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Pour LA GRÈCE:

[Signature]
M. D. S. S. S.

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE GUINÉE:

A. J. J. J.
[Signature]

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE GUINÉE-BISSAU:


Pour GRENADE:

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU GUATÉMALA:


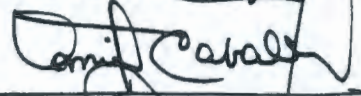
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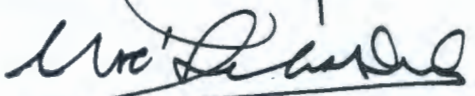
Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE GUINÉE
ÉQUATORIALE:

Pour LA GUYANE:


Edouard Aloué

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU HONDURAS:



Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE D'HAÏTI:





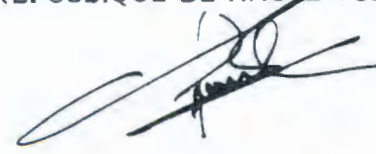
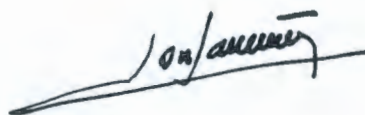
Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE POPULAIRE HONGROISE:



Pour L'INDE:




Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE HAUTE-VOLTA:

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE D'INDONÉSIE:



Handwritten signature for the Indonesian Republic, consisting of a stylized 'A' followed by a horizontal line.

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE ISLAMIQUE D'IRAN:



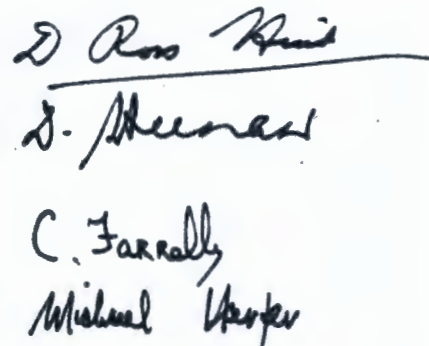
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Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE D'IRAQ:



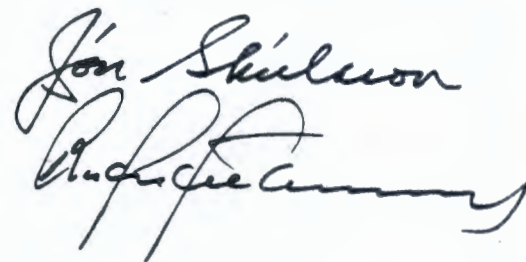
Handwritten signature for the Republic of Iraq, consisting of a stylized 'S' and 'I' with a horizontal line.

Pour L'IRLANDE:



Handwritten signatures for Ireland, including D. Ross, J. Sheehan, C. Farrell, and Michael Harper.

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE D'ISLANDE:



Handwritten signatures for Iceland, including Jon Skulason and another signature.

Pour ISRAËL:

E. Luchmann mod. 10
R. Luchmann
J. Lemel Pms.!

Pour (AL) JAMAHIRIYA ARABE LIBYENNE
POPULAIRE SOCIALISTE:

Pour LA JAMAÏQUE:

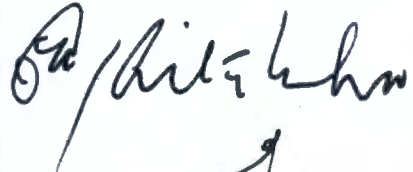
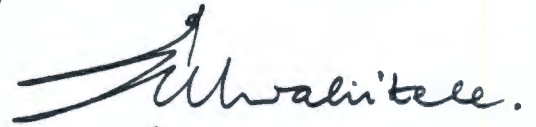
Pour L'ITALIE:

Pour LE JAPON:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'H. Miyajima'.

Pour KAMPUCHEA DÉMOCRATIQUE:

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE KENYA:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Njiru'.A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Wanjau'.A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Njiru'.

Pour LE ROYAUME HACHÉMITE DE
JORDANIE:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Al-Fayez'.

Pour KUWAIT:

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Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE
POPULAIRE LAO:

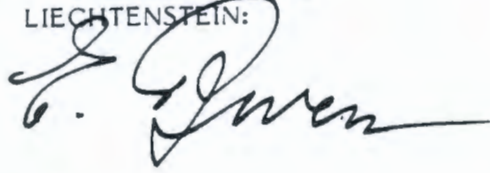
Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE LIBÉRIA:



Pour LE ROYAUME DU LESOTHO:

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE LIBANAISE:

Pour LA PRINCIPAUTÉ DE
LIECHTENSTEIN:



Pour LE LUXEMBOURG:



Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE
DE MADAGASCAR:



Pour LA MALAISIE:

M. Kasim

Pour MALAWI:

[Handwritten signature]

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DES MALDIVES:

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU MALI:

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[Handwritten signature]

Pour MALTE:

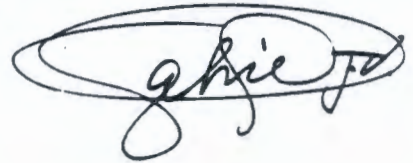
Pour LE ROYAUME DU MAROC:

أوجبة محمد

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE ISLAMIQUE DE
MAURITANIE:



Pour LES ÉTATS-UNIS DU MEXIQUE:



Pour MAURICE:

5
Pour LA PRINCIPAUTÉ DE MONACO:



Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE NAURU:

Pour LE NÉPAL:



Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU NICARAGUA:

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE POPULAIRE DE
MONGOLIE:



N. Haywardson

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE POPULAIRE
DU MOZAMBIQUE:

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU NIGER:



Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE FÉDÉRALE DE
NIGÉRIA:

Omura 1-3

indivisible

Pour LA NOUVELLE-ZÉLANDE:

J. S. B. Lewis
W. J. G. G. G.
américain

Pour LA NORVÈGE:

A. R. R. R. R.
J. H. H. H.

K. S. S. S.

B. J. J. J.

Pour LE SULTANAT D'OMAN:



Pour L'OUGANDA:

Pour LE PAKISTAN:

M. Ahmed ul
Whit
M. H. Shab.

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE PANAMA:

Aldo Zamora.
Fernando A. Bell

Pour LA PAPOUSIE - NOUVELLE-
GUINÉE:

Samoa
[Signature]
[Signature]
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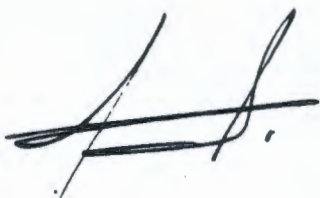
Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE PARAGUAY:

[Signature]

Pour LES PAYS-BAS:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Bein' or similar, written in a cursive style.

Pour LES ANTILLES NÉERLANDAISES:

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large 'A' followed by a smaller 'S', written in a cursive style.

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU PÉROU:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mejar' or similar, written in a cursive style.

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DES PHILIPPINES:

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE POPULAIRE
DE POLOGNE:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'K. G.' or similar, written in a cursive style.

Pour LE PORTUGAL:

Almeida Martins
~~*Amador de Almeida*~~

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE POPULAIRE
DÉMOCRATIQUE DE CORÉE:

김정일

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE SOCIALISTE
DE ROUMANIE:

Recomand
Interviu
Maximela

Pour L'ÉTAT DE QATAR:

Qatar
Qatar

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE RWANDAISE:

Adumari
Adumari

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE
ALLEMANDE:

Germany

Pour SAÎTE-LUCIE:

Pour LES ÎLES SALOMON:

G. Minister

Min.

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE
DE SAO TOMÉ-ET-PRINCIPE:

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE SAINT-MARIN:

Giuseppe Paroli
Uphoen

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU SÉNÉGAL:

A. Guir (A. Guir)

Diop

Dona

Isaki

Pour SAINT-VINCENT-ET-GRENADINES:

Handwritten signature

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DES SEYCHELLES:

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE
DU SOUDAN:

M. I. Basha

G. A. B. Mohamed

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE SIERRA LEONE:

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE SOCIALISTE
DÉMOCRATIQUE DE SRI LANKA:

A. D. M. Anura Kumara Dissanayake

Pour SINGAPOUR:

Pour LA SUÈDE:


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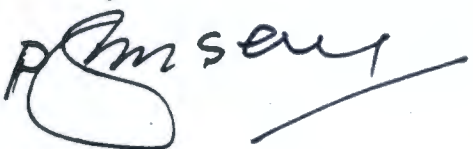
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Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE
DE SOMALIE:

Pour LA CONFÉDÉRATION SUISSE:


E. Jovan

Pour LE ROYAUME DU SWAZILAND:

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE ARABE SYRIENNE:

M. DAZOUL

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU SURINAME:

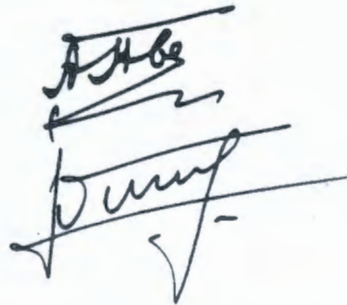


Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE UNIE DE TANZANIE:

Pour LA THAÏLANDE:



Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE TOGOLAISE:



Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU TCHAD:



Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE SOCIALISTE
TCHÉCOSLOVAQUE:



Pour LE ROYAUME DES TONGA:



Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE TRINITÉ-ET-TOBAGO:

Joye Alcantara

Pour LA TUNISIE:

N. H. S. /
عبد الحليم

Pour LA TURQUIE:

G. Zilgins

Pour TUVALU:

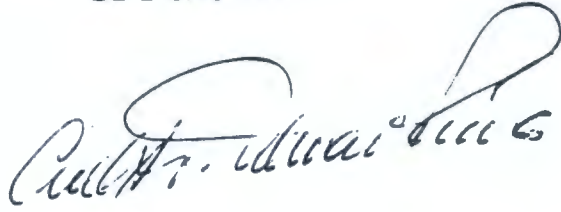
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Тоєрпук

Pour L'UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES SOVIÉTIQUES:

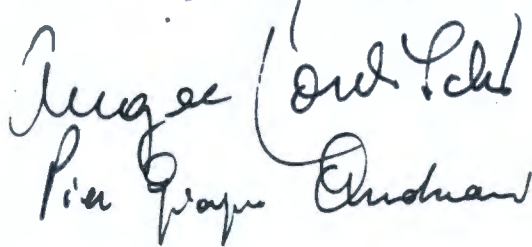
Elanecum

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE ORIENTALE
DE L'URUGUAY:



Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU:

Pour L'ÉTAT DE LA CITÉ DU VATICAN:

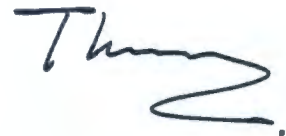


Papa François

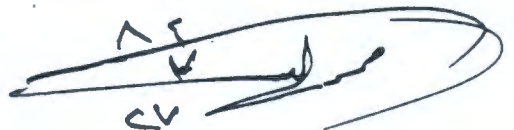
Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE VÉNÉZUÉLA:



Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE SOCIALISTE
DU VIÊT NAM:



Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE ARABE DU YÉMEN:



1975/1/27

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE
POPULAIRE DU YÉMEN:

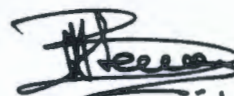
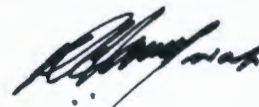
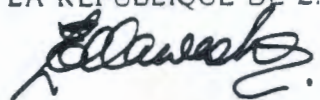


Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE SOCIALISTE
FÉDÉRATIVE DE YOUGOSLAVIE:

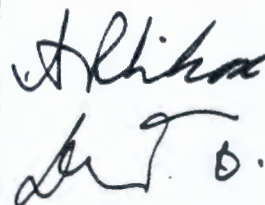


Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU ZAÏRE:

Pour LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE ZAMBIE:



Pour LE ZIMBABWE:



13

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15



Declarations made on signature of the Acts



DECLARATIONS MADE ON SIGNATURE OF THE ACTS

I

On behalf of the Argentine Republic:

A

"Argentina reiterates the reservation made on ratification of the Constitution of the Universal Postal Union signed in Vienna, Austria, on 10 July 1964 by which the Argentine Government expressly stated that article 23 of the Constitution neither referred to nor included the Islas Malvinas, the South Georgia Islands, the South Sandwich Islands or Argentine Antarctica, since they form part of Argentine territory and come under its authority and sovereignty."

B

"Similarly, the Argentine Republic particularly reserves its legitimate claims and rights with respect to those territories and points out that the provision contained in article 28, paragraph 1, of the Universal Postal Convention on the circulation of postage stamps valid in the country of origin will not be considered obligatory for the Republic where any such postage stamps distort Argentina's geographic and legal reality, without prejudice to the application of paragraph 15 of the joint Argentine-British declaration of 1 July 1971 on communications and movement between Argentina's continental territory and the Islas Malvinas approved by exchange of letters between the two Governments on 5 August 1971."

(Congress — Doc 100)

II

*On behalf of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,
the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man:*

"The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has no doubt as to United Kingdom sovereignty over the Falkland Islands, the Falkland Island Dependencies and the British Antarctic Territory. In this context attention is drawn to article IV of the Antarctic Treaty to which both the United Kingdom and Argentina are parties, which freezes territorial claims in Antarctica.

"The United Kingdom Government therefore does not accept the declaration of the Argentine Republic claiming to contest United Kingdom sovereignty over the above-mentioned territories, nor does it accept the declaration of the Argentine Republic concerning article 28, paragraph 1, of the Universal Postal Convention."

(Congress — Doc 100/Add 1)

III

On behalf of the Federal Republic of Germany:

"With reference to Congress resolution C 7 of 22 June 1984 concerning the exclusion of the Republic of South Africa from the Universal Postal Union, the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany, while condemning the apartheid policy of that country, wishes to make express reservations as to the constitutionality of that decision.

"The UPU Constitution contains no provision permitting the exclusion of a Member State of the Union. Thus, resolution C 7 of 22 June 1984 was passed in violation of the UPU Constitution, which is based on the principle of universality and which expressly lays down that any member of the United Nations may accede to the Union.

"Accordingly, the Federal Republic of Germany does not recognize the validity of Congress resolution C 7 of 22 June 1984."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 2)

IV

On behalf of Canada:

"Canada continues to condemn the abhorrent and inhumane policy of apartheid of the Government of South Africa. Canada has taken various steps – both bilateral and collective – to express opposition to this policy. Yet, Canada views with regret and deep concern adoption of resolution C 7 purporting to confirm the exclusion of South Africa from the Universal Postal Union by an earlier Congress and deprive that country of the right of membership conferred on members of the United Nations under article 11 of the Constitution of the UPU. This resolution is unconstitutional as there is no provision for exclusion in the UPU Constitution. It is also contrary to the principle of universality of participation on which the UPU and UN systems are based, and was adopted in a manner contrary to the agreed rules.

"Implementation of resolution C 7 would represent an unconstitutional act unacceptable to Canada. Such an illegal action in a specialized agency neither mandated nor equipped to handle political issues can only cause institutional damage to the agency concerned, and to the UN system in general, to the detriment of all their members."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 3)

V

On behalf of the Republic of Austria:

"The delegation of Austria wishes to make the following reservation on the subject of the vote on resolution 024 concerning the expulsion of the Republic of South Africa from the Universal Postal Union:

- i Our delegation is of the opinion that there is no provision in the Constitution at present in force for the expulsion of a member country of the Union. Consequently, expulsion of a member country by a resolution, particularly one passed by a simple majority, is legally impossible. Resolution 024 of 22 June 1984 is therefore contrary to the Constitution of the Universal Postal Union.
- ii Austria was the originator of resolution C 37 of the 1974 Lausanne Congress. Under that resolution, postal exchanges should be maintained, as far as possible, even in time of war. Even in case of conflict, the suspension of postal exchanges is the last measure taken by the belligerents. Such a measure is even less admissible in time of peace and against a member country of the Universal Postal Union and the UN.

- iii Political questions should in no case be resolved to the detriment of the population of a country. The consequence of the expulsion of the Republic of South Africa from the Universal Postal Union would be to deprive the entire population of that country of postal exchanges and all the rights granted to users of the Post by the Acts of the Universal Postal Union."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 4)

VI

On behalf of the United States of America:

"The United States of America considers resolution C 7 concerning the purported expulsion of a member country from the Union to be a violation of the UPU Constitution, which contains no provision for the expulsion of a member. It is contrary to the principle of universality which applies to all organizations of a technical, economic and humanitarian nature in the United Nations system.

"The United States of America, therefore, will continue to treat any country against which such unconstitutional action is taken as a member of the Union."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 5)

VII

On behalf of Ireland:

"Ireland recalls its opposition to and repeated condemnation of the apartheid policy of South Africa, which in its view constitutes an intolerable infringement of human dignity. Ireland is determined to continue its efforts to bring home to the South African Government the intrinsic injustice of the apartheid system and to ensure that the civil and political rights of the black majority are recognized in full.

"Notwithstanding this position, Ireland considers that the decision relating to South Africa which has been taken by the Congress is in violation of the UPU Constitution, which contains no provision for the expulsion of members and which expressly provides that any member of the United Nations may accede to the Union.

"It is also contrary to the principle of universality of the United Nations, which principle applies *inter alia* to the specialized agencies of the United Nations such as the UPU. Ireland deplores any initiative which might damage the United Nations Organization, which is based on the closest possible cooperation between all members of the international community.

"For these reasons Ireland deems the decision taken by the Congress to be unacceptable and without any legal or political consequence. Ireland will continue to regard South Africa as a member of the Universal Postal Union."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 6)

VIII

On behalf of the Swiss Confederation:

"With reference to the adoption by a simple majority, during the eighth plenary meeting, of resolution C 7 concerning the exclusion of the Republic of South Africa from the Universal Postal Union, the Swiss delegation wishes to make express reservations as to both the constitutionality of that decision and the procedure followed for its adoption.

Declarations

"The UPU Constitution contains no provision permitting the exclusion of a Member State of the Union. A decision as serious as exclusion cannot be taken in the absence of a legal basis in the fundamental Act. Moreover, the exclusion of any member country undermines the principle of universality upon which the activities of the UPU are based. For these reasons, Switzerland cannot recognize the legal validity of the decision which is the subject of resolution C 7."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 7)

IX

On behalf of Japan:

"With reference to resolution C 7 adopted at the 19th Congress, concerning the exclusion of the Republic of South Africa from the Universal Postal Union, the delegation of Japan wishes to make the following declaration:

"The Government of Japan has consistently opposed the policy of apartheid of the Government of South Africa and has seized every opportunity to appeal to that country to abolish its racial discrimination and respect the fundamental rights and freedom of all, irrespective of race.

"However, this position does not prevent the Government of Japan from considering that the resolution is inadvisable, not only because this highly political decision was taken by a technical and specialized agency like the UPU but above all because it is contrary to the principle of universality on which the activities of the UPU are based.

"In addition, the Government of Japan expresses grave doubts about the constitutionality and legal validity of this resolution, in that it was adopted in the absence of any provision in the Constitution allowing a member country of the Union to be excluded.

"For that reason the Government of Japan does not recognize the validity of Congress resolution C 7 of 22 June 1984."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 8/Rev 1)

X

On behalf of New Zealand:

"With reference to resolution C 7 of the 19th Congress of the Universal Postal Union to expel South Africa from the Union, the delegation of New Zealand wishes to point out that the New Zealand Government is totally opposed to the policies of apartheid of the South African Government.

"The delegation of New Zealand wishes however to record that it considers the passing of resolution C 7 to have been both unconstitutional and unhelpful. In particular, this decision is contrary to the principle of universality, and it is the New Zealand view that the best interests of the international community are not served by excluding any State from technical bodies such as the UPU."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 9)

XI

On behalf of Australia:

"Australia's abhorrence of the South African Government's policy of apartheid is well known. However, Australia considers that the decision relating to South Africa which has been taken by the 19th Congress is in violation of the Universal Postal Union Constitution, which contains no provision for the expulsion of members. It is also contrary to the principle of universality of membership of international organizations. Accordingly, Australia considers that the decision is unacceptable and without legal effect."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 10)

XII

On behalf of the Netherlands:

"The Netherlands recalls its opposition to and repeated condemnation of the apartheid policy of South Africa, which in its view constitutes an intolerable infringement of human dignity. The Netherlands is determined to continue its efforts to bring home to the South African Government the intrinsic injustice of the apartheid system and to ensure that the civil and political rights of the black majority are recognized in full.

"Notwithstanding this position, the Netherlands considers that the decision relating to South Africa which has been taken by the Congress is in violation of the UPU Constitution, which contains no provision for the expulsion of members and which expressly provides that any member of the United Nations may accede to the Union.

"It is also contrary to the principle of universality of the United Nations, which principle applies *inter alia* to the specialized agencies of the United Nations, including the UPU. The Netherlands deplores any initiative which might be detrimental to the United Nations Organization, which is based on the closest possible cooperation between all members of the international community.

"For these reasons the Netherlands deems the decision taken by the Congress to be unacceptable and without any legal or political effect. The Netherlands will continue to regard South Africa as a member of the Universal Postal Union."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 11)

XIII

On behalf of the French Republic:

"Referring to resolution C 7 taken by Congress on 22 June 1984, France recalls its repeated condemnation of the apartheid policy of South Africa, which in its view constitutes an intolerable infringement of human dignity. France is determined to continue its efforts to make the South African Government understand its error and to ensure that the civil and political rights of the majority are recognized in full. This steadfast attitude was confirmed once again on the occasion of the recent European trip of the Prime Minister of the Republic of South Africa, whom the French Government did not receive.

"Notwithstanding this position, France considers that the decision taken by Congress with respect to South Africa is in flagrant violation of the UPU Constitution, which contains no provision for the expulsion of members and which expressly provides that any member of the United Nations may accede to the Union. It is also contrary to the principle of universality of the United Nations, which principle applies equally to all the organizations in the United Nations system and more particularly to an agency of a highly technical character and whose mandate, by virtue of its name, requires that it be universal. Finally, it can only be detrimental to the organization itself, which is based on the closest possible cooperation, without distinction, between all members of the international community.

"For these reasons, France deems the decision taken by the Congress to be unacceptable and without any legal or political effect."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 12)

XIV

On behalf of Luxembourg:

"Referring to resolution C 7 adopted by Congress, Luxembourg recalls its opposition to and repeated condemnation of the apartheid policy of South Africa, which in its view constitutes an intolerable infringement of human dignity. Luxembourg is determined to continue its efforts to bring home to the South African Government the intrinsic injustice of the apartheid system and to ensure that the civil and political rights of the black majority are recognized in full.

"Notwithstanding this position, Luxembourg considers that the decision relating to South Africa which has been taken by the Congress is in violation of the UPU Constitution, which contains no provision for the expulsion of members and which expressly provides that any member of the United Nations may accede to the Union.

"It is also contrary to the principle of universality of the United Nations, which principle applies *inter alia* to the specialized agencies of the United Nations, including the UPU. Luxembourg deplores any initiative which might be detrimental to the United Nations Organization, the effectiveness of which is based on the closest possible cooperation between all members of the international community.

"For these reasons, Luxembourg deems the decision taken by the Congress to be unacceptable and without any legal or political effect. Luxembourg will continue to regard South Africa as a member of the Universal Postal Union."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 13)

XV

On behalf of Portugal:

"With reference to Congress resolution C 7 of 22 June 1984 concerning the exclusion of the Republic of South Africa from the Universal Postal Union, the delegation of the Portuguese Republic, while condemning the apartheid policy of that country, wishes to make express reservations as to the constitutionality of that decision.

"The UPU Constitution contains no provision permitting the exclusion of a Member State of the Union. Thus, resolution C 7 of 22 June 1984 was passed in violation of the UPU Constitution, which is based on the principle of universality and which expressly lays down that any member of the United Nations may accede to the Union.

"Accordingly, the Portuguese Republic does not recognize the validity of Congress resolution C 7 of 22 June 1984."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 14)

XVI

On behalf of Israel:

A

"The delegation of Israel to the 19th Congress of the Universal Postal Union rejects unreservedly and in their entirety, all declarations of reservations made by certain member countries of the Union at the Union's 15th Congress (Vienna 1964), 16th Congress (Tokyo 1969), 17th Congress (Lausanne 1974), 18th Congress (Rio de Janeiro 1979) and 19th Congress (Hamburg 1984), purporting to disregard Israel's rights of membership in the UPU, as incompatible with the status of the State of Israel as a member of the UN and the UPU. Further, these declarations were made with the intention of not applying the provisions of the Acts of the UPU and therefore contravene the letter and spirit of the Constitution, Convention and Agreements.

"The delegation of Israel accordingly considers these declarations and reservations as illegal and null and void."

B

"The delegation of Israel deplores the numerous attempts by certain delegations to the 19th Congress to introduce proposals and issues of a purely extraneous political nature designed to undermine the objectives of the UPU in attaining international collaboration in the cultural, social and economic fields. Such politicization is contrary to the essentially technical and specialized purpose of the UPU and detracts from the Union's valuable role in the international community.

"The delegation of Israel declares that it is opposed to any proposal or resolution contravening the principle of universality of membership in the UPU or any other of the United Nations bodies or specialized agencies.

"Accordingly, Israel objects to any decision of Congress which purports to disregard rights of membership and curtail them. There is no legal basis for such a decision in the UPU's Constitution or in any other of the Union's basic Acts, and therefore Israel will continue to regard as a member of the Union the country against which such measures are taken. This position in no way detracts from Israel's total rejection of any policy and practice of racial discrimination."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 15)

XVII

On behalf of the Republic of Guatemala:

A

"Seeing that the Territory of Belize arranged to be represented by Great Britain at this Congress, Guatemala formulates an express reservation to the effect that it has not recognized and will never recognize the independence unilaterally granted to that territory in 1981."

B

"Although they do not agree with segregationist policies, our people and our Government do not at any time accept the practice of expelling a member country from the UPU because of differences in respect of internal policy. Such an act not only violates the Constitution of the Universal Postal Union, which, owing to its primarily technical character, must be apolitical, but also tends to drive the countries of the world further apart and weakens the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 16)

XVIII

On behalf of the Republic of Costa Rica:

"The delegation of the Republic of Costa Rica makes an express reservation with respect to Congress resolution C 7 of 22 June 1984 excluding South Africa from the Universal Postal Union, since that resolution is unconstitutional. "The UPU Constitution contains no provision enabling a Member State to be excluded from the Union. Consequently, the above-mentioned resolution was adopted in violation of the Constitution of the UPU, which is based on the principle of universality and which stipulates that all members of the United Nations may accede to the Union.

"Our delegation condemns the policy of apartheid, but the practice referred to above is foreign to the objectives, functions and field of action of the UPU.

"For these reasons the Republic of Costa Rica does not recognize the validity of Congress resolution C 7 of 22 June 1984."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 17)

XIX

On behalf of Chile:

"With regard to the interpretation proposed by the Executive Council concerning the Constitution of the Universal Postal Union, article 3, b, as approved by this 19th Congress, Chile declares the following:

"All post offices, present and future, of Chile are established on its own territory of which the Chilean Antarctic sector is an integral part."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 18)

XX

On behalf of the Kingdom of Swaziland:

"In view of the statement made by the Swaziland delegation on draft resolution 024 (resolution C 7) and Swaziland's position on the issue of expulsion of a member country, Swaziland wishes to record its reservation on the decision taken by Congress on 22 June 1984."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 19)

XXI

On behalf of the Kingdom of Lesotho:

"In view of the statement made by the Lesotho delegation on proposal 024, now resolution C 7, and Lesotho's position on the issue of expulsion of a member country, Lesotho puts on record its reservation on the decision taken by the Congress.

"Lesotho's firm and clear stand against apartheid has an impeccable record."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 20)

XXII

On behalf of the Nordic countries

(Kingdom of Denmark, Republic of Finland, Republic of Iceland, Norway and Sweden):

"The Nordic countries have consistently condemned and rejected the inhuman racial policies pursued by the South African Government and have worked for the abolition of apartheid.

"However, the Nordic countries cannot accept resolution C 7 adopted by the Congress on 22 June 1984 to exclude the Republic of South Africa from the Universal Postal Union and do not recognize the legal consequences of the resolution.

"The reasons for this are as follows. The resolution is contrary to the principle of universality, which the Nordic countries have consistently considered an essential prerequisite for the work of the United Nations and its specialized agencies. Furthermore, there are no provisions in the Constitution of the Union concerning the exclusion of a member country. Moreover, the right granted in article 11 of the Constitution to any member of the United Nations to accede to the Union is ignored in this resolution. Finally, the decision was taken by a simple majority in spite of this being in contradiction to the Constitution."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 21)

XXIII

On behalf of the Republic of San Marino:

"The Republic of San Marino has always condemned the racial policy of apartheid practised by the Government of South Africa and will continue to do so. Although, not a member of the United Nations, San Marino has always, in its day-to-day dealings, rigorously applied UN resolutions against the racist regime in South Africa.

"The Republic of San Marino has no relationship of any kind whatsoever with that country.

"In any international stance that it has taken, the Republic has never failed to express its conviction that any form of discrimination based on race, religion or political convictions and any form of exploitation of one man by another, must be condemned.

"However, the delegation of San Marino wishes to emphasize that it does not believe that the decision to expel South Africa taken by the 19th Congress of the Universal Postal Union, a technical organization working equally for the benefit of those citizens of South Africa who are the victims of discrimination by the Pretoria regime, can do anything to improve the situation within that country and that principle of universality – the guarantee of democratic life in such institutions – ought to be preserved.

"On the contrary, the delegation of San Marino asks that organizations and States with the power to intervene not do anything that might subsequently hamper all efforts to put an end to the tragic situation caused by apartheid within South Africa, which continues to be one of the most absurd, serious and shameful features of international society."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 22)

XXIV

On behalf of the Republic of Botswana:

"With reference to resolution C 7, the position of the Republic of Botswana on the expulsion of a member country of the Union is as reflected in its statement in Congress during the consideration of draft resolution 024."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 23)

XXV

On behalf of Belgium:

"Belgium recalls its opposition to and repeated condemnation of the apartheid policy of South Africa, which in its view constitutes an intolerable infringement of human dignity. Belgium is determined to continue its efforts to bring home to the South African Government the intrinsic injustice of the apartheid system and to ensure that the civil and political rights of the black majority are recognized in full.

"Notwithstanding this position, Belgium considers that the decision relating to South Africa which has been taken by the Congress is in violation of the UPU Constitution, which contains no provision for the expulsion of members and which expressly provides that any member of the United Nations may accede to the Union.

"It is also contrary to the principle of universality of the United Nations, which principle applies *inter alia* to the specialized agencies of the United Nations, including the UPU. Belgium deplores any initiative which might be detrimental to the United Nations Organization, the effectiveness of which is based on the closest possible cooperation between all members of the international community.

"For these reasons, Belgium deems the decision taken by the Congress to be unacceptable and without any legal or political effect. Belgium will continue to regard South Africa as a member of the Universal Postal Union."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 24)

Declarations

XXVI

On behalf of Italy:

"The delegation of Italy wishes to make reservations regarding the constitutionality of resolution C 7, adopted by a simple majority of Congress on 22 June 1984, concerning the exclusion of the Republic of South Africa from the Universal Postal Union.

"The UPU Constitution contains no provision permitting the exclusion of a Member State from the Union; hence resolution C 7 of 22 June 1984 was passed in violation of the UPU Constitution, which is based on the principle of universality.

"Accordingly, Italy, while repeating its condemnation of the apartheid policy of the Government of South Africa, declares that it does not recognize the said resolution C 7 as having any validity."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 25)

XXVII

A

On behalf of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, the State of Bahrain, the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Djibouti, the Republic of Iraq, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Kuwait, the Lebanese Republic, Malaysia, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, the Kingdom of Morocco, the Sultanate of Oman, Pakistan, the State of Qatar, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Democratic Republic of the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, the Yemen Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen:

"The above-mentioned delegations,

"Considering the fourth Geneva Convention (1949) relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, on the one hand, and United Nations decision No 3379 D.30 of 10 November 1975 qualifying Zionism as a form of racism and racial discrimination, on the other,

"Recalling that Zionism exhibits all the characteristics of imperialism owing to the fact that it is a constant source of conflict and of war with the (adjacent) countries of the Middle East,

"Noting that, by its basic philosophy, Zionism practises an ~~avowed~~ expansionism because it is occupying territories recognized de facto and de jure as belonging to free and independent countries which are members of the international community,

"Aware that the Palestinian people are suffering the horrors of a war which is imposed on them and that, as a consequence, their defence is a just cause as it is designed to end their martyrdom, to restore their human and social rights and their right to self-determination and to construct their own independent State on the territory of Palestine,

"Considering that the entity known as Israel is the spearhead of this philosophy of imperialism, expansionism and racism,

"Confirm

their declaration to No IX made at the 1964 Vienna Congress, their declaration No III made at the 1969 Tokyo Congress, their declaration No III made at the 1974 Lausanne Congress and their declaration No V made at the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress,

"And reaffirm

that their signature to all the Acts of the Universal Postal Union (1984 Hamburg Congress) as well as any subsequent ratification of those Acts by their respective Governments are not valid vis-à-vis the member inscribed under the name of Israel and in no way imply its recognition."

B

For the same reasons, *the delegations of Indonesia and Malaysia* declare as follows:

"Their signature to all the Acts of the Universal Postal Union (1984 Hamburg Congress) as well as any subsequent ratification of those Acts by their Governments are not valid vis-à-vis the member inscribed under the name of Israel and in no way imply its recognition."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 26)

XXVIII

*On behalf of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,
the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man:*

"The United Kingdom recalls its repeated condemnations of the apartheid policy of South Africa, which in its view constitutes an intolerable infringement of human dignity. The Government of the United Kingdom is determined to continue its efforts to convince the South African Government of the intrinsic injustice of the apartheid system and to induce it to recognize in full the civil and political rights of the black majority.

"Notwithstanding this position, the United Kingdom considers that the decision – resolution C 7 – relating to South Africa which has been taken by the Congress is in violation of the UPU Constitution, which contains no provision for the expulsion of members. It is also contrary to the principle of universality, which principle applies *inter alia* to the specialized agencies of the United Nations such as the UPU. The United Kingdom deplores initiatives of a purely political character which cannot but be detrimental to the UN Organization, which is based on the closest possible cooperation between all members of the international community without distinction.

"For these reasons the decision taken by the Congress is deemed by the Government of the United Kingdom to be unacceptable and without any legal or political consequence. The United Kingdom continues to regard South Africa as a member of the Universal Postal Union and will therefore maintain its relations with the South African postal administration."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 27)

XXIX

On behalf of Belize:

As accredited proxy at this Congress for the Government of Belize, the delegation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man is instructed to ask for the following declaration to be circulated:

"The UPU accepted Belize as a member on the basis of the fact that it is an independent nation. Neither Belize nor any other member of the UPU has any doubts as to its sovereignty or its right to enter into the International community. Belize looks forward to the time when Guatemala will be prepared to acknowledge that reality."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 28)

XXX

On behalf of Chile:

"In conformity with its traditional condemnation of all forms of racial discrimination, the Government of Chile has invariably rejected the policy of apartheid established in South Africa.

"Nevertheless, the Government of Chile considers that the expulsion of South Africa from the Universal Postal Union (UPU) is in violation of that principle of universality which is essential to the existence of international organizations.

"Similarly, it considers that the exclusion of any Member State is contrary to the legal and practical foundations of the UPU, would seriously impair the operation of that organization and would in addition constitute a dangerous precedent for the United Nations system.

"The Government of Chile makes a point of stressing that the expulsion of South Africa could hinder the free circulation of mail and thus endanger the principle of the universal territorial unity of the Post, that it constitutes moreover a measure not provided for in the Constitution of the UPU and that in consequence no State can claim to be competent in the matter.

"Lastly, the Government of Chile considers that when such measures are taken the principal victims are the people and not the Governments at which the sanctions are aimed."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 29)

XXXI

On behalf of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:

"In connection with the declaration concerning the question of territorial claims in the Antarctic made by certain States, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics has not recognized and cannot recognize as legitimate any separate solution of the question of State sovereignty over the Antarctic."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 30)

XXXII

On behalf of the United States of America:

"With regard to certain statements made concerning Antarctica in connection with the interpretation of article 3, b, of the Constitution of the Universal Postal Union, proposed by the Executive Council, the United States of America declares that it reserves its position and takes note of article 4 of the Antarctic Treaty of 1959."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 31)

XXXIII

On behalf of Australia:

"Australia does not accept the Executive Council's interpretation of the Antarctic Treaty on which Congress decision C 72 is based. The interpretation is contrary to article 4 of the Antarctic Treaty. Australia regards its post offices in the Australian Antarctic Territory as being on Australian territory."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 32)

XXXIV

*On behalf of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,
the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man:*

"With regard to the interpretation of article 3, b, of the Constitution of the Universal Postal Union, adopted by the Congress on the proposal of the Executive Council, the United Kingdom wishes to state that the British Antarctic Territory (like all its dependent territories) falls within article 3, a, of the Constitution and is therefore unaffected by that interpretation; and with regard to certain statements made in connection with that interpretation, the United Kingdom wishes to state that it has no doubt as to its sovereignty over the British Antarctic Territory and in that context wishes to draw attention to article 4 of the Antarctic Treaty 1959."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 33)

XXXV

On behalf of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

"The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran wishes to make the following declaration on the subject of proposal 026 and Congress – PV 16 concerning the expulsion of the "occupier regime of Palestine" from the Universal Postal Union:

"While condemning the way in which the plenary sessions regarding the above-mentioned subject were managed, which was in support of the Zionist regime, the Islamic Republic of Iran declares that its signature to all the Acts of the Universal Postal Union (1984 Hamburg Congress) as well as any subsequent ratification of those Acts by its Government are not valid vis-à-vis the member inscribed under the name of so-called Israel and in no way imply its recognition."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 34)

XXXVI

On behalf of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

"The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran wishes to make the following declaration on the subject of the adoption of proposal 2009.1 and Congress – PV 16 concerning article 9 of the UPU Convention (Rio de Janeiro 1979) relating to postage stamps:

"Since the designs of postage stamps mainly illustrate the history of the different nations and naturally reflect the beliefs, cultures, arts, interests and ideals of countries all over the world, the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran cannot endorse the above-mentioned proposal."

(Congress – Doc 100/Add 35)

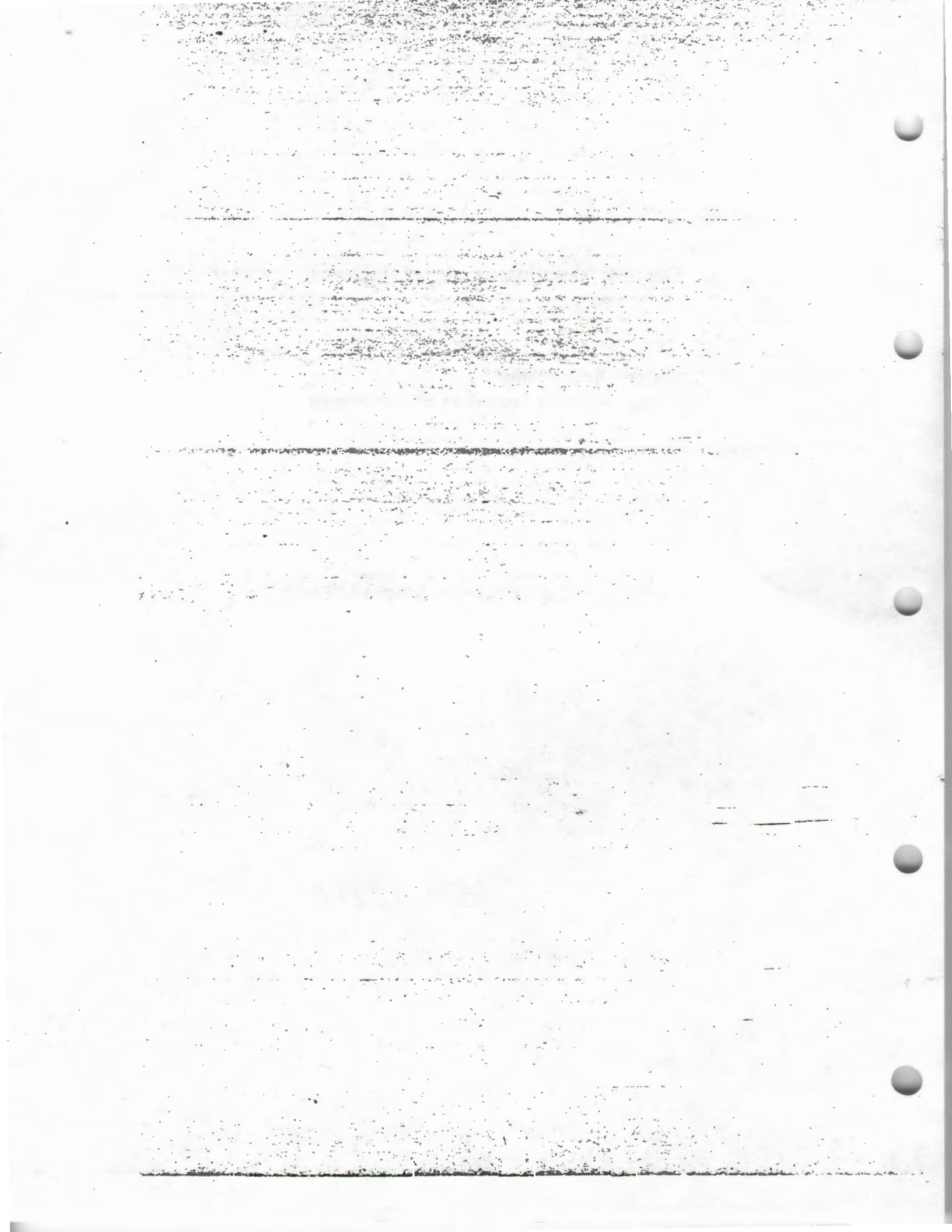


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General Regulations of the Universal Postal Union

General Regulations

Annex: Rules of Procedure of Congresses



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GENERAL REGULATIONS OF THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

The undersigned plenipotentiaries of the Governments of member countries of the Union, having regard to article 22, paragraph 2, of the Constitution of the Universal Postal Union, concluded at Vienna on 10 July 1964, have, by common consent, and subject to article 25, paragraph 3, of the Constitution, drawn up in these General Regulations the following provisions securing the application of the Constitution and the functioning of the Union.

Chapter I

Functioning of the Union's bodies

Article 101

Organization and convening of Congresses and Extraordinary Congresses

- 1 The representatives of member countries shall meet in Congress not later than five years after the date on which the Acts of the preceding Congress come into operation.
- 2 Each member country shall arrange for its representation at Congress by one or more plenipotentiaries furnished by their Government with the necessary powers. It may, if need be, arrange to be represented by the delegation of another member country. Nevertheless it shall be understood that a delegation may represent only one member country other than its own.
- 3 In debates, each country shall be entitled to one vote.
- 4 In principle, each Congress shall designate the country in which the next Congress will be held. If that designation proves inapplicable, the Executive Council shall be authorized to designate the country where Congress is to meet, after consultation with the latter country.
- 5 After consultation with the International Bureau, the host Government shall fix the definitive date and the precise locality of Congress. In principle one year before that date the host Government shall send an invitation to the Government of each member country of the Union. This invitation may be sent direct or through the intermediary of another Government or through the Director-General of the International Bureau. The host Government shall also be responsible for notifying the decisions taken by Congress to all the Governments of member countries.
- 6 When a Congress has to be convened without a host Government, the International Bureau, with the agreement of the Executive Council and after consultation with the Government of the Swiss Confederation, shall take the necessary steps to convene and organize the Congress in the country in which the seat of the Union is situated. In this event the International Bureau shall perform the functions of the host Government.
- 7 The meeting place of an Extraordinary Congress shall be fixed, after consultation with the International Bureau, by the member countries which have initiated that Congress.
- 8 Paragraphs 2 to 6 shall be applicable by analogy to Extraordinary Congresses.

Article 102

Composition, functioning and meetings of the Executive Council

- 1 The Executive Council shall consist of a Chairman and thirty-nine members who shall exercise their functions during the period between two successive Congresses.

2 The chairmanship shall devolve by right on the host country of Congress. If that country waives this right, it shall become a de jure member and, as a result, the geographical group to which it belongs shall have at its disposal an additional seat, to which the restrictive provisions of paragraph 3 shall not apply. In that case, the Executive Council shall elect to the chairmanship one of the member countries belonging to the geographical group of the host country.

3 The thirty-nine members of the Executive Council shall be elected by Congress on the basis of an equitable geographical distribution. At least a half of the membership shall be renewed at each Congress: no member may be chosen by three successive Congresses.

4 The representative of each of the members of the Executive Council shall be appointed by the postal administration of his country. This representative shall be a qualified official of the postal administration.

5 The office of member of the Executive Council shall be unpaid. The operational expenses of this Council shall be borne by the Union.

6 The Executive Council shall have the following functions:

a to coordinate and supervise all the activities of the Union between Congresses;

b to promote, coordinate and supervise all forms of postal technical assistance within the framework of international technical cooperation;

c to consider and approve the annual budget and accounts of the Union;

d to authorize the ceiling of expenditure to be exceeded, if circumstances so require, in accordance with article 124, paragraphs 3, 4 and 5;

e to lay down the Financial Regulations of the UPU;

f to lay down the rules governing the Reserve Fund;

g to provide control over the activities of the International Bureau;

h to authorize election of a lower contribution class, if it is so requested, in accordance with the conditions set out in article 125, paragraph 6;

i to lay down the Staff Regulations and the conditions of service of the elected officials;

j to appoint or promote officials to the grade of Assistant Director-General (D 2);

k to lay down the Regulations of the Social Fund;

l to approve the annual report on the work of the Union prepared by the International Bureau and where appropriate to furnish observations on it;

m to decide on the contacts to be established with postal administrations in order to carry out its functions;

n to decide on the contacts to be established with the organizations which are not de jure observers, to consider and approve the reports by the International Bureau on UPU relations with other international bodies and to take the decisions which it considers appropriate on the conduct of such relations and the action to be taken on them; to designate in due course the intergovernmental and non-governmental international organizations which should be invited to be represented at a Congress and to instruct the Director-General to issue the necessary invitations;

o to study, at the request of Congress, the CCPS or postal administrations, administrative, legislative and legal problems concerning the Union or the international postal service and to communicate the results of such studies to the body concerned or to postal administrations, as the case may be. It shall be for the Executive Council to decide whether it is expedient to undertake the studies requested by postal administrations between Congresses;

p to formulate proposals which shall be submitted for the approval either of Congress or of postal administrations in accordance with article 121;

q to examine, at the request of the postal administration of a member country, any proposal which that administration forwards to the International Bureau under article 120, to prepare observations on it and to instruct the International Bureau to annex these observations to the proposal before submitting it for approval to the postal administrations of member countries;

r to recommend, if exceptional circumstances so require, and where appropriate after consultation of all the postal administrations, the provisional adoption of a new procedure or transitional measures which will then have to be submitted for the approval of Congress in the most appropriate final form;

s to consider the annual report prepared by the Consultative Council for Postal Studies and any proposals submitted by the Council;

t to submit subjects for study to the Consultative Council for Postal Studies for examination in accordance with article 104, paragraph 9, f;

u to designate the country where the next Congress is to be held in the case provided for in article 101, paragraph 4;

- v to determine in due course, the number of Committees required to carry out the work of Congress and to specify their functions;
 - w to designate in due course, subject to the approval of Congress, the member countries prepared:
 - to assume the vice-chairmanships of Congress and the Chairmanships and vice-chairmanships of the Committees, taking as much account as possible of the equitable geographical distribution of the member countries; and
 - to sit on the restricted Committees of Congress;
 - x to decide whether minutes of meetings of a Committee of Congress should be replaced by reports.
- 7 In appointing officials to grade D 2, the Executive Council shall consider the professional qualifications of the candidates recommended by the postal administrations of the member countries of which the candidates are nationals, ensuring that the posts of Assistant Director-General are as far as possible filled by candidates from different regions and from regions other than those from which the Director-General and Deputy Director-General originate, bearing in mind the paramount consideration of the efficiency of the International Bureau, while giving due weight to the Bureau's internal promotion arrangements.
- 8 At its first meeting, which shall be convened by the Chairman of Congress, the Executive Council shall elect four Vice-Chairmen from among its members and draw up its Rules of Procedure.
- 9 On convocation by its Chairman, the Executive Council shall meet in principle once a year, at Union headquarters.
- 10 The representative of each of the members of the Executive Council participating in its meetings, except for meetings which take place during Congress, shall be entitled to reimbursement of the cost of either an economy class return air ticket or first class return rail ticket, or expenses incurred for travel by any other means subject to the condition that the amount does not exceed the price of the economy class return air ticket.
- 11 The Chairman of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies shall represent that body at meetings of the Executive Council on the agenda of which there are questions of interest to the body which he directs.
- 12 To ensure effective liaison between the work of the two bodies, the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and the Committee Chairmen of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies may, if they express the desire so to do, attend Executive Council meetings as observers.
- 13 The postal administration of the country in which the Executive Council meets shall be invited to take part in the meetings in the capacity of observer, if that country is not a member of the Executive Council.
- 14 The Executive Council may invite any international body or any qualified person whom it wishes to associate with its work to its meetings, without the right to vote. It may also invite, under the same conditions, one or more postal administrations of member countries concerned with questions on its agenda.

Article 103

Documentation on the activities of the Executive Council

- 1 The Executive Council shall send postal administrations of member countries of the Union and Restricted Unions, for information, after each session:
- a a summary record;
 - b the "Documents of the Executive Council" containing the reports, discussions, summary record and resolutions and decisions.
- 2 The Executive Council shall make to Congress a comprehensive report on its work and send it to postal administrations at least two months before the opening of Congress.

Article 104

Composition, functioning and meetings of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies

- 1 The Consultative Council for Postal Studies shall consist of thirty-five members who shall exercise their functions during the period between two successive Congresses.
- 2 The members of the Consultative Council shall be elected by Congress, in principle on the basis of as wide a geographical distribution as possible.
- 3 The representative of each of the members of the Consultative Council shall be appointed by the postal administration of his country. This representative shall be a qualified official of the postal administration.
- 4 The operational expenses of the Consultative Council shall be borne by the Union. Its members shall not receive any payment. Travelling and living expenses incurred by representatives of administrations participating in the Consultative Council shall be borne by those administrations. However, the representative of each of the countries considered to be disadvantaged according to the lists established by the United Nations shall be entitled to reimbursement of the price of an economy class return air ticket or first class return rail ticket, or expenses incurred for travel by any other means, subject to the condition that the amount does not exceed the price of the economy class return air ticket.
- 5 At its first meeting, which shall be convened and opened by the Chairman of Congress, the Consultative Council shall choose from among its members a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman and the Committee Chairmen.
- 6 The Consultative Council shall draw up its Rules of Procedure.
- 7 In principle, the Consultative Council shall meet every year at Union headquarters. The date and place of the meeting shall be fixed by its Chairman, in agreement with the Chairman of the Executive Council and the Director-General of the International Bureau.
- 8 The Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and the Committee Chairmen of the Consultative Council shall form the Steering Committee. This Committee shall prepare and direct the work of each meeting of the Consultative Council and take on all the tasks which the latter decides to assign to it.
- 9 The functions of the Consultative Council shall be the following:
 - a to organize the study of the most important technical, operational, economic and technical cooperation problems which are of interest to postal administrations of all member countries of the Union and to prepare information and opinions on them;
 - b to study teaching and vocational training problems of interest to the new and developing countries;
 - c to take the necessary steps to study and publicize the experiments and progress made by certain countries in the technical, operational, economic and vocational training fields of interest to the postal services;
 - d to study the present position and needs of the postal services in the new and developing countries and to prepare appropriate recommendations on ways and means of improving the postal services in those countries;
 - e to take, in consultation with the Executive Council, appropriate steps in the sphere of technical cooperation with all member countries of the Union and in particular with the new and developing countries;
 - f to examine any other questions submitted to it by a member of the Consultative Council, by the Executive Council or by any administration of a member country.
- 10 The members of the Consultative Council shall take an active part in its work. Member countries not belonging to the Consultative Council may, at their request, cooperate in the studies undertaken.
- 11 If need be, the Consultative Council shall draw up proposals for Congress arising directly from its activities as defined in this article. These proposals shall be submitted by the Consultative Council itself, after consultation with the Executive Council when questions within the latter's competence are concerned.
- 12 The Consultative Council shall, at its last session before Congress, prepare for submission to Congress the draft work programme of the next Council, taking into account the requests of member countries of the Union and of the Executive Council.
- 13 In order to ensure effective liaison between the work of the two bodies, the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Executive Council may, if they express the desire so to do, attend Consultative Council meetings as observers.
- 14 The Consultative Council may invite the following to take part in its meetings without the right to vote:
 - a any international body or any qualified person whom it wishes to associate with its work;
 - b postal administrations of member countries not belonging to the Consultative Council.

Article 105

Documentation on the activities of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies

- 1 The Consultative Council for Postal Studies shall send postal administrations of member countries and Restricted Unions, for information, after each session:
 - a a summary record;
 - b the "Documents of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies" containing the reports, discussions and summary record.
- 2 The Consultative Council shall prepare for the Executive Council an annual report on its work.
- 3 The Consultative Council shall prepare for Congress a comprehensive report on its work and send it to postal administrations of member countries at least two months before the opening of Congress.

Article 106

Rules of Procedure of Congresses

- 1 For the organization of its work and the conduct of its debates, Congress shall apply the Rules of Procedure of Congresses which are annexed to these General Regulations.
- 2 Each Congress may amend these rules under the conditions laid down in the Rules of Procedure themselves.

Article 107

Languages used for the publication of documents, for debates and for official correspondence

- 1 For the documents of the Union, the French, English, Arabic and Spanish languages shall be used. The Chinese, German, Portuguese and Russian languages shall also be used provided that only the most important basic documents are produced in these languages. Other languages may also be used on condition that the costs to be borne by the Union under paragraph 6 are not thereby increased.
- 2 The member country or countries which have requested a language other than the official language constitute a language group. The member countries which have not made any express request shall be regarded as having asked for the official language.
- 3 Documents shall be published by the International Bureau in the official language and in the languages of the duly constituted language groups, either directly or through the intermediary of the regional offices of those groups in conformity with the procedures agreed with the International Bureau. Publication in the different languages shall be effected in accordance with a common standard.
- 4 Documents published directly by the International Bureau shall as a rule be distributed simultaneously in the different languages requested.
- 5 Correspondence between the postal administrations and the International Bureau and between the latter and outside entities may be exchanged in any language for which the International Bureau has available a translation service.
- 6 The cost of translation into any language other than the official language, including those resulting from the application of paragraph 5, shall be borne by the language group which has asked for that language. The Union shall bear the cost of translation into the official language of documents and correspondence received in Arabic, English and Spanish, as well as all other costs involved in the supply of documents. The ceiling of the costs to be borne by the Union for the production of documents in Chinese, German, Portuguese and Russian shall be fixed by a Congress resolution.
- 7 The costs to be borne by a language group shall be divided among the members of that group in proportion to their contributions to the expenses of the Union. These costs may be divided among the members of the language group according to another system, provided that the countries concerned agree to it and inform the International Bureau of their decision through the intermediary of the spokesman of the group.

8 The International Bureau shall give effect to any change in the choice of language requested by a member country after a period which shall not exceed two years.

9 For the discussions at meetings of the Union's bodies, the French, English, Spanish and Russian languages shall be admissible, by means of a system of interpretation – with or without electronic equipment – the choice being left to the judgment of the organizers of the meeting after consultation with the Director-General of the International Bureau and the member countries concerned.

10 Other languages shall likewise be admissible for the discussions and meetings mentioned in paragraph 9.

11 Delegations using other languages shall arrange for simultaneous interpretation into one of the languages mentioned in paragraph 9, either by the system indicated in the same paragraph, when the necessary technical modifications can be made, or by individual interpreters.

12 The costs of the interpretation services shall be shared among the member countries using the same language in proportion to their contributions to the expenses of the Union. However, the costs of installing and maintaining the technical equipment shall be borne by the Union.

13 Postal administrations may come to an understanding about the language to be used for official correspondence in their relations with one another. In the absence of such an understanding the language to be used shall be French.

Chapter II

International Bureau

Article 108

Election of the Director-General and Deputy Director-General of the International Bureau

1 The Director-General and the Deputy Director-General of the International Bureau shall be elected by Congress for the period between two successive Congresses, the minimum duration of their term of office being five years. Their term of office shall be renewable once only. Unless Congress decides otherwise, the date on which they take up their duties shall be fixed at 1 January of the year following that in which Congress is held.

2 The election of the Director-General and that of the Deputy Director-General shall take place by secret ballot, the first election being for the post of Director-General. Applications must be submitted by the Governments of member countries, through the intermediary of the Government of the Swiss Confederation. To that end, the Swiss Government shall send a memorandum to the Governments of member countries at least seven months before the opening of Congress, inviting them to send in their applications, if any, within a period of three months. The candidates must be nationals of the member countries which put them forward. In its memorandum, the Government of the Swiss Confederation shall also state whether the Director-General and Deputy Director-General in office have declared their interest in a renewal of their initial term of office. About two months before the opening of Congress the latter Government shall forward the applications received to the International Bureau so that the election documents can be prepared.

3 If the post of Director-General falls vacant, the Deputy Director-General shall take over the functions of Director-General until the expiry of the latter's term of office; he shall be eligible for election to that post and shall automatically be accepted as a candidate, provided that his initial term of office as Deputy Director-General has not already been renewed once by the preceding Congress and that he declares his interest in being considered as a candidate for the post of Director-General.

4 If the posts of Director-General and Deputy Director-General fall vacant at the same time, the Executive Council shall elect, on the basis of the applications received following notification of the vacancies, a Deputy Director-General for the period extending up to the next Congress. With regard to the submission of applications, paragraph 2 shall apply by analogy.

5 If the post of Deputy Director-General falls vacant, the Executive Council shall, on the proposal of the Director-General, instruct one of the Assistant Directors-General at the International Bureau to take over the functions of Deputy Director-General until the following Congress.

Article 109

Duties of the Director-General

1 The Director-General shall organize, administer and direct the International Bureau, of which he is the legal representative. He shall be empowered to classify posts in grades G 1 to D 1 and to appoint and promote officials in those grades. For appointments in grades P 1 to D 1, he shall consider the professional qualifications of the candidates recommended by the postal administrations of the member countries of which the candidates are nationals, taking into account equitable geographical distribution with respect to continents and languages together with all other relevant considerations, while giving due weight to the Bureau's internal promotion arrangements. He shall also consider that, in principle persons occupying grade D 2, D 1 and P 5 posts must be nationals of different member countries of the Union. He shall inform the Executive Council once a year, in the report on the work of the Union, of appointments and promotions in grades P 4 to D 1.

2 The Director-General shall have the following duties:

- a to prepare the draft annual budget of the Union at the lowest possible level consistent with the requirements of the Union and to submit it in due course to the Executive Council for consideration; to communicate the budget to the member countries of the Union after approval by the Executive Council;
- b to act as an intermediary in relations between:
 - the UPU and the Restricted Unions;
 - the UPU and the United Nations;
 - the UPU and the international organizations whose activities are of interest to the Union;
- c to assume the duties of Secretary-General of the bodies of the Union and supervise in this capacity and taking into account the special provisions of these General Regulations, in particular:
 - the preparation and organization of the work of the Union's bodies;
 - the preparation, production and distribution of documents, reports and minutes;
 - the functioning of the secretariat at meetings of the Union's bodies;
- d' to attend the meetings of the bodies of the Union and take part in the discussions without the right to vote, with the possibility of being represented.

Article 110

Duties of the Deputy Director-General

1 The Deputy Director-General shall assist the Director-General and shall be responsible to him.

2 If the Director-General is absent or prevented from discharging his duties, the Deputy Director-General shall exercise his functions. The same shall apply in the case of a vacancy in the post of Director-General as mentioned in article 108, paragraph 3.

Article 111

Secretariat of the Union's bodies

The secretariat of the Union's bodies shall be provided by the International Bureau under the responsibility of the Director-General. It shall send all the documents published on the occasion of each session to the postal administrations of the members of the body, to the postal administrations of countries which, while not members of the body, cooperate in the studies undertaken, to the Restricted Unions and to postal administrations of other member countries which ask for them.

Article 112

List of member countries

The International Bureau shall prepare and keep up to date the list of member countries of the Union showing therein their contribution class, their geographical group and their position with respect to the Acts of the Union.

Article 113

Information. Opinions. Requests for interpretation and amendment of the Acts. Inquiries.
Role in the settlement of accounts

1 The International Bureau shall be at all times at the disposal of the Executive Council, the Consultative Council for Postal Studies and postal administrations for the purpose of supplying them with any necessary information on questions relating to the service.

2 In particular it shall collect, collate, publish and distribute all kinds of information of interest to the international postal service, give an opinion, at the request of the parties involved, on questions in dispute, act on requests for interpretation and amendment of the Acts of the Union and, in general, carry out such studies and editorial or documentary work as are assigned to it by those Acts or as may be referred to it in the interest of the Union.

3 It shall also conduct inquiries requested by postal administrations to obtain the views of other administrations on a particular question. The result of an inquiry shall not have the status of a vote and shall not be formally binding.

4 It shall bring to the notice of the Chairman of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies, for any necessary action, questions which are within the competence of that organ.

5 It shall act as a clearing house in the settlement of accounts of all kinds relating to the international postal service between postal administrations requesting this facility.

Article 114

Technical cooperation

The International Bureau shall develop postal technical assistance in all its forms within the framework of international technical cooperation.

Article 115

Forms supplied by the International Bureau

The International Bureau shall be responsible for arranging the manufacture of postal identity cards, international reply coupons, postal travellers' cheques and cheque book covers and for supplying them, at cost, to postal administrations ordering them.

Article 116

Acts of Restricted Unions and Special Agreements

1 Two copies of the Acts of Restricted Unions and of Special Agreements concluded under article 8 of the Constitution shall be sent to the International Bureau by the offices of such Unions, or failing that, by one of the contracting parties.

2 The International Bureau shall see that the Acts of Restricted Unions and Special Agreements do not include conditions less favourable to the public than those which are provided for in the Acts of the Union and shall inform postal administrations of the existence of such Unions and Agreements. The International Bureau shall notify the Executive Council of any irregularity discovered through applying this provision.

Article 117

Union periodical

The International Bureau shall publish, with the aid of the documents made available to it, a periodical in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Russian and Spanish.

Article 118**Annual report on the work of the Union**

The International Bureau shall make an annual report on the work of the Union, which shall be sent, after approval by the Executive Council, to postal administrations, the Restricted Unions and the United Nations.

Chapter III**Procedure for the submission and consideration of proposals****Article 119****Procedure for submitting proposals to Congress**

- 1 Subject to the exceptions provided for in paragraphs 2 and 5, the following procedure shall govern the submission of proposals of all kinds to Congress by postal administrations of member countries:
 - a proposals which reach the International Bureau at least six months before the date fixed for Congress shall be accepted;
 - b no drafting proposal shall be accepted during the period of six months preceding the date fixed for Congress;
 - c proposals of substance which reach the International Bureau in the interval between six and four months before the date fixed for Congress shall not be accepted unless they are supported by at least two administrations;
 - d proposals of substance which reach the International Bureau in the interval between four and two months preceding the date fixed for Congress shall not be accepted unless they are supported by at least eight administrations. Proposals which arrive after that time shall no longer be accepted;
 - e declarations of support shall reach the International Bureau within the same period as the proposals to which they refer.
- 2 Proposals concerning the Constitution or the General Regulations shall reach the International Bureau not later than six months before the opening of Congress; any received after that date but before the opening of Congress shall not be considered unless Congress so decides by a majority of two thirds of the countries represented at Congress and unless the conditions laid down in paragraph 1 are fulfilled.
- 3 Every proposal must, as a rule, have only one aim and contain only the changes justified by that aim.
- 4 Drafting proposals shall be headed "Drafting proposal" by the administrations which submit them and shall be published by the International Bureau under a number followed by the letter R. Proposals which do not bear this indication but which, in the opinion of the International Bureau, deal only with drafting points shall be published with an appropriate annotation: the International Bureau shall draw up a list of these proposals for Congress.
- 5 The procedure prescribed in paragraphs 1 and 4 shall not apply either to proposals concerning the Rules of Procedure of Congresses or to amendments to proposals already made.

Article 120**Procedure for submitting proposals between Congresses**

- 1 To be eligible for consideration every proposal concerning the Convention or the Agreements submitted by a postal administration between Congresses shall be supported by at least two other administrations. Such proposals shall lapse if the International Bureau does not receive, at the same time, the necessary number of declarations of support.
- 2 These proposals shall be sent to other postal administrations through the intermediary of the International Bureau.

Article 121

Consideration of proposals between Congresses

1 Every proposal shall be subject to the following procedure: a period of two months shall be allowed to postal administrations of member countries for consideration of the proposal notified by an International Bureau circular and for forwarding their observations, if any, to the Bureau. Amendments shall not be admissible. The replies shall be collected by the International Bureau and communicated to postal administrations with an invitation to vote for or against the proposal. Those which have not sent in their vote within a period of two months shall be considered as abstaining. The aforementioned periods shall be reckoned from the dates of the International Bureau circulars.

2 If the proposal relates to an Agreement, its Detailed Regulations or their Final Protocols, only the postal administrations of member countries which are parties to that Agreement may take part in the procedure described in paragraph 1.

Article 122

Notification of decisions adopted between Congresses

1 Amendments made to the Convention, the Agreements and the Final Protocols to those Acts shall be sanctioned by a diplomatic declaration which the Government of the Swiss Confederation shall be charged to draw up and transmit at the request of the International Bureau to the Governments of member countries.

2 Amendments made to the Detailed Regulations and their Final Protocols shall be recorded and communicated to postal administrations by the International Bureau. The same shall apply to the interpretations referred to in article 91, paragraph 2, c, ii, of the Convention and in the corresponding provisions of the Agreements.

Article 123

Implementation of decisions adopted between Congresses

Any decision which has been adopted shall not take effect until at least three months after its notification.

Chapter IV

Finance

Article 124

Fixing and regulation of the expenditure of the Union

1 Subject to the provisions of paragraphs 2 to 6, the annual expenditure relating to the activities of bodies of the Union may not exceed the following sums for 1986 and subsequent years:

22 601 400 Swiss francs for 1986;

23 028 100 Swiss francs for 1987;

23 376 900 Swiss francs for 1988;

23 798 100 Swiss francs for 1989;

24 189 800 Swiss francs for 1990.

The basic limit for 1990 shall also apply to the following years in case the Congress scheduled for 1989 is postponed.

2 The expenditure relating to the convening of the next Congress (travelling expenses of the secretariat, transport charges, cost of installing simultaneous interpretation equipment, cost of reproducing documents during the Congress, etc) shall not exceed the limit of 3 345 000 Swiss francs.

3 The Executive Council shall be authorized to exceed the limits laid down in paragraphs 1 and 2 to take account of increases in salary scales, pension contributions or allowances, including post adjustments, approved by the United Nations for application to its staff working in Geneva.

4 The Executive Council shall also be authorized to adjust, each year, the amount of expenditure other than that relating to staff on the basis of the Swiss consumer price index.

5 Notwithstanding paragraph 1, the Executive Council, or in case of extreme urgency, the Director-General, may authorize the prescribed limits to be exceeded to meet the cost of major and unforeseen repairs to the International Bureau building, provided however that the amount of the increase does not exceed 65 000 Swiss francs per annum.

6 If the credits authorized in paragraphs 1 and 2 prove inadequate to ensure the smooth running of the Union, these limits may only be exceeded with the approval of the majority of the member countries of the Union. Any consultation shall include a complete description of the facts justifying such a request.

7 Countries which accede to the Union or are admitted to the status of members of the Union as well as those which leave the Union shall pay their contributions for the whole of the year during which their admission or withdrawal becomes effective.

8 Member countries shall pay their contributions to the Union's annual expenditure in advance on the basis of the budget laid down by the Executive Council. These contributions shall be paid not later than the first day of the financial year to which the budget refers. After that date, the sums due shall be chargeable with interest in favour of the Union at the rate of 3 percent per annum for the first six months and of 6 percent per annum from the seventh month.

9 To cover shortfalls in Union financing, a Reserve Fund shall be established the amount of which shall be fixed by the Executive Council. This Fund shall be maintained primarily from budget surpluses. It may also be used to balance the budget or to reduce the amount of member countries' contributions.

10 As regards temporary financing shortfalls, the Government of the Swiss Confederation shall make the necessary short-term advances, on conditions which are to be fixed by mutual agreement. That Government shall supervise, without charge, bookkeeping and accounting of the International Bureau within the limits of the credits fixed by Congress.

Article 125

Contribution classes

1 Member countries shall contribute to defraying Union expenses according to the contribution class to which they belong. These classes shall be the following:

class of 50 units;

class of 40 units;

class of 35 units;

class of 25 units;

class of 20 units;

class of 15 units;

class of 10 units;

class of 5 units;

class of 3 units;

class of 1 unit;

class of 0.5 unit, reserved for the least advanced countries as listed by the United Nations and for other countries designated by the Executive Council.

2 Notwithstanding the contribution classes listed in paragraph 1, any member country may elect to contribute more than 50 units.

3 Member countries shall be included in one of the above-mentioned contribution classes upon their admission or accession to the Union in accordance with the procedure laid down in article 21, paragraph 4, of the Constitution.

- 4 Member countries may subsequently change contribution class on condition that this change is communicated to the International Bureau before the opening of Congress. This notification, which shall be brought to the attention of Congress, shall take effect on the date of the entry into force of the financial provisions drawn up by Congress.
- 5 Member countries may not insist on being lowered more than one class at a time. Member countries which have not made known their wish to change contribution class by the opening of Congress shall remain in the class to which they belonged up to that time.
- 6 Nevertheless, in exceptional circumstances such as natural disasters necessitating international aid programmes, the Executive Council may authorize a reduction in contribution class when so requested by a member country if the said member establishes that it can no longer maintain its contribution at the class originally chosen.
- 7 Notwithstanding paragraphs 4 and 5, changes to a higher class shall not be subject to any restriction.

Article 126

Payment for supplies from the International Bureau

Supplies provided by the International Bureau to postal administrations against payment shall be paid for in the shortest possible time and at the latest within six months from the first day of the month following that in which the account is sent by the Bureau. After that period the sums due shall be chargeable with interest in favour of the Union at the rate of 5 percent per annum reckoned from the date of expiry of that period.

Chapter V

Arbitration

Article 127

Arbitration procedure

- 1 If a dispute has to be settled by arbitration, each of the postal administrations party to the case shall select a postal administration of a member country not directly involved in the dispute. When several administrations make common cause, they shall count only as a single administration for the purposes of this provision.
- 2 If one of the administrations party to the case does not act on a proposal for arbitration within a period of six months, the International Bureau, if so requested, shall itself call upon the defaulting administration to appoint an arbitrator or shall itself appoint one ex officio.
- 3 The parties to the case may agree to appoint a single arbitrator which may be the International Bureau.
- 4 The decision of the arbitrators shall be taken by a majority of votes.
- 5 In the event of a tie the arbitrators shall select another postal administration, not involved in the dispute either, to settle the matter. Should they fail to agree on the choice, this administration shall be appointed by the International Bureau from among administrations not proposed by the arbitrators.
- 6 If the dispute concerns one of the Agreements, the arbitrators may be appointed only from among the administrations that are parties to that Agreement.

Chapter VI

Final provisions

Article 128

Conditions for approval of proposals concerning the General Regulations

To become effective, proposals submitted to Congress relating to these General Regulations shall be approved by a majority of the member countries represented at Congress. At least two thirds of the member countries of the Union shall be present at the time of voting.

Article 129

Proposals concerning the Agreements with the United Nations

The conditions of approval referred to in article 128 shall apply equally to proposals designed to amend the Agreements concluded between the Universal Postal Union and the United Nations, in so far as those Agreements do not lay down conditions for the amendment of the provisions they contain.

Article 130

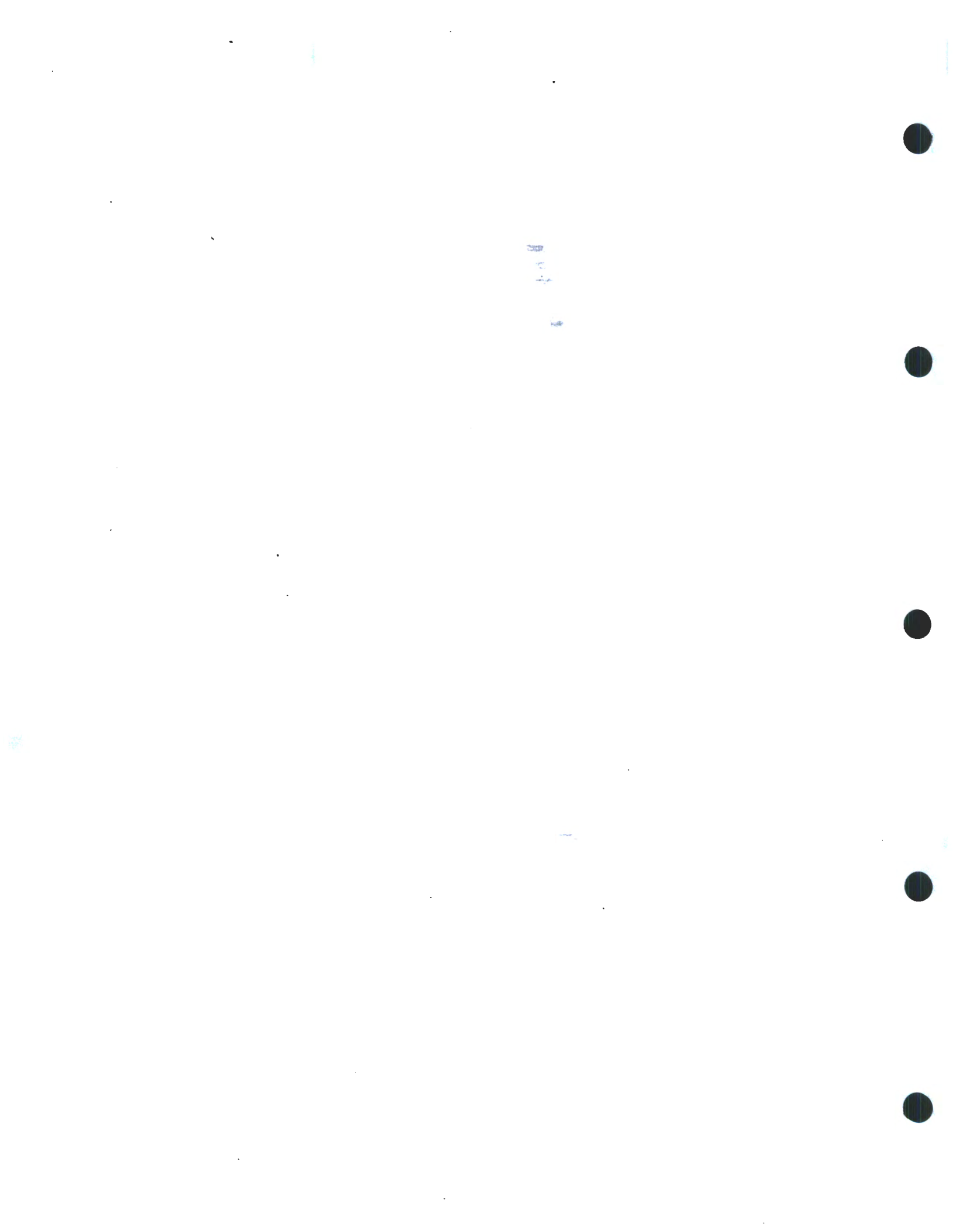
Entry into force and duration of the General Regulations

These General Regulations shall come into force on 1 January 1986 and shall remain in operation until the entry into force of the Acts of the next Congress.

In witness whereof the plenipotentiaries of the Governments of the member countries have signed these General Regulations in a single original which shall be deposited in the archives of the Government of the Swiss Confederation. A copy thereof shall be delivered to each party by the Government of the country in which Congress is held.

Done at Hamburg, 27 July 1984.

Signatures: same as on pages 29 to 61.



GENERAL REGULATIONS OF THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION – ANNEX

Rules of Procedure of Congresses

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RULES OF PROCEDURE OF CONGRESSES

Article 1

General provisions

The present Rules of Procedure (hereinafter referred to as "the Rules") have been drawn up pursuant to the Acts of the Union and are subordinate to them. In the event of a discrepancy between one of their provisions and a provision of the Acts, the latter shall prevail.

Article 2

Delegations

1 The term "delegation" shall denote the person or body of persons designated by a member country to take part in a Congress. The delegation shall consist of a Head of delegation and, if appropriate, his deputy, one or more delegates and, possibly, one or more attached officials (including experts, secretaries, etc).

2 Heads of delegation, their deputies, and delegates shall be representatives of member countries within the meaning of article 14, paragraph 2, of the Constitution if in possession of credentials which comply with the conditions laid down in article 3 of these Rules.

3 Attached officials shall be admitted to meetings, and shall have the right to participate in the proceedings, but they shall not normally have the right to vote. However, they may be authorized by the Head of their delegation to vote on behalf of their country at Committee meetings. Such authorizations shall be handed, in writing, to the Chairman of the Committee concerned, before the beginning of the meeting.

Article 3

Delegates' credentials

1 Delegates' credentials shall be signed by the Head of State, the Head of Government or the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the country concerned. They shall be drawn up in due and proper form. The credentials of delegates entitled to sign the Acts (plenipotentiaries) shall specify the scope of such signature (signature subject to ratification or approval, signature ad referendum, definitive signature). In the absence of such specific information, the signature shall be regarded as being subject to ratification or approval. Credentials authorizing the holder to sign the Acts shall implicitly include the right to speak and to vote. Delegates on whom the relevant authorities have conferred full powers without specifying their scope shall be authorized to speak, to vote and to sign the Acts unless the wording of the credentials is explicitly to the contrary.

2 Credentials shall be deposited at the opening of Congress with the authority designated for that purpose.

3 Delegates who are not in possession of credentials or who have not deposited their credentials may, provided their names have been communicated by their Government to the Government of the host country, take part in the debates and vote from the moment they participate in the work of Congress. The same shall apply to those whose credentials are found to be not in order. Such delegates shall cease to be empowered to vote from the time Congress approves the report of the Credentials Committee establishing that their credentials have not been received or are not in order until such time as the position is regularized.

4 The credentials of a member country which arranges for the delegation of another member country to represent it at Congress (proxy) shall be in the same form as those mentioned in paragraph 1.

5 Credentials and proxies sent by telegram shall not be admissible. However, telegrams sent in reply to requests for information relating to credentials shall be accepted.

6 A delegation which, after it has deposited its credentials, is prevented from attending one or more meetings, may arrange to be represented by the delegation of another country, provided that notice in writing is given to the Chairman of the meeting concerned. However, a delegation may represent only a single country other than its own.

7 The delegates of member countries which are not parties to an Agreement may take part in the debates of Congress concerning that Agreement, without the right to vote.

Article 4

Order of seating

- 1 At Congress and Committee meetings, delegations shall be seated in the French alphabetical order of the member countries represented.
- 2 The Chairman of the Executive Council shall draw lots, in due course, for the name of the country to be placed foremost before the rostrum at Congress and Committee meetings.

Article 5

Observers

- 1 Representatives of the United Nations may take part in the debates of Congress.
- 2 Observers from intergovernmental international organizations shall be admitted to meetings of Congress or of its Committees when questions of interest to these organizations are being discussed. In the same cases, observers from non-governmental international organizations shall be admitted to meetings of Committees.
- 3 Qualified representatives of the Restricted Unions established in accordance with article 8, paragraph 1, of the Constitution shall also be admitted as observers when the Unions concerned express a wish to that effect.
- 4 The observers referred to in paragraphs 1 to 3 shall take part in the debates without the right to vote.

Article 6

Doyen of Congress

- 1 The postal administration of the host country of Congress shall suggest the person to be appointed as Doyen of Congress in agreement with the International Bureau. The Executive Council shall approve this appointment in due course.
- 2 At the opening of the first plenary meeting of each Congress, the Doyen shall act as Chairman until Congress has elected one. He shall also exercise the functions assigned to him under the present Rules.

Article 7

Chairmanships and vice-chairmanships of Congress and Committees

- 1 At its first plenary meeting, Congress shall elect, on the proposal of the Doyen, the Chairman of Congress and then approve, on the proposal of the Executive Council, the appointment of the member countries which are to assume the vice-chairmanships of Congress and the chairmanships and vice-chairmanships of the Committees. These posts will be assigned taking as much account as possible of the equitable geographical distribution of the member countries.
- 2 The Chairmen shall open and close the meetings over which they preside, direct the debates, give speakers the floor, put proposals to the vote and announce what majority is required for their adoption, announce decisions and, subject to the approval of Congress, interpret such decisions if necessary.
- 3 The Chairmen shall see that the present Rules are observed and that order is maintained at meetings.
- 4 Any delegation may appeal to Congress or the Committee against a decision taken by the Chairman on the basis of a provision or interpretation of the Rules. The Chairman's decision shall nevertheless hold good unless rescinded by a majority of the members present and voting.
- 5 Should the member country appointed to the chairmanship be no longer able to exercise this function, one of the Vice-Chairmen shall be appointed by Congress or the Committee to replace it.

Article 8

Bureau of Congress

1 The Bureau shall be the central body responsible for directing the work of Congress. It shall consist of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of Congress and the Chairmen of the Committees. It shall meet periodically to review the progress of the work of Congress and its Committees and to make recommendations designed to facilitate such progress. It shall assist the Chairman in drawing up the agenda of each plenary meeting and in coordinating the work of the Committees. It shall make recommendations relating to the closing of Congress.

2 The Secretary-General of Congress and the Assistant Secretary-General, mentioned in article 11, paragraph 1, shall attend the meetings of the Bureau.

Article 9

Membership of Committees

1 The member countries represented in Congress shall, as of right, be members of the Committees responsible for studying proposals relating to the Constitution, the General Regulations, the Convention and its Detailed Regulations.

2 Member countries represented in Congress which are parties to one or more of the optional Agreements shall, as of right, be members of the Committee and/or Committees responsible for the revision of these Agreements. The right to vote of members of the Committee or Committees shall be confined to the Agreement or Agreements to which they are parties.

3 Delegations which are not members of Committees dealing with the Agreements and their Detailed Regulations may attend meetings of those Committees and take part in the debates without the right to vote.

Article 10

Working parties

Each Committee may set up working parties to study special questions.

Article 11

Secretariat of Congress and of Committees

1 The Director-General and the Deputy Director-General of the International Bureau shall act as Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General of Congress, respectively.

2 The Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General shall attend the meetings of Congress and of the Bureau of Congress and take part in the debates without the right to vote. They may also attend, under the same conditions, Committee meetings or be represented thereat by a senior official of the International Bureau.

3 The work of the Secretariat of Congress, the Bureau of Congress and the Committees shall be performed by the staff of the International Bureau in conjunction with the administration of the host country.

4 Senior officials of the International Bureau shall act as Secretaries of Congress, of the Bureau of Congress and of the Committees. They shall assist the Chairman during meetings and shall be responsible for writing the minutes or reports.

5 The Secretaries of Congress and of the Committees shall be assisted by Assistant Secretaries.

6 Rapporteurs proficient in French shall take the minutes of Congress and of the Committees.

Article 12

Languages of debates

- 1 Subject to paragraph 2, French, English, Spanish and Russian may be used for debates, by means of a system of simultaneous or consecutive interpretation.
- 2 The debates of the Drafting Committee shall be held in French.
- 3 Other languages may also be used for the debates mentioned in paragraph 1. The language of the host country shall have priority in this connection. Delegations using other languages shall arrange for simultaneous interpretation into one of the languages mentioned in paragraph 1, either by means of the simultaneous interpretation system, when the necessary technical alterations can be made, or by special interpreters.
- 4 The cost of installing and maintaining the technical equipment shall be borne by the Union.
- 5 The cost of the interpretation services shall be divided among the member countries using the same language in proportion to their contributions to the expenses of the Union.

Article 13

Languages used for drafting Congress documents

- 1 Documents prepared during Congress including draft decisions submitted to Congress for approval shall be published in French by the Secretariat of Congress.
- 2 To this end, documents produced by delegations of member countries shall be submitted in French, either direct or through the intermediary of the translation services attached to the Congress Secretariat.
- 3 The above services, organized at their own expense by the language groups set up in accordance with the relevant provisions of the General Regulations, may also translate Congress documents into their respective languages.

Article 14

Proposals

- 1 All questions brought before Congress shall be the subject of proposals.
- 2 All proposals published by the International Bureau before Congress shall be regarded as being submitted to Congress.
- 3 Two months before Congress opens, no proposal shall be considered except those amending earlier proposals.
- 4 The following shall be regarded as amendments: any proposal which, without altering the substance of the original proposal, involves a deletion from, addition to or revision of a part of the original proposal. No proposed change shall be regarded as an amendment if it is inconsistent with the meaning or intent of the original proposal. In case of doubt, Congress or the Committee shall decide the matter.
- 5 Amendments submitted at Congress to proposals already made shall be handed in to the Secretariat in writing, in French, before noon on the day but one before the day on which they will be discussed, so that they can be distributed to delegates the same day. This time limit shall not apply to amendments arising directly from the debates in Congress or in a Committee. In the latter case, if so requested, the author of the amendment shall submit a written version in French, or in case of difficulty, in any other language used for debates. The Chairman concerned shall read it out or have it read out.
- 6 The procedure laid down in paragraph 5 shall also apply to the submission of proposals that are not designed to amend the text of the Acts (draft resolutions, draft recommendations, draft formal opinions, etc).
- 7 Any proposal or amendment shall give the final form of the text which is to be inserted in the Acts of the Union, subject, of course to revision by the Drafting Committee.

Article 15

Consideration of proposals in Congress and in Committees

1 Drafting proposals (the number of which shall be followed by the letter R) shall be assigned to the Drafting Committee either direct, if the International Bureau has no doubt as to their nature (a list of such proposals shall be drawn up for the Drafting Committee by the International Bureau), or, if the International Bureau is in doubt as to their nature, after the other Committees have confirmed that they are purely of a drafting nature (a list of such proposals shall likewise be drawn up for the Committees concerned). If, however, such proposals are linked with other proposals of substance to be considered by Congress or by other Committees, the Drafting Committee shall postpone consideration of them until after Congress or the other Committees have taken a decision on the corresponding proposals of substance. Proposals whose numbers are not followed by the letter R but which, in the opinion of the International Bureau, are of a drafting nature, shall be referred direct to the Committees concerned with the corresponding proposals of substance. When these Committees begin work, they shall decide which of the proposals shall be assigned direct to the Drafting Committee. A list of these proposals shall be drawn up by the International Bureau for the Committees concerned.

2 If the same question is the subject of several proposals, the Chairman shall decide the order in which they are to be discussed, starting as a rule, with the proposal which departs most from the basic text and entails the most significant change in relation to the status quo.

3 If a proposal can be subdivided into several parts, each part may, if the originator of the proposal or the assembly so agrees, be considered and voted upon separately.

4 Any proposal withdrawn in Congress or in Committee by its originator may be resubmitted by the delegation of another member country. Similarly, if an amendment to a proposal is accepted by the originator of the proposal, another delegation may resubmit the original, unamended proposal.

5 Any amendment to a proposal which is accepted by the delegation submitting the proposal shall be immediately included in the text thereof. If the originator of the original proposal does not accept an amendment, the Chairman shall decide whether the amendment or the proposal shall be voted upon first, starting with whichever departs furthest from the meaning or intent of the basic text and entails the most significant change in relation to the status quo.

6 The procedure described in paragraph 5 shall also apply where more than one amendment to a proposal is submitted.

7 The Chairman of Congress and the Chairmen of Committees shall arrange for the text of the proposals, amendments or decisions adopted to be passed to the Drafting Committee, in writing, after each meeting.

Article 16

Debates

1 Delegates may not take the floor until they have been given permission to do so by the Chairman of the meeting. They shall be urged to speak slowly and distinctly. The Chairman shall afford delegates the possibility of freely and fully expressing their views on the subject discussed, so long as that is compatible with the normal course of the debate.

2 Unless a majority of the members present and voting decides otherwise, speeches shall not exceed five minutes. The Chairman shall be authorized to interrupt any speaker who exceeds the said authorized time. He may also ask the delegate not to depart from the subject.

3 During a debate, the Chairman may, with the agreement of the majority of the members present and voting, declare the list of speakers closed after reading it out. When the list is exhausted, he shall declare the debate closed, although even after the closing of the list he may grant the originator of the proposal under discussion the right to reply to any of the speeches delivered.

4 The Chairman may also, with the agreement of the majority of the members present and voting, limit the number of speeches by any one delegation on a proposal or a certain group of proposals; but the originator of the proposal shall be given the opportunity of introducing it and speaking subsequently if he asks to do so in order to make new points in reply to the speeches of other delegations, so that he may, if he wishes, be the last speaker.

5 With the agreement of the majority of the members present and voting, the Chairman may limit the number of speeches on a proposal or a certain group of proposals; but this limit may not be less than five for and five against the proposal under discussion.

Article 17

Motions on points of order and procedural motions

1 During the discussion of any question and even, where appropriate, after the closure of the debate, a delegation may submit a motion on a point of order for the purpose of requesting:

- clarification on the conduct of the debates;
- observance of the Rules of Procedure;
- a change in the order of discussion of proposals suggested by the Chairman.

The motion on a point of order shall take precedence over all questions, including the procedural motions set forth in paragraph 3.

2 The Chairman shall immediately give the desired clarifications or take the decision which he considers advisable on the subject of the motion on a point of order. In the event of an objection, the Chairman's decision shall be put to the vote forthwith.

3 In addition, during discussion of a question, a delegation may introduce a procedural motion with a view to proposing:

- a the suspension of the meeting;
- b the closure of the meeting;
- c the adjournment of the debate on the question under discussion;
- d the closure of the debate on the question under discussion.

Procedural motions shall take precedence, in the order set out above, over all other proposals except the motions on points of order referred to in paragraph 1.

4 Motions for the suspension or closure of the meeting shall not be discussed, but shall be put to the vote immediately.

5 When a delegation proposes adjournment or closure of the debate on a question under discussion, only two speakers against the adjournment or the closure of the debate may speak, after which the motion shall be put to the vote.

6 The delegation which submits a motion on a point of order or a procedural motion may not, in its submission, deal with the substance of the question under discussion. The proposer of a procedural motion may withdraw it before it has been put to the vote, and any motion of this kind, whether amended or not, which is withdrawn may be reintroduced by another delegation.

Article 18

Quorum. General provisions concerning voting

1 Half the member countries represented at Congress or on the Committee and having the right to vote shall constitute a quorum. Regarding the Agreements, the quorum shall be formed by the presence or representation at the meeting of at least half of the member countries represented which are parties to the Agreement concerned.

2 Questions which cannot be settled by common consent shall be decided by vote.

3 Delegations which are present but do not take part in a given vote, or which state that they do not wish to take part therein, shall not be regarded as being absent for the purpose of determining whether a quorum is formed as required in paragraph 1.

4 When the number of abstentions, and blank or null and void ballot papers exceeds half the number of votes cast (for, against and abstentions), consideration of the matter shall be deferred until a subsequent meeting, at which abstentions and blank or null and void ballot papers shall be disregarded.

Article 19

Voting procedures

- 1 Votes shall be taken by the traditional system or by the electronic voting system. They shall normally be taken by the electronic system when that system is available to the assembly. However, in the case of a secret ballot, the traditional system may be used if one delegation, supported by a majority of the delegations present and voting, so requests.
- 2 For the traditional system, the methods of voting shall be as follows:
 - a by show of hands. If there is doubt about the result of such a vote, the Chairman, if he so wishes or if a delegation so requests, may arrange for an immediate roll-call vote on the same question;
 - b by roll-call, at the request of a delegation or if so decided by the Chairman. The roll shall be called according to the French alphabetical order of the countries represented, beginning with the country whose name is drawn by lot by the Chairman. The result of the vote, together with a list of the countries grouped according to the way they voted, shall be included in the minutes of the meeting;
 - c by secret ballot, using ballot papers, if requested by two delegations. In this case, the Chairman of the meeting shall appoint three tellers and make the necessary arrangements for the holding of a secret ballot.
- 3 For the electronic system, the methods of voting shall be as follows:
 - a non-recorded vote: it replaces a vote by show of hands;
 - b recorded vote: it replaces a roll-call vote; however, the names of the countries shall not be called unless one delegation, supported by a majority of the delegations present and voting, so requests;
 - c secret ballot: it replaces the secret ballot by ballot papers.
- 4 Regardless of the system of voting used, the secret ballot shall take precedence over any other voting procedure.
- 5 Once the voting has begun, no delegation may interrupt it, except to raise a point of order relating to the way in which the vote is being taken.
- 6 After the vote, the Chairman may permit delegates to explain why they voted as they did.

Article 20

Conditions of approval of proposals

- 1 To be adopted, proposals involving amendments to the Acts must:
 - a in the case of the Constitution, be approved by at least two thirds of the member countries of the Union; two thirds of the latter shall be present when the vote is taken;
 - b in the case of the General Regulations, be approved by a majority of the member countries represented in Congress; two thirds of the member countries of the Union shall be present when the vote is taken;
 - c in the case of the Convention and its Detailed Regulations, be approved by a majority of the member countries present and voting;
 - d in the case of the Agreements and their Detailed Regulations, be approved by a majority of the member countries present and voting which are parties to the Agreements.
- 2 Procedural matters which cannot be settled by common consent shall be decided by a majority of the member countries present and voting. The same shall apply to decisions not concerning changes in the Acts, unless Congress decides otherwise by a majority of the member countries present and voting.
- 3 Subject to article 18, paragraph 4, "member countries present and voting" means member countries voting "for" or "against", abstentions being ignored in counting the votes required to constitute a majority as well as blank or null and void ballot papers in the case of a secret ballot.
- 4 In the event of a tie, a proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

Article 21

Election of the members of the Executive Council or the Consultative Council for Postal Studies

In order to decide between countries which have obtained the same number of votes in elections of members of the Executive Council or the Consultative Council for Postal Studies, the Chairman shall draw lots.

Article 22

Election of the Director-General and the Deputy Director-General of the International Bureau

1 The elections of the Director-General of the International Bureau and of the Deputy Director-General shall take place by secret ballot successively at one or more meetings held on the same day. The candidate who obtains a majority of the votes cast by the member countries present and voting shall be elected. As many ballots shall be held as are necessary for a candidate to obtain this majority.

2 "Member countries present and voting" shall mean member countries voting for one of the candidates whose applications have been announced in due and proper form, abstentions and blank or null and void ballot papers being ignored in counting the votes required to constitute a majority.

3 If the number of abstentions and blank or null and void ballot papers exceeds half the number of votes cast in accordance with paragraph 2, the election shall be deferred to a later meeting, at which abstentions and blank or null and void ballot papers shall no longer be taken into account.

4 The candidate who obtains the least number of votes in any one ballot shall be eliminated.

5 In the event of a tie, an additional ballot, and if necessary a second additional ballot shall be held in an attempt to decide between the tying candidates, the vote relating only to these candidates. If the result is inconclusive, the election shall be decided by drawing lots. The lots shall be drawn by the Chairman.

Article 23

Minutes

1 The minutes of the meetings of Congress and Committees shall record the course of the meetings, briefly summarize speeches, and mention proposals and the outcome of the debates. Minutes shall be prepared of the plenary meetings and summarized minutes of the Committee meetings.

2 The minutes of Committee meetings may be replaced by reports to Congress if the Executive Council so decides. As a general rule, Working Parties shall prepare a report for the body that set them up.

3 Each delegate, however, shall be entitled to ask for any statement made by him to be included in the minutes or in the report either verbatim or in summary form, provided the French text is handed to the Secretariat not later than two hours after the end of the meeting.

4 Delegates shall be allowed a period of twenty-four hours, from the moment when the draft minutes or the draft report are distributed, in which to make their comments to the Secretariat, which, if necessary, shall act as an intermediary between the party concerned and the Chairman of the meeting in question.

5 As a general rule and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, at the beginning of each meeting of Congress, the Chairman shall submit the minutes of a previous meeting for approval. The same shall apply in regard to those Committees whose proceedings are recorded in the form of minutes or a report. The minutes or reports of the last meetings which it has not been possible to approve in Congress or in a Committee shall be approved by the respective Chairmen of the meetings. The International Bureau shall also take account of any comments received from delegates of member countries within forty days of the dispatch of the minutes to them.

6 The International Bureau shall be authorized to correct in the minutes or reports of meetings of Congress and Committees any material errors which were not brought to light when the minutes were approved in accordance with paragraph 5.

Article 24

Approval by Congress of draft decisions (Acts, resolutions, etc)

1 As a general rule, each draft Act submitted by the Drafting Committee shall be studied article by article. It can only be regarded as adopted after an overall favourable vote. Article 20, paragraph 1, shall apply to such a vote.

2 During this study, any delegation may reopen a proposal which has been carried or rejected in Committee. An appeal relating to a rejected proposal shall be subject to the delegation's having notified the Chairman of Congress accordingly, in writing, at least one day before the meeting at which the relevant provisions of the draft Act is to be submitted to Congress for approval.

3 Nonetheless, it shall always be possible, if the Chairman considers it desirable for the progress of Congress work, to consider appeals before considering the draft Acts submitted by the Drafting Committee.

4 When a proposal has been adopted or rejected by Congress, it can only be reconsidered by the same Congress if the appeal has been supported by at least ten delegations and approved by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. This possibility is limited to proposals submitted direct to plenary meetings, it being understood that a single question cannot give rise to more than one appeal.

5 The International Bureau shall be authorized to correct in the final Acts any material errors which have not come to light during the study of the draft Acts, the numbering of articles and paragraphs and references.

6 Paragraphs 2 to 5 shall also apply to draft decisions other than draft Acts (resolutions, formal opinions, etc).

Article 25

Assignment of studies to the Executive Council and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies

On the recommendation of its Bureau, Congress shall assign studies to the Executive Council and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies, as follows, taking account of the respective compositions and responsibilities of these two bodies:

- a as a rule, to the Executive Council when they concern the structure, organization and general administration of the Union. The same shall apply to questions with major financial repercussions (charges, transit charges, basic airmail conveyance rates, parcel-post rates, etc) and which may involve amendment of the Acts;
- b to the Consultative Council for Postal Studies when such studies relate to technical, operational, economic and technical cooperation matters.

Article 26

Reservations to Acts

Reservations must be submitted in writing in French (proposals concerning the Final Protocol), in order that they may be considered by Congress before the signing of Acts.

Article 27

Signature of Acts

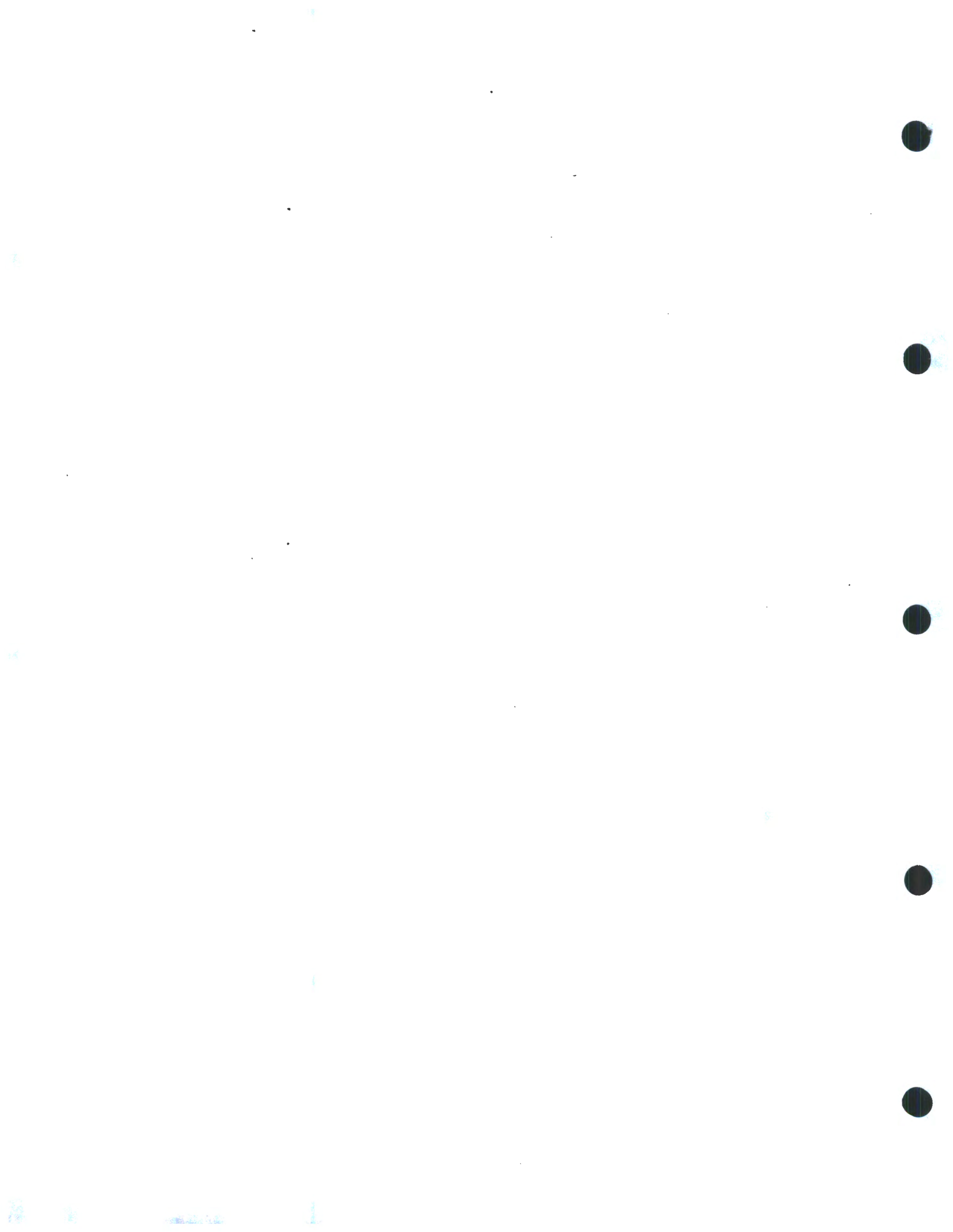
Acts finally approved by Congress shall be submitted to the plenipotentiaries for signature.

Article 28

Amendment of the Rules

1 Each Congress may amend the Rules of Procedure. In order to be accepted for discussion, proposals to amend the present Rules, unless submitted by a UPU body empowered to put forward proposals, shall be supported in Congress by at least ten delegations.

2 To be adopted, proposals for amendments to the present Rules must be approved by at least two thirds of the member countries represented in Congress.



Universal Postal Convention

Convention
Final Protocol
Detailed Regulations
– Forms



UNIVERSAL POSTAL CONVENTION

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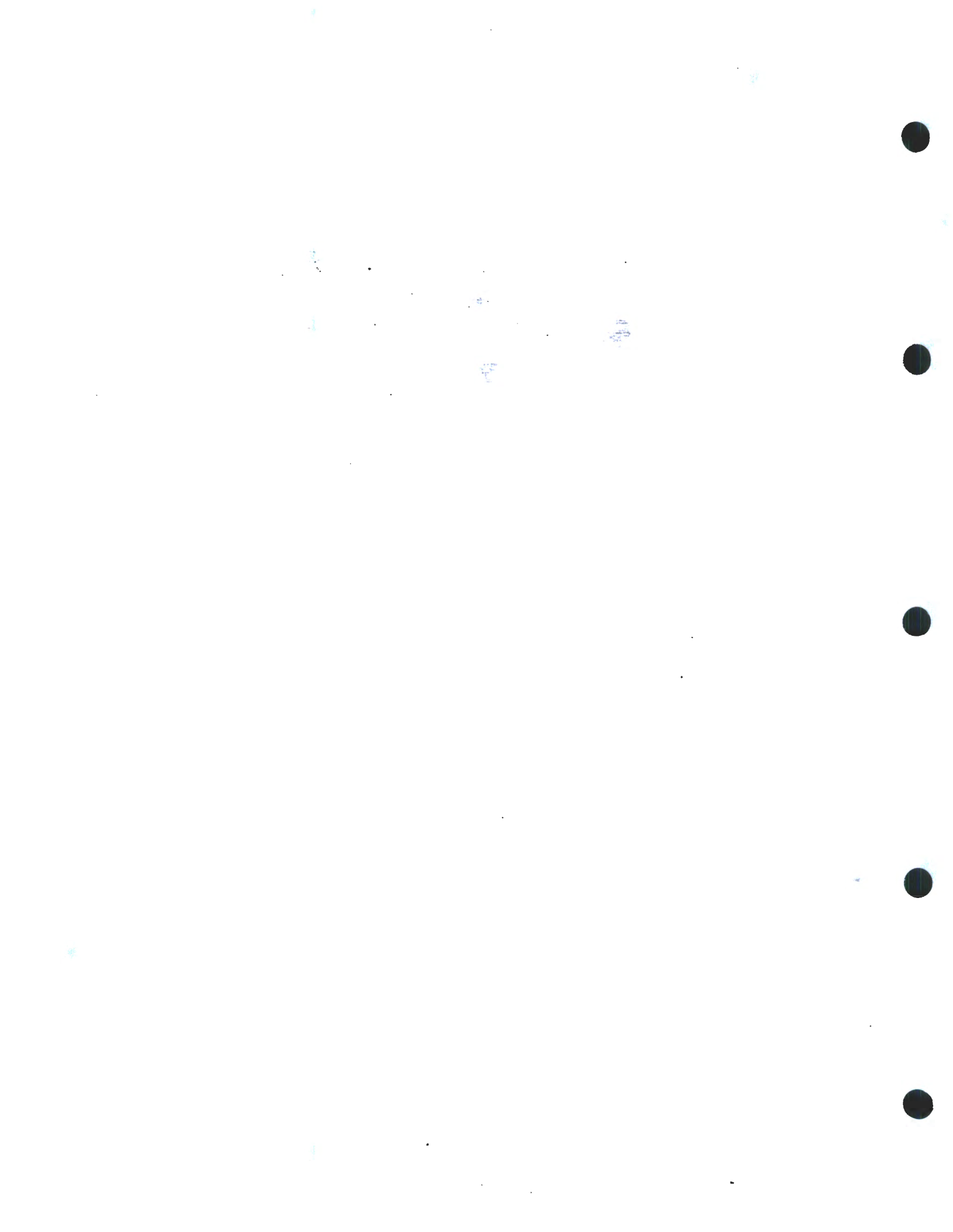
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FINAL PROTOCOL TO THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL CONVENTION**Art**

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UNIVERSAL POSTAL CONVENTION

The undersigned, plenipotentiaries of the Governments of the member countries of the Union, having regard to article 22, paragraph 3, of the Constitution of the Universal Postal Union concluded at Vienna on 10 July 1964, have by common consent and subject to article 25, paragraph 3, of the Constitution drawn up in this Convention the rules applicable in common throughout the international postal service and the provisions concerning the letter-post services.

Part I

Rules applicable in common throughout the international postal service

Chapter I

General provisions

Article 1

Freedom of transit

1 Freedom of transit, the principle of which is set forth in article 1 of the Constitution, shall carry with it the obligation for each postal administration to forward always by the quickest routes which it uses for its own items, closed mails and à découvert letter-post items which are passed to it by another administration. This obligation shall also apply to airmail correspondence, whether or not the intermediate postal administrations take part in reforwarding it.

2 Member countries which do not participate in the exchange of letters containing perishable biological substances or radioactive substances shall have the option of not admitting these items in transit à découvert through their territory. The same shall apply to the items referred to in article 36, paragraph 9.

3 Member countries not providing the insured letters service or not accepting liability for insured letters carried by their sea or air services shall nonetheless be bound to forward, by the quickest route, closed mails passed to them by other administrations, but their liability shall be limited to that laid down for registered items.

4 Freedom of transit for postal parcels to be forwarded by land and sea routes shall be limited to the territory of the countries taking part in this service.

5 Freedom of transit for air parcels shall be guaranteed throughout the territory of the Union. Nevertheless, member countries which are not parties to the Postal Parcels Agreement shall not be required to forward air parcels by surface.

6 Member countries which are parties to the Postal Parcels Agreement but which do not provide an insured parcels service or which do not accept liability for insured items carried by their sea or air services, shall nonetheless be bound to forward, by the quickest route, closed mails passed to them by other administrations, but their liability shall be limited to that laid down for uninsured parcels of the same weight.

Article 2

Failure to give freedom of transit

When a member country fails to observe the provisions of article 1 of the Constitution and of article 1 of the Convention regarding freedom of transit, postal administrations of other member countries may discontinue their postal service with that country. They shall give prior notice of this step to the administrations concerned by telegram, and inform the International Bureau of the fact.

Article 3

Land transit without the participation of the services of the country crossed

The conveyance of mail in transit through a country without the participation of the services of that country shall be subject to the prior authorization of the country crossed. This form of transit shall not involve the liability of the latter country.

Article 4

Temporary suspension and resumption of services

1 When, owing to exceptional circumstances, a postal administration is obliged temporarily to suspend its services wholly or in part, it shall announce the fact immediately, if need be by telegraph or telex, to the administration or administrations concerned, indicating, if possible, the probable duration of the suspension of services. It shall do likewise when the suspended services are resumed.

2 The International Bureau must be notified of the suspension or resumption of services if a general announcement is considered necessary. If necessary, the International Bureau shall notify administrations by telegram or telex.

3 The administration of origin shall have the option of refunding the postage charges (article 19), special charges (article 24) and air surcharges (article 74) to the sender if, owing to the suspension of services, the benefit accruing from conveyance of the item in question was obtained only in part or not at all.

Article 5

Ownership of postal items

A postal item shall remain the property of the sender until it is delivered to the rightful owner, except when the item has been seized in pursuance of the legislation of the country of destination.

Article 6

Creation of new service

Administrations may by mutual consent create a new service not expressly provided for in this Convention. Charges for a new service shall be laid down by the administration concerned, having regard to the expenses of operating the service.

Article 7

Charges

1 The charges for the various international postal services shall be laid down in the Convention and the Agreements.

2 No postal charge of any kind may be collected other than those provided for in the Convention and Agreements.

Article 8

Monetary standard. Equivalents

- 1 The monetary unit used in the Convention and the Agreements as well as in their Detailed Regulations shall be the gold franc laid down in article 7 of the Constitution convertible into the International Monetary Fund (IMF) accounting unit, which is at present the Special Drawing Right (SDR).
- 2 Union member countries shall be entitled to choose, by mutual agreement, another monetary unit or one of their national currencies for preparing and settling accounts.
- 3 In each member country, the charges shall be fixed on the basis of the closest possible equivalent of the SDR in the currency of that country.
- 4 Union member countries whose currency exchange rates in relation to the SDR are not calculated by the IMF or which are not members of that specialized agency shall be requested to declare unilaterally an equivalence between their currencies and the SDR.
- 5 Each postal administration shall be free to round its charges up or down, whichever is best adapted to its monetary system.
- 6 Postal administrations shall not be bound to amend the equivalents of the charges prescribed in the Convention and in the Agreements or the sales price of international reply coupons when, as a result of fluctuations in the equivalent used to establish charges in accordance with the present article, the limits authorized by the Convention are not exceeded by more than 15 percent.

Article 9

Postage stamps

- 1 Postage stamps for denoting payment of postage shall be issued by postal administrations only.
- 2 The subjects and designs of postage stamps shall be in keeping with the spirit of the preamble to the UPU Constitution and of decisions taken by the Union's bodies.

Article 10

Forms

- 1 The texts, colours and dimensions of forms shall be prescribed in the Detailed Regulations of the Convention and of the Agreements.
- 2 Forms for the use of administrations in their relations with one another shall be drawn up in French with or without interlinear translation, unless the administrations concerned arrange otherwise by direct agreement.
- 3 Forms for the use of postal administrations as well as any copies thereof shall be completed in such a way that the entries are fully legible. The original form shall be sent to the appropriate administration or to the party most concerned.
- 4 Forms for the use of the public shall bear an interlinear translation in French when they are not printed in that language.

Article 11

Postal identity cards

- 1 Each postal administration may issue to persons who apply for them postal identity cards valid as proof of identity for postal transactions effected in member countries which have not announced their refusal to recognize them.
- 2 The administration which issues a card shall be authorized to collect, on this account, a charge which may not exceed 5 francs (1.63 SDR).
- 3 Administrations shall be relieved of all liability when it is established that the delivery of a postal item or the payment of a monetary article was effected on presentation of a genuine card: Moreover, they shall not be liable for consequences arising from the loss, theft or fraudulent use of a genuine card.

Convention

- 4 A card shall be valid for a period of ten years from the date of issue. Nevertheless, it shall cease to be valid:
- a when the appearance of the holder is altered to such an extent that it no longer corresponds to the photograph or to the description;
 - b when it is damaged in such a way that it is no longer possible to check a particular entry concerning the holder;
 - c when it shows signs of forgery.

Article 12

Settlement of accounts

Settlements between postal administrations of international accounts arising from postal traffic may be regarded as current transactions and effected in accordance with the current international obligations of the member countries concerned, when there are agreements to this effect. In the absence of such agreements, accounts shall be settled in accordance with the provisions of the Detailed Regulations.

Article 13

Undertakings regarding penal measures

The Governments of member countries shall undertake to adopt, or to propose to the legislatures of their countries, the necessary measures:

- a for punishing the counterfeiting of postage stamps, even if withdrawn from circulation, of international reply coupons and of postal identity cards;
- b for punishing the use or uttering:
 - i of counterfeit postage stamps (even if withdrawn from circulation) or used postage stamps, as well as of counterfeit or used impressions of franking machines or printing presses;
 - ii of counterfeit international reply coupons;
 - iii of counterfeit postal identity cards;
- c for punishing the fraudulent use of genuine postal identity cards;
- d for prohibiting and suppressing all fraudulent operations of manufacturing and uttering adhesive stamps and stamped impressions in use in the postal service, counterfeited or imitated in such a manner that they could be mistaken for the adhesive stamps and stamped impressions issued by the postal administration of a member country;
- e for preventing and, if necessary, for punishing the insertion in postal items of narcotics and psychotropic substances, as well as explosive, flammable or other dangerous substances, where their insertion has not been expressly authorized by the Convention and the Agreements.

Chapter II

Exemption from postal charges

Article 14

Exemption from postal charges

Cases of exemption from postal charges shall be expressly laid down by the Convention and the Agreements.

Article 15

Exemption from postal charges on letter-post items relating to the postal service

Subject to article 73, paragraph 4, letter-post items relating to the postal service shall be exempt from all postal charges if they are:

- a sent by postal administrations or their offices;
- b exchanged between bodies of the Universal Postal Union and bodies of the Restricted Unions, between the bodies of those Unions or sent by such bodies to postal administrations or their offices.

Article 16

Exemption from postal charges of items which concern prisoners of war and civilian internees

1 Subject to article 73, paragraph 2, letter-post items, postal parcels and monetary articles addressed to or sent by prisoners of war, either direct or through the Information Bureaux and the Central Prisoner-of-War Information Agency provided for in articles 122 and 123 respectively of the Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 relative to the treatment of prisoners of war, shall be exempt from all postal charges. Belligerents apprehended and interned in a neutral country shall be classed with prisoners of war proper so far as the application of the foregoing provisions is concerned.

2 Paragraph 1 shall apply to letter-post items, postal parcels and monetary articles originating in other countries and addressed to or sent by civilian internees as defined by the Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war, either direct or through the Information Bureaux and the Central Information Agency prescribed in articles 136 and 140 respectively of that Convention.

3 The national Information Bureaux and the Central Information Agencies mentioned above shall also enjoy exemption from postal charges in respect of letter-post items, postal parcels and monetary articles which concern the persons referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2, which they send or receive, either direct or as intermediaries, under the conditions laid down in those paragraphs.

4 Parcels shall be admitted free of postage up to a weight of 5 kg. The weight limit shall be increased to 10 kg in the case of parcels the contents of which cannot be split up and of parcels addressed to a camp or the prisoners' representatives there ("*hommes de confiance*") for distribution to the prisoners.

Article 17

Exemption of literature for the blind from postal charges

Subject to article 73, paragraph 2, literature for the blind shall be exempt from postage, the special charges listed in article 24, paragraph 1, and the cash-on-delivery charge.

Part II

Provisions concerning the letter post

Chapter I

General provisions

Article 18

Letter-post items

Letter-post items shall consist of letters, postcards, printed papers, literature for the blind and small packets.

Article 19

Postage charges and limits of weight and size. General conditions

1 The postage charge for the conveyance of letter-post items throughout the entire extent of the Union as well as the limits of weight and size, shall be fixed in accordance with columns 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7 of the table below. The basic charges (col 3) may be increased by 100 percent (col 4) or reduced by 70 percent (col 5) at most. Except in the case provided for in article 25, paragraph 6, they shall cover delivery of the items to the place of address provided that this delivery service is operated in the country of destination for the items in question.

Convention

Category	Weight step	Basic charges		Charges upper limit (increase of 100%)		Charges lower limit (reduction of 70%)		Limits	
		g c	SDR	g c	SDR	g c	SDR	of weight	of size
1	2	3		4		5		6	7
Letters	up to 20 g	112.5	0.37	225	0.74	33.75	0.11	2 kg	<p>Maxima: length, width and depth combined: 900 mm but the greatest dimension may not exceed 600 mm with a tolerance of 2 mm. In roll form: length plus twice the diameter, 1040 mm, but the greatest dimension may not exceed 900 mm with a tolerance of 2 mm.</p> <p>Minima: to have a surface measuring not less than 90 x 140 mm, with a tolerance of 2 mm. In roll form: length plus twice the diameter: 170 mm but the greatest dimension may not be less than 100 mm.</p>
	above 20 g	270	0.88	540	1.76	81	0.26		
	up to 100 g	540	1.76	1080	3.53	162	0.53		
	above 100 g	1035	3.38	2070	6.76	310.5	1.01		
	up to 250 g	1800	5.88	3600	11.76	540	1.76		
	above 250 g	2925	9.56	5850	19.11	877.5	2.87		
Postcards		78.75	0.26	157.5	0.51	23.5	0.08		<p>Maxima: 105 x 148 mm, with a tolerance of 2 mm.</p> <p>Minima: 90 x 140 mm, with a tolerance of 2 mm. Length at least equal to the width multiplied by $\sqrt{2}$ (approximate value 1.4)</p>
Printed papers	up to 20 g	56.25	0.18	112.5	0.37	16.75	0.05	2 kg (for books and pamphlets: 5 kg; this limit of weight may be raised to 10 kg after agreement between the administrations concerned)	<p>Maxima: length, width and depth combined: 900 mm but the greatest dimension may not exceed 600 mm with a tolerance of 2 mm. In roll form: length plus twice the diameter, 1040 mm, but the greatest dimension may not exceed 900 mm with a tolerance of 2 mm.</p> <p>Minima: to have a surface measuring not less than 90 x 140 mm, with a tolerance of 2 mm.</p> <p>In roll form: length plus twice the diameter: 170 mm, but the greatest dimension may not be less than 100 mm.</p>
	above 20 g	123.75	0.40	247.5	0.81	37	0.12		
	up to 100 g	225	0.74	450	1.47	67.5	0.22		
	above 100 g	405	1.32	810	2.65	121.5	0.40		
	up to 250 g	675	2.21	1350	4.41	202.5	0.66		
	above 250 g	945	3.09	1890	6.17	283.5	0.93		
Literature for the blind	see article 17							7 kg	
Small packets	up to 100 g	123.75	0.40	247.5	0.81	37	0.12	1 kg (this limit of weight may be raised to 2 kg after agreement between the administrations concerned)	
	above 100 g	225	0.74	450	1.47	67.5	0.22		
	up to 250 g	405	1.32	810	2.65	121.5	0.40		
	above 250 g	675	2.21	1350	4.41	202.5	0.66		
	up to 500 g	945	3.09	1890	6.17	283.5	0.93		
	above 500 g								