

CHAPTER II

Accounting. Settlement of Accounts

ARTICLE 70

Accounting for Transit Charges

1. For the preparation of the transit accounts, the light, medium and heavy bags, as defined in Article 62 above, are reckoned as being of the average weight of 4, 12 and 24 kilogrammes respectively.

2. The weight of the closed mails, the number of articles forwarded à *découvert* and, if necessary, the number of bags warehoused in a port are multiplied by 26 or 13 as the case may be, and the products thus obtained serve as the basis of special accounts determining in francs the yearly payments due to each Office.

In cases where the multiplier 26 or 13 does not correspond to the normal traffic exchanged by a service, the Administrations concerned come to an agreement for the adoption of another multiplier, which holds good during the years to which the statistics apply.

The duty of preparing the accounts devolves on the creditor Office, which forwards them to the debtor Office.

3. In order to take into account the weight of the bags and packing and of the classes of correspondence exempt from all transit charges in accordance with the terms of Article 75 of the Convention, the total amount of the account for closed mails is reduced by 10 per cent.

4. The detailed accounts are prepared in duplicate on the basis of the statements C 17, C 19 and C 21 on Forms C 18, C 20 and C 22. They are forwarded to the Office of origin as soon as possible, and, at the latest, within a period of 10 months following the close of the statistical period.

5. If the Office which has sent the detailed account has received no notice of amendments within an interval of 4 months, reckoning from the date of despatch, the account is regarded as fully accepted.

ARTICLE 71

General Annual Liquidation Account. Functions of the International Bureau

1. In the absence of any understanding to the contrary between the Administrations concerned, the general liquidation account, consisting of transit and warehousing charges, is prepared annually by the International Bureau.

2. As soon as the detailed accounts between two Administrations are approved or regarded as fully accepted (§ 5 of the preceding Article), each of these Administrations forwards without delay to the International Bureau a statement (Form C 23 annexed) indicating the total amounts of these accounts. On receipt of a statement from an Administration, the International Bureau gives notice of its receipt to the other Administration concerned.

Centimes are ignored in the balance.

In case of difference between the corresponding items furnished by two Administrations, the International Bureau invites them to come to an agreement, and to communicate to it the sums definitely agreed upon.

When one only of the Administrations has furnished the statement C 23, the amounts indicated by this Administration hold good, unless the corresponding statement of the Administration which was in arrear reaches the International Bureau in time for the preparation of the next general annual liquidation account.