

N° 2530.

---

**PERSE ET  
UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES  
SOVIÉTISTES SOCIALISTES**

Arrangement concernant l'échange  
des colis postaux, et protocole.  
Signés à Moscou, le 2 août 1929.

---

**PERSIA  
AND UNION OF SOVIET  
SOCIALIST REPUBLICS**

Agreement regarding the Exchange  
of Postal Parcels, with Protocol.  
Signed at Moscow, August 2,  
1929.

N<sup>o</sup> 2530. — ARRANGEMENT<sup>1</sup> ENTRE LA PERSE ET L'UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOVIÉTISTES SOCIALISTES CONCERNANT L'ÉCHANGE DES COLIS POSTAUX. SIGNÉ A MOSCOU, LE 2 AOUT 1929.

*Texte officiel français communiqué par le délégué permanent de la Perse auprès de la Société des Nations. L'enregistrement de cet arrangement a eu lieu le 17 novembre 1930.*

LA PERSE, d'une part, et L'UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOVIÉTISTES SOCIALISTES, d'autre part, guidées par le désir de coopérer au raffermissement et au développement des rapports amicaux et des relations économiques entre les deux pays ont décidé de conclure l'arrangement concernant l'échange des colis postaux, tant provenant de ces pays que transitaires par leurs territoires et ont désigné à cet effet pour leurs plénipotentiaires :

LE GOUVERNEMENT DE LA PERSE :

M. Mirza Rahim khan ARDJOMAND, directeur adjoint au Ministère des Postes et Télégraphes;

LE GOUVERNEMENT DE L'UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOVIÉTISTES SOCIALISTES :

M. Eugène HIRSCHFELD, chef du Département des Communications internationales au Commissariat du peuple des Postes et Télégraphes.

Les plénipotentiaires susindiqués, après l'échange de leurs pleins pouvoirs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, sont convenus de ce qui suit :

*Article premier.*

1. Entre la Perse et l'Union des Républiques soviétistes est établi l'échange régulier des colis postaux, tant ordinaires qu'avec valeur déclarée.
2. Cet échange sera effectué directement :
  - a) Par voie territoriale par les confins des pays contractants ;
  - b) Par voie maritime par la mer Caspienne au moyen des paquebots-poste, affectés à ce service ; et
  - c) Par la voie aérienne par les lignes reliant les bureaux respectifs des pays contractants.

*Article II.*

Chacune des Parties contractantes garantit à l'autre la liberté du transit territorial, maritime et aérien des colis postaux par son territoire, à savoir : la Perse — à destination et en provenance

<sup>1</sup> L'échange des ratifications a eu lieu à Moscou, le 13 décembre 1929.

<sup>1</sup> TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

No. 2530. — AGREEMENT<sup>2</sup> BETWEEN PERSIA AND THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS REGARDING THE EXCHANGE OF POSTAL PARCELS. SIGNED AT MOSCOW, AUGUST 2, 1929.

*French official text communicated by the Permanent Delegate of Persia accredited to the League of Nations. The registration of this Agreement took place November 17, 1930.*

PERSIA, of the one part, and the UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, of the other part, being anxious to cooperate in consolidating and developing friendly relations and economic intercourse between the two countries, have decided to conclude an arrangement regarding the exchange of postal packets, whether despatched from those countries or passing through them in transit, and have for this purpose appointed as their Plenipotentiaries :

THE GOVERNMENT OF PERSIA :

M. Mirza Rahim Khan ARDJOMAND, Deputy Director in the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs ;

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS :

M. Eugène HIRSCHFELD, Chief of the Department of International Communications at the People's Commissariat for Posts and Telegraphs.

The above Plenipotentiaries, after exchanging their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows :

*Article I.*

1. A regular service for postal packets, ordinary or of declared value, shall be established between Persia and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

2. This service shall be effected directly :

- (a) Overland, across the frontiers of the contracting countries ;
- (b) By sea, across the Caspian Sea, by means of the mail packets serving that route ; and
- (c) By air, over the lines connecting the respective offices of the contracting countries.

*Article II.*

Each Contracting Party shall guarantee to the other Party freedom of transit through its territory by land, sea or air for postal packets, as follows : Persia — addressed to and despatched

<sup>1</sup> Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations, à titre d'information.

<sup>1</sup> Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations, for information.

<sup>2</sup> The exchange of ratifications took place at Moscow, December 13, 1929.

from countries with which she has established a postal packet service ; the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics — addressed to and despatched from countries with the Governments of which it has concluded agreements for a postal packet service.

#### Article III.

Each Contracting Party may, in accordance with its internal regulations, introduce restrictions regarding the contents of postal packets, both in the direct and in the transit service. These restrictions shall be duly notified by each Contracting Party to the other.

#### Article IV.

1. In the direct service between the two countries, postal packets not exceeding 5 kg. in weight and 1,000 frs. in declared value shall be accepted.

2. No packet shall be accepted in the direct service if any of its dimensions exceed 150 cm., or if its length plus its maximum girth measured in a direction other than lengthwise exceeds 300 cm.

3. The declared value may not exceed the actual value of the contents of the package, and must be expressed in the currency of the country of origin. The amount declared must, furthermore, be converted by the office of origin or by the sender into gold francs at the rate adopted by that office.

4. The Administrations of the Contracting Parties may, by mutual agreement, alter the limits of weight, declared value and dimensions of the packages laid down in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article.

5. As regards the handing-in and delivery of postal packets and the final disposal of articles the importation of which is prohibited or restricted, the municipal laws and regulations of the Contracting Parties shall be applied except where they are inconsistent with the present Agreement.

6. The following shall not be accepted for despatch from one of the contracting countries to the other :

- (a) Packets which exceed the dimensions laid down in paragraph 2 of this Article ;
- (b) Packets insufficiently packed ;
- (c) Urgent packets ; and
- (d) Packets exempt from Custom duty.

The Administrations of the Contracting Parties may, however, arrange subsequently to exchange the above-mentioned packets.

#### Article V.

Each Contracting Party is bound to accept in transit through its own territory, in accordance with Article II, only postal packets which fulfil the conditions specified in the previous Article for parcels sent direct from one contracting country to the other, provided that the other countries concerned do not apply more severe restrictions to such packets.

#### Article VI.

The Contracting Parties reserve the right of their Administrations to suspend, in the event of exceptional circumstances, temporarily and either completely or partially, the exchange of packets in either direction.

The Administration concerned is bound to notify the other Administration, immediately of such suspension, and, if the measure is introduced at short notice, the Administration affected shall at once be informed by telegram.

Article VII.

1. In the direct service, postal packets must be fully prepaid when handed in.
2. The postage on postal packets exchanged between the Contracting Parties and conveyed overland shall be calculated as follows :

	Share of			
	Persia		U.R.S.S.	
	Fr.	Ct.	Fr.	Ct.
Packets addressed to Persia or <i>vice versa</i> , forwarded through either part of the U.S.S.R. (European or Asiatic), weight not more than 5 kg. . . . .	1	00 <sup>1</sup>	2	00
Packets addressed to Persia or <i>vice versa</i> , forwarded through both parts of the U.S.S.R. (European and Asiatic), weight not more than 5 kg. . . . .	1	00 <sup>1</sup>	4	00

3. In addition to the rates specified in paragraph 2 of this Article, postal packets conveyed by air shall pay a surcharge for conveyance by air composed of the amounts payable for inland air transport to the Administrations of the Contracting Parties. These surcharges shall be fixed on the basis of the data published by the International Bureau.

4. In addition to the rates referred to in the preceding paragraphs, each Contracting Party may collect a maximum amount of 50 cts. as postage on each packet forwarded by it and conveyed by sea.

5. The insurance fee for postal packets of declared value shall be a maximum of 50 cts. on every 300 frs., or fraction thereof declared, 5 cts. being for the account of the country of destination.

6. The Administration of the country where the packet was handed in may collect from the sender of a packet of declared value a despatch fee not exceeding 50 cts. per packet.

7. The Administration of the country of destination may collect from the addressee a fee for Customs clearance and delivery not exceeding 50 cts. per packet.

The Administrations of the Contracting Parties may, nevertheless, jointly agree to change the amount of the fee mentioned in this paragraph.

Article VIII.

The sender of a packet shall, when handing it in for despatch, indicate in writing on the back of the despatch note what is to be done with the packet if it cannot be delivered.

<sup>1</sup> Note. — These rates shall apply up to the Persian post-offices. In Persia the rates applied shall not exceed the inland rates.

Only the following instructions can be accepted :

- (a) That the packet shall be at once returned ;
- (b) That it shall be redirected to the same addressee at another place ;
- (c) That it shall be delivered to another addressee ; or
- (d) That it shall be put at the disposal of the country of destination.

*Article IX.*

The Administrations of the Contracting Parties may refuse to allow messages to be written on the coupons of the despatch-notes.

*Article X.*

If for any reason a postal packet exchanged between the contracting countries cannot be delivered or redirected, and if the sender did not, at the time of despatch, ask for its immediate return (see Article VIII of this Agreement), it shall be kept by the post office for one month from the date of its arrival at the office of destination, after which it shall be returned to the place of origin indicated by the stamp without previous notice of non-delivery.

When a packet is returned, the following charges shall be collected from the sender : return postage and any warehousing, re-forwarding and Customs clearance charges payable.

*Article XI*

Customs duties levied on packets which are returned to the country of origin or redirected to a third country shall be cancelled, both in Persia and in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

*Article XII.*

1. The postage for overland transit of postal packets shall be :

(1) For the share of the Persian Administration, the rates of its inland tariffs and regulations ;

(2) For the share of the Administration of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, for each packet weighing not more than 5 kg. :

(a) 4 frs. when sent through one part of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (European or Asiatic) ;

(b) 6 frs. when sent through both parts of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (European and Asiatic).

*Note.* — When parcels are routed via Siberia the rate shall be increased to 8 frs.

2. The rate of postage on packets sent via the Caspian Sea shall be a maximum of 50 cts. per packet.

*Article XIII.*

Payment for the forwarding of postal packets by air in transit over the inland air routes of the Contracting Parties and beyond their frontiers over the air routes connecting third countries with which the contracting countries maintain an air postal packet service shall be fixed on the basis of the data published by the International Bureau.

*Article XIV.*

The insurance fee for the transit through the territories of the Contracting Parties of Packets of declared value shall be 5 cts. for the benefit of the transit country per 300 frs. declared in the case of overland transmission, and 10 cts. in the case of transmission by sea.

*Article XV.*

Should a packet be damaged during conveyance in transit and should it be impossible to forward it further without re-packing, the intermediate post office shall be entitled to debit the next office with the cost of repacking, which shall be collected from the addressee and shall not exceed 50 cts. If the parcel is returned to the place of origin indicated by the stamp, this charge shall be collected from the sender.

The Administrations of the Contracting Parties may apply the provisions of this Article to packets exchanged between their two countries direct.

*Article XVI.*

1 The conveyance of packets by land, sea and air routes, whether direct or in transit, and of the documents relating thereto, shall be carried out *à découvert* (in open bags) in the exchange post offices.

2. The Administrations of the Contracting Parties shall have the right to modify by joint agreement the method of forwarding either postal packets or the documents relating thereto.

*Article XVII.*

Every packet despatched shall be accompanied by a despatch-note and a Customs declaration made out by the sender in French.

A copy of these declarations shall be kept by the country of transit, the number of such declarations shall be agreed upon by the Administrations of the Contracting Countries.

*Article XVIII.*

Postal packets containing articles, the importation or transit of which is forbidden, may not be confiscated, provided the Customs declarations give a correct description of their contents, but shall be returned to the place of origin indicated by the stamp.

*Article XIX.*

1. If a packet has been lost or damaged, or the contents completely or partially abstracted during transmission the sender shall be entitled to compensation up to the actual amount of the loss, theft or damage, unless the damage is due to the fault or negligence of the sender or to the nature of the articles sent.

Such compensation shall be paid in the case of ordinary packets at the rates laid down in the International Agreement<sup>1</sup> in force regarding postal packets, and in the case of packets of declared value up to the amount of the declared value as a maximum.

---

<sup>1</sup> Vo. CIII, page 73, of this Series.

2. Compensation shall be paid in the country of despatch in the currency of that country at the equivalent rate provided for in paragraph 3 of Article IV of the present Agreement.

3. When compensation is paid by the Administration of a country on behalf of another Administration, the latter shall be bound to refund the amount paid in the currency of the paying office, not later than two months from the date at which it was notified of the payment.

4. The Administrations of the Contracting Parties shall not be responsible for the loss, theft or damage of postal packets if due to circumstances beyond their control.

#### *Article XX.*

1. The accounts for the direct and transit services shall be made up monthly by each Administration in accordance with the detailed regulations of the Universal Parcel Post Agreement.

The accounts, with the relevant documents, shall be sent to the Administration of the other Contracting Party within one month if possible, and not later than six weeks, after the month to which they relate. The said accounts must be audited and returned within one month from the date on which they were received.

2. The results of the monthly accounts, drawn up and approved by the Administrations of the Contracting Parties, shall be incorporated by the creditor Office in the general quarterly account, the balance of which must be paid within one month of the date on which the general account is received.

If not paid within the period above indicated, the sums due shall bear interest in favour of the creditor Office at the rate of seven per cent per annum from the expiry of that period.

Payment must, however, be made after the expiry of 2 months at the most from the above-mentioned date.

3. The balance remaining after the said accounts have been closed shall be paid to the creditor Office through the banks situated in the capital of the creditor country and in the currency of the latter, or, on the request of the creditor Office, in the currency of another country if so agreed between the two Offices.

4. Any expenses in connection with payments shall be borne by the debtor Office.

#### *Article XXI.*

The franc mentioned in the present Agreement is the gold franc referred to in Article 29 of the Universal Postal Convention<sup>1</sup>.

#### *Article XXII.*

The direct exchange of postal packets, whether ordinary or of declared value, between the Contracting Parties, and of those sent in transit through their territories, shall be carried out, as regards anything unprovided for in the present Agreement and not inconsistent with its stipulation in accordance with the provisions of the Universal Parcel Post Agreement and of the Protocol and Detailed Regulations of that Agreement.

#### *Article XXIII.*

The present Agreement is drawn up in French.

<sup>1</sup> Vol. CII, page 245, of this Series.



*Article XXIV.*

The present Agreement shall be ratified by the exchange of the respective instruments of ratification.

The exchange of the instruments of ratification and the signature of the Protocol relating thereto shall take place at Moscow not later than November 1, 1929.

The provisions of the present Agreement shall come into force as from the date of the exchange of the ratifications.

*Article XXV.*

The present Agreement is concluded between the Contracting Parties for a period of one year, and shall be prolonged automatically, unless one of the Contracting Parties gives notice, three months before the expiry of that period, of its wish to denounce the Agreement. In faith whereof the Plenipotentiaries of the Contracting Parties have signed the present Agreement and have thereto affixed their seals.

Done in duplicate, at Moscow, on August 2, 1929.

(Signed) ARDJOMEND.

(Signed) HIRSCHFELD.

## SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL

TO THE AGREEMENT REGARDING THE EXCHANGE OF POSTAL PACKETS BETWEEN PERSIA  
AND THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS.

*Article I.*

Until further notice, the parcel post service, direct and in transit, shall be effected between the following exchange post offices :

Bakou-Pehlevi and *vice versa* ;  
Persian Djoulfa-Soviet Djoulfa and *vice versa* ;  
Gaudan-Badjuiran and *vice versa*.

The service shall be conducted on the schedule and by the means employed for the letter post service.

The Administrations of the two Contracting Parties may make changes by agreement in the list of exchange post offices given in the present Article.

*Article II.*

As a general rule, the postage on postal packets shall be collected and affixed in stamps on the despatch notes.

The Administration of each Contracting Party may, however, reserve the right to introduce payment in cash without the affixing of stamps when circumstances make this necessary.

In faith whereof the Plenipotentiaries of the Contracting Parties have signed the present Protocol and have thereto affixed their seals.

Done in duplicate at Moscow, August 2, 1929.

(Signed) ARDJOMEND.

(Signed) HIRSCHFELD.