



Dear Sir/Madam,

At its 2019.1 session, the Postal Operations Council (POC), in accordance with article 113.1.13 of the General Regulations as well as article 17 of the POC Rules of Procedure, examined and approved certain proposed amendments to the Convention Regulations and to the Final Protocol to the Convention Regulations, which are set out in Annex 1.

The following table shows the numbers and titles of the relevant articles of the aforementioned Acts of the Union, as further detailed in Annex 1 (articles presented in numerical order). The amendments will enter into force on the dates indicated below.

The International Bureau also takes this opportunity to inform Union member countries and their designated operators that a second circular notifying them of all other amendments to the Convention Regulations and to the Final Protocol to the Convention Regulations approved at the 2019.1 session of the POC (for entry into force in 2020 or 2021) will be published shortly.

Convention Regulations and Final Protocol

Volume II Letter Post Regulations

<i>Article</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Entry into force</i>
17-116	Exchange of format-separated mails	1 August 2019
30-116	Statistical counts for exchanges of mail between designated operators of countries in the target system	1 August 2019
R XVIII	Bags	1 August 2019

Yours faithfully,

Ricardo Guilherme Filho
 Director of Legal Affairs

Convention Regulations and Final Protocol to the Convention Regulations

Volume II Letter Post Regulations

Article 17-116
Exchange of format-separated mails

The following paragraph 2.0bis was created, and paragraph 11 was amended:

2 Exchanges between countries in group I

2.0bis The size of a flow shall be based on the last four approved consecutive quarters.

2.1 Mails shall be prepared and dispatched in separate receptacles for each of the three formats (P, G, E) to destinations where the annual outward volume of mails dispatched, excluding M bags, is above 50 tonnes. For volumes below this threshold mixed mails may be prepared.

11 The discontinuation of the making up of format-separated mails shall be notified by 30 ~~November~~ September and shall take effect on 1 January of the following year and subsequent years.

Date of entry into force: 1 August 2019.

Article 30-116
Statistical counts for exchanges of mail between designated operators of countries in the target system

The following paragraphs 3.3 and 10 were created, and paragraph 7 was amended:

3 For mail flows to, from, and between designated operators of countries in the target system as of 2010 and later, a statistical count shall be carried out as follows:

3.1 for countries in the target system as from 2010 and 2012, above the threshold of 50 tonnes;

3.2 for countries in the target system as from 2016, above the threshold of 75 tonnes for the 2018–2020 period and above 50 tonnes for the year 2021;

3.3 the size of a flow shall be based on the last four approved consecutive quarters.

7 Each designated operator shall notify the corresponding designated operator of its sampling programme design decisions, including estimation approach, at least ~~two~~ three months in advance of the observation period.

10 When sampling has been carried out in accordance with the thresholds in paragraph 3, the results from the sampling shall be used for settling the accounts.

Date of entry into force: 1 August 2019.

Prot. Article R XVIII
Bags

The following paragraph 3bis was created:

3bis Notwithstanding article 17-119.2.10, Finland reserves the right to limit the weight of mailbags containing letter-mail items to 20 kilogrammes.

Date of entry into force: 1 August 2019.