that collected in the domestic service.

Special delivery is not obligatory in such cases.

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.

## ARTICLE 41

*Prohibitions*

1. It is forbidden to send by mail:

(a) Articles which, by their nature or wrapping, may expose postal employees to danger, or soil or damage the mails.

(b) Explosive, inflammable, or dangerous substances.

(c) Live animals, with the exception of bees and silkworms.

(d) Articles liable to customs duty, including samples of merchandise sent in quantities with a view to avoiding the payment of duty; subject, however, to the provisions of Article 34, Section 9.

(e) Opium, morphine, cocaine, and other narcotics.

(f) Obscene or immoral articles.

(g) Any articles whatever whose circulation is prohibited in the country of origin or that of destination.

It is also forbidden to send in the unregistered mails coins, bank notes, paper money, articles of gold or silver, precious stones, jewelry, and other precious articles.

2. Articles which have been wrongly admitted to the mails must be returned to the country of origin, except in cases where the Administration of the country of destination is authorized by its legislation or domestic regulations to dispose of them otherwise.

However, explosive, inflammable, or dangerous substances, and obscene or immoral articles, are not returned to the country of origin; they are

destroyed on the spot by the services of the Administration which has detected their presence.

In cases where articles wrongly accepted for mailing are neither returned to the country of origin nor delivered to the addressee, the dispatching Administration should be informed so that it may take the necessary measures.

3. The right is, moreover, reserved for every country of the Union to refuse to convey in transit in open mail over its territory or to deliver articles admitted at reduced rates in regard to which the laws, ordinances, or decrees regulating the conditions of their publication or circulation or in that country have not been observed.

These articles should be returned to the country of origin.

#### ARTICLE 42

##### *Forms of prepayment*

1. Prepayment 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.

2. The following are considered as duly prepaid: Reply post cards bearing printed or adhesive postage stamps of the country of issue of the cards; articles regularly prepaid for their first transmission and 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 "abonnement-poste" (subscription by mail) or an equivalent notation sent under the Agreement concerning subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals.

3. Correspondence mailed on the high seas, in the box on board ship, or handed to postal agents on board or to the commanders of ships, 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 is stationed.

#### ARTICLE 43

##### *Franking privilege*

1. Correspondence relating to the postal service exchanged between the Postal Administrations, between those Administrations and the International Bureau, between the 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 provisions of the Convention and Agreements and their Regulations, is admitted free of postage.

2. Correspondence (except collect on delivery articles) addressed to prisoners of war or mailed by them is likewise free of 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 direct 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 concerns the application of the above provisions.

#### ARTICLE 44

##### *Reply coupons*

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

The selling price is determined by the interested Administrations, but may not be less than 40 gold centimes or the equivalent of that sum in the money of the issuing country.

Each coupon is exchangeable in any country of the Union for a postage stamp or postage stamps representing the postage on a single-rate letter originating in that country and addressed to a foreign country. However, the exchange must be made before the expiration of the sixth month following that of issue.

Moreover, the right is reserved for each country to require that the articles of correspondence for the prepayment of which the reply coupons are exchanged be mailed at the time of presentation of the coupons.

#### ARTICLE 45

##### *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 must pay, for every request by mail, the charge applicable to a single-rate registered letter; and, for every request by telegraph, the charge for a telegram, increased by the postage charge in case of change of address.

## ARTICLE 46

*Forwarding. Undelivered correspondence*

1. The forwarding of articles of correspondence within the Union does not give rise to the collection of any additional charge, with the exceptions provided by the Regulations.

The same applies to the return to the sender of undelivered correspondence.

2. 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 beyond the first transmission.

3. Correspondence which is undeliverable for any reason whatsoever must be returned immediately to the country of origin.

The period of retention of correspondence held at the disposal of the addressees or addressed "general delivery" is governed by the laws of the country of destination. However, such period may not exceed six months in relations with oversea countries and two months in other relations. The return to the country of origin must take place within a shorter period, if the sender has so requested by a notation in the address in a language known in the country of destination.

4. Prints without value are not returned, unless the sender, by a notation on the outside of the article, requests the return.

5. The "general delivery" charge provided by Article 39 does not follow the article in case of redirection or return as undeliverable.

6. The additional charge stipulated by Article 40, Section 3, remains collectible in case of redirection or return as undeliverable of a special delivery article.

## ARTICLE 47

*Inquiries*

1. An inquiry as to the disposal made of any article may give rise to the collection of a fee fixed at 1 franc maximum.

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

2. Inquiries are admitted only within the period of one year, counting from the day following that of mailing.

## CHAPTER II

## REGISTERED ARTICLES

## ARTICLE 48

*Charges*

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

However, the reply halves of post cards may not be registered by the original senders of such articles.

2. The postage for all registered articles shall be paid in advance. It consists of:

(a) The ordinary cost of prepayment of the article, according to its nature.

(b) A fixed registration fee of 40 centimes maximum.

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

4. The countries disposed to undertake risks which may arise from cases of force majeure (causes beyond control) are authorized to collect a special charge of 40 centimes at most for each registered article.

#### ARTICLE 49

##### *Return receipts*

The sender of a registered article may obtain a return receipt by paying, at the time of mailing, a fixed charge of 40 centimes at most.

The return receipt may be requested after mailing the article, within the period fixed by Article 47 for inquiries, and by means of the payment of a fee which must not exceed double that provided by the preceding paragraph.

#### ARTICLE 50

##### *Extent of responsibility*

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

The sender is entitled, under that head, to an indemnity, the amount of which is fixed at 50 francs for each article.

If he has paid the fee for an inquiry, and if such inquiry was rendered necessary by a fault of the service, that fee is likewise returned to him.

#### ARTICLE 51

##### *Exceptions to the principle of responsibility*

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

(a) In case of force majeure; however, the responsibility is maintained in regard to an Administration of origin which has undertaken to cover the risks of force majeure (Article 48, Section 4);

(b) When they cannot account for the articles as a result of the destruction of the records of the service resulting from a case of force majeure;

(c) When it is a question of articles whose contents fall within the scope of the prohibitions provided by Article 41, Section 1;

(d) When the sender has not made any application within the period contemplated by Article 47.

#### ARTICLE 52

##### *Termination of responsibility*

The 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 addressed to general delivery or held at the disposal of the addressees, responsibility ceases upon delivery to a person who has proved his identity in accordance with the rules in force in the country of destination, whose names and description are in conformity with the indications of the address.

#### ARTICLE 53

##### *Payment of indemnity*

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

#### ARTICLE 54

##### *Period for payment*

1. The payment of the 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 (application). That period is extended to nine months in relations with oversea countries.

2. The Administration of origin is authorized to settle with the sender on account of the Administration of intermediation or of destination which, duly advised of the application, has let six months pass without settling the matter; that period is extended to nine months in relations with oversea countries.

The dispatching Administration may exceptionally postpone the settlement of the indemnity beyond the period provided by the preceding Section when the question of knowing whether the loss of the article was due to a case of force majeure has not yet been settled.

#### ARTICLE 55

##### *Fixing of Responsibility*

1. Until the contrary is proved, the responsibility for the loss of a registered article falls on the Administration which, having received the article without making any observations, and, being put in possession of all the particulars of inquiry prescribed by regulations, can not establish either delivery to the addressee or regular transmission to the next Administration if any.

If the loss has taken place in the course of conveyance and it is impossible to establish on the territory or in the service of which country the loss occurred the Administrations concerned bear the loss in equal shares. However, the whole of the indemnity due must be turned over to the Administration of origin by the first Administration which can not establish the regular transmission of the article in question to the corresponding service. It is incumbent upon the latter Administration to recover from the other responsible Administrations the share of each of them in the indemnity paid to the sender.

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 to the dispatching Administration unless both countries undertake risks arising from cases of force majeure.

3. By the fact of the payment of the indemnity, the responsible Administration is subrogated up to the amount of that indemnity in the rights of the person who has received it for all eventual recourse against the addressee, the sender, or a third person.

#### ARTICLE 56

##### *Repayment of the Indemnity to the Administration of Origin*

The Administration which is responsible, or on whose account the payment is made in accordance with Article 54, is bound to reimburse the dispatching Administration for the amount of the indemnity within a period of three months following notification of the payment.

That reimbursement is made without expense for the creditor Administration by means of either a money order or a draft or in money valid in the creditor country. At the expiration of the period of three months the sum due to the dispatching Administration bears interest at the rate of 7 percent per annum, counting from the date of expiration of the said period.

The 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 the payment.

However, the Administrations may agree among themselves to settle periodically the indemnities which they have paid to the senders and the justness of which they have recognized.

#### ARTICLE 57

##### *Responsibility for Registered Articles Outside of the Limits of the Union*

Responsibility for registered articles addressed to or coming from countries foreign to the Union or passing in transit through such countries is governed by the following provisions:

(a) For the conveyance within the jurisdiction of the Union, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;

(b) For conveyance outside of the limits of the Union, in accordance with the conditions made known by the Administration of the Union which serves as intermediary.

### CHAPTER III

#### COLLECT ON DELIVERY ARTICLES

#### ARTICLE 58

##### *Rates and Conditions. Settlement*

1. Registered articles may be sent collect on delivery in relations between countries whose Administrations agree to conduct that service.

Barring contrary agreement, the amount to be collected is expressed in the money of the country of origin of the article.

The maximum C.O.D. charge is equal to the maximum amount fixed for money orders addressed to the country of origin of the article.

Collect on delivery articles are subject to the formalities and rates applicable to registered articles.

The sender also pays a fixed charge, which may not be lower than 20 centimes nor higher than 50 centimes, and a proportional fee of  $\frac{1}{2}$  percent of the amount of the C.O.D. charge. The Administration of origin has the option of rounding off those charges, in accordance with the conveniences of its monetary system.

2. The amount collected from the addressee is transmitted to the sender by means of a C.O.D. money order, which is issued free of charge.

The Administrations may agree upon another procedure for the settlement of the sums collected. They may, in particular, undertake, under conditions to be agreed upon, to turn them over to a postal account-current in the country of destination of the article.

#### ARTICLE 59

##### *Cancellation of the Amount To Be Collected*

The sender of a registered C.O.D. article may request total or partial cancellation of the amount to be collected.

Requests of this nature are subject to the same provisions as requests for withdrawal or change of address (Article 45).

#### ARTICLE 60

##### *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 50 and 51.

## ARTICLE 61

*Guarantee of Sums Regularly Collected*

The sums regularly collected from the addressee, whether or not they have been converted into money orders or turned over to a postal account-current 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 62

*Indemnity in Case of Noncollection, Insufficient Collection or Fraudulent Collection*

1. If the article has been delivered to the addressee without collecting the amount indicated, the sender is entitled to indemnity, provided that an application has been made within the the period provided by Article 47, Section 2, and unless the noncollection is due to fault or negligence on his part, or unless the contents of the article come under the prohibitions contemplated in Article 41.

The same applies if the sum collected from the addressee is less than the amount indicated, or if the collection has been fraudulently made.

In any case the indemnity may not exceed the amount to be collected on delivery.

2. By the fact of the payment of the indemnity, the responsible Administration is subrogated in the rights of the sender for all eventual recourse against the addressee or third parties.

## ARTICLE 63

*Sums Regularly Collected. Indemnity. Payment and Recourse*

The obligation of paying the amounts regularly collected, as well as the indemnity referred to in the preceding Article, falls upon the Administration to which the office of origin of the article belongs, with the reservation of its right to recourse against the responsible Administration.

## ARTICLE 64

*Period for Payment*

The provisions of Article 54 concerning the periods for payment of indemnity for the loss of a registered article are applied to the payment of the sums collected or the indemnity for C.O.D. articles.

## ARTICLE 65

*Fixing of Responsibility*

The payment by the dispatching Administration of sums regularly collected, as well as of the indemnity provided for by Article 62, is made for

the account of the Administration of destination. The latter is responsible, unless it can prove that the fault is due to the failure of the dispatching Administration to observe a provision of the Regulations.

In the case of fraudulent collection as a result of the disappearance in the service of a C.O.D. article, the responsibility of the Administrations involved is determined in accordance with the rules provided in Article 55 for the loss of registered articles in general.

#### ARTICLE 66

##### *Reimbursement of Sums Advanced*

The Administration of destination is bound to reimburse the Administration of origin, under the conditions provided by Article 56, for the sums which have been advanced on its account.

#### ARTICLE 67

##### *C.O.D. Money Orders*

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 with the reservations provided by the Regulations, C.O.D. money orders are subject to the provisions fixed by the Agreement concerning Money Orders.

#### ARTICLE 68

##### *Sharing of C.O.D. Charges and Fees*

The charges fixed in the last paragraph of Section 1 of Article 58 are divided equally between the Administration of origin and that of the country of destination, under the conditions prescribed by the Regulations.

In the event that two Administrations do not collect a fixed charge for collect on delivery service of the same amount, the pro-rata share to be paid to the corresponding Administration is calculated on the basis of the lower rate.

### CHAPTER IV

#### RETENTION OF POSTAGE. TRANSIT AND WAREHOUSING CHARGES

#### ARTICLE 69

##### *Retention of postage*

Except in cases expressly provided for by the Convention, each Administration retains the whole of the sums which it has collected.

## ARTICLE 70

*Transit Charges*

1. Correspondence exchanged in closed mails between two Administrations of the Union, by means of the services of one or several other Administrations (third services), is subject to the payment, to each of the countries traversed or whose services participate in the conveyance, of the transit charges indicated in the following table:

	Per kilogram	
	Of letters and post cards	Of other articles
1°. Territorial transit:	<i>Fr. C.</i>	<i>Fr. C.</i>
Up to 1,000 km. . . . .	0. 75	0. 10
From 1,000 to 2,000 km. . . . .	1. 00	. 15
From 2,000 to 3,000 km. . . . .	1. 50	. 20
From 3,000 to 6,000 km. . . . .	2. 50	. 30
From 6,000 to 9,000 km. . . . .	3. 50	. 40
Over 9,000 km. . . . .	4. 50	. 50
2°. Maritime transit:		
Up to 300 nautical miles. . . . .	. 75	. 10
From 300 to 1,500 nautical miles. . . . .	2. 00	. 25
Between Europe and North America. . . . .	3. 00	. 40
From 1,500 to 6,000 nautical miles. . . . .	4. 00	. 50
Over 6,000 nautical miles. . . . .	6. 00	. 75

2. The transit charges for maritime service on a route not exceeding 300 nautical miles are fixed at one-third the sums provided by the preceding Section, if the Administration concerned already receives, on account of the mails conveyed, compensation for territorial transit.

3. In the case of maritime transit effected by two or more Administrations, the total transit charges may not exceed 6 francs per kilogram of letters and post cards and 0.75 francs per kilogram of other articles. When the totals of such charges exceed 6 francs and 0.75 francs respectively, they are divided among the Administrations participating in the transportation in proportion to the distances traversed, without prejudice to different agreements which may be made between the parties concerned.

4. Barring contrary agreement, maritime conveyances effected directly between two countries, by means of ships belonging to one of them, as well as conveyances effected between two offices of the same country through the intermediary of services belonging to another country, are considered as third services.

5. Correspondence exchanged in open mail between two Administrations of the Union is subject, without regard to weight or destination, to the following transit charges, namely:

Letters . . . . .	6 centimes each
Post cards . . . . .	2½ centimes each
Other articles . . . . .	2½ centimes each

However, the Administrations are authorized to consider as closed mails articles sent in open mail which exceed the weight of 250 grams.

6. Newspapers or packets of newspapers and periodicals sent under the Agreement concerning Subscriptions to Newspapers and Periodicals, as well as boxes with declared value sent under the Agreement concerning Letters and Boxes with Declared Value, are considered as other articles in regard to transit charges.

7. An Administration is authorized to submit to the deliberation of a Commission of arbiters the results of statistics which, in its opinion, differ too greatly from reality. Such arbitration is effected in accordance with the provisions of Article 10.

#### ARTICLE 71

##### *Warehousing Charges*

The warehousing in a port of closed mails brought by one steamship and intended to be taken up again by another steamship gives rise to the payment of a charge fixed at 50 centimes per sack to the profit of the Administration to which the place of warehousing belongs, unless that Administration already receives payment for territorial or maritime transit.

#### ARTICLE 72

##### *Freedom From Transit Charges*

The following are exempt from all maritime or territorial transit charges: The correspondence sent free of postage mentioned in Article 43; reply post cards returned to the country of origin; redirected articles; undeliverable articles; return receipts; money orders and all other documents relative to the Postal Service, especially the correspondence relative to postal checks.

Missent dispatches are considered, insofar as the payment of transit and warehousing charges is concerned, as though they had followed their normal route.

#### ARTICLE 73

##### *Extraordinary Services*

The transit charges specified under Article 70 do not apply to transit within the Union by means of extraordinary services specially created or maintained by one Administration at the request of one or more other Administrations. The conditions for this class of conveyance are fixed from time to time among the Administrations concerned.

## ARTICLE 74

*Airplane Service*

1. The transit charges provided by Article 70 are not applicable to the airplane services established for the transportation of correspondence between two or more countries.

2. The transit charges relative to each trip made by the airplane are uniform for all the Administrations which make use of them without participating in the operating expenses.

3. The Postal Administrations of the countries served directly by airplane services determine, by agreement with the Companies concerned, the transit charges for the mails loaded at landing fields on their respective territories for the trips made by means of the planes of those companies. However, each Administration which controls an airplane service reserves the right to collect direct from each Administration which makes use of it the transit charges for the entire trip by that service.

4. The transfer en route of the mails which successively use several separate airplane services must be effected through the intermediary of the Postal Administration of the country in which the transfer takes place. This rule is not applicable when such transfer takes place between airplanes performing the successive sections of one and the same service.

If the dispatches must be stored before their reforwarding by another airplane service, the interested Postal Administration is entitled to warehousing charges under the conditions provided by Article 71.

In addition to those eventual warehousing charges, the Administrations of the countries traversed have no right to any compensation for the mails carried by airplane over their territories.

## ARTICLE 75

*Payments and Accounts*

1. The transit and warehousing charges are borne by the Administration of the country of origin.

2. The general accounting for such charges is based upon statistics taken once every five years, during a period of 28 days, to be determined in the Regulations.

3. When the annual balance of the accounts of transit and warehousing charges between two Administrations does not exceed 1,000 francs, the debtor Administration is relieved of all payment on that account.

## ARTICLE 76

*Transit Charges in Relations With Countries Foreign to the Union*

1. The Administrations which have relations with countries situated outside the Union must lend their assistance to all the other Administrations of

the Union in order that the mails may be subject, outside of the Union, as within its limits, to the transit charges fixed by Article 70.

2. The total maritime transit charges within the Union and outside of the Union must not, however, exceed 15 francs per kilogram of letters and post cards and 1 franc per kilogram of other articles. In such cases, those charges are shared among the Administrations participating in the conveyance in proportion to the distances.

3. The transit charges, territorial or maritime, outside of the limits of the Union as well as within the territory of the Union, for correspondence to which the present Article applies, are fixed in the same way as the transit charges relating to correspondence exchanged between Union countries by means of the services of other countries of the Union.

#### ARTICLE 77

##### *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 commanding officer of another division or ship of the same country, through the intermediary of land or sea services maintained by other countries.

2. Correspondence of all kinds contained in such mails shall consist only of such as is addressed to or sent by the officers and crews of the ships to or from which the mails are sent; 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 dispatching or receiving Administration of the mails in question is indebted to the intermediary Administrations for transit charges calculated in accordance with the provisions of Article 70.

#### VARIOUS PROVISIONS

#### ARTICLE 78

##### *Failure To Observe Liberty Transit*

When a country does not observe the provisions of Article 25 concerning liberty of transit, the Administrations have the right to discontinue postal service with it. They must give advance notice of that measure by telegram to the Administrations concerned.

#### ARTICLE 79

##### *Obligations*

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

(a) For punishing both the counterfeiting and the fraudulent use of international reply coupons and the fraudulent use, for the prepayment of mail articles, of counterfeit or used postage stamps, as well as of counterfeit or used impressions of stamping machines;

(b) For prohibiting or repressing the fraudulent manufacture, sale, peddling, or distribution of embossed or adhesive stamps in use in the postal service which are counterfeited or imitated in such a way that they might be mistaken for the embossed or adhesive stamps issued by the Administration of one of the contracting countries;

(c) For punishing the fraudulent manufacture or circulating of postal identity cards, as well as the fraudulent use of such cards;

(d) For preventing, and, if necessary, punishing the insertion of opium, morphine, cocaine and other narcotics in the mail articles in favor of which such insertion is not expressly authorized by the Convention and Agreements of the Union.

#### FINAL PROVISIONS

#### ARTICLE 80

#### *Effective Date and Duration of the Convention*

The present Convention shall become effective on October 1, 1925, and shall remain effective indefinitely.

In faith of which, the Plenipotentiaries of the countries enumerated below have signed the present Convention in one copy, which shall be filed in the Archives of the Government of Sweden, and one copy of which shall be delivered to each Party.

Done at Stockholm, August 28, 1924.

For the Union of South Africa:

For E. A. Sturman:

D. J. O'KELLY

D. J. O'KELLY

For Albania:

DAVID BJURSTRÖM

For Germany:

W. SCHENK

K. ORTH

For the United States of America:

JOSEPH STEWART

EUGENE R. WHITE

EDWIN SANDS

For the whole of the insular possessions  
of the United States of America  
other than the Philippine Islands:

JOSEPH STEWART

EUGENE R. WHITE

EDWIN SANDS

For the Philippine Islands:

JUAN RUIZ

For the Argentine Republic:

M. RODRIGUEZ OCAMPO

For the Commonwealth of Australia:

For Austria:

JULIUS JUHLIN

GUSTAF KIHLMARK

GUNNAR LAGER

THORE WENNQVIST

For Belgium:

A. PIRARD

HUB. KRAINS

O. SCHOCKAERT

For the Colony of the Belgian Congo:

M. HALEWYCK

G. TONDEUR

- For Bolivia:  
MTO. URRIOLAGOITIA H
- For Brazil:  
A. DE ALMEIDA-BRANDÃO  
J. HENRIQUE ADERNE
- For Bulgaria:  
N. BOSCHNACOFF  
ST. IVANOFF
- For Canada:  
PETER T. COOLICAN
- For Chile:  
CESAR LEON  
L. TAGLE SALINAS  
C. VERNEUIL
- For China:  
TAI TCH'ENNE LINNE
- For the Republic of Colombia:  
LUIS SERRANO-BLANCO
- For the Republic of Costa Rica:  
V. ANDERSSON
- For the Republic of Cuba:  
JOSÉ D. MORALES DIAZ  
CÉSAR CARVALLO
- For Denmark:  
C. MONDRUP  
HOLMBLAD
- For the Free City of Danzig:  
DR. ALFRED WYSOCKI  
DR. MARJAN BLACHIER
- For the Dominican Republic:  
C. F. G. HAGSTRÖM
- For Egypt:  
H. MAZLOUM  
E. MAGGIAR  
WAHBÉ IBRAHIM
- For Ecuador:  
For Spain:  
EL CONDE DE SAN ESTEBAN DE  
CAÑONGO  
JOSÉ MORENO PINEDA  
A. CAMACHO
- For the Spanish Colonies:  
MARTIN VICENTE SALTO
- For Esthonia:  
EDWARD WIRGO
- For Ethiopia:  
B. MARCOS  
A. BOUSSON
- For Finland:  
G. E. F. ALBRECHT
- For France:  
M. LEBON  
ROBERT HICQUET  
A. BODY  
DOUARCHE  
G. BÉCHEL
- For Algeria:  
H. TREUILLÉ
- For the French Colonies and Protector-  
ates of Indochina:  
ANDRÉ TOUZET
- For the whole of the other French  
Colonies:  
G. PILLIAS  
GINESTOU
- For Great Britain and divers British  
Colonies and Protectorates:  
F. H. WILLIAMSON  
E. L. ASHLEY FOAKES  
W. G. GILBERT
- For Greece:  
PENTHEROUDAKIS  
J. LACHNIDAKIS
- For Guatemala:  
For the Republic of Haiti:  
CARL SCHLYTER
- For the Republic of Honduras:  
For Hungary:  
O. DE FEJÉR  
G. BARON SZALAY
- For British India:  
GEOFFREY CLARKE  
HEMANTA KUMAR RAHA
- For the Irish Free State:  
For P. S. O'Heigeartaigh:  
P. S. MACCATHMHAOIL  
P. S. MACCATHMHAOIL  
D. O'HIARLATHA
- For Iceland:  
C. MONDRUP  
HOLMBLAD
- For Italy:  
LUIGI PICARELLI  
PAOLO RIELLO  
GIOVANNI BARTOLI
- For the whole of the Italian Colonies:  
LUIGI PICARELLI  
PAOLO RIELLO  
GIOVANNI BARTOLI

- For Japan:  
S. KOMORI  
H. KAWAI  
H. MAKINO
- For Korea:  
S. KOMORI  
R. TAKAHASHI
- For the whole of the other Japanese Dependencies:  
K. SUGINO  
H. KAWAI
- For Latvia:  
ED. KADIKIS  
LOUIS RUDANS
- For the Republic of Liberia:  
GUSTAF W. DE HORN DE RANTZIEN
- For Lithuania:  
I. JURKUNAS-SCHEYNIUS  
ADOLFAS SRUOGA
- For Luxemburg:  
JAAQUES
- For Morocco (with the exception of the Spanish Zone):  
F. GENTIL  
WALTER
- For Morocco (Spanish Zone):  
EL CONDE DE SAN ESTEBAN DE CAÑONGO  
- JOSÉ MORENO PINEDA  
A. CAMACHO
- For Mexico:  
R. NIETO  
JOSÉ V. CHÁVEZ
- For Nicaragua:  
For Norway:  
KLAUS HELSING  
OSKAR HOMME
- For New Zealand:  
A. T. MARKMAN
- For the Republic of Panama:  
JOSÉ D. MORALES  
CÉSAR CARVALLO
- For Paraguay:  
GUNNAR LANGBORG
- For the Netherlands:  
SCHREUDER  
J. S. v. GELDER  
J. M. LAMERS
- For the Netherlands Indies:  
I. J. MILBORN  
For M. W. F. Gerdes Oosterbeek:  
I. J. MILBORN
- For the Netherlands Colonies in America:  
I. J. MILBORN  
For M. W. F. Gerdes Oosterbeek:  
I. J. MILBORN
- For Peru:  
EMIL HECTOR
- For Persia:  
FAHIMED DOWLEH  
E. PIRE
- For Poland:  
DR. ALFRED WYSOCKI  
DR. MARJAN BLACHIER
- For Portugal:  
HENRIQUE MOUSINHO D'ALBUQUERQUE  
ADALBERTO DA COSTA VEIGA
- For the Portuguese Colonies of Africa:  
JUVENAL ELVAS FLORIADO SANTA BARBARA
- For the Portuguese Colonies of Asia and Oceania:  
JOAQUIM PIRES FERREIRA CHAVES
- For Rumania:  
GEORGE LECCA
- For the Republic of San Marino:  
PERCIVAL KALLING
- For El Salvador:  
For the Territory of the Saar:  
P. COURTILET
- For the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes:  
DRAGUTIN DIMITRIJEVIC  
SAVA TUTUNDZIC  
MILOS KOVACEVIC  
STOJSA KRBAVAC
- For the Kingdom of Siam:  
PHYA SANPAKITCH PREECHA
- For Sweden:  
JULIUS JUHLIN  
GUSTAF KIHLMARK  
GUNNAR LAGER  
THORE WENNQVIST
- For Switzerland:  
P. DUBOIS  
C. ROCHES
- For Czechoslovakia:  
JUDR OTOKAR RUZICKA  
JOSEPH ZABRODSKY
- For Tunisia:  
F. GENTIL  
BARBARAT

For Turkey:

For Mehmed Sabry:

BÉHA TALY

BÉHA TALY

For the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:

V. OSSINSKY

V. DOVGOLEVSKI

E. HIRSCHFELD

E. SYREVITCH

KATISS

V. TCHITCHINADSE

For Uruguay:

ADOLFO AGORIO

For the United States of Venezuela:

LUIS ALEJANDRO AGUILAR

## FINAL PROTOCOL OF THE CONVENTION

At the moment of signing the Universal Postal Convention concluded on the present date, the undersigned Plenipotentiaries have agreed as follows:

### I

#### *Withdrawal of correspondence*

The provisions of Article 45 of the Convention do not apply to Great Britain, or to the British dominions, colonies, and protectorates, whose domestic legislation does not permit the withdrawal of correspondence upon the request of the sender.

### II

#### *Equivalentents, maximum and minimum limits*

1. Each country has the option of increasing by as much as 60 per cent, or of decreasing by 20 per cent, the postage rates fixed by Article 34, Section 1, in accordance with the following table:

	Mini- mum limits	Maxi- mum limits
	<i>Gold centimes</i>	<i>Gold centimes</i>
Letters:		
First unit . . . . .	20	40
Each additional unit . . . . .	12	24
Post cards:		
Single . . . . .	12	24
Reply . . . . .	24	48
Prints, for each 50 grams . . . . .	4	8
Prints in relief for the blind, for each 1,000 grams . . . . .	4	8
Commercial papers, for each 50 grams . . . . .	4	8
* Minimum rate . . . . .	20	.....
Samples, for each 50 grams . . . . .	4	8
Minimum rate . . . . .	8	.....

The rates chosen shall, as far as possible, be in the same proportion as the basic rates, each Administration having the option of rounding off the rates to suit the conveniences of its own monetary system.

2. It is permissible for each country to reduce the postage on single post cards to 10 centimes, and that on reply post cards to 20 centimes.

3. The print rate may, by exception, be reduced to 3 centimes per unit of 50 grams.

4. It is permissible for each country to fix, at its option, the amount of indemnity to be paid to its inhabitants under Article 50.

However, the adjustment of accounts between the interested Administrations shall be effected on the basis of the amount of 50 francs.

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

### III

#### *Option of Requiring Prepayment*

When a country allows its postage rate to fall below 20 centimes for the first unit of weight of letters, and below the proportional amount for post cards and other articles, the other countries are authorized to apply obligatory prepayment in regard to it, and may distribute, without collecting the postage due, the short-paid or unprepaid correspondence originating in that country. It is understood that the latter country also has the right to prescribe obligatory prepayment.

The option is also reserved for each country of not admitting post cards in relations with another country when the difference between the rates in the two countries is such that the use of the cards in question may give rise to abuses on the part of the public.

### IV

#### *Mailing of Correspondence in Another Country*

Each country is authorized to take all the measures deemed appropriate to prevent correspondence originating on its territory from being transported across the border to be mailed in another country. In particular, it has the right to charge with its domestic postage or to return to origin articles which persons or firms located in that country mail or cause to be mailed in another country in order to profit by lower rates, addressed to persons or firms of the interior of that same country. The means of collecting the charges are left to the choice of that country.

### V

#### *Avoirdupois Ounce*

It is admitted, as an exceptional measure, that the countries which, on account of their domestic legislation, can not adopt the decimal metric system

as a standard, have the option of substituting for it the avoirdupois ounce (28.3465 grams) by assimilating 1 ounce to 20 grams for letters and 2 ounces to 50 grams for prints, commercial papers, and samples.

## VI

### *Reply Coupons*

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

They are authorized to restrict the number of reply coupons to be sold to or exchanged by the same person in one day.

In such a case, they advise the International Bureau of their decision, which Bureau communicates it to the Administrations of the Union.

The Postal Administrations of Persia and Uruguay have the option of not undertaking the service of exchanging reply coupons, temporarily.

## VII

### *Registration Fee*

The countries which can not fix at 40 centimes the registration fee contemplated by Article 48, Section 2, of the Convention, are, however, authorized to collect a fee which may amount to as much as 50 centimes at most.

## VIII

### *Warehousing Charges*

Exceptionally, the Portuguese Administration is authorized to collect, for all mails transferred at the port of Lisbon, the warehousing charges provided by Article 71.

## IX

### *Protocol Left Open to the Countries Not Represented*

Ecuador, Guatemala, the Republic of Honduras, Nicaragua, and El Salvador, which form part of the Postal Union, not having been represented at the Congress, the Protocol remains open to them in order that they may adhere to the Convention and the Agreements concluded there, or merely to one or another of them.

The Protocol also remains open for the same purpose to the Commonwealth of Australia, whose delegate was obliged to be absent at the moment of signing the Acts.

## X

### *Protocol Left Open to the Countries Represented for Signatures and Adhesions*

The Protocol remains open in favor of the countries whose representatives have to-day signed only the Convention or a certain number of the Agree-

ments drawn up by the Congress, for the purpose of permitting them to adhere to the other Agreements signed on this date, or to one or another of them.

## XI

### *Period for Notification of Adhesion of Countries Not Represented*

The adhesions contemplated in Article IX above shall be communicated to the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden by the respective Governments, through diplomatic channels, and by the latter to the countries of the Union. The period which is allowed to them to make such notification will expire on September 1, 1925.

## XII

### *Research Committee*

A Committee composed of representatives of 14 Administrations is intrusted with the task of investigating and studying ways and means for simplifying and accelerating the labors of the Congresses.

The result of these investigations shall be submitted to the decision of the Administrations early enough to permit of them being applied to the next Congress.

With this end in view the said Committee is authorized to make whatever proposals it may consider suitable; and should they obtain a majority of votes they will come into force.

The International Bureau will undertake the secretarial work of the Committee thus formed, and its Director will take part in the deliberations.

In faith of which the undersigned Plenipotentiaries have drawn up the present Protocol, which shall have the same force and validity as if the provisions which it contains were inserted in the text of the Convention to which it belongs, and they have signed it in a single copy which shall remain deposited in the Archives of the Government of Sweden and a copy thereof shall be delivered to each Party.

Done at Stockholm, August 28, 1924.

For the Union of South Africa:

For E. A. Sturman:

D. J. O'KELLY

D. J. O'KELLY

For Albania:

DAVID BJURSTRÖM

For Germany:

W. SCHENK

K. ORTH

For the United States of America:

JOSEPH STEWART

EUGENE R. WHITE

EDWIN SANDS

For the whole of the insular possessions  
of the United States of America  
other than the Philippine Islands:

JOSEPH STEWART

EUGENE R. WHITE

EDWIN SANDS

For the Philippine Islands:

JUAN RUIZ

For the Argentine Republic:

M. RODRIGUEZ OCAMPO

For the Commonwealth of Australia:

## For Austria:

JULIUS JUHLIN  
GUSTAF KIHLMARK  
GUNNAR LAGER  
THORE WENNQVIST

## For Belgium:

A. FIRARD  
HUB. KRAINS  
O. SCHOCKAERT

## For the Colony of the Belgian Congo:

M. HALEWYCK  
G. TONDEUR

## For Bolivia:

MTO. URRIOLAGOITIA H

## For Brazil:

A. DE ALMEIDA-BRANDÃO  
J. HENRIQUE ADERNE

## For Bulgaria:

N. BOSCHNACOFF  
ST. IVANOFF

## For Canada:

PETER T. COOLICAN

## For Chile:

CESAR LEON  
L. TAGLE SALINAS  
C. VERNEUIL

## For China:

TAI TCH'ENNE LINNE

## For the Republic of Colombia:

LUIS SERRANO-BLANCO

## For the Republic of Costa Rica:

V. ANDERSSON

## For the Republic of Cuba:

JOSE D. MORALES DIAZ  
CESAR CARVALLO

## For Denmark:

C. MONDRUP  
HOLMBLAD

## For the Free City of Danzig:

DR. ALFRED WYSOCKI  
DR. MARJAN BLACHIER

## For the Dominican Republic:

C. F. G. HAGSTRÖM

## For Egypt:

H. MAZLOUM  
E. MAGGIAR  
WAHBÉ IBRAHIM

## For Ecuador:

## For Spain:

EL CONDE SAN ESTEBAN DE CAÑONGO  
JOSÉ MORENO PINEDA  
A. CAMACHO

## For the Spanish Colonies:

MARTIN VICENTE SALTO

## For Esthonia:

EDWARD WIRGO

## For Ethiopia:

B. MARCOS  
A. BOUSSON

## For Finland:

G. E. F. ALBRECHT

## For France:

M. LEBON  
ROBERT HICGUET  
A. BODY  
DOUARCHE  
G. BÉCHEL

## For Algeria:

H. TREUILLÉ

## For the French Colonies and Protectorates of Indochina:

ANDRÉ TOUZET

## For the whole of the other French Colonies:

G. PILLIAS  
GINESTOU

## For Great Britain and divers British Colonies and Protectorates:

F. H. WILLIAMSON  
E. L. ASHLEY FOAKES  
W. G. GILBERT

## For Greece:

PENTHEROUDAKIS  
J. LACHNIDAKIS

## For Guatemala:

## For the Republic of Haiti:

CARL SCHLYTER

## For the Republic of Honduras:

## For Hungary:

O. DE FEJÉR  
G. BARON SZALAY

## For British India:

GEOFFREY CLARKE  
HEMANTA KUMAR RAHA

## For the Irish Free State:

For P. S. O'Heigeartaigh:  
P. S. MACCATHMHAOIL  
P. S. MACCATHMHAOIL  
D. O'HIARLATHA

## For Iceland:

C. MONDRUP  
HOLMBLAD

- For Italy:  
 LUIGI PICARELLI  
 PAOLO RIELLO  
 GIOVANNI BARTOLI
- For the whole of the Italian Colonies:  
 LUIGI PICARELLI  
 PAOLO RIELLO  
 GIOVANNI BARTOLI
- For Japan:  
 S. KOMORI  
 H. KAWAI  
 H. MAKINO
- For Korea:  
 S. KOMORI  
 R. TAKAHASHI
- For the whole of the other Japanese Dependencies:  
 K. SUGINO  
 H. KAWAI
- For Latvia:  
 ED. KADIKIS  
 LOUIS RUDANS
- For the Republic of Liberia:  
 GUSTAF W. DE HORN DE RANTZIEN
- For Lithuania:  
 I. JURKUNAS-SCHEYNIUS  
 ADOLFAS SRUOGA
- For Luxemburg:  
 JAAQUES
- For Morocco (with the exception of the Spanish Zone):  
 F. GENTIL  
 WALTER
- For Morocco (Spanish Zone):  
 EL CONDE DE SAN ESTEBAN DE  
 CANAÑO  
 JOSÉ MORENO PINEDA  
 A. CAMACHO
- For Mexico:  
 R. NIETO  
 JOSÉ V. CHÁVEZ
- For Nicaragua:  
 For Norway:  
 KLAUS HELSING  
 OSKAR HOMME
- For New Zealand:  
 A. T. MARKMAN
- For the Republic of Panama:  
 JOSÉ D. MORALES  
 CÉSAR CARVALLO
- For Paraguay:  
 GUNNAR LANGBORG
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- For Peru:  
 EMIL HECTOR
- For Persia:  
 FAHIMED DOWLEH  
 E. PIRE
- For Poland:  
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 DR. MARJAN BLACHIER
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 D'ALBUQUERQUE  
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 PERCIVAL KALLING
- For El Salvador:  
 For the Territory of the Saar:  
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 MILOS KOVACEVIC  
 STOJSA KRBAVAC
- For the Kingdom of Siam:  
 PHYA SANPAKITCH PREECHA
- For Sweden:  
 JULIUS JUHLIN  
 GUSTAF KIHLMARK  
 GUNNAR LAGER  
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BÉHA TALY  
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E. SYREVITCH  
KATISS  
V. TCHITCHINADSE

For Uruguay:

ADOLFO AGORIO

For the United States of Venezuela:

LUIS ALEJANDRO AGUILAR

[For text of regulations for execution of the convention, see 44 Stat. 2273.]