

ARTICLE 16.

Standing Orders of Congresses.

Each Congress draws up the standing orders for its work and deliberations.

ARTICLE 17.

Conferences.

Conferences for the consideration of purely administrative questions may be held at the request or with the assent of at least two-thirds of the Administrations of the Union.

They are convened after arrangement with the International Bureau.

Each Conference draws up its own standing orders.

ARTICLE 18.

Committees.

Committees charged by a Congress or a Conference with the examination of one or more particular questions are convened by the International Bureau after arrangement with the Administration of the country where these Committees are to sit.

CHAPTER III.

Proposals made between Meetings.

ARTICLE 19.

Introduction of Proposals.

In the interval between meetings, any Administration has the right to address to the other Administrations, through the medium of the International Bureau, proposals concerning the Convention, its Final Protocol and its Detailed Regulations.

The same right is accorded to the Administrations of the countries participating in the Agreements so far as these Agreements, their Detailed Regulations and the Final Protocols are concerned.

In order to be considered, every proposal introduced by an Administration in the interval between meetings must be supported by at least two other Administrations. A proposal lapses when the International Bureau does not receive, at the same time as the proposal, the necessary number of declarations of support.

ARTICLE 20.

Examination of Proposals.

Every proposal is subject to the following procedure :

A period of six months is allowed to Administrations to examine the proposal and to communicate their observations, if any, to the International Bureau. Amendments are not admitted. The answers are collected by the International Bureau, and communicated to the Administrations, with an invitation to declare themselves for or against. Administrations which have not notified their vote within a period of six months are considered as abstaining. The periods quoted above are calculated from the date of the circulars from the International Bureau.

If the proposal concerns an Agreement, its Detailed Regulations or the Final Protocol of either, only the Administrations which have adhered to that Agreement may take part in the procedure indicated above.