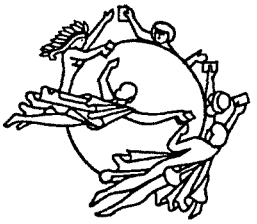
Translation from French



Universal Postal Union

Compendium of Congress decisions (Paris 1947–Washington 1989)

Valid at end of 1989 Washington Congress

Berne 1991

International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union

Congress resolutions, decisions, recommendations, formal opinions, etc, should be quoted as follows:

Decision C 1/Paris 1947
Resolution C 1/Brussels 1952
Recommendation C 1/Ottawa 1957
etc

Introduction

1 The present Compendium was prepared in application of resolution C 1/Lausanne 1974, which instructed the Director-General of the International Bureau to update the Compendium of Congress Decisions after each Congress.

2 This Compendium consists of the following parts:

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3 In order to prepare this publication, the International Bureau took as a basis the decisions other than those amending the Acts which were published as such in the Final Documents of the 1947 Paris, 1952 Brussels, 1957 Ottawa, 1964 Vienna, 1969 Tokyo, 1974 Lausanne, 1979 Rio de Janeiro, 1984 Hamburg and 1989 Washington Congresses, excluding those which were no longer valid at the end of the 1989 Washington Congress.

4 All the decisions taken at the 1989 Washington Congress can be considered valid until the opening of the 21st Congress in 1994.

5 Lastly, the International Bureau has established certain criteria for eliminating all the resolutions and decisions which are now of no further practical value, although they are still technically valid. They refer either to reports which have been approved or to questions the study of which has been either concluded or abandoned or are no longer of any real value.

Classification key

1 General affairs of the Union
1.1 Member countries
1.2 Political questions
1.3 General Debate and Action Plan
1.4 Miscellaneous

2 Acts of the Union
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2.2 Constitution
2.3 General Regulations
2.4 Convention
2.4.1 Questions common to the various international postal services
2.4.2 Letter post
2.4.3 Transit charges and terminal dues
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		General policy on public information	Resolution C 101/1979	285
		World Post Day	Resolution C 32/1984	285

List in numerical order of the resolutions, decisions, recommendations, formal opinions, etc, valid at end of the 20th Congress

Type and number of decision		Title	Classification key
Paris Congress			
Decision	C 1/1947	Agreement between the UN and the UPU. Interpretation	6.2
Decision	C 2/1947	Agreement between the UN and the UPU. Article IV – Recommendations of the UN	6.2
Decision	C 3/1947	Agreement between the UN and the UPU. Article XVI – Revision	6.2
Decision	C 6/1947	Exchange of international reply coupons	2.4.2
Decision	C 8/1947	Check of mails	2.4.2
Decision	C 11/1947	Air conveyance. Steps to be taken in the event of an accident	2.4.4
Decision	C 14/1947	Interpretation of the expression "offices of exchange in direct contact"	2.5
Decision	C 16/1947	Sale of or trade in postage stamps	2.4.1
Recommendation	C 7/1947	Liability for the loss of a registered item	2.4.2
Formal opinion	C 4/1947	Choice of representatives of member countries of the Executive and Liaison Committee (now EC)	3.3
Formal opinion	C 12/1947	Air conveyance dues	2.4.4
Brussels Congress			
Decision	C 5/1952	Exchange of reply coupons for stamps on which a supplement is payable	2.4.2
Decision	C 15/1952	Insured articles in roll form	2.4.2
Decision	C 20/1952	Cumbersome parcels	2.5
Resolution	C 1/1952	Opinions, interpretations and formal opinions adopted by a Congress	2.1
Resolution	C 2/1952	United Nations postal administration	6.2
Formal opinion	C 3/1952	Grouping of replies to advertisements	2.4.2
Formal opinion	C 7/1952	Omission of the green label on unsealed items	2.4.2
Formal opinion	C 8/1952	Maximum weight of bags	2.4.2
Formal opinion	C 9/1952	Acceptance of mails which have arrived in a damaged state	2.4.1
Formal opinion	C 11/1952	Administrations' work methods	2.4.1
Formal opinion	C 16/1952	Cancellation of non-postal charges on parcels for prisoners of war levied by non-postal bodies	2.5
Formal opinion	C 18/1952	Reduction in the number of customs declarations	2.5
Ottawa Congress			
Decision	C 2/1957	Perishable biological substances. Cooperation with WHO	2.4.1 – 6.3
Decision	C 5/1957	Reimbursement of the indemnity to the administration which has made the payment	2.4.2
Resolution	C 7/1957	"Union Postale"	3.5.2
Resolution	C 17/1957	Relief Fund	3.5.1
Recommendation	C 1/1957	Perishable biological substances. Instructions and publicity for postal staff and users	2.4.1

Type and number of decision		Title	Classification key
Recommendation	C 4/1957	Exemption from customs duty	2.4.1
Recommendation	C 9/1957	Faster mail conveyance	2.4.1
Recommendation	C 13/1957	International letter-writing week	6.5
Formal opinion	C 8/1957	Envelopes with transparent panels	2.4.2
Formal opinion	C 14/1957	Subjects of postage stamps	2.4.1

Vienna Congress

Resolution	C 9/1964	Provident Scheme of the Universal Postal Union	3.5.1
Resolution	C 23/1964	Freedom of transit	2.4.1
Recommendation	C 1/1964	Accession to the Agreements	2.1
Recommendation	C 4/1964	Periodicals sent to the International Bureau by administrations	3.5.2
Recommendation	C 5/1964	International letter-writing week	6.5
Recommendation	C 6/1964	Reduction in rate for book catalogues	2.4.2
Recommendation	C 7/1964	Application of reduced rates to promote the distribution of newspapers, books and magazines	2.4.1
Recommendation	C 8/1964	List of documents published by the International Bureau	3.5.2
Recommendation	C 9/1964	Dispatch of International Bureau circulars to administrations	3.5.2
Recommendation	C 10/1964	Registered items originating abroad	2.4.2
Formal opinion	C 2/1964	Counterfeit stamps and franking impressions	2.4.1
Formal opinion	C 5/1964	Adhesive bands for the sealing of printed papers	2.4.2
Formal opinion	C 6/1964	Measures in favour of teaching by correspondence	2.4.2
Formal opinion	C 7/1964	Indications to be given by the date-stamp	2.4.1
Formal opinion	C 9/1964	Use of form AV 8	2.4.4
Formal opinion	MP 1/1964	Accession to the Postal Money Orders Agreement	2.6

Tokyo Congress

Resolution	C 11/1969	General policy on public information	6.5
Resolution	C 17/1969	Financial consequences of proposals involving expenditure for the Union until the next Congress	4
Formal opinion	C 20/1969	Contributions to the UPU Special Fund	4 – 5.3
Resolution	C 26/1969	Application of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples	6.2
Resolution	C 32/1969	Preparation of documents published by the International Bureau	3.5.2
Formal opinion	C 34/1969	Election of the Doyen of Congress	3.2
Formal opinion	C 50/1969	Apportionment of responsibility between postal administrations	2.4.2
Recommendation	C 51/1969	Exception to the principle of liability	2.5
Recommendation	C 65/1969	Uniformity of presentation of figures in accounts	2.4.1
Formal opinion	C 67/1969	Letter-writing competition for young people	6.5
Formal opinion	C 69/1969	Fifth freedom	2.4.4
Recommendation	C 78/1969	Combined charges	2.4.4

Type and number of decision		Title	Classification key
Lausanne Congress			
Resolution	C 1/1974	Publication of the Resolutions and decisions other than those amending the Acts (recommendations, formal opinions, etc)	2.1 – 3.5.2
Resolution	C 2/1974	Exclusion of the Republic of South Africa from the 17th Congress of the UPU and from all other Congresses and meetings of the Universal Postal Union	1.1
Resolution	C 3/1974	Participation by national liberation movements in the meetings of the UPU	1.2 – 3.2
Resolution	C 4/1974	Assistance to national liberation movements	1.2
Resolution	C 11/1974	Distribution of Executive Council seats	3.3
Resolution	C 18/1974	Representation of the members of the Executive Council and of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies at meetings held during Congress	3.3 – 3.4
Resolution	C 19/1974	Representation of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Executive Council at meetings of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies, and conversely, representation of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies at meetings of the Executive Council	3.3 – 3.4
Resolution	C 22/1974	Form of the publication "Postal Statistics"	3.5.2
Resolution	C 32/1974	Union practice concerning reservations	2.1
Resolution	C 37/1974	Legal and technical possibilities of maintaining postal relations in cases of disputes, conflict or war	2.4.1
Resolution	C 38/1974	Relations between the UPU and the Restricted Unions	5.1 – 6.1
Formal opinion	C 55/1974	Circulation of bags	2.4.1
Formal opinion	C 59/1974	Strengthening the neck-hems of airmail bags	2.4.4
Resolution	C 60/1974	Affirmation of the principles of freedom of transit with regard to so-called "hijacking" activities	2.4.4
Recommendation	C 63/1974	Security of valuable items conveyed by the Post: general security and protection measures at offices of exchange and airports	2.4.1 – 2.4.4
Resolution	C 68/1974	Revision of the weighted average distance of conveyance of parcels in transit	2.5
Recommendation	C 70/1974	Exception to the principle of liability	2.5
Recommendation	C 79/1974	Increased participation by developing countries in the preparation and implementation of technical assistance programmes	5.1
Recommendation	C 83/1974	Faster implementation of UPU projects under the UNDP	5.2
Resolution	C 84/1974	Reimbursement of programme support costs resulting from UPU participation in the UNDP	5.2
Recommendation	C 86/1974	Recruiting of UPU experts	5.1
Formal opinion	C 88/1974	Letter-writing competition for young people	6.5
Decision	C 92/1974	Representation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU)	1.2 – 3.2 – 3.3 – 3.4

Type and number of decision		Title	Classification key
Rio de Janeiro Congress			
Resolution	C 5/1979	Illegal issue of postage stamps	2.4.1
Resolution	C 6/1979	Expulsion of the Republic of South Africa from the UPU	1.1
Resolution	C 7/1979	Participation by the League of Arab States in the meetings of the UPU	1.2 – 3.2 – 3.3 – 3.4
Formal opinion	C 8/1979	Manufacture and use of international service forms	2.4.1
Formal opinion	C 10/1979	Advice of delivery	2.4.1 – 2.5
Resolution	C 11/1979	Information to be supplied by administrations	2.6
Decision	C 20/1979	Compensation (Postal Parcels Agreement, Final Protocol, article IX)	2.5
Formal opinion	C 22/1979	Preparation of card money orders	2.6
Decision	C 32/1979	Air surcharges	2.4.4
Resolution	C 34/1979	Priority accorded to airmails by the airlines	2.4.4
Resolution	C 40/1979	Notification by administrations of the information to be supplied on the subject of the execution of the international postal parcels services and applicable from the entry into force of the Postal Parcels Agreement	2.5
Resolution	C 43/1979	Functions of the Executive Council, CCPS and International Bureau as regards technical cooperation	5.1
Formal opinion	C 46/1979	Communications and information to be forwarded to the International Bureau	2.4.1
Formal opinion	C 47/1979	Writing of addresses	2.4.1
Formal opinion	C 49/1979	List of Addresses, Heads and Senior Officials of Postal Administrations and the Restricted Unions	3.5.2
Resolution	C 51/1979	Conditions of service of elected officials	3.5.1
Resolution	C 52/1979	Retirement pensions of elected officials	3.5.1
Resolution	C 55/1979	Creation of a telegraphic code to announce the suspension or resumption of services	2.4.1
Formal opinion	C 61/1979	Information to be supplied by administrations (Postal Parcels Agreement, Detailed Regulations, article 101)	2.5
Recommendation	C 63/1979	Marking of registered items	2.4.2
Recommendation	C 68/1979	Admission of infectious substances	2.4.1
Recommendation	C 70/1979	Speeding up of the handling of airmail on the ground	2.4.4
Formal opinion	C 71/1979	Speeding up of the handling of airmail on the ground	2.4.4
Recommendation	C 72/1979	Settlement of airmail accounts	2.4.4
Recommendation	C 76/1979	Safety of staff involved in handling items presumed to be dangerous (mail bombs)	2.4.1
Recommendation	C 77/1979	UPU member country identification code for postal and other uses	2.4.1
Formal opinion	C 81/1979	Return of C 27 trial notes	2.4.1
Resolution	C 82/1979	Future of postal services	1.3
Recommendation	C 85/1979	Reproduction of postage stamps already issued by another administration	2.4.1
Resolution	C 91/1979	Amendment of the UN–UPU Agreement	6.2
Recommendation	C 93/1979	Choice of themes for postage stamps	2.4.1
Formal opinion	C 95/1979	Preparation of AV 3 and AV 4 statements of weight and AV 5 detailed statements	2.4.4
Resolution	C 101/1979	General policy on public information	6.5
Resolution	C 106/1979	Introduction of Chinese, German, Portuguese and Russian for the supply of documents	2.3

Type and number of decision		Title	Classification key
Hamburg Congress			
–		Declaration of Hamburg on the role of the UPU in the integration of national postal networks	1.3
Resolution	C 7/1984	Exclusion of the Republic of South Africa from the UPU	1.1
Recommendation	C 13/1984	Development of the postal financial services, particularly the international postal money order service	2.6
Formal opinion	C 16/1984	Shipping infectious substances by post	2.4.1
Recommendation	C 20/1984	Packaging used for the conveyance of postal items	2.4.1
Recommendation	C 23/1984	Technical assistance with regard to international payments	2.4.1 – 5.1
Resolution	C 24/1984	Technical characteristics and information concerning the use of the MP 1bis and MP 12bis forms deposited with the International Bureau	2.6
Resolution	C 26/1984	Postal monopoly	2.4.1
Recommendation	C 27/1984	Choice of themes for postage stamps	2.4.1
Recommendation	C 29/1984	Greater participation of the developing countries in the work of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies	3.4
Resolution	C 30/1984	Quality control	1.3
Resolution	C 32/1984	World Post Day	6.5
Resolution	C 34/1984	Contacts with international organizations representing customers of the postal services	6.4
Resolution	C 35/1984	New edition of certain Union publications	3.5.2
Recommendation	C 36/1984	Clearing up of arrears by means of the International Bureau's clearing system	4
Formal opinion	C 40/1984	Customs treatment of postal items: International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures (Kyoto Convention)	2.4.1 – 6.4
Recommendation	C 43/1984	Airmail correspondence in transit à découvert: number of average rates per group of countries of destination	2.4.4
Recommendation	C 44/1984	Speeding up of airmail in transit à découvert	2.4.4
Recommendation	C 48/1984	Acceptance of advice of non-delivery	2.5
Resolution	C 51/1984	Technical characteristics of the postcheque form and postcheque guarantee card deposited with the International Bureau	2.6
Formal opinion	C 55/1984	Closed mails in transit suspected of containing narcotics or psychotropic substances	2.4.1
Resolution	C 56/1984	Study on international postal regulations	2.1
Resolution	C 63/1984	Reproduction of documents in Chinese, German, Portuguese and Russian	2.3
Recommendation	C 68/1984	Bundling of standardized items	2.4.2
Resolution	C 69/1984	Make-up of mails	2.4.2
Resolution	C 70/1984	Direct transhipment of airmails between different airlines	2.4.4
Recommendation	C 71/1984	Settlement of airmail accounts	2.4.4
Decision	C 72/1984	Jurisdiction of the Union – Interpretation of article 3, b, of the Constitution	2.2
Resolution	C 73/1984	Reservations to the Acts of the Union	2.1
Resolution	C 74/1989	Summary of the main amendments to the UPU Acts and of the major decisions taken by Congress	2.1
Formal opinion	C 76/1984	Checking of mails and use of verification notes	2.4.2
Formal opinion	C 78/1984	Manufacture and use of international service forms	2.4.1
Resolution	C 81/1984	Forms of the Agreements concerning the postal financial services	2.6
Resolution	C 83/1984	Address area on the layout key for trade documents	2.4.2

Type and number of decision		Title	Classification key
Resolution	C 87/1984	Immediate application of the provisions adopted by Congress relating to the Executive Council (EC) and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies (CCPS)	3.3 – 3.4

Washington Congress

Resolution	C 1/1989	Immediate application of the new legislative powers of the EC	2.1 – 3.3
Resolution	C 2/1989	Second phase of the transfer to the EC of some of the legislative functions of Congress	2.1
Resolution	C 3/1989	Postal Financial Services and Subscriptions to Newspapers and Periodicals Agreements abolished. Possibility of their being retained or reintroduced	2.6
Resolution	C 4/1989	Committee to coordinate the work of the Union's permanent bodies	3.1
Resolution	C 5/1989	Permanent control of the quality of service worldwide	1.3 – 2.7
Resolution	C 6/1989	UPU technical assistance priorities and principles	5.1
Resolution	C 7/1989	Financing UPU technical assistance activities	5.1
Resolution	C 8/1989	Subsequent improvement of the management of the Union's work	3.1
Resolution	C 9/1989	Approval of the Union's accounts for 1984–1988	4
Resolution	C 10/1989	Regulations for printed papers	2.4.2
Resolution	C 11/1989	Reconstitution of the CCC–UPU (Customs Co-operation Council–Universal Postal Union) Contact Committee and establishment of national postal-customs contact committees	6.4
Resolution	C 12/1989	Action to enhance the security of international mail and to preserve its integrity	2.4.1
Resolution	C 13/1989	Universal logo to identify the postal services	2.4.1
Resolution	C 14/1989	Study of the structure of the Convention, the Agreements and their Detailed Regulations	2.1
Resolution	C 15/1989	Standardization of the conditions of admission and supplementary services provided in the postal parcels service	2.5
Resolution	C 16/1989	Introduction and extension of the postal parcels service	2.5
Resolution	C 17/1989	Universal rate for land and sea rates	2.5
Resolution	C 18/1989	Revision of land and sea rates	2.5
Resolution	C 19/1989	CCPS work programme for 1989–1994	3.4
Resolution	C 20/1989	Technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC)	5.1
Resolution	C 21/1989	Increased UPU presence in the field with regard to technical assistance	5.1
Resolution	C 22/1989	Permanent project to safeguard and enhance the quality of and to modernize the international postal service	1.3 – 2.7
Resolution	C 23/1989	Aid provided by the Government of the Swiss Confederation in the field of the Union's finances	4
Resolution	C 24/1989	Cooperation between the Executive Council and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies towards the establishment of telematics in the Universal Postal Union	6.4
Resolution	C 25/1989	EMS	2.4.5

Type and number of decision		Title	Classification key
Resolution	C 26/1989	Harmonization of systems of accounting for transit charges for closed surface letter and surface parcel mails	2.4.3 – 2.5
Resolution	C 27/1989	Development of a range of postal parcel products/services suited to the demands of the international market	2.5
Resolution	C 28/1989	UPU action on behalf of the least developed countries (LDCs)	5.1
Resolution	C 29/1989	Guidelines to be emphasized in UPU technical assistance activities	5.1
Recommendation	C 30/1989	Deadlines for replies to questionnaires	2.4.1
Recommendation	C 31/1989	Use in the postal services of paper manufactured using non-polluting processes ("ecological" paper)	2.4.1
Recommendation	C 32/1989	Items for delivery free of charges and fees	2.4.1
Recommendation	C 33/1989	Conclusion of bilateral agreements on service targets	2.4.2
Recommendation	C 34/1989	Packaging used for the conveyance of postal items	2.4.1
Recommendation	C 35/1989	Return to origin of airmail correspondence	2.4.4
Recommendation	C 36/1989	Use of the EDIFACT electronic message rules of syntax	2.4.1 – 6.4
Recommendation	C 37/1989	Use of the UN Trade Data Elements Directory	2.4.1 – 6.4
Decision	C 38/1989	Admission of the Press to the General Debate	3.2
Decision	C 39/1989	Vice-chairmanships of the 20th Congress	3.2
Decision	C 40/1989	Chairmanship and vice-chairmanships of the Committees of the 20th Congress	3.2
Decision	C 41/1989	Members of the restricted Committees	3.2
Decision	C 42/1989	Approval of the Comprehensive Report on the work of the Executive Council 1984–1989	3.3
Decision	C 43/1989	Approval of the Comprehensive Report on the work of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies 1984–1989	3.4
Decision	C 44/1989	Approval of the Director-General of the International Bureau's Report 1985–1989	3.5.2
Decision	C 45/1989	Relations with the United Nations and other international organizations	6.2
Decision	C 46/1989	Make-up of items containing goods not to be opened without special precautions	2.4.1
Decision	C 47/1989	Marking of parcels containing goods which should not be exposed to radiographic control or to the light	2.5
Decision	C 48/1989	Institution of a general debate	3.2
Decision	C 49/1989	Venue of the 21st Universal Postal Congress	3.2
Decision	C 50/1989	Implementation by the specialized agencies of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples	6.2
Decision	C 51/1989	Postal financial service (POSTFIN) telegrams	2.6
Decision	C 52/1989	Preparation and settlement of parcel-post accounts	2.5
Formal opinion	C 53/1989	Representation of the members of the Executive Council	3.3
Formal opinion	C 54/1989	Closed mails in transit suspected of containing narcotics or psychotropic substances	2.4.1
Resolution	C 55/1989	New presentation of the List of Prohibited Articles	3.5.2
Resolution	C 56/1989	Revision of the scales and permanent study of transit charges	2.4.3
Resolution	C 57/1989	Study of a weighted average distance per country for mails in land transit	2.4.3
	C 58/1989	Number not allocated	
Resolution	C 59/1989	Study on transit charges for à découvert mail	2.4.3
Resolution	C 60/1989	Liquidation of accounts in arrears under the former financing system	4
Resolution	C 61/1989	Clearing up of accounts of all kinds in arrears	4

Type and number of decision		Title	Classification key
Resolution	C 62/1989	World Post anthem	1.4
Resolution	C 63/1989	Use of a symbol for literature for the blind	2.4.2
Resolution	C 64/1989	Indication of the reason for delayed delivery of items on the C 9 inquiry form	2.4.1
Resolution	C 65/1989	Exclusion of dangerous goods from airmail	2.4.4
Resolution	C 66/1989	Basic documents for entering the weights to be taken into consideration for the settlement of accounts of mail subject to transit charges and terminal dues	2.4.3
Resolution	C 67/1989	Reinforcement of the priority activities of the Union	3.1
Resolution	C 68/1989	Preparation and settlement of accounts	2.4.1
Resolution	C 69/1989	Improvement of postal services in rural areas	2.4.1
Resolution	C 70/1989	Expansion of International Bureau offsetting arrangements	2.4.1
Resolution	C 71/1989	Methods for improving the return of empty mailbags	2.4.1
Resolution	C 72/1989	Permanent study on terminal dues	2.4.3
Resolution	C 73/1989	Basic airmail conveyance rate	2.4.4
Recommendation	C 74/1989	Bundling of "flat" envelopes	2.4.2
Recommendation	C 75/1989	Use of appropriate bundling materials	2.4.2
Recommendation	C 76/1989	Increased containerization of mails	2.4.1
Recommendation	C 77/1989	Reservations to chapter III of the Universal Postal Convention and part III of the Postal Parcels Agreement dealing with liability	2.4.2
Recommendation	C 78/1989	Reserving terminal dues revenue for the purpose of improving the quality of the postal service	2.4.3 – 2.7
Recommendation	C 79/1989	Standardized electronic messages for dispatches	2.4.1
Recommendation	C 80/1989	Philatelic code of ethics for the use of UPU member countries	2.4.1
Decision	C 81/1989	Entry into force of the Acts of the 1989 Washington Congress	2.1
Decision	C 82/1989	Labelling of mails	2.4.1
Decision	C 83/1989	Transfer of mails	2.4.1
Decision	C 84/1989	Study on rationalizing UPU forms	2.4.1
Decision	C 85/1989	Transit charges for à découvert mail	2.4.3
Decision	C 86/1989	Consequences of the use of the SDR as accounting unit	2.4.1
Decision	C 87/1989	Preparation and settlement of accounts	2.4.1
Decision	C 88/1989	Remailing	2.4.2
Decision	C 89/1989	Revision of the Postal Parcels Agreement subsequent to the Washington Congress – References to the Convention	2.5
Decision	C 90/1989	International business reply service	2.4.1
Resolution	C 91/1989	Washington General Action Plan	1.3 – 2.7
Resolution	C 92/1989	Approval of Detailed Regulations considered by Congress	2.1
Decision	C 93/1989	Election of the Director-General and the Deputy Director-General of the International Bureau of the UPU	3.5.1
Decision	C 94/1989	Use of other methods of transferring funds in the postal financial services	2.6

1 General affairs of the Union

1.1 Member countries

Resolution C 2/Lausanne 1974

Exclusion of the Republic of South Africa from the 17th Congress of the UPU and from all other Congresses and meetings of the Universal Postal Union

Congress,

Considering

i the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

ii United Nations General Assembly resolutions 1904 (XVIII) of 20 November 1963 and 1905 (XVIII) of 21 November 1963;

iii United Nations General Assembly resolution 2396 (XXIII) of 2 December 1968 concerning the policies of apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa, as mentioned in communication CE 1969 – Doc 2/Add 2 to the UPU Executive Council;

iv United Nations General Assembly resolution 2426 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968 appealing to all the specialized agencies and to all international organizations to take the necessary steps to stop all financial, economic, technical and other aid to the Government of South Africa until it abandons its policy of racial discrimination, as mentioned in the same communication to the UPU Executive Council;

v United Nations General Assembly resolution 2923 (XXVII) of 20 December 1972 concerning the policy of racial discrimination of the Government of South Africa (part D, paragraph 3, and part E, paragraphs 11 and 12) as mentioned in communication CE 1973 – Doc 4/Add 1/ Annex 4 to the UPU Executive Council;

vi United Nations General Assembly resolution 3151 (XXVIII) condemning this policy of racial discrimination practised by the regime of South Africa;

vii resolution 31 of the 1973 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference excluding the Government of the Republic of South Africa from that Conference and from all other conferences and meetings of the International Telecommunication Union;

viii the preamble to the UPU Constitution;

ix the fact that South Africa, despite its belonging to the United Nations and to the specialized agencies, persists in following a policy based on racial discrimination and oppression;

x that, in so doing, the Government of South Africa is deliberately violating the United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the fundamental principles of the Universal Postal Union, to all of which it freely acceded;

xi that, by so doing, South Africa has of its own accord excluded itself in law from the international community,

Aware
that it is scarcely possible to negotiate and sign an agreement with the delegation of a Government which practises racial discrimination and persists in violating international agreements,

Recalling
the decision of the 1964 Vienna Congress concerning the expulsion of South Africa, and resolution C 2 of the 1969 Tokyo Congress concerning the expulsion of South Africa,

Condemns

vigorously the policy of apartheid and the oppressive measures practised by the South African Government,

Contests

the minority representation of the South African Government and consequently,

Decides

to exclude the Government of the Republic of South Africa from the 17th Congress and from all other congresses or meetings of the UPU.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 892 and 1484)

Resolution C 6/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Expulsion of the Republic of South Africa from the UPU

Congress,

In view of
Lausanne Congress resolution C 2 entitled "Exclusion of the Republic of South Africa from the 17th Congress of the UPU and from all other Congresses and meetings of the Universal Postal Union" (attached*),

Considering
that this country persists in its policy of apartheid, contrary to the unanimous will of all free nations,

Decides

to expel the Republic of South Africa from the Universal Postal Union.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1162, 1729)

* Annex reproduced above.

Resolution C 7/Hamburg 1984

Exclusion of the Republic of South Africa from the UPU

Congress,

In view of
resolution C 2 of the 1974 Lausanne Congress concerning the exclusion of the Republic of South Africa from the 17th Congress of the UPU and from all other Congresses and meetings of the Universal Postal Union,

In view of
resolution C 6 of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress concerning the expulsion of the Republic of South Africa from the UPU,

In view of
International Bureau circular 200 of 29 June 1981 announcing the accession of the Republic of South Africa to the UPU in application of article 11, paragraph 1, of the Constitution of the Union,

Considering
that the said country is still applying its obnoxious policy of apartheid contrary to the unanimous will of all free nations,

Reaffirms

its unqualified condemnation of the obnoxious policy practised by the racist, minority government of the Republic of South Africa,

Reaffirms

the validity of resolution C 6 of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress,

Confirms

that the Republic of South Africa is excluded from the Union until a future Congress of the UPU decides otherwise,

Decides

that the Republic of South Africa cannot take advantage of its status as a member of the United Nations to obtain readmission to the Union as long as it continues to practise its policy of apartheid.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II, pages 53 to 84, 178)

1.2 Political questions

Resolution C 3/Lausanne 1974

Participation by national liberation movements in the meetings of the UPU

Congress,

Recalling
United Nations General Assembly resolution 3118 (XXVIII) requesting the specialized agencies to take all necessary measures to ensure that national liberation movements are represented at meetings of the specialized agencies,

Recalling further
a resolution 29 of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (Malaga–Torremolinos) 1973 agreeing to the participation, as observers, of national liberation movements recognized by the regional inter-governmental organizations in the conference and meetings of the ITU;
b resolution 13/17 of the FAO Conference requesting the Director-General of the FAO to take the necessary measures, through the Organization of African Unity, to facilitate immediate participation by national liberation movements in its meetings;
c resolution A 27/38 of the 27th World Health Assembly extending an invitation to representatives of national liberation movements recognized by the regional inter-governmental organizations concerned,

Convinced
that participation by national liberation movements in the meetings and other activities of the UPU would ensure an improvement in the living conditions of the peoples in liberated areas,

Aware
that such participation would contribute subsequently to the economic and social development of these liberated territories placed under the control of liberation movements,

Decides

that national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity or by the League of Arab States may attend UPU Congresses as observers.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 916 to 920)

Resolution C 4/Lausanne 1974

Assistance to national liberation movements

Congress,

Recalling
United Nations General Assembly resolution 3118 (XXVIII) urging all specialized agencies of the United Nations to render, as a matter of urgency, all possible moral and material assistance to the colonial peoples in Africa struggling for their liberation from colonial rule and requesting all specialized agencies in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity and through it, to work out and implement concrete assistance programmes to the peoples of Angola, Mozambique, Southern Rhodesia and Namibia, including in particular the peoples in the liberated areas of those territories and their national liberation movements,

Recalling further
a paragraph 8 of the same resolution recommending all governments to intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and to accord priority to the question of providing assistance on an emergency basis to peoples in the colonial territories and to their national liberation movements; and

b paragraph 9 urging the executive heads of the specialized agencies to formulate and submit to their respective governing bodies, as a matter of priority and with the active cooperation of the OAU concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant United Nations decisions,

Decides

to instruct the Executive Council of the UPU and the International Bureau to take all steps calculated to give concrete material help to those movements.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 921 to 923)

Decision C 92/Lausanne 1974

Representation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU)

Congress,

Decides

to admit the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to take part, as an observer, in the work of the 17th Universal Postal Congress and in all future meetings of the bodies of the UPU.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 872 to 875)

Resolution C 7/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Participation by the League of Arab States in the meetings of the UPU

Congress,

Considering
that the League of Arab States is an international organization at Arab government level,

Considering
the collaboration and cooperation which exist between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,

Considering
that participation by the League of Arab States in the work of UPU bodies is of special interest to the UPU, now and in the future,

In view of
resolution C 3 of the 1974 Lausanne Congress concerning national liberation movements recognized by the League of Arab States,

Decides

to agree that the League of Arab States may participate as an observer at all the meetings of UPU bodies, starting with the 18th Congress.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1183, 1212, 1731)

1.3 General Debate and Action Plan

Resolution C 82/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Future of postal services

Congress,

Considering
i the important role of the Post as a factor in economic, social and cultural development;
ii the socio-economic developments of recent years, which are tending to unsettle the traditional relationships between the Post and its users, in particular because of the constant rise in the cost of manpower (on which the Post is necessarily dependent) and growing competition from private transport undertakings;
iii the fundamental and rapid technical progress in the electronic communications field, which seems to mark the beginning of a new era for the exchange of information and the transfer of funds; and
iv the consequences for the Post and, more especially, for the community at large, if the Post cannot cope with these developments and evolve in order to meet the demands of tomorrow's world,

Aware
that, even if there is no universal solution, the problems arising for the Post as a result of these developments are being, or will be, felt everywhere,

Recalling
the usefulness of the colloquia held in September 1978 in Tokyo, which provided the opportunity for an initial exchange of views, ideas and experiences within the UPU on some of these problems, and,

Convinced
– of the supreme importance of jointly following up, in the interests of all postal administrations, this action within the UPU to supplement the corresponding studies which are being, or may be, undertaken elsewhere; and
– that in order to derive the maximum benefit from a coordinated study within the UPU of all these interrelated problems, it is useful to highlight administrations' main concerns about the future development of the Post,

Taking account
of the study carried out by the International Bureau on postal development,

Decides

i to instruct the CCPS to concern itself systematically, as its principal task, with the various aspects of the future development of the Post, taking the conclusions of the discussions into account, and to report periodically to the administrations of the Union on the matter;
ii to draw administrations' attention to the need for the postal service to follow closely the development of the different forms of electronic mail in the context of its natural vocation which requires it to promote the exchange and spread of communications.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1228, 1794)

Declaration of Hamburg on the role of the UPU in the integration of national postal networks

Congress,

In view of
- the general discussion held in Hamburg on 26 and 27 June 1984 on "Changes in the Post in view of the development of the communications market";
- the need to improve the standard and speed of international mail circulation and postal exchanges;
- the role which the UPU can play with a view to solving common problems,

Whereas
- the member countries of the Union comprise a single postal territory for the reciprocal exchange of letter-post items;
- the aim of the UPU is to secure the organization and improvement of the postal services and to promote in this sphere the development of international collaboration;
- the UPU takes an active part in technical cooperation;
- the Post is an essential factor in the economic, social and cultural development of member countries,

Considering
- the growing competition which administrations have to face particularly in sectors not protected by the postal monopoly;
- the need to adapt postal services better to the development of customer needs bearing in mind the possibilities offered by the new technologies particularly in telecommunications;
- the need to develop and reinforce relations between the Post and its clientele in order to retain or gain its trust and improve the Post's image;
- the interdependence of national postal networks and the need to integrate them better, with a view to making mail circulation and postal exchanges throughout the world more efficient, faster and more reliable,

Aware
of the advantages and possibilities residing in:
- an extensive potential market for the Post, a market which might be further expanded by modernization and rationalization, by the use of new technologies, by the introduction of new services (eg, international high-speed mail) and by improving the standard of the traditional postal services;
- the existence of a vast network of post offices and offices of exchange covering the whole world;
- the very close links often existing between the Post and telecommunications;
- the provision by a number of postal administrations of financial and banking services,

Formally declares

that the UPU must actively participate in strengthening the international postal service as a whole and in improving the standard and speed of international mail circulation and postal exchanges by taking the following specific measures:
- collecting information on the standard of the postal service on a world scale, making a permanent analysis of the situation, establishing and keeping up to date documentation identifying the weak points of the world postal network and possibly giving rise to recommendations calculated to improve the situation;
- strengthening solidarity and cooperation among all administrations, promoting concerted action and pooling information on the standard and regularity of international mail circulation and postal exchanges;
- intervening, in case of necessity, with postal administrations, other national authorities and carriers with a view to improving the situation;
- taking into consideration, as applicable, the weak points discovered in the postal network as the basis for concerted technical cooperation;
- making governments and users more aware of the need to make the Post a dynamic undertaking which contributes to the smooth running of the economy, and giving it the structural and financial means necessary for its conversion;
- expanding the UPU's field of activity and also taking part in establishing new services through the annual work of its bodies (EC and CCPS);
- introducing more flexibility into international postal regulations with a view to facilitating the rapid adaptation of postal services to the new needs, in relation with the study assigned for that purpose to the EC by Congress;
- contacting a number of other international organizations or bodies and strengthening, in particular, cooperation with the ITU in the field of new transmission techniques,

Invites

administrations and the Restricted Unions to make every effort towards the attainment of the above-mentioned objectives,

Instructs

the Executive Council, the Consultative Council for Postal Studies and the International Bureau to take, without delay, within the framework of their own responsibilities, the appropriate practical measures to attain the above-mentioned objectives, and to report to the next Congress on the results and experience gained and submit to it appropriate proposals, as applicable.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 203, 204)

Resolution C 30/Hamburg 1984

Quality control

Congress,

Recalling
the deliberations at the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress concerning the future of the Post and, in particular, the expressions of concern at the seemingly precarious position of the postal business in the face of technological developments in rival communications businesses as well as direct competition from private organizations providing parallel postal services,

Noting
that in the course of the deliberations at the Congress the view was expressed by a number of administrations that it was necessary to be vigilant in the maintenance and improvement of service standards in order to enhance the reputation of the postal service as a viable and reliable means of communication,

Noting further
that in the subsequent studies carried out by the CCPS concerning the future of the Post, in the execution of the 1979–1984 work programme, a strong view emerged to the effect that the efficient operation of the postal service, at standards coincident with customer expectation, should be of paramount concern to all postal administrations as they survey their business futures,

Considering
the study carried out by the CCPS, in the course of its 1979–1984 work programme, on quality controls in respect of collection, counter, sorting and delivery operations, which set out to determine the nature of work performance monitoring controls employed by administrations,

Noting
that it emerges from the general conclusions reached in the study that, while some administrations have developed quite effective quality control systems in the various operational phases, an alarming absence of effective quality controls was nevertheless also noted,

Being informed
of the view expressed by the CCPS to the effect that administrations have an urgent need to review their quality control policies,

Considering
that the efficiency of the postal operation depends particularly on the accurate execution of basic functions by postal staff and that, in the process of striving to meet service standards, it is vital for postal administrations to utilize effective work performance monitoring controls as a means of maintaining, improving and measuring efficiency,

Urges

postal administrations:

a to recognize the close relationship that exists between effective quality control and the viability of the postal business at all levels of operation, making it possible in particular to meet customer requirements;

b to examine the effectiveness of their various quality control systems (or measures) and their capacity to provide satisfactory results; where necessary, to take steps to strengthen and improve these systems (or measures) in the interests of securing for the Post a stronger position on the communications market.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 158, 178, 601)

Resolution C 5/Washington 1989

Permanent control of the quality of service worldwide

Congress,

Noting
- the encouraging results of the transmission-time monitoring operations resulting from the implementation of the Declaration of Hamburg;
- the great interest aroused by these operations among the member countries,

Considering
that improving the quality and speed of mail circulation and international exchanges is a priority objective in order to safeguard the public image of the Post, effectively combat competition from private couriers and provide a response to remailing firms,

Convinced
of the ability of administrations to bring about a substantial and lasting improvement in the quality of their mail circulation through increased vigilance in the organization and operation of the services and coordinated monitoring activities,

Requests

all postal administrations urgently:
- to evaluate the effectiveness of their different quality control systems and their capacity to give satisfactory results, and, where applicable, to take steps to strengthen and improve these systems;
- to monitor systematically, with their own facilities, the handling times for international mail (inward and outward) in their services in accordance with a fixed and adequate frequency;
- to take an active part in the monitoring operations organized by the International Bureau;
- to take immediately, where appropriate, such correction measures as may improve the quality of the service, in the interests of ensuring the Post a stronger position on the communications market,

Requests

the Restricted Unions to do everything in their power to facilitate the attainment of the aforementioned objectives,

Instructs

the International Bureau:
- to continue its regular monitoring of mail transmission times worldwide;

- to submit, to this end, for the approval of the CCPS, a methodology based on:
  - the Declaration of Hamburg;
  - the wide experience acquired over the last four years by the UPU, the Restricted Unions and postal administrations, and which will as far as possible lead to the establishment of international mail circulation standards;
- to approach administrations or services responsible for the delays and shortcomings noted in order that the necessary correction measures may be taken quickly;
- if need be, to help administrations improve the situation;
- to establish as soon as possible such a control system for the world EMS network,

Instructs

the Executive Council and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies to follow the work arising from this resolution and to take such measures as they may deem necessary.

(Proposal 013, 10th plenary meeting; Congress-Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 22 Washington/1989

Permanent project to safeguard and enhance the quality of and to modernize the international postal service

Congress,

Considering
the particularly rapid development of the communications market under the combined effect of technological progress and powerful competition,

Noting
the encouraging results of the efforts made following the Declaration of Hamburg to improve the quality of mail circulation,

Recognizing
the need for the Union to advance further along the path of concrete action in order to enable the Post to safeguard and improve its position on the communications market, thanks to a determined campaign to promote service quality and diversify the services rendered,

Convinced
of the urgent necessity for the Post to respond better to customers' requirements and thereby to combat the competition more vigorously,

Decides

in favour of implementing a permanent project to safeguard and enhance the quality of and to modernize the international postal service, comprising in particular the following activities:
- monitoring the quality of postal exchanges through detailed analysis of transmission times and action by consultants in the field to help solve the problems arising and promote initiatives to improve the performance of the international postal service;

- transport flow studies to rationalize and modernize postal links;
- development of EMS;
- monitoring the competition in order to react appropriately;
- market research enabling administrations to adjust services to customer needs and introduce new services;
- various initiatives dictated by evolving technologies and needs,

Instructs

the Executive Council, in cooperation with the CCPS and the International Bureau, to take the measures necessary to attain meaningful results in the various fields covered by the project and to submit a report to the next Congress,

Exhorts

a the member countries of the Union:
   - to do everything in their power to improve the quality of the postal services rendered and to extend the range of those services in accordance with the customers' needs;
   - to cooperate fully in the project designed to stimulate their initiatives and to reap the maximum benefit from the implementation of the activities undertaken;

b the member countries and the Restricted Unions to give active support to the operations embarked upon under this project, especially those conducted in the field.

(Proposal 010, 10th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 91/Washington 1989

Washington General Action Plan

Congress,

In view of

the Washington General Debate held on 16 November 1989 on the topic of "Caring for the customer – Commercial and operational strategies of the Post",

Considering
- the development and diversification of the communications market and commercial exchanges;
- the effect of deregulation in transport and communications and the reduction of the postal monopoly in many member countries;
- the increased intensity of competition on postal markets;
- the urgent need to obtain a better knowledge of the market in terms of its composition, groups of customers and services offered;

- the need to adapt quickly to the development of supply and demand in services from the commercial and technical points of view;
- the importance of ensuring more commercially-orientated management in order to be able to maintain and improve the quality of traditional services which are obviously of a public nature,

Bearing in mind
- all aspects of the Declaration of Hamburg, particularly the action designed to make governments and users more aware of the need to make the Post a dynamic undertaking which contributes to the smooth running of the economy and to give it the structural and financial means necessary for its transformation;
- the decisions taken by the various regional conferences, particularly those of the Ministers and Directors-General;
- the need to act internationally as a single postal business subject to the competition law applicable,

Approves

the attached Washington General Action Plan,

Appeals urgently

to Governments to give the Post a modern legal status and management system guaranteeing it adequate independence and sufficient human and financial resources on a cost-effective basis,

Exhorts

administrations to make every effort to:
i achieve the following priority objectives:
   a to obtain from their Governments and implement the legal status and management system that will provide them with the human and financial resources needed for running a dynamic business;
   b to know the market better and to monitor the competition with a view to increasing the competitive position of postal products;
   c to respond more satisfactorily to customers' needs in terms of tariff systems, quality of service, the range of services provided and customer care;
   d to strengthen the international Post in terms of mutual support, more suitable legislation and standards of service, as well as technical support and cooperation activities;
ii cooperate within the UPU in providing coordinated quality postal services;
iii implement without delay the activities contained in the Washington General Action Plan, taking account of the priorities and timetable set by the Union's bodies;
iv continuously monitor and periodically assess the extent to which the Action Plan is being implemented, and report thereon from time to time to the Executive Council through the International Bureau,

Calls on

the Restricted Unions:
i to keep the Washington General Action Plan very much in mind in their postal development programme;
ii to establish priorities at their level;
iii to keep the International Bureau informed of their initiatives and of the results obtained in implementing the Action Plan,

Instructs

the Executive Council (EC), the Consultative Council for Postal Studies (CCPS) and the International Bureau:

- to take without delay, within the framework of their authority, appropriate measures to prioritize, to achieve the objectives set and to implement the activities contained in the Washington General Action Plan;
- to monitor the application of the Action Plan, particularly at meetings of the Coordination Committee;
- to report to the next Congress on the results and experience gained;
- to submit relevant proposals to the next Congress.

(Congress – Doc 48.2, 13th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.3, 16th meeting)

Annex 1

20th UPU Congress – Washington 1989

WASHINGTON GENERAL ACTION PLAN

I. Principal objectives

The Washington Congress, recognizing the increasing competition in the communications market and the impetus which this provides for increased efficiency, along with our customers' demands for greater service reliability and better value for money, agrees that the following actions are essential for the future survival of efficient postal services:

1 Governments are urged to ensure that the Post has a legal status and an independent management system and resources, necessary for it to provide efficient postal services to meet customer needs.

2 Postal administrations must create market-led cultures where the customer commands top priority; this must be reflected in all policy decisions and operating arrangements.

3 Specifically, all member countries of the UPU must give the highest consideration to providing service excellence in all postal services and products, both nationally and internationally.

4 The UPU must do everything in its power to encourage Governments and administrations to achieve these objectives, and to give each other mutual support and cooperation to attain them. Specifically, this priority must feature prominently in the work programmes of the EC, the CCPS and the International Bureau.

Individual action points aimed at achieving these objectives are given in part III "Objectives and actions" of this Plan.

II. Setting priorities for the actions

Congress has agreed that all the actions contained in this Plan are important. It will not, however, be possible for all administrations to implement all of these actions immediately, as some administrations have only limited resources, and some of the actions can only be achieved over a certain time scale.

In selecting which of these activities to undertake, administrations must first of all bear in mind the objectives listed in part I of this Plan.

If administrations do not have sufficient resources, then it is essential that they encourage their governments to modernize and improve their legal status. This may take some time, and administrations may need to maintain constant pressure on their governments to achieve this.

Nonetheless, there are some actions which can be implemented quickly, and relatively cheaply, by every administration, in order to monitor and improve the quality given to basic services. These must be the first priority of all administrations. Other actions can proceed simultaneously and in parallel, according to the resources of each administration.

All actions must be based above all on two essential principles:
- meeting the needs of customers;
- improving the quality of service.

III. Objectives and actions

Objectives		Actions		Responsibility[1]
A.	**Knowledge of the market**			
A.1	To achieve a better knowledge of the various components of the communications market: - characteristics of all key market segments - services provided - customer needs - competition	A1.1	Prepare and implement a programme of contacts with customers and market research to obtain continuing data on: - groups of customers, their degree of satisfaction and wishes - competitors, their market shares, organization and methods - market trends	Adm, CCPS, RU
		A1.2	Increase the exchange of market research data between administrations and strengthen inter-administration cooperation in undertaking multilateral or regional market studies	Adm, IB, RU
		A1.3	Develop manager training in the use of market research data and customer care practices	Adm, RU
B.	**Commercial strategies**			
B.1	To respond to customer needs	B1.1	Expand the range of services and adapt it to the needs expressed by customers, particularly EMS, electronic mail, parcels, priority/non-priority systems and financial services, subject to the need for the services to be cost-effective	Adm

[1] This column indicates the entities responsible for the actions. The abbreviations used are:

Adm = Administration
CC = Coordination Committee
CCPS = Consultative Council for Postal Studies
EC = Executive Council
Gvt = Member country's Government
IB = International Bureau
RU = Restricted Unions

Objectives		Actions		Responsibility
		B1.2	Promote the services and products provided	Adm
		B1.3	Establish commercial and marketing policies, with qualified specialist staff to implement them	Adm
B.2	To adopt a service and tariff policy geared to customer needs in line with the market situation	B2.1	Make national and international service conditions more flexible and adaptable to changing market conditions	Adm
		B2.2	Develop services to meet specific customer needs, eg collection from cusomer's premises and delivery direct to addressee's address	Adm
		B2.3	Develop flexible, cost-related tariff structures in line with market conditions, eg contract rates for major customers and discounts for pre-sorting by the customer	Adm
		B2.4	Apply fair and cost-related inter-administration payment/ compensation arrangements	Adm, EC, RU
B.3	To lay down the principles for the attitude to be adopted towards the competition	B3.1	Define the attitude to be adopted towards the competition on the basis of precise policies and principles, subject to the competition law in force	Adm, Gvt
B.4	To specify the constraints of a public service and the corresponding compensations within the framework of the Post's missions	B4.1	Define the constraints of a public service and the corresponding compensations in the form of privileges or financial contributions	Adm, Gvt
B.5	To implement commercial customer relations programmes based on the best existing practice	B5.1	Introduce specially staffed Customer Care units designed to give quick and accurate responses to customer inquiries and complaints	Adm
		B5.2	Make information about services and tariffs readily available to customers	Adm
		B5.3	Establish staff with special responsibilities for contact with major customers – "one-stop shopping"	Adm
		B5.4	Reduce bureaucratic procedures in customer relations	Adm, EC, IB
C.	**Quality of service and operational strategies**			
C.1	To survey traffic and monitor quality in order to: – expedite mail circulation – strengthen the security of items – promote delivery to the addressee's address	C1.1	Define, apply and update standards offering customers an impeccable quality of service	Adm, CCPS, EC, IB, RU
		C1.2	In the domestic and the international service, provide and continuously improve high-quality postal services for all categories of items to meet customer demand for reliable, consistent and cost-effective services, in order to protect the basic postal activity	Adm

Objectives		Actions		Responsibility
		C1.3	Implement a traffic surveillance programme to detect and correct malfunctioning and introduce a tracking system for items and mails	Adm, CCPS, RU
		C1.4	Provide international links for mail circulation networks and constantly review the reliability of the circuits	Adm, CCPS, EC, IB, RU
		C1.5	Give equal priority to domestic and international mail so as to apply the concept of a single business	Adm
		C1.6	Make optimum use of all rapid transport means, avoiding wherever possible regular use of inefficient carriers	Adm
		C1.7	Reduce customs formalities and control and lengthy hold-ups in Customs by making best use of national and local "Post-Customs" Contact Committees	Adm, Gvt
C.2	To ensure rational use of available means	C2.1	Hold costs and tariffs at competitive levels by cutting overheads and simplifying procedures	Adm
		C2.2	Make optimum use of human resources and automation	Adm
		C2.3	Assign dedicated financial and human resources to EMS	Adm
C.3	To modernize operational systems	C3.1	Modernize operatioinal methods and tools	Adm
		C3.2	Develop telematics applications	Adm
D.	**Management independence**			
D.1	To provide the administrative and financial management independence necessary to run the business	D1.1	Have a status ensuring sufficient independence to allocate responsibility for management of human and financial resources and the possibilities of obtaining them	Adm, Gvt
		D1.2	Have sufficient resources to run the business, whether raised internally or externally	Adm, Gvt
D.2	To make more flexible and adapt the monopoly and national regulations and define a rates policy	D2.1	Have a status providing protection for certain categories of products under a defined monopoly tailored to circumstances, and introduce a system for monitoring its application	Adm, Gvt
D.3	To have long-range corporate plans and policies that serve as guides for ongoing activities	D3.1	Define the basic objectives for the postal services	Adm
		D3.2	Prepare and implement plans with clearly identified actions, accompanied by quantified and measureable targets, costs, benefits, and deadlines	Adm

Objectives		Actions		Responsibility
E.	**Human resources**			
E.1	To modernize staff recruitment, employment and management systems	E1.1	Recruit and employ staff on similar terms to those in industry generally	Adm, Gvt
		E1.2	Pay staff on a level comparable with similar sectors of the country's or region's economic activity	Adm, Gvt
		E1.3	Introduce incentive and motivational machinery, eg promotion, productivity bonuses	Adm
		E1.4	Make a point of establishing good relations with the trade unions	Adm
E.2	To adapt training to the needs for users bearing in mind, in particular, the commercial function of the Post	E2.1	Provide permanent training	Adm
		E2.2	Introduce a targeted training plan, particularly for operations, administrative and financial management, market research and marketing	Adm
E.3	To strengthen the internal communications system in the business	E3.1	Introduce information machinery which is constantly monitored so as to change behaviour, create team spirit and strengthen staff support for the action taken	Adm
F.	**Increased role of UPU permanent bodies**			
F.1	To ensure implementation of the Action Plan bearing in mind the authority assigned and the resources available	F1.1	Clearly allocate between the EC, the CCPS and the IB responsibilities and procedures for implementing and monitoring progress of the Action Plan	CC
		F1.2	Adopt an international decision-making procedure ensuring fast reaction capability	EC, IB, RU
		F1.3	Urge administrations to take all necessary measures to obtain from their Governments corporate legal status and management independence	EC, RU
		F1.4	Create a data base of market information at the International Bureau	CCPS, EC, IB
F.2	To take, as required, urgent measures between Congresses in relation to commercial and technical developments and to make international postal legislation and regulations more flexible	F2.1	Draw up and implement procedures for urgent measures	CCPS, EC
		F2.2	Have international postal legislation and regulations modernized and made more flexible	CCPS, EC
F.3	Technical cooperation: – to have a technical assistance programme in training, operations, commercial activities and management systems – to strengthen and develop technical cooperation	F3.1	Set up an integrated network for exchange of information by telematics	CCPS, EC
		F3.2	Support and provide technical cooperation activities aimed at assisting administrations to achieve the objectives and implement the actions of the Plan	CCPS, EC, IB, RU

1.4 Miscellaneous

Resolution C 62/Washington 1989

World Post anthem

Congress,

Considering
the necessity of furthering action to foster a greater sense of identity among postal employees of the UPU's territory,

Believing
that this action will make a significant, if not decisive, contribution to the closer identification of postal employees with their institution and to the furtherance of the aim of strengthening and proclaiming the fundamental postulates of the Post: safety, speed and regularity,

Instructs

the Executive Council to examine, in cooperation with the International Bureau, the possibility of holding a competition to create a World Post anthem (words and music).

(Proposal 014, Committee 3, 6th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

2 Acts of the Union

2.1 General

Resolution C 1/Brussels 1952

Opinions, interpretations and formal opinions adopted by a Congress[1] [2]

The 13th Congress, meeting at Brussels, considers and formally declares that the opinions, interpretations and formal opinions relating to the Acts of the Union, adopted by various Congresses and referred to in the minutes of the meetings, do not have the same legal value as the Acts to which they apply. The purpose of these opinions, interpretations, etc, is to facilitate, where necessary, the interpretation of the Convention and the Agreements.

(French Documents of the 1952 Brussels Congress – volume II: pages 141, 317, 318)

[1] Gen Regs (Washington 1989), art 101, para 5.
[2] See resolution C 1/Lausanne 1974.

Recommendation C 1/Vienna 1964

Accession to the Agreements[1]

A number of member countries do not sign the UPU Agreements relating to certain optional services even though these services exist in their countries. Instead they conclude bilateral Agreements with other member countries in order to regulate this service at the international level. There results from this, rules which differ from those of of the UPU and a certain slowing down in the performance of postal operations. Congress therefore recommends that member countries should consistently sign all the Acts of the Union which concern a branch of the postal service existing in these countries.

(French Documents of the 1964 Vienna Congress – volume II: pages 658, 1347)

[1] Formal opinion MP 1/Vienna 1964; resolution C 88/Tokyo 1969.

Resolution C 1/Lausanne 1974

Publication of the Resolutions and decisions other than those amending the Acts (recommendations, formal opinions, etc) adopted by Congress

Congress,

Recalling
the interpretation of the Vienna Congress that the expression "decisions taken by Congress" in article 101, paragraph 5, end, of the General Regulations, includes not only decisions which are the subject of a provision introduced into the Acts but also any other form of decision, such as opinions, formal opinions, resolutions and interpretations concerning the application of the Acts and the operation of the bodies of the Union,

Considering
resolution C 1 of the 1969 Tokyo Congress, by virtue of which the International Bureau published a Compendium of Congress decisions (Paris 1947–Tokyo 1969),

Recommends

the Government of the host country of Congress to notify to the Governments of the member countries of the Union at the same time as the definitive Acts of Congress the other decisions adopted by the latter,

Instructs

the Director-General of the International Bureau:
a to publish in the definitive documents of each Congress all the decisions adopted by that Congress;
b to bring the Compendium of Congress decisions up to date after each Congress.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 959 and 960)

Resolution C 32/Lausanne 1974

Union practice concerning reservations

Congress,

Considering
on the one hand, article 22, paragraph 6, of the Constitution and, on the other hand, the practice observed thus far in the matter of reservations,

Confirms

the principle according to which reservations to the Acts of the Union must be made in the Final Protocols to these Acts, either on the basis of a proposal approved by Congress, or in accordance with the procedure governing the amendment of the Acts between Congresses, and that, upon

admission or accession to the Union, new member countries may continue to benefit from reservations in the Final Protocols which were applicable to them previously in their capacity as part of a Union member country or because they were attached to the Union under article 3, b and c, of the Constitution.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 989, 1244 to 1246)

Resolution C 56/Hamburg 1984

Study on international postal regulations

Congress,

Observing
the development of new services offered by an increasing number of postal administrations in addition to those provided for and regulated by the Acts of the Union,

Aware
that after a necessary experimental phase it becomes essential to harmonize the operational procedures of each new service,

Considering
that it is even more important for these new services than for the traditional postal services to be able to adapt very quickly to the changing needs of customers,

Considering
that this trend, a mark of the Post's vitality, must not be hindered by a rigid codification of the rules for operating the services,

Considering
the heavy task involved in updating the Acts of the Union, for which Congress alone is at present empowered, and the consequent long delays for the most minor amendment to them,

Considering also
that the difficulties hitherto encountered in efforts to remedy this situation may spring from the conceptual approach of the technical Acts of the Union as at present drafted,

Instructs

the Executive Council to study a different conceptual approach and presentation for the international regulations, particularly those which will have to be drawn up for the introduction of new services, with a view to:
- facilitating their flexible application by postal administrations;
- speeding up their amendment as the need arises, particularly when fundamental principles are not involved; and
- eliminating systematic recourse to Congress for such amendment.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 283, 284, 297)

Resolution C 73/Hamburg 1984

Reservations to the Acts of the Union

Congress,

Concerned
to ensure that international postal services are provided in so far as possible in all member countries in accordance with the uniform regulations and conditions prescribed in the Acts of the Union,

Recognizing
the inalienable right of member countries to formulate reservations to the said Acts within the framework of the provisions in effect, in order to take account of their national peculiarities or other considerations,

Convinced
that minimizing the number of reservations would be in the interest of the member countries of the Union, as a whole,

Requests

the member countries of the Union to resort to the possibility of formulating reservations to the Acts only in cases of absolute necessity,

Instructs

the International Bureau to invite the member countries, before each Congress, to reconsider their reservations appearing in the Final Protocols to the Acts of the Union.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II; pages 191, 339)

Resolution C 74/Hamburg 1984

Summary of the main amendments to the UPU Acts and of the major decisions taken by Congress

Congress,

Considering
the large number of decisions adopted by every Congress which have subsequently to be incorporated in the postal legislation or regulations of all Union member countries,

Noting
that this represents a heavy workload, in particular for the postal administrations of the developing countries,

Taking the view
that it is greatly desirable to make means of facilitating this work available to administrations,

Instructs

the International Bureau to publish a summary of the main amendments to the UPU Acts and of the major decisions taken by Congress.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 191, 339)

Resolution C 1/Washington 1989

Immediate application of the new legislative powers of the EC

Congress,

In view of
the new legislative powers of the EC contained in articles 22, paragraph 5, and 25, paragraph 2, of the Constitution; 102, paragraph 6, 109, paragraph 2, 120, paragraph 3, 121, paragraph 2, 122, paragraph 2, and 123 of the General Regulations; 93, paragraph 2, of the Convention; 57, paragraph 2, of the Postal Parcels Agreement; 13, paragraph 3.2, of the Money Orders Agreement; 17, paragraph 3.2, of the Giro Agreement and 9, paragraph 2.2, of the COD Agreement,

Taking account
of the rapid developments in technology and in the needs of society,

Believing
that it is urgent and necessary, in order to safeguard the postal service, to respond in an appropriate manner as quickly and effectively as possible to the challenges from aggressive competition,

Considering
that any delay would be likely to compromise the effectiveness of the action to be taken and render the decisions obsolete,

Decides

to bring the provisions relating to the new legislative powers of the EC into force immediately.

(Proposal 01, 8th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 2/Washington 1989

Second phase of the transfer to the EC of some of the legislative functions of Congress

Congress,

Having noted with satisfaction
the results of the EC study on the international postal regulations,

Having approved
the new legislative powers of the EC with regard to Detailed Regulations,

Aware
that this is an initial phase but that the ultimate aim is for Congress to retain authority to legislate directly only on constitutional matters and basic questions concerning the international postal service,

Mindful
of the policy lines and the new philosophy emanating from the general debate on caring for the customer: commercial and operational strategies of the Post,

Instructs

the Executive Council to continue its search for a different conception and presentation of the international regulations so that they can be adapted more speedily to requirements without recourse to Congress when fundamental principles are not at stake, taking account, inter alia, of the interests of countries which are not EC members.

(Proposal 02, Committee 3, 3rd meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 14/Washington 1989

Study of the structure of the Convention, the Agreements and their Detailed Regulations

Congress,

In view of
the ever-increasing need for flexibility and adaptability of the Universal Postal Union in the light of external circumstances and pressures,

Welcoming
the work already done by the Executive Council to improve the work methods of the Union,

Noting
the intentions for further activities in this direction,

Considering
the need for clear, simple and adaptable rules for the operation of the international postal services,

Believing
however, that the Detailed Regulations of the Convention and the Agreements no longer meet this need adequately,

Instructs

the Executive Council:

i to undertake a study of the Convention, the Agreements and their Detailed Regulations, with the purpose of determining:
   - which provisions are essential to the Convention and Agreements, and which are not proper to them and should be moved elsewhere;

- how the Detailed Regulations, together with any provisions currently in the Convention or Agreements which it is deemed are not proper to them, could be recast into logically constructed operational manuals, which explain in clear and direct language how the international postal service is operated;

ii to decide whether such operational manuals need to have a legal status and, if so, what simplest form is possible;

iii to start work on the preparation of such operational manuals, once it has decided on the form they should take;

iv to submit the results of this work to the next Congress, together with proposals on how the operational manuals will be kept up to date.

(Proposal 2000.19, Committee 3, 3rd meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Decision C 81/Washington 1989

Entry into force of the Acts of the 1989 Washington Congress

Congress

Decides

to fix the date of entry into force of the Acts of the 20th Congress at 1 January 1991.

(Proposal 08, 11th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 92/Washington 1989

Approval of Detailed Regulations considered by Congress

Congress,

In view of
the new legislative powers of the Executive Council,

Taking account of
its resolution C 1 through which it decided on the immediate application of the provisions concerning the new legislative powers of the Executive Council,

Instructs

the Executive Council to give final approval to the Detailed Regulations which it has considered, namely:

- Convention, Detailed Regulations;
- Postal Parcels Agreement, Detailed Regulations;
- Money Orders Agreement, Detailed Regulations and Final Protocol;
- Giro Agreement, Detailed Regulations;
- Cash-on-Delivery Agreement, Detailed Regulations.

(Congress – Doc 78.3, 16th meeting; Congress – Doc 88, 16th plenary meeting)

2.2 Constitution

Decision C 72/Hamburg 1984

Jurisdiction of the Union – Interpretation of article 3, b, of the Constitution

Congress

Decides

that the term "post offices set up by member countries in territories not included in the Union" contained in article 3, b, of the Constitution shall henceforth designate post offices established by member countries in territories which are uncontrolled or jointly possessed, or internationalized by the international community.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 191, 335 to 339)

2.3 General Regulations

Resolution C 106/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Introduction of Chinese, German, Portuguese and Russian for the supply of documents

Congress,

In view of
article 107, paragraphs 1 and 6, of the General Regulations,

Decides

i that the costs to be borne by the Union for the reproduction of documents in Chinese, German, Portuguese and Russian shall not exceed 50 000 Swiss francs a year for each language group;

ii that, within the limits of the ceiling thus fixed, the said language groups may use the services of the International Bureau in so far as this does not entail major complications for the reproduction of documents in French, Arabic, English and Spanish.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1093, 1094, 1252, 1410, 1417)

Resolution C 63/Hamburg 1984

Reproduction of documents in Chinese, German, Portuguese and Russian

Congress,

In view of
article 107, paragraphs 1 and 6, of the General Regulations,

Taking into account
the genuine need for the reproduction of documents in Chinese, German, Portuguese and Russian,

Decides

that the amount of costs to be borne by the Union for the reproduction of documents in these languages shall not exceed the sum of 150 000 Swiss francs a year per language group.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 191, 322, 323)

2.4 Convention

2.4.1 Questions common to the various international postal services

Decision C 16/Paris 1947

Sale of or trade in postage stamps[1]

The sale of and trade in postage stamps is a purely internal matter. Each State shall make provision for it in the light of its own position in this matter.

(French Documents of the 1947 Paris Congress – volume II: pages 323, 1115)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 10.

Formal opinion C 9/Brussels 1952

Acceptance of mails which have arrived in damaged condition[1]

The Acts of the Union state that mails shall be handed over in good condition, but that a mail may not be refused because of damage. This obligation to accept a mail which has arrived accidentally damaged is justified by the need not to delay the mail. However, if numerous items arrive on repeated occasions in a damaged state owing to dilapidated bags and in spite of the administrations concerned having been notified, this obligation would appear excessive.

To obviate the disadvantages of such a situation, Congress asks administrations to give the necessary instructions to their services to ensure that in international exchanges only bags in good condition are used.

(French Documents of the 1952 Brussels Congress – volume II: pages 144, 610, 615)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 169, para 8.

Formal opinion C 11/Brussels 1952

Administrations' methods of work[1]

Union member countries shall strive to standardize the methods of work of their administrations by adapting them wherever possible to those of the international service.

(French Documents of the 1952 Brussels Congress – volume II: pages 144, 319)

[1] Const, art 24.

Recommendation C 1/Ottawa 1957

Perishable biological substances. Instructions and publicity[1] **for postal staff and users**

1 Administrations are recommended to issue clear and appropriate instructions or directives and if necessary to arrange for simple publicity or instructional campaigns in order to:

a explain to postal, transport and customs officials the nature and principal characteristics of perishable biological substances, and the precautions to be taken in handling them and to prevent, where necessary, any contamination during conveyance;

b ask the personnel concerned to avoid any delay at any stage of the conveyance of the said products.

2 Furthermore, the officials concerned must inform senders of perishable biological substances and any other persons involved as to:

a the marking, packing and labelling of such substances as prescribed in the Acts of the Universal Postal Union and, where applicable, in the internal regulations of the countries concerned;

b methods of dispatch or routeing which, in each specific case, would best ensure speed and safety, for example for registered airmail letters and items;

c the advantages of airmail and "express" services to ensure rapid distribution of the said products;

d the advantages offered by the "free of duty" procedure in speeding up formalities regarding postal or customs duties payable on the substances in question.

(French Documents of the 1957 Ottawa Congress – volume II: pages 63, 453, 761)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 23.

Decision C 2/Ottawa 1957

Perishable biological substances. Cooperation with WHO[1]

1 Congress repeats the recommendations of the 1952 Brussels Congress, asking WHO to inform the public health services of its Member States that the difficulties noted in connection with the postal conveyance of perishable biological substances might be solved or more clearly defined if details were communicated to their postal administration and, where necessary, to the UPU and possibly to WHO.

2 It considers that, as a result of consequent cooperation both at national and international levels between the administrations concerned as well as with medical and scientific circles, these recommendations remain valid not only for the purposes of the inquiry opened by the UPU, but also for the solution of all difficulties which may arise in future in the conveyance of the products in question.

3 Congress decides, consequently, that the insertion into the UPU Acts of the note stating the terms of the recommendations concerned should be maintained as one of the means of furthering the solution of the problem and, in particular, the application of the provisions governing perishable biological substances adopted by the Ottawa Congress.

(French Documents of the 1957 Ottawa Congress – volume II: pages 63, 453, 761)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 23.

Recommendation C 4/Ottawa 1957

Exemption from customs duty[1]

Administrations undertake to use their good offices with the appropriate national authorities to ensure that books, catalogues, newspapers and periodicals shall not, in view of their cultural value, be subject to customs duty.

(French Documents of the 1957 Ottawa Congress – volume II: pages 64, 458)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 44.

Recommendation C 9/Ottawa 1957

Faster mail conveyance[1]

In order to speed up the transport of mails, postal administrations may make use of direct mail vans whenever they consider this service necessary. Details on the running of these vans shall be contained in the respective agreements between the administrations concerned.

(French Documents of the 1957 Ottawa Congress – volume II: pages 65, 514).

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 1, para 1.

Formal opinion C 14/Ottawa 1957

Subjects of postage stamps[1]

The 14th Universal Postal Union Congress recommends that, when adopting themes for postage stamp designs or impressions for use in stamp-cancelling machines, the postal administrations of the Union should recommend subjects likely to contribute to mutual understanding between peoples, to the dissemination of their culture and generally speaking to strengthening the bonds of international friendship.

(French Documents of the 1957 Ottawa Congress – volume II: pages 66, 369)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 10.

Formal opinion C 2/Vienna 1964

Counterfeit stamps and franking impressions

Congress,

Considering
that numerous covers bearing counterfeit stamps or franking machine impressions have been circulating in the postal services for some time, a fact which makes it appear that certain administrations do not exercise all desirable care in this respect,

Reminds

member countries of the obligations entered into under article 14 of the Universal Postal Convention, and invites them to put into operation effective measures which are essential in order to terminate a situation detrimental to the interests of all.

(French Documents of the 1964 Vienna Congress – volume II: pages 703, 1011, 1369)

Recommendation C 7/Vienna 1964

Application of reduced rates to promote the distribution of newspapers, books and magazines

Congress,

Considering
the benefits offered by a wide distribution of newspapers, books and magazines, especially of an educational, scientific or cultural nature, and being of the opinion that the application of reduced postal rates is likely to assist such distribution,

Recommends

postal administrations of member countries that do not at present take advantage of the option, to apply the provisions of article 16, paragraphs 6 and 7[1], of the Universal Postal Convention.

(French Documents of the 1964 Vienna Congress – volume II: pages 703, 1077, 1340)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 20, paras 8 and 9.

Formal opinion C 7/Vienna 1964

Indications to be given by the date-stamp[1]

Congress expresses the formal opinion that correspondence should be stamped on the front by the office of origin with the imprint of a date-stamp showing the place of origin in Roman letters and the date of posting in Arabic numerals.

(French Documents of the 1964 Vienna Congress – volume II: pages 703, 1121, 1370)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 140, para 1.

Resolution C 23/Vienna 1964

Freedom of transit[1]

Congress,

Considering
that freedom of transit is one of the essential and fundamental principles of the Universal Postal Union,

Appeals

to the good faith and solidarity of all the member countries of the Union to ensure, in all circumstances, strict respect for the application of this principle, without which the Universal Postal Union cannot completely fulfil its mission and thus contribute as much as could be wished to the strengthening of the bonds of international friendship.

(French Documents of the 1964 Vienna Congress – volume II: pages 703, 874, 1322)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 1.

Recommendation C 65/Tokyo 1969

Uniformity of presentation of figures in accounts[1]

Congress,

Having noted
that there are different ways of presenting figures in the accounts,

Aware of
the standardization work being performed in this field by the ISO which has found expression in its draft proposal ISO/TC 12 (Secretariat – 196) 562 F and,

Considering
that figures in the settlement of accounts of every kind relating to the international postal service should be entered uniformly,

Recommends

that postal administrations of member countries adopt the uniform presentation for entries in accounts set down by the ISO as shown in the following example: 2 123 456.78 when there are centimes and 2 123 456 when there are no centimes (in documents in English, the comma is usually replaced by a point).

(Documents of the 1969 Tokyo Congress – volume II: pages 321, 1477)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 101.

Resolution C 37/Lausanne 1974

Legal and technical possibilities of maintaining postal relations in cases of disputes, conflict or war

Congress,

Considering
the peaceful and humanitarian role played by the Universal Postal Union in helping to bring peoples and individuals together,

Convinced
of the need to maintain postal exchanges, as far as possible, with or between regions afflicted by disputes, disturbances, conflicts or wars, and

In view of
the initiatives taken and the experience of certain Governments or humanitarian organizations in this field,

Appeals urgently

to the Governments of member countries, as far as possible and unless the United Nations General Assembly or Security Council has decided otherwise (in accordance with article 41 of the United Nations Charter), not to interrupt or hinder postal traffic – especially the exchange of correspondence containing messages of a personal nature in the event of dispute, conflict or war, the efforts made in this direction being applicable even to the countries directly concerned, and

Authorizes

the Director-General of the International Bureau of the UPU:

i to take what initiatives he considers advisable to facilitate, while respecting national sovereignties, the maintenance or re-establishment of postal exchanges with or between the parties to a dispute, conflict or war;

ii to offer his "good offices" to find a solution to postal problems which may arise in the event of a dispute, conflict or war.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 989, 1243)

Formal opinion C 55/Lausanne 1974

Circulation of bags

Congress,

In view of
article 16[1] of the Detailed Regulations of the Universal Postal Convention1 and article 129 of the Detailed Regulations of the Postal Parcels Agreement[2],

Considering
it important that the circulation of bags be speeded up and that it is not sufficient that administrations owning bags which have been withheld, mislaid or misused should simply be reimbursed their value,

Invites

the postal administrations of Union member countries to take within their services such measures as may ensure the rapid circulation and frequent return of all empty bags belonging to other administrations.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 971, 974, 975, 1344)

[1] Conv. Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 173.
[2] Parcels. Agr (Washington 1989), art 132.

Recommendation C 63/Lausanne 1974

Security of valuable items conveyed by the Post: general security and protection measures at offices of exchange and airports

Congress,

Having noted
the findings of the priority study carried out in accordance with resolution C 55 of the 1969 Tokyo Congress,

Noting
the increasingly frequent use of the postal service for the conveyance of valuable items,

Aware
of the growing number of criminal acts committed against the postal service, which are directed at valuable items and endanger the lives of the personnel responsible for handling them,

Wishing
to offer users of the Post a service guaranteeing maximum security in every respect during the transmission of items of all kinds, but especially of registered and insured airmail items,

Anxious
to give the personnel responsible for handling these items adequate protection against the risk of criminal attacks,

Recommends

postal administrations:

a to review periodically, in close consultation with their countries' airlines, security arrangements for the conveyance by their services of international registered and insured airmail items; and

b to apply as far as possible and as the volume of traffic requires the security measures listed in annex 1 below covering in particular:
   i constructional and technical protection measures (air and surface traffic); and
   ii security measures during the performance of postal operations at offices of exchange and airports.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 974, 975, 1116 to 1119)

Annex 1

1 Constructional and technical protection measures (air and surface traffic)

1.1 *Constructional measures in regard to offices*

1.1.1 *Armoured premises or strong-room for safekeeping of mails*

Appropriate strong-rooms should be provided in large offices of exchange for the safekeeping of mails and bulky insured items. These strong-rooms should be constructed of reinforced concrete and should have no windows or other openings. The doors should be fitted with electronic locking mechanisms. The installation of lock-chambers will protect strong-room opening operations.

1.1.2 *Special lockable room reserved for sorting and dispatch of mails*

Rooms for sorting and dispatching mails and for processing insured items should be separated from other operational premises and should be lockable. Access to such rooms should only be allowed to a specified number of employees.

1.1.3 *Metal doors*

- with cylindrical safety locks
- with double-bit lock
- with letters or figures combination lock

Doors should be constructed of metal or wood, depending on the importance of the service premises. The type of lock fitted should be in keeping with the strength of the door. The advantage of a double-bit lock as compared with a cylindrical safety lock is that the closing of the door actuates additional safety bolts which afford better protection against burglary.

1.1.4 *Protection of windows by:*

- a grille
- laminated safety glass
- bullet-proof armoured glass

Window grilles and the use of laminated safety glass, depending on the circumstances, are recommended if the windows are in particularly exposed positions. Extra protection is obtained by the use of alarm glass.

1.1.5 *Other measures*

Special importance should be attached to security measures regarding the construction of service buildings and premises. The installation of alarm devices makes for greater security. Surveillance by the Post or by police is desirable provided such personnel have an appropriate alarm call system at their disposal if necessary.

1.2 *Special fittings and aids for the protection of valuable items*

1.2.1 *Safes*

Administrations are obliged to provide for the security of valuable items by storing them in safes at offices of exchange. Items in the international service should be protected in the same way as those in the internal service.

1.2.2 *Armoured safes*

The installation of armoured safes is determined by the degree of security provided by the arrangements made to protect the premises of buildings themselves. Where the

traffic in valuable items is heavy, it is preferable to build premises which are sufficiently well protected to make the use of safes unnecessary; this greatly facilitates the execution of postal operations.

1.2.3 *Special vehicles for conveying mails in airports*

Despite the security guaranteed at airports by the presence of police and Customs, the valuable nature of airmail generally warrants specially secure methods of transport, and for this reason postal administrations should, as far as possible, encourage the transport of airmails within the airport precincts in special lockable vehicles. Conveyance in lockable vehicles also enables a clear demarcation to be made between airlines' and postal administrations' responsibility.

1.3 *Electrical protective installations at offices of exchange*

1.3.1 *Alarm device in the event of attack*

Alarm devices should be installed in service premises handling large volumes of airmail traffic. Alarm contacts should be installed at a number of points. If possible, provision should be made for direct communication with the police in cases of emergency.

1.3.2 *Burglar alarm, mains or battery operated*

Where alarm devices are used a combined system against attack and burglary should be installed. Strong-rooms, and safes whether armoured or not are connected to the burglar alarm and are thus electrically protected against attack. To keep the alarm in readiness for operation, provision should be made for it to be powered by battery in case the electric current is cut off.

1.3.2.1 *Elements of the telephone exchange protected from deliberate damage*

An alarm can only be effective if it is protected against sabotage; it should therefore be impossible to put it out of action by any means whatsoever without simultaneously triggering off the alarm. Relative security can be obtained if the triggering device operates by a release mechanism and if the signal cannot thereafter be easily interrupted. In addition, the conductor wires should be buried or sheathed over their whole length.

1.3.2.2 *Protection of the object itself by acoustic detector or surface protection*

As a rule, it is sufficient to connect the safes directly to the alarm. The ceilings and walls of strong-rooms can be electrically protected (surface protection).

1.3.3 *Surveillance of premises by:*

- ultrasonic device, radar, light rays
- electrical contacts on doors, windows and ground
- alarm glass

Wherever staff is absent from sorting centres during specific hours, it is advisable to protect premises against burglary by electrical means – either by devices which monitor and protect whole rooms, or by electrical contacts which protect safes directly (protection of the object itself).

1.3.4 *Acoustic (sirens) or optical (light signal) alarms*

In the event of a break-in or attack, an acoustic or silent alarm, or a combination of both, will be set off depending on local conditions and in close collaboration with the police. The alarm-triggering point should be identified by means of a special light signal in the police premises.

1.3.5 *Automatic police call (telephone, radio, etc)*

An alarm device serves a useful purpose only if it is directly connected to the police or some other surveillance service operating continuously day and night.

1.3.6 *Closed-circuit television (industrial television)*

Television surveillance is justified in big sorting centres when it is simultaneously used for monitoring service operations.

1.3.7 *Other measures*

Depending on the circumstances, illumination of the building and its immediate vicinity by electric light constitutes an additional security measure.

2 Security measures during the performance of postal operations at offices of exchange and airports

2.1 *Dispatch of mails (registered items, insured parcels, insured letters and boxes)*

2.1.1 *Opening of internal mails*

During the opening of internal mails it is necessary to ensure the continued security of items by appropriate means (immediate checking, qualified staff).

2.1.2 *Methods of handing over insured items*

It is essential that the handing over of insured items for further processing should be receipted at the office of exchange. Wherever possible, such items should be stored in safes and delivered by special vehicle. Care should be taken to see that the various work areas are not too far apart (short transport sectors).

2.1.3 *Handing over of items to the Customs, where appropriate, and their return against receipt*

Postal administrations must in particular come to an agreement with the customs authorities on arrangements for the handing over and treatment of registered and insured items, so that during customs treatment a degree of security at least equal to that maintained during postal operations is guaranteed.

2.1.4 *Entering on forms CP 20 (Air parcel bill) and VD 3 (Dispatch list)*

Insured items must be immediately entered on forms CP 20 and VD 3.

2.1.5 *Sealing*

It is recommended that sealing material be kept under lock and key.

2.1.6 *Witness*

The presence of a witness during bagging and sealing is essential.

2.1.7 *Use of bags in perfect condition and possibly of containers*

The condition of the bags used for making up the mails must be checked, if possible by a special service or by the employee responsible for making up the mails.

2.2 *Reception of mails from abroad*

2.2.1 *Custody of items in the safe until conveyed to destination by internal mails*

Safekeeping of insured items under lock and key is essential. In addition, such items should be entered on an appropriate delivery document. Corresponding measures should if possible be taken for registered items.

2.3 *Delivery of outward mails to the airline or the airport ground staff*

2.3.1 *Personal handover*

Checking of the mails by both parties at the outward post office of exchange and their simultaneous loading into trolleys in the same premises offers the advantage of making a clear demarcation between the postal administration's responsibility and that of the airline, and of speeding up aircraft loading operations.

2.4 *Acceptance by the airlines of mails arriving from abroad*

2.4.1 *Offloading of airmails by ground staff under supervision*

It is up to postal administrations to reach agreement with the ground staff with a view to the satisfactory performance of the operations in question, particularly as regards the security measures to be observed.

2.4.2 *Acceptance of airmails by postal staff at the office of exchange*

Since mails must normally be accepted and checked at the post offices of exchange, the latter should be appropriately equipped as regards both premises and staff. Opening hours will be adapted to the airline timetable so that incoming mails can, as far as possible, be delivered direct to the postal services. Moreover, it will be useful to take the opening hours of exchange offices into account when drawing up the mail dispatch schedule, in agreement with the administration of destination.

2.4.3 *Checking of inward mails against the AV 7 delivery bills*

Checking against the inward AV 7 delivery bills must be done when the mails are handed over to the postal service, as the latter is obliged to check the condition and sealing of the receptacles. Serious irregularities should be recorded in the presence of a witness.

2.4.4 *Placing of transit mails under special guard*

Airmails in transit should be subject to the same security measures as mails originating from or addressed to the administration concerned.

2.5 *Transhipment of mails from one aircraft to another on the basis of direct AV 7 delivery bills*

2.5.1 *Special arrangements made by the airline responsible for transhipment*

Although direct transhipment is normally carried out by the airline concerned or by the ground service company, postal administrations must ensure, in consultation with these companies, that an adequate degree of security is guaranteed for registered and insured mails transhipped directly. If necessary, the services of the airport police should be called upon.

2.6 *Special security measures*

2.6.1 *Permanent watch on runways by airport police or customs authorities*

There should be a close link between the security measures operated by the postal services and those covering the whole territory of a given airport which are provided by the police or

customs authorities. It is up to postal administrations to keep a watch on the effectiveness of these measures as a whole in so far as they concern registered and insured mail.

2.6.2 Police escort of registered and insured items between the office of exchange and the aircraft, and vice versa

The assistance of the police may be requested for the transmission of specific registered and insured mails containing valuable items. For a large proportion of airmail, the general supervision carried out by police and customs authorities within the airport precincts may be regarded as sufficient protection. In cases where the post office of exchange is located away from the airport there is a greater need for police assistance or radio control.

Resolution C 5/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Illegal issue of postage stamps

Congress,

In view of
- the illegal issue of postage stamps by the so-called "Turkish Cypriot Postal Administration" of the so-called "Turkish Federated State of Cyprus" contrary to article 9 of the Universal Postal Convention (Lausanne 1974);
- the clarification in footnote 1 to the aforementioned article in the Annotated Acts, volume 2, which sanctions the principle that postal administrations only are competent to issue stamps denoting payment of postage;
- the fact that, according to this clarification, such postal administrations must be those of "UPU member countries" and those of "countries" which are not members, as well as the postal adinistrations of the United Nations (1964 Vienna Congress Documents, vol II, page 1010, proposal 1822, Argentina),

In view also of
the provision of article 2 of the Constitution of the Union that "member countries of the Union" are:
a "Countries" which have membership status at the date on which the Constitution came into force;
b "Countries" admitted to membership in accordance with article 11, which stipulates that only members of the United Nations and sovereign countries which are not members of the United Nations are eligible to accede to or be admitted as "member countries" of the Union,

Decides

a to declare illegal and of no validity the stamps issued or to be issued by the so-called "Turkish Cypriot Postal Administration" of the so-called "Turkish Federated State of Cyprus;
b to instruct the International Bureau of the UPU to call upon the member countries of the Union to refuse to handle any mail bearing the illegal postage stamps issued or to be issued by the so-called "Turkish Cypriot Postal Administration" of the so-called "Turkish Federated State of Cyprus".

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1186, 1194, 1729)

Formal opinion C 8/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Manufacture and use of international service forms

Congress,

Noting
that the forms used in the international service are not always manufactured in accordance with the specimens given in the Acts of the Universal Postal Union, in particular in the List of UPU Forms,

Considering
that the use of standard forms greatly facilitates postal operations and helps to avoid mistakes and misunderstanding,

Calls on

administrations to use forms in accordance with the specimens given in the Acts of the Universal Postal Union, particularly as regards size, layout, consistency of the paper and colour.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1263, 1435, 1731)

Formal opinion C 10/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Advice of delivery[1]

Congress,

Noting
that not all administrations of member countries admit the advice of delivery for ordinary parcels,

Considering
that this service is frequently requested by senders to certify the posting or receipt of registered items and ordinary or insured parcels,

Requests

postal administrations to make a general practice of using the advice of delivery for all the above-mentioned items and to execute this service with the full attention which it requires.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1263, 1640, 1733)

[1] (Conv (Washington 1989), art 55.

Formal opinion C 46/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Communications and information to be forwarded to the International Bureau
(Convention, Detailed Regulations, article 109)

Congress,

In view of
the interest users have in the procedure for delivering registered items and, if appropriate, insured letters in the country of destination,

Expresses the formal opinion

that administrations should send the International Bureau information on this subject for publication in the Compendium of Information on the organization and internal services of postal administrations.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1163, 1528, 1765)

Formal opinion C 47/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Writing of addresses[1]

Congress,

Noting
that postal items, the address on which is incorrect, incomplete, illegible or written in letters other than roman and figures other than arabic, seriously hamper the delivery service,

Considering
the number of items posted with incorrect addresses,

Urges

administrations to recommend users to write the addressee's address on all items in conformity with the relevant provisions of the Convention.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1163, 1530, 1765)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 113.

Resolution C 55/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Creation of a telegraphic code to announce the suspension or resumption of services

Congress,

Taking into account
article 4, paragraph 2, of the Convention, according to which the International Bureau shall notify administrations by telegram or telex when services are temporarily suspended or are resumed,

Noting
that the creation of telegraphic codes to notify administrations of the suspension or resumption of services can be a source of saving for the Union,

Instructs

the International Bureau to draw up and bring into use a number of telegraphic codes for announcing the suspension or resumption of services.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1163, 1527, 1767)

Recommendation C 68/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Admission of infectious substances[1]

Congress,

Having decided
to amend the provisions of the Convention and its Detailed Regulations in order to take account of the new WHO regulations on the admission of infectious substances,

Recommends

that administrations which agree to accept postal items containing infectious substances should conform to the following conditions recommended by the WHO and required by IATA for safety reasons:

a The shipper (an officially recognized qualified laboratory) must, when presenting an item containing infectious substances for conveyance by post, provide a shipper's certification as prescribed by IATA in duplicate, one copy for the airline and the other to accompany the consignment.

b If postal administrations discover that a consignment of infectious substances is not correctly labelled or accompanied by the required documentation, or is badly packed or damaged in any way, they must immediately inform the public health authorities or, as the case may be, the veterinary authorities, as well as:
   i the shipper (in the case of the postal administration of origin);
   ii the administrations of origin and destination (in the case of the administration of transit); and
   iii the addressee and the administration of origin (in the case of the administration of destination).

In this connection, postal administrations shall, in agreement with the appropriate local authorities, issue adequate instructions to all post offices concerned specifying, among other things, which local public health authority and local veterinary authority are to be called upon in the event of damage to or leakage of the contents of items containing infectious substances.

c Unsealed mailbags, enclosing exclusively items containing infectious substances and identified by special labels marked "Infectious substance" shall be handed to the airlines with the appropriate documentation for conveyance to destination. Postal administrations shall authorize the air carriers to inspect, if necessary, the contents of such bags while they are in their custody, in accordance with IATA air transport safety regulations and WHO recommendations on this subject.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: page 1558)

[1] Conv. Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 120.

Recommendation C 76/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Safety of staff involved in handling items presumed to be dangerous (mail bombs)

Congress,

Having noted
the findings of the study on the protective measures to be applied in order to ensure the safety of postal staff involved in handling items presumed to be dangerous, undertaken in accordance with decision C 56 of the 1974 Lausanne Congress,

Aware
of the danger that mail bombs represent for postal staff involved in handling them,

Concerned
to protect postal staff in every way possible from the risks of explosion of dangerous objects,

Recommends

to postal administrations that they:

a as preventive measures:

i establish permanent liaison with the competent authorities of their countries (police, Customs, national security committees, etc) in order:

- to be informed of any threats or of signs indicating the dispatch of dangerous items;
- to settle questions concerning the examination of items and the destruction of dangerous articles;

ii issue directives for their services based in particular on the information contained in the CCPS study on the measures to be taken to detect mail bombs and to protect staff against the risk of explosion when such items are discovered in the mail;

iii ensure that the examination of items presumed to be dangerous is carried out by the most appropriate methods;
iv have their national legislation adapted or supplemented, if necessary, with a view to authorizing operations enabling mail bombs to be detected;
v in conjunction with the competent authorities, alert the public with as much information as possible, subject to any security restrictions, so that they can take all necessary precautions for their personal safety;

b as soon as dangerous items are reported or their presence presumed:
i give the staff concerned full particulars concerning the external appearance of these items and the need to handle them with particular caution;
ii inform immediately and as fully as possible, by telex or by telegraph, the International Bureau of the UPU and the foreign postal administrations directly threatened; and

Instructs

the International Bureau to inform immediately the postal administrations of all member countries of the Union and to send them any information which may be of interest to them.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1344, 1345)

Recommendation C 77/Rio de Janeiro 1979

UPU member country identification code for postal and other uses

Congress,

In view of
1964 Vienna Congress formal opinion C 1 on an identification code for administrations,

In view of
1969 Tokyo Congress resolution C 85 instructing the Consultative Council for Postal Studies (CCPS) to proceed with the study on the coding of countries at a general level,

In view of
the decision by the 1974 Lausanne Congress to refer this study to the next CCPS,

Having noted
the report submitted by the CCPS on study 301 "UPU member country identification code for postal and other uses",

Considering that,
for technical and practical reasons, the adoption of a code for international mail was uninteresting for the postal administrations of Union member countries,

Considering,
however, that in administrative and accounting operations and the international monetary articles service the rational use of electronic installations may require the use of coding,

Bearing in mind
that the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) has prepared international standard ISO 3166 "Code for the representation of names of countries and related entities" consisting of the (two-letter) Alpha-2 and (three-letter) Alpha-3 codes and a three-digit numeric code,

Considering that
the UPU, through the CCPS, has cooperated with the ISO in particular on the preparation of international standard ISO 3166 and that in addition, the UPU has been appointed with other international organizations as a member of the Maintenance Agency for that standard (ISO 3166 MA) by the ISO Council,

Adopts

the following recommendation:

i in principle, no international code will be used for sorting mail;

ii postal administrations are completely free to use any code they choose in areas other than mail sorting (statistics, international accounting, monetary articles service, etc), unless the use of a common code for a special purpose is considered essential. In the latter case, preference would be given to the codes appearing in international standard ISO 3166, particularly the ISO Alpha-2 code (two letters) and the ISO three-digit numerical code,

Instructs

the International Bureau to continue to monitor the activities of the ISO with regard to international codes for the identification of names of countries.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1264, 1345, 1794)

Formal opinion C 81/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Return of C 27 trial notes

Congress,

Considering
the importance of the C 27 trial note in determining the most favourable route and time of transmission for a mail, and the usefulness of this information for counter staff, inquiry officers and customers,

In view of
the difficulties in assessing transmission times without this information,

Requests

administrations to ensure that their offices of exchange complete these forms and return them by the most rapid route to the office of origin, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, Detailed Regulations, article 163, paragraph 3.[1]

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1265, 1561, 1794)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 168, paras 3 and 4.

Recommendation C 85/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Reproduction of postage stamps already issued by another administration

Congress,

Having noted
the result of the study on postage stamps and postal franking impressions carried out in accordance with 1974 Lausanne Congress resolution C 45, as a result which is given in the reasons for proposal 2578.1,

Noting
the support given to a suggestion that an administration wishing to reproduce in one of its issues a postage stamp already issued by another administration should notify the latter of this intention beforehand,

Referring
to article 9 of the Universal Postal Convention[1], according to which "postage stamps for denoting payment of postage shall be issued by postal administrations only",

Recommends

that any postal administration wishing to reproduce in one of its issues a postage stamp already issued by another administration should obtain the consent of the latter beforehand.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1265, 1584, 1798)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 10.

Recommendation C 93/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Choice of themes for postage stamps

Congress,

Having noted
the result of the study on postage stamps and postal franking impressions carried out in accordance with 1974 Lausanne Congress resolution C 45, a result which is given in the reasons for proposal 2578.1,

Referring
to article 9 of the Universal Postal Convention[1], according to which "postage stamps for denoting payment of postage shall be issued by postal administrations only",

Considering
that the suggestions made at the above Congress on introducing a provision in the Universal Postal Convention that administrations should refrain from issuing "offensive" postage stamps cannot be accepted because of the subjective interpretation which may be given to the idea of "offensive postage stamps",

Considering
that the issue of postage stamps should be effected in the spirit of the preamble to the Constitution of the Universal Postal Union,

Recalling
the recommendation by the Ottawa Congress on postage stamp subjects,

Recommends

that postal administrations should choose, when issuing postage stamps, subjects likely to contribute to mutual understanding among peoples, to the dissemination of culture and, generally speaking, to strengthening the bonds of international friendship.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1265, 1587, 1803)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 10.

Formal opinion C 16/Hamburg 1984

Shipping infectious substances by post

Congress,

Considering
that the measures worked out jointly with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Air Transport Association (IATA), as set out in article 119 of the Detailed Regulations of the Convention[1] and in recommendation C 68 of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress, enable items containing infectious substances to be exchanged without risk between officially recognized qualified laboratories,

Considering
that the Post is particularly suitable for the transmission of such substances (speed, extent of the postal network and low cost compared with that of other methods of transport),

Noting however
that the number of postal administrations which participate in the conveyance of infectious substances is very small,

In view of the fact
that the WHO has stated that the international exchange of diagnostic specimens is hampered for this reason,

Convinced
that for humanitarian reasons, it is the mission of the Post to participate in the conveyance of infectious substances, on the basis of the rules laid down in agreement with the WHO and IATA,

Expresses the formal opinion

that those postal administrations which do not yet participate in the exchange of infectious substances should examine the possibility of doing so and that they should reply favourably to any request to this effect made by the public health authorities of their country.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 178, 493)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 120.

Recommendation C 20/Hamburg 1984

Packaging used for the conveyance of postal items

Congress,

Noting
that the use of packs sold by postal administrations is on the increase,

Noting however
that users of such packs tend to neglect the interior packing,

Invites

postal administrations to inform users employing the packs sold by postal services of the need:
- to use appropriate interior packing as well; and
- to make sure that the outside wrapping is properly closed;

so that the items concerned can be processed and conveyed satisfactorily.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 178, 519)

Recommendation C 23/Hamburg 1984

Technical assistance with regard to international payments

Congress,

Considering
resolution C 45 of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress instructing the Executive Council to carry out a study on the preparation of effective means of expediting the settlement of accounts for the various international postal services and to submit the results of this study to Congress with a proposal to that effect,

Noting
that there are in fact certain postal administrations in respect of which delays in payment have been noted which appear in part to be due to lack of knowledge of the regulations and non-adaptation of the services responsible for international payments,

Taking the view
that technical assistance in this area can bring very considerable improvements,

Noting
that initiatives have already been taken by the UPU to help administrations which desire to improve the organization and functioning of their international payments services, but that it is necessary to step up this assistance by implementing a specific action in the field concerned,

Recommends

i postal administrations which feel the need:
   a to size up accurately the inadequacies which may exist in their international payments services;
   b to take account, in cooperation projects submitted to the international bodies, of the training needs, satisfaction of which could improve their payments services;
   c to ask postal administrations with experienced payments services, under bilateral aid, for all information and technical aid likely to improve the organization of the service and the knowledge and implementation of the regulations concerning international payments;

ii all postal administrations which are able to do so, to send the International Bureau in good time the names of qualified officials available for experts' and consultants' missions, and also to give favourable consideration to any request for bilateral aid in the field concerned,

Instructs

the International Bureau:

i to continue the efforts already undertaken to prepare and implement a specific technical assistance action in the form of consultants' missions, training activities and distribution of documentation relating to international payments, through existing or new resources;

ii to programme as from 1985 a priority action to inform administrations on the problems of international payments after having carried out a survey to identify the needs in this area and the possible contributions of administrations to this action;

iii to approach certain countries which are technically advanced in this field in order to obtain greater assistance from them on behalf of countries requesting technical support as regards the organization of the international payments service;

iv to facilitate the contacts between administrations for bilateral aid and, to that end, to gather and make available in the field of international payments all information concerning administrations in a position to provide technical aid.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 178, 558)

Resolution C 26/Hamburg 1984

Postal monopoly

Congress,

In view of
the results of the study arising from 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress resolution C 78 which instructed the CCPS to study the situation regarding the postal monopoly in the countries of the Union and means of combating competition from private undertakings in the conveyance of documents,

Considering
that the postal service is based in particular on the efficiency and reliability of the services rendered, on the one hand, and on the financial capacities of postal administrations on the other,

Stressing
that the Post, as a universal service, is bound to offer all users, equally, the possibility of communicating on the same conditions, inter alia, by paying the same postal rate regardless of whether they live in urban or rural areas,

Persuaded
that this public service mission would not be taken into account by a collection of private networks, the operation of which, based mainly on profitability, would give preference to heavy traffic flows,

Noting
the efforts and sizeable investments made by Union member countries to maintain, improve and expand a postal infrastructure designed to serve all their citizens and, consequently, to promote economic, social and cultural development in their countries,

Aware
that it is not for the UPU to prepare protective legislation in this field since the postal monopoly does not have a definition common to all countries and is essentially a matter of national legal concern,

Considering, however
the serious consequences for the postal services and, ultimately, for national and international postal communications networks which would result from the elimination or weakening of the postal monopoly,

Appeals

to the governments of Union member countries:
a to maintain the postal monopoly in order to ensure that all of their citizens have equal access to a universal postal service;
b to define clearly the items which fall within the scope of the postal monopoly; and
c where appropriate, to instruct the Customs and other national authorities to assist the postal authorities in enforcing the postal monopoly.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 178, 347)

Recommendation C 27/Hamburg 1984

Choice of themes for postage stamps

Congress,

Having noted
the Executive Council discussions on the subject of the issue by certain administrations of postage stamps considered by other administrations to be offensive,

Referring
to article 9 of the Universal Postal Convention[1], according to which "postage stamps for denoting payment of postage shall be issued by postal administrations only",

Recalling
formal opinion C 14 of the 1957 Ottawa Congress and recommendations C 85 and C 93 of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress, concerning the choice of themes for postage stamps,

Considering
the solemn affirmation of the purpose of the Union and the aims which it pursues, set out in the Preamble to and article 1 of the Constitution and in article 1 of the Convention,

Aware
of the need for postal administrations to avoid any action likely to disturb the operation of the international postal service,

Considering
the United Nations resolutions concerning understanding among mankind and the establishment of a lasting peace in the world,

Recommends

that postal administrations, in choosing themes for their issues of postage stamps, should:
- make every attempt to avoid topics or designs of an offensive nature in respect of a person or a country; and
- choose themes calculated to contribute to the dissemination of culture, the strengthening of bonds of friendship among peoples and the establishment and maintenance of peace in the world.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 178, 349)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 10.

Formal opinion C 40/Hamburg 1984

Customs treatment of postal items: International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures (Kyoto Convention)

Congress,

In view of
the results of the study undertaken by the Executive Council together with the Customs Cooperation Council (CCC), which are summarized in the Comprehensive Report on the work of the Executive Council 1979–1984 (Congress – Doc 1), and resolution C 49 authorizing the Executive Council to reconstitute the CCC–UPU Contact Committee to deal with the continued study of common problems,

Noting
- that the CCC–UPU Contact Committee and the Executive Council considered it necessary, among other things, to make better known the existence of Annex F 4 to the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures (known as the Kyoto Convention), whose application would make it possible to facilitate the customs treatment of postal items; and
- that by the aforesaid annex the CCC once again wished to help to facilitate the flow of postal traffic,

Noting
that Annex F 4 to the Kyoto Convention has been ratified by only 11 countries out of the 95 members of the Customs Cooperation Council,

Taking account
of the suggestion by the CCC–UPU Contact Committee,

Expresses the formal opinion

that postal administrations should approach the authorities in charge of customs questions in their countries to request that they take steps to speed up the ratification of Annex F 4 to the Kyoto Convention.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 178, 359)

Formal opinion C 55/Hamburg 1984

Closed mails in transit suspected of containing narcotics or psychotropic substances

Congress,

Having noted
- that the illicit transmission of narcotics and psychotropic substances through the post is on the increase;

- that, in operations carried out on the requisition of the Customs, the presence of items containing narcotics and psychotropic substances has been detected in closed mails through the use of new techniques (dogs belonging to the Customs, X-rays, etc),

In view of
article 1 of the Constitution of the Union and article 1 of the Universal Postal Convention which enshrine freedom of transit for postal items forwarded in transit by closed mails or à découvert as one of the essential and fundamental principles of the Universal Postal Union,

In view of
article 36 of the Universal Postal Convention[1] dealing with prohibitions,

Considering
- that postal administrations are aware of the importance to be placed on combating the traffic in narcotics and psychotropic substances;
- that postal administrations must act within the framework of the provisions prescribed in the Acts of the Universal Postal Union and in their national legislation,

Invites

postal administrations:
i – to cooperate in combating the traffic in narcotics and psychotropic substances whenever they are legally required to do so by their national authorities responsible for this matter;
– to ensure respect for the fundamental principles of the international Post, in particular, the freedom of transit (article 1 of the Constitution and of the Convention);
ii to make all appropriate arrangements with the relevant authorities of their countries to ensure that bags of mail in transit suspected of enclosing items containing narcotics or psychotropic substances are not opened, but to advise:
a by the quickest means, at the request of their customs authorities the administration of destination so that the suspected bags can easily be identified on arrival;
b by verification note, the administration of origin of the mail.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 178, 355)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 41.

Formal opinion C 78/Hamburg 1984

Manufacture and use of international service forms

Congress,

Noting
that the paper used in the manufacture of international service forms is not always of acceptable quality, making it difficult to read entries and complicating all operations,

Considering
that the manufacture of forms in good quality paper facilitates postal operations and helps to prevent mistakes,

Calls on

all postal administrations, in accordance with 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress formal opinion C 8, to have international service forms manufactured in good quality paper.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 191, 385)

Resolution C 12/Washington 1989

Action to enhance the security and integrity of international mail

Congress,

In view of
- the fundamental responsibility of postal administrations to assure the inviolability of postal items;
- the need to develop international policies, standards and programmes to assist administrations in their joint efforts to fulfil this responsibility and to maintain the integrity of the international postal system;
- the desirability of updating the measures referred to in Lausanne Congress recommendation C 63;
- the role which the UPU can play with a view to coordinating this effort;
- 1987 UN General Assembly resolution 42/159 requesting that certain organizations in the UN system, including the UPU, consider what further measures could be taken to combat and eliminate terrorism,

Considering
- the increase in criminal acts committed against the international mails;
- the vulnerability of the international postal system to criminal acts committed through or against the posts (theft, fraud, traffic in drugs, pornography);
- the specialized knowledge and skills required to counter criminal activity directed against the posts and the limited resources available to counter this activity,

Aware
- of the social and business importance of maintaining public confidence in the security of postal items;
- of the advantages postal administrations with governmental status and public service orientation should have over private sector competition in assuring the security of mail,

Noting
recent trends towards increasing international cooperation to improve understanding of international mail security issues, including:
- the international study of postal crime conducted by INTERPOL between 1984 and 1986;
- the 1987 conference in Vienna on narcotics trafficking by all means, including the international post, sponsored by the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse CONTROL (UNFDAC);

- the joint UPU–Customs Cooperation Council efforts relating to the conduct of seminars for postal staff on the detection of narcotics trafficking through the post, and the conduct of the first seminar, funded by the UNFDAC, in Bangkok in October of 1988;
- the PUAS-sponsored conference on mail security held in Mexico City in August 1988, the resulting Declaration on Mail Security which was adopted by the PUAS Consultative and Executive Council in September 1988, and the follow-up conference in Rio de Janeiro in August 1989,

Urges

members to assess the adequacy of national policies and current legislation governing the security and integrity of mail and to adopt appropriate changes as necessary to achieve improvements in this area,

Instructs

the Executive Council (EC) and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies (CCPS), within their respective areas of responsibility, and with the support of the International Bureau, to convene a group of experts in postal security and to develop and adopt initiatives regarding international policies, standards and programmes which can be undertaken prior to the next Congress.

(Proposal 2000.5, Committee 4, 1st meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 13/Washington 1989

Universal logo to identify the postal services

Congress,

Having noted
that, despite the fact that the UPU possesses its own symbol which is traditionally associated with the image of the Union, the postal services do not bear any modern marking likely to produce an impact on the market and enabling them, like EMS, to be identified in any region of the world,

Aware
of the need to adopt a unique symbol that will convey to users the ideas of speed, security and reliability,

Instructs

The Consultative Council for Postal Studies to carry out a study on the possibility of creating a universal logo that will enable the postal services to be identified.

(Proposal 2000.13, Committee 4, 1st meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Recommendation C 30/Washington 1989

Deadlines for replies to questionnaires

Congress,

Considering
the very important role of questionnaires for collecting the data required for studies conducted in the form of inquiries by various Union bodies and for the compendia and statistics published by the International Bureau,

Since
it is vital that the data supplied by postal administrations in reply to questionnaires should be as reliable and complete as possible to ensure that the studies and publications concerned produce good results and are effective,

Recognizing
that the postal administrations of member countries must have enough time – varying between one month for simple questionnaires and three months for complicated questionnaires (net time calculated from the date of receipt of the questionnaires until that of their return) – to be able to provide cogent replies to questionnaires,

Invites

- the permanent bodies of the Union to take account of the above-mentioned minimum times in preparing their work timetables whenever it proves necessary to use the questionnaire method to seek information from some or all of the postal administrations of member countries;
- the member countries of the Union to meet the deadlines set in the questionnaires,

Instructs

the International Bureau to ensure that the deadlines for replies to questionnaires are set in accordance with the desiderata set out in this recommendation.

(Proposal 07, Committee 3, 3rd meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Recommendation C 31/Washington 1989

Use in the postal services of paper manufactured using non-polluting processes ("ecological" paper)

Congress,

Noting
that postal administrations are using an ever-increasing amount of paper,

Considering
that the environment is deteriorating throughout the world because of water and air pollution,

Recognizing
that the discharge of chloride causes serious damage to fish, algae, seaweed and other marine organisms,

Aware
of the need to reduce the use of products the manufacture of which is a source of pollution, for instance, paper bleached with chlorine,

Recommends

postal administrations to select for the needs of the postal services paper manufactured by processes that cause as little pollution as possible.

(Proposal 2000.2, Committee 4, 1st meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Recommendation C 32/Washington 1989

Items for delivery free of charges and fees

Congress,

Considering
that the service for delivery of items free of charges and fees (FDD) is a valuable service for large business customers of the Post, which can use the service for mailing products to their customers, without the need for the addressees to pay customs fees and similar charges,

Noting
that, although many administrations offer the FDD service for postal parcels, not all of them also offer the service for customers in the letter-post services,

Considering
that, for customers of the Post, the letter-post services often offer a service that is quicker, and especially simpler, in terms of customs documentation and procedures,

Recognizing
therefore, that this service in the letter post is an attractive service especially for customers who wish to send low value goods within the limits of the C 1 green label,

Recommends

postal administrations to include the service for delivery of items free of charges and fees as widely as possible in their range of letter-post services, and in their relations with other administrations that already offer the service.

(Proposal 2000.17, Committee 4, 5th meeting)

Recommendation C 34/Washington 1989

Packaging used for the conveyance of postal items

Congress,

In view of
decision C 21 of the 1984 Hamburg Congress instructing the Consultative Council for Postal Studies to examine with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) the possibility of laying down norms concerning the packaging sold by postal administrations,

Considering
the provisions of article 20, paragraph 1, c, of the Universal Postal Convention and of article 113, paragraphs 1, c, and 2, of its Detailed Regulations (Hamburg 1984),

Basing itself
on the results of study 635 conducted by the CCPS,

Aware
of the difficulties involved in providing the packaging issue with greater standardization than currently exists,

Noting
the possibilities available to the administrations for applying the standards defined by the ISO,

Concerned to
facilitate the identification of postal markings as well as the handling and sorting of packing bags, cartons and boxes,

Recommends

that the postal administrations:

a use, for the closing of packing bags, either an adhesive or a self-adhesive closing mechanism, particularly for reasons of labour protection, the latter method to be used especially in cases where it is required that control of the content of an item shall be possible;

b ensure that the markings conform to the relevant provisions of the Universal Postal Convention and its Detailed Regulations with regard to the address area on packing bags, cartons and boxes;

c provide an area for stamps on packing bags, for technical and work method reasons, in accordance with the provisions of the Detailed Regulations of the Universal Postal Convention;

d provide, by mutual agreement, areas for markings and imprints on packing bags, cartons and boxes, in accordance with the provisions of the Detailed Regulations of the Universal Postal Convention, viz:
- a specific area for technical postal markings;
- a specific area for the postal category of the items;

e use a single common colour combination on packing bags, cartons and boxes making as big a contrast as possible between the colour of the packaging and the printed markings;

f should it be possible to standardize the address area on packing bags, cartons and boxes, study the possibilities of using packing bags, cartons and boxes without any text printings;

g not require a separate wrapping in the international postal traffic for packing cartons and boxes;
h bring the above recommendations to the attention of their customers.

(Proposal 2500.5, Committee 4, 1st meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Recommendation C 36/Washington 1989

Use of the EDIFACT electronic message rules of syntax

Congress,

Wishing
to facilitate the international interchange of data between postal administrations and Customs and between postal administrations and the carriers or other trade partners,

Considering
that it is desirable to use for these trade data interchanges a series of data structure rules agreed upon internationally and applicable universally,

Noting
that the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE) has developed a series of syntax rules for messages to be used for electronic interchanges, under the name of EDIFACT (Electronic data interchange for administration, commerce and transport),

Aware
that the syntax rules for EDIFACT messages can be used regardless of their field of application and that their widespread use in international relations will facilitate to a large extent the circulation of postal items,

Noting
that EDIFACT has been accepted by the International Organization for Standardization as international standard ISO 9735,

Recommends

that all postal administrations of member countries should apply the syntax rules for EDIFACT messages, as well as the updates to be issued later, for the preparation of electronic messages to be exchanged between postal administrations and Customs and between postal administrations and carriers or other trade partners.

(Proposal 5000.4, 10th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Recommendation C 37/Washington 1989

Use of the UN Trade Data Elements Directory

Congress,

Wishing
to facilitate the international interchange of data between postal administrations and Customs and between postal administrations and carriers or other trade partners,

Considering
that it is desirable, with regard to the data elements of such trade data interchanges, to use names, descriptions and modes of representation agreed upon at international level and universally applicable,

Deeming
it desirable that these names, descriptions and modes of representation be used for data elements regardless of the context in which the trade data are interchanged,

Noting
that these standardized data elements can be used, with all information interchange methods, on paper as well as with other means of communication, that they may be selected and transmitted one to one or used within the framework of a specific system of interchange rules such as, for example, the EDIFACT (Electronic data interchange for administration, commerce and transport) standard,

In view of
the fact that the directory has been approved by the International Organization for Standardization as international standard ISO 7372,

Recommends

that all postal administrations of member countries should use the names, descriptions and modes of representation of data elements shown in the UN Trade Data Elements Directory, and in the updates to that directory which will be issued subsequently, in data interchanges with Customs and with carriers or other trade partners.

(Proposal 5000.5, 10th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Decision C 46/Washington 1989

Make-up of items containing goods not to be opened without special precautions

Congress

Instructs

the Executive Council:

- to undertake, in cooperation with IATA, a study of proposal 2518.1 concerning the make-up of items containing goods not to be opened without special precautions;
- at the end of its work, to make any proposals under its new powers.

(Proposal 2518.1, Committee 4, 3rd meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Formal opinion C 54/Washington 1989

Closed mails in transit suspected of containing narcotics or psychotropic substances

Congress,

Having noted
- that the illicit transmission of narcotics and psychotropic substances through the post is on the increase;
- that, in operations carried out on the requisition of the Customs, the presence of items containing narcotics and psychotropic substances has been detected in closed mails through the use of new techniques (dogs belonging to the Customs, X-rays, etc),

In view of
article 1 of the Constitution of the Union and article 1 of the Universal Postal Convention which enshrine freedom of transit for postal items forwarded in transit by closed mails or à découvert as one of the essential and fundamental principles of the Universal Postal Union,

In view of
article 36 of the Universal Postal Convention dealing with prohibitions,

Considering
- that postal administrations are aware of the importance to be placed on combating the traffic in narcotics and psychotropic substances;
- that postal administrations must act within the framework of the provisions prescribed in the Acts of the Universal Postal Union and in their national legislation;
- that the technique known as "controlled delivery" is an effective means of helping to identify persons involved in trafficking,

Invites

postal administrations:

i
- to cooperate in combating the traffic in narcotics and psychotropic substances whenever they are legally required to do so by their national authorities responsible for this matter;
- to ensure respect for the fundamental principles of the international Post, in particular, the freedom of transit (article 1 of the Constitution and of the Convention);

ii to make all appropriate arrangements with the relevant authorities of their countries to ensure that bags of mail in transit suspected of enclosing items containing narcotics or psychotropic substances are not opened, but to advise:
   a by the quickest means, at the request of their customs authorities the administration of destination so that the suspected bags can easily be identified on arrival;
   b by verification note, the administration of origin of the mail;

iii to approach the legislative authorities, in consultation with the customs services, to ensure that laws and regulations do not prevent the use of the technique known as "controlled delivery"; the Customs of the transit country, if necessary with the agreement of the competent authorities, must take appropriate measures to inform the customs authorities of the country of destination and, possibly, of the country of origin of the suspect mails.

(Proposal 2500.2, Committee 4, 5th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 64/Washington 1989

Indication of the reason for delayed delivery of items on the C 9 inquiry form

Congress,

Referring
to article 147, paragraph 7, of the Detailed Regulations of the Universal Postal Convention, according to which "if ... the office of destination or the central administration of the country of destination or the specially appointed office, as the case may be, is able to say what finally happened to the item, it shall complete part 3 of the form. In cases of delayed delivery, retention or return to origin the reason shall be shown briefly on the C 9 form",

Aware
of the importance of indicating the reason for the delayed delivery of a registered item or an insured letter on the C 9 form, in order to give a full and appropriate reply to the inquirer and avoid the detriment such delay is likely to cause both to the inquirer and to the administrations, which may well see their customers turn to other firms that offer them a better service,

Noting
that it is very common to receive C 9 forms stating that the item has been delivered 30 days or more after the date of dispatch without any reason for the delay being given,

Considering
that this lack of information gives rise to a new delay because it obliges the administrations to investigate the reason for the delay and thus further postpones the time when the inquirer can receive a full reply,

Recommends

the postal administrations of member countries to instruct their offices on the need to complete all parts of the C 9 form and, in particular, to give the reason for the delayed delivery, retention or return to origin, in order to provide the inquirer with precise information.

(Proposal 2500.3, Committee 4, 7th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 68/Washington 1989

Preparation and settlement of accounts

Congress,

In view of
the importance of ensuring that administrations are paid for the services they render in a timely and efficient manner,

Taking account
of the fact that the present system of rendering separate accounts for different services can be time-consuming and inefficient,

Aware of
the current provisions which permit consolidation of some airmail and parcels accounts,

Recognizing
that there are potential advantages in implementing a more streamlined system of accounting, including greater use of offsetting,

Instructs

the Executive Council to undertake a study on the current provisions relating to the preparation and settlement of accounts, including:
- the possibility of implementing a system of consolidation of all accounts;
- the frequency of rendering accounts; and
- the continuing role of the International Bureau in the settlement of accounts.

(Proposal 3500.1, Committee 5, 7th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 69/Washington 1989

Improvement of postal services in rural areas

Congress,

In view of
article 1, paragraph 2, of the Constitution aiming to secure the organization and improvement of the postal services and to promote in this sphere the development of international collaboration,

Noting
that the vast majority of the people in many countries live in rural areas,

Noting further
that postal services in the rural areas of these countries are still much below expectations,

Considering
that the global postal services will fall short of the target if postal services in the rural areas of the member countries are not brought up to the mark,

Admitting
that there is an urgent need to improve the postal services in the rural areas of the member countries,

Considering
that there are many factors of substantial nature that stand in the way of improving such postal services,

Considering further
that many of the obstructing factors are currently beyond the competence of a single postal administration to cope with,

Recognizing
that a united global approach is essential to overcome the obstacles and attain the target,

Instructs

the Consultative Council for Postal Studies to:
a undertake an in-depth study of the present state of the rural postal services in the member countries;
b identify the obstacles to the improvement of rural postal services;
c recommend ways and means of overcoming the obstacles and achieving the target;
d place, to this end, proposals before the next Congress;
e recommend, if appropriate, interim measures to the Executive Council for implementation.

(Proposal 2000.3, 11th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 70/Washington 1989

Expansion of International Bureau offsetting arrangements

Congress,

Considering
that, apart from the special case of international reply coupons, International Bureau offsetting arrangements apply only to transit charges and surface mail terminal dues and that extension of these offsetting arrangements to airmail is contemplated,

Noting
the interest shown by the EC in the study on expanding the International Bureau offsetting arrangements,

Aware
of the fact that member countries are not signatories of all the Agreements,

Concerned
to observe the established principle of direct payment and to use the General Liquidation Account for a particular account with the agreement of the two administrations of the member countries concerned,

Wishing
to make optimum use of the International Bureau's existing resources,

Instructs

the Executive Council to study methods of operating expanded offsetting arrangements and to adapt international regulations accordingly.

(Proposal 2000.12, Committee 5, 7th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 71/Washington 1989

Methods for improving the return of empty mailbags

Congress,

Recognizing
that mailbags remain, and are likely to remain for some time, the principal means by which mail is carried throughout the world,

Noting
that the non-return of international mailbags can be for many countries, both developed and developing, detrimental to the efficient provision of services,

Urges

all administrations to return empty mailbags, both efficiently and promptly, to the countries to which they belong, by rigorously observing the requirements of article 168 of the Detailed Regulations of the Convention,

Invites

all administrations to consider the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of study 625 as carried out by the Consultative Council for Postal Studies and intended for publication as a Collection of Postal Studies brochure,

Recommends

a those administrations which have problems caused by the non-return of mailbags to consider setting up simple but cost-effective recording systems in order to ascertain:
   - the proportion of bags which are not returned;
   - whether that proportion can be considered as an acceptable loss;
   - which administrations may be principally responsible for the failure to return bags;

b those administrations which have such problems to make direct contact with the administrations concerned to seek the return of their bags or, failing that, applying the provisions of article 168, paragraphs 6 and 7, in order to obtain reimbursement;
c all administrations to consider the use of schemes for bag-sharing, or the reciprocal use of mailbags, as well as the use of one-trip mailbags, in order to increase the availability of mailbags;
d all administrations to consider the more extensive use of containers for conveying loose-loaded parcels, letters in letter trays or boxes and similar types of mail which do not require the use of mailbags.

(Proposal 2500.1, Committee 4, 9th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Recommendation C 76/Washington 1989

Increased containerization of mails

Congress,

Noting
the results of CCPS study 626 (CCEP 1988/C 2 – Doc 3.6a),

Recognizing
that bilateral tests have effectively demonstrated the benefits of using receptacles other than bags (such as trays) in the exchange of mails,

Urges

administrations to proceed with the development and use of such receptacles in their service for both internal and international operations, and

Recommends

that administrations which are already implementing or developing a containerization programme actively seek bilateral agreements for use of these receptacles in their international service.

(Proposal 2000.9, Committee 4, 8th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Recommendation C 79/Washington 1989

Standardized electronic messages for dispatches

Congress,

Recognizing
the advantages of receiving and utilizing advance information on dispatches to enhance the procedures for tendering, transferring, receiving and verifying mail dispatches by both the postal administrations and the airlines,

Desiring
to define standardized formats for electronically transmitting the information pertaining to dispatches exchanged between postal administrations and the airlines,

Noting
that the frequent non-receipt of the delivery bill at the final destination gives rise to unnecessary staff expenditure for receiving the mail and processing inquiries,

Recommends

the use of the IATA IMP cargo standard as an intermediate format for the electronic transmission of dispatch messages, until such time as messages in the UN EDIFACT standard can be developed and approved,

Instructs

the Executive Council, on the basis of the recommendations of the IATA–UPU Contact Committee, to finalize development of standardized message formats, to be disseminated through the International Bureau, comprising the following data elements:

- administration of origin of the AV 7;
- exchange office of origin of the AV 7;
- exchange office of destination of the AV 7;
- AV 7 number (control mechanism generated by computer);
- transportation/routeing information:
  - air carrier(s);
  - flight number(s);
  - date;
  - origin/destination/transfer points;
- dispatch details:
  - dispatch number;
  - office of origin of the mail;
  - office of destination of the mail;
  - bag number (computer-generated control number);
  - mail class and special category;
  - weight of the bag;
  - total number of bags by class;
  - total weight by class,

Further instructs

the Executive Council to determine and specify the data to be included in:
a messages exchanged between the postal administrations of origin and the airlines;
b messages exchanged between postal administrations of origin, transit and destination.

(Proposals 4000.2 and 4000.5, Committee 6, 2nd meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Recommendation C 80/Washington 1989

Philatelic code of ethics for the use of UPU member countries

Congress,

Referring
- to article 9 of the Convention, which specifies the terms under which postage stamps shall be issued;
- to article 192 of the Convention, Detailed Regulations, which specifies the characteristics of postage stamps,

Considering
the purpose of the Union and the aims which it pursues as expressed in the Preamble to and in article 1 of the Constitution,

Observing
- that postage stamps and postal products have a specific value when used for normal postal purposes;
- that they may also have a commercial value when used for philatelic purposes,

Recognizing
that the philatelic value of postage stamps and postal products depends:
- on the exclusive rights of postal administrations to issue postage stamps, as recognized by the Universal Postal Union;
- on the due observance, by administrations, of the relevant Acts of the Union;
- on the application by administrations of proper postal procedures in their services,

Noting
the desire expressed on various occasions by postal administrations for there to be available a recognized code of practice to be observed in regard to the issue and provision of postage stamps and products for philatelic purposes,

Recommends

the administrations of member countries of the UPU to observe the procedures described in the attached philatelic code of ethics for the use of member countries when issuing and providing postage stamps and postal items for philatelic purposes.

(Proposal 2000.18/Rev 1, Committee 4, 2nd meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Philatelic code of ethics for the use of UPU member countries

The philatelic code of ethics for the use of member countries comprises the following recommendations:

1 Administrations creating philatelic products shall ensure that the use of the postage stamps and other means of denoting payment of postage does not lead to the creation of such postal products as would not result from the exercise of proper postal procedures.

The following shall be recognized as philatelic products within the scope of this code:
- maximum cards;
- first day covers;
- presentation packs or albums;
- envelopes with embossed or preprinted stamps;
- cachets for special occasions and events and related products;
- stamps with surcharges, in conformity with article 192 of the Detailed Regulations of the Convention.

2 Administrations shall not authorize such use of cancellation dies, handstamps or other official informative or operational markings as would not result from the exercise of proper postal procedures.

2.1 Administrations shall not permit the use of such cancelling or marking devices by persons other than their own employees.

2.2 In certain exceptional cases and provided that direct supervision is exercised by their employees, administrations may authorize the use of these cancelling or marking devices by persons other than their own employees.

2.3 Where administrations contract out part of their operational activity and in particular cancellation, the contract shall specify that the cancelling and marking devices shall be used for operational purposes only and in strict accord with the proper postal procedures of the administration concerned, which shall ensure that this rule is strictly observed.

3 In the sale of products for philatelic purposes incorporating postage stamps, administrations shall ensure that the handling of the postage stamp itself and the use of cancellation dies, handstamps, cachets and other marking devices are in conformity with their respective postal procedures.

4 For each issue of postage stamps, administrations shall ensure that these are printed in sufficient quantity to meet potential operational requirements and foreseeable philatelic needs. In employing cancellation dies, handstamps and cachets for special occasions or events, administrations shall ensure that a sufficient quantity of philatelic products is available to meet requirements.

5 Administrations shall not permit or facilitate the sale to the public of postage stamps or philatelic products incorporating postage stamps in the country of issue at other than face value. Nor shall they sell such postage stamps in territories other than the territory of issue below face value.

6 Administrations shall, wherever possible, ensure that products for philatelic purposes incorporating postage stamps are available in sufficient quantity to satisfy the requirements of all those wishing to purchase them.

7 Whilst administrations have no control over the use of postage stamps or articles entrusted to the postal service for postal or philatelic purposes once they have been sold, they shall nevertheless:

7.1 Not support or acquiesce in any artifice intended to enhance sales of their postage stamps or products incorporating postage stamps by suggesting a potential scarcity of these products.
7.2 Avoid any action which might be taken as declaring approval of or conferring official status on products of unofficial origin incorporating postage stamps.
7.3 In the event that they appoint agents to market their philatelic products, instruct such agents to observe the same procedures and practices as those of the administrations themselves. Administrations shall not permit agents to operate or alter their proper postal procedures nor to control philatelic procedures.
7.4 Specifically prohibit the sale or disposal by their agents of their postage stamps or products incorporating postage stamps below face value. In remunerating their agents, administrations shall obviate as far as possible any need for agents to sell postage stamps or philatelic products incorporating postage stamps above face value. Due allowance may be made for national or local variations in sales and other taxes which may be pertinent.

Decision C 82/Washington 1989

Labelling of mails

Congress

Instructs

the Consultative Council for Postal Studies to study proposals 2562.7, 2562.10, 2555.4 as part of a comprehensive review of questions relating to security.

(Proposals 2562.7, 2562.10, 2555.4, Committee 4, 8th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Decision C 83/Washington 1989

Transfer of mails

Congress

Instructs

the Executive Council to study proposal 2564.2.

(Proposal 2564.2, Committee 4, 8th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Decision C 84/Washington 1989

Study on rationalizing UPU forms

Congress

Decides

to assign to the Executive Council:
a study of proposals 4903.1, 4903.2, 4907.1/Rev 1, 4617.1, 4624.1, 4625.1;
b a general study on rationalizing UPU forms aimed at:
- reducing their number;
- simplifying them;
- adapting them to new technologies.

(Proposals 4903.1, 4903.2, 4907.1/Rev 1, 4617.1, 4624.1, 4625.1, Committee 6, 2nd and 5th meetings; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Decision C 86/Washington 1989

Consequences of the use of the SDR as accounting unit

Congress,

Having noted the results of the study on the consequences of the use of the SDR as accounting unit,

Instructs

the Executive Council to take account, within the framework of all future economic studies, of the consequences of the use of the SDR as accounting unit.

(Congress – Doc 57, Committee 5, 1st meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Decision C 87/Washington 1989

Preparation and settlement of accounts

Congress,

Having, in resolutions C 68 and C 70 (proposals 3500.1 and 2000.12), instructed the Executive Council to undertake two studies on the provisions governing the preparation and settlement of accounts and on the expansion of the International Bureau offsetting arrangements,

Instructs

the Executive Council, within the framework of those studies, to take into account proposals 2501.3, 2501.4, 2501.6, 2501.2, 2503.1, 2598.1, 2919.91, 2931.1, 2931.2, 3572.7/Rev 1, 3572.3, 3570.5, 3582.3, 3921.1, 3921.2, 4621.1 and 4622.1.

(Proposals 2501.3, 2501.4, 2501.6, 2501.2, 2503.1, 2598.1, 2919.91, 2931.1, 2931.2, 3572.7/Rev 1, 3572.3, 3570.5, 3582.3, 3921.1, 3921.2, Committee 5, 8th and 9th meetings, and proposals 4621.1 and 4622.1, Committee 6, 5th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Decision C 90/Washington 1989

International business reply service

Congress,

Recognizing
that the traditional UPU methods allowing customers to include prepayment in their mailings are expensive, inconvenient and unsuited to the needs of modern business customers,

Aware
- that many administrations offer prepaid business reply services in their domestic services;
- and that there is a significant demand from business customers for these services to be extended into the international postal service,

Recognizing
that a number of CEPT administrations have already gone some way to meet this demand, by successfully operating a prepaid international business reply service (IBRS) since 1986, on the basis of the attached provisions,

Noting
that the demand for this service has also prompted competitors, including at least one international one, to introduce a similar system,

Decides

that administrations which choose to operate the IBRS service shall so do in conformity with the attached provisions,

Urges

all administrations to consider the possibility of participating in this service, in order to make it as worldwide a service as possible,

Instructs

the Executive Council to examine, modify and update the attached provisions and to adapt them, as the need arises, to further developments in customer requirements or improved operating or accounting procedures.

(Proposal 2000.16, Committee 4, 3rd meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Introduction of an international business reply service (IBRS)

Explanatory document by Great Britain

Executive summary

1 An international business reply service (IBRS) is needed to meet the demand from business users to be able to enclose prepaid reply cards and envelopes in their mailings to their overseas customers.

2 The traditional UPU methods for users to include prepayment in their mailings (by using international reply coupons or pre-stamped cards) are expensive, inconvenient and unsuited to the needs of modern business customers.

3 Many administrations operate business reply services in their domestic services and a number of CEPT countries have been operating a successful international prepaid reply service since 1986.

4 The system now proposed as an optional UPU service is based directly on the successful CEPT service.

5 It allows businesses to enclose in their mailings prepaid items, which their overseas customers can post back easily, without paying postage.

6 IBRS items:
a may be either postcards or envelopes;
b must conform to the conditions for standardized items, with the exception that IBRS envelopes may weigh up to 50 g;
c must conform to a standard design layout.

7 The service has simple operating and accounting procedures:
a a charge for each IBRS item returned is collected from the business firm;
b the administration which dispatches the returning IBRS items charges the receiving administration for the dispatching costs, in an annual account.

8 All IBRS items are handled as LC airmail correspondence, to ensure that the replies are sent back speedily.

9 A business reply service has already been developed by our international competitors, so an international postal reply service will be a vital weapon in retaining our customers.

10 The service is optional and limited to those administrations that wish to participate, but the more that join the service, the more effective it will be.

11 Congress is therefore invited to endorse the proposal to base the new service on the existing successful CEPT service.

1 Introduction

1.1 This document explains the reason behind the proposal by Great Britain, supported by other administrations, for introducing an international business reply service (IBRS).

2 Why the UPU needs an international business reply service

2.1 Many users of the international postal services wish to encourage their correspondents to reply to them. In particular, business firms wish to encourage their customers and their potential customers in other countries to send back orders for goods or services, to respond to advertisements, to answer questionnaires, and so on; and to use the postal service for doing this.

2.2 The best way to encourage a correspondent to reply is by prepaying the postage on the reply item. A prepaid reply item is a positive incentive for a customer to respond to an inquiry or an offer from an overseas business.

2.3 Until now, it has only been possible for users of the international post to offer two types of prepayment of postage:
a by enclosing an international reply coupon;
b by enclosing an envelope or card, fully pre-stamped for the intended country of posting.

2.4 These traditional methods may be satisfactory for very small mailings, or for individual and private correspondence, and they should be retained for these purposes. But they are quite unsuitable for the needs of modern commercial business customers, because:
a reply coupons have to be taken to a post office to be exchanged for stamps;
b for pre-stamped items, business customers have to acquire large numbers of stamps, of the correct postage, with different stamps for each country where the reply item would be posted.

2.5 Furthermore, they are very expensive for any business firm which intends to make a large mailing. Business firms normally expect only about 5 or 10 percent of the reply items to be sent back, but under these traditional systems, the company is obliged to prepay all the reply items, whether they are used or not.

2.6 A modern international business reply service (IBRS) has the following benefits:
a the person using the reply card or envelope can post it back immediately, with no need to go to a post office, and at no expense;
b this can significantly increase the response rate, ie, the number of items which are sent back to the business firm.

2.7 The service will allow business users to provide their customers with cards or letter envelopes up to 50 g on which the return airmail postage is prepaid. These items will have a standard design (see model at annex 1).

2.8 Although paragraphs 3.1 to 3.3 below explain the particular benefits of IBRS for international direct mail, there are also many other uses for the service. For instance, international market research firms can send questionnaires abroad and enclose an IBRS envelope for their respondents to return the completed questionnaire. Book, magazine and newspaper publishers can include IBRS cards for customers to renew their subscriptions. International mail order companies can include IBRS cards or envelopes for their customers to send in their orders for goods, and so on. International direct mail is an important use for IBRS, but there are many other benefits as well.

2.9 Many countries already operate successful business reply services in their domestic mail services. The British Post Office, for example, has over 90 000 domestic business reply service licences and delivers 435 million business reply items per year.

3 Encouraging international direct mail

3.1 An IBRS service will be an incentive for business users to conduct their advertising and publicity campaigns through the postal service. Direct mail is becoming an increasingly important service for postal administrations. It consists in sending advertising mailshots, carefully targeted to individual persons and addresses. Its success is shown by the following statistics:

a in Great Britain, over 10 percent of domestic letter-post traffic is made up of direct mail;
b in the major CEPT countries, direct mail traffic has been growing by an average of 6 percent per annum, over the last five years;
c in the United States of America, the number of direct mail items per head of population is five times as high as in Europe.

3.2 Business customers are especially interested in including prepaid business reply items in mailshots, because the reply items:

a stimulate increased responses from clients;
b enable the advertisers to judge the success of the mailshot, by measuring the level of response;
c permit the advertiser to build up an accurate list of interested overseas customers.

3.3 Great Britain does not expect that IBRS will in itself become a major service, but it will be a valuable additional service which will encourage international direct mail advertising. And direct mail itself is one of the biggest areas of potential traffic growth for letter mail.

4 Development of IBRS within CEPT

4.1 An international business reply service was introduced in September 1986, on an experimental basis, between a number of CEPT countries. The service has run efficiently and without any problems. The participating countries have all agreed to continue the service indefinitely.

4.2 The following countries all operate the IBRS service:

Belgium	Greece	Luxembourg	Portugal
Denmark	Great Britain	Monaco	Sweden
Finland	Iceland	Netherlands	Switzerland
France	Ireland	Norway	United Arab Emirates

Additionally, Cyprus and Spain provide a return service although they do not yet offer the service to their own customers. Brazil and New Zealand have agreed to join the service and will start to operate it very soon. A number of other administrations, both inside and outside CEPT, have recently expressed interest in joining the service.

4.3 The service being proposed to Congress is based directly on the successful CEPT service.

5 Developments among our competitors

5.1 Despite the success of the CEPT service so far, it is now important that as many additional administrations as possible join the service, as one of our major competitors, TNT, has introduced a similar reply service.

5.2 It is Great Britain's opinion that the UPU IBRS service will be a much better and simpler service for customers than the TNT service. However, the TNT service already operates to more countries than the current CEPT service. Great Britain therefore hopes that many other UPU administrations will be encouraged to join the proposed IBRS service.

6 How IBRS works: relations with the customer (the "licensee")

Note. – A simplified summary, showing the essential points of this section of the document, is given at annex 2.

6.1 Conditions for granting a customer an IBRS licence

6.1.1 When a business in one country (country A) wishes to provide prepaid reply items to its customers in another country (country B) the business must apply to its local post office, or to the postal administration's central offices, for an IBRS licence. The business is known as the "licensee".

6.1.2 The conditions of the licence include:

a the size, weight, dimensions, design layout, and other conditions of format, in conformity with the regulations of the administration and of the UPU;
b the requirement for the licensee to have the design of the item approved by the Post Office;
c the countries to which the service operates;
d the fee to be paid to the administration for each reply item that is delivered to the licensee;
e a general licence fee to cover the administrative costs of setting up the licence (establishing a customer account, setting up a traffic monitoring procedure, and so on).

6.2 Specifications for IBRS items

6.2.1 To keep the service simple, it is proposed to offer the customer two types of reply items:

- cards;
- envelopes weighing up to 50 g.

6.2.2 All IBRS items conform to the specifications for standardized items, as laid down in article 20 of the Convention, with the exception of the increased weight limit of 50 g for envelopes.

6.2.3 Items also have to conform to a standard design layout to make them readily identifiable in sorting offices (see model at annex 1). The layout conditions are specified in annex 1bis.

6.2.4 The reason for permitting IBRS envelopes to weigh up to 50 g, rather than simply the first weight step of 20 g, is to permit licensees to enclose medium-size questionnaires, order forms, or similar items. But this is limited to 50 g, since:

a it is not possible to put more than about 50 g of paper inside the maximum dimensions of a standardized envelope;

b to permit items over 50 g would make the charging and accounting procedures too complicated.

6.3 Dispatch and return of items to the licensee

6.3.1 The licensee prints the cards or envelopes to the design approved by its postal administration.

6.3.2 The licensee in country A dispatches a mailing to its customers in another country or countries B. The items in the mailing each contain an IBRS envelope or card. IBRS envelopes and cards can only be enclosed in letter-post items dispatched to other administrations which participate in the service.

6.3.3 This prepaid envelope or card can be used by the licensee's customers in country B (the "respondents") to respond. The respondent simply posts the card/envelope back to country A in the same way as an ordinary item, but does not have to affix stamps or pay any postage charges.

6.3.4 The reply item is circulated back to country A and delivered to the licensee. The number of IBRS items delivered is continually recorded at the delivery office of the licensee, and the licensee is billed by the postal administration of country A, at regular intervals, for the items delivered.

6.4 Billing of customers

6.4.1 Administrations decide for themselves how they fix their charges to customers, both for the licence fee and for the handling fee for each item. Great Britain recommends that administrations should not fix these fees too high in the early stages of developing the service, in order to encourage more customers to use it.

6.4.2 Administrations may not, however, fix their IBRS charges to their customers at a level which is lower than the charges for the domestic business reply service.

7 How IBRS works: relations between participating administrations

Note. – A simplified summary, giving the essential points of this section of the document, is given at annex 3.

7.1 Preliminary remarks

7.1.1 Because IBRS is a new service, it may take some time before traffic builds up to significant levels. Administrations may, therefore, wish to consider the option of agreeing bilaterally not to apply any accounting procedures, perhaps for the first one or two years of the service, until there is sufficient traffic to justify accounting.

7.1.2 Alternatively, administrations may make separate bilateral arrangements, for different accounting procedures from those suggested in 7.4 below.

7.1.3 Those administrations which do wish to implement accounting procedures may refer to the following operational and accounting procedures, agreed by the administrations which currently operate the service.

7.2 Operational procedures

7.2.1 Administrations wishing to account with each other in the IBRS service must monitor the number of items for inter-administration accounting purposes.

7.2.2 In order to achieve accurate monitoring, the administration in country B bags or bundles IBRS items separately from other mail, when dispatching items back to country A. The bundle labels must be clearly marked "IBRS/CCRI", followed by the number of items. If there are over 5 kg of IBRS items, they should be placed in a separate bag. The bag label must have the indication "IBRS/CCRI", followed by the number of items, clearly marked on the back of the label. The number of IBRS items must be notified on the C 12 letter bill. The bundles of IBRS items shall be enclosed in the bag containing the letter bill. The outward office of exchange must maintain a continuous record of IBRS items dispatched, to form the basis for accounting statements.

7.2.3 Country A may nominate a single inward office of exchange to receive dispatches containing IBRS items from other countries, in order to assist the monitoring process. Alternatively, some administrations, particularly those with large or difficult geographical territories, may nominate more than one inward office of exchange. Administrations are not obliged to nominate inward offices of exchange, but, if they do so, they must notify these offices to each other, and other administrations must respect these requirements when dispatching mails containing IBRS items.

7.3 Quality of service

7.3.1 In view of the competitive threat from similar new services, administrations must ensure that IBRS items are returned from one country to another as fast as possible. All IBRS items will be handled as airmail items. Dispatches of returned items must be made every day.

7.4 Accounting procedures

7.4.1 As indicated in 7.1, administrations may agree bilaterally not to apply the following procedures, if they prefer to have no accounting arrangements, or if they prefer to make different arrangements.

7.4.2 Because the IBRS items are all prepaid items, the administration in country B will receive no revenue from customers posting the items. Country B will therefore need to charge country A a fee for each item returned to country A.

7.4.3 Each participating administration decides the amount to be charged for returning IBRS items for delivery to the licensee. Some countries may wish to calculate the specific costs incurred in sorting and dispatching an IBRS item. Others may wish simply to base the charge on the appropriate airmail postage rate between country B and country A, or to fix a charge closely related to the postage rate.

7.4.4 It is proposed that administrations may charge either:

a a single per item rate, to apply to all IBRS items; or

b two per item rates, one rate applicable to IBRS cards, and a higher rate for IBRS envelopes weighing up to 50 g.

7.4.5 The fees charged by each country for returning IBRS items for delivery to the licensee in country A are notified to the International Bureau, which publishes them in the Compendium of Information (Convention).

7.4.6 Country B maintains records, for accounting purposes, at its outward offices of exchange of the numbers of IBRS items dispatched to each administration. It is proposed that administrations send notifications of traffic levels to each other every three months, and that settlements should be made annually.

7.4.7 Payments are made annually by bilateral offsetting between administrations. The creditor administration sends an annual account to the debtor administration for settlement.

8 How to regulate the service offered within the UPU

8.1 Because IBRS is a comparatively new service, and one which is still developing, it is not yet considered appropriate to insert detailed provisions for the service into the Acts. This is for the same reason as led many administrations to defer the introduction of regulations for the EMS service; namely, to ensure that the service had sufficient flexibility in its early years to develop and adapt in line with improving operating circumstances and changing customer requirements. These are also good reasons why IBRS is not yet ready for detailed regulation in the Acts.

8.2 Great Britain is therefore submitting three documents to Congress.

8.2.1 The present document, which explains why an IBRS service is needed, and how the present CEPT service operates.

8.2.2 A proposal to insert a short article in the Convention, stating that administrations may agree to operate IBRS as an optional service and that the procedures for the service will be specified by the Executive Council.

8.2.3 A Congress decision, which would require administrations to operate the service on the basis of the procedures described in this document. It would also instruct the Executive Council to examine and update these procedures as appropriate.

8.3 The aim is to insert, in the Convention, a brief "enabling" article (proposed as article 30bis), which simply:
- allows administrations to participate in IBRS on an optional basis; and
- specifies that the provisions for the service will be laid down by the Executive Council.

8.4 This article in the Convention has the benefit of giving official status to the existence of the service. It provides a legal basis for operating the service, for those administrations which need this. And the existence of the article acts as encouragement to those administrations who may wish to join the service at a later date.

8.5 It is, nonetheless, necessary to specify standards for operating the service, for those administrations which wish to. Consequently it is proposed that the Congress decision endorse the general procedures under which the service already operates among the existing participating administrations, as described in this document. The Congress decision requires these procedures to be studied by the Executive Council, and modified and updated by the EC from time to time, in the light of further developments in customer requirements or improved operating and accounting procedures, and so on.

9 Conclusions

9.1 Congress is invited to:

- take note of the explanations concerning the service contained in the rest of this document;
- approve proposal 2039.91 for amending the Convention to allow the introduction of an international business reply service (IBRS) on an optional basis; and
- approve Congress proposal 2000.16 instructing the Executive Council to examine, modify and update the provisions for operating the service.

By air mail
Par avion

IBRS/CCRI N°:

NE PAS AFFRANCHIR

NO STAMP REQUIRED

REPLY PAID/RÉPONSE PAYÉE
GREAT BRITAIN/GRANDE-BRETAGNE

MESSRS. T. Smith & Co.
99 Temple Street
PRESTON
GREAT BRITAIN
PR1 1ZY

Annex 1bis

Specification for standard design layout of IBRS items

The address side layout of all IBRS items must conform with the following points:

i In the top right-hand corner the "NE PAS AFFRANCHIR" (NO STAMP REQUIRED) symbol must be printed. This must contain the symbol of the postage stamp, with a bold diagonal line superimposed, and the words "NE PAS AFFRANCHIR" (NO STAMP REQUIRED). Administrations may additionally allow a similar indication in another language.

ii Above the address, two solid horizontal bars must be printed. Each bar must be at least 3 mm thick, and the bars must be at least 14 mm apart. Between the bars there must be printed two lines of text. On the first line must be printed the words "REPONSE PAYEE" (REPLY PAID). Administrations may additionally permit a similar indication in another language. On the second line must be printed the name of the country of destination. Both lines of text between the horizontal bars must be printed in capital letters.

iii The address of the IBRS licensee must be printed below the two horizontal bars.

iv An airmail indication must be printed in the top left-hand corner, in accordance with article 200 of the Detailed Regulations of the Convention.

v If an indication of the IBRS licence number is printed on the item, it must be shown in the top left-hand corner.

vi All the text and the symbols must be printed in a dark colour which contrasts clearly with the background of the envelope or card. In principle black or dark blue printing should be used, but administrations may permit other colours, provided that they result in dark printing contrasting clearly with a light background.

Annex 2

How the service works for the customer

Summary

This summary outlines the principal stages of the IBRS when used by the business customer: dispatching IBRS items to his customers overseas, receiving them back from his customers, and billing for the service by his postal administration.

Stage 1: country A

1.1 The customer applies to the administration of country A for an IBRS licence, and submits a design of the items for approval.

1.2 The administration ensures that the customer's application for a licence, and the proposed design of the items, conform to the requirements of the administration and of the UPU.

1.3 The administration grants the licence and charges the customer an annual fee for establishing the licence.

1.4 The customer prints the reply items in accordance with the terms of the licence.

1.5 As often as he wishes the customer (the licensee) dispatches mailings of items which enclose prepaid IBRS items for the addressees to send back to the licensee.

Stage 2: country B

2.1 The addressees receive items which enclose IBRS items.

2.2 The addressees post the prepaid IBRS items back to country A, without needing to pay postage.

Stage 3: country A

3.1 On their arrival, the office of delivery, maintains a record of all IBRS items returned to the licensee.

3.2 The items are delivered to the licensee.

3.3 The administration bills the licensee at regular intervals for the number of items returned.

Annex 3

Inter-administration operating and accounting procedures

Summary

This summary outlines the principal stages in the inter-administration operating and accounting procedures. Administrations may agree not to apply the accounting procedures, or to apply different accounting procedures.

Stage 1: country A

1.1 The administration dispatches the licensee's mailings of items which enclose prepaid IBRS items, to country B.

Stage 2: country B

2.1 The recipients of the mailing from country A post the prepaid IBRS items back to the licensee in country A.

2.2 The IBRS items are identified at the outward offices of exchange, in country B, and bundled or bagged separately.

2.3 The numbers of IBRS items contained in a dispatch are indicated on the C 12 letter bill.

2.4 The outward offices of exchange keep records of the numbers of IBRS items dispatched to each administration.

2.5 IBRS items are dispatched to country A (to the nominated inward office of exchange, where appropriate).

Stage 3: country B

3.1 Country B fixes the amount which it wishes to charge country A for dispatching each IBRS item back to country A. This amount is notified to country A.

3.2 Country B sends country A a statement every three months of the numbers of IBRS items dispatched to country A.

Stage 4

4.1 The creditor country sends an annual account to the debtor country for settlement.

2.4.2 Letter post

Decision C 6/Paris 1947

Exchange of international reply coupons[1] [2]

Reply coupons intended for exchange against the postage stamps necessary for prepaying letters to be sent to countries with which an administration has an agreement on reduced charges must be exchanged against the value of the postage prepayable for countries with which no agreement on reduced charges exists.

(French Documents of the 1947 Paris Congress – volume II: pages 474, 1110)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 34, para 3.
[2] See also decision C 5/Brussels 1952.

Recommendation C 7/Paris 1947

Liability for the loss of a registered item

Any country which, under article 60, d, of the Convention[1], is exempt from all responsibility for the loss of a registered item, may decline to invoke this clause where satisfactory proof is furnished that the delay was inevitable.

(French Documents of the 1947 Paris Congress – volume II: pages 482, 1110)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 60, para 2, i, c.

Decision C 8/Paris 1947

Check of mails
(Conv, Det Regs (Paris 1947), art 150, para 5)[1]

Interpretation of the words "unless this is impossible for a stated reason": this merely explains the reasons for not returning material; it is not a justification with supporting documents.

(French Documents of the 1947 Paris Congress – volume II: pages 367, 1111)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 170, para 9.

Formal opinion C 3/Brussels 1952

Grouping of replies to advertisements

Within the framework of the provisions of article 48, paragraph 7[1], replies to advertisements may be grouped by newspapers or advertising agencies and sent to those placing the advertisements as grouped items at letter rate.

(French Documents of the 1952 Brussels Congress – volume II: pages 142, 494, 497)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 41, para 6.

Decision C 5/Brussels 1952

Exchange of reply coupons for stamps on which a supplement is payable[1] [2]

If, instead of asking for a stamp or stamps representing the postage on an unregistered single-rate letter for abroad from that country, the sender asks – in exchange for a reply coupon – for a commemorative stamp or stamps on which a supplement is payable, he will have to pay the supplement himself.

(French Documents of the 1952 Brussels Congress – volume II: pages 142, 143, 506)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 34, para 3.
[2] See also decision C 6/Paris 1947.

Formal opinion C 7/Brussels 1952

Omission of the green label on unsealed items[1]

It happens fairly frequently that in certain countries printed paper items or samples of goods are confiscated, or that a fine is imposed by the Customs merely because of failure to affix the regulation green label. This should not be so, because firstly, it is a question of unsealed items whose contents can easily be verified in the country of destination, affording every possibility of levying any necessary customs duties, and secondly, the sender and the office of posting may not always know whether the contents are subject to customs duty. While therefore retaining the present provision, it would be desirable to mention in the report that the omission of the green label on an unsealed item (or an item whose shape is indicative of its nature) should not result in the application of customs sanctions.

(French Documents of the 1952 Brussels Congress – volume II: pages 143, 144, 590, 915)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 117, para 5.

Formal opinion C 8/Brussels 1952

Maximum weight of bags

Considering that some administrations have noted that the rule in article 16[1], paragraph 171, according to which the weight of bags must not exceed 30 kg, is not always observed in practice, which hampers bag handling, Congress expresses the formal opinion that administrations should strictly observe this provision.

(French Documents of the 1952 Brussels Congress – volume II: pages 144, 609, 955, 956)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 159, para 10.

Decision C 15/Brussels 1952

Insured articles in roll form

By virtue of article 3, paragraph 1[1], the regulations applicable to letters apply also to articles in roll form, which should, consequently, be admitted for insurance.

(French Documents of the 1952 Brussels Congress – volume II: pages 147, 782)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 20.

Decision C 5/Ottawa 1957

Reimbursement of the indemnity to the administration which has made the payment

The administration on behalf of which payment is made in accordance with article 75[1] must reimburse the dispatching administration, within a period of four months of dispatch of the notice of payment, the amount of indemnity actually paid to the sender although it may later transpire that the registered item inquired after was delivered to the addressee. Authentic interpretation.

(French Documents of the 1957 Ottawa Congress – volume II: pages 64, 471)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 68.

Formal opinion C 8/Ottawa 1957

Envelopes with transparent panels[1]

In view of the difficulties encountered in handling envelopes with a transparent address panel, Congress requests all administrations to recommend to all producers of such envelopes that they test and submit to the postal administrations samples for examination before the envelopes are mass-produced.

(French Documents of the 1957 Ottawa Congress – volume II: pages 65, 481)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 124.

Formal opinion C 5/Vienna 1964

Adhesive bands for the sealing of printed papers

Many users are asking to be able to employ for the sealing of printed papers a system incorporating the facilities of successive opening offered by certain adhesive papers.
It is desirable that for such items, the following conditions should be fulfilled:

i the adhesive band must be stuck to a glossy base and be able to be sealed and unsealed at will;

ii the make-up of the items should be such that from their external appearance they cannot be confused with sealed objects; to this end the following particulars must be printed near the adhesive band:

   a "Unsealed item, may be opened for inspection by the postal service" (or similar words);

   b instructions concerning the method of closing (eg, "To open, lift the strip, to close, refix on its base").

The process described above constitutes one of the methods of closing authorized by article 122.[1]

(French Documents of the 1964 Vienna Congress – volume II: pages 703, 1118, 1119, 1369)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 123.

Formal opinion C 6/Vienna 1964

Measures in favour of teaching by correspondence[1]

Congress,

Taking into consideration
the benefits at international level of the development of teaching by correspondence,

Recommends

postal administrations of member countries of the Universal Postal Union to encourage to the utmost teaching by correspondence, particularly by reducing rates applicable to students' homework, corrected exercises and work syllabuses sent by educational institutions responsible for correspondence courses.

(French Documents of the 1964 Vienna Congress – volume II: pages 703, 1110, 1360)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 128, para 2.

Recommendation C 6/Vienna 1964

Reduction in rate for book catalogues

Congress,

Taking into consideration
the advantages to the distribution of information, science and culture derived from the publication of book catalogues edited either by cultural organizations or by publishing houses themselves,

Recommends

postal administrations of member countries to conclude between themselves, within the framework of the provisions of article 8 of the Constitution, agreements for the reciprocal acceptance of book catalogues at the rate which is applied to books, magazines and newspapers, namely 50 percent of the general printed papers rate, under article 16, paragraphs 6 and 7[1], of the Universal Postal Convention.

(French Documents of the 1964 Vienna Congress – volume II: pages 703, 1077, 1340)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 20, paras 8 and 9.

Recommendation C 10/Vienna 1964

Registered items originating abroad[1]

Congress recommends administrations which mark registered items in their internal service with a blue cross, not to put this marking on items of this type originating abroad, as this procedure gives rise to complaints from senders of philatelic items.

(French Documents of the 1964 Vienna Congress – volume II: pages 703, 1120, 1370)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 133)

Formal opinion C 50/Tokyo 1969

Apportionment of responsibility between postal administrations

(Formal opinion regarding paragraph 3 of article 42 of the Vienna Convention – article 43 of the Tokyo Convention)[1]

A corollary of the bulk advice system in the exchange of registered items is that administrations of origin and destination each pay half the indemnity due in case of loss. This division is the rule and one or other administration cannot avoid its share of responsibility by citing unilateral proofs based on an entry or an individual acknowledgement, accidental or otherwise, made by its services.

Certain countries which have subscribed to the bulk advice system in their mutual exchanges have, however, for reasons of their own, fallen into the habit of entering in detail certain registered items which thus escape the bulk advice system. In principle, there is nothing to distinguish these registered items from all the others.

Although these procedures are a distortion of the bulk advice principle, there would be no need to oppose them if they only represented a method for the administration of origin to trace the path of its registered items better, to fix their route of dispatch with accuracy. Although some administrations have never quoted these entries in an attempt to throw full responsibility for the loss on to the destination country, this is not the case with certain others, which have invoked these detailed entries in order to refuse, or try to refuse, to accept their share of responsibility in the absence of any verification on arrival in the country of destination.

Seeing that some administrations put forward demands which are incompatible with the Convention texts, the inference is that these texts are not precise or complete enough, and their scope should therefore be better defined, to avoid any ambiguities and any possibility of disagreement between administrations.

The principle of shared responsibility is, however, so absolute that the wording does not even allow for full responsibility on the part of the administration that admits or discovers that the loss occurred in its own services, as required by fairness and equity. This is a gap that should be filled.

Accordingly, Congress has adopted the formal opinion by Belgium and expressed the following opinion:
"When the exchange of registered articles takes place under the bulk advice system, by agreement in accordance with the provisions of article 153, paragraph 2, e, of the Detailed Regulations of the Vienna Convention[2], the responsibility for paying the indemnity which may be due for the loss of an article shall be shared equally between the administrations of origin and destination of the dispatch presumed to have contained the lost item, unless the responsibility of an intermediate administration can be established, or unless either the administration of origin or the administration of destination admits or discovers that the loss occurred in its own services.
"Administrations which have subscribed to an agreement to deal with registered articles on the bulk advice system cannot be relieved of their responsibility by citing unilateral proofs based on an entry or an individual acknowledgement, accidental or otherwise, made by their services.
"The entry in detail of some registered items, in particular, constitutes a unilateral derogation of the bulk advice principle and cannot be invoked by the administration which had practised it in order to be relieved of its share of responsibility."

(Documents of the 1969 Tokyo Congress – volume II: pages 1109, 1464)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 63, para 4.
[2] Conv. Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 160, para 2, g.

Recommendation C 63/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Marking of registered items

Congress,

Referring
to the results of the study on the marking of registered items carried out by the CCPS in implementation of 1974 Lausanne Congress decision C 47, which are embodied in proposal 2530.1,

Recalling
that the marking of registered items must be clear and not give rise to any misunderstanding,

Considering
that the labels in the form of the C 4 specimen provided for in article 1311 of the Detailed Regulations of the Convention best meet this requirement,

Bearing in mind
however, the position of administrations whose internal system prevents the use of C 4 labels and which have the option of replacing these labels by a stamp clearly reproducing the particulars on the C 4 labels,

Aware
of the difficulties, in the operational services and with regard to liability, which inadequate marking of registered items may cause postal administrations,

Concerned
to ensure the proper operation of the international postal service,

Urgently recommends

that postal administrations which apply the option provided for in article 1311, paragraph 5, of the Detailed Regulations of the Convention, of using a stamp reproducing the particulars on the C 4 label to mark registered items should:

a take the necessary measures, particularly by giving their operational services precise instructions, to ensure that such marking is clear and in accordance with that of the specimen C 4 label;

b consider the possibility of using, as soon as possible, labels completely in accordance with the C 4 specimen (article 131[1], paragraph 4), or, if this is impossible containing only the printed letter R (article 131[1], paragraph 5), instead of stamps reproducing the particulars on the C 4 labels.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1541, 1784)

[1] Conv. Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 133.

Recommendation C 68/Hamburg 1984

Bundling of standardized items

Congress,

Aware
of the need to ensure smooth processing of standardized items by means of mechanized and automated equipment,

In view of
the provision of article 155, paragraph 1, of the Detailed Regulations of the Convention[1] which governs the bundling by size (standardized items and other items) of ordinary items,

Having noted
that standardized items whose dimensions are close to the maximum size limits are often bundled with those whose dimensions are close to the minimum size limits,

Considering that
bundling in this fashion can often lead to deterioration of the edges of standardized items,

Concerned that
standardized items should remain suitable for mechanized and/or automated processing and should not cause such equipment to jam,

Recommends

to postal administrations that they make up, to the degree possible, bundles of standardized items of similar size.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 191, 365)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 159, para 1.

Resolution C 69/Hamburg 1984

Make-up of mails

Congress,

Aware of
the physiological importance of facilitating as much as possible, during the manual loading or unloading operations, the handling of bags used for conveying mails,

Noting
that the way in which bags are closed often allows the contents to shift inside them,

Concerned
with ensuring the maximum protection of postal staff responsible for handling such bags against any risk of injury resulting from their instability,

Recommends

administrations to prescribe that bags be closed as near as possible to the contents in order to ensure maximum stability of the latter.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 191, 365)

Formal opinion C 76/Hamburg 1984

Checking of mails and use of verification notes

Congress

Invites

the postal administrations of member countries to remind their services that, under the provisions of article 165 of the Detailed Regulations of the Convention[1], irregularities established must be reported immediately by means of a verification note sent by the quickest route (air or surface) to the office concerned, after the complete check of the mail.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 191, 385)

[1]Conv. Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 170.

Resolution C 83/Hamburg 1984

Address area on the layout key for trade documents

Congress,

Having taken note
of the work described in Congress – Doc 13 concerning the address area on the layout key for trade documents,

Considering
that it is important to see that the postal operational requirements of all the member countries of the Union are taken into consideration in the draft international standard being prepared in this connection by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO),

Aware
of the necessity of adapting the regulations to the needs of traffic exchanges and to the concerns of customers, such adaptation being one of the surest ways of promoting traffic,

Noting
the position adopted by the ISO, which, in order to facilitate the solution of the problems raised, has decided to postpone publication of the standard concerned for one year,

Instructs

the Consultative Council for Postal Studies:

a to pursue the study of the question as a matter of priority in conjunction with the ISO in order to reach solutions that are acceptable to both sides;

b to inform postal administrations, after consultation with the Executive Council if matters falling within the latter's purview are concerned, of such provisions as may have been agreed upon with the ISO so that these provisions can be applied immediately;

c to submit a report on its work to the next Congress as well as any proposals for amending the Acts arising from the provisions applied.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 177, 191)

Resolution C 10/Washington 1989

Regulations for printed papers

Congress,

Having noted
the work done by the Executive Council within the framework of the study on the classification of letter-post items,

Noting
that the majority of administrations which took part in the consultation conducted by circular letter No 3390.2(B)1491 of 29 May 1987 were of the opinion that articles 126 to 128 of the Detailed Regulations of the Convention should be shortened and the regulation of certain details left to the discretion of the administration of origin of the item,

Also noting
that the International Publishers' Association (IPA) thinks that article 19 of the Convention should be modernized in order to admit as reduced-rate printed papers catalogues produced on CD ROM, floppy disks or cassettes as well as publications accompanied by audio or visual materials,

Instructs

the Executive Council to conduct a study aimed at modernizing and simplifying the regulations concerning printed papers.

(Proposal 2000.1, Committee 4, 1st meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Recommendation C 33/Washington 1989

Conclusion of bilateral agreements on service targets

Congress,

Noting
the efforts to improve the quality of international postal service resulting from the Declaration of Hamburg,

Having noted
that the Executive Council has acknowledged the necessity of incorporating quality of service targets in the Convention,

Aware
of the importance of rapid and reliable postal transport in order to compete with private transport companies,

Recommends

- administrations of origin and destination to conclude a bilateral agreement regarding service targets for letter-post items based on a detailed analysis of operational and transport arrangements between the two administrations;
- administrations to agree on the measures that each will take in order to achieve the ultimate service targets;
- administrations to set up monitoring systems in order to identify where problems are occurring;
- administrations to conduct regular reviews of the bilateral agreements in order to monitor progress towards the ultimate target and to agree on what, if any, further measures are needed.

(Proposal 2000.21, Committee 4, 1st meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 63/Washington 1989

Use of a symbol for literature for the blind

Congress,

Aware of the fact
that the present regulations do not provide for a distinct symbol for literature for the blind,

Considering
that, for this reason, such items are not always handled in the best possible way, particularly as regards customs clearance,

Instructs

the Executive Council:

a to conduct, with the cooperation of the international organizations concerned, a study aimed at determining whether the adoption of a distinct symbol for literature for the blind is called for;

b if appropriate, to propose to the next Congress a symbol which would ensure optimum quality of service for items of literature for the blind.

(Proposal 2000.20, Committee 4, 7th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Recommendation C 74/Washington 1989

Bundling of "flat" envelopes

Congress,

Noting
that most administrations insert "flat" envelopes loose into bags, resulting in extensive mail preparation in the administration of destination,

Aware
that bundling of such items by the dispatching administration improves overall service levels,

Recommends

that administrations appropriately bundle "flat" envelopes dispatched abroad.

(Proposal 2000.7, Committee 4, 8th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Recommendation C 75/Washington 1989

Use of appropriate bundling materials

Congress,

Aware
that some bundling materials such as slippery twine are inadequate, particularly since this becomes brittle with use and breaks, resulting in extensive mail preparation in the country of destination,

Recommends

that administrations make use of more appropriate bundling materials.

(Proposal 2000.8, Committee 4, 8th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Recommendation C 77/Washington 1989

Reservations to chapter III of the Universal Postal Convention and part III of the Postal Parcels Agreement dealing with liability

Congress,

Noting
that reservations have been made with regard to the provisions of chapter III of the Universal Postal Convention and part III of the Postal Parcels Agreement dealing with liability,

Concerned
at the fact that these reservations not only are detrimental to postal administrations, in that they endanger their interests, but are especially and directly detrimental to users of the post, to whom these administrations are accountable,

Recognizing
the sovereign right of countries to submit reservations to the Acts, in accordance with UPU practice in the matter,

Keeping in mind
that, despite this sovereign right, countries must endeavour to refrain from submitting reservations of this kind,

Aware of the fact
that such reservations are dictated by internal contingencies or by the legislation of the countries submitting them,

Considering
recommendation C 51/Tokyo 1969, recommendation C 70/Lausanne 1974, decision C 20/Rio de Janeiro 1979 and resolution C 73/Hamburg 1984,

Recommends

i postal administrations to refrain from submitting reservations concerning the provisions of chapter III of the Universal Postal Convention and of part III of the Postal Parcels Agreement dealing with liability;
ii postal administrations which uphold the reservations they make to these provisions to do their utmost to get their appropriate national authorities to remedy their domestic problems or to adapt their national legislation leading to the submission of such reservations, so that the latter can be reviewed and withdrawn from the Final Protocols to the UPU Acts.

(Proposal 2000.11, Committee 4, 6th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Decision C 88/Washington 1989

Remailing

Congress,

Having noted the results of the work done by the Executive Council on the question of remailing,

Instructs

the Executive Council to continue that study.

(Congress – Doc 56 and Add 1, Committee 5, 4th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

2.4.3 Transit charges and terminal dues

Resolution C 26/Washington 1989

Harmonization of systems of accounting for transit charges for closed surface letter and surface parcel mails

Congress,

Considering
that the transit of surface parcel mails is administered differently from that of letter-post mail,

Realizing
that operationally the transit of a bag of letter post and a bag of parcel post is similar,

Instructs

the Executive Council to undertake a study with a view to having a single system that applies to both letter post and parcel post.

(Proposal 2000.6/Rev 1, Committee 7, 5th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 56/Washington 1989

Revision of the scales and permanent study of transit charges

Congress,

Having taken note of
the work done by the Executive Council to establish scales for transit charges,

Considering
that the problem of equitable remuneration in respect of transit charges is one of the major concerns of the Union,

Believing
that the calculations to be made should be based on the methods best suited to the purposes in view,

Instructs

the Executive Council:
- to recalculate for each Congress, at a date as close as possible to the latter and according to the method approved by the previous Congress, the transit charge scales fixed at article 63 of the Convention;
- to continue the study for improving the methodology used, with a view to ensuring equitable remuneration for administrations which conduct transit operations;
- to submit, if necessary, on the occasion of each Congress scales that take account of the adjustments to be made to the calculation system resulting from the aforementioned study and, where applicable, the corresponding proposals for amendment of the Acts.

(Proposal 3000.5, Committee 5, 5th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 57/Washington 1989

Study of a weighted average distance per country for mails in land transit

Congress,

Considering
that at present land transit charges are calculated in each country on the basis of the actual distances of each of the routes travelled for the conveyance of mails in transit,

Bearing in mind
that in many countries mails in land transit use different routes according to their country of origin and country of destination,

Being of the view
that the multiplicity of routes and distances causes a heavy workload with regard to calculating and preparing the corresponding accounts in respect of land transit charges,

Instructs

the Executive Council:
- to study the possibility of fixing common bases and standards in order that countries providing a transit service can establish a weighted average distance that will serve as a reference for calculating the land transit charges in respect of mails transiting each country;
- to submit proposals to that effect to the next Congress.

(Proposal 3000.7, Committee 5, 5th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 59/Washington 1989

Study on transit charges for à découvert mail

Congress,

Noting
that no remuneration for administrations of transit is stipulated in the Acts of the Union to cover the conveyance costs and the postal costs incurred by administrations which reforward LC/AO surface mail in transit à découvert, whereas such remuneration is provided for with regard to airmail and to air and surface postal parcels in transit à découvert,

Considering
that these costs can be relatively high, especially when the country of transit sends its own surface mail by air (s.a.l.),

Wishing
that every administration should receive financial compensation commensurate with the cost of the services rendered in behalf of other member countries,

Instructs

the Executive Council:
- to study, on the lines of what is provided for airmail, the principles of possible remuneration for the administration of transit to enable it to cover the costs of reforwarding surface mail in transit à découvert;
- to include in this study the question of missent mail;
- to consider the statistical and accounting terms and conditions to be established;
- to formulate, for the next Congress, suitable proposals.

(Proposal 3000.2, Committee 5, 5th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 66/Washington 1989

Basic documents for entering the weights to be taken into consideration for the settlement of accounts of mail subject to transit charges and terminal dues

Congress,

Bearing in mind
- that, during the discussion in Committee 5 on the choice of basic forms for transit charges and terminal dues accounting, opinions were very divided,
- that a documentation system prepared for this purpose on the basis of the C 12 letter bill or the C 18, C 18bis and AV 7 delivery bills involves, in each case, advantages and drawbacks,

Instructs

the Executive Council to undertake a study on the most suitable basic documents for the accounting of transit charges and terminal dues for both surface mail and airmail. This study would also address the related accounting procedures.

(Proposal 3000.6, Committee 5, 6th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 72/Washington 1989

Permanent study on terminal dues

Congress,

Having taken note of the work done by the Executive Council,

Considering
that the problems posed by remuneration for services rendered by countries of destination to countries dispatching mail are among the major concerns of the Union,

Being of the view
that financial relations between dispatching countries and countries of destination must henceforth be based on economic criteria that take account not only of costs and services rendered but also of the environment in which postal administrations operate, particularly with regard to competition,

Noting
that certain administrations have for this reason introduced in their reciprocal relations a terminal dues system other than that provided for in the Convention,

Observing
that this system, based on the principle calling for a calculation of terminal dues comprising two elements (a rate per kilogramme and a rate per item), allows, by taking into account delivery costs relating to the number of items, the possibility of ensuring better coverage of the costs borne by the countries of destination,

Considering
that it is of the utmost importance that provisions be adopted to further the use of all terminal dues revenue as remuneration for the costs of handling mail in the country of destination, in particular those costs required for the implementation of postal infrastructure replacement and improvement programmes, and that such revenue be used to secure the organization and improvement of postal services in the international field, in accordance with article 1, paragraph 2, of the Constitution of the Union,

Instructs

the Executive Council:
- to continue studying the question of terminal dues with a view to ensuring that administrations of destination receive fair remuneration, taking account of the factors set out in the preambular paragraphs, for handling foreign-origin mail;
- to submit to each Congress, if necessary, its recommendations concerning adjustments to be made to the terminal dues system along with proposals for amending the corresponding Acts.

(Proposals 3000.1 and 3000.3 merged, Committee 5, 5th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Recommendation C 78/Washington 1989

Reserving terminal dues revenue for the purpose of improving the quality of the postal service

Congress,

Considering
- that the Constitution of the UPU is the fundamental Act of the Union;
- that article 1, paragraph 2, of the Constitution of the Union stipulates that the aim of the Union shall be to secure the organization and improvement of the postal services;
- that the UPU Congress meeting in Tokyo in 1969 established the principle of payment of terminal dues as remuneration for the costs incurred by the administrations of destination in assuming management of the traffic in imbalance;
- that the said remuneration implicitly entails for the postal administrations the obligation to endeavour to achieve the highest standards of quality of service;
- that, as a result, the costs of managing the traffic in imbalance must include the implementation of programmes for the organization, expansion and improvement of the postal service as a whole;
- that it is necessary to continue to strive to ensure that the revenue generated through the application of the terminal dues system is used to achieve the purposes for which the system was created,

Recommends

the Governments of Union member countries:

- to recognize the principle providing that the monies received as terminal dues be allocated in their entirety to the postal service of the country of destination, regardless of the legal status of that service, whether or not it holds assets in its own name, and irrespective of its autonomy of management, and, consequently, that the revenue derived from terminal dues be used exclusively as reimbursement for handling costs and for the constitution of the reserve funds required for replacement and improvement of the postal infrastructures of the countries;
- to establish procedures that will make it possible with the utmost expediency to transfer all revenue derived from terminal dues to the budget of their postal service, once the formalities required by domestic legislation have been observed.

(Proposal 3000.4, Committee 5, 5th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Decision C 85/Washington 1989

Transit charges for à découvert mail

Congress,

Having instructed the Executive Council in resolution C 59 (proposal 3000.2) to undertake a study on transit charges for à découvert mail,

Instructs

the Executive Council to take account of proposals 3062.1 and 3067.4 within the framework of that study.

(Proposals 3062.1 and 3067.4, Committee 5, 5th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

2.4.4 Airmail

Decision C 11/Paris 1947

Air conveyance. Steps to be taken in the event of an accident[1]

The opinion was expressed that in certain cases two telegrams might be necessary: the first to be dispatched immediately, notifying the administrations concerned that an accident had occurred, likely to result in the loss of some or all of the mail, and a second, to be dispatched as soon as possible, giving details of the missing or damaged mails.

(French Documents of the 1947 Paris Congress – volume II: pages 636, 1112)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 212, para 2.

Formal opinion C 12/Paris 1947

Air conveyance dues[1]

Air conveyance dues are payable to the intermediate administration which ensures the conveyance or correspondence in closed mails by air, even in the case of unsurcharged mails.

(French Documents of the 1947 Paris Congress – volume II: pages 637, 638, 1112)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 84, para 1.

Formal opinion C 9/Vienna 1964

Use of form AV 8

Postal administrations are asked to use form AV 8 as laid down in article 187, paragraph 3[1], and to complete it legibly, in capital letters and unambiguously.

(French Documents of the 1964 Vienna Congress – volume II: pages 703, 1180, 1340)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 203, para 3.

Formal opinion C 69/Tokyo 1969

Fifth freedom

Congress,

In view of
the results of the work of the Executive Council pursuant to resolution C 30 of the 1964 Vienna Congress concerning the fifth freedom,

Noting
that the absence of the fifth freedom only involves delays in the forwarding of mail in isolated cases and that owing to the increasing extension of air networks these cases will tend to decrease still further,

Recognizing
that only Governments, represented by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), reserve the right to grant the fifth freedom on the basis of considerations peculiar to each country and that all the efforts made by ICAO for many years to achieve a multilateral agreement for the worldwide liberalization of air conveyance have remained fruitless,

Invites

the postal administrations of the member countries of the Universal Postal Union to approach their national civil aviation authorities in order to obtain special rights for postal traffic when the absence of the fifth freedom delays the conveyance of airmail.

(Documents of the 1969 Tokyo Congress – volume II: pages 1109, 1518)

Recommendation C 78/Tokyo 1969

Combined charges

Congress,

Considering
that it is important to ensure in all cases that the users of the Post are not less favourably treated under the "combined charge" system than under the "surcharge" system,

Recommends

that postal administrations of member countries collecting combined charges:

i to fix such charges fairly, following the principle stated in the Tokyo Convention, last sentence of article 57, paragraph 11 (close relation between the proceeds from air surcharges and air conveyance costs). When the method of calculation does not allow a clear distinction to be made between the "air surcharge" and the "basic charge", it is for the administration concerned to decide how this principle shall be applied;

ii to adopt wherever possible the practice whereby the user is required to pay only the "air surcharge" portion of the combined charge, with special reference to articles 59, paragraph 1, b, and 63, paragraphs 2 and 4, of the Tokyo Convention.[2]

(Documents of the 1969 Tokyo Congress – volume II: pages 1109, 1503)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 21, para 1.
[2] The introduction by the 1974 Lausanne Congress of a provision allowing administrations using combined charges to fix special rates for redirection or return to origin has made operative clause ii of the recommendation superfluous.

Formal opinion C 59/Lausanne 1974

Strengthening of the neck-hems of airmail bags[1] [2]

Congress

Expresses the formal opinion

that administrations should use on bags intended for making-up of airmails a reinforced neck-hem at least 8 mm thick, so that the string-knot cannot be slipped off and replaced without traces appearing.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 974, 975, 1376, 1377)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 203, para 1.
[2] See circular 115/1977.

Resolution C 60/Lausanne 1974

Affirmation of the principles of freedom of transit with regard to so-called "hijacking" activities

Congress,

Having noted
that so-called "hijacking" activities perpetrated throughout the world may directly or indirectly affect the principles of freedom of transit and the inviolability of postal items,

Wishing
to affirm these principles and to retain complete effectiveness in the face of new facts or acts which may infringe them,

Declares

that mails, regardless of what they may be or to which category they may belong, affected by so-called "hijacking" activities are inviolable, and that the subsequent forwarding of the said mails must be assured on a priority basis by the country where the aircraft landed or was freed, even if this aircraft is the subject of disputes of a non-postal nature.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 974, 975, 1382)

Recommendation C 63/Lausanne 1974

Security of valuable items conveyed by the Post: general security and protection measures at offices of exchange and airports

Congress,

Having noted
the findings of the priority study carried out in accordance with resolution C 55 of the 1969 Tokyo Congress,

Noting
the increasingly frequent use of the postal service for the conveyance of valuable items,

Aware
of the growing number of criminal acts committed against the postal service, which are directed at valuable items and endanger the lives of the personnel responsible for handling them,

Wishing
to offer users of the Post a service guaranteeing maximum security in every respect during the transmission of items of all kinds, but especially of registered and insured airmail items,

Anxious
to give the personnel responsible for handling these items adequate protection against the risk of criminal attacks,

Recommends

postal administrations:

a to review periodically, in close consultation with their countries' airlines, security arrangements for the conveyance by their services of international registered and insured airmail items; and

b to apply as far as possible, and as the volume of traffic requires, the security measures listed in annex 1 below covering in particular:
   i constructional and technical protection measures (air and surface traffic); and
   ii security measures during the performance of postal operations at offices of exchange and airports.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 974, 975, 1116 to 1119)

Annex 1

1 Constructional and technical protection measures (air and surface traffic)

1.1 *Constructional measures in regard to offices*

1.1.1 *Armoured premises or strong-room for safekeeping of mails*

Appropriate strong-rooms should be provided in large offices of exchange for the safe-keeping of mails and bulky insured items. These strong-rooms should be constructed of reinforced concrete and should have no windows or other openings. The doors should be fitted with electronic locking mechanisms. The installation of lock-chambers will protect strong-room opening operations.

1.1.2 *Special lockable room reserved for sorting and dispatch of mails*

Rooms for sorting and dispatching mails and for processing insured items should be separated from other operational premises and should be lockable. Access to such rooms should only be allowed to a specified number of employees.

1.1.3 *Metal doors*

- with cylindrical safety locks
- with double-bit lock
- with letters or figures combination lock

Doors should be constructed of metal or wood, depending on the importance of the service premises. The type of lock fitted should be in keeping with the strength of the door. The advantage of a double-bit lock as compared with a cylindrical safety lock is that the closing of the door actuates additional safety bolts which afford better protection against burglary.

1.1.4 *Protection of windows by:*

- a grille
- laminated safety glass
- bullet-proof armoured glass

Window grilles and the use of laminated safety glass, depending on the circumstances, are recommended if the windows are in particularly exposed positions. Extra protection is obtained by the use of alarm glass.

1.1.5 *Other measures*

Special importance should be attached to security measures regarding the construction of service buildings and premises. The installation of alarm devices makes for greater security. Surveillance by the Post or by police is desirable provided such personnel have an appropriate alarm call system at their disposal if necessary.

1.2 *Special fittings and aids for the protection of valuable items*

1.2.1 *Safes*

Administrations are obliged to provide for the security of valuable items by storing them in safes at offices of exchange. Items in the international service should be protected in the same way as those in the internal service.

1.2.2 *Armoured safes*

The installation of armoured safes is determined by the degree of security provided by the arrangements made to protect the premises or buildings themselves. Where the traffic in valuable items is heavy, it is preferable to build premises which are sufficiently well protected to make the use of safes unnecessary; this greatly facilitates the execution of postal operations.

1.2.3 *Special vehicles for conveying mails in airports*

Despite the security guaranteed at airports by the presence of police and Customs, the valuable nature of airmail generally warrants specially secure methods of transport, and for this reason postal administrations should, as far as possible, encourage the transport of airmails within the airport precincts in special lockable vehicles. Conveyance in lockable vehicles also enables a clear demarcation to be made between airlines' and postal administrations' responsibility.

1.3 *Electrical protective installations at offices of exchange*

1.3.1 *Alarm device in the event of attack*

Alarm devices should be installed in service premises handling large volumes of airmail traffic. Alarm contacts should be installed at a number of points. If possible, provision should be made for direct communication with the police in cases of emergency.

1.3.2 *Burglar alarm, mains or battery operated*

Where alarm devices are used, a combined system against attack and burglary should be installed. Strong-rooms, and safes whether armoured or not are connected to the burglar alarm and are thus electrically protected against attack. To keep the alarm in readiness for operation, provision should be made for it to be powered by battery in case the electric current is cut off.

1.3.2.1 *Elements of the telephone exchange protected from deliberate damage*

An alarm can only be effective if it is protected against sabotage; it should therefore be impossible to put it out of action by any means whatsoever without simultaneously triggering off the alarm. Relative security can be obtained if the triggering device operates by a release mechanism and if the signal cannot thereafter be easily interrupted. In addition, the conductor wires should be buried or sheathed over their whole length.

1.3.2.2 *Protection of the object itself by acoustic detector or surface protection*

As a rule, it is sufficient to connect the safes directly to the alarm. The ceilings and walls of strong-rooms can be electrically protected (surface protection).

1.3.3 *Surveillance of premises by:*

- ultrasonic device, radar, light rays
- electrical contacts on doors, windows and ground
- alarm glass

Wherever staff is absent from sorting centres during specific hours, it is advisable to protect premises against burglary by electrical means – either by devices which monitor and protect whole rooms, or by electrical contacts which protect safes directly (protection of the object itself).

1.3.4 *Acoustic (sirens) or optical (light signal) alarms*

In the event of a break-in or attack, an acoustic or silent alarm, or a combination of both, will be set off depending on local conditions and in close collaboration with the police. The alarm-triggering point should be identified by means of a special light signal in the police premises.

1.3.5 *Automatic police call (telephone, radio, etc)*

An alarm device serves a useful purpose only if it is directly connected to the police or some other surveillance service operating continuously day and night.

1.3.6 *Closed-circuit television (industrial television)*

Television surveillance is justified in big sorting centres when it is simultaneously used for monitoring service operations.

1.3.7 *Other measures*

Depending on the circumstances, illumination of the building and its immediate vicinity by electric light constitutes an additional security measure.

2 Security measures during the performance of postal operations at offices of exchange and airports

2.1 *Dispatch of mails (registered items, insured parcels, insured letters and boxes)*

2.1.1 *Opening of internal mails*

During the opening of internal mails it is necessary to ensure the continued security of items by appropriate means (immediate checking, qualified staff).

2.1.2 *Methods of handing over insured items*

It is essential that the handing over of insured items for further processing should be receipted at the office of exchange. Wherever possible, such items should be stored in safes and delivered by special vehicle. Care should be taken to see that the various work areas are not too far apart (short transport sectors).

2.1.3 *Handing over of items to the Customs, where appropriate, and their return against receipt*

Postal administrations must in particular come to an agreement with the customs authorities on arrangements for the handing over and treatment of registered and insured items, so that during customs treatment a degree of security at least equal to that maintained during postal operations is guaranteed.

2.1.4 *Entering on forms CP 20 (Air parcel bill) and VD 3 (Dispatch list)*

Insured items must be immediately entered on forms CP 20 and VD 3.

2.1.5 *Sealing*

It is recommended that sealing material be kept under lock and key.

2.1.6 *Witness*

The presence of a witness during bagging and sealing is essential.

2.1.7 *Use of bags in perfect condition and possibly of containers*

The condition of the bags used for making up the mails must be checked, if possible by a special service or by the employee responsible for making up the mails.

2.2 *Reception of mails from abroad*

2.2.1 *Custody of items in the safe until conveyed to destination by internal mails*

Safekeeping of insured items under lock and key is essential. In addition, such items should be entered on an appropriate delivery document. Corresponding measures should if possible be taken for registered items.

2.3 *Delivery of outward mails to the airline or the airport ground staff*

2.3.1 *Personal handover*

Checking of the mails by both parties at the outward post office of exchange and their simultaneous loading into trolleys in the same premises offers the advantage of making a clear demarcation between the postal administration's responsibility and that of the airline, and of speeding up aircraft loading operations.

2.4 *Acceptance by the airlines of mails arriving from abroad*

2.4.1 *Offloading of airmails by ground staff under supervision*

It is up to postal administrations to reach agreement with the ground staff with a view to the satisfactory performance of the operations in question, particularly as regards the security measures to be observed.

2.4.2 *Acceptance of airmails by postal staff at the office of exchange*

Since mails must morally be accepted and checked at the post offices of exchange, the latter should be appropriately equipped as regards both premises and staff. Opening hours will be adapted to the airline timetable so that incoming mails can, as far as possible, be delivered direct to the postal services. Moreover, it will be useful to take the opening hours of exchange offices into account when drawing up the mail dispatch schedule, in agreement with the administration of destination.

2.4.3 *Checking of inward mails against the AV 7 delivery bills*

Checking against the inward AV 7 delivery bills must be done when the mails are handed over to the postal service, as the latter is obliged to check the condition and sealing of the receptacles. Serious irregularities should be recorded in the presence of a witness.

2.4.4 *Placing of transit mails under special guard*

Airmails in transit should be subject to the same security measures as mails originating from or addressed to the administration concerned.

2.5 *Transhipment of mails from one aircraft to another on the basis of direct AV 7 delivery bills*

2.5.1 *Special arrangements made by the airline responsible for transshipment*

Although direct transshipment is normally carried out by the airline concerned or by the ground service company, postal administrations must ensure, in consultation with these companies, that an adequate degree of security is guaranteed for registered and insured mails transhipped directly. If necessary, the services of the airport police should be called upon.

2.6 *Special security measures*

2.6.1 *Permanent watch on runways by airport police or customs authorities*

There should be a close link between the security measures operated by the postal services and those covering the whole territory of a given airport which are provided by the police or customs authorities. It is up to postal administrations to keep a watch on the effectiveness of these measures as a whole in so far as they concern registered and insured mail.

2.6.2 *Police escort of registered and insured items between the office of exchange and the aircraft, and vice versa*

The assistance of the police may be requested for the transmission of specific registered and insured mails containing valuable items. For a large proportion of airmail, the general supervision carried out by police and customs authorities within the airport precincts may be regarded as sufficient protection. In cases where the post office of exchange is located away from the airport there is a greater need for police assistance or radio control.

Decision C 32/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Air surcharges

Congress,

Having adopted
a single air conveyance rate for LC, AO and CP categories of mail,

Wishing
to promote maximization of air conveyance of mail while at the same time protecting the interests of the users,

Declares

that article 70, paragraph 2, of the Convention[1] and article 8, paragraph 2, of the Postal Parcels Agreement are to be interpreted as meaning that the total surcharges relating to letter-post items and air parcels shall not exceed the dues payable for the conveyance of all categories of items: LC, AO and CP.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: page 1622)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 21, para 1.

Resolution C 34/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Priority accorded to airmails by the airlines

Congress,

Recalling
that the agreement concluded with IATA in 1948 concerning the priority accorded to airmails by the airlines is conceived in terms of the different mail categories, LC, AO and CP,

Having adopted
a basic LC/AO/CP air conveyance rate,

In view of
the suggestion made by IATA about priority, recorded in Congress – Doc 23/Add 1,

Considering
it necessary, as a consequence, to review with IATA the terms of the 1948 agreement and to bring them up to date,

Having noted
proposal 3065.2 to include the principle of priority in the Acts of the Union,

Instructs

the Executive Council:

i a to re-examine with IATA the 1948 agreement concerning the priority accorded to airmails and to make any necessary amendments to it;
b to communicate to administrations the agreement revised in consultation with IATA;
ii a to study the advisability of including the principle of the priority accorded to airmails in the Acts of the Union;[1]
b to submit any proposals to that effect to the next Congress.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: page 1622)

[1] The 1984 Hamburg Congress supplemented art 79 of the Conv as required (Washington 1989, art 37, b)

Recommendation C 70/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Speeding up the handling of airmail on the ground[1]

Congress,

Having noted
the results of the study carried out in accordance with resolution C 62 of the 1974 Lausanne Congress on speeding up the handling of airmail on the ground,

Noting
the importance of rapid and efficient performance of operations at airports in order to maintain the advantages offered to mail by the speed and regularity of air conveyance,

Aware
that a shortage of postal facilities at airports or a lack of space in such premises – especially at airports handling transit mails – may delay the forwarding of current mail and present an obstacle to the increased use of air transport for conveying mail,

Considering
that, to ensure continuity in transmission and the safety of mail, postal services at airports must be in operation when the mails depart and arrive,

Recommends

postal administrations:

1 to ensure in good time that they have at their disposal, at their countries' airports and/or elsewhere, facilities enabling them to take delivery of and handle efficiently:
   a present and anticipated volumes of airmail, including foreign-origin airmail, arriving at destination or to be reforwarded;
   b any surface mail conveyed by air under maximization-oriented services, including foreign-origin surface mail, arriving at destination or to be reforwarded;
   c any containerized mail;

ii to ensure, as far as possible, that postal facilities at airports are located in a position allowing easy access to the airport apron and to the passenger and cargo services;

iii to ensure that the working hours of their services at airports coincide with the arrival and departure times of flights used for conveying mail; and

iv to ensure that the transport facilities used between airports and city postal establishments are sufficiently quick, reliable and frequent, especially where airports are far from the city.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: page 1626)

[1] Cf CL 3410/1520 of 5 June 1989.

Formal opinion C 71/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Speeding up the handling of airmail on the ground[1]

Congress,

Having noted
the results of the study carried out in accordance with resolution C 62 of the 1974 Lausanne Congress on speeding up the handling of airmail on the ground,

Noting
the importance of rapid and efficient performance of operations at airports in order to maintain the advantages offered to mail by the speed and regularity of air conveyance,

Aware
that a shortage of postal facilities at airports or a lack of space in such premises – especially at airports handling transit mails – may delay the forwarding of current mail and present an obstacle to the increased use of air transport for conveying mail,

Desirous
that postal administrations should be able to make their requirements regarding airport facilities known to the appropriate authorities of their countries at each stage of the construction or enlargement of airports,

Considering
that the mail must be taken in charge by the airlines on departure, and delivered to the postal services on arrival, under optimum conditions,

Expresses the formal opinion:

i that the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) should be asked to take appropriate steps to ensure that postal administrations are consulted from the initial stage of the planning of new airports and the enlargement of existing ones, and that administrations are invited to participate in the work of the National Facilitation Committees (FAL) where such committees exist;
ii that the International Air Transport Association (IATA) should be asked to take similar measures, in particular so that postal administrations can be represented on any Consultative Committees for the planning of airports that may be set up:
iii that IATA should be asked to remind its members of the desirability of cooperating with postal administrations at national level with a view to:
   a fixing reasonable close-out times for handing over mails to the airlines; and
   b expediting the handover of mails to the postal services upon arrival.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: page 1626)

[1] Cf CL 3410/1520 of 5 June 1989.

Recommendation C 72/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Settlement of airmail accounts[1]

Congress,

Aware
that the delay in paying sums due to airlines for the air conveyance of international mail is still causing concern to the International Air Transport Association (IATA),

Concerned
that some administrations do not immediately pay their national airline the sums received for it from debtor administrations or settled by the latter by offsetting, and

Wishing
to find a solution to this problem,

Recommends

administrations to pay their national airline, without delay, sums due to it as soon as the relative accounts are settled by the debtor administrations, possibly by offsetting.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: page 1626)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 88, para 2, b.

Formal opinion C 95/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Preparation of AV 3 and AV 4 statements of weight and AV 5 detailed accounts

Congress,

In view of
article 10 of the Convention and articles 215 and 216 of its Detailed Regulations[1],

Considering
that it is extremely desirable that accounts concerning air conveyance dues between postal administrations or, as applicable, between airlines and postal administrations should be drawn up as provided in the Acts of the Union,

Calls on

the postal administrations of the member countries of the Universal Postal Union to take the appropriate measures in their services in order that these provisions are strictly observed.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: page 1633)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), arts 11, 214 and 215.

Recommendation C 43/Hamburg 1984

Airmail correspondence in transit à découvert: number of average rates per group of countries of destination

Congress,

Having taken note
of the study carried out by the Executive Council in pursuance of resolution C 33 of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress, including the result of the consultation of administrations carried out by circular letter No 3410.12(C)975 of 15 August 1980,

Noting
that the majority of administrations participating in this consultation are of the opinion that a reduction in the number of average rates per group of countries of destination laid down in article 80, paragraph 1, of the Rio de Janeiro Convention (which may not exceed 10) is likely to simplify the accounting of air conveyance dues and the dispatch operations relating to airmail correspondence in transit à découvert,

Noting
that some intermediate administrations have already reduced the number of average rates,

Recommends

intermediate administrations which have not yet done so to examine he possibility of reducing the number of rates per group of countries of destination for the next edition of the General List of Airmail Services (List AV 1).

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 503, 626)

Recommendation C 44/Hamburg 1984

Speeding up of airmail in transit à découvert

Congress,

Recalling
recommendation C 70 and formal opinion C 71 of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress,

Considering
that airmail in transit à découvert suffers excessive delays in forwarding and that such delays can be avoided if transit countries give a true picture of their forwarding facilities,

Bearing in mind
that à découvert exchanges form a large percentage of airmail traffic and for many developing countries provide the only means of forwarding airmail to most destinations,

Recommends

i that transit administrations undertake the reforwarding of à découvert mail only if they are making up direct closed dispatches for the countries of destination;
ii that postal administrations endeavour to minimize the number of transmissions à découvert;
iii that the advertising of such transit facilities in the General List of Airmail Services (AV 1 List) be realistic and aligned on existing transport outlets.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 503, 626)

Resolution C 70/Hamburg 1984

Direct transhipment of airmails between different airlines[1]

Congress,

In view of
the provisions of article 74, paragraph 4, of the Convention (Rio de Janeiro 1979)1 according to which "If the administration of the country of origin so wishes, its mails shall be transhipped directly, at the transit airport, between two different airlines, provided that the airlines concerned agree to make the transhipment and that the administration of the transit country is informed of it beforehand",

Recalling
that this rule which was introduced by the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress dispensed with the obligation to obtain the prior agreement of the intermediate administration to facilitate the direct transhipment of airmails between different airlines,

Recalling further
that, for this purpose, Congress approved the "practical application formula for the direct transhipment of airmails by the airlines" agreed between the Executive Council and IATA,

Noting
that these provisions are fairly frequently lost sight of and that, in particular, because they are not clearly informed by the dispatching administrations of their intentions, the administrations of the intermediate countries do not always know whether they should intervene in respect of the mails in transit, and this causes delays in forwarding and disputes with the airline representatives, as well as difficulties in the event of subsequent inquiries,

Noting
that the absence from the "practical application formula" of provisions governing the handling of airmails normally intended for direct transhipment, but from which the AV 7 delivery bill is missing, gives rise to costly inquiries and delays the settlement of accounts where the airmails are not handed over to the postal administration at the airport of transhipment but are forwarded by an airline by the first appropriate flight to destination,

Instructs

...[2]

Requests

administrations:

- to see that the "practical application formula for the direct transhipment of airmails by the airlines" is observed, in particular as regards the prior informing of the administrations of the intermediate countries at the time of establishing connections involving direct transhipment of mails between two different airlines (B, iv and viii, of the formula);
- to ensure that the outward airlines (first carriers) do in fact make all the arrangements laid down in the "application formula" for the proper execution of the direct transhipment with the airlines flying the subsequent parts of the route (second and, if applicable, third carriers), without the intervention of administrations of the intermediate countries, even in cases where the airlines operate at different air terminals or airports;
- to accept, for accounting purposes, the "replacement AV 7 bill" upon its approval by the EC.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 506, 639)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 208, para 2.
[2] Has become null and void.

Recommendation C 71/Hamburg 1984

Settlement of airmail accounts[1]

Congress,

Noting
that the delays in the settlement of airmail accounts continue to cause serious inconvenience to most airlines,

Considering
that the inclusion of airmail accounts in general accounts settled by offsetting which contain debts of different kinds may contribute to delaying the payment of the amounts due to the airlines,

Recommends

that administrations wishing to settle airmail accounts by offsetting should include them preferably in an AV 11 airmail general account,

Reminds

administrations of 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress recommendation C 72 which asks them to pay their national airline, without delay, the sums due to it as soon as the relative accounts are settled by the debtor administrations, possibly by offsetting.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 508, 639)

[1] Conv. (Washington 1989), art 88, para 2, b.

Recommendation C 35/Washington 1989

Return to origin of airmail correspondence

Congress,

Taking note
of the results of the study carried out by the Executive Council in implementation of 1984 Hamburg Congress resolution C 82,

Noting
that, according to the results of that study, almost all administrations have no special difficulty in applying the new provisions set out in articles 80, paragraph 1, and 81, paragraph 1, of the Convention concerning the redirection of airmail letters and airmail postcards by the quickest route (air or surface),

Observing also
that the cost of return to origin of airmail AO by the same route is low compared with the improvement in the service rendered to customers of the Post,

Recognizing
the impact on the quality of the international postal service, faced with pressure from the competition of the general introduction of the return to origin of airmail items by air,

Having adopted
the principle of systematic redirection of airmail correspondence by the quickest route, air or surface,

Recommends

administrations which do not already systematically use the air route for the return to origin of AO airmail items to use that route to the greatest possible extent in accordance with their economic circumstances.

(Proposal 4000.1, Committee 6, 1st meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 65/Washington 1989

Exclusion of dangerous goods from airmail

Congress,

Considering
the provisions of article 36 of the Convention (especially paragraph 4, d) pertaining to the prohibition of transport of dangerous substances,

Having taken note
of the proceedings of the IATA–UPU Contact Committee concerning airmail conveyance of dangerous goods, proceedings which once again underscored the gravity of the risks attendant upon such transport,

Taking note
of the measures advocated by that Contact Committee and endorsed by the Executive Council with a view to excluding the insertion of dangerous goods in postal items through enhanced educational and awareness activities for the benefit of postal staff and users, among other means through the organization of displays, the distribution of films and the production of posters dealing with dangerous goods,

Aware
of the work that remains to be done by postal administrations in their activities to combat the transport of dangerous goods,

Urges

postal administrations:
- to strengthen measures aimed at preventing the insertion of dangerous articles in postal items and, where appropriate, at detecting at the time of posting items containing such articles;
- to develop to this end educational measures suited to the local situation, for the benefit of postal users and staff;
- to ensure wide dissemination of these measures and appropriate training of the staff, using the most effective modern technical methods (audiovisual or others),

Instructs

the Executive Council to continue to monitor this question closely during the five-year period 1990–1994.

(Proposal 4000.3, Committee 6, 2nd meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 73/Washington 1989

Basic airmail conveyance rate

Congress,

Having taken note
of the Executive Council report on the work carried out in conjunction with IATA on the subject of the basic airmail conveyance rate,

Noting
that it appears from that work and from the work of previous years that it has not been possible to propose a rational system for fixing the basic airmail conveyance rate,

Considering
also the need to maintain in the Acts of the Union, for the settlement of accounts between administrations, a basic rate which takes account of updated economic data relating to the air transport market,

Taking note
of ICAO's offer to assist in developing a concept of airmail costs,

Instructs

the Executive Council:
i to gather, on the eve of each Congress, the most significant financial information obtained from IATA and ICAO to enable it to propose, if need be, an updating of the basic airmail conveyance rate (in accordance with a method to be developed);
ii to present, in any case, a report on its activities and, if appropriate, proposals for amending the Acts of the Union.

(Proposal 4000.4/Rev 1, Committee 6, 3rd meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

2.4.5 EMS

Resolution C 25/Washington 1989

EMS

Congress,

Noting with satisfaction
i the significant development of EMS since the Hamburg Congress both as regards traffic dispatched and number of postal administrations providing the service;
ii the work accomplished by the Executive Council and the CCPS pursuant to Hamburg Congress resolution C 25 about this service;
iii the flexibility and effectiveness demonstrated by the Executive Council and the CCPS in the performance of this task,

Aware
i of the challenge to administrations represented by the competition from private courier firms on the market for conveyance of urgent items;

ii of the need, in order to face that competition, to continue with the utmost urgency to expand and harmonize the world EMS network, while ensuring that the service offered by the administrations is of the highest possible standard,

Takes note of

i the EMS Framework Agreement attached hereto adopted by Executive Council resolution 2/1987;
ii the recommendations attached hereto resulting from the technical studies of the CCPS which contain the transitional provisions governing the operation of EMS,

Instructs

the EC and the CCPS to continue their efforts aimed at the rapid development of EMS,

Authorizes

i the EC to prepare and amend, bearing in mind proposals made by the CCPS, the regulations on EMS contained in the EMS Framework Agreement and its Regulations;
ii the CCPS to make technical recommendations concerning the operation of EMS or to amend existing recommendations.

(Proposals 2000.15, 2000.15/Corr 1, Committee 4, 4th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting).

Framework Agreement on EMS items

Article 1
Definition

The EMS service shall be the quickest postal service by physical means. It shall consist of the collection, dispatch and delivery in a very short space of time of correspondence, documents or goods.

Article 2
International EMS within the meaning of the present agreement

Contracting administrations may operate the following types of EMS:
- programmed items;
- on-demand items.

Article 3
Programmed items

Programmed items shall be accepted on the basis of a contract between the administration of posting and the sender. This contract shall lay down the timetable for posting and conveying EMS items as well as their frequency.

Article 4
On-demand items

On-demand items shall be accepted without any contractual arrangement and without any previously laid down frequency.

Article 5
Goods

Unless the contrary is specified, EMS items may contain goods.

Article 6
Customs clearance

Each administration shall make all arrangements necessary for the fastest possible customs clearance of EMS items.

Article 7
Limits of weight and size

EMS items shall be admitted up to a maximum weight of 20 kg. They may not exceed 1.50 metres for any one dimension or 3 metres for the sum of the length and the greatest circumference measured in a direction other than the length. Administrations may adopt other limits of weight and size.

Article 8
Charges

The charges shall be set by the administration of posting of the EMS items.

Article 9
Prohibited articles

The prohibitions provided for in the UPU Convention shall apply to EMS items as shall the restrictions on importation and transit given in the List of Prohibited Articles published by the International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union. Valuable articles as defined in the Universal Postal Convention shall not be admitted.

Article 10
Forwarding

EMS items shall be sent by the fastest pre-arranged means of transport from the time of posting (or from the time they are collected from the sender) to delivery. Administrations shall consult one another on this.

Article 11
Compensation in the event of imbalance in exchanges

Terminal dues as defined in the Universal Postal Convention shall not apply to EMS items. Each administration shall set, in the event of imbalance in exchanges, a unit rate of compensation per item corresponding to the costs. Administrations shall agree in their reciprocal relations on the number of excess items above which the unit rate of compensation shall be collected.

Article 12
Liability

On introducing the service, administrations shall agree on liability.

Article 13
Undeliverable items

An item refused by the addressee or an undeliverable item shall be returned to the sender by EMS at no extra charge.

Article 14
Reforwarding of missent items or bags

Every missent EMS item or bag shall be reforwarded to its proper destination by the most direct means used for the EMS by the administration which received it.

Article 15
Inquiries

Each administration shall reply as soon as possible to requests for information in respect of EMS items. The reply shall normally be sent by the same means as that used for the corresponding request for information (ie, by telex, telephone, EMS, electronic mail, etc).

Article 16
Temporary suspension of service

Where justified by extraordinary circumstances, an administration may temporarily suspend the service. The other administrations shall be informed immediately of such suspension and of the resumption of the service, if need be by telegram, telex, electronic mail or telephone.

Article 17
Application of the Universal Postal Convention

The Universal Postal Convention and its Detailed Regulations shall be applicable by analogy in all cases not expressly governed by this Agreement and its Framework Regulations.

Framework Regulations concerning EMS items

Article 101
Communications and information to be sent to the International Bureau

Administrations shall notify the International Bureau of:
a the name of the service in their country;
b the types of service available;
c whether goods are accepted;
d the maximum limits of weight and size;
e the charges set;
f the countries with which they exchange EMS items;
g the places in their country in which the service is operated;
h the offices of exchange to which the mails may be sent and the area served by those offices;

i the latest times of acceptance of an item at their offices of exchange for it to be delivered:
- the same day,
- the following day,
- the next day but one;

j the time taken for customs clearance of items:
- subject to customs duty,
- not liable to customs duty;

k acceptance of advice of delivery or equivalent service;

l the amount requested per additional item in the event of imbalance in exchanges.

Article 102
Introduction of the programmed items service

1 Before the conclusion of any contract, the administration of destination shall be consulted on the possibility of providing the service. The administration of origin shall obtain for the administration of destination the following information, at least 10 days before the service comes into operation:

a the names and addresses of the sender and of the addressee;

b the days on which items are to be dispatched and the conditions of transport;

c the date set for the dispatch of the first item.

2 The administrations concerned shall be notified of any variation in the operation of an exchange or the termination thereof.

Article 103
Special address labels

It is recommended that the logo and the 13-character item identifier adopted by the CCPS be printed on the label, and that provision be made on the label for the following data fields at least, if at all possible:

Data field[1]	*Description*
1	Logo, name of the administration of origin and national name of the service
2	13-character EMS alphanumeric identifier in bar-code form
3	13-character EMS alphanumeric identifier in block characters
4	Date of posting
5	Time of posting
8	Sender's name and address
9	Sender's postcode
12	Addressee's name and address
14	Addressee's postcode
20	Dispatch charge
21	Description of contents
22	Gift
23	Sample of merchandise
24	Value of contents
25	Weight in kg
27	Name in block characters of the person taking delivery of the item
28	Signature
29	Date of delivery
30	Time of delivery

[1] The data field numbers correspond to those given in recommendation 3 hereafter.

Article 104
General conditions of dispatch

1 The items shall be placed in blue and orange EMS bags.

2 Each bag shall bear a blue and orange label clearly showing the office of exchange of destination.

3 A special document or a C 12 form to which the indication EMS has been added shall be sent with each mail.

4 Each item or EMS direct bag shall be entered separately on the form.

Article 105
Delivery bill

1 An AV 7 or C 18 delivery bill, depending on whether it is an airmail or surface consignment, shall be sent with each mail.

2 The AV 7 or C 18 delivery bill shall show clearly that the mail contains EMS items.

Article 106
Checking of mails

On receipt of an EMS mail, the administration of destination shall check whether the mail is in conformity with the particulars recorded on the AV 7 or C 18 delivery bill.

Article 107
Notification of irregularities

The administration of origin shall be notified at once by telex, telephone, electronic mail or telegram of any missing, missent or damaged bag or item. The irregularity shall be confirmed in writing.

Article 108
Return of items

Each administration which returns an item shall give the reason for non-delivery on the item, either written by hand, by means of a stamped impression or by a label.

Article 109
Accounting and settlement of accounts

The procedure for accounting and settlement of accounts for the payment of an indemnity in the event of imbalance in exchanges shall be as follows:

a each administration shall prepare, at a frequency agreed on in advance, a recapitulation of the items received;

b the administration of destination shall inform the dispatching administration of the number of items received. Discrepancies shall be cleared up by correspondence;

c the liquidation account shall be prepared annually. The annual period shall begin on a mutually agreed date;
d the creditor administration shall prepare a detailed account, showing:
- the total number of items received,
- the total number of items dispatched,
- the imbalance,
- the charge payable per item,
- the total amount payable in respect of compensation;

e the accounts shall be prepared within six months of the last day of the period concerned.

Recommendations concerning EMS

Recommendation	*Subject*
1	EMS logo
2	Unique identification for items
3	Labelling
4	Electronic tracking and tracing systems
5	Notification of dispatch
6	Monitoring of airline handling
7	Customs clearance
8	Delivery of items
9	Performance measurement
10	Operational centres
11	Liability
12	Compensation for imbalances in exchanges
13	Customer service standards
14	Customer information

Recommendation 1

EMS logo

It is recommended that postal administrations should:
i use the technical specifications for the EMS logo which appear in the EMS House-style Manual for the marketing and operation of their EMS, including the possible development of a uniform packaging system for EMS items;
ii take appropriate measures at national level to protect the EMS name and logo.

Recommendation 2

Unique identification for items

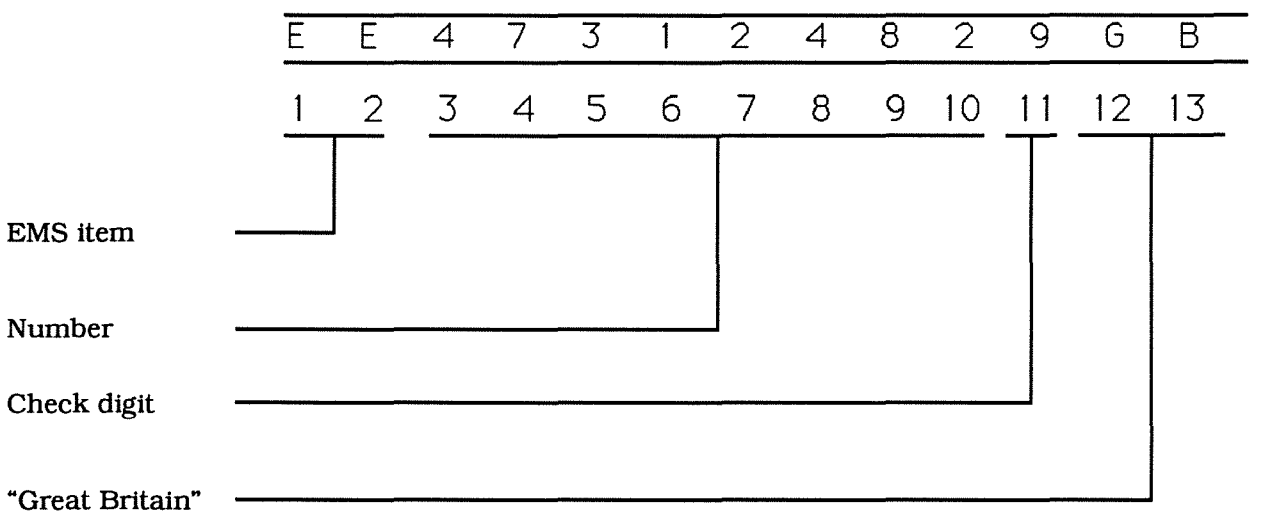
It is recommended that postal administrations should use the following specifications for the unique identification of EMS items and of bags, containers or receptacles containing EMS items.

Specifications for identification of EMS items

Number of characters: 13

Disposition from the left:
- Positions 1 and 2: two "EE" characters to indicate an EMS item or the characters "ES" to indicate an EMS bag/container/receptacle;
- Positions 3 to 10 inclusive: serial number;
- Position 11: a check digit, computer-generated to ISO "mod 11", or, if a check digit is not desired, the meaningless alpha character "X";
- Positions 12 and 13: ISO Alpha-2 country code to designate the country of origin (see annex 2).

Example:



When a bar code is used to represent a unique identifier for an international item or bag, it is to be ISO code 39, at a density of 5.4 characters/inch, with which is incorporated at position 11 (from the left) a check digit, computer-generated to ISO "mod 11". If the check digit is not incorporated, the meaningless alpha character "X" is to be included in the bar code at that position. The letters and figures of the 13-character identification code are also to be printed in the usual manner near the bar code.

Annex 1 to recommendation 2

Code 39 bar-code characteristics

1 The bars and spaces in code 39 bar-code are binary in width: the narrow bars/spaces represent a binary 0 (zero) and the wide bars/spaces represent a binary one.

2 Each character is made up of 9 elements; five bars and four spaces. Three of these elements are wide and six are narrow, hence, the name code 39 bar-code (3 of 9). The figure below illustrates the character structure.

3 The primary algorithm is binary and is applied to both the bars and the spaces in the code. Narrow bars or spaces represent binary 0 (zero) and wide bars or spaces represent binary one.

Code 39 bar code



Symbol for the character "6"

0	1	1	0	0	Bars
0	1	0	0		Spaces



These bars and spaces equal binary 'Zéros'



These bars and spaces equal binary 'Ones'

International modulus 11 formula

The formula is as follows:

i Apply weighting factors to basic number using the following weighting factors 86423597.
ii Obtain the sum of these numbers.
iii Divide sum by 11 (eleven).
iv If the remainder is 0 (zero) use 5 (five) as the check digit. If the remainder is 1 use 0 (zero) as the check digit.
v If applicable, subtract remainder from 11. The result is the check digit.

Example:

Number	4	7	3	1	2	4	8	2
Weighting factors	×8	×6	×4	×2	×3	×5	×9	×7
	32	+ 42	+ 12	+ 2	+ 6	+ 20	+ 72	+ 14 = 200

200 : 11 = 18 Remainder 2
11 − 2 = 9 Check digit

Complete self-checking number: 473124829

Annex 2 to recommendation 2

ISO Alpha-2 code of countries and territories (in English alphabetical order) coming under the Union's jurisdiction

Name	Alpha-2 code	Name	Alpha-2 code
Afghanistan	AF	Brunei Darussalam	BN
Albania	AL	Bulgaria (People's Rep)	BG
Algeria	DZ	Burkina Faso	BF
Andorra[1]	AD	Burundi	BI
Angola	AO	Byelorussia	BY
Argentina	AR	Cameroon	CM
Australia	AU	Canada	CA
– Christmas Island	CX	Cape Verde	CV
– Cocos (Keeling) Islands	CC	Central African Rep	CF
– Norfolk Island	NF	Chad	TD
Austria	AT	Chile	CL
Bahamas	BS	China (People's Rep)	CN
Bahrain	BH	Colombia	CO
Bangladesh	BD	Comoros	KM
Barbados	BB	Congo (People's Rep)	CG
Belgium	BE	Costa Rica	CR
Belize	BZ	Côte d'Ivoire (Rep)	CI
Benin	BJ	Cuba	CU
Bhutan	BT	Cyprus	CY
Bolivia	BO	Czechoslovakia	CS
Botswana	BW	Democratic Kampuchea	KH
Brazil	BR	Democratic People's Rep of Korea	KP

[1] Andorra, served by the French and Spanish postal administrations, is also considered as belonging to the Union.

Name	Alpha-2 code
Denmark	DK
– Faröe Islands	FO
– Greenland	GL
Djibouti	DJ
Dominica	DM
Dominican Republic	DO
Ecuador	EC
Egypt	EG
El Salvador	SV
Equatorial Guinea	GQ
Ethiopia	ET
Fiji	FJ
Finland (including the Åland Islands)	FI
France	FR
– French Overseas Departments:	
– French Guiana	GF
– Guadeloupe (including St Barthélémy and St Martin)	GP
– Martinique	MQ
– Réunion	RE
– Territorial Community of Mayotte	–
– Territorial Community of St Pierre and Miquelon	PM
– French Overseas Territories:	
– French Polynesia (including Clipperton Island)	PF
– French Southern and Antarctic Territories	TF
– New Caledonia	NC
– Wallis and Futuna Islands	WF
– Scattered Islands (Bassas da India, Europa, Juan de Nova, Glorieuses, Tromelin)	RE
Gabon	GA
Gambia	GM
German Dem Rep	DD
Germany, Fed Rep of	DE
Ghana	GH
Great Britain:	
– United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	GB
– Guernsey	GB
– Jersey	GB
– Isle of Man	GB

Name	Alpha-2 code
Overseas Territories for whose international relations the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is responsible:	
– Anguilla	–
– Ascension	SH
– Bermuda	BM
– British Antarctic Territory (including Grahamland, the South Shetland Islands and the South Orkney Islands)	AQ
– Cayman Islands	KY
– Falkland Islands (Malvinas) and Dependencies (South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands)	FK
– Gibraltar	GI
– Hong Kong	HK
– Montserrat	MS
– Pitcairn Islands (Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie and Oeno)	PN
– St Helena	SH
– Tristan da Cunha	SH
– Turks and Caicos Islands	TC
– Virgin Islands	VG
Greece	GR
Grenada	GD
Guatemala	GT
Guinea	GN
Guinea-Bissau	GW
Guyana	GY
Haiti	HT
Honduras (Rep)	HN
Hungary (Rep)	HU
Iceland	IS
India	IN
Indonesia	ID
Iran (Islamic Rep)	IR
Iraq	IQ
Ireland	IE
Israel	IL
Italy	IT
Jamaica	JM
Japan	JP
Jordan	JO

Name	Alpha-2 code	Name	Alpha-2 code
Kenya	KE	Portugal[2]	PT
Kiribati	KI	– Macao	MO
Korea (Rep)	KR	Qatar	QA
Kuwait	KW	Romania (Soc Rep)	RO
Lao People's Dem Rep	LA	Rwanda	RW
Lebanon	LB	Saint Christopher and Nevis	KN
Lesotho	LS	Saint Lucia	LC
Liberia	LR	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	VC
Libyan Jamahiriya	LY	San Marino	SM
Liechtenstein	LI	Sao Tome and Principe	ST
Luxembourg	LU	Saudi Arabia	SA
Madagascar	MG	Senegal	SN
Malawi	MW	Seychelles	SC
Malaysia	MY	Sierra Leone	SL
Maldives	MV	Singapore	SG
Mali	ML	Solomon Islands	SB
Malta	MT	Somalia	SO
Mauritania	MR	Spain	ES
Mauritius	MU	Sri Lanka	LK
Mexico	MX	Sudan	SD
Monaco	MC	Suriname	SR
Mongolian People's Rep	MN	Swaziland	SZ
Morocco	MA	Sweden	SE
Mozambique	MZ	Switzerland	CH
Myanmar	MM[1]	Syrian Arab Rep	SY
Nauru	NR	Tanzania (United Rep)	TZ
Nepal	NP	Thailand	TH
Netherlands	NL	Togo	TG
– Netherlands Antilles	AN	Tonga	TO
– Aruba	AW	Trinidad and Tobago	TT
New Zealand	NZ	Tunisia	TN
(including the Ross Dependency)		Turkey	TR
– Cook Islands	CK	Tuvalu	TV
– Niue Island	NU	Uganda	UG
– Tokelau Island	TK	Ukraine	UA
Nicaragua	NI	Union of Soviet Socialist	SU
Niger	NE	Republics	
Nigeria	NG	United Arab Emirates	AE
Norway	NO	United States of America	US
Oman	OM	– Guam	GU
Pakistan	PK	– Puerto Rico	PR
Panama (Rep)	PA	– Samoa	AS
Papua New Guinea	PG	– Virgin Islands of the United States of America	VI
Paraguay	PY		
Peru	PE	– Pacific Islands (Marshall, Caroline and Mariana Islands)	PC
Philippines	PH		
Polish People's Rep	PL		

[1] The code for Myanmar (formerly Burma) is provisional only.
[2] Including Madeira and the Azores.

Name	Alpha-2 code	Name	Alpha-2 code
Uruguay	UY	Independent country whose	
Vanuatu	VU	situation with regard to the UPU	
Vatican	VA	has not yet been settled:	
Venezuela	VE	Antigua and Barbuda	AG
Viet Nam	VN		
Western Samoa	WS	Country for which the UN	
Yemen Arab Rep	YE	is directly responsible:	
Yemen (People's Dem Rep)	YD	Namibia	NA
Yugoslavia	YU		
Zaire	ZR	Territory in a special situation:	
Zambia	ZM	East Timor	TP
Zimbabwe	ZW		

Recommendation 3

Labelling

In addition to the provisions of article 103 of the EMS Framework Regulations, it is recommended that administrations should:

i number each data field used on their EMS labels according to the system shown below;

ii note the positioning of the numbered data fields as shown on the attached model E 1;

iii use EMS manifold labels so as to have sufficient copies to accommodate customs, tracking and tracing, and confirmation and proof of delivery requirements.

Numbering system for data fields on EMS labels

Number	*Designation*
1	– EMS logo and house-style – Name of the origin administration – Name of the EMS service in the origin administration (if desired)
2	13-character EMS alphanumeric identifier adopted by the CCPS, in bar-code form
3	13-character EMS alphanumeric identifier adopted by the CCPS (in block characters)
4	Date mailed
5	Time mailed
6	Account number of the sender
7	Telephone number of the sender
8	Name and address of the sender
9	Postal code of the sender

Number	*Designation*
10	Account number of the addressee
11	Telephone number of the addressee
12	Name and address of the addressee
13	Contract link (to be used only when an administration makes a distinction between an account number and the number used to identify a given link)
14	Postal code of the addressee
15	Pieces in shipment (quantity)
16	This piece number (No)
17	Product type
18	Method of payment
19	Insurance fee
20	Dispatch charge
21	Description of contents. The use of the harmonized customs number is highly recommended
22	Gift (or)
23	Sample merchandise
24	Value of the contents
25	Weight (kg). Rounded upward to nearest half kilogramme (ex: 3.2 kg to read 3.5 kg)
26	Special handling instructions
27	Name in print of the person taking delivery of the item
28	Signature
29	Date of delivery
30	Time of delivery
31	Office of origin
32	Delivered or delivery attempt
33	Permit number (for postage paid in cash in advance)
34	Serial number (for postage paid in cash in advance)
35	Pick up fee
36	Total charges
37	Accepted by (accepting employee's signature)
38	Office of origin number
39	Sender's signature

However, any additional data field retained by the CCPS should be numbered in accordance with the sequence adopted (ie 40, 41, etc). In the event of the deletion of a data field, the corresponding number would lapse and the other fields would keep their numbers.

Recommendation 4

Electronic tracking and tracing systems

It is recommended that administrations should establish an electronic EMS tracking and tracing system at local level and link it to the international tracking and tracing system (electronic mail-box) while taking the following specifications into account.

EMS tracking and tracing systems specifications

A. Objectives

By recording precise information about the events which occur during the transmission of EMS items from the time they are posted until they are delivered, electronic tracking and tracing systems shall have as their objective to:

i enable administrations to respond to requests for information and inquiries concerning individual EMS items made by customers;

ii advise other interconnected administrations of incidents affecting traffic flows, for example, strikes, airport closed because of bad weather, etc;

iii provide statistics about performance measurement and traffic and customer patterns, to be used for EMS operational and marketing purposes.

B. General characteristics

1 Administrations with electronic EMS tracking and tracing systems linked to the electronic mail-box can conduct research only on items posted or delivered within their territory.

2 The confidentiality of the information available in these systems is protected by passwords.

3 These systems shall operate twenty-four hours a day.

C. Format for the exchange of data between administrations linked to the electronic mail-box

This format and the message syntax are based on the ISO EDIFACT (Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport) standard. Each message consists of segments providing information about events to be transmitted. Any given segment (event description) consists of three different parts:

1	Identification of the type of event according to the list hereunder	an3
2	Mandatory information for event identification:	
	a Item identifier including country of origin:	an13
	b Country of destination:	a2
	c Date and local time of event (YYMMDDHHMM)	n10

3 Optional information

For every type of event, additional information such as indicated in the list hereunder may transmitted.

NB: a = Alpha; an = alphanumeric; n = numeric.

Event type	Event description	Narrative field	Format[1]
EMA	Posting/collection	Office of origin ID	an..9
		Customer's account number	an..17
		Sender's postcode	an..9
		Place of origin (sender)	a..6
		Addressee's postcode	an..9
		Place of destination	a..6
EMB	Arrival at outward office of exchange	Office of exchange ID	a6
EMC	Departure from outward office of exchange	Office of exchange ID	an..6
		Dispatch number	an..4
		Dispatch address[2]	an..6
		Flight number[3]	an..6
		Departure date/first flight	n6
EMJ	Arrival at transit office of exchange	Transit office of exchange ID	an..6
		Office of exchange of origin ID	an..6
		Dispatch number	an..4
EMK	Departure from transit office of exchange	Transit office of exchange ID	an..6
		Dispatch number generated by transit office of exchange	an..4
		Dispatch address[2]	an..6
		Flight number[3]	an..6
		Departure date/first flight	n6
EMD	Arrival at inward office of exchange	Inward office of exchange ID	an..6
		Office of exchange of origin or of transit ID	an..6
		Dispatch number	an..4
EME	Handed over to Customs	Office of exchange ID	an..6
		Retention code when held by Customs[4]	n2
EMF	Departure from inward office of exchange	Office of exchange ID	an..6
		Dutiable/non-dutiable (D or N)	a1
EMG	Arrival at delivery office	Delivery office ID	an..9
EMH	Unsuccessful delivery	Delivery office ID	an..9
		Unsuccessful delivery code[5]	an3
EMI	Final delivery	Delivery office ID	an..9
		Name of signatory recipient	a..17
EMX	Free form alphanumeric information		

[1] This format is coded as follows: a: alpha; an: alphanumeric; n: numeric.
NB: The two dots mean "up to". Eg, an..9 means "up to 9 alphanumeric characters".
[2] Inward or transit office of exchange.
[3] This is a composite data element which may consist of up to six flight numbers.
[4] This can be a series of data. See annex 1 to this recommendation.
[5] See annex 2 to this recommendation.

D. Inquiry system functions

The inquiry system functions are the following:

i message switching for management purposes (urgent/broadcast information);

ii inquiries based on item identifiers (specifying either a single item or a list of items by identity number);

iii inquiries based on item or event characteristics: these inquiries are based on designated values of the following parameters:
- dispatch number;
- place of origin;
- place of delivery;
- event date;
- message date and time;
- event type;

iv bulk information transfer capability allowing local data processing.

Annex 1 to recommendation 4

Retention code for EMS items held by Customs

Code	*Reason*
19	Prohibited articles
20	Articles whose importation is subject to restrictions – import licence required
50	Invoice missing
51	Inappropriate invoice
52	Certificate of origin missing
53	Certificate of origin inappropriate
54	C 2/CP 3 missing
55	C 2/CP 3 inappropriate
56	High-value goods – official Customs declaration required
57	Impossible to contact addressee for information concerning importation
58	Awaiting presentation to customs commissioner
59	VAT or import No necessary
60	Certificate of returned goods required
61	Transfer form requested from bank
62	Incomplete shipment
99	Other

Annex 2 to recommendation 4

Code for non-delivery of EMS items

1 Measures taken

Code	*Measure*
A	Attempted delivery today
B	Will attempt delivery on next working day
C	Item being held, addressee being notified
D	Sender contacted, awaiting reply
E	Item returned to sender
F	Item reforwarded
G	Item held for inspection
H	Item seized or destroyed because of nature of content

2 Reasons for non-delivery

Code	*Reason*
10	Incorrect address
11	Addressee cannot be located
12	Addressee not at address indicated; addressee's office closed
13	Item refused by addressee
14	Sender requested later delivery
15	Addressee on strike
16	Missed delivery
17	Item wrongly directed
18	Damage – item not delivered
19	Prohibited articles – item not delivered
20	Importation restricted – item not delivered
21	Payment of charges
99	Other

3 Possible combinations[1]

Mesure	Raison												
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	99
A	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●			●	●
B	●		●		●		●	●					
C	●	●	●			●			●	●	●	●	
D	●	●		●					●	●	●		
E	●	●		●					●		●		
F	●							●					
G									●				
H									●	●			

[1] Example: A13 means that delivery was attempted today, but that the addressee refused the item.

Recommendation 5

Notification of dispatch

It is recommended that postal administrations should notify the administration of destination of the arrival of EMS dispatches by computer link, telephone, telex, telefax or electronic mail.

Recommendation 6

Monitoring of airline handling

It is recommended that postal administrations should monitor the quality of airline handling of EMS items and take whatever corrective steps are necessary in the local context.

Recommendation 7

Customs clearance

Postal administrations are encouraged to speed up customs clearance of EMS items by every means at their disposal, including:

i national contact committees;
ii thorough studies of the organization of services at airports, in liaison with the local customs services, the airlines and the airport authorities;
iii prior transmission, especially by electronic means, of information required by the customs authorities for clearance of EMS items from the manifest, prior to arrival of the items.

Recommendation 8

Delivery of items

It is recommended that postal administrations should:

i deliver EMS items by a mail network that permits the attainment of a competitive performance level;
ii deliver all incoming EMS items by either special or scheduled courier.

Recommendation 9

Performance measurement

It is recommended that postal administrations should:

i set up a regular system of EMS performance measurement;
ii to use, for this system, the most convenient method, it being understood that administrations should give preference to adopting an electronic EMS tracking and tracing system.

Recommendation 10

Operational centres

It is recommended that postal administrations should set up an operational centre which can be called upon, twenty-four hours a day, to resolve EMS-related problems, including inquiries.

Recommendation 11

Liability

It is recommended that postal administrations should:

i assume liability and pay an indemnity corresponding to the actual amount of the loss of, theft from or damage to EMS items;

ii possibly establish, for such indemnity, a maximum limit, providing this maximum amount is not less than 19.60 SDR for items containing only documents, and 73.51 SDR for those containing other articles;

iii reimburse, in addition, all of the postal charges paid, either when an indemnity is to be paid because of loss, total theft or total damage, or in the case of late delivery, with payment of the indemnity and refund of postal charges being made promptly by the administration of origin after acknowledgement of the irregularities;

iv agree that the administration which is liable pay the indemnity owed and the postal charges to be refunded to the sender;

v ascertain the irregularities by means of a special verification note, corresponding to model E 2 attached hereto, and follow up inquiries in accordance with the provisions of article 15 of the Framework Agreement;

vi decide as to the liability of administrations, if need be, by analogy with the provisions of the Convention or the Postal Parcels Agreement.

Recommendation 12

Compensation for imbalances in exchanges

It is recommended that postal administrations should, in addition to the provisions of article 11 of the EMS Framework Agreement, provide for compensation when the annual imbalance of exchanges is 100 items or more.

Recommendation 13

Customer service standards

It is recommended that postal administrations should:

i take the following measures representing necessary or desirable EMS service elements for adoption in the short term:

Information

a issue an EMS customer service guide,

b distribute promotional materials such as direct mail, leaflets, and brochures,

c publish telephone numbers as contact points for sales and information,

Accessibility

d make EMS acceptance post offices recognizable from the outside,

e introduce special EMS counters,

f offer pick-up service for certain customers,

g supply free dispatch materials, such as labels and customs forms, at the customer's request,

Reliability

h develop a fast and reliable system for handling inquiries and complaints,

i set guaranteed delivery times with refunds for delayed items,

j confirm delivery on request,

k offer proof of delivery (addressee's signature) on request,

l publish explicit terms and conditions concerning transport and liability in EMS documentation,

m introduce a manual track and trace system,

Attitudes towards customers

n promote positive attitudes towards EMS by counter staff, delivery staff and managers;

ii take, to the extent possible, the following measures representing additional EMS service elements for adoption in the medium term:

Information

o use sales representatives as contact points for sales and information,

Accessibility

p while taking security factors into account, place special EMS counters at airports where last-minute EMS items can be posted,

Reliability

q develop an electronic track and trace system;

iii take note of the following possible additional measures with a view to considering whether they are desirable and feasible for adoption in their national EMS service:

r offer special introductory prices,

s offer pick-up service for all customers,

t place special EMS mail-boxes on the street and in buildings in business areas,

u prepare EMS for dispatch at the customer's request, either free of charge or against payment,

v bill customers by invoice, monthly account, or detailed invoicing;

w offer special customer care in difficult cases, such as delivery on request outside the service area, non-standard dimensions and weights, and special pick-up arrangements.

iv pay particular attention to the service elements offered by competitors.

Recommendation 14

Customer information

It is recommended that postal administrations should:

i in the course of collecting the information needed to analyze the competition and plan commercial strategies, establish and maintain up-to-date profiles of existing EMS customers, both senders and addressees, and potential target groups;

ii categorize the information by type of activity and volume of traffic;

iii make the relevant information available on request to other administrations seeking to locate potential customers.

EMS LABEL

E 1

EMS

1 Name of administration of origin
National name of the service

2

3 EE 473124829 CA

31 Office of origin

4 Date mailed
Year Month Day

5 Time mailed
Hour Minutes

Sender

6 Account No

7 Telephone No

8 Name and address of sender

9 Postal code

38 No of office of origin

39 Signature of sender

15 Number of pieces

16 This piece No

17 Product type

18 Method of payment
1 2 3

Customs declaration

21 Description of contents

22 Gift

23 Sample of merchandise

24 Value

25 Weight in kg

32 Delivered

Delivery attempt

37 Signature of employee accepting the item

Addressee

10 Account No

11 Telephone No

12 Name and address of addressee

13 Contract link

14 Postal code

33 Permit No

34 Serial No

20 Dispatch charge

19 Insurance fee

35 Pick-up fee

36 Total charges

27 Name in print of the person taking delivery of the item

28 Signature

26 Special handling instructions

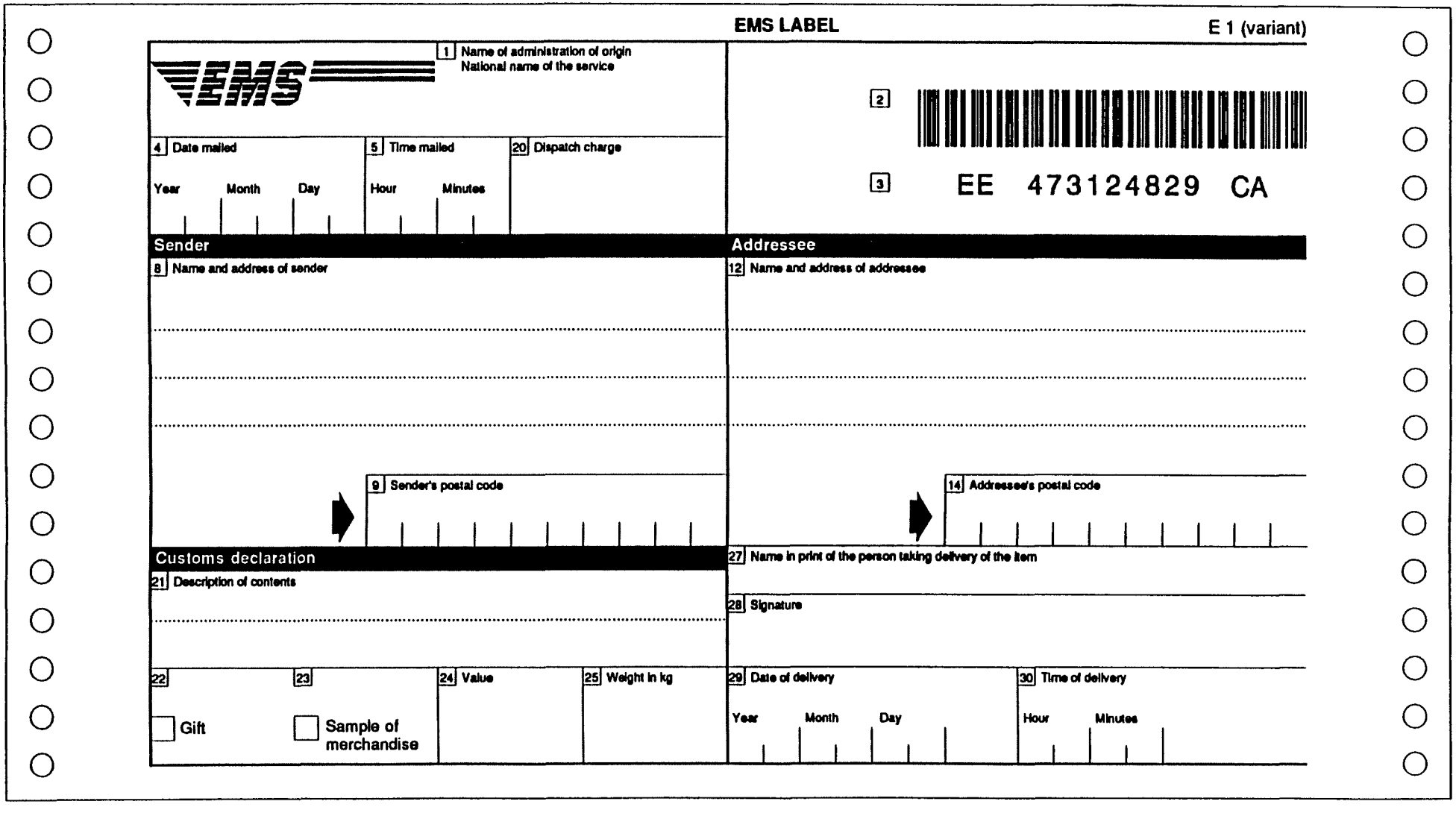
29 Date of delivery
Year Month Day

30 Time of delivery
Hour Minutes

Recommendation 3 on EMS – Size: 140 x 254 mm; colours: data fields 21 to 25 on green background, EMS logo blue and orange

EMS LABEL

E 1 (variant)



EMS Framework Agreement, article 103 – Size: 140 x 254 mm; colours: data fields 21 to 25 on green background, EMS logo blue and orange

VERIFICATION NOTE FOR EMS ITEMS

Office of origin of note	Date of note	No	Dispatch No
	Date of dispatch	Time	
Office of destination of note	Name of ship or flight No, etc		EMS manifest No
	Dispatch office of exchange		
	Office of exchange of destination		
	Date of arrival of mail	Date of opening of mail	

1 Missing items

Number		Office of origin	Address (as full as possible)	Observations
serial	of EMS items			

2 Excess items

Number		Office of origin	Address	
serial	of EMS items		of the sender	of the addressee

3 Rifled or damaged items

Number		Office of origin	Address		Contents
serial	of EMS items		of the sender	of the addressee	

Description and apparent cause of rifling or damage; other observations

Estimate of loss

4 Delayed items E 2 (Back)

Number		Office of origin	Address		Contents
serial	of EMS items		of the sender	of the addressee	

Description and apparent cause of delay

5 Irregularities

Missing EMS manifest, insufficient packing or fastening, etc

6 Subsequent treatment of the EMS item

☐ After repacking and weighing, the item has been forwarded to its destination

New weight

☐ The contents have been destroyed by the undersigned office

☐ The packing is held here

☐ The addressee refuses the item ☐ The sender refuses the item

☐ The addressee has accepted the item ☐ The sender has accepted the item

7 Carrier or carriers' representative

Name and capacity	Signature

Stamp of the office preparing the note
Official's signature

Seen and accepted
Stamp of the office of destination of the note and date
Official's signature

2.5 Postal parcels

Decision C 14/Paris 1947

Interpretation of the expression "offices of exchange in direct contact"[1]

Offices of exchange in direct contact are those operating on the same premises. The deletion of these words would only lead to the drawing up of formal reports in all cases.

(French Documents of the 1947 Paris Congress – volume II: pages 676, 1113)

[1] Parcels, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 128, para 3.

Formal opinion C 16/Brussels 1952

Cancellation of non-postal charges on parcels for prisoners of war levied by non-postal bodies[1]

Every administration undertakes to approach the appropriate authorities in its country with a view to ensuring the cancellation of non-postal charges on parcels addressed to the prisoners of war and combatants who have found shelter or been interned referred to in the present article, when the contents of such parcels consist of food, tobacco, medicaments, clothing, handworkers' or artists' working tools, etc, or articles for their personal use, provided they do not represent a high value, either in quantity or quality, and so long as they are obviously intended for the personal consumption or use of the addressees.

(French Documents of the 1952 Brussels Congress – volume II: pages 148, 798)

[1] Parcels, Agr (Washington 1989), art 18.

Formal opinion C 18/Brussels 1952

Reduction in the number of customs declarations[1] [2]

Administrations are urged to approach their customs authorities with the aim of reducing the number of customs declarations required to a strict minimum and refraining from prescribing such declarations for transit parcels.

(French Documents of the 1952 Brussels Congress – volume II: pages 148, 808)

[1] Parcels, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 106, para 1.
[2] See resolution C 12/1966.

Decision C 20/Brussels 1952

Cumbersome parcels[1]

As regards the maximum dimensions of cumbersome parcels, Congress considered it particularly difficult, from a practical standpoint, to introduce sufficiently broad provisions in the Detailed Regulations. It was advisable therefore for the administrations concerned to reach agreement on the matter if they deemed it worthwhile.

(French Documents of the 1952 Brussels Congress – volume II: pages 148, 818, 823, 826, 827)

[1] Parcels, Agr (Washington 1989), art 4.

Recommendation C 51/Tokyo 1969

Exception to the principle of liability[1]

Congress,

Bearing in mind
the fact that certain administrations cannot accede to the provisions of article 39 of the Agreement concerning postal parcels (Tokyo 1969) as regards ordinary parcels,

Considering
that these provisions are essential to users,

Recommends

the postal administrations of member countries which have made reservations on this point to reconsider their position with a view to accepting the provisions of article 392 if their internal legislation does not prevent them from doing so.

(Documents of the 1969 Tokyo Congress – volume II: pages 1109, 1550)

[1] See recommendation C 70/Lausanne 1974 and decision C 20/Rio de Janeiro 1979.
[2] Parcels, Agr (Washington 1989), art 40, Prot, art XII.

Resolution C 68/Lausanne 1974

Revision of the weighted average distance of conveyance of parcels in transit

Congress,

Referring
to Tokyo Congress resolution C 80, subparagraph 2, b, which instructs the International Bureau to revise, on the occasion of each Congress and by the procedure prescribed in the annex to the resolution, the weighted average distance of transit parcel conveyance of the countries concerned,

Having noted
that by its resolution CE 8/1972 the Executive Council authorized the International Bureau not to carry out this revision before the 1974 Congress,

Sharing
the view of the Executive Council that the revision should take place only when requested by an administration concerned (administration of transit or any other administration) and only for the countries for which it is requested,

Decides

to leave it to the International Bureau to revise a country's weighted average distance of transit parcels conveyance when such revision is requested by an administration, subject to the following guidelines; the revision shall be carried out as prescribed in paragraphs 5 and 6[1] of the annex to Tokyo Congress resolution C 80, provided that the statistical period shall be fixed by the International Bureau and notified to administrations at least three months in advance. If the revised weighted average distance does not fall within the same distance step (article 47, paragraph 1, of the Agreement)[2] as the distance before revision, the new transit land rates to which the country is entitled can only take effect on 1 January or 1 July, and must be notified to administrations at least two months before these dates (article 48, paragraph 2, a and c, of the Agreement).[3]

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 974, 975, 1402)

[1] Documents of the 1969 Tokyo Congress – volume III: pages 758 and 759
[2] Parcels, Agr (Washington 1989), art 48, para 1.
[3] Parcels, Agr (Washington 1989), art 47, para 5.

Recommendation C 70/Lausanne 1974

Exception to the principle of liability[1]

Congress,

Noting
that the response to Tokyo Congress recommendation C 51 is disappointing,

Considering
that the provisions of article 39 of the Postal Parcels Agreement2 are essential to users,

Convinced
that all the administrations of countries signatories to the Postal Parcels Agreement should assume, without reservation, the liability provided for in the above-mentioned article,

Urges

postal administrations of member countries which made reservations to article 39 to reconsider their position with a view to applying the provisions of that article.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 974, 975, 1399 and 1400)

[1] See decision C 20/Rio de Janeiro 1979.
[2] Parcels, Agr (Washington 1989), art 40, Prot, art XII.

Formal opinion C 10/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Advice of delivery[1]

Congress,

Noting
that not all administrations of member countries admit the advice of delivery for ordinary parcels,

Considering
that this service is frequently requested by senders to certify the posting or receipt of registered items and ordinary or insured parcels,

Requests

postal administrations to make a general practice of using the advice of delivery for all the above-mentioned items and to execute this service with the full attention which it requires.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1263, 1640, 1733)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 55.

Decision C 20/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Compensation (Postal Parcels Agreement, Final Protocol, article IX[1])

Congress,

Noting
that postal administrations of some member countries have reserved the right, notwithstanding article 39, not to pay compensation for uninsured parcels lost, stolen or damaged in their services,

Considering
that it is not expressly stated in the Postal Parcels Agreement that member countries exercising this right should not be entitled to receive compensation for uninsured parcels, lost, stolen or damaged in the services of other member countries which accept liability under article 39,

Recognizing
that there should be reciprocity in the matter of payment of compensation,

Decides

that member countries which exercise the right not to pay compensation for uninsured parcels lost, stolen or damaged in their services shall not be entitled to receive compensation for their uninsured parcels lost, stolen or damaged in the services of other member countries which accept liability under article 39.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1263, 1644, 1743)

[1] Parcels, Prot (Washington 1989), art XIII.

Resolution C 40/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Notification by administrations of the information to be supplied on the subject of the execution of the international postal parcels service and applicable from the entry into force of the Postal Parcels Agreement

Congress,

Referring
to article 101 of the Detailed Regulations of the Postal Parcels Agreement, under which every administration must notify the other administrations, through the intermediary of the International Bureau, of certain information which is essential to the efficient execution of the international postal parcels service,

Considering
that numerous changes are made in this information, particularly as regards rates, after each Congress when the Postal Parcels Agreement goes into force,

Anxious
to facilitate the work of administrations and to ensure the smooth functioning of the international parcel post service from the entry into force of the new Agreement,

Recognizing
that the attainment of this objective depends on the communication of such information in good time to the administrations,

Invites

the administrations of member countries signatories of the Postal Parcels Agreement to notify the International Bureau of the information required in article 101 of the Detailed Regulations of the Agreement at least six months before the Agreement enters into force so as to enable the International Bureau to communicate them to the other administrations sufficiently in advance of the date of implementation of the Agreement.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1263, 1653, 1760)

Formal opinion C 61/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Information to be supplied by administrations
(Postal Parcels Agreement, Detailed Regulations, article 101)

Congress,

In view of
the importance to users of procedures for delivering ordinary and insured parcels in the country of destination,

Expresses the formal opinion

that administrations should send information on this subject to the International Bureau for publication in the Compendium of Information on the organization and internal services of postal administrations.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1263, 1656, 1785)

Recommendation C 48/Hamburg 1984

Acceptance of advices of non-delivery

Congress,

Considering
the vital interest for a sender to be informed as quickly as possible of the non-delivery of his parcel to the addressee,

Feeling
that administrations must do everything in their power to ensure delivery of the parcels which are entrusted to them in order to avoid returning them to the sender,

Bearing in mind
the costs incurred by returning parcels to the sender,

Recommends

that Union administrations should accept advices of non-delivery.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 178, 533)

Resolution C 15/Washington 1989

Standardization of the conditions of admission and supplementary services provided in the postal parcels service

Congress,

Noting
the vast differences which exist at present between the postal administrations of member countries with regard to the conditions of admission and supplementary services provided in the postal parcels service,

Considering
that these differences are difficult for customers to understand, complicate the work of the operational services and are a source of many service errors,

Aware
of the need for postal administrations to urgently take all appropriate measures to retain or recover their share of the market in the highly competitive carriage of small goods sector,

Calls on

the postal administrations of member countries to admit for all categories of postal parcel:
- a maximum weight of at least 20 kg;
- the limits of size laid down in article 20, paragraph 1, of the Postal Parcels Agreement (Hamburg 1984), viz 1.50 metres for any one dimension or 3 metres for the sum of the length and the greatest circumference measured in a direction other than that of the length;
- insured parcels;
- express parcels;
- correspondence and documents of any kind having the character of current and personal correspondence as per article 19, a, iii, third subparagraph, of the Postal Parcels Agreement (Hamburg 1984);
- advice of delivery;
- dispatch of an advice of non-delivery in accordance with article 22, paragraph 2, a or b, of the Postal Parcels Agreement (Hamburg 1984).

(Proposal 5000.1, Committee 7, 2nd meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 16/Washington 1989

Introduction and extension of the postal parcels service

Congress,

Considering
that the exchange of postal parcels is one of the most important services for users of the Post, and that, accordingly, it is imperative that postal administrations pay the closest attention to it in order to provide optimum service in the international context,

Taking into account
that at the present time the postal parcels service is governed by the Postal Parcels Agreement to which 144 member countries of the Union have acceded,

that only 26 member countries are not party to the Postal Parcels Agreement,

In view of
the necessity for postal services to take the appropriate action to play a more effective part in the organization and marketing of parcel traffic in order to gain a greater share of the world market for these exchanges,

Desirous
that postal administrations be able to offer their users a service that guarantees maximum security with regard to both the handling and the delivery of parcels,

Calls on

the administrations of the 26 member countries not yet party to the Postal Parcels Agreement to introduce this service in their international postal exchanges, and

Instructs

the Executive Council:
i to examine the problems preventing these countries from acceding to the Postal Parcels Agreement and to consider ways of enabling them to do so;
ii to study the possibility of making the postal parcels service mandatory within the Union;
iii to submit ad hoc proposals to the next Congress.

(Proposal 5000.6/Rev 1, Committee 7, 1st meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 17/Washington 1989

Universal rate for land and sea rates

Congress,

Having adopted
the new land and sea rates proposed by the Executive Council on conclusion of the study it conducted in pursuance of resolution C 22 of the 1984 Hamburg Congress,

Considering
- that the three current methods of fixing land and sea rates – namely, per weight step (Agreement, articles 46, 47 and 48), per parcel (article 53, paragraph 3), and per kg of gross weight of the mails (article 53, paragraph 3) – have an inflationary effect on the rates;
- that a universal rate based on remuneration per item, to take account of the fixed costs, and remuneration according to the weight, to take account of the costs that vary with the latter, would make better allowance for the actual cost situation, bearing in mind especially the average costs in the member countries of the Union as a whole;
- that such a system of remuneration, in addition to being a way of avoiding inflationary trends, would also offer the advantage of simplification,

Instructs

the Executive Council:
i to conduct a study on the possibility of introducing a universal rate combining a rate per parcel and a rate per kg of gross weight of the mail, on the basis of two elements: fixed costs and variable costs;
ii to submit any proposals resulting from these studies to the next Congress.

(Proposal 5500.2, Committee 7, 3rd meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 18/Washington 1989

Revision of land and sea rates

Congress,

Having adopted
the new land and sea rates proposed by the Executive Council on conclusion of the study arising from resolution C 22 of the 1984 Hamburg Congress,

In view of
- the fact that the guideline rates applicable to the outward and inward land rates were fixed in such a way that the rates enable administrations to cover the costs of handling inward parcels while ensuring that the parcel-post service remains competitive;
- the fact that the transit land rates and the sea rates were fixed by reference to the letter-post transit charges according to the "parcel-post/letter-post comparative method" described in Tokyo Congress – Doc 13 (Documents of the 1969 Tokyo Congress, vol II, pages 483–486);
- the fact that these same rates were calculated by the "least squares" method giving one equation of the average price curves (1984 Hamburg method),

Instructs

the Executive Council:
i to carry out a fresh study on the amount of the guideline rates applicable to the outward and inward land rates laid down in article 47 of the Postal Parcels Agreement (Washington 1989);
ii to adjust the transit land rates and sea rates laid down in articles 48 and 49 of that Agreement in the event of a revision of the letter-post transit charges; and
iii to submit any proposals resulting from these studies to the next Congress.

(Proposal 5500.1, Committee 7, 3rd meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 26/Washington 1989

Harmonization of systems of accounting for transit charges for closed surface letter and surface parcel mails

Congress,

Considering
that the transit of surface parcel mails is administered differently from that of letter-post mail,

Realizing
that operationally the transit of a bag of letter post and a bag of parcel post is similar,

Instructs

the Executive Council to undertake a study with a view to having a single system that applies to both letter post and parcel post.

(Proposal 2000.6/Rev 1, Committee 7, 5th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 27/Washington 1989

Development of a range of postal parcel products/services suited to the demands of the international market

Congress,

Noting
that the Post's competitors in the transport of light goods field are making major inroads in the Post's traditional markets,

Noting
that the competitors' range of products is better suited to market needs and that the rates charged are considered reasonable (price based on work done),

Considering
that, if postal administrations wish to remain credible carriers of light goods, their range of products and their rates must be adapted to market demand,

Noting
from several studies that customers want products forwarded in one of the following ways:
- D + 1 forwarding, or the fastest possible forwarding, by a coherent chain of conveyance with fast transhipment and possibly a door-to-door service (corresponding to the Post's EMS);
- a fast service for sending an item anywhere in the world within a guaranteed forwarding time of three to seven days depending on the destination (at present, the Post has the air parcel or, in Europe, Eurocolis);
- an economy service where the low price is more important than the speed of forwarding (in this category, the Post at present has S.A.L. or surface parcels),

Instructs

the Consultative Council for Postal Studies:
a to undertake an urgent study with the aim of identifying and developing a range of new postal parcel products/services suited to the demands of the international market;
b to make specific provision in the study for:
   - an examination of the marketing aspects of the existing international postal parcels service and the range of new products/services proposed with a view to facilitating their promotion as competitive, efficient, and completely secure services;

- the possibility of introducing quality of service standards (into the definition of these new parcel services);
- the possibility of setting administrations' payments and the charges collected from customers on the basis of systems different from the ones laid down in the existing Agreement, possibly by bilateral or multilateral agreement;

c to recommend to postal administrations joint action aimed at introducing or developing these services in order to counteract the effects of competition at international level from private companies;

d to report progress in this area to the Executive Council so that the latter may, if necessary, recommend the adoption of appropriate new regulations or procedures as provided in article 102, paragraph 6, r, of the General Regulations.

(Proposal 5000.2/Rev 1, Committee 7, 4th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Decision C 47/Washington 1989

Marking of parcels containing goods which should not be exposed to radiographic control or to the light

Congress

Instructs

the Executive Council:
- to undertake, in cooperation with IATA, a study of proposal 5505.1 concerning the make-up of items containing goods not to be opened without special precautions;
- at the end of its work, to make any proposals under its new powers.

(Proposal 5505.1, Committee 7, 5th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Decision C 52/Washington 1989

Preparation and settlement of parcel-post accounts

Congress,

Basing itself
on resolution C 68 (proposal 3500.1) concerning the preparation and settlement of accounts,

Instructs

the Executive Council to include, in the framework of the study it is to carry out on "the preparation and settlement of accounts", the relevant questions concerning postal parcels, and to take

account in particular of proposals 5550.1, 5550.2/Rev 1, 5550.3, 5550.4, 5550.5, 5550.6, 5552.1, 5552.2 and 5552.3 submitted to the Washington Congress with a view to modernizing the current parcel-post accounting provisions.

(Proposals 5550.1, 5550.2/Rev 1, 5550.3, 5550.4, 5550.5, 5550.6, 5552.1, 5552.2 and 5552.3, Committee 7, 6th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Decision C 89/Washington 1989

Revision of the Postal Parcels Agreement subsequent to the Washington Congress – References to the Convention

Congress,

Given
that some postal administrations operate or are planning to operate a parcels service independent of the other postal services,

Holding
that independent regulations on postal parcels, and especially the reproduction in the Postal Parcels Agreement and its Detailed Regulations of the texts from the Convention that currently serve for reference purposes, will contribute to simplifying and improving the effectiveness of the work of the postal parcels service,

Considering
furthermore that such an independent Agreement will also avoid time-wasting looking up references elsewhere, with the inherent complications, and will simplify the training of parcel-post staff,

Instructs

the Executive Council, in considering any proposals to amend the Postal Parcels Agreement or its Detailed Regulations, to take account of the value of avoiding, as far as possible, all references to the Convention reproducing the corresponding texts,

Instructs

the International Bureau, in annotating the Postal Parcels Agreement and its Detailed Regulations subsequent to the Washington Congress, to reproduce the texts of the Convention normally used as references so as to contribute to making the Postal Parcels Agreement and its Detailed Regulations as independent as possible.

(Congress/C 7 – Rep 6/Annex 2, Committee 7, 6th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

2.6 Postal financial services

Formal opinion MP 1/Vienna 1964

Accession to the Postal Money Orders Agreement[1]

Congress urgently draws the attention of Union member countries which are not parties to the Postal Money Orders and Postal Travellers' Cheques Agreement[2] to the value of their adhering to the said Agreement insofar as the development of international exchanges is concerned. While testifying to the quality of the Acts of the Universal Postal Union, such rationalization of exchanges would greatly facilitate the work of developing countries; it would also most certainly be welcomed by all Union members on whom the existence of separate conventions imposes revision work which could be avoided without the countries traditionally using exchanges by list having to change the internal rules to which it is normal for them to remain faithful.

(French Documents of the 1964 Vienna Congress – volume II: pages 703, 1268, 1322)

[1] See recommendation C 1/Vienna 1964; resolution C 88/Tokyo 1969; resolution C 12/Rio de Janeiro 1979; recommendation C 13/Hamburg 1984.
[2] See resolution C 3/Washington 1989 abolishing postal travellers' cheques.

Resolution C 11/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Information to be supplied by administrations

Congress,

Referring
to article 101 of the Detailed Regulations of the Money Orders and Postal Travellers' Cheques, Giro, COD, Collection of Bills, International Savings and Subscriptions to Newspapers and Periodicals Agreements[1], under which every administration must give the other administrations, through the International Bureau, certain information on the execution of the services governed by those Agreements,

Considering
that numerous amendments have to be made to this information after each Congress, when the Agreements go into force,

Anxious
to facilitate the work of administrations and to ensure the smooth functioning of the international service from the entry into force of a new Agreement,

Recognizing
that the attainment of this objective depends on the communication of this information to administrations in good time,

Invites

the administrations of member countries signatories of any of the above Agreements to notify the International Bureau of the information required in article 101 of the Detailed Regulations of each Agreement at least six months before the Agreements go into force, so that the International Bureau can publish it well before the date on which they take effect.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1263, 1672)

[1] Money Orders, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art RE 1302.
Giro, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art RE 1701.
COD, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art RE 902.

Formal opinion C 22/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Preparation of card money orders[1]

Congress,

Considering
that article 105, paragraph 11, of the Detailed Regulations of the Money Orders Agreement lays down that handwritten entries on card money orders shall be "printed if possible",

Noting
that this requirement is often disregarded and that as a result the entries are not always legible, thereby impeding the regularity of the service,

Calls on

administrations to recommend users to print handwritten entries on card money orders.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: page 1767)

[1] Article 105, paragraph 1, becomes art RE 301, para 1, and "card money orders" becomes "ordinary money orders". Amendments approved by the 1989 Washington Congress.

Recommendation C 13/Hamburg 1984

Development of the postal financial services, particularly the international postal money order service

Congress,

Basing itself on
resolution C 12 of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress which instructs the Executive Council to carry out a study on defining ways of introducing or developing postal monetary articles services, particularly the postal money order service, in all Union countries,

Bearing in mind
the results of the study carried out on this matter,

Considering
that the reasons which prevent administrations from introducing or developing postal financial services are due for the most part to legal, economic or institutional difficulties peculiar to each country,

Noting
that a large number of administrations have succeeded in overcoming these difficulties by adapting their services to the requirements of the legal or financial authorities,

Convinced
that administrations still experiencing difficulties of the same kind in introducing financial services can be guided by similar methods and initiatives,

Aware
that the development of the postal financial services can make a major contribution to the economic development of countries,

Recommends

i administrations which have not yet introduced postal financial services internationally, to make the necessary approaches to the appropriate national authorities in order to convince them of the need and the usefulness of allowing funds to be transferred through the post;
ii administrations which operate the postal money order service at national level only to agree to pay postal money orders issued in other countries to payees in their country;
iii all administrations to take appropriate steps to promote the postal money order service internationally by all available means, while improving the quality of these services and speeding up the settlement of interadministration accounts.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 547, 598)

Resolution C 24/Hamburg 1984

Technical characteristics and information concerning the use of the MP 1bis and MP 12bis forms deposited with the International Bureau

Congress,

Considering
that article 104, paragraph 1, of the Detailed Regulations of the Money Orders Agreement provides for the deposit[1] with the International Bureau of the technical characteristics and information concerning the use of the MP 1bis and MP 12bis forms,

Desirous
that these forms be prepared and utilized in as uniform a manner as possible so as to permit their mechanized and computerized processing by the countries of issue and destination,

Instructs

the administration of Sweden, as the country submitting proposals concerning the introduction of the new MP 1bis and MP 12bis forms, to deposit with the International Bureau the above-mentioned technical characteristics and information,

Requests

the countries participating in the issue of these forms to designate one of their number as a spokesman authorized to deposit with the International Bureau any alteration in the characteristics and information deposited,

Authorizes

the International Bureau to communicate these characteristics and this information to the administrations which so request,

Instructs

the Executive Council to monitor developments in the money orders service and, in the light of the experience gained, to propose to the next Congress any useful amendment to the above procedure.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 550, 608)

[1] Money Orders, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art RE 202, para 4.

Resolution C 51/Hamburg 1984

Technical characteristics of the postcheque form and postcheque guarantee card deposited with the International Bureau

Congress,

Considering
that articles 149, paragraph 2, and 150 of the Detailed Regulations of the Giro Agreement (Rio de Janeiro 1979) provide for the deposit with the International Bureau of the technical characteristics of the postcheque form (VP 14) and the postcheque guarantee card (VP 15),

Anxious
to ensure that these two documents are established in as standard a form as possible while recognizing the need for them to include certain details peculiar to the issuing administration, such as the emblem of that administration,

Endorses

decision CE 5/1981 of the Executive Council to adopt, on a provisional basis, the technical characteristics of the postcheque form and postcheque guarantee card as used by certain European administrations and deposited with the International Bureau in 1980 in accordance with the aforementioned provisions,

Requests

the countries taking part in the issue of postcheques and the postcheque guarantee card to designate a spokesman who will be authorized to deposit with the International Bureau any amendment to the aforementioned technical characteristics,

Authorizes

the International Bureau to communicate these characteristics to any administration which requests them,

Instructs

the Executive Council to follow developments in the postcheque service and to propose to the next Congress, in the light of the experience acquired, any appropriate amendments to the aforementioned procedure.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 553, 618)

Resolution C 81/Hamburg 1984

Forms of the Agreements concerning the postal financial services

Congress,

Having adopted
resolution C 10 concerning consideration of the Agreements concerning the postal financial services,

Instructs

the Executive Council, within the framework of such consideration, to standardize the terminology used in the presentation of the forms provided for in the Agreements concerning the postal financial services.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 547, 602)

Resolution C 3/Washington 1989

Postal Financial Services and Subscriptions to Newspapers and Periodicals Agreements abolished. Possibility of their being retained or reintroduced

Congress,

Noting
that member countries of the UPU either do not participate in the postal travellers' cheques, giro travellers' cheques, instruments payable at giro centres, collection of bills, savings and subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals services, or execute these services on the basis of bilateral agreements which differ greatly from one another,

Believing
that, under those circumstances, regulation of these services by the UPU is no longer justified,

Decides

i to delete from the Money Orders Agreement all provisions concerning postal travellers' cheques;
ii to delete from the Giro Agreement the provisions concerning "Giro travellers' cheques" and those concerning "Negotiation by giro transfer of instruments payable at giro centres";
iii to abolish the Collection of Bills Agreement, the International Savings Agreement and the Subscriptions to Newspapers and Periodicals Agreement;
iv to leave administrations the possibility of retaining or subsequently reintroducing between themselves all or part of the provisions relating to the above-mentioned services,

Accordingly instructs

the International Bureau to distribute by means of circulars, as the need arises and at the request of the countries concerned, a list of the countries participating in these services, as well as certain information of a general nature.

(Proposal 05, Committee 8, 1st meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Decision C 51/Washington 1989

Postal financial service (POSTFIN) telegrams

Congress

Decides

to apply the provision of article RE 303, paragraph 6, on expressing the amount in figures, then in words in postal financial service (POSTFIN) telegrams with effect from 1 July 1990.

(Proposal 6000.2, Committee 8, 2nd meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Decision C 94/Washington 1989

Use of other methods of transferring funds in the postal financial services

Congress

Instructs

the Executive Council to conduct a study on the possibility of using other faster and less cumbersome methods of transferring funds in the postal financial services and to communicate the result of this study to the postal administrations of their use.

(Committee 8, 4th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.3, 16th meeting)

2.7 Washington General Action Plan (WGAP)

Resolution C 5/Washington 1989

Permanent control of the quality of service worldwide

Congress,

Noting
- the encouraging results of the transmission-time monitoring operations resulting from the implementation of the Declaration of Hamburg;
- the great interest aroused by these operations among the member countries,

Considering
that improving the quality and speed of mail circulation and international exchanges is a priority objective in order to safeguard the public image of the Post, effectively combat competition from private couriers and provide a response to remailing firms,

Convinced
of the ability of administrations to bring about a substantial and lasting improvement in the quality of their mail circulation through increased vigilance in the organization and operation of the services and coordinated monitoring activities,

Requests

all postal administrations urgently:
- to evaluate the effectiveness of their different quality control systems and their capacity to give satisfactory results, and, where applicable, to take steps to strengthen and improve these systems;
- to monitor systematically, with their own facilities, the handling times for international mail (inward and outward) in their services in accordance with a fixed and adequate frequency;
- to take an active part in the monitoring operations organized by the International Bureau;
- to take immediately, where appropriate, such correction measures as may improve the quality of the service, in the interests of ensuring the Post a stronger position on the communications market,

Requests

the Restricted Unions to do everything in their power to facilitate the attainment of the aforementioned objectives,

Instructs

the International Bureau:
- to continue its regular monitoring of mail transmission times worldwide;
- to submit, to this end, for the approval of the CCPS, a methodology based on:
  - the Declaration of Hamburg;
  - the wide experience acquired over the last four years by the UPU, the Restricted Unions and postal administrations, and which will as far as possible lead to the establishment of international mail circulation standards;
- to approach administrations or services responsible for the delays and shortcomings noted in order that the necessary correction measures may be taken quickly;
- if need be, to help administrations improve the situation;
- to establish as soon as possible such a control system for the world EMS network,

Instructs

the Executive Council and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies to follow the work arising from this resolution and to take such measures as they may deem necessary.

(Proposal 013, 10th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 22/Washington 1989

Permanent project to safeguard and enhance the quality of and to modernize the international postal service

Congress,

Considering
the particularly rapid development of the communications market under the combined effect of technological progress and powerful competition,

Noting
the encouraging results of the efforts made following the Declaration of Hamburg to improve the quality of mail circulation,

Recognizing
the need for the Union to advance further along the path of concrete action in order to enable the Post to safeguard and improve its position on the communications market, thanks to a determined campaign to promote service quality and diversify the services rendered,

Convinced
of the urgent necessity for the Post to respond better to customers' requirements and thereby to combat the competition more vigorously,

Decides

in favour of implementing a permanent project to safeguard and enhance the quality of and to modernize the international postal service, comprising in particular the following activities:
- monitoring the quality of postal exchanges through detailed analysis of transmission times and action by consultants in the field to help solve the problems arising and promote initiatives to improve the performance of the international postal service;
- transport flow studies to rationalize and modernize postal links;
- development of EMS;
- monitoring the competition in order to react appropriately;
- market research enabling administrations to adjust services to customer needs and introduce new services;
- various initiatives dictated by evolving technologies and needs,

Instructs

the Executive Council, in cooperation with the CCPS and the International Bureau, to take the measures necessary to attain meaningful results in the various fields covered by the project and to submit a report to the next Congress,

Exhorts

a the member countries of the Union:
   - to do everything in their power to improve the quality of the postal services rendered and to extend the range of those services in accordance with the customers' needs;
   - to cooperate fully in the project designed to stimulate their initiatives and to reap the maximum benefit from the implementation of the activities undertaken;

b the member countries and the Restricted Unions to give active support to the operations embarked upon under this project, especially those conducted in the field.

(Proposal 010, 10th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Recommendation C 78/Washington 1989

Reserving terminal dues revenue for the purpose of improving the quality of the postal service

Congress,

Considering
- that the Constitution of the UPU is the fundamental Act of the Union;
- that article 1, paragraph 2, of the Constitution of the Union stipulates that the aim of the Union shall be to secure the organization and improvement of the postal services;
- that the UPU Congress meeting in Tokyo in 1969 established the principle of payment of terminal dues as remuneration for the costs incurred by the administrations of destination in assuming management of the traffic in imbalance;
- that the said remuneration implicitly entails for the postal administrations the obligation to endeavour to achieve the highest standards of quality of service;
- that, as a result, the costs of managing the traffic in imbalance must include the implementation of programmes for the organization, expansion and improvement of the postal service as a whole;
- that it is necessary to continue to strive to ensure that the revenue generated through the application of the terminal dues system is used to achieve the purposes for which the system was created,

Recommends

the Governments of Union member countries:
- to recognize the principle providing that the monies received as terminal dues be allocated in their entirety to the postal service of the country of destination, regardless of the legal status of that service, whether or not it holds assets in its own name, and irrespective of its autonomy of management, and, consequently, that the revenue derived from terminal dues be used exclusively as reimbursement for handling costs and for the constitution of the reserve funds required for replacement and improvement of the postal infrastructures of the countries;
- to establish procedures that will make it possible with the utmost expediency to transfer all revenue derived from terminal dues to the budget of their postal service, once the formalities required by domestic legislation have been observed.

(Proposal 3000.4, Committee 5, 5th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 91/Washington 1989

Washington General Action Plan

Congress,

In view of

the Washington General Debate held on 16 November 1989 on the topic of "Caring for the Customer – Commercial and operational strategies of the Post",

Considering
- the development and diversification of the communications market and commercial exchanges;
- the effect of deregulation in transport and communications and the reduction of the postal monopoly in many member countries;
- the increased intensity of competition on postal markets;
- the urgent need to obtain a better knowledge of the market in terms of its composition, groups of customers and services offered;
- the need to adapt quickly to the development of supply and demand in services from the commercial and technical points of view;
- the importance of ensuring more commercially-orientated management in order to be able to maintain and improve the quality of traditional services which are obviously of a public nature,

Bearing in mind
- all aspects of the Declaration of Hamburg, particularly the action designed to make governments and users more aware of the need to make the Post a dynamic undertaking which contributes to the smooth running of the economy and to give it the structural and financial means necessary for its transformation;
- the decisions taken by the various regional conferences, particularly those of the Ministers and Directors-General;
- the need to act internationally as a single postal business subject to the competition law applicable,

Approves

the attached Washington General Action Plan,

Appeals urgently

to Governments to give the Post a modern legal status and management system guaranteeing it adequate independence and sufficient human and financial resources on a cost-effective basis,

Exhorts

administrations to make every effort to:

i achieve the following priority objectives:
   - a to obtain from their Governments and implement the legal status and management system that will provide them with the human and financial resources needed for running a dynamic business;
   - b to know the market better and to monitor the competition with a view to increasing the competitive position of postal products;
   - c to respond more satisfactorily to customers' needs in terms of tariff systems, quality of service, the range of services provided and customer care;
   - d to strengthen the international Post in terms of mutual support, more suitable legislation and standards of service, as well as technical support and cooperation activities;

ii cooperate within the UPU in providing coordinated quality postal services;

iii implement without delay the activities contained in the Washington General Action Plan, taking account of the priorities and timetable set by the Union's bodies;

iv continuously monitor and periodically assess the extent to which the Action Plan is being implemented, and report thereon from time to time to the Executive Council through the International Bureau,

Calls on

the Restricted Unions:

i to keep the Washington General Action Plan very much in mind in their postal development programme;

ii to establish priorities at their level;

iii to keep the International Bureau informed of their initiatives and of the results obtained in implementing the Action Plan,

Instructs

the Executive Council (EC), the Consultative Council for Postal Studies (CCPS) and the International Bureau:

- to take without delay, within the framework of their authority, appropriate measures to prioritize, to achieve the objectives set and to implement the activities contained in the Washington General Action Plan;
- to monitor the application of the Action Plan, particularly at meetings of the Coordination Committee;
- to report to the next Congress on the results and experience gained;
- to submit relevant proposals to the next Congress.

(Congress – Doc 48.2, 13th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.3, 16th meeting)

Annex 1

20th UPU Congress – Washington 1989

WASHINGTON GENERAL ACTION PLAN

I. Principal objectives

The Washington Congress, recognizing the increasing competition in the communications market and the impetus which this provides for increased efficiency, along with our customers' demands for greater service reliability and better value for money, agrees that the following actions are essential for the future survival of efficient postal services:

1 Governments are urged to ensure that the Post has a legal status and an independent management system and resources, necessary for it to provide efficient postal services to meet customer needs.

2 Postal administrations must create market-led cultures where the customer commands top priority; this must be reflected in all policy decisions and operating arrangements.

3 Specifically, all member countries of the UPU must give the highest consideration to providing service excellence in all postal services and products, both nationally and internationally.

4 The UPU must do everything in its power to encourage Governments and administrations to achieve these objectives, and to give each other mutual support and cooperation to attain them. Specifically, this priority must feature prominently in the work programmes of the EC, the CCPS and the International Bureau.

Individual action points aimed at achieving these objectives are given in part III "Objectives and actions" of this Plan.

II. Setting priorities for the actions

Congress has agreed that all the actions contained in this Plan are important. It will not, however, be possible for all administrations to implement all of these actions immediately, as some administrations have only limited resources, and some of the actions can only be achieved over a certain time scale.

In selecting which of these activities to undertake, administrations must first of all bear in mind the objectives listed in part I of this Plan.

If administrations do not have sufficient resources, then it is essential that they encourage their governments to modernize and improve their legal status. This may take some time, and administrations may need to maintain constant pressure on their governments to achieve this.

Nonetheless, there are some actions which can be implemented quickly, and relatively cheaply, by every administration, in order to monitor and improve the quality given to basic services. These must be the first priority of all administrations. Other actions can proceed simultaneously and in parallel, according to the resources of each administration.

All actions must be based above all on two essential principles:
- meeting the needs of customers;
- improving the quality of service.

III. Objectives and actions

Objectives		Actions		Responsibility[1]
A.	**Knowledge of the market**			
A.1	To achieve a better knowledge of the various components of the communications market: - characteristics of all key market segments - services provided - customer needs - competition	A1.1	Prepare and implement a programme of contacts with customers and market research to obtain continuing data on: - groups of customers, their degree of satisfaction and wishes - competitors, their market shares, organization and methods - market trends	Adm, CCPS, RU
		A1.2	Increase the exchange of market research data between administrations and strengthen inter-administration cooperation in undertaking multilateral or regional market studies	Adm, IB, RU

[1] This column indicates the entities responsible for the actions. The abbreviations used are:

Adm = Administration
CC = Coordination Committee
CCPS = Consultative Council for Postal Studies
EC = Executive Council
Gvt = Member country's Government
IB = International Bureau
RU = Restricted Unions

Objectives		Actions		Responsibility
		A1.3	Develop manager training in the use of market research data and customer care practices	Adm, RU
B.	**Commercial strategies**			
B.1	To respond to customer needs	B1.1	Expand the range of services and adapt it to the needs expressed by customers, particularly EMS, electronic mail, parcels, priority/non-priority systems and financial services, subject to the need for the services to be cost-effective	Adm
		B1.2	Promote the services and products provided	Adm
		B1.3	Establish commercial and marketing policies, with qualified specialist staff to implement them	Adm
B.2	To adopt a service and tariff policy geared to customer needs in line with the market situation	B2.1	Make national and international service conditions more flexible and adaptable to changing market conditions	Adm
		B2.2	Develop services to meet specific customer needs, eg collection from cusomer's premises and delivery direct to addressee's address	Adm
		B2.3	Develop flexible, cost-related tariff structures in line with market conditions, eg contract rates for major customers and discounts for pre-sorting by the customer	Adm
		B2.4	Apply fair and cost-related inter-administration payment/ compensation arrangements	Adm, EC, RU
B.3	To lay down the principles for the attitude to be adopted towards the competition	B3.1	Define the attitude to be adopted towards the competition on the basis of precise policies and principles, subject to the competition law in force	Adm, Gvt
B.4	To specify the constraints of a public service and the corresponding compensations within the framework of the Post's missions	B4.1	Define the constraints of a public service and the corresponding compensations in the form of privileges or financial contributions	Adm, Gvt
B.5	To implement commercial customer relations programmes based on the best existing practice	B5.1	Introduce specially staffed Customer Care units designed to give quick and accurate responses to customer inquiries and complaints	Adm
		B5.2	Make information about services and tariffs readily available to customers	Adm
		B5.3	Establish staff with special responsibilities for contact with major customers – "one-stop shopping"	Adm
		B5.4	Reduce bureaucratic procedures in customer relations	Adm, EC, IB

Objectives		Actions		Responsibility
C.	**Quality of service and operational strategies**			
C.1	To survey traffic and monitor quality in order to: – expedite mail circulation – strengthen the security of items – promote delivery to the addressee's address	C1.1	Define, apply and update standards offering customers an impeccable quality of service	Adm, CCPS, EC, IB, RU
		C1.2	In the domestic and the international service, provide and continuously improve high-quality postal services for all categories of items to meet customer demand for reliable, consistent and cost-effective services, in order to protect the basic postal activity	Adm
		C1.3	Implement a traffic surveillance programme to detect and correct malfunctioning and introduce a tracking system for items and mails	Adm, CCPS, RU
		C1.4	Provide international links for mail circulation networks and constantly review the reliability of the circuits	Adm, CCPS, EC, IB, RU
		C1.5	Give equal priority to domestic and international mail so as to apply the concept of a single business	Adm
		C1.6	Make optimum use of all rapid transport means, avoiding wherever possible regular use of inefficient carriers	Adm
		C1.7	Reduce customs formalities and control and lengthy hold-ups in Customs by making best use of national and local "Post–Customs" Contact Committees	Adm, Gvt
C.2	To ensure rational use of available means	C2.1	Hold costs and tariffs at competitive levels by cutting overheads and simplifying procedures	Adm
		C2.2	Make optimum use of human resources and automation	Adm
		C2.3	Assign dedicated financial and human resources to EMS	Adm
C.3	To modernize operational systems	C3.1	Modernize operatioinal methods and tools	Adm
		C3.2	Develop telematics applications	Adm
D.	**Management independence**			
D.1	To provide the administrative and financial management independence necessary to run the business	D1.1	Have a status ensuring sufficient independence to allocate responsibility for management of human and financial resources and the possibilities of obtaining them	Adm, Gvt
		D1.2	Have sufficient resources to run the business, whether raised internally or externally	Adm, Gvt

Objectives		Actions		Responsibility
D.2	To make more flexible and adapt the monopoly and national regulations and define a rates policy	D2.1	Have a status providing protection for certain categories of products under a defined monopoly tailored to circumstances, and introduce a system for monitoring its application	Adm, Gvt
D.3	To have long-range corporate plans and policies that serve as guides for ongoing activities	D3.1	Define the basic objectives for the postal services	Adm
		D3.2	Prepare and implement plans with clearly identified actions, accompanied by quantified and measureable targets, costs, benefits, and deadlines	Adm
E.	**Human resources**			
E.1	To modernize staff recruitment, employment and management systems	E1.1	Recruit and employ staff on similar terms to those in industry generally	Adm, Gvt
		E1.2	Pay staff on a level comparable with similar sectors of the country's or region's economic activity	Adm, Gvt
		E1.3	Introduce incentive and motivational machinery, eg promotion, productivity bonuses	Adm
		E1.4	Make a point of establishing good relations with the trade unions	Adm
E.2	To adapt training to the needs for users bearing in mind, in particular, the commercial function of the Post	E2.1	Provide permanent training	Adm
		E2.2	Introduce a targeted training plan, particularly for operations, administrative and financial management, market research and marketing	Adm
E.3	To strengthen the internal communications system in the business	E3.1	Introduce information machinery which is constantly monitored so as to change behaviour, create team spirit and strengthen staff support for the action taken	Adm
F.	**Increased role of UPU permanent bodies**			
F.1	To ensure implementation of the Action Plan bearing in mind the authority assigned and the resources available	F1.1	Clearly allocate between the EC, the CCPS and the IB responsibilities and procedures for implementing and monitoring progress of the Action Plan	CC
		F1.2	Adopt an international decision-making procedure ensuring fast reaction capability	EC, IB, RU
		F1.3	Urge administrations to take all necessary measures to obtain from their Governments corporate legal status and management independence	EC, RU
		F1.4	Create a data base of market information at the International Bureau	CCPS, EC, IB

Objectives		Actions		Responsibility
F.2	To take, as required, urgent measures between Congresses in relation to commercial and technical developments and to make international postal legislation and regulations more flexible	F2.1	Draw up and implement procedures for urgent measures	CCPS, EC
		F2.2	Have international postal legislation and regulations modernized and made more flexible	CCPS, EC
F.3	Technical cooperation: – to have a technical assistance programme in training, operations, commercial activities and management systems – to strengthen and develop technical cooperation	F3.1	Set up an integrated network for exchange of information by telematics	CCPS, EC
		F3.2	Support and provide technical cooperation activities aimed at assisting administrations to achieve the objectives and implement the actions of the Plan	CCPS, EC, IB, RU

3 UPU bodies

3.1 General

Resolution C 4/Washington 1989

Committee to coordinate the work of the Union's permanent bodies

Congress,

In view of
- decision CE 11/1986 through which the Executive Council decided to establish a Coordination Committee made up of the Chairman of the EC, the Chairman of the CCPS and the Secretary-General of those two bodies;
- the new policies being adopted by the Union,

Considering
the usefulness of the role played by the Coordination Committee established to follow up and coordinate the work concerning the Declaration of Hamburg,

Aware of
the need to strengthen cooperation among the UPU's permanent bodies,

Decides

- to give a permanent character to the Coordination Committee;
- to instruct that Committee to ensure permanent consultation between the Executive Council, the Consultative Council for Postal Studies and the International Bureau.

(Proposal 012, 10th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 8/Washington 1989

Subsequent improvement of the management of the Union's work

Congress,

Recognizing
the excellent results obtained by the Executive Council as regards the identification of the means by which the work of the organs of the Union may be improved and modernized,

Keen to ensure
that other possibilities for improvement be identified and introduced,

Considering
that several postal administrations have been the subject of fundamental examinations and reorganizations to adapt them to commercial requirements and to the most efficient management techniques,

Aware
that the International Bureau has to contend with many demands, requirements and constraints which render the task of the Director-General even more difficult,

Being of the opinion
that these demands and requirements should be classified in order of priority so that the most urgent may be dealt with first of all,

Instructs

the Executive Council:

a to continue its activity of seeking improvements in all aspects of management of the work of the Union;
b to evaluate the results of introducing the reforms proposed by the previous EC and adopted during the Washington Congress;
c to have the organization and objectives of the International Bureau, the EC and the CCPS examined by experts selected from among postal administrations, management consultants or a combination of the two;
d to implement as quickly as possible the recommendations of this study which, in its opinion, require immediate action;
e to formulate proposals for reform for the next Congress based on the result of the above work.

(Proposal 026, Committee 3, 4th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 67/Washington 1989

Reinforcement of the priority activities of the Union

Congress,

Concerned
at the Union's level of expenditure,

Considering
that it is necessary to urgently reinforce the priority activities aimed at improving the quality of the international postal service,

Convinced
that with a view to developing priority activities, other activities should be cut back or eliminated by the Executive Council, duly authorized to that effect by Congress,

Noting
that the recurrent expenditure ceilings for 1991–1995 fixed in article 124 of the General Regulations still allow for activities that could be cut back or eliminated,

Instructs

the Executive Council to conduct forthwith a critical analysis of all the activities of the Union for the purpose of:

a identifying those activities that could be abandoned, cut back or shelved;
b considering the advisability of discontinuing certain publications, lists or compendia and adopting a more economical format for the periodical "Union Postale";
c amending the provisions of the Detailed Regulations accordingly and suspending the application of article 117 of the General Regulations until the next Congress so that the periodical "Union Postale" can be published in a format that is more economical for the Union,

Also instructs

the Executive Council:
a to reduce the expenditure ceilings for 1991–1995 by the cost of the activities that have been cut back, eliminated or shelved;
b to fix the Union's budget within the framework of these revised expenditure ceilings,

Further instructs

the Director-General of the International Bureau:
a to continue his efforts to streamline work methods and lend his full weight to the redeployment of the Union's work, with a view to stepping up activities in support of administrations;
b to implement new measures with regard to human resources, including the use, where appropriate, of fixed-term posts for special activities and for existing priority activities conducted by the Union,

Urges

member countries to cooperate actively in the critical analysis and reorientation of the Union's activities, more particularly by supporting the use of fixed-term posts. Such support would include the undertaking that an official accepting a fixed-term post at the International Bureau will be able to find, on returning to his postal administration, a post at least equivalent to that which he (or she) occupied at the time of accepting the fixed-term post in question.

(Congress – Doc 19/Annex 11/Rev, Committee 2, 2nd meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

3.2 Congress

Formal opinion C 34/Tokyo 1969

Election of the Doyen of Congress

Congress expresses the formal opinion that article 6 of the Rules of Procedure of Congresses should be applied so as to make provision for the geographical regions which have not yet had the honour of having a Doyen elected from among the nations of the countries belonging to those regions.

(Documents of the 1969 Tokyo Congress – volume II: pages 1109, 1368)

Resolution C 3/Lausanne 1974

Participation by national liberation movements in the meetings of the UPU

Congress,

Recalling
United Nations General Assembly resolution 3118 (XXVIII) requesting the specialized agencies to take all necessary measures to ensure that national liberation movements are represented at meetings of the specialized agencies,

Recalling further
a resolution 29 of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (Malaga–Torremolinos) 1973 agreeing to the participation, as observers, of national liberation movements recognized by the regional inter-governmental organizations in the conference and meetings of the ITU;
b resolution 13/17 of the FAO Conference requesting the Director-General of the FAO to take the necessary measures, through the Organization of African Unity, to facilitate immediate participation by national liberation movements in its meetings;
c resolution A 27/38 of the 27th World Health Assembly extending an invitation to representatives of national liberation movements recognized by the regional inter-governmental organizations concerned,

Convinced
that participation by national liberation movements in the meetings and other activities of the UPU would ensure an improvement in the living conditions of the peoples in liberated areas,

Aware
that such participation would contribute subsequently to the economic and social development of these liberated territories placed under the control of liberation movements,

Decides

that national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity or by the League of Arab States may attend UPU Congresses as observers.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 916 to 920)

Decision C 92/Lausanne 1974

Representation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU)

Congress

Decides

to admit the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to take part, as an observer, in the work of the 17th Universal Postal Congress and in all future meetings of the bodies of the UPU.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 872 to 875)

Resolution C 7/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Participation by the League of Arab States in the meetings of the UPU

Congress,

Considering
that the League of Arab States is an international organization at Arab government level,

Considering
the collaboration and cooperation which exist between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,

Considering
that participation by the League of Arab States in the work of the UPU bodies is of special interest to the UPU, now and in the future,

In view of
resolution C 3 of the 1974 Lausanne Congress concerning national liberation movements recognized by the League of Arab States,

Decides

to agree that the League of Arab States may participate as an observer at all the meetings of the UPU bodies, starting with the 18th Congress.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1183, 1212, 1731)

Decision C 38/Washington 1989

Admission of the Press to the General Debate

Congress

Decides

to admit the media to the General Debate of the 20th Congress as listeners without the right of speaking.

(Proposal 022, 3rd plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Decision C 39/Washington 1989

Vice-chairmanships of the 20th Congress

Congress

Decides

to approve the following list of member countries designated by the EC as prepared to assume vice-chairmanships of Congress:
- China (People's Rep),
- France,
- USSR,
- Zambia.

(Proposal 023, 1st plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Decision C 40/Washington 1989

Chairmanship and vice-chairmanships of the Committees of the 20th Congress

Congress

Decides

to approve the following list of member countries designated by the EC as prepared to assume the chairmanship and vice-chairmanships of the Committees of Congress:

Committees		*Chairmanship*	*Vice-chairmanships*
1	Credentials	Argentina	Nigeria Portugal Syrian Arab Rep
2	Finance	Japan	Bolivia Turkey Zaire
3	General	Switzerland	Mexico Sri Lanka Togo
4	Letter Post (Regulatory aspects)	Finland	Cameroon Pakistan Venezuela

Committees		*Chairmanship*	*Vice-chairmanships*
5	Letter Post (Rate-fixing and payments)	India	Czechoslovakia Ghana Italy
6	Airmail	New Zealand	Barbados Ireland Polish People's Rep
7	Parcel Post	Hungarian People's Rep	Bangladesh Netherlands Saudi Arabia
8	Postal Financial Services	Austria	Chile Gabon Indonesia
9	Technical Cooperation	Côte d'Ivoire (Rep)	Brazil Bulgaria (People's Rep) United Arab Emirates
10	Drafting	Algeria	Belgium Canada Congo (People's Rep)

(Proposal 024, 1st plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Decision C 41/Washington 1989

Members of the restricted Committees

Congress

Decides

to approve the following list of member countries designated by the EC as prepared to be members of the following restricted Committees:

Committee 1 (Credentials)

Chairmanship: Argentina
Vice-chairmanships: Nigeria, Portugal, Syrian Arab Rep
Members: Central African Republic, Iceland, Kenya, Kuwait, Singapore, Ukraine, United States of America

Committee 10 (Drafting)

Chairmanship: Algeria
Vice-chairmanships: Belgium, Canada, Congo (People's Rep)
Members: Benin, France, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Senegal, Spain, Switzerland, United States of America

(Proposal 025/Rev 1, 1st plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Decision C 48/Washington 1989

Institution of a general debate

Congress

Decides

- to provide, within the framework of the proceedings of each Congress, for the holding of a general debate on one or more topical questions concerning the Post;
- that, at the end of this debate, a resolution shall be adopted laying down general policies for the next five-year period,

Instructs

the Executive Council to choose the topic or topics for this debate in consideration of the concerns of the majority of the postal administrations and to make the necessary arrangements to ensure that the debate takes place under the most effective conditions,

Further instructs

the International Bureau to organize the debate in cooperation with the host country of Congress.

(Proposal 011, 10th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Decision C 49/Washington 1989

Venue of the 21st Universal Postal Congress

Congress

Decides

to accept the invitation from the Ministry of Communications of the Republic of Korea to hold the 21st Congress in that country in 1994.

Congress – Doc 74, 10th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

3.3 Executive Council (EC)

Formal opinion C 4/Paris 1947

Choice of representatives of member countries of the Executive and Liaison Committee[1] [2]

The representatives of the member countries of the Executive and Liaison Committee must be qualified officials of the postal administration.
Congress specified that the term "qualified officials" signifies "established, experienced and competent officials".

(French Documents of the 1947 Paris Congress – volume II: pages 977 and 1109)

[1] Gen Regs (Washington 1989), art 102, para 4.
[2] New name: Executive Council.

Resolution C 11/Lausanne 1974

Distribution of Executive Council seats

Congress,

Having approved
the provision of article 102 of the General Regulations[1], which lays down the composition of the Executive Council, and

Having noted
the distribution of member countries among the various geographical groups (Congress – Doc 113),

Decides

i to distribute the Council seats between the various geographical groups in the following way:

Western hemisphere	8 seats
Eastern Europe and Northern Asia	4 seats
Western Europe	6 seats
Asia and Oceania	10 seats
Africa	11 seats

plus one seat for the chairmanship of the host country of Congress. If this country waives its right, the geographical group to which it belongs shall have an additional seat at its disposal in accordance with article 102, paragraph 1bis, of the General Regulations;[2] and

ii to bring the new composition of the Executive Council and the present decision into force immediately.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: page 949)

[1] Gen Regs (Washington 1989), art 102.
[2] Gen Regs (Washington 1989), art 102, para 2.

Resolution C 18/Lausanne 1974

Representation of the members of the Executive Council and of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies at meetings held during Congress

Congress,

Taking into account
that some of the countries participating in Congress are represented by members of the diplomatic corps,

Decides

notwithstanding articles 102, paragraph 3[1], and 104, paragraph 2[2], of the General Regulations, to authorize those delegates to represent their countries at meetings of the Executive Council and of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies held during Congress.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 989, 1107, 1126, 1238)

[1] Gen Regs (Washington 1989), art 102, para 4.
[2] Gen Regs (Washington 1989), art 104, para 3.

Resolution C 19/Lausanne 1974

Representation of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Executive Council at meetings of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies, and conversely, representation of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies at meetings of the Executive Council

Congress,

Considering
the provisions of articles 102, paragraph 12[1], and 104, paragraph 13[2], of the General Regulations which deal with the reciprocal right of representation of the Executive Council and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies, and

Desirous
that such reciprocal representation should not excessively over-burden the organization and functioning of these two bodies,

Recommends

administrations holding the chairmanships and vice-chairmanships to delegate, as far as possible, only one person to represent them on the other body and to accord preference to the person acting as Chairman or Vice-Chairman, and

Decides

to reimburse travelling expenses to the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of each of these two bodies when these persons are from countries which, according to the United Nations, are relatively the least developed economically.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 989, 1108, 1110, 1240)

[1] Gen Regs (Washington 1989), art 102, para 12.
[2] Gen Regs (Washington 1989), art 104, para 13.

Decision C 92/Lausanne 1974

Representation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU)

Congress

Decides

to admit the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to take part, as an observer, in the work of the 17th Universal Postal Congress and in all future meetings of the bodies of the UPU.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 872 to 875)

Resolution C 7/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Participation by the League of Arab States in the meetings of the UPU

Congress,

Considering
that the League of Arab States is an international organization at Arab government level,

Considering
the collaboration and cooperation which exist between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,

Considering
that participation by the League of Arab States in the work of UPU bodies is of special interest to the UPU, now and in the future,

In view of
resolution C 3 of the 1974 Lausanne Congress concerning national liberation movements recognized by the League of Arab States,

Decides

to agree that the League of Arab States may participate as an observer at all the meetings of UPU bodies, starting with the 18th Congress.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1183, 1212, 1731)

Resolution C 87/Hamburg 1984

Immediate application of the provisions adopted by Congress relating to the Executive Council (EC) and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies (CCPS)

Congress,

In view of
the fact that the task of the Executive Council and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies is to ensure, each in its own sphere, the continuity of the work of the UPU between Congresses,

Considering
that the length of the term of office of those two bodies corresponds to the interval between one Congress and the next,

Noting
that a period of time elapses between the closure of a Congress and the entry into force of the Acts concluded at that Congress,

Taking account
of the fact that a new composition and new duties are adopted at each Congress for the Executive Council and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies,

Considering
that the Executive Council and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies should function without any delay and should meet before the closure of Congress,

Decides

to bring the provisions relating to the Executive Council and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies into force immediately.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 196, 661)

Resolution C 1/Washington 1989

Immediate application of the new legislative powers of the EC

Congress,

In view of
the new legislative powers of the EC contained in articles 22, paragraph 5, and 25, paragraph 2, of the Constitution; 102, paragraph 6, 109, paragraph 2, 120, paragraph 3, 121, paragraph 2, 122, paragraph 2, and 123 of the General Regulations; 93, paragraph 2, of the Convention; 57, paragraph 2, of the Postal Parcels Agreement; 13, paragraph 3.2, of the Money Orders Agreement; 17, paragraph 3.2, of the Giro Agreement and 9, paragraph 2.2, of the COD Agreement,

Taking account
of the rapid developments in technology and in the needs of society,

Believing
that it is urgent and necessary, in order to safeguard the postal service, to respond in an appropriate manner as quickly and effectively as possible to the challenges from aggressive competition,

Considering
that any delay would be likely to compromise the effectiveness of the action to be taken and render the decisions obsolete,

Decides

to bring the provisions relating to the new legislative powers of the EC into force immediately.

(Proposal 01, 8th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Decision C 42/Washington 1989

Approval of the comprehensive report on the work of the Executive Council 1984–1989

Congress

Decides

to approve the comprehensive report on the work of the Executive Council 1984–1989.

(Congress – Doc 16, 3rd plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Formal opinion C 53/Washington 1989

Representation of the members of the Executive Council

Congress,

Referring
to article 102, paragraph 4, of the General Regulations of the Universal Postal Union, according to which the representative of each of the members of the Executive Council "shall be a qualified official of the postal administration",

Considering
that the Executive Council has been invested with wider powers (new legislative competence, initiating action),

Desiring
that, in the interests of speed, delegates to the EC may be able to commit their administrations on the basis of the documents submitted to them and in the light of the discussions during the session,

Wishing
that the general level of the representation of Executive Council members may be as high as possible,

Expresses the formal opinion

that delegations to meetings of the Executive Council should be led as far as possible and at least during the plenary meetings by the heads of postal administrations.

(Proposal 09, Committee 3, 3rd meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

3.4 Consultative Council for Postal Studies (CCPS)

Resolution C 18/Lausanne 1974

Representation of the members of the Executive Council and of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies at meetings held during Congress

Congress,

Taking into account
that some of the countries participating in Congress are represented by members of the diplomatic corps,

Decides

notwithstanding articles 102, paragraph 3[1], and 104, paragraph 2[2], of the General Regulations, to authorize those delegates to represent their countries at meetings of the Executive Council and of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies held during Congress.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 989, 1107, 1126, 1238)

[1] Gen Regs (Washington 1989), art 102, para 4.
[2] Gen Regs (Washington 1989), art 104, para 3.

Resolution C 19/Lausanne 1974

Representation of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Executive Council at meetings of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies, and conversely, representation of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies at meetings of the Executive Council

Congress,

Considering
the provisions of articles 102, paragraph 12[1], and 104, paragraph 13[2], of the General Regulations which deal with the reciprocal right of representation of the Executive Council and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies, and

Desirous
that such reciprocal representation should not excessively over-burden the organization and functioning of these two bodies,

Recommends

administrations holding the chairmanships and vice-chairmanships to delegate, as far as possible, only one person to represent them on the other body and to accord preference to the person acting as Chairman or Vice-Chairman, and

Decides

to reimburse travelling expenses to the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of each of these two bodies when these persons are from countries which, according to the United Nations, are relatively the least developed economically.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 989, 1108, 1110, 1240)

[1] Gen Regs (Washington 1989), art 102, para 12.
[2] Gen Regs (Washington 1989), art 104, para 13.

Decision C 92/Lausanne 1974

Representation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU)

Congress

Decides

to admit the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to take part, as an observer, in the work of the 17th Universal Postal Congress and in all future meetings of the bodies of the UPU.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 872 to 875)

Resolution C 7/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Participation by the League of Arab States in the meetings of the UPU

Congress,

Considering
that the League of Arab States is an international organization at Arab government level,

Considering
the collaboration and cooperation which exist between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,

Considering
that participation by the League of Arab States in the work of UPU bodies is of special interest to the UPU, now and in the future,

In view of
resolution C 3 of the 1974 Lausanne Congress concerning national liberation movements recognized by the League of Arab States,

Decides

to agree that the League of Arab States may participate as an observer at all the meetings of UPU bodies, starting with the 18th Congress.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1183, 1212, 1731)

Recommendation C 29/Hamburg 1984

Greater participation of the developing countries in the work of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies

Congress,

In view of
the role of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies within the framework of the Union's permanent bodies,

In view of
the importance of the studies conducted within that body to improve the postal services,

Considering
the increased attention paid by the CCPS to studies involving the developing countries,

Noting
with interest, on the one hand, the progress made as regards the participation of the developing countries in the work of the CCPS – particularly since recommendation C 81 of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – and, on the other hand, the benefit derived from it as regards the implementation of the Union's objectives,

Noting
that it is possible to improve the results obtained,

Recommends

the postal administrations of the developing countries to increase the part they play in the work of the CCPS:
- by making a regular contribution to the studies conducted (replies to questionnaires, supplying of information, submitting of papers at colloquia, etc);
- by acting, as far as possible, as reporting country or coordinating country for the studies,

Instructs

the International Bureau, in accordance with the resources available, to give administrations which request it the necessary assistance in developing organizational measures to enable them to take part more effectively in the work of the Union's bodies.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 157, 158, 178)

Resolution C 87/Hamburg 1984

Immediate application of the provisions adopted by Congress relating to the Executive Council (EC) and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies (CCPS)

Congress,

In view of
the fact that the task of the Executive Council and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies is to ensure, each in its own sphere, the continuity of the work of the UPU between Congresses,

Considering
that the length of the term of office of those two bodies corresponds to the interval between one Congress and the next,

Noting
that a period of time elapses between the closure of a Congress and the entry into force of the Acts concluded at that Congress,

Taking account
of the fact that a new composition and new duties are adopted at each Congress for the Executive Council and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies,

Considering
that the Executive Council and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies should function without any delay and should meet before the closure of Congress,

Decides

to bring the provisions relating to the Executive Council and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies into force immediately.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 196, 661)

Resolution C 19/Washington 1989

CCPS work programme for 1989–1994

Congress,

In view of
article 104, paragraph 12, of the General Regulations relating to the functions of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies,

In view of
the consultation of the Union member countries and the Restricted Unions undertaken pursuant to article 104, paragraph 12, of the General Regulations,

Noting
the large number of studies completed, covering the widest variety of fields and already published or in the process of being published in the Collection of Postal Studies,

Considering
the desire expressed by the members of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies to limit the number of studies to be carried out so that the workload corresponds to the means available to the CCPS, thus guaranteeing efficient conduct of the studies,

Conscious
of the need for harmonious integration of the CCPS studies in the Union's overall programme of activities,

Taking the view that
the Consultative Council's capability should be reserved first and foremost for the sectors of activity considered to be the most important by postal administrations,

Endorses
the work programme of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies set out in annex 1, leaving that body a certain latitude as to the adjustments to this programme on the basis of the situation facing the postal service during the five-year period,

Decides

to leave it to the Consultative Council to:
a arrange its work as it sees fit;
b decide which permanent studies to resume;
c ensure that the results obtained at the end of certain studies can be widely used in the field for the benefit of the most disadvantaged countries;
d modify certain studies, if necessary, so as to meet very specific needs and achieve the greatest effectiveness;
e employ working methods which are best suited to the subjects to be dealt with so as to get the best results.

(Proposal 020, 9th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Annex 1

Study subjects shortlisted for the draft CCPS work programme (1989–1994)

Field of activity No 1: The Post and its markets

- Planning
- Marketing strategies
- Commercial matters
- Introduction of new products

Study titles (subjects proposed)	Study No
A. Main and subsidiary studies	
1 Commercial strategies in the various branches of the Post:	
– Correspondence	
– Goods	
– Publicity	
– Press	
– Rapid mail (EMS – Electronic Mail)	
– Financial services	
Monitoring the competition and remailing	
Monitoring customer requirements	
Market segmentation	
New products	
Recommended strategies	
Postal market research	

2 Delivery network and customer analysis

3 Press and publishing

B. Symposia and Contact Committees

- Postal market research: one symposium per CCPS session (two sittings)

- Publishers–UPU Contact Committee: one meeting per CCPS session (one sitting)

Field of activity No 2: Development of rapid services

- Worldwide development of the service
- Increasing efficiency and speed

Study titles (subjects proposed)	Study No

A. Main and subsidiary studies

1 EMS:
- Quality of service
- Increased coverage
- Common image
- Monitoring items and customer complaints
- Financial compensation between administrations
- Additional services
- Customs problems

2 Electronic mail:
- Quality of service
- Increased coverage
- Common image
- Financial compensation between administrations
- Additional services

B. Symposia, Permanent Working Parties and Contact Committees

- EMS: one symposium per CCPS session (two sittings)

- Electronic mail: one symposium every two years (two sittings)

- CCPS–CCITT Contact Committee: one meeting every two years (one sitting)

- SWP 503: one meeting every two years (one sitting)

Field of activity No 3: Operations and quality of service

Study titles (subjects proposed)	Study No
A. Main and subsidiary studies	
1 Improvement of the postal system: – Customs control – Mail circulation methods – Documentation of items and mails – Relations between offices of exchange – Standardization of postal items, mail containers (bags, trays, etc) and postal address – Standardization of labels and franking marks (counters, corporations)	
2 Mail delivery and rural services: methods – monitoring	
3 Mail circulation standards – Quality control of the world postal network	
4 Measures required to improve rural postal services in developing countries: methods of application	
B. Symposia, Permanent Working Parties and Contact Committees	
– Joint ISO–UPU "Addressing" Working Party: one meeting per year (one sitting)	
– ISO–UPU Contact Committee: one meeting per year (one sitting)	

Field of activity No 4: Modernization

Study titles (subjects proposed)	Study No
A. Main and subsidiary studies	
1 Automation and computerization: – Sorting and optical reading – Counters and other services – Financial services – Offices of exchange (AV 7 delivery bills, etc) – Automated bag weighing	
2 Coding: – Bar codes – Bag, item and document tracking/tracing system – Other postal applications of the bar code	
3 Computerized interchange of data between administrations, with their partners (customs, airlines, etc) and with their (major) customers (Telematics)	

B. Symposia, Permanent Working Parties and Contact Committees

- Application of technologies to the Post – research and development: a symposium of heads of research centres or services (two sittings), annually, if necessary.

- Electronic Transmissions Standards Maintenance Group: one meeting at each CCPS session (one sitting)

Field of activity No 5: Management

Study titles (subjects proposed)	Study No
A. Main and subsidiary studies	
1 International accounting – Modernization of billing systems and settlement of accounts	
2 Productivity indices	
3 Security: – of items (drugs, terrorism, theft) – of staff – of buildings – of means of transport – of funds and negotiable instruments	
B. Symposia	
Decentralization – Post office management (two sittings)	

Field of activity No 6: Human resources

Study titles (subjects proposed)	Study No
A. Main and subsidiary studies	
1 Adapting the human resources of the Post to the demands of competition and to structural and technological changes: – Management – Training – Motivation – Competitiveness	
2 Training problems and obstacles in the postal administration of the developing countries	
B. Symposia	
Internal communication and incentives (two sittings)	

Decision C 43/Washington 1989

Approval of the comprehensive report on the work of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies 1984–1989

Congress

Decides

to approve the comprehensive report on the work of the Consultative Council for Postal Studies 1984–1989

(Congress – Doc 17, 4th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

3.5 International Bureau

3.5.1 Staff

Resolution C 17/Ottawa 1957

Relief Fund[1 2 3]

The Universal Postal Congress of Ottawa,

Having regard to
- the report of the Director of the International Bureau on the finances of the Union; and
- the report of its Finance Committee,

Agrees

to the creation of a new Relief Fund in favour of the staff of the International Bureau to be supplied from monies accruing to the Union by virtue of the Agreement between the Directorate of the Swiss postal administration and the Director of the International Bureau concerning the issue of Swiss postage stamps for the use of the International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union, and

Charges

the Executive and Liaison Committee[4] to adopt the statutory provisions concerning the use of the monies of this Fund.

(French Documents of the 1957 Ottawa Congress – volume II: pages 68, 1152 to 1155)

[1] Financial Regulations, art 23.
[2] See decisions CEL 2/1958 and CE 32/1972.
[3] New name: Social Fund for the staff of the International Bureau.
[4] New name: Executive Council.

Resolution C 9/Vienna 1964

Provident Scheme of the Universal Postal Union[1 2]

Congress,

Considering
i that since 1 January 1964, the Pension Fund, created in accordance with the decision of the Congress of Paris 1878, has been replaced by the "Provident Scheme of the Universal Postal Union";
ii that by reason of the new method of financing this Scheme through periodic contributions payable by the members of the said Scheme and by the Union, it is necessary to change the form of guarantee instituted by different Congresses and in particular by the Congress of Ottawa 1957 in the decision appearing under b of the resolution relating to the Pension Fund (Congress of Ottawa – Doc 2/Rev/Annex 4),

In view of
- the proposals presented by the Director of the International Bureau in the report on the finances of the Union prepared for Congress (Congress – Doc 2/Rev); and
- the report of its Finance Committee,

Confirms

the decision taken in 1963 by the Executive and Liaison Committee[2], namely that "The Union grants the following guarantees to the Provident Scheme:
a guarantee of a rate of interest corresponding to the technical rate on the whole of the acturial reserve of the Provident Scheme;
b cover, by means of appropriate payments, of any technical deficit in the Provident Scheme",

Charges

the Director of the International Bureau if need be to provide in the ordinary budget of the Union, after taking the advice of the Executive Council, for the sums that would be required:

a if the yield on the funds of the Provident Scheme is not likely to reach the amount corresponding to the technical interest on the whole of the actuarial reserve;

b in order to amortize in an appropriate way any technical deficit in the Provident Scheme.

(French Documents of the 1964 Vienna Congress – volume II: pages 715 to 724, 797)

[1] See resolution CEL 1/1963; decision CEL 1/1964; resolution C 19/Tokyo 1969; decis-ion CE 42/1970; resolutions CE 13/1971 and CE 22/1972; decision CE 41/1972.
[2] See resolution CEL 1/1963.

Resolution C 51/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Conditions of service of elected officials

Congress,

In view of
the decision of the 1974 Lausanne Congress to the effect that the Director-General and 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 (General Regulations of the Universal Postal Union, article 108, paragraph 1),

In view also of
the competence of the Executive Council to ensure:

- the continuity of the Union's work in accordance with the provisions of the Acts of the Union (Constitution of the Universal Postal Union, article 17, paragraph 1), and
- control of the activities of the International Bureau (General Regulations, article 102, paragraph 6, j)[1],

Taking into account
resolution C 35 of the 1969 Tokyo Congress, whereby the Executive Council was authorized to lay down, in Staff Regulations of the International Bureau, the conditions of service of all staff members of the Bureau, in the light of the principles and practice followed by the other specialized agencies,

Bearing in mind
the practical need for that competence to be retained in respect of the Director-General and Deputy Director-General as well,

In consideration of
resolution CE 2/1973, replaced by resolution CE 1/1977, concerning the conditions of service of the elected officials (Director-General and Deputy Director-General) of the International Bureau,

Decides

i that the Executive Council shall be authorized to lay down, in a resolution, the remuneration and other conditions of service of the elected officials, in the light of the principles adopted in the United Nations common system and taking into account the practice followed in the other specialized agencies;

ii that after their election by Congress, the Director-General and Deputy Director-General shall receive a letter of appointment, signed by the Chairman of Congress, stating the duration of their term of office and specifying their remuneration and other conditions of service in accordance with the Executive Council resolution mentioned in paragraph 1 above;

iii that in the case mentioned in article 108, paragraph 4, of the UPU General Regulations, the letter of appointment of the Deputy Director-General elected by the Executive Council for the period extending up to the following Congress shall be signed by the Chairman of the Executive Council.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1264, 1399, 1764)

[1] Gen Regs (Washington 1989), art 102, para 6.10.

Resolution C 52/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Retirement pensions of elected officials

Congress,

In view of
the decision taken by the 17th Congress (Lausanne 1974) to elect the Director-General and Deputy Director-General of the International Bureau for a five-year term of office, renewable once only (article 108, paragraph 1, of the General Regulations of the Universal Postal Union),

Aware
of the social security problems resulting therefrom for these two senior officials on the expiration of their term of office,

Bearing in mind
the fact that the International Bureau Staff Regulations and Rules do not apply to them and that their conditions of service are regulated separately, as the United Nations common system covers only the grades up to D 2 (Assistant Director-General),

Decides, with immediate effect,

to guarantee those elected officials (Director-General and Deputy Director-General) who have not completed five years' service at the International Bureau at the beginning of their term of office a retirement pension of 20 percent of the final average remuneration after five years' service at the International Bureau, increased by two percent for each additional year of service, this pension to serve also as the basis for calculating survivors' pensions. The difference between the amount of the pension actually paid to the elected officials and that of the pension to which they would be entitled under the Regulations of the UPU Provident Scheme shall be chargeable to the Union's budget.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1264, 1399 to 1401, 1764)

Decision C 93/Washington 1989

Election of the Director-General and the Deputy Director-General of the International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union

Congress,

In view of
article 108, paragraph 1, of the General Regulations,

- re-elects to the post of Director-General of the International Bureau Mr Adwaldo Cardoso Botto de Barros (Brazil), Director-General of the International Bureau;
- elects to the post of Deputy Director-General of the International Bureau Mr Jaime Ascandoni R (Spain), Assistant Director-General at the International Bureau.

This decision shall take effect on 1 January 1990.

(Congress – Doc 41, 8th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.3, 16th meeting)

3.5.2 Documentation and publications

Resolution C 7/Ottawa 1957

"Union Postale"[1] [2]

With a view to furthering the exchange of experience and scientific, technical and economic progress in postal communications, and in order increasingly to improve international cooperation and relations between all the member countries of the Union in this field, Congress charges the International Bureau to see that more space in the journal "Union Postale" is devoted to present-day postal problems in connection with experiments, scientific and technical progress in various countries, mechanization and automation of production processes and basic postal economic problems, and to include in the journal extracts from specialist literature, book reviews, reviews of handbooks and other publications.
It appeals for the cooperation of the administrations of the Union, to the Consultative Committee for Postal Studies[3] and to the Executive and Liaison Committee[4] to this end.

(French Documents of the 1957 Ottawa Congress – volume II: pages 64, 395, 396)

[1] Gen Regs (Washington 1989), art 117.
[2] See also decisions CEL 2/1948, CEL 1/1949, CEL 1/1961, CEL 1/1963, CE 14/1965, CE 10/1968, CE 11/1973, CE 25/1976 and CE 19/1981.
[3] New name: Consultative Council for Postal Studies.
[4] New name: Executive Council.

Recommendation C 4/Vienna 1964

Periodicals sent to the International Bureau by administrations[1] [2]

Postal administrations are invited to send with the periodicals which they send to the International Bureau a translation in French or, failing that, in one of the other languages used for the journal "Union Postale", of the table of contents and, if possible, of a summary of the articles which they consider important.

(French Documents of the 1964 Vienna Congress – volume II: pages 703, 808, 994, 1368)

[1] Gen Regs (Washington 1989), art 117.
[2] See decision CEL 1/1961.

Recommendation C 8/Vienna 1964

List of documents published by the International Bureau[1]

It is desirable that the International Bureau should draw up at the beginning of each year the list of all the documents published during the past year in order that administrations may order those which they lack.

(French Documents of the 1964 Vienna Congress – volume II: pages 703, 1018, 1372)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 111.

Recommendation C 9/Vienna 1964

Dispatch of International Bureau circulars to administrations[1] [2]

It is suggested that all International Bureau circulars be sent to member administrations of the Union at all times by the most rapid route, air or surface.

(French Documents of the 1964 Vienna Congress – volume II: pages 703, 808, 1017, 1372)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 111.
[2] See decision CE 4/1966.

Resolution C 32/Tokyo 1969

Preparation of documents published by the International Bureau[1]

Congress,

In view of
report A/6343 of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts for Examining the Finances of the UN and the Specialized Agencies and in particular, the recommendation attached hereto appearing in paragraph 104, f, of the said report,

In view of
resolution No 9 formulated by the Executive Council during its 1966 session (Compendium of resolutions and decisions of the Executive Council, 1966), recommending that reports and documents of any kind should be written as briefly and concisely as possible,

Noting
that measures had been taken by the Executive Council to rationalize several compendiums published by the International Bureau and to replace the minutes by simple reports (Congress – Doc 9, paragraph 32),

Considering nonetheless,
that the volume of documentation placed at the disposal of the administrations make it difficult to consider it in a thorough manner, particularly with regard to administrations which do not have specialized personnel,

Requests

the Director-General of the International Bureau to take the necessary steps so that:

i the documents he publishes are prepared in a manner conforming to resolution No 9/1966 of the Executive Council;

ii these documents will include only the data essential for comprehension of the problem in question, excluding in particular the background material which, in most cases, could be replaced by simple references,

Instructs

the Executive Council to see to the application of these recommendations.

(Documents of the 1969 Tokyo Congress – volume II: page 1137)

[1] See resolution CE 6/1970 and decisions CE 25/1971, CE 26/1971, CE 12/1972, CE 13/ 1972, CE 8/1973, CE 8/1974 and CE 32/1975.

Annex to resolution C 32

Recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee

Para 104 – The Committee recommends:

. . . . . .

f Member countries of the UN or members of the specialized agencies should be urged to spare no effort considerably to reduce their requests for documents for all conferences, so that those documents may be submitted at the most appropriate time, in a concise form and in the most economical manner, thus avoiding all superfluous expense ...

Resolution C 1/Lausanne 1974

Publication of the Resolutions and decisions other than those amending the Acts (recommendations, formal opinions, etc) adopted by Congress

Congress,

Recalling
the interpretation of the Vienna Congress that the expression "decisions taken by Congress" in article 101, paragraph 5, end, of the General Regulations, includes not only decisions which are the subject of a provision introduced into the Acts but also any other form of decision, such as opinions, formal opinions, resolutions and interpretations concerning the application of the Acts and the operation of the bodies of the Union,

Considering
resolution C 1 of the 1969 Tokyo Congress, by virtue of which the International Bureau published a Compendium of Congress decisions (Paris 1947 – Tokyo 1969),

Recommends

the Government of the host country of Congress to notify to the Governments of the member countries of the Union at the same time as the definitive Acts of Congress the other decisions adopted by the latter,

Instructs

the Director-General of the International Bureau:
a to publish in the definitive documents of each Congress all the decisions adopted by that Congress;
b to bring the Compendium of Congress decisions up to date after each Congress.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 959, 960)

Resolution C 22/Lausanne 1974

Form of the publication "Postal Statistics"

Congress,

In view of
resolution C 28 of the 1969 Tokyo Congress, whereby the Consultative Council for Postal Studies was instructed to undertake a study on the form of the publication "Postal Statistics" provided for in article 111, paragraph 2, j, of the Detailed Regulations of the Convention[1],

In view of
the CCPS report on this subject (Congress – Doc 21),

Considering
that the scope of the statistics should be enlarged, not only in the interests of the member countries of the Union, but also to enable the International Bureau to conduct studies on the development of postal services in the young countries and to play an active part in the work being undertaken in this connection within the framework of the Second United Nations Development Decade,

Noting
that the recommendations made in the above-mentioned Consultative Council for Postal Studies report (Congress – Doc 21) have these very objectives in view,

Decides

that, in principle, "Postal Statistics" will henceforth be published in accordance with the principles and headings annexed hereto, while leaving it to the Director-General of the International Bureau to adapt, in agreement with the Consultative Council for Postal Studies, the headings to actual requirements, so that the above publication might serve as a valid base for work undertaken in this field, both by member countries of the Union and by the International Bureau,

Instructs

the Director-General of the International Bureau to take the necessary steps for the application of this decision as from 1974,

Invites

the postal administrations of the member countries of the Union to do their utmost to provide the International Bureau with statistical information for the publication "Postal Statistics", and

Requests

the Restricted Unions to approach their members about supplying the statistics asked of them under the terms of this resolution.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 989, 1120, 1121)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 111, para 2, h).

Annex 1

General principles regarding the layout and periodicity of "Postal Statistics"

The CCPS proposes that in future "Postal Statistics" should be produced in the same form as the various "Compendia". That is to say, production would be in a loose-leaf binder with a folded sheet at the front containing all the headings, numbered and in French, under which information is required. If desired, members of the language groups other than French could have a similar

numbered sheet at the back containing the headings under which information is required in the language of their own group. The main body of the statistics would consist of an individual sheet for each country, listing the information vertically instead of across the pages as at present. The existence of a single sheet for each country would alleviate the need to wait until all countries' replies were available before publishing the statistics. Supplementary sheets for late replying countries could be issued as they came in (if budgetary information was not available at the same time as the other information it could be published later as a supplement). Notes relating to individual countries which at present figure in part 4 of the existing "Postal Statistics" would in future appear on the sheets to which they referred. The "general information" and "list of member countries" (parts 1 and 2 of the existing "Postal Statistics") and instructions for completing the statistics (issued through an International Bureau circular) would in future be printed on supplementary sheets to be inserted (at front or back) of the new Compendium of Postal Statistics.

The CCPS considered whether part or all of the data shown in the statistics could be published at intervals greater than one year, but concluded that the whole of the statistics should be published every year.

The general instructions on completion of the statistics should instruct administrations to indicate the dates to which their figures refer if they do not cover a period of one year. Also any influence or special circumstances affecting the figures should be mentioned in a footnote. The general information supplied by administrations should also indicate the dates of counts.

Annex 2 lists the headings proposed by the CCPS for inclusion in future editions of "Postal Statistics".

Annex 2

List of headings proposed by the CCPS for inclusion in future editions of "Postal Statistics"

I. General

- Conversion factor from currency of country into gold francs
1 Area of the country in square kilometres
2 Number of inhabitants in the country
3 Gross National Product (in millions of gold francs)
4 Average number of LC items posted per inhabitant
5 Amount of investment which your country devotes to postal services (in millions of gold francs)

II. Personnel, post offices, technical means

6	Total staff (total of headings 6.1 to 6.5)
6.1	Management, executive and controlling staff
6.2	Operational staff serving at post office counters or dealing with corresponding internal services
6.3	Mail operational staff (collection, sorting, transport, etc), excluding delivery staff
6.4	Delivery staff
6.5	Other staff
7	Total number of post offices (total of headings 7.1 and 7.2)
7.1	Permanent post offices (total of headings 7.1.1 to 7.1.3)
7.1.1	Sorting offices
7.1.2	Offices offering full range of services
7.1.3	Secondary offices
7.1.3.1	Staffed by agents belonging to the administration
7.1.3.2	Staffed by people outside the administration
7.2	Mobile post offices (total of headings 7.2.1 to 7.2.3)
7.2.1	Railway, road, water, etc, travelling post offices, not serving the public
7.2.2	Road, water post offices serving the public, in rural, urban, etc, localities
7.2.3	Rural delivery vehicles providing the public with service similar to those of a permanent post office
8	Number of post offices (permanent and mobile) accepting financial transactions
9	Letter-boxes
10	Post office boxes
11	Motor vehicles
12	Automatic issuing machines for postage stamps, postcards, etc
13	Franking machines
14	Cancelling machines
15	Machines for segregating letter-post items and where appropriate facing them
16	Sorting machines and coding desks or operators in use
16.1	Sorting machines. Number
16.2	Coding desks or operators in use. Number
17	Volume and proportion of letter mail which is machine sorted
17.1	Letter-mail articles. Number
17.2	Percentage of 17.1 to total letter-mail traffic

III. Traffic

Ordinary and registered letter-post items. Total of items entered under headings 21 to 32 (Postal subscription newspapers are entered separately under headings 63 to 65)

18	Internal services
18.1	Number
18.2	Kilogrammes
19	International service – Dispatch
19.1	Number

19.2 Kilogrammes
20 International service – Receipt
20.1 Number
20.2 Kilogrammes

Ordinary and registered letter-post items – Details of items included under headings 18 to 20

Letters

21 Internal services
21.1 Number
21.2 Kilogrammes
22 International service – Dispatch
22.1 Number
22.2 Kilogrammes
23 International service – Receipt
23.1 Number
23.2 Kilogrammes

Postcards

24 Internal services
24.1 Number
24.2 Kilogrammes
25 International service – Dispatch
25.1 Number
25.2 Kilogrammes
26 International service – Receipt
26.1 Number
26.2 Kilogrammes

Printed papers (including newspapers transported at the full or reduced printed papers rates) and literature for the blind

27 Internal services
27.1 Number
27.2 Kilogrammes
28 International service – Dispatch
28.1 Number
28.2 Kilogrammes
29 International service – Receipt
29.1 Number
29.2 Kilogrammes

Small packets

30 Internal service
30.1 Number
30.2 Kilogrammes

31 International service – Dispatch
31.1 Number
31.2 Kilogrammes
32 International service – Receipt
32.1 Number
32.2 Kilogrammes

Iems admitted free of postage
(These items are included under headings 18 to 20 as well as under headings 21 to 32)

33 Internal service
33.1 Number
33.2 Kilogrammes
34 International service – Dispatch
34.1 Number
34.2 Kilogrammes
35 International service – Receipt
35.1 Number
35.2 Kilogrammes

Registered items
(These items are included under headings 18 to 20 as well as under headings 21 to 35)

36 Internal service
36.1 Number
36.2 Kilogrammes
37 International service – Dispatch
37.1 Number
37.2 Kilogrammes
38 International service – Receipt
38.1 Number
38.2 Kilogrammes

LC airmail items
(These items are included under headings 18 to 20 as well as under headings 21 to 26 and 33 to 38)

39 Internal service
39.1 Internal airmail
39.1.1 Number
39.1.2 Kilogrammes
39.1.3 Tonne-kilometres
39.2 International airmail carried on internal routes
39.2.1 Number
39.2.2 Kilogrammes
39.2.3 Tonne-kilometres
40 International service – Dispatch
40.1 Surcharged LC items
40.1.1 Number
40.1.2 Kilogrammes
40.1.3 Tonne-kilometres

40.2 Unsurcharged LC items
40.2.1 Number
40.2.2 Kilogrammes
40.2.3 Tonne-kilometres
41 International service – Receipt
41.1 Number
41.2 Kilogrammes

AO airmail items
(These items are included under headings 18 to 20, as well as under headings 27 to 38)

42 Internal service
42.1 Internal airmail
42.1.1 Number
42.1.2 Kilogrammes
42.1.3 Tonne-kilometres
42.2 International airmail carried on internal routes
42.2.1 Number
42.2.2 Kilogrammes
42.2.3 Tonne-kilometres
43 International service – Dispatch
43.1 Surcharged AO items
43.1.1 Number
43.1.2 Kilogrammes
43.1.3 Tonne-kilometres
43.2 Unsurcharged AO items
43.2.1 Number
43.2.2 Kilogrammes
43.2.3 Tonne-kilometres
44 International service – Receipt
44.1 Number
44.2 Kilogrammes

Cash-on-delivery letter-post items
(These items are included under headings 18 to 20 as well as under columns 21 to 32 and 36 to 44)

45 Internal service
45.1 Number
45.2 Kilogrammes
46 International service – Dispatch
46.1 Number
46.2 Kilogrammes
47 International service – Receipt
47.1 Number
47.2 Kilogrammes

Insured letters and boxes

48 Internal service
48.1 Number
48.2 Kilogrammes

49 International service – Dispatch
49.1 Number
49.2 Kilogrammes
50 International service – Receipt
50.1 Number
50.2 Kilogrammes

Ordinary parcels
(Totals include airmail and COD parcels under headings 57 to 62)

51 Internal service
51.1 Number
51.2 Kilogrammes
52 International service – Dispatch
52.1 Number
52.2 Kilogrammes
53 International service – Receipt
53.1 Number
53.2 Kilogrammes

Insured parcels
(Totals include insured airmail and COD parcels under headings 57 to 62)

54 Internal service
54.1 Number
54.2 Kilogrammes
55 International service – Dispatch
55.1 Number
55.2 Kilogrammes
56 International service – Receipt
56.1 Number
56.2 Kilogrammes

Airmail parcels
(These items are included under headings 51 to 53)

57 Internal service
57.1 Internal airmail parcels
57.1.1 Number
57.1.2 Kilogrammes
57.1.3 Tonne-kilometres
57.2 International airmail parcels carried on internal routes
57.2.1 Number
57.2.2 Kilogrammes
57.2.3 Tonne-kilometres
58 International service – Dispatch
58.1 Surcharged airmail parcels
58.1.1 Number
58.1.2 Kilogrammes
58.1.3 Tonne-kilometres

58.2 Unsurcharged airmail parcels
58.2.1 Number
58.2.2 Kilogrammes
58.2.3 Tonne-kilometres
59 International service – Receipt
59.1 Number
59.2 Kilogrammes

Cash-on-delivery parcels
(These items are included under headings 51 to 59)

60 Internal service
60.1 Number
60.2 Kilogrammes
61 International service – Dispatch
61.1 Number
61.2 Kilogrammes
62 International service – Receipt
62.1 Number
62.2 Kilogrammes

Copies of newspapers, etc, dispatched under the subscription service

63 Internal service
63.1 Subscriptions – Number
63.2 Copies of newspapers, etc, sent under the subscription service
63.2.1 Number
63.2.2 Kilogrammes
64 International service – Dispatch
64.1 Subscriptions – Number
64.2 Copies of newspapers, etc, dispatched under the subscription service
64.2.1 Number
64.2.2 Kilogrammes
65 International service – Receipt
65.1 Subscriptions – Number
65.2 Copies of newspapers, etc, received under the subscription service
65.2.1 Number
65.2.2 Kilogrammes

Newspapers without subscription

66 Internal service – Dispatch
66.1 Number
66.2 Kilogrammes

IV. Financial services

Money orders

67 Internal service money orders including postal orders
67.1 Number
67.2 Amount (gold francs)
68 International service money orders – Dispatch
68.1 Number
68.2 Amount (gold francs)
69 International service money orders – Receipt
69.1 Number
69.2 Amount (gold francs)

Postal cheques and transfers (Giro)

Internal service

70 Accounts – Number
71 Deposits
71.1 Number
71.2 Amount (gold francs)
72 Transfers (only credit entries should be taken into account)
72.1 Number
72.2 Amount (gold francs)
73 Payments
73.1 Number
73.2 Amount (gold francs)
74 Total in hand at the end of the year under consideration (in thousands of gold francs)
75 Average number of operations per holder of a giro account

International service

76 Transfers – Dispatch
76.1 Number
76.2 Amount (gold francs)
77 Transfers – Receipt
77.1 Number
77.2 Amount (gold francs)
78 Account-transfer money orders
78.1 Dispatch – Number
78.2 Receipt – Number

Postal savings bank

79 Accounts or books – Number
80 Total in hand at the end of the year under consideration (in thousands of gold francs)
81 Average number of operations per holder of a savings bank book
82 Number of uncashed savings certificates
83 Amount of uncashed savings certificates (in thousands of gold francs)
84 Total financial services credits (total of headings 74, 80 and 83)
85 Percentage of financial service credits (heading 84) to Gross Domestic Product

Collection of bills

86 Internal service – Number
87 International service – Dispatch – Number
88 International service – Receipt – Number

V. Functioning of services

89 Frequency of collections from letter-boxes installed
89.1 in post offices
89.2 away from post offices
90 Average time taken per 100 km (between office of posting and office of delivery) per priority item
91 Average time taken by mail within a radius of 500 km
92 Frequency of delivery in
92.1 an urban zone
92.2 a rural zone
93 Percentage of population benefiting from household delivery
94 Percentage of population having to collect mail from a postal establishment
95 Ratio of number of items delivered to postal boxes to total number of items delivered
96 Average area in square kilometres served by
96.1 an urban post office
96.2 a rural post office
97 Number of localities[1] served by mobile post offices (see heading 7.2)
98 Number of localities[1] without postal services
99 Percentage of population without postal services
100 Number of inhabitants and area served on average by a post office providing financial services
100.1 Average number of inhabitants
100.2 Average area in square kilometres

VI. Financial result

Operational receipts

101 Total receipts (gold francs) (total of headings 101.1 to 101.3)
101.1 Receipts from all postal charges including postal transport service, postal cheque and postal savings bank services (gold francs)
101.2 Payments received from foreign postal administrations (gold francs)
101.3 Other receipts (gold francs)

[1] The term "locality" should be defined by postal administrations furnishing information under headings 97 and 98.

Operational expenditure

102 Total expenditure (gold francs) (total of headings 102.1 to 102.5)
102.1 Personnel, wages, salaries, etc (gold francs)
102.2 Conveyance charges of all kinds paid to third party companies (gold francs)
102.3 Remuneration paid to foreign postal administrations (gold francs)
102.4 Other expenditure – expenses relating to the maintenance of tangible assets and depreciation on intangible assets (ground, buildings, motor vehicles, operational equipments) (gold francs)
102.5 Interest on borrowed money (gold francs)
103 Excess of receipts (gold francs) (heading 101 minus heading 102)
104 Excess of expenditure (gold francs) (heading 102 minus heading 101)

Formal opinion C 49/Rio de Janeiro 1979

List of Addresses, Heads and Senior Officials of Postal Administrations and Restricted Unions[1]

Congress,

Considering
the great usefulness of the "List of Addresses, Heads and Senior Officials of Postal Administrations and Restricted Unions" published by the International Bureau,

Noting however
that the information about each administration is not presented in an identical form,

Observing
that the names of senior officials appear in this List and that sometimes those of officials who frequently sign international correspondence are absent,

Considering
that the usefulness of the List would be enhanced if the telephone, and possibly telex, number of each official listed whom it was wished to reach in case of need were to be given in it,

Expresses the formal opinion

that member countries should supplement the information concerning their administrations which appears in the "List of Addresses, Heads and Senior Officials of Postal Administrations and Restricted Unions" by indicating the names of officials who usually sign international correspondence, together with telephone, and possibly telex, numbers and the days and hours (in GMT) of work of the central administration.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1528, 1765)

[1] Conv, Det Regs (Washington 1989), art 111.

Resolution C 35/Hamburg 1984

New edition of certain Union publications

Congress,

Having adopted
a new system of statistics for the international letter-post traffic with a view to calculating transit charges and terminal dues,

In view of
the very positive experience with the use of certain publications which the International Bureau has published in the interests of UPU member countries,

Aware
of the need to continue to help postal administrations to improve the management, organization and operation of their postal services, in particular to adapt them to the new provisions of the Acts of the UPU,

Instructs

the International Bureau to update and republish:
- the Operational guide on the preparations for the statistics and the formalities relating to the accounts payable in respect of transit charges and terminal dues;
- the Manual of rules and procedures for forwarding international mail, and
- the Operational guide of the international parcel-post service.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 170, 178, 624, 629)

Decision C 44/Washington 1989

Approval of the Director-General of the International Bureau's Report 1985–1989

Congress

Decides

to approve the Report of the Director-General of the International Bureau 1985–1989.

(Congress – Doc 18, 5th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 55/Washington 1989

New presentation of the List of Prohibited Articles

Congress,

Having taken cognizance of
the study conducted by the Executive Council in implementation of 1984 Hamburg Congress resolution C 54,

Noting
that the results of that study had revealed:
- the lack of a general system of methodical classification of natural or manufactured products, except for the Customs Co-operation Council's (CCC) Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System;
- the suitability of the above-mentioned Harmonized System for satisfying the postal administrations' need for a master classification system for arranging in a logical structure products subject to conditional or total restrictions in international exchanges,

Approves

the attached model presentation of the List of Prohibited Articles,

Instructs

the International Bureau to distribute this model to all postal administrations, and

Invites

postal administrations to prepare the list of their prohibited articles, in collaboration with their customs administration, on the basis of the above-mentioned model.

(Proposal 2500.4, Committee 4, 6th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

New presentation of the List of Prohibited Articles

Note presenting the Harmonized System for insertion in the end papers of the next edition of the List of Prohibited Articles

The Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System is a systematic list of goods prepared by the Customs Co-operation Council in 1983.

The classification used in the Harmonized System is methodical, not alphabetical, and takes into account the origin or the kingdom of the products (animal, vegetable or mineral kingdom), the material from which the goods are made (plastic, rubber, wood) and, in the case of machinery and apparatus, the industry or sector which uses them.

The multipurpose nomenclature of the Harmonized System contains 1241 headings grouped into 96 chapters, divided into 21 sections. Products are identified by a 6-digit code: the first two digits indicate the number of the chapter where the heading is located, the next two show the heading within the chapter and the last two digits indicate the one or two-dash subheading (the absence of subheadings is indicated by a zero).

In addition to the structured nomenclature consisting of a list of headings classified systematically and subdivided, where necessary, into subheadings, the Harmonized System includes section and chapter notes (including subheading notes) together with the General Rules for the interpretation of the Harmonized System. The System entered into force on 1 January 1988 and provides a methodical classification for 5019 separate groups of goods; this should make it possible to classify, without difficulty, articles and substances subject to restrictions which the Post must take into account.

NB. – The 35 pages provided as a model are not reproduced in this document but are annexed to proposal 2500.4 which was adopted by Committee 4 at its 6th meeting.

4 Finance

Resolution C 17/Tokyo 1969

Financial consequences of proposals involving expenditure for the union until the next Congress

Congress,

Bearing in mind
- the tendency for the expenses of the Union to increase constantly;
- the need to ensure the best use of the funds devoted to the activities of the Union;
- the advantage of being able to choose between prospective activities with a view to keeping to the maximum annual expenditure of the Union,

Considering
the need for the Committees of Congress, including the Finance Committee, to know as accurately as possible the financial repercussions of the proposals submitted to them,

Charges

the Secretary-General, for each proposal likely to involve financial consequences for the Union until the next Congress, to assess the annual amount of the expenditure concerned in order to permit:
a the Committee of Congress concerned to take its decision with a full knowledge of the facts;
b the Finance Committee better to assess the amount of expenditure attaching to each proposal in order to facilitate for Congress as well as other organs of the Union the choice or priorities as between the activities to be undertaken should it be desirable to limit the financial burden of the Union.

(Documents of the 1969 Tokyo Congress – volume II: pages 987 and 988)

Formal opinion C 20/Tokyo 1969

Contributions to the UPU Special Fund

Congress,

Recognizing
the insufficiency of the credits allocated to postal administrations from the UNDP funds,

Considering
that the UNDP should remain the main source of finance for technical cooperation activities,

Considering nevertheless
the interest which the UPU Special Fund, maintained by voluntary contributions, has for the developing countries,

Expresses the formal opinion

that such gestures of generosity should become more numerous and frequent in the future so that the Union can have its own five-year technical cooperation programme.

(Documents of the 1969 Tokyo Congress – volume II: pages 1109, 1278)

Recommendation C 36/Hamburg 1984

Clearing up of arrears by means of the International Bureau's clearing system

Congress,

Having taken note
of the result of the study undertaken on arrears of contributions pursuant to resolution C 89 of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress,

Bearing in mind
that some member countries are having serious difficulties in paying off their arrears of contributions to the UPU by the usual methods,

In view of
the role of clearing house conferred on the International Bureau for the liquidation of accounts of all kinds (General Regulations, article 113, paragraph 5; Detailed Regulations of the Convention, article 101, paragraph 3),

Considering
that the International Bureau prepares the annual general liquidation account of transit charges and surface-mail terminal dues,

Urgently invites

member countries which experience major difficulties in paying off their arrears of contributions to the Universal Postal Union to have recourse to the International Bureau's clearing system used for transit charges and surface-mail terminal dues, by assigning to the Union the credit balance to which they would be entitled under the general liquidation account prepared in this connection by the International Bureau,

Requests

member countries entered as debtors of the member countries in question in the general liquidation account of transit charges and terminal dues to agree to such a clearing procedure and to remit the sums agreed to the International Bureau as soon as possible.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 178, 314, 315, 624)

Resolution C 9/Washington 1989

Approval of the Union's accounts for 1984–1988

Congress,

In view of
a the Director-General's report on the finances of the Union (Congress – Doc 19);
b the report of its Finance Committee (Congress – Doc 68),

Approves

the accounts of the Universal Postal Union for 1984–1988.

(Congress – Docs 19 and 68, Committee 2, 1st meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 23/Washington 1989

Aid provided by the Government of the Swiss Confederation in the field of the Union's finances

Congress,

Having considered
the report submitted by the Director-General on the Union's finances (Congress – Doc 19),

Considering
the particularly valuable role for the Union performed by the Government of the Swiss Confederation in financial matters under article 124, paragraph 10, of the General Regulations, and 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress resolution C 17,

Expresses

i its gratitude to the Government of the Swiss Confederation for the generous aid it provides to the Union in the field of finance through the advances of funds made under the Union's former financial system, by supervising the keeping of the International Bureau accounts and by acting as external auditor of the Union's accounts;
ii the hope that this valuable cooperation with the Union will continue in the future.

(Congress – Doc 19, Committee 2, 1st meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 60/Washington 1989

Liquidation of accounts in arrears under the former financing system

Congress,

In view of
the changes made since 1980 to the Union's financing system,

In view of
the sums not yet reimbursed to the Swiss Government for the period prior to that date,

In view of
the repayment facilities granted by resolution C 17 of the Rio de Janeiro Congress,

Being aware of
the Union's obligations in this sphere,

Decides

i to reimburse to the Swiss Government the whole of the advances made under the former financing system and repayable on 31 December 1990, inclusive of interest on arrears;
ii to withdraw the necessary sums from the Reserve Fund;
iii to show the arrears in question in the reserve account of the Reserve Fund,

Invites

all member countries concerned by these arrears to expedite the repayment of the sums owed as soon as possible; if their financial situation does not enable them to discharge these debts quickly, to send the Director-General of the International Bureau a schedule for repayment in annual instalments,

Instructs

the Executive Council to take such action as it may deem necessary to obtain settlement of the said arrears as soon as possible and, as appropriate, to give the Director-General of the International Bureau guidelines for expediting such repayments,

Takes this opportunity

of thanking the Swiss Government for the advances of funds it has made over so many years and for the moratorium it granted in order to alleviate the effects of the change in the UPU's financing system.

(Proposal 03, Committee 3, 6th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 61/Washington 1989

Clearing up of accounts of all kinds in arrears

Congress,

In view of
the statement of accounts in arrears,

Considering
that it is in the interests of the Union and its member countries to put the Union's finances in order,

Urges

member countries which have accounts in arrears to make every effort to settle them as soon as possible and reminds them in this connection that they may make use of the International Bureau's clearing system in accordance with recommendation C 36 of the 1984 Hamburg Congress,

Informs

member countries which have large accounts in arrears that they may be placed in a lower contribution class than their normal one during the repayment period if they undertake to pay off their debts to the Union in accordance with a schedule approved by the Executive Council,

Decides

to transfer to a special account debtors covered by an individual agreement on the lines mentioned above,

Instructs

the Director-General of the International Bureau to negotiate with the countries having the biggest arrears draft agreements which will be submitted to the Executive Council for approval,

Instructs

the Executive Council to approve such amortization schedules as are negotiated by the International Bureau with countries having large accounts in arrears taking into account both the economic situation of the countries concerned and the interests of the Union,

Invites

the Executive Council:
i to take all relevant measures to facilitate the application of this resolution;
ii to report to the next Congress on the results obtained by this resolution.

(Proposal 04, Committee 3, 6th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.2, 14th meeting)

5 Technical cooperation

5.1 General

Resolution C 38/Lausanne 1974

Relations between the UPU and the Restricted Unions

Congress,

In view of
article 8 of the Constitution, which authorizes the establishment of Restricted Unions within the framework of the Universal Postal Union,

Aware
of the important contribution which the Restricted Unions make to the development of the postal services and the desire which they have to ease the work of the UPU in their region and to ensure its success,

Wishing
for ever fuller and more fruitful cooperation to develop between the UPU and the Restricted Unions, while observing the spirit and the letter of article 1 of the Constitution of the Universal Postal Union,

Notes

the measures and decisions taken by the Executive Council with a view to developing and extending relations between the UPU and the Restricted Unions (resolution CE 5/1972 and decision CE 17/1972),

Asks the Restricted Unions and instructs the Executive Council, the Consultative Council for Postal Studies and the International Bureau

to take, within the framework of their competence, any measures which seem desirable to them for achieving this aim and which are compatible with the Acts of the Union and the decisions of the Executive Council, and

Wishes

more particularly that steps be taken to clarify and strengthen the role of the Restricted Unions in the field of technical assistance, in the light especially of the procedures established by the United Nations Development Programme.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 989, 1242)

Recommendation C 79/Lausanne 1974

Increased participation by developing countries in the preparation and implementation of technical assistance programmes

Congress,

Noting
the determinant character, in the new procedures set out by the UNDP, of the activities of national authorities in relation to the preparation of country technical assistance programmes,

Considering
the persisting difficulties which the International Bureau encounters when collecting the information necessary for working on country programmes (cf resolution CE 14/1972), and the observations made regarding technical assistance activity evaluation, and

Convinced
that it would be in the interest of the administrations of developing countries to take appropriate measures, not only to facilitate acceptance of their requests for assistance, but also to increase even further the effectiveness of the aid received,

Appeals

to the Governments of the developing countries to give favourable consideration to postal projects as regards the order of priority to be given to them in the preparation of country programmes for submission to the UNDP or for implementation by means of other sources of finance, thus taking account of the "Memorandum on the role of the Post as a factor in economic, social and cultural development" published by the UPU within the framework of the Second United Nations Development Decade, and

Recommends

to the administrations of the developing countries:

i that they draft plans or define priorities for the development of their services in such a way as to make it easier for the national authorities to take the needs of the Post into consideration;

ii that they supply the International Bureau systematically with all the data it requires in order to play an effective part in preparing the relevant UNDP programmes;

iii that they endeavour to derive maximum possible benefit from available aid and that in order to do so they:
- allow local officials to work more closely with the postal development experts and specialists;
- designate qualified counterparts to be attached to the experts throughout their missions, so as to ensure that these counterparts are trained and that the experts' work is continued;
- increase their participation in the training or specialization courses organized nationally or internationally;
- make the best use of the knowledge and skills acquired by those officials who have followed the courses in question;

iv that they make every effort to give experts every possible assistance in the accomplishment of their work, thereby encouraging postal officials from developed countries to undertake missions in developing countries; and

v that they approach the competent authorities of their countries with a view to their paying special attention to the development of the transport infrastructure.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 979, 1469, 1470)

Recommendation C 86/Lausanne 1974

Recruitment of UPU experts

Congress,

Considering
the development of UPU technical cooperation activities and especially the increase in the need for the services of experts to do work in the field,

Aware
of the difficulties of various kinds encountered by the International Bureau in seeking experts to meet these needs,

Convinced
that these difficulties seriously hinder the development of the activities in question and mar the effectiveness sought in the application of technical cooperation programmes,

Recommends

postal administrations:

a to take all necessary steps to help the International Bureau as much as possible, especially by seeking among their own staff, whenever the Union's headquarters so requests, those officials who would be interested in undertaking a technical assistance mission and who would be likely to fulfil the functions mentioned efficiently;

b to send the International Bureau all relevant data concerning the applications received;

c to take steps to ensure that experts engaged for projects do not lose their entitlement to promotion and other benefits in their national administrations owing to their absence on mission; and

d to afford experts about to depart on mission opportunities for acquiring such additional knowledge as is necessary to ensure their optimum adaptation to the working conditions in the mission countries.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 979, 1469)

Resolution C 43/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Functions of the Executive Council, CCPS and International Bureau as regards technical cooperation

Congress,

Having regard
to the steps already taken by the Tokyo Congress (resolution C 6) in the sphere of technical cooperation, from which it is clear that each body has acquitted itself well of its duties in this field in accordance with the functions assigned to it by the Acts of the Union,

Recognizing
the need to confirm in the UPU a general policy which will permit both the closest coordination of all activities relating to technical assistance and the best use of the various facilities of the bodies in question,

Considering
that the UNDP should remain the principal source of finance for technical assistance activities, without prejudice to the efforts to be made to increase supplementary sources, in particular the UPU Special Fund,

Convinced
that it is necessary, in order to achieve the maximum results from the Union's technical cooperation activities, clearly to define the respective functions of the Executive Council, the Consultative Council for Postal Studies and the International Bureau, in conformity with the Acts and principles set out above,

Instructs

i the Executive Council to:
- a promote, coordinate and supervise all forms of postal technical assistance in the context of international technical cooperation;
- b draw up immediately, after every Congress, on the basis of the general policy laid down by that body and the priorities decided on by the countries, a general framework of technical assistance, which shall be submitted to the CCPS for its opinion;
- c give the Director-General of the International Bureau directives for the planning, programming, execution and evaluation of technical assistance projects on which the CCPS can express opinions when it considers the periodical reports relating to technical assistance, submitted to the Executive Council;
- d undertake, on the proposal of the International Bureau, the apportionment of the resources of the Special Fund, supervise the management and use of the funds concerning technical assistance and approve the accounts relating thereto;

ii the Consultative Council for Postal Studies to:
- a undertake, within the framework of the general policy mentioned in i, b and c, studies of a general nature dealing with the needs of postal services in the developing countries and investigate the most effective means of meeting those needs;
- b study technical, economic, operational and vocational training problems, priority being given to the subjects which are of the greatest interest to the developing countries;
- c submit, where appropriate, to the Executive Council suggestions based on the results of its studies which, as far as possible, should culminate in concrete guidance or conclusions;
- d communicate the results of its studies to the member countries of the Union;
- e formulate, when necessary, proposals for Congress deriving directly from the activities defined in article 104 of the General Regulations, by agreement with the Executive Council when matters within the competence of the latter are concerned;

iii the Director-General of the International Bureau to:
- a implement the general policy laid down in the sphere of technical cooperation, within the framework of the principles mentioned in i, b and c;
- b take, according to the Executive Council directives, the necessary measures to prepare, execute and evaluate the UNDP or UPU technical assistance programmes taking account of the principles laid down by the UNDP in this respect;

c implement the directives of the Executive Council and collaborate with the latter and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies within the scope of their functions mentioned in i and ii;
d seek methods of financing, in order to supplement the funds available under the UNDP;
e maintain relations by way of cooperation and information with the other organizations of the United Nations system in the sphere of technical cooperation.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: page 1759)

Recommendation C 23/Hamburg 1984

Technical assistance with regard to international payments

Congress,

Considering
resolution C 45 of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress instructing the Executive Council to carry out a study on the preparation of effective means of expediting the settlement of accounts for the various international postal services and to submit the results of this study to Congress with a proposal to that effect,

Noting
that there are in fact certain postal administrations in respect of which delays in payment have been noted which appear in part to be due to lack of knowledge of the regulations and non-adaptation of the services responsible for international payments,

Taking the view
that technical assistance in this area can bring very considerable improvements,

Noting
that initiatives have already been taken by the UPU to help administrations which desire to improve the organization and functioning of their international payments services, but that it is necessary to step up this assistance by implementing a specific action in the field concerned,

Recommends

i postal administrations which feel the need:
  a to size up accurately the inadequacies which may exist in their international payments services;
  b to take account, in cooperation projects submitted to the international bodies, of the training needs, satisfaction of which could improve their payments services;
  c to ask postal administrations with experienced payments services, under bilateral aid, for all information and technical aid likely to improve the organization of the service and the knowledge and implementation of the regulations concerning inter-national payments;
ii all postal administrations which are able to do so, to send the International Bureau in good time the names of qualified officials available for experts' and consultants' missions, and also to give favourable consideration to any request for bilateral aid in the field concerned,

Instructs

the International Bureau:

i to continue the efforts already undertaken to prepare and implement a specific technical assistance action in the form of consultants' missions, training activities and distribution of documentation relating to international payments, through existing or new resources;

ii to programme as from 1985 a priority action to inform administrations on the problems of international payments after having carried out a survey to identify the needs in this area and the possible contributions of administrations to this action;

iii to approach certain countries which are technically advanced in this field in order to obtain greater assistance from them on behalf of countries requesting technical support as regards the organization of the international payments service;

iv to facilitate the contacts between administrations for bilateral aid and, to that end, to gather and make available in the field of international payments all information concerning administrations in a position to provide technical aid.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 178, 558, 604, 606, 607)

Resolution C 6/Washington 1989

UPU technical assistance priorities and principles

Congress,

In view of
the reports on technical assistance in the UPU submitted by the Executive Council,

Stressing
the urgency for the developing countries to undertake or intensify their own efforts to improve the situation of their postal services which are often seriously affected by a continuing economic crisis,

Aware
of the need for the UPU to continue to provide these countries with additional aid and to intensify its technical assistance activities in priority fields by concentrating them on a limited number of countries for which such aid is the most necessary and pressing,

Concerned
to ensure that this technical assistance is as effective as possible, particularly through special measures decided on in agreement with the beneficiary countries,

Convinced
of the advisability of integrating UPU aid into the general framework of the United Nations development strategy and into the special framework of UNDP country or regional plans or programmes,

Decides

i to draw up the groups of beneficiary countries as follows:
- the least developed countries: first priority;
- the remaining low-income countries and the lower middle-income countries according to the World Bank classification;

ii to give priority to action designed to:
- restructure management;
- introduce development plans and programmes;
- improve the quality of service;
- improve the circulation and delivery of international and domestic mail;
- ensure the training and specialization of middle-grade and senior staff,

Instructs

the Executive Council:

i to intensify UPU technical assistance activities as far as possible on the basis of the priorities thus defined as regards the beneficiary countries and the action to be taken;

ii to programme UPU technical assistance activities and incorporate them into coherent development programmes prepared and implemented by the beneficiary administrations;

iii to apply the following principles of action:
- to urge the beneficiary countries to ensure coherence between their country plans or programmes and regional objectives;
- to prepare a special programme for the least developed countries which other countries might benefit from in some cases;
- to promote technical cooperation among developing countries more effectively by undertaking action in support of efforts by the countries;
- to begin decentralization of UPU technical assistance activities;
- to subject integrated multi-year projects financed from the UPU's own resources to the conclusion of a development contract;
- to ensure better coordination and greater mobilization of resources in support of technical assistance;
- to strengthen the project evaluation and follow-up system;
- to strengthen relations between the UPU and the Restricted Unions on the basis of resolution CE 6 adopted by the Executive Council in 1983, the agreements concluded with individual Restricted Unions, and the principles and procedures applied by the UNDP;
- to develop its relations with the UN Economic Commissions and to consider methods of concluding agreements with these agencies,

Instructs

the Director-General of the International Bureau to pursue his efforts with a view to promoting technical assistance activities within the framework of the priorities and principles drawn up by Congress and on the basis of the directives given by the Executive Council, integrating them wherever possible into the framework of the UNDP.

(Proposal 015, Committee 9, 2nd meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 7/Washington 1989

Financing UPU technical assistance activities

Congress,

In view of
the report submitted by the Executive Council on UPU technical assistance,

Recalling
the principle according to which the UNDP shall remain the main source of finance for the UPU technical assistance programme,

Noting with satisfaction
the efforts made by that body to implement technical assistance projects in the postal sector,

Bearing in mind
the priority needs of the least developed countries which continue to increase,

Concerned
by the inadequacy of the supplementary resources available to the UPU to cover needs not met under the UNDP, despite the efforts of some countries,

Aware
of the need to make the aid granted to the beneficiary countries more effective,

Taking account
of the changes in general development assistance policy and of the limited means of the UPU,

Decides

i to concentrate resources for the benefit of countries for which development aid is the most necessary and pressing;
ii to appeal to the countries with a view to increasing the additional resources for UPU technical assistance;
iii to offset the inflation recorded since the 1984 Hamburg Congress by increasing by at least 10 percent the budget credits allocated to technical assistance,

Recommends

i the beneficiary countries:
   a to stand, where they can, part of the costs of technical assistance activities, according to UNDP practice (cost sharing);
   b to stand, where they can, certain expenditure related to the technical assistance provided by the UPU (consultants' or Fellows' travel or living expenses, as well as contributions in kind calculated to facilitate the implementation of training activities when study cycles, courses or individual training courses are held);
ii all countries:
   a to participate on a multi-annual basis in maintaining the UPU Special Fund by voluntary contributions the amount of which should be raised to cover increased postal training requirements;

b to make approaches to their respective government authorities with a view to increasing allocations for technical cooperation in order to provide their administrations with funds to assist the postal services of developing countries either direct or through the UPU;
c to provide, on a bilateral or multibilateral basis, technical assistance in kind or funds meeting the priority needs indicated by the UPU,

Instructs

the Director-General of the International Bureau:
i to make full use of the means offered by decentralization to multiply his approaches to the national authorities and to the UNDP authorities in order to facilitate the acceptance of requests submitted by postal administrations;
ii to support the public information activities undertaken for that purpose by the administrations of the developing countries;
iii to pursue his efforts in cooperation, if appropriate, with the Restricted Unions, to locate additional funds, particularly in the developed or wealthy countries, the World Bank and the subregional and regional financial institutions;
iv to seek the means of concluding agreements for joint financing of projects with other sources and especially with bilateral and multilateral donors.

(Proposal 016, Committee 9, 2nd meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 20/Washington 1989

Technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC)

Congress,

In view of
the report submitted by the Executive Council on technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC),

Convinced
of the importance of the widest possible application of the concept of TCDC in accordance with the Plan of Action adopted by the Buenos Aires Conference,

Noting
with satisfaction the initiatives taken in this area,

Considering
that an additional active consciousness-raising effort is necessary in order to derive maximum benefit from the opportunities offered by TCDC,

Convinced
of the need for the developing countries to mobilize further their human and financial resources with a view to achieving fully the objectives of TCDC,

Considering
the promotional role assigned by the Buenos Aires Conference to the international organizations with regard to TCDC,

Calls upon:

- the administrations of the developing countries and the Restricted Unions to mobilize resources for making TCDC the general practice for all cooperation activities;
- the administrations of the beneficiary countries to make wider use of the opportunities offered within the TCDC framework for their technical assistance needs;
- the administrations of the countries benefiting from TCDC to provide the main inputs required, with the contributions of the donor countries and the UPU having a catalytic effect;
- the administrations of the industrialized countries to continue supporting the efforts made in this field, either direct or through the UPU,

Instructs

the Executive Council to issue the necessary policy guidelines and take the required initiatives with a view to making TCDC the general practice,

Instructs

the Director-General of the International Bureau:
- to conduct an active consciousness-raising campaign through the holding of regional and interregional meetings and the establishment of a system for the exchange of know-how and technologies among the developing countries, in cooperation with the Restricted Unions;
- to promote the conclusion of bilateral TCDC agreements conforming to the basic criteria and principles adopted in this regard;
- to make a periodic evaluation of the impact of TCDC on the effectiveness of technical cooperation as a whole and to report to the Executive Council on it.

(Proposal 017, Committee 9, 4th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 21/Washington 1989

Increased UPU presence in the field with regard to technical assistance

Congress,

In view of
the report submitted by the Executive Council on the increased UPU presence in the field with regard to technical assistance (Congress – Doc 55),

Considering
resolutions C 78 of the Lausanne Congress, C 37 of the Rio de Janeiro Congress and C 38 of the Hamburg Congress which stress decentralization of "UPU technical assistance activities as far as possible",

Aware
of the serious difficulties experienced by the postal administrations of the developing countries in getting the postal services taken into consideration when national resources are allocated,
Convinced
of the need to strengthen the aid provided as regards sectoral support and postal development programming,

Recognizing
that aid given in the field is the best guarantee of the effectiveness of technical assistance activities,

Noting
that the increased UPU presence in the field will make it possible to strengthen cooperation with the Restricted Postal Unions and the other regional or subregional organizations interested in postal development problems,

Instructs

the Director-General of the International Bureau:
- to assign six regional advisers to the regions as follows: two in Africa, one in Latin America, two in Asia/Pacific and the Caribbean and one in the Arab countries;
- to draw the annual resources needed for this purpose from the funds already available;
- to continue studying ways and means of ensuring the most effective and economical management of technical assistance resources and to report regularly to the Executive Council;
- to submit to the 1993 Executive Council session an evaluation of the effectiveness of the UPU presence in the field;
- to contact the beneficiary countries and urge them to agree to provide reception, secretariat and communication facilities;
- to ensure that the regional advisers cooperate closely with the secretariats of the Restricted Postal Unions, particularly in defining regional technical assistance programmes.

(Proposal 019, Committee 9, 4th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 28/Washington 1989

UPU action on behalf of the least developed countries (LDCs)

Congress,

In view of
the report submitted by the Executive Council on UPU action on behalf of the least developed countries (LDCs),

Considering
resolution 36/194 of the United Nations General Assembly of 17 December 1981 in which it adopted the "Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s on behalf of the Least Developed Countries",

Considering
resolution 40/205 of the United Nations General Assembly of 19 March 1986 in which it decided to hold a conference on the LDCs in September 1990 with a view to considering the progress made by the LDCs in the 1980s and to contemplating an improvement in the development process for the 1990s,

Recalling
resolutions C 87 of the 1974 Lausanne Congress, C 37 of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress and C 66 of the 1984 Hamburg Congress,

Recognizing
the importance of the role of the postal services in the development of the LDCs and the serious shortcomings of the Post in most of those countries,

Bearing in mind
the need to reinforce the postal services in the LDCs,

Invites

- the least developed countries to marshall all the human, financial and material resources available on the spot and obtain the greatest possible benefit from the assistance provided to them in the postal sector;
- the Restricted Unions to increase the assistance provided to the LDCs,

Instructs

the Executive Council:
- to take the appropriate measures for the Union to be able to continue providing development aid to the postal services of the LDCs;
- to devote to the countries in that category as large a portion as possible of UPU resources;
- to closely follow the development of the general situation of the Post in the LDCs and to submit a report thereon to the next Congress,

Instructs

the Director-General of the International Bureau:
- to continue to pay more marked priority attention to the postal needs of LDC administrations;
- to propose to the Executive Council a programme of activities based on the priority sectors and specific needs of the countries concerned;
- to help the countries in that category to prepare and present at round table meetings postal projects likely to arouse the interest of donors and lenders of funds;
- to continue to make approaches to the UNDP and other financing bodies to obtain acceptance of requests for aid for implementing postal projects on behalf of the LDCs.

(Proposal 018, Committee 9, 5th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 29/Washington 1989

Guidelines to be emphasized in UPU technical assistance activities

Congress,

Considering
that the resources of the UPU member countries should be used in the most efficient manner when recruiting consultants/experts to carry out missions within the framework of technical cooperation,

Considering also
that the training of individual Fellows requires the same amount of input as for a greater number of Fellows,

Noting
that it is possible to improve the results obtained in the above-mentioned fields,

Asks

beneficiary countries to adopt a policy of selecting local counterparts capable of supporting consultants/experts in their work and of carrying it on,

Instructs

the International Bureau to base the recruiting of consultants/experts as well as the placing of UPU Fellows on the following guidelines:

- when recruiting consultants/experts, consideration should be given to candidates' total capabilities, but more emphasis should be laid on professional competence and practical experience, as well as the ability to transfer knowledge/know-how to other persons;
- in selecting competent, qualified and experienced consultants/experts, account should be taken of candidates from developing countries;
- administrations should be given more time for nominating their candidates;
- candidates should be informed as rapidly as possible of the decision made in order to keep up their motivation;
- the conclusions contained in consultants/experts' reports should be followed up to ensure that they are implemented as fully as possible;
- group training should be given priority over the placing of individual Fellows;
- visits by Fellows should be planned in close cooperation with the receiving administration.

(Proposal 021, Committee 9, 5th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

5.2 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Recommendation C 83/Lausanne 1974

Faster implementation of UPU projects under the UNDP

Congress,

Aware of
the need to provide beneficiary countries rapidly with the aid granted to them, particularly in the form of experts' missions, while striving to improve the efficiency of activities undertaken under this head,

Noting
the drawbacks of all kinds arising both for administrations and the International Bureau from the delays occurring in the implementation of approved projects,

Considering
the efforts made by the UNDP to speed up the start and continuation of activities under the head of projects financed by that body in order to use during the programming period the resources made available to Governments,

Recommends

- the Executive Council and International Bureau to support UNDP efforts in respect of the execution of technical assistance projects and to make every effort to cut out the delays observed, in particular, between the approval of projects and the starting up of the corresponding activities, while leaving enough time to the administrations to which appeals have been made for experts;
- the administrations of developing countries to take at a local level all the necessary steps for the competent national authorities to choose without delay from the applications of experts submitted to them; and
- the administrations providing experts to make appropriate arrangements for the quick release of the selected applicants.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 979, 1475)

Resolution C 84/Lausanne 1974

Reimbursement of programme support costs resulting from Universal Postal Union participation in the United Nations Developing Programme (UNDP)

Congress,

Having examined
the report by the Director-General of the International Bureau concerning the reimbursement of programme support costs resulting from UPU participation in the UNDP (Congress – Doc 32),

Taking account

a of the fact that, because of the special nature of the UPU and of the projects that it implements for the UNDP, actual support costs exceed the amount which the UNDP reimburses to the UPU, even when the "flexibility" allowance is included; and

b of the financial burden already undertaken by the UPU in order to cover that portion of expenditure which is left to be covered by the limited possibilities of the UPU budget,

Aware of

the need to lighten the burden which the implementation of UNDP projects imposes on the UPU, by obtaining from the UNDP the reimbursement of a larger part of the expenditure thus incurred while at the same time trying to reduce the said expenditure by applying every measure of economy and rationalization which the working methods of the International Bureau allow,

Expresses

to the UNDP Governing Council its satisfaction with the understanding it shows of the special situation of certain organizations and with the action taken on UPU requests by annually granting it the supplementary allowance requested,

Instructs

i the Director-General:

a to ensure that full account is taken of the principles of economy and rationalization when carrying out technical cooperation activities, as is the case with all activities of the International Bureau;

b as part of the study currently being made on the method of measuring overheads in the United Nations family, to continue his efforts to have the special situation of the UPU taken into consideration, especially in so far as concerns decisions to be taken on organizations with small programmes; and

c to keep the Executive Council informed on the matter;

ii the Executive Council:

in view of the instructions given in paragraph 1 above, to continue making representations to the UNDP asking it to favour the UPU with the reimbursement of a higher proportion of its support costs, including the administrative and technical costs relating to technical cooperation, by availing itself of the provisions resulting from the flexibility allowance hitherto granted or of special direct agreements to be negotiated with the UNDP where necessary.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 993, 1072 to 1075)

5.3 UPU Special Fund

Formal opinion C 20/Tokyo 1969

Contributions to the UPU Special Fund

Congress,

Recognizing
the insufficiency of the credits allocated to postal administrations from the UNDP funds,

Considering
that the UNDP should remain the main source of finance for technical cooperation activities,

Considering nevertheless
the interest which the UPU Special Fund, maintained by voluntary contributions, has for the developing countries,

Expresses the formal opinion

that such gestures of generosity should become more numerous and frequent in the future so that the Union can have its own five-year technical cooperation programme.

(Documents of the 1969 Tokyo Congress – volume II: pages 1109, 1278)

6 External relations

6.1 Restricted Unions

Resolution C 38/Lausanne 1974

Relations between the UPU and the Restricted Unions

Congress,

In view of
article 8 of the Constitution, which authorizes the establishment of Restricted Unions within the framework of the Universal Postal Union,

Aware
of the important contribution which the Restricted Unions make to the development of the postal services and the desire which they have to ease the work of the UPU in their region and to ensure its success,

Wishing
for ever fuller and more fruitful cooperation to develop between the UPU and the Restricted Unions, while observing the spirit and the letter of article 1 of the Constitution of the Universal Postal Union,

Notes

the measures and decisions taken by the Executive Council with a view to developing and extending relations between the UPU and the Restricted Unions (resolution CE 5/1972 and decision CE 17/1972),

Asks the Restricted Unions and instructs the Executive Council, the Consultative Council for Postal Studies and the International Bureau

to take, within the framework of their competence, any measures which seem desirable to them for achieving this aim and which are compatible with the Acts of the Union and the decisions of the Executive Council, and

Wishes

more particularly that steps be taken to clarify and strengthen the role of the Restricted Unions in the field of technical assistance, in the light especially of the procedures established by the United Nations Development Programme.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: pages 989, 1242)

6.2 United Nations (UN)

Decision C 1/Paris 1947

Agreement between the UN and the UPU. Interpretation[1]

The minutes of the discussions with the Negotiations Committee of the United Nations are official and are the authentic text for future interpretations.

(French Documents of the 1947 Paris Congress – volume II: pages 437, 1108)

[1] Const. art 9.

Decision C 2/Paris 1947

Agreement between the UN and the UPU. Article IV – Recommendations of the UN[1]

The United Nations specified that in all cases UPU members to which recommendations were sent would always be free to accept them or refuse them, since they were only recommendations.
The Universal Postal Union, its Bureau or any directing body of the Union do not have to intervene in any problem of sanctions.

(French Documents of the 1947 Paris Congress – volume II: pages 432, 454, 1108)

[1] Const. art 9.

Decision C 3/Paris 1947

Agreement between the UN and the UPU. Article XVI – Revision[1]

The expression "revision" may be considered as including the possibility of abrogation since it is possible to revise an agreement to such an extent that nothing or very little of it remains.

(French Documents of the 1947 Paris Congress – volume II: pages 440, 441, 1108)

[1] Const. art 9.

Resolution C 2/Brussels 1952

United Nations postal administration[1] [2]

The XIIIth Congress of the Universal Postal Union,

Having noted
the letter and memorandum of the Secretary-General of the United Nations concerning the United Nations postal administration,

i Recognizes, as regards postal matters, the establishment of a United Nations postal administration, in conformity with the provisions of the resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations of 16 November 1950 (p 454, vol V) and the agreement concluded between the postal administration of the United Nations and the United States of America;

ii Notes with satisfaction that the Secretary-General is prepared to make a declaration undertaking to respect the provisions of the Convention of the Universal Postal Union as well as the Regulations applicable to the postal operations of the United Nations;

iii Notes that the postal administration of the United Nations is an administrative unit of the United Nations Secretariat, placed under the authority of the Secretary-General, and, consequently, bears in mind that the United Nations, as regards postal and all other matters shall be represented at the Congresses and Conferences of the Union in accordance with the provisions of article II of the Agreement concerning relations between the United Nations and the Universal Postal Union;

iv Expresses its general agreement with the suggestion of the Administrative Committee on Coordination that the United Nations should act on behalf of the specialized agencies in respect of all subsequent postal activity;

v Recommends to the member countries of the Universal Postal Union that all subsequent postal activity envisaged by the United Nations or by a specialized agency be subject to consultation with the UPU through the intermediary of Congress or of the Executive and Liaison Committee[3] and that after such consultation no agreement be concluded without a favourable recommendation by the United Nations General Assembly.

(French Documents of the 1952 Brussels Congress – volume II: pages 96 to 103, 142, 379, 1351)

[1] Const, art 9.
[2] See resolutions CEL 1/1951 and CE 8/1968.
[3] New name: Executive Council.

Resolution C 26/Tokyo 1969

Application of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples – Implementation of resolutions 2311 (XXII), 2426 and 2465 (XXIII) of the UN General Assembly and 1450 (XLVII) of the UN Economic and Social Council[1]

Congress,

In view of
article IV of the Agreement between the United Nations and the Universal Postal Union,

Recalling
- United Nations General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960; and
- resolutions 2311 (XXII), 2426 and 2465 (XXIII) submitted to the Executive Council in 1968 and 1969,

Having examined
a Congress – Doc 2/Add 1;
b Economic and Social Council resolution 1450 (XLVII) of 13 August 1969, and in particular its operative paragraphs 3 to 7,

Instructs the Director-General of the International Bureau

i to collaborate fully with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), especially:
   - by giving opinions and possibly approaching member countries of the Union to ensure that they furnish, if possible, postal technical aid to the representatives of the High Commissioner;
   - by promoting the participation in the vocational training courses sponsored by the UPU of refugees holding fellowships made available by the UNDP or other organizations;

ii to consider with the United Nations Secretary-General other measures which could be taken by the headquarters of the Union under the Acts of the Universal Postal Union to secure implementation of General Assembly resolutions 2311 (XXII), 2426 and 2465 (XXIII), or other similar resolutions;

iii to report to the Executive Council on the measures he has been able to take with regard to subparagraphs i and ii, above,

Invites the member countries of the Union

a to respond whenever possible to the appeals contained in the above-mentioned General Assembly resolutions;
b to assist the Director-General, at his request, in supplying the aid mentioned in subparagraph 1 of the present resolution,

Further charges the Director-General of the International Bureau

to communicate the text of the present resolution to the United Nations Secretary-General, the Directors and Secretaries-General of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the members of the Universal Postal Union.

(Documents of the 1969 Tokyo Congress – volume II: page 987)

[1] See resolutions CE 2/1970, 20/1971, 1/1972, 1/1973 and decision CE 5/1971.

Resolution C 91/Rio de Janeiro 1979

Amendment of the UN–UPU Agreements

Congress,

In view of
the study undertaken in the United Nations to strengthen its role,

Considering
that this study could justify amendment of the UN–UPU Agreements,

Instructs

the Executive Council:
- to negotiate, if necessary and in so far as is useful to the Union's interests, amendments to the UN–UPU Agreements or the conclusion of an additional agreement;
- if appropriate, to deal with proposed amendments to the present Agreements or with the conclusion of an addition agreement in accordance with the provisions of article 127 of the General Regulations;[1] and
- to report on this matter to the next Congress.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 1422, 1803)

[1] Gen Regs (Washington 1989), art 129.

Decision C 45/Washington 1989

Relations with the United Nations and other international organizations

Congress

Decides

- to approve the Director-General's Report on relations with the United Nations and other international organizations;
- to invite the Director-General of the International Bureau to:
  - a maintain relations with the United Nations and other international organizations;
  - b continue to follow the development of the questions outlined in the Report;
  - c take whatever action he may deem necessary in the interests of the Union and its members, subject to any instructions from the Executive Council;
  - d report to the Executive Council every year to an appropriate extent.

(Congress – Doc 22, 5th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Decision C 50/Washington 1989

Implementation by the specialized agencies of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Congress

Decides

- to approve the Director-General's report on the implementation by the specialized agencies of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;
- to note the efforts made by the UPU to aid refugees and non-self-governing territories as well as the newly independent countries and the least developed countries (LDCs);
- to recommend confirmation of the practice followed hitherto and the intensification of the measures taken in recent years as well as to render concrete assistance to the people of Namibia, in particular during the period of transition to and immediately after independence.

(Congress – Doc 23 and Add 1, 10th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

6.3 Specialized agencies

Decision C 2/Ottawa 1957

Perishable biological substances. Cooperation with WHO[1]

1 Congress repeats the recommendations of the 1952 Brussels Congress, asking WHO to inform the public health services of its Member States that the difficulties noted in connection with the postal conveyance of perishable biological substances might be solved or more clearly defined if details were communicated to their postal administration and where necessary to the UPU and possibly to WHO.

2 It considers that, as a result of consequent cooperation both at national and international levels between the administrations concerned as well as with medical and scientific circles, these recommendations remain valid not only for the purposes of the inquiry opened by the UPU, but also for the solution of all difficulties which may arise in future in the conveyance of the products in question.

3 Congress decides, consequently, that the insertion into the UPU Acts of the note stating the terms of the recommendations concerned should be maintained as one of the means of furthering the solution of the problem and, in particular, the application of the provisions governing perishable biological substances adopted by the Ottawa Congress.

(French Documents of the 1957 Ottawa Congress – volume II: pages 63, 453, 761)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 23.

6.4 Other organizations

Resolution C 34/Hamburg 1984[1]

Contacts with international organizations representing customers of the postal services

Congress,

Recognizing
- that the postal service cannot exist without the customer;
- that the principal purpose of any postal administration must therefore be to provide an efficient and economic service to its customers,

Acknowledging
the importance, for postal administrations, of maintaining direct contacts with organizations which represent the interests of the customers,

Considering
- that, while there are several possibilities for discussions between administrations and customers at national level, there is little opportunity for similar discussions internationally;
- that contacts at the international level should be of benefit both to postal administrations and to the organizations representing customers of the postal services,

Instructs

the Executive Council to study the legal and practical possibilities of initiating contacts between international bodies representing customers of the postal services and the Universal Postal Union, and on the basis of the result of that study:
- to examine the best way of establishing such contacts;
- to decide which international organizations may be considered to be most representative of the interests of major customers of the postal service;
- make contact with those organizations in order to set up a forum in which discussions can be held of mutual benefit to both parties.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 165, 178, 620)

[1] EC study which resulted in the creation of the Publishers–UPU Contact Committee operating under the responsibility of the CCPS.

Formal opinion C 40/Hamburg 1984

Customs treatment of postal items: International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures (Kyoto Convention)

Congress,

In view of
the results of the study undertaken by the Executive Council together with the Customs Cooperation Council (CCC), which are summarized in the Comprehensive report on the work of

the Executive Council 1979–1984 (Congress – Doc 1), and resolution C 49 authorizing the Executive Council to reconstitute the CCC–UPU Contact Committee to deal with the continued study of common problems,

Noting
- that the CCC–UPU Contact Committee and the Executive Council considered it necessary, among other things, to make better known the existence of Annex F 4 to the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures (known as the Kyoto Convention), whose application would make it possible to facilitate the customs treatment of postal items, and
- that by the aforesaid annex the CCC once again wished to help to facilitate the flow of postal traffic,

Noting
that Annex F 4 to the Kyoto Convention has been ratified by only 11 countries out of the 95 members of the Customs Co-operation Council,

Taking account
of the suggestion by the CCC–UPU Contact Committee,

Expresses the formal opinion

that postal administrations should approach the authorities in charge of customs questions in their countries to request that they take steps to speed up the ratification of Annex F 4 to the Kyoto Convention.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 178, 359)

Resolution C 11/Washington 1989

Reconstitution of the CCC–UPU (Customs Co-operation Council – Universal Postal Union) Contact Committee and establishment of national postal-customs contact committees

Congress,

In view of
the positive results of the work done by the CCC–UPU Contact Committee,

Considering
that efforts to speed up and simplify customs treatment of postal items should be continued,

Taking account
- of the questions whose study must be continued;
- of the value of establishing national postal-customs contact committees,

Considering
that the cooperation between the UPU and the CCC which has existed since 1965 is in the best interests of both organizations,

Urges

member countries to do everything possible to establish national postal-customs contact committees the better to solve any local problems,

Authorizes

the Executive Council to reconstitute the CCC–UPU Contact Committee in order to continue the study of common problems.

(Proposal 2000.4, Committee 4, 5th meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Resolution C 24/Washington 1989

Cooperation between the Executive Council and the Consultative Council for Postal Studies towards the establishment of telematics in the Universal Postal Union

Congress,

Noting
that telematics is enjoying an amazing boom at the present time and that it constitutes a fundamental element of the development of society and that its place in that development will continue to expand keeping pace with the gradual introduction throughout the world of information technology in every field of human endeavour,

Noting
that the communications structures which will form one of the bases of society in the 21st century will rely on the intensive use of telematics,

Believing
that, to play a major role in tune with the times, the UPU must keep abreast of this inevitable development in order to retain its share of the communications market by offering modern and competitive services to the customers of the Post,

Considering
on the one hand, the existence of ISO standard 9735 EDIFACT (Electronic data interchange for administration, commerce and transport) developed by the UN and adopted by the ISO,

Considering
on the other hand, the adoption of that standard by organizations which are the UPU's partners in trade (Customs Co-operation Council (CCC) and International Air Transport Association (IATA) among others),

Considering
the invitation extended to the UPU by the CCC to establish telematic interfaces between the two organizations,

Deeming
that the UPU must respond positively to the CCC's invitation and establish telematic links with Customs,

Deeming
that, in order to integrate harmoniously with all the links between all the organizations concerned, the UPU must initiate negotiations with those organizations which are its usual trade partners,

Instructs

the Executive Council, in conjunction with the Consultative Council for Postal Studies, to take appropriate measures for the gradual introduction of telematic links with the UPU's trade partners by the most expedient means, taking account of the interests of all the postal administrations of member countries, both developed and developing.

(Proposal 5000.3, 10th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Recommendation C 36/Washington 1989

Use of the EDIFACT electronic message rules of syntax

Congress,

Wishing
to facilitate the international interchange of data between postal administrations and Customs and between postal administrations and the carriers or other trade partners,

Considering
that it is desirable to use for these trade data interchanges a series of data structure rules agreed upon internationally and applicable universally,

Noting
that the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE) has developed a series of syntax rules for messages to be used for electronic interchanges, under the name of EDIFACT (Electronic data interchange for administration, commerce and transport),

Aware
that the syntax rules for EDIFACT messages can be used regardless of their field of application and that their widespread use in international relations will facilitate to a large extent the circulation of postal items,

Noting
that EDIFACT has been accepted by the International Organization for Standardization as international standard ISO 9735,

Recommends

that all postal administrations of member countries should apply the syntax rules for EDIFACT messages, as well as the updates to be issued later, for the preparation of electronic messages to be exchanged between postal administrations and Customs and between postal administrations and carriers or other trade partners.

(Proposal 5000.4, 10th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

Recommendation C 37/Washington 1989

Use of the UN Trade Data Elements Directory

Congress,

Wishing
to facilitate the international interchange of data between postal administrations and Customs and between postal administrations and carriers or other trade partners,

Considering
that it is desirable, with regard to the data elements of such trade data interchanges, to use names, descriptions and modes of representation agreed upon at international level and universally applicable,

Deeming
it desirable that these names, descriptions and modes of representation be used for data elements regardless of the context in which the trade data are interchanged,

Noting
that these standardized data elements can be used, with all information interchange methods, on paper as well as with other means of communication, that they may be selected and transmitted one to one or used within the framework of a specific system of interchange rules such as, for example, the EDIFACT (Electronic data interchange for administration, commerce and transport) standard,

In view of
the fact that the directory has been approved by the International Organization for Standardization as international standard ISO 7372,

Recommends

that all postal administrations of member countries should use the names, descriptions and modes of representation of data elements shown in the UN Trade Data Elements Directory, and in the updates to that directory which will be issued subsequently, in data interchanges with Customs and with carriers or other trade partners.

(Proposal 5000.5, 10th plenary meeting; Congress – Doc 78.1, 14th meeting)

6.5 Public information

Recommendation C 13/Ottawa 1957

International Letter-writing Week[1] [2]

The XIVth Congress of the Universal Postal Union urges all member countries of the Union to consider the possibility of making the week in which 9 October falls International Letter-writing week. It expressed the formal opinion that the United Nations and specialized agencies, whose aims and objects coincide with those to be achieved by the said International Week, should assist effectively in introducing it.

(French Documents of the 1957 Ottawa Congress – volume II: pages 66, 309)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 19.
[2] See recommendation C 5/Vienna 1964; resolution C 11/Tokyo 1969; resolution C 32/Hamburg 1984.

Recommendation C 5/Vienna 1964

International Letter-writing Week[1] [2]

In view of the importance of International Letter-writing Week and of the success it meets with, it is suggested that all member countries of the Union should choose the same day as the first day of the week in question, namely, the Sunday beginning the week in which 9 October falls.

(French Documents of the 1964 Vienna Congress – volume II: pages 703, 1074, 1340)

[1] Conv (Washington 1989), art 19.
[2] See recommendation C 13/Ottawa 1957; resolution C 11/Tokyo 1969; resolution C 32/Hamburg 1984.

Resolution C 11/Tokyo 1969

General policy on public information[1]

Congress,

In view of
the important part played by postal services in cultural, economic and social development,

Bearing in mind
a the coordination to be instituted among the specialized agencies of the United Nations family;
b the contribution which the postal administrations of member countries will be able to make towards the attainment of the objectives in view by offering the services of their own publicity media, whereby the cost of the information activities will be reduced,

Decides

that the Universal Postal Union's public information programme will be aimed at making known, internationally and nationally, through measures carried out in concert with postal administrations:
a the importance of postal services for the cultural, economic and social development of peoples;
b the action undertaken with regard to the organization, mechanization and automation of services and the resulting benefits to users;
c the work and achievements of the UPU and its contribution towards international technical cooperation,

Recommends

UPU member countries:
a to take advantage of every opportunity, in particular "International Letter-writing Week", to make postal users better acquainted with the Union's aims and with the results already achieved;
b to observe 9 October each year as "UPU Day" 2;
c to contribute to the implementation of the information programme by putting the services of their publicity media at the Union's disposal;
d to place more emphasis on publicizing the international postal service at the national level,

Instructs

the Executive Council to ensure that the resources to be devoted annually, within the ceiling imposed by Congress, to UPU public information activities are determined in the light of:
a the essentially operational character of the Union's activities, most of which are undertaken by the member countries;
b the manifest publicity value of efficient international postal services;
c the primary need to publicize the international postal services at the national level,
and to ensure that any such resources are expended in the most efficient and economical manner.

(Documents of the 1969 Tokyo Congress – volume II: pages 1111, 1368)

[1] See decision CE 28/1971; recommendations C 13/Ottawa 1957 and C 5/Vienna 1964, resolution C 101/Rio de Janeiro 1979.
[2] "UPU Day" has been renamed "World Post Day" (resolution C 32/Hamburg 1984).

Formal opinion C 67/Tokyo 1969

Letter-writing competition for young people[1]

Giving children the habit of writing is considered very useful in that it develops the delicacy of their thought, improves their style and incidentally contributes to the use of the postal services. To that end, the Japanese administration holds a letter-writing competition for young people every year and thus obtains the desired results.

As the UPU already organizes International Letter-writing Week, it is desirable that it should also lay on periodically an international letter-writing competition. In that way the UPU, whose mission is to promote cooperation between the various countries in the cultural, social and economic fields, could contribute further to the strengthening of international links.

As regards the concrete arrangements, we think such a competition could be organized as follows:

i only young people of not more than fifteen would be eligible;

ii the letters (of approximately 1000 words) would be written in their mother tongue;

iii each administration would select what it considered the best letter of all those it received and, after it had been translated into French, would send it to the International Bureau of the UPU;

iv the Bureau, in cooperation with a competent body, would study the letters submitted to it and choose ten for publication in "Union Postale". Also, sumptuous albums containing stamps of participating countries would be offered for all letters submitted to the International Bureau for consideration and presented at ceremonies in each country on 9 October, the anniversary of the foundation of the UPU.

The Executive Council is charged with studying the practical application of this formal opinion.

(Documents of the 1969 Tokyo Congress – volume II: page 1136)

[1] See formal opinion C 88/Lausanne 1974, resolution CE 7/1971, decisions CE 36/1977, CE 16/1989 and CE 19/1989.

Formal opinion C 88/Lausanne 1974

Letter-writing competition for young people[1]

Congress

Expresses the formal opinion

that all postal administrations should take part in the letter-writing competitions for young people, instituted as a result of formal opinion C 67 of the 1969 Tokyo Congress, in order to inculcate the letter-writing habit in children so as to develop the delicacy of their thought and improve their style, as well as contributing thereby to the use of the postal services.

(Documents of the 1974 Lausanne Congress – volume II: page 969)

[1] See formal opinion C 67/Tokyo 1969, resolution CE 7/1971, decisions CE 36/1977, CE 16/1981 and CE 19/1986.

Resolution C 101/Rio de Janeiro 1979

General policy on public information[1]

Congress,

Considering
a the key role that information can play in enabling governments clearly to perceive the importance of the Post;
b the urgent need for postal administrations to maintain an open and systematic policy on information in their relations with the public for the sake of the future welfare of the Post,

Considering further
a that the general policy on public information decided on by the Tokyo Congress in resolution C 11 is still valid;
b that the range of the International Bureau's activities in this area meets the present and foreseeable needs of the Union,

Confirms

resolution C 11 of the Tokyo Congress,

Instructs

the International Bureau, subject to Executive Council approval, to intensify its present information activities in accordance with the aforesaid resolution C 11 and within the annual ceilings imposed by Congress,

Invites

the CCPS to include public information policy among the various aspects of the future development of the Post which it has been instructed to deal with and to report periodically to the administrations of the Union.

(Documents of the 1979 Rio De Janeiro Congress – volume II: pages 973 to 980, 1246 to 1248)

[1] See resolutions C 11/Tokyo 1969 and C 32/Hamburg 1984.

Resolution C 32/Hamburg 1984

Word Post Day[1]

Congress,

In view of
the role played by information in the effort to convince governments and the public of the importance of the Post,

Taking into account
a resolution C 11 of the 1969 Tokyo Congress recommending that 9 October (the anniversary of the founding of the Union) each year be observed as UPU Day;
b the contribution which the postal administrations of member countries should make to the implementation of the Union's information activities by making their own information media available to it,

Considering
a that the title "UPU Day" might not have the desired impact on the authorities and the public, to whom the information campaign on behalf of the Post is directed;
b that a title for this Day containing the word "Post" would be more likely to increase awareness,

Decides

a to change the title "UPU Day" to "World Post Day";
b to observe 9 October each year as "World Post Day",

Requests

the member countries of the Union to celebrate this Day and to take advantage of it (and of International Letter-Writing Week in which 9 October falls) to familiarize the authorities and the public with the Universal Postal Union's aims and work, with the Post's vital role in the social, cultural and economic development of countries and with the various services made available to the public, by postal administrations,

Instructs

the Executive Council to choose the theme of World Post Day each year, on the proposal of the Director-General of the International Bureau,

Instructs

the International Bureau of the UPU:
a to communicate the theme chosen by the Executive Council to the postal administrations of member countries;
b to take the necessary action with a view to organizing this Day at world level, highlighting in particular the role of the UPU;
c to coordinate the activities to be conducted by postal administrations in celebrating the Day in question.

(Documents of the 1984 Hamburg Congress – volume II: pages 158, 159, 178, 601)

[1] See recommendations C 13/Ottawa 1957 and C 5/Vienna 1964, resolutions C 11/Tokyo 1969, C 101/Rio de Janeiro 1979, CE 7/1971.