

No. 19497

MULTILATERAL

International Telecommunication Convention (with annexes, final protocol, additional protocols, resolutions, recommendations and opinions). Concluded at Malaga-Torremolinos on 25 October 1973

Declaration by Argentina relating to the declaration by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under No. CII *b*) of the Final Protocol of the above-mentioned Convention

Authentic texts: Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

Registered by the International Telecommunication Union on 2 January 1981.

(For the authentic French, Russian and Spanish texts, see volume 1210.)

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION CONVENTION¹

FIRST PART. BASIC PROVISIONS

PREAMBLE

1. While fully recognizing the sovereign right of each country to regulate its telecommunication, the plenipotentiaries of the Contracting Governments, with the object of facilitating relations and cooperation between the peoples by means of efficient telecommunication services, have agreed to establish this Convention which is the basic instrument of the International Telecommunication Union.

¹ Came into force on 1 January 1975 in respect of the following States on behalf of which an instrument of ratification or accession had been deposited before that date with the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union, in accordance with article 52:

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of deposit of the instrument of ratification or accession (a)</i>
Bahrain*	21 October 1974 <i>a</i>
Denmark	12 November 1974
Mauritius	8 July 1974
Netherlands	31 December 1974
(For the Kingdom in Europe, the Netherlands Antilles and Suriname.)	
Singapore	16 September 1974
South Africa*	23 December 1974 <i>a</i>
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	31 December 1974
(In respect of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Associated States (Antigua, Dominica, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent); and the Territories under the territorial sovereignty of the United Kingdom, as well	

Date of deposit of the instrument of ratification or accession (a)

State

as the States of Brunei, the Solomon Islands and, within the limits of United Kingdom jurisdiction therein, the condominium of the New Hebrides. With a declaration that the provisions of the Convention and the Optional Additional Protocol shall not apply to Southern Rhodesia unless and until the Government of the United Kingdom informs the Secretary-General that they are in a position to ensure that the obligations imposed by the Convention and the Optional Additional Protocol, in respect of that territory, can be fully implemented.)

Subsequently, the Convention came into force for the following States on the date of deposit of their respective instrument of ratification or accession with the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union, as follows:

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of deposit of the instrument of ratification or accession (a)</i>
Afghanistan	3 February 1977
Albania*	5 January 1976 <i>a</i>
Algeria	1 November 1976
Angola	13 October 1976 <i>a</i>
Argentina*	19 January 1977
Australia	23 June 1975
Austria	17 May 1977
Bahamas*	16 October 1975 <i>a</i>
Bangladesh	6 April 1976
Barbados	1 October 1976
Belgium	20 March 1978
Benin	13 November 1979
Bolivia	22 August 1978
Botswana	31 March 1978
Byelorussian Soviet* Socialist Republic	6 January 1977
Brazil	30 November 1976
Bulgaria*	29 December 1976
Burma	15 November 1976
Burundi	25 January 1977

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of deposit of the instrument of ratification or accession (a)</i>
Canada	20 January 1975
Cape Verde	10 September 1976 <i>a</i>
Central African Republic	5 January 1976
Chad	30 March 1978
Chile*	31 January 1977
China*	29 December 1976
Colombia	21 February 1975 <i>a</i>
Comoros	5 January 1976 <i>a</i>
Congo	2 February 1979
Costa Rica	10 September 1979
Cuba	14 January 1977
Cyprus	31 December 1976
Czechoslovakia*	20 July 1976
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	24 September 1975 <i>a</i>
Democratic Yemen	25 September 1979
Djibouti	22 November 1977 <i>a</i>
Ecuador	24 January 1975
Egypt	10 September 1976
El Salvador	6 January 1977

* See p. 420 of volume 1210 for the texts of the reservations and declarations made upon ratification or accession.

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(Footnote 1 continued from page 255)

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of deposit of the instrument of ratification or accession (a)</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Date of deposit of the instrument of ratification or accession (a)</i>
Ethiopia	29 December 1976	Panama	15 January 1976
Fiji	17 April 1975 <i>a</i>	Papua New Guinea*	31 October 1975 <i>a</i>
Finland	28 July 1975	Paraguay	2 August 1976
France	29 December 1976	Peru	8 February 1979
Gabon	16 August 1978	Philippines	13 August 1975
Gambia	3 November 1975 <i>a</i>	Poland*	13 January 1977
German Democratic Republic	25 August 1976	Portugal	12 November 1975 <i>a</i>
Germany, Federal Republic of	18 November 1976	Qatar	24 October 1975 <i>a</i>
(With a declaration to the effect that the Convention and its an- nexes shall also apply to Berlin (West) with effect from the date on which they entered into force for the Federal Republic of Germany.)		Republic of Korea	22 January 1976
Ghana	19 January 1977	Romania*	8 February 1977
Greece	13 January 1977	Rwanda	23 December 1976
Guinea	5 October 1976	San Marino	25 March 1977 <i>a</i>
Guinea-Bissau	15 January 1976 <i>a</i>	Sao Tome and Principe	1 September 1976 <i>a</i>
Guyana	30 November 1976 <i>a</i>	Saudi Arabia	6 January 1977
Haiti	10 December 1976 <i>a</i>	Senegal	21 January 1977
Honduras	11 October 1979 <i>a</i>	Sierra Leone	25 November 1976
Hungary*	4 August 1976	Somalia	11 February 1977
Iceland	6 January 1977	Spain	29 April 1976
India	20 April 1976	Sri Lanka	5 January 1978
Indonesia	6 January 1977	Suriname	15 July 1976 <i>a</i>
Iran	3 February 1977	Swaziland*	20 January 1975 <i>a</i>
Iraq*	14 June 1977	Sweden	29 December 1976
Ireland	20 September 1976	Switzerland	28 April 1976
Israel	28 May 1975	Syrian Arab Republic	20 February 1976 <i>a</i>
Italy	23 January 1978	Thailand	8 October 1975
Ivory Coast	25 September 1979	Togo	31 March 1977
Jamaica	25 April 1975	Tonga*	22 August 1977 <i>a</i>
Japan	17 June 1975	Trinidad and Tobago	13 March 1975
Jordan	28 May 1975 <i>a</i>	Tunisia	25 April 1975
Kenya	13 March 1978	Turkey	6 July 1978
Kuwait	7 February 1977	Uganda	21 February 1979
Lao People's Democratic Repub- lic	6 January 1977	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Re- public*	6 January 1977
Lebanon	1 June 1978	Union of Soviet Socialist Re- publics*	31 December 1976
Lesotho	27 August 1976	United Arab Emirates	29 December 1976
Liberia	22 September 1975	United Republic of Cameroon	1 June 1978
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	22 February 1977	United Republic of Tanzania	2 September 1975
Liechtenstein	4 February 1976	United States of America	13 April 1976
Luxembourg	26 July 1976	Upper Volta	22 March 1978
Madagascar	17 March 1976	Uruguay	15 December 1977
Malawi	25 May 1977	Vatican City State	10 December 1976
Malaysia	13 April 1976	Venezuela	2 November 1976
Maldives	16 January 1975 <i>a</i>	Viet Nam	16 December 1976
Mali	21 December 1976	(In a letter dated 20 July 1976, which was received by the Secretary-General of the Inter- national Telecommunication Union on 2 November 1976, the Government of the Social- ist Republic of Viet Nam declared that State to be the continuator of the Republic of South Viet-Nam so far as membership of the Interna- tional Telecommunication Union is concerned. This ratification was effected on the basis of the signature affixed on behalf of the Repub- lic of Viet Nam on 25 October 1973.)	
Malta*	30 January 1975 <i>a</i>	Yemen Arab Republic	15 February 1978
Mauritania	4 February 1977	Yugoslavia	22 September 1975
Mexico	23 July 1975	Zaire	10 December 1976
Monaco	23 December 1976	Zambia	17 November 1978
Mongolia	18 October 1977		
Morocco	28 January 1977		
Mozambique	4 November 1975 <i>a</i>		
Nauru*	8 March 1979 <i>a</i>		
Nepal	4 July 1977		
New Zealand	7 January 1977		
Nicaragua	25 March 1977		
Niger	7 June 1978		
Nigeria	24 August 1976		
Norway	16 December 1976		
Oman*	24 February 1977		
Pakistan	26 September 1977		

CHAPTER I. COMPOSITION, PURPOSES
AND STRUCTURE OF THE UNION

Article 1. COMPOSITION OF THE UNION

2. 1. The International Telecommunication Union shall comprise Members which, having regard to the principle of universality and the desirability of universal participation in the Union, shall be:
 3. a) Any country listed in annex 1 which signs and ratifies, or accedes to, the Convention;
 4. b) Any country, not listed in annex 1, which becomes a Member of the United Nations and which accedes to the Convention in accordance with article 46;
 5. c) Any sovereign country, not listed in annex 1 and not a Member of the United Nations, which applies for Membership of the Union and which, after having secured approval of such application by two-thirds of the Members of the Union, accedes to the Convention in accordance with article 46.
6. 2. For the purpose of 5, if an application for Membership is made, by diplomatic channel and through the intermediary of the country of the seat of the Union, during the interval between two Plenipotentiary Conferences, the Secretary-General shall consult the Members of the Union: a Member shall be deemed to have abstained if it has not replied within four months after its opinion has been requested.

Article 2. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

7. 1. Members of the Union shall have the rights and shall be subject to the obligations provided for in the Convention.
8. 2. Rights of Members in respect of their participation in the conferences, meetings and consultations of the Union are:
 9. a) All Members shall be entitled to participate in conferences of the Union, shall be eligible for election to the Administrative Council and shall have the right to nominate candidates for election to any of the permanent organs of the Union;
 9. b) Each Member shall have one vote at all conferences of the Union, at all meetings of the International Consultative Committees and, if it is a Member of the Administrative Council, at all sessions of that Council;
 10. c) Each Member shall also have one vote in all consultations carried out by correspondence.

Article 3. SEAT OF THE UNION

11. The seat of the Union shall be at Geneva.

Article 4. PURPOSES OF THE UNION

12. 1. The purposes of the Union are:
 - a) To maintain and extend international cooperation for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications of all kinds;

13. *b)* To promote the development of technical facilities and their most efficient operation with a view to improving the efficiency of telecommunications services, increasing their usefulness and making them, so far as possible, generally available to the public;
14. *c)* To harmonize the actions of nations in the attainment of those ends.
15. 2. To this end, the Union shall in particular:
 - a)* Effect allocation of the radio frequency spectrum and registration of radio frequency assignments in order to avoid harmful interference between radio stations of different countries;
16. *b)* Coordinate efforts to eliminate harmful interference between radio stations of different countries and to improve the use made of the radio frequency spectrum;
17. *c)* Coordinate efforts with a view to harmonizing the development of telecommunications facilities, notably those using space techniques, with a view to full advantage being taken of their possibilities;
18. *d)* Foster collaboration among its Members with a view to the establishment of rates at levels as low as possible consistent with an efficient service and taking into account the necessity for maintaining independent financial administration of telecommunication on a sound basis;
19. *e)* Foster the creation, development and improvement of telecommunication equipment and networks in developing countries by every means at its disposal, especially its participation in the appropriate programmes of the United Nations;
20. *f)* Promote the adoption of measures for ensuring the safety of life through the cooperation of telecommunication services;
21. *g)* Undertake studies, make regulations, adopt resolutions, formulate recommendations and opinions, and collect and publish information concerning telecommunication matters.

Article 5. STRUCTURE OF THE UNION

22. The Union shall comprise the following organs:
 1. The Plenipotentiary Conference, which is the supreme organ of the Union;
 23. 2. Administrative conferences;
 24. 3. The Administrative Council;
 25. 4. The permanent organs of the Union, which are:
 - a)* The General Secretariat;
 26. *b)* The International Frequency Registration Board (I.F.R.B.);
 27. *c)* The International Radio Consultative Committee (C.C.I.R.);
 28. *d)* The International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee (C.C.I.T.T.).

Article 6. PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

29. 1. The Plenipotentiary Conference shall be composed of delegations representing Members. It shall be convened at regular intervals and normally every five years.
30. 2. The Plenipotentiary Conference shall:
- a) Determine the general policies for fulfilling the purposes of the Union prescribed in article 4 of this Convention;
31. b) Consider the report by the Administrative Council on the activities of all the organs of the Union since the previous Plenipotentiary Conference;
32. c) Establish the basis for the budget of the Union and determine a fiscal limit for the expenditure of the Union until the next Plenipotentiary Conference after considering a programme of the administrative conferences and meetings of the Union foreseen in that period;
33. d) Fix the basic salaries, the salary scales and the system of allowances and pensions for all the officials of the Union; and, if necessary, provide any general directives dealing with the staffing of the Union;
34. e) Examine the accounts of the Union and finally approve them, if appropriate;
35. f) Elect the Members of the Union which are to serve on the Administrative Council;
36. g) Elect the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General and fix the dates of their taking office;
37. h) Elect the members of the I.F.R.B. and fix the dates of their taking office;
38. i) Revise the Convention if it considers this necessary;
39. j) Conclude or revise, if necessary, agreements between the Union and other international organizations, examine any provisional agreements with such organizations concluded, on behalf of the Union, by the Administrative Council, and take such measures in connection therewith as it deems appropriate;
40. k) Deal with such other telecommunication questions as may be necessary.

Article 7. ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCES

41. 1. Administrative conferences of the Union shall comprise:
- a) World administrative conferences;
42. b) Regional administrative conferences.
43. 2. Administrative conferences shall normally be convened to consider specific telecommunication matters. Only items included in their agenda may be discussed by such conferences. The decisions of such conferences must in all circumstances be in conformity with the provisions of the Convention.
44. 3. (1) The agenda of a world administrative conference may include:
- a) The partial revision of the Administrative Regulations mentioned in 571;

45. b) Exceptionally, the complete revision of one or more of those Regulations;
46. c) Any other question of a worldwide character within the competence of the conference.
47. (2) The agenda of a regional administrative conference may provide only for specific telecommunication questions of a regional nature, including instructions to the International Frequency Registration Board regarding its activities in respect of the region concerned, provided such instructions do not conflict with the interests of other regions. Furthermore, the decisions of such a conference must in all circumstances be in conformity with the provisions of the Administrative Regulations.

Article 8. ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

48. 1. (1) The Administrative Council shall be composed of thirty-six Members of the Union elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference with due regard to the need for equitable distribution of the seats on the Council among all regions of the world. Except in the case of vacancies arising as provided for in the General Regulations, the Members of the Union elected to the Administrative Council shall hold office until the date on which a new Administrative Council is elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference. They shall be eligible for re-election.
49. (2) Each Member of the Council shall appoint a person to serve on the Council who may be assisted by one or more advisers.
50. 2. The Administrative Council shall adopt its own rules of procedure.
51. 3. In the interval between Plenipotentiary Conferences the Administrative Council shall act on behalf of the Plenipotentiary Conference within the limits of the powers delegated to it by the latter.
52. 4. (1) The Administrative Council shall take all steps to facilitate the implementation by the Members of the provisions of the Convention, of the Administrative Regulations, of the decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conference, and, where appropriate, of the decisions of other conferences and meetings of the Union, and perform any duties assigned to it by the Plenipotentiary Conference.
53. (2) It shall ensure the efficient coordination of the work of the Union and exercise effective financial control over its permanent organs.
54. (3) It shall promote international cooperation for the provision of technical cooperation to the developing countries by every means at its disposal, especially through the participation of the Union in the appropriate programmes of the United Nations, in accordance with the purposes of the Union, one of which is to promote by all possible means the development of telecommunications.

Article 9. GENERAL SECRETARIAT

55. 1. (1) The General Secretariat shall be directed by a Secretary-General, assisted by one Deputy Secretary-General.
56. (2) The Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General shall take up their duties on the dates determined at the time of their election.

They shall normally remain in office until dates determined by the following Plenipotentiary Conference, and they shall be eligible for re-election.

57. (3) The Secretary-General shall take all the action required to ensure economic use of the Union's resources and he shall be responsible to the Administrative Council for all the administrative and financial aspects of the Union's activities. The Deputy Secretary-General shall be responsible to the Secretary-General.
58. 2. (1) If the post of Secretary-General falls vacant, the Deputy Secretary-General shall succeed to it and shall remain in office until a date determined by the following Plenipotentiary Conference. He shall be eligible for election to that office.
59. (2) If the post of Deputy Secretary-General falls vacant more than 180 days prior to the date set for the convening of the next Plenipotentiary Conference, the Administrative Council shall appoint a successor for the balance of the term.
60. (3) If the posts of the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General fall vacant simultaneously, the Director of the International Consultative Committee who has been longer in office shall discharge the duties of Secretary-General for a period not exceeding 90 days. The Administrative Council shall appoint a Secretary-General and, if the vacancies occur more than 180 days prior to the date set for the convening of the next Plenipotentiary Conference, a Deputy Secretary-General. An official thus appointed by the Administrative Council shall serve for the balance of the term for which his predecessor was elected. Such officials shall be eligible for election as Secretary-General and/or Deputy Secretary-General at the Plenipotentiary Conference.
61. 3. The Secretary-General shall act as the legal representative of the Union.
62. 4. The Deputy Secretary-General shall assist the Secretary-General in the performance of his duties and undertake such specific tasks as may be entrusted to him by the Secretary-General. He shall perform the duties of the Secretary-General in the absence of the latter.

Article 10. INTERNATIONAL FREQUENCY REGISTRATION BOARD

63. 1. The International Frequency Registration Board (I.F.R.B.) shall consist of five independent members, elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference. These members shall be elected from the candidates sponsored by countries, Members of the Union, in such a way as to ensure equitable distribution amongst the regions of the world. Each Member of the Union may propose only one candidate who shall be a national of its country.
64. 2. The members of the International Frequency Registration Board shall serve, not as representing their respective countries, or of a region, but as custodians of an international public trust.
65. 3. The essential duties of the International Frequency Registration Board shall be:
- a) To effect an orderly recording of frequency assignments made by the different countries so as to establish, in accordance with the procedure

provided for in the Radio Regulations and in accordance with any decision which may be taken by competent conferences of the Union, the date, purpose and technical characteristics of each of these assignments, with a view to ensuring formal international recognition thereof;

66. *b)* To effect, in the same conditions and for the same purpose, an orderly recording of the positions assigned by countries to geostationary satellites;
67. *c)* To furnish advice to Members with a view to the operation of the maximum practicable number of radio channels in those portions of the spectrum where harmful interference may occur, and with a view to the equitable, effective and economical use of the geostationary satellite orbit;
68. *d)* To perform any additional duties, concerned with the assignment and utilization of frequencies and with the utilization of the geostationary satellite orbit, in accordance with the procedures provided for in the Radio Regulations, and as prescribed by a competent conference of the Union, or by the Administrative Council with the consent of a majority of the Members of the Union, in preparation for or in pursuance of the decisions of such a conference;
69. *e)* To maintain such essential records as may be related to the performance of its duties.

Article 11. INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES

70. 1. (1) The duties of the International Radio Consultative Committee (C.C.I.R.) shall be to study technical and operating questions relating specifically to radiocommunication and to issue recommendations on them.
71. (2) The duties of the International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee (C.C.I.T.T.) shall be to study technical, operating and tariff questions relating to telegraphy and telephony and to issue recommendations on them.
72. (3) In the performance of its studies, each Consultative Committee shall pay due attention to the study of questions and to the formulation of recommendations directly connected with the establishment, development and improvement of telecommunication in developing countries in both the regional and international fields.
73. 2. The International Consultative Committees shall have as members:
 - a) Of right, the administrations of all Members of the Union;
 74. *b)* Any recognized private operating agency which, with the approval of the Member which has recognized it, expresses a desire to participate in the work of these Committees.
75. 3. Each International Consultative Committee shall work through the medium of:
 - a) Its Plenary Assembly;
 76. *b)* Study groups set up by it;
 77. *c)* A Director, elected by a Plenary Assembly and appointed in accordance with the General Regulations.

78. 4. There shall be a World Plan Committee, and such Regional Plan Committees as may be jointly approved by the Plenary Assemblies of the International Consultative Committees. These Plan Committees shall develop a General Plan for the international telecommunication network to facilitate coordinated development of international telecommunication services. They shall refer to the International Consultative Committees questions the study of which is of particular interest to developing countries and which are within the terms of reference of those Consultative Committees.
79. 5. The working arrangements of the International Consultative Committees are defined in the General Regulations.

Article 12. COORDINATION COMMITTEE

80. 1. (1) The Coordination Committee shall assist and advise the Secretary-General on all administrative, financial and technical cooperation matters affecting more than one permanent organ, and on external relations and public information, keeping fully in view the decisions of the Administrative Council and the interest of the Union as a whole.
81. (2) The Committee shall also consider any important matters referred to it by the Administrative Council. After examining them, the Committee shall report, through the Secretary-General, to the Council.
82. 2. The Coordination Committee shall be composed of the Deputy Secretary-General, the Directors of the International Consultative Committees and the Chairman of the International Frequency Registration Board and shall be presided over by the Secretary-General.

Article 13. ELECTED OFFICIALS AND STAFF OF THE UNION

83. 1. (1) In the performance of their duties, neither the elected officials nor the staff of the Union shall seek or accept instructions from any government or from any other authority outside the Union. They shall refrain from acting in any way which is incompatible with their status as international officials.
84. (2) Each Member shall respect the exclusively international character of the duties of the elected officials and of the staff of the Union, and refrain from trying to influence them in the performance of their work.
85. (3) No elected official or any member of the staff of the Union shall participate in any manner or have any financial interest whatsoever in any enterprise concerned with telecommunications, except as part of their duties. However, the term "financial interest" is not to be construed as applying to the continuation of retirement benefits accruing in respect of previous employment or service.
86. 2. The Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General and the Directors of the International Consultative Committees and desirably also the members of the International Frequency Registration Board shall all be nationals of different countries, Members of the Union. At their election, due consideration should be given to the principles embodied in 87 and to the appropriate geographical distribution amongst the regions of the world.

87. 3. The paramount consideration in the recruitment of staff and in the determination of the conditions of service shall be the necessity of securing for the Union the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity. Due regard shall be paid to the importance of recruiting the staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible.

Article 14. ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK AND CONDUCT OF DISCUSSIONS AT CONFERENCES AND OTHER MEETINGS

88. 1. For the organization of their work and the conduct of their discussions, conferences and the Plenary Assemblies and meetings of the International Consultative Committees shall apply the Rules of Procedure in the General Regulations.
89. 2. Each conference and Plenary Assembly or meeting of an International Consultative Committee may adopt such rules of procedure in amplification of those in the Rules of Procedure as it considers to be indispensable. Such additional rules of procedure must, however, be compatible with the Convention and General Regulations; in the case of those adopted by Plenary Assemblies and study groups, they shall be published in the form of a resolution in the documents of the Plenary Assemblies.

Article 15. FINANCES OF THE UNION

90. 1. The expenses of the Union shall comprise the costs of:
91. a) The Administrative Council and the permanent organs of the Union;
91. b) Plenipotentiary Conferences and world administrative conferences.
92. 2. The expenses of the Union shall be met from the contributions of its Members, each Member paying a sum proportional to the number of units in the class of contribution it has chosen from the following scale:

30	Unit class	5	Unit class
25	Unit class	4	Unit class
20	Unit class	3	Unit class
18	Unit class	2	Unit class
15	Unit class	1 1/2	Unit class
13	Unit class	1	Unit class
10	Unit class	1/2	Unit class
8	Unit class		

93. 3. Members shall be free to choose their class of contribution for defraying Union expenses.
94. 4. No reduction in a unit classification established in accordance with the Convention can take effect during the life of this Convention.
95. 5. Expenses incurred by the regional administrative conferences referred to in 42 shall be borne in accordance with their unit classification by all the Members of the region concerned and, where appropriate, on the same basis by any Members of other regions which have participated in such conferences.
96. 6. Members shall pay in advance their annual contributory shares, calculated on the basis of the budget approved by the Administrative Council.

97. 7. A Member which is in arrear in its payments to the Union shall lose its right to vote as defined in 9 and 10 for so long as the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contribution due from it for the preceding two years.
98. 8. The provisions which apply to the financial contributions by recognized private operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations and international organizations are in the General Regulations.

Article 16. LANGUAGES

99. 1. (1) The official languages of the Union shall be Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.
100. (2) The working languages of the Union shall be English, French and Spanish.
101. (3) In case of dispute, the French text shall prevail.
102. 2. (1) The final documents of the Plenipotentiary and administrative conferences, their final acts, protocols, resolutions, recommendations and opinions, shall be drawn up in the official languages of the Union, in versions equivalent in form and content.
103. (2) All other documents of these conferences shall be issued in the working languages of the Union.
104. 3. (1) The official service documents of the Union as prescribed by the Administrative Regulations shall be published in the five official languages.
105. (2) All other documents for general distribution prepared by the Secretary-General in the course of his duties shall be drawn up in the three working languages.
106. 4. At conferences of the Union and at meetings of the International Consultative Committees and of the Administrative Council, the debates shall be conducted with the aid of an efficient system of reciprocal interpretation between the five official languages. When, however, all participants in a conference or in a meeting so agree, the debates may be conducted in fewer than the five languages mentioned above. Interpretation between these languages and Arabic shall be effected at Plenipotentiary and administrative conferences of the Union.

Article 17. LEGAL CAPACITY OF THE UNION

107. The Union shall enjoy in the territory of each of its Members such legal capacity as may be necessary for the exercise of its functions and the fulfilment of its purposes.

CHAPTER II. GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS

*Article 18. THE RIGHT OF THE PUBLIC TO USE
THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICE*

108. Members recognize the right of the public to correspond by means of the international service of public correspondence. The services, the charges and the safeguards shall be the same for all users in each category of correspondence without any priority or preference.

Article 19. STOPPAGE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

109. 1. Members reserve the right to stop the transmission of any private telegram which may appear dangerous to the security of the State or contrary to their laws, to public order or to decency, provided that they immediately notify the office of origin of the stoppage of any such telegram or any part thereof, except when such notification may appear dangerous to the security of the State.
110. 2. Members also reserve the right to cut off any other private telecommunications which may appear dangerous to the security of the State or contrary to their laws, to public order or to decency.

Article 20. SUSPENSION OF SERVICES

111. Each Member reserves the right to suspend the international telecommunication service for an indefinite time, either generally or only for certain relations and/or for certain kinds of correspondence, outgoing, incoming or in transit, provided that it immediately notifies such action to each of the other Members through the medium of the Secretary-General.

Article 21. RESPONSIBILITY

112. Members accept no responsibility towards users of the international telecommunication services, particularly as regards claims for damages.

Article 22. SECRECY OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

113. 1. Members agree to take all possible measures, compatible with the system of telecommunication used, with a view to ensuring the secrecy of international correspondence.
114. 2. Nevertheless, they reserve the right to communicate such correspondence to the competent authorities in order to ensure the application of their internal laws or the execution of international conventions to which they are parties.

Article 23. ESTABLISHMENT, OPERATION, AND PROTECTION OF TELECOMMUNICATION CHANNELS AND INSTALLATIONS

115. 1. Members shall take such steps as may be necessary to ensure the establishment, under the best technical conditions, of the channels and installations necessary to carry on the rapid and uninterrupted exchange of international telecommunications.
116. 2. So far as possible, these channels and installations must be operated by the methods and procedures which practical operating experience has shown to be the best. They must be maintained in proper operating condition and kept abreast of scientific and technical progress.
117. 3. Members shall safeguard these channels and installations within their jurisdiction.
118. 4. Unless other conditions are laid down by special arrangements, each Member shall take such steps as may be necessary to ensure maintenance of those sections of international telecommunication circuits within its control.

Article 24. NOTIFICATION OF INFRINGEMENTS

119. In order to facilitate the application of the provisions of article 44 Members undertake to inform one another of infringements of the provisions of this Convention and of the Regulations annexed thereto.

*Article 25. PRIORITY OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS
CONCERNING SAFETY OF LIFE*

120. The international telecommunication services must give absolute priority to all telecommunications concerning safety of life at sea, on land, in the air or in outer space, as well as to epidemiological telecommunications of exceptional urgency of the World Health Organization.

*Article 26. PRIORITY OF GOVERNMENT TELEGRAMS
AND TELEPHONE CALLS*

121. Subject to the provisions of articles 25 and 36 government telegrams shall enjoy priority over other telegrams when priority is requested for them by the sender. Government telephone calls may also be given priority, upon specific request and to the extent practicable, over other telephone calls.

Article 27. SECRET LANGUAGE

122. 1. Government telegrams and service telegrams may be expressed in secret language in all relations.
123. 2. Private telegrams in secret language may be admitted between all countries with the exception of those which have previously notified, through the medium of the Secretary-General, that they do not admit this language for that category of correspondence.
124. 3. Members which do not admit private telegrams in secret language originating in or destined for their own territory must let them pass in transit, except in the case of suspension of service provided for in article 20.

Article 28. CHARGES AND FREE SERVICES

125. The provisions regarding charges for telecommunications and the various cases in which free services are accorded are set forth in the Administrative Regulations annexed to this Convention.

Article 29. RENDERING AND SETTLEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

126. The settlement of international accounts shall be regarded as current transactions and shall be effected in accordance with the current international obligations of the countries concerned, in those cases where their governments have concluded arrangements on this subject. Where no such arrangements have been concluded, and in the absence of special agreements made under article 31, these settlements shall be effected in accordance with the Administrative Regulations.

Article 30. MONETARY UNIT

127. The monetary unit used in the composition of the tariffs of the international telecommunication services and in the establishment of the inter-

national accounts shall be the gold franc of 100 centimes, of a weight of 10/31 of a gramme and of a fineness of 0.900.

Article 31. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS

128. Members reserve for themselves, for the private operating agencies recognized by them and for other agencies duly authorized to do so, the right to make special arrangements on telecommunication matters which do not concern Members in general. Such arrangements, however, shall not be in conflict with the terms of this Convention or of the Administrative Regulations annexed thereto, so far as concerns the harmful interference which their operation might be likely to cause to the radio services of other countries.

*Article 32. REGIONAL CONFERENCES, ARRANGEMENTS
AND ORGANIZATIONS*

129. Members reserve the right to convene regional conferences, to make regional arrangements and to form regional organizations, for the purpose of settling telecommunication questions which are susceptible of being treated on a regional basis. Such arrangements shall not be in conflict with this Convention.

CHAPTER III. SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR RADIO

*Article 33. RATIONAL USE OF THE RADIO FREQUENCY SPECTRUM
AND OF THE GEOSTATIONARY SATELLITE ORBIT*

130. 1. Members shall endeavour to limit the number of frequencies and the spectrum space used to the minimum essential to provide in a satisfactory manner the necessary services. To that end they shall endeavour to apply the latest technical advances as soon as possible.
131. 2. In using frequency bands for space radio services Members shall bear in mind that radio frequencies and the geostationary satellite orbit are limited natural resources, that they must be used efficiently and economically so that countries or groups of countries may have equitable access to both in conformity with the provisions of the Radio Regulations according to their needs and the technical facilities at their disposal.

Article 34. INTERCOMMUNICATION

132. 1. Stations performing radiocommunication in the mobile service shall be bound, within the limits of their normal employment, to exchange radiocommunications reciprocally without distinction as to the radio system adopted by them.
133. 2. Nevertheless, in order not to impede scientific progress, the provisions of 132 shall not prevent the use of a radio system incapable of communicating with other systems, provided that such incapacity is due to the specific nature of such system and is not the result of devices adopted solely with the object of preventing intercommunication.
134. 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of 132, a station may be assigned to a restricted international service of telecommunication, determined by the purpose of such service, or by other circumstances independent of the system used.

Article 35. HARMFUL INTERFERENCE

135. 1. All stations, whatever their purpose, must be established and operated in such a manner as not to cause harmful interference to the radio services or communications of other Members or of recognized private operating agencies, or of other duly authorized operating agencies which carry on radio service, and which operate in accordance with the provisions of the Radio Regulations.
136. 2. Each Member undertakes to require the private operating agencies which it recognizes and the other operating agencies duly authorized for this purpose, to observe the provisions of 135.
137. 3. Further, the Members recognize the desirability of taking all practicable steps to prevent the operation of electrical apparatus and installations of all kinds from causing harmful interference to the radio services or communications mentioned in 135.

Article 36. DISTRESS CALLS AND MESSAGES

138. Radio stations shall be obliged to accept, with absolute priority, distress calls and messages regardless of their origin, to reply in the same manner to such messages, and immediately to take such action in regard thereto as may be required.

Article 37. FALSE OR DECEPTIVE DISTRESS, URGENCY, SAFETY OR IDENTIFICATION SIGNALS

139. Members agree to take the steps required to prevent the transmission or circulation of false or deceptive distress, urgency, safety or identification signals, and to collaborate in locating and identifying stations transmitting such signals from their own country.

Article 38. INSTALLATIONS FOR NATIONAL DEFENCE SERVICES

140. 1. Members retain their entire freedom with regard to military radio installations of their army, naval and air forces.
141. 2. Nevertheless, these installations must, so far as possible, observe statutory provisions relative to giving assistance in case of distress and to the measures to be taken to prevent harmful interference, and the provisions of the Administrative Regulations concerning the types of emission and the frequencies to be used, according to the nature of the service performed by such installations.
142. 3. Moreover, when these installations take part in the service of public correspondence or other services governed by the Administrative Regulations annexed to this Convention, they must, in general, comply with the regulatory provisions for the conduct of such services.

CHAPTER IV. RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED NATIONS
AND WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS*Article 39. RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED NATIONS*

143. 1. The relationship between the United Nations and the International Telecommunication Union is defined in the Agreement concluded between

these two organizations, the text of which appears in annex 3 to this Convention.

144. 2. In accordance with the provision of article XVI of the above-mentioned Agreement, the telecommunication operating services of the United Nations shall be entitled to the rights and bound by the obligations of this Convention and of the Administrative Regulations annexed thereto. Accordingly, they shall be entitled to attend all conferences of the Union, including meetings of the International Consultative Committees, in a consultative capacity.

Article 40. RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

145. In furtherance of complete international coordination on matters affecting telecommunication, the Union shall cooperate with international organizations having related interests and activities.

CHAPTER V. APPLICATION OF THE CONVENTION AND THE REGULATIONS

Article 41. BASIC PROVISIONS AND GENERAL REGULATIONS

146. In the case of an inconsistency between a provision in the first part of the Convention (Basic Provisions, 1 to 170) and a provision in the second part of the Convention (General Regulations, 201 to 571) the former shall prevail.

Article 42. ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

147. 1. The provisions of the Convention are completed by the Administrative Regulations which regulate the use of telecommunication and shall be binding on all Members.
148. 2. Ratification of this Convention in accordance with article 45 or accession in accordance with article 46 involves acceptance of the Administrative Regulations in force at the time of ratification or accession.
149. 3. Members shall inform the Secretary-General of their approval of any revision of these Regulations by competent administrative conferences. The Secretary-General shall inform Members promptly regarding receipt of such notifications of approval.
150. 4. In case of inconsistency between a provision of the Convention and a provision of the Administrative Regulations, the Convention shall prevail.

Article 43. VALIDITY OF ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS IN FORCE

151. The Administrative Regulations referred to in 147 are those in force at the time of signature of this Convention. They shall be regarded as annexed to this Convention and shall remain valid, subject to such partial revisions as may be adopted in consequence of the provisions of 44 until the time of entry into force of new Regulations drawn up by the competent world administrative conferences to replace them as annexes to this Convention.

Article 44. EXECUTION OF THE CONVENTION AND REGULATIONS

152. 1. The Members are bound to abide by the provisions of this Convention and the Administrative Regulations in all telecommunication offices and stations established or operated by them which engage in international services or which are capable of causing harmful interference to radio services of other countries, except in regard to services exempted from these obligations in accordance with the provisions of article 38.
153. 2. They are also bound to take the necessary steps to impose the observance of the provisions of this Convention and of the Administrative Regulations upon private operating agencies authorized by them to establish and operate telecommunications and which engage in international services or which operate stations capable of causing harmful interference to the radio services of other countries.

Article 45. RATIFICATION OF THE CONVENTION

154. 1. This Convention shall be ratified by the signatory governments in accordance with the constitutional rules in force in their respective countries. The instruments of ratification shall be deposited, in as short a time as possible, with the Secretary-General by diplomatic channel through the intermediary of the government of the country of the seat of the Union. The Secretary-General shall notify the Members of each deposit of ratification.
155. 2. (1) During a period of two years from the date of entry into force of this Convention a signatory government, even though it may not have deposited an instrument of ratification in accordance with 154, shall enjoy the rights conferred on Members of the Union in 8 to 10.
156. (2) From the end of a period of two years from the date of entry into force of this Convention, a signatory government which has not deposited an instrument of ratification in accordance with 154 shall not be entitled to vote at any conference of the Union, or at any session of the Administrative Council, or at any meeting of any of the permanent organs of the Union, or during consultation by correspondence conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Convention until it has so deposited such an instrument. Its rights, other than voting rights, shall not be affected.
157. 3. After the entry into force of this Convention in accordance with article 52, each instrument of ratification shall become effective on the date of its deposit with the Secretary-General.
158. 4. If one or more of the signatory governments do not ratify the Convention it shall not thereby be less valid for the governments which have ratified it.

Article 46. ACCESSION TO THE CONVENTION

159. 1. The government of a country, not a signatory of this Convention, may accede thereto at any time subject to the provisions of article 1.
160. 2. The instrument of accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General by diplomatic channel through the intermediary of the government of the country of the seat of the Union. Unless otherwise specified therein, it shall become effective upon the date of its deposit. The Secretary-General

shall notify the Members of each accession when it is received and shall forward to each of them a certified copy of the act of accession.

Article 47. DENUNCIATION OF THE CONVENTION

161. 1. Each Member which has ratified, or acceded to, this Convention shall have the right to denounce it by a notification addressed to the Secretary-General by diplomatic channel through the intermediary of the government of the country of the seat of the Union. The Secretary-General shall advise the other Members thereof.
162. 2. This denunciation shall take effect at the expiration of a period of one year from the day of the receipt of notification of it by the Secretary-General.

Article 48. ABROGATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION CONVENTION (MONTREUX, 1965)

163. This Convention shall abrogate and replace, in relations between the Contracting Governments, the International Telecommunication Convention (Montreux, 1965).¹

Article 49. RELATIONS WITH NON-CONTRACTING STATES

164. Each Member reserves to itself and to the recognized private operating agencies the right to fix the conditions on which it admits telecommunications exchanged with a State which is not a party to this Convention. If a telecommunication originating in the territory of such a non-contracting State is accepted by a Member, it must be transmitted and, in so far as it follows the telecommunication channels of a Member, the obligatory provisions of the Convention and Administrative Regulations and the usual charges shall apply to it.

Article 50. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

165. 1. Members may settle their disputes on questions relating to the interpretation or application of this Convention or of the Regulations contemplated in article 42, through diplomatic channels, or according to procedures established by bilateral or multilateral treaties concluded between them for the settlement of international disputes, or by any other method mutually agreed upon.
166. 2. If none of these methods of settlement is adopted, any Member party to a dispute may submit the dispute to arbitration in accordance with the procedure defined in the General Regulations or in the Optional Additional Protocol, as the case may be.

CHAPTER VI. DEFINITIONS

Article 51. DEFINITIONS

167. In this Convention unless the context otherwise requires:
- a) The terms which are defined in annex 2 to this Convention shall have the meanings therein assigned to them;

¹ International Telecommunication Union, *International Telecommunication Convention, Montreux, 1965* (Geneva).

168. *b)* Other terms which are defined in the Regulations referred to in article 42 shall have the meanings therein assigned to them.

CHAPTER VII. FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 52. EFFECTIVE DATE AND REGISTRATION OF THE CONVENTION

169. The present Convention shall enter into force on 1 January 1975 between Members in respect of which instruments of ratification or accession have been deposited before that date.
170. In accordance with the provisions of Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Secretary-General of the Union shall register the present Convention with the Secretariat of the United Nations.

SECOND PART. GENERAL REGULATIONS

CHAPTER VIII. FUNCTIONING OF THE UNION

Article 53. PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

201. 1. (1) The Plenipotentiary Conference shall be convened at regular intervals and normally every five years.
202. (2) If practicable, the date and place of a Plenipotentiary Conference shall be set by the preceding Plenipotentiary Conference; failing this, they shall be fixed by the Administrative Council with the concurrence of the majority of the Members of the Union.
203. 2. (1) The date and place of the next Plenipotentiary Conference, or either one of these, may be changed:
- a)* When at least one-quarter of the Members of the Union have individually proposed a change to the Secretary-General; or
204. *b)* On a proposal of the Administrative Council.
205. (2) In either case a new date or place or both shall be fixed with the concurrence of a majority of the Members of the Union.

Article 54. ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCES

206. 1. (1) The agenda of an administrative conference shall be established by the Administrative Council with the concurrence of a majority of the Members of the Union in the case of a world administrative conference, or of a majority of the Members belonging to the region concerned in the case of a regional administrative conference, subject to the provisions of 225.
207. (2) This agenda shall include any question which a Plenipotentiary Conference has directed to be placed on the agenda.
208. (3) A world administrative conference dealing with radiocommunication may also include in its agenda an item concerning instructions to the International Frequency Registration Board regarding its activities and a review of those activities.

209. 2. (1) A world administrative conference shall be convened:
- a) By a decision of a Plenipotentiary Conference which may fix the date and place of its meeting;
210. b) On the recommendation of a previous world administrative conference if approved by the Administrative Council;
211. c) At the request of at least one-quarter of the Members of the Union, who shall individually address their requests to the Secretary-General; or
212. d) On a proposal of the Administrative Council.
213. (2) In the cases specified in 210, 211 and 212 and, if necessary, in the case specified in 209, the date and place of meeting shall be determined by the Administrative Council with the concurrence of a majority of the Members of the Union, subject to the provisions of 225.
214. 3. (1) A regional administrative conference shall be convened:
- a) By a decision of a Plenipotentiary Conference;
215. b) On the recommendation of a previous world or regional administrative conference if approved by the Administrative Council;
216. c) At the request of at least one-quarter of the Members belonging to the region concerned, who shall individually address their requests to the Secretary-General; or
217. d) On a proposal of the Administrative Council.
218. (2) In the cases specified in 215, 216 and 217 and, if necessary, in the case specified in 214, the date and place of meeting shall be determined by the Administrative Council with the concurrence of a majority of the Members of the Union belonging to the region concerned, subject to the provisions of 225.
219. 4. (1) The agenda, or date or place of an administrative conference may be changed:
- a) At the request of at least one-quarter of the Members of the Union in the case of a world administrative conference, or of a least one-quarter of the Members of the Union belonging to the region concerned in the case of a regional administrative conference. Their requests shall be addressed individually to the Secretary-General, who shall transmit them to the Administrative Council for approval; or
220. b) On a proposal of the Administrative Council.
221. (2) In cases specified in 219 and 220 the changes proposed shall not be finally adopted until accepted by a majority of the Members of the Union, in the case of a world administrative conference, or of a majority of the Members of the Union belonging to the region concerned, in the case of a regional administrative conference, subject to the provisions of 225.
222. 5. (1) The Administrative Council may deem it advisable for the main session of an administrative conference to be preceded by a preparatory meeting to draw up proposals for the technical bases of the work of the conference.
223. (2) The convening of such a preparatory meeting and its agenda must be approved by a majority of the Members of the Union in the case of a

world administrative conference, or by a majority of the Members of the Union belonging to the region concerned, in the case of a regional administrative conference, subject to the provisions of 225.

224. (3) Unless the Plenary Meeting of a preparatory session of an administrative conference decides otherwise, the texts finally approved by it will be assembled in a report which will also be approved by a Plenary Meeting and signed by the Chairman.
225. 6. In the consultations referred to in 206, 213, 218, 221 and 223 Members of the Union who have not replied within the time limits specified by the Administrative Council shall be regarded as not participating in the consultations, and in consequence shall not be taken into account in computing the majority. If the number of replies does not exceed one-half of the Members consulted, a further consultation shall take place the results of which shall be decisive regardless of the number of votes cast.

Article 55. ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

226. 1. (1) The Administrative Council is composed of Members of the Union elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference.
227. (2) If between two Plenipotentiary Conferences a seat becomes vacant on the Administrative Council, it shall pass by right to the Member of the Union from the same region as the Member whose seat is vacated, which had obtained at the previous election the largest number of votes among those not elected.
228. (3) A seat on the Administrative Council shall be considered vacant:
- a) When a Council Member does not have a representative in attendance at two consecutive annual sessions of the Administrative Council;
229. b) When a Member of the Union resigns its membership on the Council.
230. 2. The person appointed to serve on the Council by a Member of the Administrative Council shall, so far as possible, be an official serving in, or directly responsible to, or for, their telecommunications administration and qualified in the field of telecommunication services.
231. 3. The Administrative Council shall elect its own Chairman and Vice-Chairman at the beginning of each annual session. They shall serve until the opening of the next annual session and shall be eligible for re-election. The Vice-Chairman shall serve as Chairman in the absence of the latter.
232. 4. (1) The Administrative Council shall hold an annual session at the seat of the Union.
233. (2) During this session it may decide to hold, exceptionally, an additional session.
234. (3) Between ordinary sessions, it may be convened, as a general rule at the seat of the Union, by its Chairman at the request of a majority of its Members or at the call of the Chairman under the conditions provided for in 255.
235. 5. The Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General, the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the International Frequency Registration Board and the Directors of the International Consultative Committees

may participate as of right in the deliberations of the Administrative Council, but without taking part in the voting. Nevertheless, the Council may hold meetings confined to its own members.

236. 6. The Secretary-General shall act as secretary of the Administrative Council.
237. 7. The Administrative Council shall make decisions only in session.
238. 8. The representative of each Member of the Administrative Council shall have the right to attend, as an observer, all meetings of the permanent organs of the Union mentioned in 26, 27 and 28.
239. 9. Only the travelling and subsistence expenses incurred by the representative of each Member of the Administrative Council in this capacity at Council sessions shall be borne by the Union.
240. 10. In the discharge of its duties prescribed in the Convention, the Administrative Council shall in particular:
- a) In the interval between Plenipotentiary Conferences, be responsible for effecting the coordination with all international organizations referred to in articles 39 and 40 and to this end, shall conclude, on behalf of the Union, provisional agreements with the international organizations referred to in article 40, and with the United Nations in application of the Agreement between the United Nations and the International Telecommunication Union; these provisional agreements shall be submitted to the next Plenipotentiary Conference in accordance with 39;
 - 241. b) Decide on the numbers and grading of the staff of the General Secretariat and of the specialized secretariats of the permanent organs of the Union, taking into account the general directives given by the Plenipotentiary Conference;
 - 242. c) Draw up such regulations as it may consider necessary for the administrative and financial activities of the Union; and also the administrative regulations to take account of current practice of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies applying the Common System of pay, allowances and pensions;
 - 243. d) Supervise the administrative functions of the Union;
 - 244. e) Review and approve the annual budget of the Union, taking account of the limits for expenditure set by the Plenipotentiary Conference and ensuring the strictest possible economy but mindful of the obligation upon the Union to achieve satisfactory results as expeditiously as possible through conferences and the work programmes of the permanent organs; in so doing, the Council shall also take into account the work plans mentioned in 286 and any cost-benefit analyses mentioned in 287;
 - 245. f) Arrange for the annual audit of the accounts of the Union prepared by the Secretary-General and approve them, if appropriate, for submission to the next Plenipotentiary Conference;
 - 246. g) Adjust as necessary:
 - 1. The basic salary scales for staff in the professional categories and above, excluding the salaries for posts filled by election, to accord

- with any changes in the basic salary scales adopted by the United Nations for the corresponding Common System categories;
247. 2. The basic salary scales for staff in the general services categories to accord with changes in the rates applied by the United Nations and the specialized agencies at the seat of the Union;
248. 3. The post adjustment for professional categories and above, including posts filled by election, in accordance with decisions of the United Nations for application at the seat of the Union;
249. 4. The allowances for all staff of the Union, in accordance with any changes adopted in the United Nations Common System;
250. 5. The contributions payable by the Union and the staff to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, in accordance with the decisions of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board;
251. 6. The cost-of-living allowances granted to beneficiaries of the Union Staff Superannuation and Benevolent Funds on the basis of practice in the United Nations;
252. *h*) Arrange for the convening of Plenipotentiary and administrative conferences of the Union in accordance with articles 53 and 54;
253. *i*) Offer to the Plenipotentiary Conference of the Union any recommendations deemed useful;
254. *j*) Review and coordinate the work programmes as well as their progress and the working arrangements, including the meeting schedules, of the permanent organs of the Union and take such action as it deems appropriate;
255. *k*) Provide for the filling of any vacancy in the office of Secretary-General and/or Deputy Secretary-General in the situation described in 59 or 60, at a regular meeting, if held within 90 days after a vacancy occurs, or at a meeting convened by the Chairman within the time periods specified in 59 or 60;
256. *l*) Provide for the filling of any vacancy in the office of Director of either of the International Consultative Committees at the next regular meeting following the occurrence of such a vacancy; directors so selected shall serve until the next Plenary Assembly as provided for in 305 and shall be eligible for election to such posts;
257. *m*) Provide for the filling of vacancies for members of the International Frequency Registration Board in accordance with the procedure in 297;
258. *n*) Perform the other functions prescribed for it in the Convention and, within the framework of the Convention and the Administrative Regulations, any functions deemed necessary for the proper administration of the Union or its permanent organs taken individually;
259. *o*) Take the necessary steps, with the agreement of a majority of the Members of the Union, provisionally to resolve questions not covered by the Convention, the Administrative Regulations and their annexes and which cannot await the next competent conference for settlement;
260. *p*) Submit a report on the activities of all the organs of the Union since the previous Plenipotentiary Conference;

261. *q)* Send to Members of the Union, as soon as possible after each of its sessions, summary records on the activities of the Administrative Council and other documents deemed useful.

Article 56. GENERAL SECRETARIAT

262. 1. The Secretary-General shall:
- a)* Coordinate the activities of the different permanent organs with the advice and assistance of the Coordination Committee referred to in 80 with a view to assuring the most effective and economical use of personnel and of the financial and other resources of the Union;
263. *b)* Organize the work of the General Secretariat and appoint the staff of that Secretariat in accordance with the directives of the Plenipotentiary Conference and the rules established by the Administrative Council;
264. *c)* Undertake administrative arrangements for the specialized secretariats of the permanent organs of the Union and appoint the staff of those secretariats in agreement with the Head of each permanent organ; the appointments shall be made on the basis of the latter's choice, but the final decision for appointment or dismissal shall rest with the Secretary-General;
265. *d)* Report to the Administrative Council any decisions taken by the United Nations and the specialized agencies which affect Common System conditions of service, allowances and pensions;
266. *e)* Ensure the application of the financial and administrative regulations approved by the Administrative Council;
267. *f)* Provide legal advice to the organs of the Union;
268. *g)* Supervise, for administrative management purposes, the staff of the Headquarters of the Union with a view to assuring the most effective use of personnel and the application of the Common System conditions of employment for the staff of the Union; the staff appointed to assist directly the Directors of the Consultative Committees and the International Frequency Registration Board shall work under the direct orders of those senior officials concerned but in accordance with general administrative directives of the Administrative Council and of the Secretary-General;
269. *h)* In the interest of the Union as a whole and in consultation with the Chairman of the International Frequency Registration Board or the Director of the Consultative Committee concerned, temporarily reassign staff members from their appointed position as necessary to meet fluctuating work requirements at Headquarters; the Secretary-General shall report such temporary reassignments including the financial implications thereof, to the Administrative Council;
270. *i)* Undertake secretarial work preparatory to, and following conferences of the Union;
271. *j)* Provide, where appropriate in cooperation with the inviting government, the secretariat of conferences of the Union, and provide the facilities and services for meetings of the permanent organs of the Union in collaboration with their respective Heads, drawing from

- the Union's staff as he deems necessary in accordance with 269; the Secretary-General may also when so requested, provide the secretariat of other telecommunication meetings on a contractual basis;
272. *k*) Keep up to date the official lists, compiled from data supplied for this purpose by the permanent organs of the Union or by administrations, with the exception of the master registers and such other essential records as may be related to the duties of the International Frequency Registration Board;
273. *l*) Publish the principal reports of the permanent organs of the Union, the recommendations and the operating instructions derived from such recommendations for use in the international telecommunication services;
274. *m*) Publish international and regional telecommunication agreements communicated to him by the parties thereto, and keep up-to-date records of these agreements;
275. *n*) Publish the technical standards of the International Frequency Registration Board, as well as such other data concerning the assignment and utilization of frequencies as are prepared by the Board in the discharge of its duties;
276. *o*) Prepare, publish and keep up to date with the assistance, where appropriate, of the other permanent organs of the Union:
1. A record of the composition and structure of the Union;
 277. 2. The general statistics and the official service documents of the Union as prescribed by the Administrative Regulations;
 278. 3. Such other documents as conferences or the Administrative Council may direct;
279. *p*) Collect and publish, in suitable form, data, both national and international, regarding telecommunication throughout the world;
280. *q*) Assemble and publish, in cooperation with the other permanent organs of the Union, both technical and administrative information that might be specially useful to developing countries in order to help them to improve their telecommunication networks; their attention shall also be drawn to the possibilities offered by the international programmes under the auspices of the United Nations;
281. *r*) Collect and publish such information as would be of assistance to Members regarding the development of technical methods with a view to achieving the most efficient operation of telecommunication services and specially the best possible use of radio frequencies so as to diminish interference;
282. *s*) Publish periodically, with the help of information put at his disposal or which he may collect, including that which he may obtain from other international organizations, a journal of general information and documentation concerning telecommunication;
283. *t*) Determine, in consultation with the Director of the International Consultative Committee concerned or, as appropriate, the Chairman of the International Frequency Registration Board, the form and presentation

- of all publications of the Union, taking into account the nature and the contents as well as the most suitable and economical means of publication;
284. *u*) Arrange the timely distribution of the published documents;
285. *v*) After having made what economies are possible, prepare and submit to the Administrative Council annual budget estimates which, after approval by the Council, shall be transmitted for information to all Members of the Union;
286. *w*) Prepare and submit to the Administrative Council future work plans comprising the main activities at the Headquarters of the Union according to directives of the Administrative Council;
287. *x*) To the extent the Administrative Council finds it appropriate, prepare and submit to the Administrative Council cost-benefit analyses of the main activities at the Headquarters of the Union;
288. *y*) Prepare a financial operating report and accounts to be submitted annually to the Administrative Council and recapitulative accounts immediately preceding each Plenipotentiary Conference; these accounts, after audit and approval by the Administrative Council, shall be circulated to the Members and be submitted to the next Plenipotentiary Conference for examination and final approval;
289. *z*) Prepare an annual report on the activities of the Union which, after approval by the Administrative Council, shall be transmitted to all Members;
290. *aa*) Perform all other secretarial functions of the Union.
291. 2. The Secretary-General or the Deputy Secretary-General may participate, in a consultative capacity, in Plenary Assemblies of the International Consultative Committees and in all conferences of the Union; the Secretary-General or his representative may participate in a consultative capacity in all other meetings of the Union; their participation in the meetings of the Administrative Council is governed by 235.

Article 57. INTERNATIONAL FREQUENCY REGISTRATION BOARD

292. 1. (1) The members of the International Frequency Registration Board shall be thoroughly qualified by technical training in the field of radio and shall possess practical experience in the assignment and utilization of frequencies.
293. (2) Moreover, for the more effective understanding of the problems coming before the Board under 67, each member shall be familiar with geographic, economic and demographic conditions within a particular area of the world.
294. 2. (1) The election procedure shall be established by the conference responsible for the election as defined in 63.
295. (2) At each election any serving member of the Board may be proposed again as a candidate by the country of which he is a national.
296. (3) The members of the Board shall take up their duties on the date fixed by the Plenipotentiary Conference which elected them. They shall

normally remain in office until the date fixed by the conference which elects their successors.

297. (4) If in the interval between two Plenipotentiary Conferences which elect members of the Board, an elected member of the Board resigns or abandons his duties or dies, the Chairman of the Board shall request the Secretary-General to invite the countries, Members of the Union, of the region concerned to propose candidates for the election of a replacement at the next annual session of the Administrative Council. However, if the vacancy occurs more than ninety days before the session of the Administrative Council, the country of which the member concerned was a national shall designate, as soon as possible and within ninety days, a replacement who shall also be a national of that country and who will remain in office until the new member elected by the Administrative Council takes office. The replacement shall be eligible for election by the Administrative Council.
298. (5) In order to safeguard the efficient operation of the Board, any country a national of which has been elected to the Board, shall refrain, as far as possible, from recalling that person between two Plenipotentiary Conferences which elect members of the Board.
299. 3. (1) The working arrangements of the Board are defined in the Radio Regulations.
300. (2) The members of the Board shall elect from their own numbers a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman, for a period of one year. Thereafter the Vice-Chairman shall succeed the Chairman each year and a new Vice-Chairman shall be elected.
301. (3) The Board shall be assisted by a specialized secretariat.
302. 4. No member of the Board shall request or receive instructions relating to the exercise of his duties from any government or a member thereof, or from any public or private organization or person. Furthermore, each Member must respect the international character of the Board and of the duties of its members and shall refrain from any attempt to influence any of them in the exercise of their duties.

Article 58. INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES

303. 1. Each International Consultative Committee shall work through the medium of:
- a) The Plenary Assembly, preferably meeting every three years; when a corresponding world administrative conference has been convened, the Plenary Assembly should meet, if possible, at least eight months before this conference;
304. b) Study groups, which shall be set up by the Plenary Assembly to deal with questions to be examined;
305. c) A Director elected by the Plenary Assembly initially for a period equal to twice the interval between two consecutive Plenary Assemblies, i.e. normally for six years; he shall be eligible for reelection at each subsequent Plenary Assembly and if re-elected shall then remain in office until the date of the next Plenary Assembly, normally for three years;

when the position becomes unexpectedly vacant, the following Plenary Assembly shall elect the new Director;

306. *d)* A specialized secretariat, which assists the Director;
307. *e)* Laboratories or technical installations set up by the Union.
308. 2. (1) The questions studied by each International Consultative Committee, on which it shall issue recommendations, shall be those referred to it by the Plenipotentiary Conference, by an administrative conference, by the Administrative Council, by the other Consultative Committee, or by the International Frequency Registration Board, in addition to those decided upon by the Plenary Assembly of the Consultative Committee itself, or, in the interval between its Plenary Assemblies, when requested or approved by correspondence by at least twenty Members of the Union.
309. (2) At the request of the countries concerned, each Consultative Committee may also study and offer advice concerning their national telecommunication problems. The study of such problems should be in accordance with 308.

Article 59. COORDINATION COMMITTEE

310. 1. (1) The Coordination Committee shall help the Secretary-General in the duties assigned to him under 282, 285, 288 and 289.
311. (2) The Committee shall be responsible for ensuring coordination with all the international organizations mentioned in articles 39 and 40 as regards representation of the permanent organs of the Union at conferences of such organizations.
312. (3) The Committee shall examine the progress of the work of the Union in technical cooperation and submit recommendations, through the Secretary-General, to the Administrative Council.
313. 2. The Committee shall endeavour to reach conclusions unanimously. The Secretary-General may, however, take decisions even when he does not have the support of two or more other members of the Committee, provided he judges that decision of the matters in question cannot await the next session of the Administrative Council. In such circumstances he shall report promptly in writing on such matters to the members of the Administrative Council, setting forth his reasons for such action together with any other written views submitted by other members of the Committee.
314. 3. The Committee shall meet when convened by its Chairman and, normally, at least once a month.

CHAPTER IX. GENERAL PROVISIONS REGARDING CONFERENCES

Article 60. INVITATION AND ADMISSION TO PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCES WHEN THERE IS AN INVITING GOVERNMENT

315. 1. The inviting government, in agreement with the Administrative Council, shall fix the definitive date and the exact place of the conference.
316. 2. (1) One year before this date, the inviting government shall send an invitation to the government of each country Member of the Union.

317. (2) These invitations may be sent directly or through the Secretary-General or through another government.
318. 3. The Secretary-General shall send an invitation to the United Nations in accordance with article 39 and to any of the regional telecommunication organizations mentioned in article 32 if requested by it.
319. 4. The inviting government, in agreement with or on a proposal by the Administrative Council, may invite the specialized agencies of the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency to send observers to take part in the conference in an advisory capacity, on the basis of reciprocity.
320. 5. (1) The replies of the Members must reach the inviting government not later than one month before the date of opening of the conference and should include whenever possible full information on the composition of the delegation.
321. (2) These replies may be sent directly to the inviting government or through the Secretary-General or through another government.
322. 6. Any permanent organ of the Union shall be entitled to be represented at the conference in an advisory capacity when the conference is discussing matters coming within its competence. If necessary, the conference may invite an organ which has not considered it necessary to be represented.
323. 7. The following shall be admitted to Plenipotentiary Conferences:
- 324. a) Delegations as defined in annex 2;
 - 325. b) Observers of the United Nations;
 - 326. c) Observers of regional telecommunication organizations in conformity with 318;
 - 327. d) Observers of the specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency in conformity with 319.

Article 61. INVITATION AND ADMISSION TO ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCES
WHEN THERE IS AN INVITING GOVERNMENT

327. 1. (1) The provisions of 315 to 321 shall apply to administrative conferences.
328. (2) However, the time limit for the despatch of invitations may be reduced to six months if necessary.
329. (3) Members of the Union may inform the private operating agencies recognized by them of the invitation they have received.
330. 2. (1) The inviting government, in agreement with or on a proposal by the Administrative Council, may notify the international organizations which are interested in sending observers to participate in the conference in an advisory capacity.
331. (2) The interested international organizations shall send an application for admission to the inviting government within a period of two months from the date of notification.

332. (3) The inviting government shall assemble the requests and the conference itself shall decide whether the organizations concerned are to be admitted.
333. 3. The following shall be admitted to administrative conferences:
- a) Delegations as defined in annex 2;
 - 334. b) Observers of the United Nations;
 - 335. c) Observers of regional telecommunication organizations mentioned in article 32;
 - 336. d) Observers of the specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency in conformity with 319;
 - 337. e) Observers of international organizations admitted in accordance with 330 to 332;
 - 338. f) Representatives of recognized private operating agencies, duly authorized by the Member to which they belong;
 - 339. g) Permanent organs of the Union, subject to the conditions set forth in 322.

Article 62. PROCEDURE FOR CALLING WORLD ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCES AT THE REQUEST OF MEMBERS OF THE UNION OR ON A PROPOSAL OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

340. 1. Any Member of the Union wishing to have a world administrative conference convened shall so inform the Secretary-General, indicating the proposed agenda, place and date of the conference.
341. 2. On receipt of similar requests from at least one-quarter of the Members of the Union, the Secretary-General shall inform all Members thereof by telegram, asking them to indicate, within six weeks, whether or not they agree to the proposal.
342. 3. If a majority of the Members, determined in accordance with 225, agree to the proposal as a whole, that is to say, if they accept the agenda, date and place of the proposed meeting, the Secretary-General shall so inform the Members of the Union by circular telegram.
343. 4. (1) If the proposal accepted is for a conference elsewhere than at the seat of the Union, the Secretary-General shall ask the government of the country concerned whether it agrees to act as inviting government.
344. (2) If the answer is in the affirmative, the Secretary-General, with the assent of the government concerned, shall take the necessary steps to convene the conference.
345. (3) If the answer is in the negative, the Secretary-General shall request the Members desiring the conference to make alternative suggestions for the place of the conference.
346. 5. Where the proposal accepted is for a conference at the seat of the Union, the provisions of article 64 shall apply.
347. 6. (1) If the proposal as a whole (agenda, date and place) is not accepted by a majority of the Members, determined in accordance with 225, the Secretary-General shall inform the Members of the Union of the replies

received, requesting them to give a final reply on the point or points under dispute within six weeks of receipt.

348. (2) Such points shall be regarded as adopted when they have been approved by a majority of the Members, determined in accordance with 225.

349. 7. The procedure indicated above shall also be applicable when the proposal to convene a world administrative conference is initiated by the Administrative Council.

Article 63. PROCEDURE FOR CONVENING REGIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCES AT THE REQUEST OF MEMBERS OF THE UNION OR ON A PROPOSAL OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

350. In the case of a regional administrative conference, the procedure described in article 62 shall be applicable only to the Members of the region concerned. If the conference is to be convened on the initiative of the Members of the region, it will suffice for the Secretary-General to receive concordant requests from a quarter of the total number of Members in that region.

Article 64. PROVISIONS FOR CONFERENCES MEETING WHEN THERE IS NO INVITING GOVERNMENT

351. When a conference is to be held without an inviting government, the provisions of articles 60 and 61 apply. The Secretary-General shall take the necessary steps to convene and organize it at the seat of the Union, after agreement with the Government of the Swiss Confederation.

Article 65. PROVISIONS COMMON TO ALL CONFERENCES: CHANGE IN THE DATE OR PLACE OF A CONFERENCE

352. 1. The provisions of articles 62 and 63 shall apply, by analogy, when a change in the date or place of a conference is requested by Members of the Union or is proposed by the Administrative Council. However, such changes shall only be made if a majority of the Members concerned, determined in accordance with 225, have pronounced in favour.

353. 2. It shall be the responsibility of any Member proposing a change in the date or place of a conference to obtain for its proposal the support of the requisite number of other Members.

354. 3. Where the issue arises, the Secretary-General shall indicate, in the communication referred to in 341, the probable financial consequences of a change in the date or place, as, for example, when there has been an outlay of expenditure in preparing for the conference at the place initially chosen.

Article 66. TIME-LIMITS FOR PRESENTATION OF PROPOSALS TO CONFERENCES AND CONDITIONS OF SUBMISSION

355. 1. Immediately after the invitations have been despatched, the Secretary-General shall ask Members to send him, within four months, their proposals for the work of the conference.

356. 2. All proposals the adoption of which will involve revision of the text of the Convention or Administrative Regulations must carry references

identifying by their marginal numbers those parts of the text which will require such revision. The reasons for the proposal must be given, as briefly as possible, in each case.

357. 3. The Secretary-General shall communicate the proposals to all Members as they are received.
358. 4. The Secretary-General shall assemble and coordinate the proposals received from administrations and from the Plenary Assemblies of the International Consultative Committees and shall communicate them to Members at least three months before the opening of the conference. The Secretary-General, the Directors of the International Consultative Committees and the members of the International Frequency Registration Board shall not be entitled to submit proposals.

Article 67. CREDENTIALS FOR DELEGATIONS TO CONFERENCES

359. 1. The delegation sent by a Member of the Union to a conference shall be duly accredited in accordance with 360 to 366.
360. 2. (1) Accreditation of delegations to Plenipotentiary Conferences shall be by means of instruments signed by the Head of State, by the Head of the Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.
361. (2) Accreditation of delegations to administrative conferences shall be by means of instruments signed by the Head of State, by the Head of the Government, by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or by the Minister responsible for questions dealt with during the conference.
362. (3) Subject to confirmation prior to the signature of the Final Acts, by one of the authorities mentioned in 360 or 361, delegations may be provisionally accredited by the Head of the diplomatic mission of the country concerned to the government of the country in which the conference is held. In the case of a conference held in the country of the seat of the Union, a delegation may also be provisionally accredited by the Head of the Permanent Delegation of the country concerned to the United Nations Office at Geneva.
363. 3. Credentials shall be accepted if they are signed by the appropriate authority mentioned under 360 to 362, and fulfil one of the following criteria:
364. —They confer full powers;
365. —They authorize the delegation to represent its government, without restrictions;
366. —They give the delegation, or certain members thereof, the right to sign the Final Acts.
367. 4. (1) A delegation whose credentials are found to be in order by the Plenary Meeting shall be entitled to exercise the right to vote of the Member concerned and to sign the Final Acts.
368. (2) A delegation whose credentials are found not to be in order by the Plenary Meeting shall not be entitled to exercise the right to vote or to sign the Final Acts until the situation has been rectified.

369. 5. Credentials shall be deposited with the secretariat of the conference as early as possible. A special committee shall be entrusted with the verification thereof and shall report on its conclusions to the Plenary Meeting within the time specified by the latter. Pending the decision of the Plenary Meeting thereon, a delegation of a Member of the Union shall be entitled to participate in the conference and to exercise the right to vote of the Member concerned.
370. 6. As a general rule, Members of the Union should endeavour to send their own delegations to conferences of the Union. However, if a Member is unable, for exceptional reasons, to send its own delegation, it may give the delegation of another Member powers to vote and sign on its behalf. Such powers must be conveyed by means of an instrument signed by one of the authorities mentioned in 360 or 361.
371. 7. A delegation with the right to vote may give to another delegation with the right to vote a mandate to exercise its vote at one or more meetings at which it is unable to be present. In such a case it shall, in good time, notify the Chairman of the conference in writing.
372. 8. A delegation may not exercise more than one proxy vote.
373. 9. Credentials and the transfer of powers sent by telegram shall not be accepted. Nevertheless, replies sent by telegram to requests by the Chairman or the secretariat of the conference for clarification of credentials shall be accepted.

CHAPTER X. GENERAL PROVISIONS REGARDING INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES

Article 68. CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

374. 1. The members of the International Consultative Committees referred to in 73 and 74 may participate in all the activities of the Consultative Committee concerned.
375. 2. (1) The first request from a recognized private operating agency to take part in the work of a Consultative Committee shall be addressed to the Secretary-General who shall inform all the Members and the Director of that Consultative Committee. The request from a recognized private operating agency must be approved by the Member recognizing it. The Director of the Consultative Committee shall advise the recognized private operating agency of the action taken on its request.
376. (2) A recognized private operating agency may not act on behalf of the Member which has recognized it unless that Member informs the Consultative Committee concerned in each particular case that it is authorized to do so.
377. 3. (1) International organizations and regional telecommunication organizations mentioned in article 32 which coordinate their work with the International Telecommunication Union and which have related activities may be admitted to participate in the work of the Consultative Committees in an advisory capacity.

378. (2) The first request from an international organization or regional telecommunication organization mentioned in article 32 to take part in the work of a Consultative Committee shall be addressed to the Secretary-General who shall inform by telegram all the Members and invite Members to say whether the request should be granted; the request shall be granted if the majority of the replies of the Members received within a period of one month are favourable. The Secretary-General shall inform all the Members and the Director of the Consultative Committee concerned of the result of the consultation.
379. 4. (1) Scientific or industrial organizations, which are engaged in the study of telecommunication problems or in the design or manufacture of equipment intended for telecommunication services, may be admitted to participate in an advisory capacity in meetings of the study groups of the Consultative Committees, provided that their participation has received approval of the administrations of the countries concerned.
380. (2) The first request from a scientific or industrial organization for admission to meetings of study groups of a Consultative Committee shall be addressed to the Secretary-General who shall inform all the Members and the Director of that Consultative Committee. The request must be approved by the administration of the country concerned. The Director of the Consultative Committee shall advise the scientific or industrial organization of the action taken on its request.
381. 5. Any recognized private operating agency, international organization, regional telecommunication organization or scientific or industrial organization allowed to take part in the work of an International Consultative Committee has the right to denounce such participation by notifying the Secretary-General. Such denunciation shall take effect at the end of one year from the date when notification is received by the Secretary-General.

Article 69. DUTIES OF THE PLENARY ASSEMBLY

382. The Plenary Assembly shall:
383. a) Consider the reports of study groups and approve, modify or reject the draft recommendations contained in these reports;
383. b) Consider existing questions as to whether or not their study should be continued, and prepare a list of the new questions to be studied in conformity with 308; in formulating new questions it shall be borne in mind that, in principle, their consideration should be completed in the period which is twice the interval between two Plenary Assemblies;
384. c) Approve the programme of work arising from the consideration in 383, determine the order of questions to be studied according to their importance, priority and urgency;
385. d) Decide, in the light of the approved programme of work derived from 384 whether or not existing study groups should be maintained or dissolved and whether or not new study groups should be set up;
386. e) Allocate to study groups the questions to be studied;
387. f) Consider and approve the report of the Director on the activities of the Committee since the last meeting of the Plenary Assembly;

388. g) Approve, if appropriate, for submission to the Administrative Council, the estimate of the financial needs of the Committee up to the next Plenary Assembly, as submitted by the Director in accordance with 416;
389. h) Consider any other matters deemed necessary within the provisions of article 11 and of this chapter.

Article 70. MEETINGS OF THE PLENARY ASSEMBLY

390. 1. The Plenary Assembly shall normally meet at a date and place fixed by the preceding Plenary Assembly.
391. 2. The date and place, or either, of the meeting of the Plenary Assembly may be changed with the approval of the majority of the Members of the Union replying to the Secretary-General's request for their opinion.
392. 3. At each of these meetings, the Plenary Assembly shall be presided over by the Head of the delegation of the country in which the meeting is held or, in the case of a meeting held at the seat of the Union, by a person elected by the Plenary Assembly itself. The Chairman shall be assisted by Vice-Chairmen elected by the Plenary Assembly.
393. 4. The Secretary-General shall be responsible for making the necessary administrative and financial arrangements, in agreement with the Director of the Consultative Committee concerned, for meetings of the Plenary Assembly and the study groups.

Article 71. LANGUAGES AND RIGHT TO VOTE IN PLENARY ASSEMBLIES

394. 1. (1) The languages used in the Plenary Assemblies shall be as provided in articles 16 and 78.
395. (2) The preparatory documents of study groups, the documents and minutes of Plenary Assemblies and the documents published after these Assemblies by the International Consultative Committees shall be issued in the three working languages of the Union.
396. 2. The Members which are authorized to vote at sessions of Plenary Assemblies of the Consultative Committees are those to which reference is made in 9 and 155. However, when a country, Member of the Union, is not represented by an administration, the representatives of the recognized private operating agencies of that country shall, as a whole, and regardless of their number, be entitled to a single vote, subject to the provisions of 376.
397. 3. The provisions of 370 to 373 concerning the transfer of powers shall apply to Plenary Assemblies.

Article 72. STUDY GROUPS

398. 1. The Plenary Assembly shall set up and maintain as necessary study groups to deal with questions to be studied. The administrations, recognized private operating agencies, international organizations and regional telecommunication organizations admitted in accordance with 377 and 378 which desire to take part in the work of the study groups shall give in their names either at the meeting of the Plenary Assembly or, at a later date, to the Director of the Consultative Committee concerned.

399. 2. In addition, and subject to the provisions of 379 and 380, experts of scientific or industrial organizations may be admitted to take part in an advisory capacity in any meeting of any study group.
400. 3. The Plenary Assembly shall normally appoint a Chairman and one Vice-Chairman of each study group. If the workload of any study group requires, the Plenary Assembly shall appoint such additional Vice-Chairmen as it feels necessary for such study group or groups. If, in the interval between two meetings of the Plenary Assembly, a group Chairman is unable to carry out his duties and only one Vice-Chairman has been appointed, then such Vice-Chairman shall take the Chairman's place. In the case of a study group for which the Plenary Assembly has appointed more than one Vice-Chairman, the study group at its next meeting shall elect a new Chairman from among such Vice-Chairmen and, if necessary, a new Vice-Chairman from among the members of the study group. It shall likewise elect a new Vice-Chairman if one of the Vice-Chairmen is unable to carry out his duties during that period.

Article 73. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS OF STUDY GROUPS

401. 1. Study groups shall conduct their work as far as possible by correspondence.
402. 2. (1) However, the Plenary Assembly may give directives concerning the convening of any meetings of the study groups that may appear necessary to deal with large groups of questions.
403. (2) As a general rule, study groups shall hold no more than two meetings between sessions of the Plenary Assembly, including the final meetings held before that Assembly.
404. (3) Moreover, if after a Plenary Assembly a group Chairman considers it necessary for his study group to hold one or more meetings not provided for by the Plenary Assembly to discuss orally questions which could not be solved by correspondence, he may, with the approval of his administration and after consultation with the Director concerned and the members of his study group, suggest a meeting at a convenient place bearing in mind the need to keep expenses to a minimum.
405. 3. Where necessary, the Plenary Assembly of a Consultative Committee may set up joint working parties for the study of questions requiring the participation of experts from several study groups.
406. 4. The Director of a Consultative Committee, after consultation with the Secretary-General, and in agreement with the Chairmen of the various study groups concerned, shall draw up the general plan of meetings of groups of study groups which are to meet in the same place during the same period.
407. 5. The Director shall send the final reports of the study groups to the participating administrations, to the recognized private operating agencies of the Consultative Committee and, as occasion may demand, to such international organizations and regional telecommunication organizations as have participated. These shall be sent as soon as possible and, in any event, in time for them to be received at least one month before the date of the next meeting of the Plenary Assembly. This provision may be waived only when study group meetings are held immediately prior to the meeting of

the Plenary Assembly. Questions which have not formed the subject of a report furnished in this way shall not appear on the agenda for the meeting of the Plenary Assembly.

Article 74. DUTIES OF THE DIRECTOR; SPECIALIZED SECRETARIAT

408. 1. (1) The Director of a Consultative Committee shall coordinate the work of the Plenary Assembly and study groups, and shall be responsible for the organization of the work of the Consultative Committee.
409. (2) The Director shall be responsible for the documents of the Committee and arrange for their publication, in the working languages of the Union, with the Secretary-General.
410. (3) The Director shall be assisted by a secretariat composed of a specialized staff to work under his direction and to aid him in the organization of the work of the Committee.
411. (4) The staff of the specialized secretariats, laboratories and technical installations of the Consultative Committees shall be under the administrative control of the Secretary-General in accordance with the provisions of 268.
412. 2. The Director shall choose the technical and administrative members of the secretariat within the framework of the budget as approved by the Plenipotentiary Conference or the Administrative Council. The appointment of the technical and administrative personnel is made by the Secretary-General in agreement with the Director. The final decision for appointment or dismissal rests with the Secretary-General.
413. 3. The Director shall participate as of right, but in an advisory capacity, in meetings of the Plenary Assembly and of the study groups. He shall, subject to the provisions of 393, make all necessary preparations for meetings of the Plenary Assembly and of the study groups.
414. 4. The Director shall submit to the Plenary Assembly a report on the activities of the Consultative Committee since the last meeting of the Plenary Assembly. After approval, this report shall be sent to the Secretary-General for transmission to the Administrative Council.
415. 5. The Director shall submit to the Administrative Council at its annual session a report on the activities of the Committee during the previous year for the information of the Council and of the Members of the Union.
416. 6. The Director after consultation with the Secretary-General shall submit for the approval of the Plenary Assembly an estimate of the financial needs of the Committee up to the next meeting of the Plenary Assembly; this estimate, after approval by the Plenary Assembly, shall be sent to the Secretary-General for submission to the Administrative Council.
417. 7. The Director shall prepare, for inclusion by the Secretary-General in the annual budget of the Union, an estimate of the expenses of the Committee for the following year, based on the estimate of the financial needs of the Committee approved by the Plenary Assembly.
418. 8. The Director shall participate as necessary in technical cooperation activities of the Union within the framework of the Convention.

Article 75. PROPOSALS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCES

419. 1. The Plenary Assemblies of the International Consultative Committees are authorized to submit to administrative conferences proposals arising directly from their recommendations or from findings on questions under their study.
420. 2. The Plenary Assemblies of the Consultative Committees may also make proposals for modification of the Administrative Regulations.
421. 3. Such proposals shall be sent to the Secretary-General in good time for assembly, coordination and communication, as laid down in 358.

Article 76. RELATIONS OF CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

422. 1. (1) Plenary Assemblies of Consultative Committees may set up joint study groups to study and make recommendations on questions of common interest.
423. (2) The Directors of Consultative Committees may, in collaboration with the group Chairmen, organize joint meetings of study groups of both Consultative Committees, to study and prepare draft recommendations on questions of common interest. Such draft recommendations shall be submitted to the next meeting of the Plenary Assembly of each Consultative Committee.
424. 2. When one of the Consultative Committees is invited to participate in a meeting of the other Consultative Committee or of another international organization, the Plenary Assembly or the Director of the invited Consultative Committee is authorized to make arrangements for such representation in an advisory capacity, taking into account the provisions of 311.
425. 3. The Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General, the Chairman of the International Frequency Registration Board, and the Director of the other Consultative Committee, or their representatives, may attend meetings of a Consultative Committee in an advisory capacity. If necessary, a Consultative Committee may invite to attend its meetings, in an advisory capacity, representatives of any permanent organ of the Union which has not considered it necessary to be represented.

CHAPTER XI. RULES OF PROCEDURE OF CONFERENCES AND OTHER MEETINGS

Article 77. RULES OF PROCEDURE OF CONFERENCES AND OTHER MEETINGS

1. *Order of seating*

426. At meetings of the conference, delegations shall be seated in the alphabetical order of the French names of the countries represented.

2. *Inauguration of the conference*

427. 1. (1) The inaugural meeting of the conference shall be preceded by a meeting of the Heads of delegations to prepare the agenda for the first Plenary Meeting.

428. (2) The Chairman of the meeting of Heads of delegations shall be appointed in accordance with the provisions of 429 and 430.
429. 2. (1) The conference shall be opened by a person appointed by the inviting government.
430. (2) When there is no inviting government, it shall be opened by the oldest Head of delegation.
431. 3. (1) The Chairman of the conference shall be elected at the first Plenary Meeting; generally he shall be a person nominated by the inviting government.
432. (2) If there is no inviting government, the Chairman shall be chosen, taking into account the proposal made by the Heads of delegations at the meeting described in 427.
433. 4. The first Plenary Meeting shall also:
- a) Elect the Vice-Chairmen of the conference;
434. b) Set up the conference committees and elect their respective Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen;
435. c) Constitute the conference secretariat, made up of the staff of the General Secretariat of the Union, and, in case of need, of staff provided by the administration of the inviting government.

3. *Powers of the Chairman of the conference*

436. 1. The Chairman, in addition to the other prerogatives conferred upon him under these Rules of Procedure, shall open and close the meetings of the Plenary Meeting, direct the deliberations, ensure that the Rules of Procedure are applied, give the floor to speakers, put questions to the vote, and announce the decisions adopted.
437. 2. He shall have the general direction of all the work of the conference, and shall ensure that order is maintained at Plenary Meetings. He shall give his ruling on motions of order and points of order and, in particular, he shall be empowered to propose that discussion on a question be postponed or closed, or that a meeting be suspended or adjourned. He may also decide to postpone the convening of a Plenary Meeting should he consider it necessary.
438. 3. It shall be the duty of the Chairman to protect the right of each delegation to express its opinion freely and fully on the point at issue.
439. 4. He shall ensure that discussion is limited to the point at issue, and he may interrupt any speaker who departs therefrom and request him to confine his remarks to the subject under discussion.

4. *Appointment of committees*

440. 1. The Plenary Meeting may appoint committees to consider matters referred to the conference. These committees may in turn appoint sub-committees. Committees and sub-committees may form working groups.
441. 2. However, sub-committees and working groups shall be formed only when it is absolutely necessary.

5. *Budget control committee*

442. 1. At the opening of each conference or meeting, the Plenary Meeting shall appoint a budget control committee to determine the organization and the facilities available to the delegates, and to examine and approve the accounts for expenditure incurred throughout the duration of the conference or meeting. In addition to the members of delegations who wish to participate, this committee shall include a representative of the Secretary-General and, where there is an inviting government, a representative of that government.
443. 2. Before the budget approved by the Administrative Council for the conference or meeting is exhausted, the budget control committee, in collaboration with the secretariat of the conference or meeting, shall present an interim statement of the expenditure to the Plenary Meeting. The Plenary Meeting shall take this statement into account in considering whether the progress made is sufficient to justify a prolongation of the conference or meeting after the date when the approved budget will be exhausted.
444. 3. At the end of each conference or meeting, the budget control committee shall present a report to the Plenary Meeting showing, as accurately as possible, the estimated total expenditure of the conference or meeting.
445. 4. After consideration and approval by the Plenary Meeting, this report, together with the observations of the Plenary Meeting, shall be transmitted to the Secretary-General for submission to the Administrative Council at its next annual session.

6. *Composition of committees*

446. 6.1. *Plenipotentiary conferences*

Committees shall be composed of the delegates of Members and the observers referred to in 324, 325 and 326 who have so requested or who have been designated by the Plenary Meeting.

447. 6.2. *Administrative conferences*

Committees shall be composed of the delegates of Members and the observers and representatives referred to in 334 to 338 who have so requested or who have been designated by the Plenary Meeting.

7. *Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of sub-committees*

448. The Chairman of each committee shall propose to his committee the choice of the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the sub-committees which may be set up.

8. *Summons to meetings*

449. Plenary Meetings and meetings of committees, sub-committees and working groups shall be announced in good time in the meeting place of the conference.

9. *Proposals presented before the opening of the conference*

450. Proposals presented before the opening of the conference shall be allocated by the Plenary Meeting to the appropriate committees appointed

in accordance with section 4 of these Rules of Procedure. Nevertheless, the Plenary Meeting itself shall be entitled to deal with any proposal.

10. *Proposals or amendments presented during the Conference*

451. 1. Proposals or amendments presented after the opening of the conference must be delivered to the Chairman of the conference or to the Chairman of the appropriate committee, as the case may be. They may also be handed to the secretariat of the conference for publication and distribution as conference documents.
452. 2. No written proposal or amendment may be presented unless signed by the Head of the delegation concerned or by his deputy.
453. 3. The Chairman of a conference or of a committee may at any time submit proposals likely to accelerate the debates.
454. 4. Every proposal or amendment shall give, in precise and exact terms, the text to be considered.
455. 5. (1) The Chairman of the conference or the Chairman of the appropriate committee shall decide in each case whether a proposal or amendment submitted during a meeting shall be made orally or presented in writing for publication and distribution in accordance with 451.
456. (2) In general, the texts of all major proposals to be put to the vote shall be distributed in good time in the working languages of the conference, in order that they may be studied before discussion.
457. (3) In addition, the Chairman of the conference, on receiving proposals or amendments referred to in 451, shall refer them to the appropriate committee or to the Plenary Meeting as the case may be.
458. 6. Any authorized person may read, or may ask to have read, at a Plenary Meeting any proposal or amendment submitted by him during the conference, and he shall be allowed to explain his reasons therefor.

11. *Conditions required for discussion of, and vote on, any proposal or amendment*

459. 1. No proposal or amendment submitted prior to the opening of the conference or by a delegation during the conference may be discussed unless it is supported by at least one other delegation when it comes to be considered.
460. 2. Each proposal or amendment duly supported shall be submitted to a vote after discussion.

12. *Proposals or amendments passed over or postponed*

461. When a proposal or an amendment has been passed over or when its examination has been postponed, the delegation sponsoring it shall be responsible for seeing that it is considered later.

13. *Rules for debates of the Plenary Meeting*

462. 13.1. *Quorum*

For a valid vote to be taken at a Plenary Meeting, more than half of the delegations accredited to the conference and having the right to vote must be present or represented at the meeting.

463. 13.2. *Order of debates*

(1) Persons desiring to speak must first obtain the consent of the Chairman. As a general rule, they shall begin by announcing in what capacity they speak.

464. (2) Any person speaking must express himself slowly and distinctly, separating his words and pausing as necessary in order that everybody may understand his meaning.

465. 13.3. *Motions of order and points of order*

(1) During debates, any delegation may, when it thinks fit, submit a motion of order or raise a point of order, which shall at once be settled by the Chairman in accordance with these Rules of Procedure. Any delegation may appeal against the Chairman's ruling, which shall however stand unless a majority of the delegations present and voting are against it.

466. (2) A delegation submitting a motion of order shall not, during its speech, discuss the substance of the matter in question.

467. 13.4. *Priority of motions of order and points of order*

The motions and points of order mentioned in 465 and 466 shall be dealt with in the following order:

a) Any point of order regarding the application of these Rules of Procedure;

468. b) Suspension of a meeting;

469. c) Adjournment of a meeting;

470. d) Postponement of debate on the matter under discussion;

471. e) Closure of debate on the matter under discussion;

472. f) Any other motions of order or points of order that may be submitted, in which case it shall be for the Chairman to decide the relative order in which they shall be considered.

473. 13.5. *Motion for suspension or adjournment of a meeting*

During the discussion of a question, a delegation may move that the meeting be suspended or adjourned, giving reasons for its proposal. If the proposal is seconded, the floor shall be given to two speakers to oppose the suspension or adjournment and solely for that purpose, after which the motion shall be put to the vote.

474. 13.6. *Motion for postponement of debate*

During discussion of any question, a delegation may move that the debate be postponed for a stated period. Once such a proposal has been made, any discussion thereon shall be limited to no more than three speakers not counting the person submitting the proposal, one for the motion and two against, after which the motion shall be put to vote.

475. 13.7. *Motion for closure of debate*

A delegation may at any time move that discussion on the point at issue be closed. In such cases the floor may be given to not more than two speakers opposing the motion, after which the motion shall be put to vote.

476. 13.8. *Limitation of speeches*

(1) The Plenary Meeting may, if necessary, decide how many speeches any one delegation may make on any particular point, and how long they may last.

477. (2) However, as regards questions of procedure, the Chairman shall limit the time allowed for a speech to a maximum of five minutes.

478. (3) When a speaker has exceeded the time allowed, the Chairman shall notify the Meeting and request the speaker to conclude his remarks briefly.

479. 13.9. *Closing the list of speakers*

(1) During the debate, the Chairman may rule that the list of speakers wishing to take the floor be read. He shall add the names of other delegations who indicate that they wish to speak and he may then, with the ascent of the Meeting, rule that the list be closed. Nevertheless, as an exceptional measure, the Chairman may rule, if he thinks fit, that a reply may be made to any previous statement, even after the list of speakers has been closed.

480. (2) The list of speakers having been exhausted, the Chairman shall declare discussion on the matter closed.

481. 13.10. *Questions of competence*

Any question of competence that may arise shall be settled before a vote is taken on the substance of the matter under discussion.

482. 13.11. *Withdrawal and resubmission of a motion*

The author of a motion may withdraw it before it is put to a vote. Any motion, whether it be amended or not, which has been withdrawn from debate may be resubmitted or taken up by the author of the amendment or by another delegation.

14. *Right to vote*

483. 1. At all meetings of the conference, the delegation of a Member of the Union duly accredited by that Member to take part in the work of the conference shall be entitled to one vote in accordance with article 2.

484. 2. The delegation of a Member of the Union shall exercise the right to vote under the conditions described in article 67.

15. *Voting*485. 15.1. *Definition of a majority*

(1) A majority shall consist of more than half the delegations present and voting.

486. (2) In computing a majority, delegations abstaining shall not be taken into account.

487. (3) In case of a tie, a proposal or amendment shall be considered rejected.

488. (4) For the purpose of these Rules of Procedure, a "delegation present and voting" shall be a delegation voting for or against a proposal.

489. 15.2. *Non-participation in voting*

Delegations which are present but do not take part in a particular vote or expressly state they do not wish to take part shall be considered neither as absent, for the purpose of determining a quorum as defined in 462, nor as abstaining for the purpose of 491.

490. 15.3. *Special majority*

In cases where Members of the Union are to be admitted, the majority described in article 1 shall apply.

491. 15.4. *Abstentions of more than fifty per cent*

When the number of abstentions exceeds half the number of votes cast (for, against, abstentions), consideration of the matter under discussion shall be postponed to a later meeting, at which time abstentions shall not be taken into account.

492. 15.5. *Voting procedures*

(1) The following voting procedures shall be adopted except in the case provided for in 495:

a) By a show of hands, as a general rule;

493. b) By roll call, if the above-mentioned procedure shows no clear majority or if so requested by at least two delegations.

494. (2) Votes by roll call shall be taken in the alphabetical order of the French names of the Members represented.

495. 15.6. *Secret ballot*

Voting shall be by secret ballot when at least five of the delegations present and entitled to vote so request. In such cases, the secretariat shall at once take steps to ensure the secrecy of the vote.

496. 15.7. *Prohibition of interruptions during votes*

No delegation may interrupt once a vote has begun, unless to raise a point of order in connection with the way in which the vote is being taken.

497. 15.8. *Reasons for votes*

The Chairman shall authorize any delegations which so request to give the reasons for their vote, after the vote has been taken.

498. 15.9. *Voting on parts of a proposal*

(1) When the author of a proposal so requests, or when the meeting thinks fit, or when the Chairman, with the approval of the author, so proposes, that proposal shall be sub-divided and its various sections put to the vote separately. The parts of the proposal which have been adopted shall then be put to the vote as a whole.

499. (2) If all the sections of a proposal are rejected the proposal shall be regarded as rejected as a whole.

500. 15.10. *Order of voting on concurrent proposals*

(1) When there are two or more proposals on any one matter, they shall be put to the vote in the order in which they were presented, unless the meeting decides to the contrary.

501. (2) After each vote, the meeting shall decide whether or not the following proposal shall be voted on.

502. 15.11. *Amendments*

(1) Any proposal for modification consisting only of a deletion from, an addition to, or a change in, a part of the original proposal shall be considered an amendment.

503. (2) Any amendment to a proposal accepted by the delegation submitting the proposal shall at once be embodied in the original proposal.

504. (3) No proposal for modification shall be regarded as an amendment if the meeting considers it to be incompatible with the original proposal.

505. 15.12. *Voting on amendments*

(1) When an amendment to a proposal is submitted, a vote shall first be taken on the amendment.

506. (2) When two or more amendments to a proposal are submitted, the amendment furthest from the original text shall be put to the vote first; of the remainder, that furthest from the proposal shall then be put to the vote and the same procedure shall be followed until all the amendments submitted have been considered.

507. (3) If one or more amendments are adopted, the proposal thus amended shall then be put to the vote.

508. (4) If no amendment is adopted, the original proposal shall be put to the vote.

16. *Committees and sub-committees; rules for debates and voting procedures*

509. 1. The Chairmen of all committees and sub-committees shall have powers similar to those conferred by section 3 of the present Rules of Procedure on the Chairman of the conference.

510. 2. The provisions set forth in section 13 of the present Rules of Procedure for the conduct of debates in the Plenary Meeting shall also apply to the discussions of committees and sub-committees, except in the matter of the quorum.

511. 3. The provisions set forth in section 15 shall also apply to votes taken in committees and sub-committees.

17. *Reservations*

512. 1. As a general rule, any delegation whose views are not shared by the remaining delegations shall endeavour, as far as possible, to conform to the opinion of the majority.

513. 2. However, if any decision appears to a delegation to be of such a nature as to prevent its government from ratifying the Convention or from approving the revision of the Regulations, the delegation may make reservations, final or provisional, regarding this decision.

18. *Minutes of Plenary Meetings*

514. 1. The minutes of Plenary Meetings shall be drawn up by the secretariat of the conference, which shall endeavour to ensure their distribution to

delegations as early as possible before the date on which they are to be considered.

515. 2. After the minutes have been distributed, delegations may submit in writing to the secretariat of the conference the corrections they consider to be justified; this shall be done in the shortest possible time. This shall not prevent them from presenting amendments orally during the meeting at which the minutes are approved.
516. 3. (1) As a general rule, the minutes shall contain only proposals and conclusions, together with the principal arguments for them presented in terms as concise as possible.
517. (2) However, any delegation shall have the right to require the insertion in the minutes, either summarized or in full, of any statement it has made during the debates. In this case, the delegation should, as a general rule, announce this at the beginning of its statement in order to facilitate the work of the reporters and must itself hand in the text to the secretariat of the conference within two hours after the end of the meeting.
518. 4. The right accorded in 517 regarding the insertion of statements in the minutes shall in all cases be used with discretion.

19. *Summary records and reports of committees and sub-committees*

519. 1. (1) The debates of committees and sub-committees shall be summarized, meeting by meeting, in summary records drawn up by the secretariat of the conference in which shall be brought out the essential points of the discussion, and the various opinions of which note ought to be taken, together with any proposals or conclusions resulting from the debate as a whole.
520. (2) Nevertheless, any delegation shall be entitled to invoke 517.
521. (3) The right referred to above shall in all circumstances be used with discretion.
522. 2. Committees and sub-committees may prepare any interim reports they deem necessary and, if circumstances warrant, they may submit, at the end of their work, a final report recapitulating in concise terms the proposals and conclusions resulting from the studies entrusted to them.

20. *Approval of minutes, summary records and reports*

523. 1. (1) As a general rule, at the beginning of each Plenary Meeting, or meeting of a committee, or sub-committee, the Chairman shall inquire whether there are any comments on the minutes of the previous meeting, or, in the case of committees or sub-committees, on the summary record of the previous meeting. These documents shall be considered approved if no amendments have been handed in to the secretariat and no objection is made orally. Otherwise, the appropriate amendments shall be made in the minutes or summary record as the case may be.
524. (2) Any interim or final report must be approved by the committee or sub-committee concerned.

525. 2. (1) The minutes of the last Plenary Meeting shall be examined and approved by the Chairman of that meeting.

526. (2) The summary record of the last meeting of each committee or sub-committee shall be examined and approved by the Chairman of the committee or sub-committee.

21. *Editorial committee*

527. 1. The texts of the Final Acts, which shall be worded as far as practicable in their definitive form by the various committees, taking account of the views expressed, shall be submitted to an editorial committee charged with perfecting their form without altering the sense and, where appropriate, with combining them with those parts of former texts which have not been altered.

528. 2. The texts shall be submitted by the editorial committee to the Plenary Meeting, which shall approve them, or refer them back to the appropriate committee for further examination.

22. *Numbering*

529. 1. The numbers of the chapters, articles and paragraphs of the texts subjected to revision shall be preserved until the first reading in Plenary Meeting. The passages added shall bear provisionally the number of the last paragraph in the original text, with the addition of "A", "B", etc.

530. 2. The final numbering of the chapters, articles and paragraphs shall be entrusted to the editorial committee after their adoption at the first reading.

23. *Final approval*

531. The texts of the Final Acts shall be considered final when they have been approved at the second reading in Plenary Meeting.

24. *Signature*

532. The final texts approved by the conference shall be submitted for signature, in the alphabetical order of the French names of their countries, to the delegates provided with the powers defined in article 67.

25. *Press notices*

533. Official releases to the press about the work of the conference shall be issued only as authorized by the Chairman or a Vice-Chairman of the conference.

26. *Franking privileges*

534. During the conference, members of delegations, members of the Administrative Council, senior officials of the permanent organs of the Union attending the conference, and the staff of the secretariat of the Union seconded to the conference shall be entitled to postal, telegraph and telephone franking privileges to the extent arranged by the government of the country in which the conference is held in agreement with the other governments and recognized private operating agencies concerned.

CHAPTER XII. OTHER PROVISIONS

Article 78. LANGUAGES

535. 1. (1) At conferences of the Union and at meetings of its permanent organs and of the Administrative Council, languages other than those mentioned in 100 and 106 may be used:
- a) If an application is made to the Secretary-General or to the Head of the permanent organ concerned to provide for the use of an additional language or languages, oral or written, provided that the additional cost so incurred shall be borne by those Members which have made or supported the application;
536. b) If any delegation itself makes arrangements at its own expense for oral translation from its own language into any one of the languages referred to in 106.
537. (2) In the case provided for in 535, the Secretary-General or the Head of the permanent organ concerned shall comply to the extent practicable with the application, having first obtained from the Members concerned an undertaking that the cost incurred will be duly repaid by them to the Union.
538. (3) In the case provided for in 536, the delegation concerned may, furthermore, if it wishes, arrange at its own expense for oral translation into its own language from one of the languages referred to in 106.
539. 2. Any of the documents referred to in 102 to 105 of the Convention may be published in languages other than those there specified, provided that the Members requesting such publication undertake to defray the whole of the cost of translation and publication involved.

Article 79. FINANCES

540. 1. (1) At least six months before the Convention comes into force, each Member shall inform the Secretary-General of the class of contribution it has chosen.
541. (2) The Secretary-General shall communicate this decision to Members.
542. (3) Members who have failed to make known their decision in the time specified in 540 shall retain the class of contribution previously chosen.
543. (4) Members may at any time choose a class of contribution higher than the one already adopted by them.
544. 2. (1) Every new Member shall, in respect of the year of its accession, pay a contribution calculated as from the first day of the month of accession.
545. (2) Should the Convention be denounced by a Member, its contribution shall be paid up to the last day of the month in which such denunciation takes effect.
546. 3. The amounts due shall bear interest from the beginning of each financial year of the Union at 3% (three per cent) per annum during the first six months, and at 6% (six per cent) per annum from the beginning of the seventh month.

547. 4. The following provisions shall apply to contributions by recognized private operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations and international organizations:
- a) Recognized private operating agencies and scientific or industrial organizations shall share in defraying the expenses of the International Consultative Committees in the work of which they have agreed to participate; recognized private operating agencies shall likewise share in defraying the expenses of the administrative conferences in which they have agreed to participate, or have participated, in accordance with 338;
548. b) International organizations shall also share in defraying the expenses of the conferences or meetings in which they have been allowed to participate, unless exempted by the Administrative Council on condition of reciprocity;
549. c) Recognized private operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations and international organizations, which share in defraying the expenses of conferences or meetings in accordance with 547 and 548, shall freely choose from the scale in 92 of the Convention their class of contribution for defraying Union expenses, and inform the Secretary-General of the class chosen;
550. d) Recognized private operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations and international organizations which share in defraying the expenses of conferences or meetings may at any time choose a class of contribution higher than the one already adopted by them;
551. e) No reduction in the number of contributory units shall take effect during the life of the Convention;
552. f) In the case of denunciation of participation in the work of an International Consultative Committee, the contribution shall be paid up to the last day of the month in which such denunciation takes effect;
553. g) The amount of the contribution per unit payable by recognized private operating agencies and scientific or industrial organizations or international organizations towards the expenses of the International Consultative Committees in the work of which they have agreed to participate shall be fixed annually by the Administrative Council; the contributions shall be considered as Union income; they shall bear interest in accordance with the provisions of 546;
554. h) The amount of the contribution per unit payable towards the expenses of administrative conferences by recognized private operating agencies which participate in accordance with 338 and by participating international organizations shall be fixed by dividing the total amount of the budget of the Conference in question by the total number of units contributed by Members as their share of Union expenses; the contributions shall be considered as Union income; they shall bear interest from the sixtieth day following the day on which accounts are sent out, at the rates fixed in 546.
555. 5. Expenses incurred by laboratories and technical installations of the Union in measurements, testing, or special research for individual Members, groups of Members, or regional organizations or others, shall be borne by those Members, groups, organizations or others.

556. 6. The sale price of publications sold to administrations, recognized private operating agencies or individuals, shall be determined by the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Administrative Council, bearing in mind that the cost of printing and distribution should, in general, be covered by the sale of the publications.

Article 80. RENDERING AND SETTLEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

557. 1. Administrations of Members and recognized private operating agencies which operate international telecommunication services, shall come to an agreement with regard to the amount of their credits and debits.
558. 2. The statements of accounts with respect to debits and credits referred to in 557 shall be drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Regulations, unless special arrangements have been concluded between the parties concerned.

Article 81. ARBITRATION: PROCEDURE
(SEE ARTICLE 50)

559. 1. The party which appeals to arbitration shall initiate the arbitration procedure by transmitting to the other party to the dispute a notice of the submission of the dispute to arbitration.
560. 2. The parties shall decide by agreement whether the arbitration is to be entrusted to individuals, administrations or governments. If within one month after notice of submission of the dispute to arbitration, the parties have been unable to agree upon this point, the arbitration shall be entrusted to governments.
561. 3. If arbitration is to be entrusted to individuals, the arbitrators must neither be nationals of the parties involved in the dispute, nor have their domicile in the countries parties to the dispute, nor be employed in their service.
562. 4. If arbitration is to be entrusted to governments, or to administrations thereof, these must be chosen from among the Members which are not parties to the dispute, but which are parties to the agreement, the application of which caused the dispute.
563. 5. Within three months from the date of receipt of the notification of the submission of the dispute to arbitration, each of the two parties to the dispute shall appoint an arbitrator.
564. 6. If more than two parties are involved in the dispute, an arbitrator shall be appointed in accordance with the procedure set forth in 562 and 563, by each of the two groups of parties having a common position in the dispute.
565. 7. The two arbitrators thus appointed shall choose a third arbitrator who, if the first two arbitrators are individuals and not governments or administrations must fulfil the conditions indicated in 561, and in addition must not be of the same nationality as either of the other two arbitrators. Failing an agreement between the two arbitrators as to the choice of a third arbitrator, each of these two arbitrators shall nominate a third arbitrator who is in no way concerned in the dispute. The Secretary-General shall then draw lots in order to select the third arbitrator.

566. 8. The parties to the dispute may agree to have their dispute settled by a single arbitrator appointed by agreement; or alternatively, each party may nominate an arbitrator, and request the Secretary-General to draw lots to decide which of the persons so nominated is to act as the single arbitrator.
567. 9. The arbitrator or arbitrators shall be free to decide upon the procedure to be followed.
568. 10. The decision of the single arbitrator shall be final and binding upon the parties to the dispute. If the arbitration is entrusted to more than one arbitrator, the decision made by the majority vote of the arbitrators shall be final and binding upon the parties.
569. 11. Each party shall bear the expense it shall have incurred in the investigation and presentation of the arbitration. The costs of arbitration other than those incurred by the parties themselves shall be divided equally between the parties to the dispute.
570. 12. The Union shall furnish all information relating to the dispute which the arbitrator or arbitrators may need.

CHAPTER XIII. ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

Article 82. ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

571. The provisions of the Convention are completed by the following Administrative Regulations:
- Telegraph Regulations;
 - Telephone Regulations;
 - Radio Regulations;
 - Additional Radio Regulations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the respective plenipotentiaries have signed the Convention in each of the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish languages, in a single copy in which, in case of dispute, the French text shall prevail, and which shall remain deposited in the archives of the International Telecommunication Union, which shall forward a copy to each of the signatory countries.

DONE at Malaga-Torremolinos on 25 October 1973.

Pour la République d'Afghanistan :
[For the Republic of Afghanistan:]

AZIZULLAH ZAHIR
S.M. NACIM ALAWI

Pour l'Algérie (République algérienne démocratique et populaire) :
[For Algeria (People's Democratic Republic of Algeria):]

N. BOUHIRED
B. CHEBEL
M. HARBI
H. HAFIS