

N° 4472.

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## MEXIQUE ET SUÈDE

Arrangement concernant l'échange direct des colis postaux. Signé à Stockholm, le 31 juillet 1931, et à Mexico, le 14 septembre 1931.

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## MEXICO AND SWEDEN

Agreement concerning the Direct Exchange of Postal Parcels. Signed at Stockholm, July 31st, 1931, and at Mexico, September 14th, 1931.

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

No. 4472. — AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE POST OFFICE ADMINISTRATIONS OF MEXICO AND SWEDEN CONCERNING THE DIRECT EXCHANGE OF POSTAL PARCELS. SIGNED AT STOCKHOLM, JULY 31ST, 1931, AND AT MEXICO, SEPTEMBER 14TH, 1931.

*French official text communicated by the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs. The registration of this Agreement took place November 11th, 1938.*

THE POST OFFICE ADMINISTRATIONS OF SWEDEN and MEXICO agree to establish a direct, regular and reciprocal exchange of postal parcels between Sweden and Mexico on the basis of the Universal Postal Union's Parcel Post Agreement and the Regulations annexed thereto.

The main conditions governing such exchange shall be the following :

1. Uninsured postal parcels weighing not more than 10 kilogrammes shall be accepted. Parcels shall not exceed 105 centimetres in length and 60 centimetres in any other dimension, nor shall their volume exceed 50 cubic decimetres.
2. Each office shall provide for the conveyance by sea of parcels despatched from its own territory. The country of destination shall be responsible for conveyance between the steamship and the office of exchange of destination.
3. The rates for the conveyance of parcels posted in one of the two countries for despatch to the other shall be made up of the following land and sea rates :

	Per parcel weighing		
	Not more than 1 kg.	More than 1 kg. but not more than 5 kg.	More than 5 kg. but not more than 10 kg.
	Gold francs	Gold francs	Gold francs
Swedish land rate . . . . .	1.00	1.75	2.75
Sea rate . . . . .	0.30	1.00	2.50
Mexican land rate . . . . .	1.00	1.75	2.75
Totals . . . . .	2.30	4.50	8.00

The sea rate shall accrue to the office which maintains the steamship service concerned.

4. The sum of the land rates and the sea rate shall be taken as a basis for determining the amount to be paid by the sender. Each office shall nevertheless be entitled, for the purpose of fixing that amount, to adopt the approximate sum which is most convenient in terms of its own currency. Prepayment by the sender of postage on parcels shall be compulsory and shall be effected by means of postage stamps of the country of origin.

<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.

5. Each of the two offices shall accept, for conveyance in transit, parcels originating in or despatched to a third country. In the case of parcels despatched in transit to a third country, the despatching office shall credit the other office with such shares of the charges as the Administrations shall have communicated to one another in advance.

6. The sender may obtain an advice of delivery on payment at the time of posting of a fixed fee not exceeding 40 gold centimes. Advice of delivery may be applied for subsequently to the time of posting, within one year counting from the day following that on which the parcel was posted, on payment of a fixed fee not exceeding one gold franc.

7. For an enquiry in respect of a parcel a fixed fee not exceeding one gold franc may be charged. This fee is not charged if the sender has already paid the special fee for an advice of delivery.

8. The office of delivery shall be authorised to collect the warehousing charge fixed by its legislation for parcels which are not claimed within the prescribed periods.

9. The office of delivery may collect, in respect of delivery to and clearance through the Customs, or merely delivery to the Customs, a fee not exceeding 50 gold centimes per parcel.

10. The office of delivery may collect, for the delivery of parcels to the house of the addressee, a fee equal to that which is prescribed for its internal service up to a maximum of 50 gold centimes per parcel. The same fee may be charged for each further presentation at the house of the addressee.

11. The sender of a parcel may have it withdrawn from the post or have its address altered under the conditions fixed for letters, etc., in the Universal Postal Convention, with this addition, that, if the sender requests the return or redirection of a parcel, he must guarantee in advance the payment of the postage due for the new transmission.

12. For the redirection of a parcel from one country to another in consequence of the removal of the addressee and for the return of an undelivered parcel, there shall be charged, at the time of delivery, the same fees as those payable in respect of parcels originating in the redirecting country. When a parcel has been redirected within the country of destination, the office of that country may collect a redirection charge on the basis of its internal regulations.

13. No postal charges, of whatever nature, other than those stipulated in the present Agreement may be collected in respect of parcels.

14. The postage of parcels containing the following matter is prohibited :

(a) Letters, communications or documents which constitute an actual and personal correspondence, and correspondence of any kind bearing an address other than that of the addressee of the parcel or of persons living with such addressee ;

(b) Articles which, owing to their nature or packing, may constitute a danger to postal employees or may soil or damage other parcels ;

(c) Explosive, inflammable, or dangerous substances ;

(d) Live animals, with the exception of bees suitably packed ;

(e) Articles the admission of which is prohibited by law or by the Customs or other regulations.

Parcels which have been wrongly admitted to the post shall be dealt with by the office of the country of destination in accordance with the regulations in force in that country.

15. Subject to the conditions laid down in the International Parcel Post Agreement, the contracting Administrations shall be responsible for the loss of parcels and for the abstraction of or damage to their contents up to the following amounts :

10 gold francs for a parcel not exceeding 1 kg. in weight ;

25 gold francs for a parcel weighing between 1 and 5 kg. ;

40 gold francs for a parcel weighing between 5 and 10 kg.

16. In order to be accepted for transmission, every parcel must be packed and closed in a manner which is adequate for the length of the journey and which protects the contents so effectually as to render it impossible to tamper with them without leaving an obvious trace of violation and must, moreover, be sealed either by means of impressions of the same seal in wax, or by lead or other seals, with some special uniform design or mark of the sender.

Articles are, however, accepted without packing if they are fitted together or fastened and kept in place by a strong cord secured with lead or other seals so as to make one single parcel which cannot fall apart. Packing, moreover, is not essential in the case of parcels consisting of a single article, such as objects of wood, metal, etc., which it is not the trade custom to pack.

17. Each parcel must be accompanied by a despatch note of stout cardboard and a Customs declaration.

Each parcel and also the despatch note relating to it must bear a label showing the serial number and the name of the office of posting.

The despatch note shall be impressed by the office of origin, on the address side, with a stamp showing the place and date of posting. The office of origin must, in addition, indicate thereon the weight of the parcel in kilogrammes. Fractions of a kilogramme shall be rounded off to the next higher unit.

18. The offices of exchange shall be the Gothenburg Post Office for Sweden and the Vera Cruz Post Office for Mexico.

19. The bags required for the making up of the mails shall be supplied by the despatching office and shall be returned empty by the office of destination of the mails.

20. In making up parcel post mails, the despatching office of exchange shall enter the parcels on a parcel bill. The despatch notes, Customs declarations and any other necessary documents shall be attached to the parcel bill. The despatching office of exchange shall number parcel bills in the top left-hand corner in an annual series. The last number of the year shall be shown on the first parcel bill of the following year.

21. On the receipt of a mail, the office of exchange of destination shall proceed to check the parcels and the various documents which accompany them. If it detects errors or omissions on the parcel bill, it shall immediately make the necessary corrections, taking care to strike out the incorrect entries in such a way as to leave the original entries legible. Except in the case of an obvious error, such corrections shall be accepted in preference to the original statement. A verification note shall, moreover, be prepared by the office of destination and sent without delay, under registered cover, to the despatching office of exchange. Corrections made on a parcel bill unsupported by documentary evidence shall not be considered valid.

The loss or damage of an article, or an irregularity of such a kind as to involve the responsibility of the respective Administrations shall be reported by means of a verification note forwarded, under registered cover, to the office of exchange of origin.

22. An office which retransmits missent parcels may not levy Customs or other charges on them. When one office returns such a parcel to the other office, it shall refund the credits received and report the error by a verification note. In other cases, and if the amount credited to it is insufficient to cover the expenses of retransmission which it has to defray, the retransmitting office shall credit the office to which it returns the parcel with the charges due for onward conveyance; it shall then recover the amount of the deficiency by claiming it from the office of exchange which transmitted the parcel wrongly. The reason for such a claim shall be notified to the office concerned by means of a verification note.

23. Senders must state, either in writing or by underlining the appropriate printed text on the back of the despatch note and on the parcels, how their parcels are to be disposed of in the event of non-delivery. For this purpose, the following alternatives only are admitted :

- (a) That the parcel be treated as abandoned ;
- (b) That the parcel be delivered to another addressee within the country of destination.

If this regulation is not complied with, undelivered parcels shall be returned to the office of origin at the end of a period of 15 days in the case of Sweden and thirty days in the case of Mexico, counting from the day following that on which they are placed at the disposal of the addressees.

24. Articles liable to deterioration or corruption, and these only, may be sold immediately, without previous notice or judicial formality, for the benefit of the rightful owner. If for any reason a sale is impossible, the spoilt or putrid articles shall be destroyed. When a parcel has been thus sold or destroyed, a report of the sale or destruction shall be drawn up. A copy of such report, together with the despatch note, shall be forwarded to the office of origin.

25. Each Administration shall prepare monthly, for all the mails received, a statement showing the total amounts entered on the parcel bills, whether to its credit or to its debit. The monthly statement shall be summarised every quarter in an account. The said account, accompanied by the monthly statements, parcel bills and the verification notes, if any, relating thereto, shall be submitted to the examination of the other Administration in the course of the quarter following that to which it relates. After having been checked and accepted, the quarterly accounts shall be summarised in a general annual account by the creditor office.

26. The balance resulting from the general accounts shall be paid by the debtor office to the creditor office in the manner prescribed for the settlement of transit charges in the Regulations of the Universal Postal Convention. The preparation, transmission and payment of the balance of a general account shall be effected as early as possible and, at the latest, within a period of six months from the end of the period to which the account relates. After the expiration of this period, the sum due shall bear interest at the rate of 7 per cent per annum as from the date of the expiration of the said period.

27. The present Agreement shall come into force as from October 1st, 1931, and shall remain in force indefinitely. Nevertheless, it shall cease to be in force on any date on which the two Administrations may agree, or on the expiration of a period of twelve months from the date of its denunciation by either Administration.

STOCKHOLM, *July 31st, 1931.*  
MEXICO CITY, *September 14th, 1931.*

Anders ÖRNE.

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