

4. The payments of transit charges applicable to the period from the month of September 1939 to the 31st of December 1948 will be effected on the basis of the actual weight of the mails conveyed under conditions settled by special agreements between the countries concerned. The statistics of May 1949 will apply to the years 1949 and 1950; those of October-November 1952 to the years 1951, 1952 and 1953.

5. The annual payments of transit charges to be made under each set of statistics must be continued provisionally, until the accounts prepared according to the next statistics are approved or regarded as fully accepted (Article 161 below). The adjustment of the provisional payments is then made.

6. When an important modification takes place in the circulation of correspondence from one country to another, and if this modification affects a period or periods amounting to a total of 12 months at least each, each Administration concerned may demand a revision of the transit accounts. In that case the sums to be paid by the despatching Administrations are determined according to the use, actually made of the intermediate services; but the total weights which are the basis for the new accounts must normally be the same as those of the mails despatched during the statistical period mentioned in §§ 1 to 3. When an agreement cannot be reached as to the method of division, special statistics must be taken to settle the distribution of these weights among the various services used. No modification in the circulation of correspondence for a particular country is considered important unless it affects by more than 5,000 francs per annum the accounts between the Administration of origin and the intermediate Administration concerned. If the modification exceeds this sum, it affects the payments made by the Administration of origin to the Administrations which effected the transit before and after the modification took place, even though in the case of certain Administrations, the reduction in the accounts does not attain the fixed minimum. The request for a revision of the accounts and, if necessary, for special statistics may be made when the modification in the circulation of the correspondence in question has lasted at least nine months. But the results of these statistics are only taken into consideration if the period of twelve months is actually completed.

7. If, after special statistics, it is shown that the total weights of the mails exchanged between two Administrations and carried by a third Administration have increased by 100 per cent. or decreased by 50 per cent. as compared with the results of the last statistical period and that the accounts of the third Administration would show on this head a modification of more than 5,000 francs a year, the new ascertained weights must form the basis of the transit charges due to that Administration.

8. In the same way, when an intermediate Administration ascertains, during the six months which follow the statistics, that between the despatches made by another Administration during the statistical period and the normal traffic there is a difference of at least 20 per cent. in the total weight conveyed, the Administration concerned may demand the taking of new statistics if the accounts between two Administrations are affected by a modification of more than 5,000 francs a year.

ARTICLE 153.

Make-up and Description of Closed Mails during a Statistical Period.

1. During each statistical period, separate bags for "letters and postcards" and for "other articles" are used for the exchange of correspondence in closed mails between two Administrations across the territory or by means of the services of one or more other Administrations.