

4. Countries prepared to undertake risks arising from causes beyond control are authorized to collect a special charge of 40 centimes at most for each registered article.

5. Unpaid or insufficiently prepaid registered articles which have been incorrectly forwarded to the country of destination are, in case of delivery, charged in accordance with the rules laid down for unregistered articles unpaid or insufficiently prepaid.

ARTICLE 53

Advice of Delivery

The sender of a registered article may obtain an advice of delivery by paying, at the time of posting, a fixed fee of 40 centimes at most.

An advice of delivery may be applied for after the posting of the article within the period and on payment of the fee prescribed for enquiries by Article 51.

ARTICLE 54

Responsibility

Except in the cases provided for in the following Article, Administrations are responsible for the loss of registered articles.

The sender is entitled, in respect of the loss, to compensation, of which the amount is fixed at 50 francs per article.

ARTICLE 55

Exceptions in Respect of Responsibility

Administrations are relieved from all responsibility for the loss of registered articles

- (a) in circumstances beyond control; the responsibility, however, still attaches to the Administration of origin if it has undertaken to cover risks arising from causes beyond control (Article 52, § 4). The country responsible for the loss must decide, according to its internal legislation, if the loss is due to circumstances constituting causes beyond control;
- (b) which they cannot account for in consequence of the destruction of official documents through a cause beyond control;
- (c) of which the contents fall within the prohibitions specified in Article 45, § 1;
- (d) when the sender has not made any application within the period prescribed by Article 51.

ARTICLE 56

Cessation of Responsibility

Administrations cease to be responsible for registered articles which have been delivered under the conditions prescribed by their internal regulations.

For articles addressed "*poste restante*," or held at the disposal of the addressees, responsibility ceases on delivery to a person who has proved his identity according to the rules in force in the country of destination, and whose name and description correspond to those indicated in the address.

ARTICLE 57

Payment of Compensation

The payment of the compensation must be undertaken by the Office to which the despatching office is subordinate, subject to its right to make a claim on the Office responsible.