

The UPU functions through the Universal Postal Congress, an Executive and Liaison Committee, a Consultative Committee on Postal Studies and an International Bureau. The Universal Postal Congress is the supreme authority of the UPU and meets every five years to review the Universal Postal Convention and its subsidiary instruments. The last revision of the Convention was made at the fourteenth Congress which was held in Ottawa in 1957; and the Acts of that Congress came into effect on April 1, 1959. The fifteenth Congress is to meet in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1962.

The Executive and Liaison Committee consists of 20 members elected by the Congress on a geographical basis and meets annually to ensure continuity of the UPU's work between congresses, maintain relations with postal administrations and international organizations, exercise control over the International Bureau and make recommendations to the Congress. At the Ottawa Congress, Canada was elected to the Executive and Liaison Committee. Mr. G. A. Boyle, Deputy Postmaster General of Canada, attended its meetings in May 1959 as one of its vice-presidents. At this meeting, the Committee (enlarged) gave consideration among various matters to a general revision of the Convention to bring together in one document which would be of a permanent nature, not subject to signature and ratification at each congress, the constitutional articles now dispersed throughout the Convention, in accordance with a resolution adopted at the Ottawa Congress.

The Consultative Committee on Postal Studies, which is open to all UPU members was established by the Ottawa Congress to carry out studies and give advice on technical matters of interest to postal services. Its Management Council consists of 20 members and meets annually to direct and co-ordinate the work of the Committee.

The International Bureau is the UPU's permanent secretariat. It co-ordinates and publishes information on postal matters, keeps member postal administrations informed of the results of UPU inquiries and of developments in other countries and acts as the clearing-house for the settlement of accounts of member nations relating to the international postal service.

As host country to the fourteenth Congress in 1957, Canada acts as the depositary power for the UPU until the next Congress. Its responsibilities include the certification and forwarding of the Acts of the Congress to other member countries, the safekeeping of credentials of the delegates who attended the Congress, the receipt and safekeeping of ratifications, and notification to other member countries of the deposit of such ratifications. Until April 1, 1959 it received requests for adherence to the Convention and other Acts of the Congress in the case of member states which did not attend the Congress or were not represented at it.

International Telecommunication Union

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) with headquarters in Geneva traces its origin to the International Telegraph Convention of 1865 and the International Radio Telegraph Convention of 1906. The members of these two bodies met simultaneously at Madrid in 1932 and concluded a single International Telecommunication Convention regulating telegraph, telephone and radio services. This Convention established the ITU which was later organized in its present form by the Atlantic City Convention of October 2, 1947. Canada was a party to the 1906 convention signed at Berlin and has been a member of this organization and its successor ever since. The purpose of the ITU is to maintain and extend international