

PART I

Universal Postal Union

CHAPTER I

Organization and Extent of the Union

ARTICLE 1

Constitution of the Union

The countries between which the present Convention is concluded form, under the title of the Universal Postal Union, a single postal territory for the reciprocal exchange of correspondence. It is also the object of the Postal Union to secure the organization and improvement of the various international postal services.

ARTICLE 2

New Adhesions. Procedure

Any country is allowed at any time to adhere to the Convention.

A request for adhesion must be notified diplomatically to the Government of the Swiss Confederation, and by the latter to the Governments of all the countries of the Union.

ARTICLE 3

Convention and Agreements of the Union

The letter post is governed by the provisions of the Convention.

Other services, such as those relating to insured letters and boxes, postal parcels, money orders, transfers to and from postal cheque accounts, collection of bills, drafts, etc., and subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals, form the subject of Agreements between countries of the Union.

These Agreements are binding only upon the countries which have adhered to them.

Adhesion to one or more of these Agreements is subject to the provisions of the foregoing Article.

ARTICLE 4

Detailed Regulations

The Administrations of the Union draw up, by mutual agreement, in the form of Detailed Regulations, the detailed rules necessary for the carrying out of the Convention and the Agreements.

ARTICLE 5

Special Treaties and Agreements. Restricted Unions

1. Countries of the Union have the right to maintain and to conclude treaties, as well as to maintain and to establish restricted Unions, with a view to the reduction of postage rates or to any other improvement of postal relations.