

## CHAPTER III General Provisions

### ARTICLE 22

#### **Telecommunication as a Public Service**

The Contracting Governments recognize the right of the public to correspond by means of the international service of public correspondence. The service, charges and safeguards shall be the same for all senders, without any priority or preference whatsoever not provided for by the Convention or the Regulations annexed to it.

### ARTICLE 23

#### **Responsibility**

The Contracting Governments declare that they accept no responsibility towards users of the international telecommunication service.

### ARTICLE 24

#### **Secrecy of Telecommunication**

1. The Contracting Governments undertake to adopt all possible measures, compatible with the system of telecommunication used, to ensure the secrecy of international correspondence.

2. Nevertheless, they reserve to themselves the right to communicate international correspondence to the competent authorities in order to ensure the application of their internal legislation, or the execution of international conventions to which the Governments concerned are parties.

### ARTICLE 25

#### **Formation, Working and Protection of Installations and Channels of Telecommunication**

1. The Contracting Governments provide, in agreement with the other Contracting Governments concerned, and under the best technical conditions, the channels and installations necessary to ensure the rapid and uninterrupted exchange of telecommunication in the international service.

2. So far as possible these channels and installations must be operated according to the best methods and arrangements which practical experience of the service has made known and must be maintained in constant working order and kept abreast of scientific and technical progress.

3. The Contracting Governments ensure the protection of these channels and installations within their respective spheres of action.

4. Each Contracting Government provides and maintains at its own expense—in the absence of special arrangements fixing other conditions—the sections of international conductors included within the territorial limits of its country.