

ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION¹

The Plenipotentiaries of the Governments of the Member Countries of the Universal Postal Union, met in Congress at Tokyo, in view of Article 30, § 2, of the Constitution of the Universal Postal Union concluded at Vienna on 10 July 1964 have adopted, subject to ratification, the following amendments to that Constitution.

Article I

(Article 8 amended)

Restricted Unions. Special Agreements

1. Member Countries or their postal administrations, if the legislation of those countries so permits, may establish Restricted Unions and make Special Agreements concerning the international postal service, provided always that they do not introduce provisions less favourable to the public than those provided for by the Acts to which the Member Countries concerned are parties.
2. Restricted Unions may send observers to Congresses, Conferences and meetings of the Union, to the Executive Council and to the Consultative Council for Postal Studies.
3. The Union may send observers to Congresses, Conferences and meetings of Restricted Unions.

Article II

(Article 11 amended)

Accession or admission to the Union. Procedure

1. Any member of the United Nations may accede to the Union.
2. Any sovereign country which is not a member of the United Nations may apply for admission as a member country of the Union.
3. Accession or application for admission to the Union shall entail a formal declaration of accession to the Constitution and to the compulsory Acts of the Union. It shall be addressed through diplomatic channels to the Government of the Swiss Confederation, which shall notify the accession or consult the member countries on the application for admission, as the case may be.
4. A country which is not a member of the United Nations shall be deemed to be admitted as a Member Country if its application is approved by at least two-thirds of the Member Countries of the Union. Member Countries which have not replied within a period of four months shall be considered to have abstained.
5. Accession or admission to membership shall be notified by the Government of the Swiss Confederation to the Governments of Member Countries. It shall take effect from the date of such notification.

¹ The Constitution of the Universal Postal Union was drawn up by the 1964 Vienna Congress.

Article III**(Article 13 amended)****The Union's bodies**

1. The Union's bodies shall be Congress, Administrative Conferences, the Executive Council, the Consultative Council for Postal Studies, Special Committees and the International Bureau.

2. The Union's permanent bodies shall be the Executive Council, the Consultative Council for Postal Studies and the International Bureau.

Article IV**(Article 18 amended)****Consultative Council for Postal Studies**

The Consultative Council for Postal Studies (CCPS) shall carry out studies and give opinions on technical, operational and economic questions concerning the postal service.

Article V**(Article 21 amended)****Expenditure of the Union. Contributions of Member Countries.**

1. Each Congress shall fix the maximum amount which:

- (a) the expenditure of the Union may reach annually;
- (b) the expenditure relating to the organization of the next Congress may reach.

2. The maximum amount for expenditure referred to in § 1 may be exceeded if circumstances so require, provided that the relevant provisions of the General Regulations are observed.

3. The expenses of the Union, including where applicable the expenditure envisaged in § 2, shall be jointly borne by the Member Countries of the Union. For this purpose, each Member Country shall be classed by Congress in one of the contribution classes, the number of which shall be determined by the General Regulations.

4. In the case of accession or admission to the Union under Article 11, the Government of the Swiss Confederation shall fix, by agreement with the Government of the country concerned, the contribution class into which the latter country is to be placed for the purpose of apportioning the expenses of the Union.

Article VI**(Article 26 amended)****Notification of ratifications and other forms of approval of the Acts of the Union**

The instruments of ratification of the Constitution and, where appropriate, of approval of the other Acts of the Union shall be deposited as soon as possible with the Government of the Swiss Confederation which shall notify the Member Countries of these deposits.

Article VII

Accession to the Additional Protocol and to the other Acts of the Union

1. Member Countries which have not signed the present Protocol may accede to it at any time.
2. Member Countries which are party to the Acts renewed by Congress but which have not signed them, shall accede thereto as soon as possible.
3. Instruments of accession relative to the cases set forth in §§ 1 and 2 shall be sent through diplomatic channels to the Government of the country in which the seat of the Union is situated, which shall notify the Member Countries of these deposits.

Article VIII

Entry into force of the Additional Protocol to the Constitution of the Universal Postal Union

This Additional Protocol shall come into force on 1 July 1971, with the exception of Article V which shall come into force on 1 January 1971, and shall remain in force for an indefinite period.

In witness whereof the Plenipotentiaries of the Governments of the Member Countries have drawn up this Additional Protocol, which shall have the same force and the same validity as if its provisions were inserted in the text of the Constitution itself and they have signed it in a single original which shall be deposited in the Archives of the Government of the country in which the seat of the Union is situated. A copy thereof shall be delivered to each party by the Government of the country in which Congress is held.

Done at Tokyo, 14 November 1969.