

ARTICLE 179.

General Balance Sheet.

1. The International Bureau combines the tables and the summaries in one general balance sheet showing:

- (a) the total of the Debit and of the Credit of each Administration;
- (b) the debit or credit balance of each Administration;
- (c) the sums to be paid by the debtor Administrations and the division of the sums among the creditor Administrations.

2. As far as possible, it takes care that each Administration, in order to settle its debts, shall have to make only one or two distinct payments.

3. Nevertheless, an Administration which habitually finds a sum exceeding 50,000 francs owing to it from another has the right to claim remittances on account.

4. These remittances on account are entered, both by the creditor Administration and by the debtor Administration, at the foot of the statements to be forwarded to the International Bureau.

5. The acknowledgments forwarded to the International Bureau with the tables are classified by Administrations. They serve as the basis for preparing and settling the accounts of each of the Administrations concerned. In this settlement there must appear:

- (a) the sums relating to the special accounts concerning the different services;
- (b) the total of the sums resulting from all the special accounts relating to each of the Administrations concerned;
- (c) the totals of the sums due to all the creditor Administrations on account of each branch of the service, as well as their general total. This total must be equal to the total of the Debit which appears in the summary.

6. At the foot of the settlement account, a balance is struck between the Debit and the Credit resulting from the statements forwarded by the Administrations to the International Bureau. The net amount of the Debit or of the Credit must be equal to the debit balance or to the credit balance carried into the general balance sheet. Moreover, the settlement account indicates the Administrations to which payment must be made by the debtor Administration.

7. The settlement accounts must be forwarded by the International Bureau to the Administrations concerned not later than the 22nd of each month.

ARTICLE 180.

Payment.

1. Payment of the sums due, under a settlement account, from one Administration to another must be made as soon as possible and at the latest a fortnight after receipt of the settlement account by the debtor Administration. The provisions of Article 163, § 1, are applicable as regards other conditions of payment. The provisions of § 6 of that Article are applicable to cases on non-payment of the balance within the fixed period.

2. Debit or credit balances not exceeding 500 francs may be carried forward to the settlement of the following month, provided, however, that the Administrations concerned are in monthly communication with the International Bureau.