

4. Mails are enclosed in bags properly closed, sealed with wax or lead and labelled. When string is used, it must be passed twice round the neck before being tied. The impressions on the wax or lead seals must reproduce, in very legible Roman characters, the name of the office of origin or an indication sufficient to identify this office.

5. The labels of the bags must be of linen, strong cardboard, parchment, or of paper gummed to a wooden block; in relations between neighbouring offices strong paper labels may be used. The labels are made in the following colours:

- (a) vermilion, for bags containing registered articles;
- (b) white, for bags containing only unregistered letters and postcards;
- (c) light blue, for bags containing exclusively unregistered other articles;
- (d) green, for bags containing only empty bags being returned to origin.

6. In the absence of notification to the contrary by the Administrations of the countries of transit or of destination, white labels bearing on both sides an oblique band two centimetres wide of the colour appropriate to the contents of the bag may also be used.

7. Bags containing mixed unregistered correspondence (letters, postcards and other articles) must be furnished with the white label.

8. The use of vermilion, white and light blue labels is obligatory; on the other hand, green labels are used only if the Administration of the country of destination requires it.

9. The labels bear the name of the despatching office printed in small Roman characters, and the name of the office of destination in large Roman characters, preceded respectively by the words "*de*" and "*pour*." In exchanges between distant countries, which are not made by direct sea services, these indications are completed by the mention of the date of despatch, the number of the mail, and, where appropriate, the port of disembarkation if the Administration concerned asks for it.

10. The bags must indicate legibly in Roman characters the office or country of origin, and bear the mention "*Postes*" or some similar expression showing them to be mails.

11. Intermediate offices must not enter any serial number on the labels of bags or packets of closed mails in transit.

12. In the absence of an arrangement to the contrary, mails of small size or "*Nil*" mails are simply wrapped in strong paper so as to prevent damage to the contents, then tied with string and sealed with wax or lead. If sealed with lead seals, these mails must be made up so that the string cannot be detached. When they contain only unregistered correspondence they may be secured by means of gummed seals bearing the printed indication of the despatching office or Administration. The addresses of the packets must comply, as regards the printed indications and the colours, with the rules laid down in §§ 4 to 11 for the labels of bags of correspondence.

13. When the number or bulk of the mails necessitates the use of more than one bag, separate bags must, as far as possible, be employed:

- (a) for letters and postcards;
- (b) for other articles; if necessary separate bags must further be used for small packets; the labels of these bags bear the words "*Petits paquets*."