

Telephone Regulations (1973 : Geneva, Switzerland)

Extracts of the publication :

Final Acts of the World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference (Geneva, 1973).
Geneva : International Telecommunication Union, 1973.

Notes :

1. This PDF contains the following sections of the publication *Final Acts of the World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference (Geneva, 1973)*:
 - Table of Contents
 - Telephone Regulations
 - Appendices
 - Errata
2. The extracts have been prepared by the ITU Library and Archives Service from the original printed text.

Table of Contents

Telegraph Regulations

Art. 1	Purpose of the Telegraph Regulations	3
Art. 2	Definitions	4
Art. 3	International System	5
Art. 4	Services offered to users	5
Art. 5	General operating provisions for telegrams	7
Art. 6	Stoppage of telegrams	9
Art. 7	Archives	10
Art. 8	Accounting rates for telegrams	10
Art. 9	Collection charges for telegrams	11
Art. 10	Prohibition of rebates for telegrams	12
Art. 11	Accounting	12
Art. 12	Reimbursements of telegram charges	13
Art. 13	Completion of the Regulations	14
Art. 14	Annex and Appendices	15
Art. 15	Entry into force of the Regulations	15
	Signatures to the Telegraph Regulations	16
App. 1	Payment of Balances of Accounts	49
App. 2	General Secretariat — Reciprocal communications	53
	Annex	55

Telephone Regulations

Art. 1	Purpose of the Telephone Regulations	61
Art. 2	Definitions	62
Art. 3	International system	62
Art. 4	Services offered to users	63
Art. 5	Operating methods	64

Art. 6	Accounting rates	64
Art. 7	Collection charges	65
Art. 8	Accounting	65
Art. 9	Completion of the Regulations	67
Art. 10	Appendices	68
Art. 11	Entry into force of the Regulations	68
App. 1	Payment of balances of accounts	69
App. 2	General Secretariat — Reciprocal communications	73

Final Protocol

I	United States of America	77
II	United States of America	78
III	Algeria (Algerian Democratic and Popular Republic) .	78
IV	Jamaica	79
V	Libyan Arab Republic	79
VI	Mexico	79
VII	Socialist Republic of Roumania	80
VIII	Somali Democratic Republic	80
IX	Democratic Republic of the Sudan	80
X	Bielorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, People's Republic of Bulgaria, Hungarian People's Republic, People's Republic of Poland, German Democratic Republic, Ukrai- nian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	81
XI	People's Republic of China	81
XII	People's Republic of Albania	82

XIII	Socialist Republic of Roumania	82
XIV	Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	83
XV	Republic of Viet-Nam	83
XVI	Algeria (Algerian Democratic and Popular Republic), United Republic of Cameroon, Central African Republic, People's Republic of the Congo, Republic of Dahomey, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libyan Arab Republic, Malagasy Republic, Republic of Mali, Kingdom of Morocco, Federal Republic of Nigeria, Uganda, Republic of the Senegal, Somali Democratic Republic, Democratic Republic of the Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, Togolese Republic, Tunisia	83
XVII	Bielorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, People's Republic of Bulgaria, Hungarian People's Republic, People's Republic of Poland, German Democratic Republic, Ukrai- nian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	84

Resolutions, Recommendations, Opinions

Res.No. 1	Instructions for the operation of the international public telegram service	87
Res.No. 2	Revised terminal and transit rates for telegrams	90
Res.No. 3	Telex operation and tariff principles	91
Res.No. 4	Official service documents to be published by the General Secretariat	92
Res.No. 5	Official service documents to be published by the General Secretariat	94
Res.No. 6	Participation of the Government of the Republic of South Africa in I.T.U. conferences and assemblies	95

Rec. No. 1	Payment of balances of accounts	97
Rec. No. 2	Routing of outgoing telephone traffic	98
Rec. No. 3	United Nations telephone calls in exceptional circumstances	98
Opinion No. 1	Telegram, telephone and telex franking privileges for delegates and representatives at conferences and meetings of the I.T.U.	101
Opinion No. 2	Interpretation of the Radio Regulations and Additional Radio Regulations	104
Opinion No. 3	Interpretation of the Radio Regulations and Additional Radio Regulations	105

TELEPHONE REGULATIONS

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Telephone Regulations

Article 1

Purpose of the Telephone Regulations

1 1.(1) The Telephone Regulations lay down the general principles to be observed in the international telephone service.

(2) In implementing the principles of the Regulations, Administrations*) should comply with the C.C.I.T.T. Recommendations, including any Instructions forming part of those Recommendations, on any matters not covered by the Regulations.

2 2. These Regulations shall apply regardless of the means of transmission used, so far as the Radio Regulations and the Additional Radio Regulations do not provide otherwise.

*) or recognized private operating agency(ies)

Article 2

Definitions

International route

An international route comprises the circuits to be used for telecommunication traffic between two international terminal exchanges or offices.

Accounting rate

The accounting rate is the rate agreed between Administrations*) in a given relation which is used for the establishment of international accounts.

Collection charge

The collection charge is the charge established and collected by Administrations*) from its customers for the use of the international telecommunication service.

Instructions

Instructions consist of a Recommendation (or a group of Recommendations) prepared by the C.C.I.T.T. and dealing with practical procedure for operation and rate-fixing, which may be published in the form of a separate manual and made available to Administrations and recognized private operating agencies for use by their operational services.

Article 3

International system

3 1. All Administrations*) shall promote the provision of telephone service on a world-wide scale and shall endeavour to extend the international service to their national network.

*) or recognized private operating agency(ies)

- 4 2. Administrations*) shall designate the exchanges in the territory they serve which are to be regarded as international exchanges.
- 5 3. The circuits and installations provided for the international telephone service shall be sufficient to meet all requirements of the service.
- 6 4. Administrations*) shall cooperate in the establishment, operation and maintenance of the circuits and installations used for the international telephone service to ensure the best possible quality of service.
- 7 5. The Administrations*) shall determine by mutual agreement which routes are to be used.¹⁾

Article 4

Services offered to users

- 8 1. Administrations*) shall determine by mutual agreement the classes of calls, special facilities and special transmissions using telephone circuits to be admitted in their reciprocal international telephone relations observing the provisions of Articles 39 and 40 of the Convention (Montreux, 1965). To this end, the Administrations may conclude bilateral or regional agreements with a view to improving services available to users.
- 9 2. Administrations*) shall determine by mutual agreement the conditions under which they place international telephone-type circuits at the exclusive disposal of users for an appropriate charge in those relations where telephone-type circuits remain available after the needs of the public telecommunication services have been satisfied.

*) or recognized private operating agency(ies)

¹⁾ Pending mutual agreement, see Recommendation No. 2 concerning the treatment of outgoing traffic.

Article 5

Operating methods

10 Administrations*) shall agree among themselves upon the operating methods best suited to the needs of the international relations which concern them, taking account of the conditions and the possibilities of operation.

Article 6

Accounting rates

11 1. Accounting rates shall be made up of terminal rates and any transit rates.

12 2. Administrations*) shall fix their terminal and transit rates.

13 3. However, Administrations*) may by agreement fix the overall accounting rate applicable in a given relation and may divide that rate into terminal shares payable to the Administrations*) of terminal countries, and where appropriate, into transit shares payable to the Administrations*) of transit countries.

14 4. If no agreement as mentioned in **13** is reached, the overall accounting rate shall be determined in accordance with **11** and **12** above.

*) or recognized private operating agency(ies)

15 5. When an Administration*) has acquired the right to utilize, by lease or by other arrangement, a part of the circuits and/or installations of another Administration*), the former shall fix the rate as mentioned in 11 and 12 above for this part of the relation. Similarly, under the provisions of 13 above, the share of the overall accounting rate for this part shall accrue to the Administration*) which has acquired the right to utilize the circuits and/or installations of another Administration*). The same provisions apply when several Administrations*) have jointly acquired the right to utilize a part of the circuits and/or installations of another Administration*).

Article 7

Collection charges

16 1. Each Administration*) shall, subject to the applicable national law, fix the charges to be collected from its customers. In so doing, Administrations*) should make every effort to avoid too large a dissymmetry between the charges applicable in each direction of the same relation.

17 2. The charge to the customer for a call should in principle be the same, in a given relation, regardless of the route used.

Article 8

Accounting¹⁾

18 1. Unless otherwise agreed, the Administration*) responsible for collecting the charges shall establish a monthly account showing all the amounts due and send it to the Administrations*) concerned.

*) or recognized private operating agency(ies)

¹⁾ See also Appendix I.

19 2. The accounts shall be sent as promptly as possible but in any case before the end of the third month following that to which they relate.

20 3. In principle an account shall be considered as accepted without the need for specific notification of acceptance to the Administration*) which sent it.

21 4. However, any Administration*) shall have the right to question the contents of an account for a period of two months after the receipt of the account but only to the extent necessary to bring the differences within mutually agreed limits.

22 5. The payment of the balance due on an account shall not be delayed pending settlement of any query on that account. Adjustments which are later agreed shall be included in a subsequent account.

23 6. In relations where specific agreements do not exist, a quarterly settlement statement showing the balances from the monthly accounts for the period to which it relates shall be prepared as quickly as possible by the creditor Administration*) and be sent in duplicate to the debtor Administration*) which, after verification, shall return one of the copies endorsed with its acceptance.

24 7. Payments shall be effected as promptly as possible but in no case later than six weeks after the day on which the quarterly settlement statement is received by the debtor Administration*). Beyond this period, the creditor Administration*) shall have the right to charge interest at the rate of 6% per annum, reckoned from the day following the date of expiration of the said period.

*) or recognized private operating agency(ies)

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 9

Completion of the Regulations

25 1. These Regulations may in pursuance of Resolution No. 37 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Montreux, 1965), be completed by a further Appendix, which shall form an integral part of these Regulations, containing:

- such provisions, if any, as the 1974 Maritime World Administrative Radio Conference may deem necessary to incorporate in these Regulations;
- such provisions of the Radio Regulations and Additional Radio Regulations (1971 Revision) as the said Conference may see fit to transfer;
- any amendment to these provisions or any new provisions of the Radio Regulations or of the Additional Radio Regulations adopted by the 1974 Maritime World Administrative Radio Conference.

26 2. However, no provision so transferred by the Maritime World Administrative Radio Conference and embodied in the Appendix referred to in **25** shall in any way be construed to amend or alter any provision contained in these Regulations and, in the event of any conflict, these Regulations shall overrule such provision.

Article 10

Appendices

27 The Telephone Regulations are completed by Appendices 1 and 2, which form an integral part of these Regulations.

Article 11

Entry into force of the Regulations

28 1. These Regulations shall enter into force on 1 September 1974, with the exception of the Appendix, if any, referred to in **25** which shall enter into force on such a date as the 1974 Maritime World Administrative Radio Conference shall determine.

29 2. In signing these Regulations, the respective delegates declare that if an Administration makes reservations with regard to the application of one or more of the provisions thereof, other Administrations shall be free to disregard the said provision or provisions in their relations with the Administration which has made such reservations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the respective delegates have signed these Regulations in a single copy which, together with the Appendix referred to in **25**, shall remain deposited in the archives of the International Telecommunication Union, which shall forward a certified copy to each of the signatory countries.

Done at Geneva, 11 April 1973.

(The signatures following these Regulations are the same as those which follow the Telegraph Regulations)

APPENDIX 1

Payment of balances of accounts

In the absence of special arrangements between Administrations and/or recognized private operating agencies, the currencies used for the payment of balances of international telecommunication accounts — which pursuant to the International Telecommunication Convention (Montreux, 1965) are required to be drawn up in gold francs — and the methods of conversion into such currencies shall be as follows:

1. The payment of balances of international telecommunication accounts shall be made in the currency selected by the creditor after consultation with the debtor. If there is disagreement the choice of the creditor shall prevail in all cases subject to the provisions in 6.1. If the creditor does not specify a currency the choice shall rest with the debtor.

2. The amount of the payment, as determined hereafter, in the selected currency shall be equivalent in value to the balance of the account.

3. If the balance of the account is expressed in gold francs, the amount of the selected currency which is equivalent in value to that balance shall be determined by the relationship in effect on the day before payment between the value of the gold franc and:

- a) the gold par value of the selected currency approved by the International Monetary Fund (hereafter designated as I.M.F.). If, however, a central rate of the selected currency has been established under I.M.F. Executive Board decision subsequent to the approval given by the I.M.F. to the gold par value, the gold value of that central rate shall be used in determining the equivalent value. (See Note, page 72);

- b) or the gold par value of the selected currency fixed unilaterally by the appropriate Government or official issuing authority (hereafter designated as fixed unilaterally). If, however, a central rate of the selected currency has been established unilaterally subsequent to the unilateral fixing of a gold par value, the gold value of that central rate shall be used in determining the equivalent value. (See Note, page 72).

3.1 If the selected currency does not have a value of the kind shown in 3, or if the margins recognized by the Articles or Executive Board decisions of the I.M.F. 3 a), or established beforehand by the appropriate Government or issuing authority 3 b) are not being observed, the equivalent value of the selected currency shall be determined by its relationship on the official or generally accepted foreign exchange market, as provided in 6, to another currency with a value of the kind shown in 3.

4. If the balance of the account is expressed in a currency other than gold francs and the selected currency is the same as the currency of the balance of the account, the amount of the selected currency for payment shall be the amount of the balance of the account.

5. If the balance of the account is expressed in a currency other than gold francs and the selected currency for payment is different from the currency in which the balance is expressed, the amount of the selected currency for payment shall be determined by relating the gold value of the currency of the balance of the account to the gold value of the selected currency by reference to their respective values as in 3.

5.1 If either or both of the currencies mentioned in 5 do not have a value of the kind shown in 3, or if the margins recognized by the Articles or Executive Board decisions of the I.M.F. or established beforehand by the appropriate Government or issuing authority are not being observed, the equivalent value of one currency to the other shall be determined by their relationship on the official or generally accepted foreign exchange market, as provided in 6.

6. For the purpose of determining the official or generally accepted foreign exchange market equivalent referred to in 3.1 and 5.1, the rate used shall be the closing rate for currency which can be used in the majority of merchandise trade transactions for spot delivery cable transfers in the official or generally accepted foreign exchange market of the main financial centre of the debtor country on the day prior to payment or the most recent rate quoted.

6.1 If a creditor selects a currency with a gold par or central rate fixed unilaterally or a currency the equivalent value of which is to be determined by its relationship to a currency with a gold par or central rate fixed unilaterally, the use of the selected currency must be acceptable to the debtor.

7. The debtor shall transmit, on the date of payment, the amount of the selected currency as computed above by a bank cheque, transfer or any other means, acceptable to the debtor and the creditor. If the creditor expresses no preference, the choice shall fall to the debtor.

8. Provided the periods of payment are observed, Administrations or recognized private operating agencies may by mutual agreement settle their balances of various kinds by offsetting credits and debits in their relations with other Administrations and/or recognized private operating agencies. The offsetting may be extended by mutual agreement to debts arising from postal services where both Administrations or recognized private operating agencies operate both postal and telecommunication services.

9. The payment charges imposed in the debtor country (taxes, clearing charges, commission, etc.) shall be borne by the debtor. The charges imposed in the creditor country, including payment charges imposed by banks in intermediate countries, shall be borne by the creditor.

10. If, between the time the remittance (cheque, etc.) is effected and the time the creditor receives it, a variation occurs in the equivalent value of the selected currency calculated as described in 3, 3.1, 5, 5.1 or 6 and if the difference resulting from such variation exceeds 5% of the amount due as calculated following such variation, the total difference shall be shared equally between debtor and creditor.

11. If there should be a radical change in the international monetary system (e.g. a substantial general change in the official price of gold, or if gold ceased to be used generally as a basic reference for currencies) which invalidates or makes inappropriate one or more of the foregoing paragraphs, Administrations and recognized private operating agencies shall be free to adopt, by mutual agreement, different procedures for the payment of balances of accounts, pending a revision of this Appendix.

Note: Where the central rate is in terms of another I.M.F. member's currency (hereafter described as such other currency), the amount of the selected currency shall be determined by first relating the gold franc amount to the I.M.F. — approved par value of such other currency and then by relating the resulting amount of such other currency to the selected currency for payment. Where such other currency has no I.M.F. — approved par value in effect, 6 shall apply.

APPENDIX 2

GENERAL SECRETARIAT RECIPROCAL COMMUNICATIONS

Relations of Administrations with one another through the medium of the General Secretariat

1. The General Secretariat shall publish information and statistics relating to the international services in pursuance of agreements between Administrations and/or recognized private operating agencies and resolutions of competent Administrative Conferences, and taking into account the Recommendations of Consultative Committees.
2. Administrations*) shall notify the General Secretariat of any additions, amendments or deletions to the above information and statistics. So far as practicable, amendments to the relevant documents shall be notified in the form required for these documents. Questionnaires will be issued to Administrations*) when the statistics or other information is to be presented in tabulated form.
3. Administrations*) shall reply fully and promptly to requests by the Secretary-General for information to be included in these documents.

*) or recognized private operating agency(ies)

ERRATA

Page 6, third line, read "Conventions" (in stead of Convention)

Page 57, paragraph 4.1 b), fourth line, read "Conventions" (in stead of Convention)

Page 70, paragraph 3.1, second line, read "Executive" (in stead of Execcutive)

Page 91, last line, read "the" (in stead of de)

Page 92, Resolution No. 4, under *in view of*, read "Telecommunication" (in stead of Telecommunication)

Page 94, Resolution No. 5, under *considering*, third line, read "Telecommunication" (in stead of Telecommunication)