



Dear Sir/Madam,

At its extraordinary session of 26 September 2019, 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 that are consequential to the approval of various amendments to the Universal Postal Convention adopted by the third Extraordinary Congress on 25 September 2019 and which enter into force on 1 January 2020.

The following table shows the numbers and titles of the articles concerned, as shown in Annex 1 (articles presented in numerical order). The amendments enter into force on the dates indicated below.

### **Convention Regulations**

#### **Volume II**

#### **Letter Post Regulations**

<i>Article</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Entry into force</i>
17-107	Special provisions applicable to each category of items	1 January 2020
17-116	Exchange of format-separated mails	1 January 2020
30-107	Calculation of the rates of terminal dues for countries applying articles 29.5 to 15 of the Convention	1 January 2020
30-108	Conditions applying to the notification of the reference charges for the calculation of terminal dues	1 January 2020
30-116	Statistical counts for exchanges of mail between designated operators of countries in the target system	1 January 2020
30-113	Request for payment specific to bulk mail	1 January 2020
30-117	Statistical counts for exchanges of format-separated mails in the transition system	1 January 2020

Yours faithfully,

Bishar A. Hussein  
Director General

## Convention Regulations

### Volume II

#### Letter Post Regulations

##### Article 17-107

Special provisions applicable to each category of items

Paragraph 8 was amended as follows:

8 Bulk mail

8.1 Bulk items shall be characterized by:

8.1.1 the receipt, in the same mail or in one day when several mails are made up per day, of 1,500 or more items posted by the same sender;

8.1.2 the receipt, in a period of two weeks, of 5,000 or more items posted by the same sender;

8.1.3 the receipt from a country, in a period of four weeks, of mails whose total weight is composed of at least 90% of bulky (E) or small packet (E) letter-post items, provided that the total weight of such mail received has increased by more than 50% compared to the same four weeks the year before.

8.2 Under the terms of ~~this article 8.1.1 and 8.1.2~~, the sender of the bulk items shall be considered to be the person or organization that actually posts the items. For 8.1.3, the sender of the bulk items shall be considered to be the designated operator.

8.3 If need be, for 8.1.1 and 8.1.2, the sender may be identified by any common characteristic of the items or any indication made on the items (for example, return address, name, mark or stamp of the sender, postal authorization number, etc.).

##### Article 17-116

Exchange of format-separated mails

Paragraphs 4 and 12 were amended as follows:

4 Exchanges between countries in group III and between these countries and countries in group I and II.

4.1 Mails shall be prepared and dispatched in at least two separate types of receptacles, one for formats P and G combined and one for E, to destinations where the annual outward volume of mails dispatched, excluding M bags, is above the following thresholds:

4.1.1 75 tonnes in 2018, and 2019 ~~and 2020~~;

4.1.2 50 tonnes in 2020 and 2021.

12 Designated operators of countries in the transitional ~~terminal dues~~ system, ~~of countries in group IV~~ and of countries joining the target system as of 2018 may choose to exchange format-separated mails following the same conditions as the target system countries, as set out in paragraphs 2 or 3 and 4, and 5 to 11.

#### Article 30-107

The title and paragraph 6 were amended as follows:

Calculation of the rates of terminal dues for countries applying articles 29.5 to 15 and 30.4 to 5 of the Convention

6 Other than for the 2020 terminal dues rates applicable to bulky (E) and small packet (E) letter-post items, the terminal dues rates calculated in accordance with paragraphs 4 and 5 shall be proportionally adjusted so that they do not lead to an increase of more than 13% in the terminal dues revenue for an item of 37.6 grammes for small (P) and for large (G) letter-post items and for an item of 375 grammes for bulky (E) and small packet (E) letter-post items, compared with the previous year.

#### Article 30-108

Conditions applying to the notification of the reference charges for the calculation of terminal dues rates

The following new paragraph 9 was created:

9 In accordance with article 28bis.6bis of the Convention, any initial self-declared rates beginning with effect from 1 July 2020 shall be furnished to the International Bureau no later than 1 March 2020, and the resultant initial rates shall thereafter be published by the International Bureau by 1 April 2020. For the initial rates set on 1 July 2020, the International Bureau shall use the average monthly exchange rate of the period from 1 August 2019 to 31 December 2019.

## Article 30-113

## Request for payment specific to bulk mail

Paragraphs 1, 3 and 4 were amended as follows:

- 1 The designated operator of destination shall be authorized to request the application of the payment specific to bulk mail when it establishes:
  - 1.1 the receipt, in the same mail, or in one day when several mails are made up per day, of 1,500 or more items posted by the same sender;
  - 1.2 the receipt, in a period of two weeks, of 5,000 or more items posted by the same sender;
  - 1.3 in the case of items received from countries (designated operators) with terminal dues accounting and billing on the basis of a rate per kilogramme only, the receipt, in a period of four weeks, of mails whose total weight is composed of at least 90% of bulky (E) or small packet (E) letter-post items.
- 3 Notwithstanding the provisions under 2.1, the designated operator of destination shall be authorized to apply with immediate effect the payment specific to bulk mail when it establishes:
  - 3.1 the receipt, in the same mail, or in one day when several mails are made up per day, of 3,000 or more items posted by the same sender;
  - 3.2 the receipt, in a period of two weeks, of 10,000 or more items posted by the same sender;
  - 3.3 in the case of items received from countries with terminal dues accounting and billing on the basis of a rate per kilogramme only, the receipt, in a period of four weeks, of mails whose total weight is composed of at least 90% of bulky (E) or small packet (E) letter-post items and which represents a 50% increase in the total weight of such mail received in the same four weeks the year before.
- 4 The designated operator of destination that wishes to apply the payment specific to bulk mail with immediate effect shall:
  - 4.1 if based on provision 3.1 or 3.2, notify the designated operator of origin within three working days of the receipt of the bulk mail. This notification shall be in the form of a verification note specifying the dispatch number, date of dispatch, origin office of exchange, destination office of exchange and a photocopy of a sample of the mail pieces in question, sent by fax or electronic means to the special address provided for in article 34-001.2.

4.2 if based on provision 3.3, notify the sending designated operator that it will check, for a period of four weeks, the composition of the mail, to determine the percentage of total weight of bulky (E) or small packet (E) letter-post items. After this period, if the conditions in 3.3 are met, the bulk mail rates can be charged, provided that the total weight of such mail received has increased by more than 50% compared to the same four weeks the year before.

#### Article 30-116

Statistical counts for exchanges of mail between designated operators of countries in the target system

Paragraph 3 was amended and paragraph 4 was deleted as follows:

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 (No change.)

3.2 for countries in the target system as from 2016, above the threshold of 75 tonnes for the ~~2018-2020 period~~ years 2018 and 2019 and above 50 tonnes for the years 2020 and 2021;

3.3 (No change.)

~~4 The average number of items per kilogramme applied between countries of the transition system shall be applied to mail flows below the threshold of 75 tonnes.~~

#### Article 30-117

Statistical counts for exchanges of format-separated mails in the transition system

A new paragraph 0bis was created:

0bis For mail exchanges to, from and between countries of the transition system, the average number of items per kilogramme shall be applied for flows below the threshold of 100 tonnes in the years 2020 and 2021.