

N° 973.

**GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET IRLANDE DU NORD
ET BULGARIE**

Arrangement pour l'échange des mandats de poste, signé à Londres, le 7 mai 1925, et à Sofia, le 7 juin 1925.

**GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND
AND BULGARIA**

Agreement for the Exchange of Money Orders, signed at London, May 7, 1925, and at Sofia, June 7, 1925.

No. 973. — AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE POST OFFICE OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE POST OFFICE OF BULGARIA, FOR THE EXCHANGE OF MONEY ORDERS, SIGNED AT LONDON, MAY 7, 1925, AND AT SOFIA, JUNE 7, 1925.

Textes officiels anglais et français communiqués par le Ministère des Affaires étrangères de Sa Majesté Britannique. L'enregistrement de cet Arrangement a eu lieu le 19 octobre 1925.

Article I.

In this Agreement the expression "Great Britain" includes Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Article II.

Between Great Britain on the one hand and Bulgaria on the other hand there shall be a regular exchange of Money Orders.

Article III.

The Money Order Service between the contracting Administrations shall be performed exclusively by the agency of Offices of Exchange. On the part of Great Britain the Office of Exchange shall be that of London, and on the part of Bulgaria that of Sofia.

Article IV.

Each of the contracting Administrations shall have power to fix, from time to time, the rate of conversion applicable to the Money Orders issued by it, on condition of notifying that rate to the other Administration.

The rate of conversion shall be based upon the rate of exchange, and the conversion from the currency of the country of issue into that of the country of payment shall be effected by the Post Office of the country of issue.

Article V.

Each of the contracting Administrations shall have the power to fix, in agreement with the other, the maximum amount for which it will issue a single Order. This maximum shall not exceed £40 or the nearest practical equivalent of that sum in Bulgarian currency.

Article VI.

Each of the contracting Administrations shall have the power to fix, from time to time, the rates of commission to be charged on Money Orders which it may issue, provided that it shall

communicate to the other its tariff of charges or rates of commission established under the present Agreement. The commission shall belong to the issuing Administration ; but the British Post Office shall allow to the Bulgarian Post Office one-half of one per cent. ($\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.) on the amount of Money Orders issued in Great Britain and paid in Bulgaria, and the Bulgarian Post Office shall make a similar allowance to the British Post Office for Money Orders issued in Bulgaria and paid in Great Britain.

Article VII.

In the payment of Money Orders to the public no account shall be taken of any fraction of a penny or of a lev.

Article VIII.

Every applicant for a Money Order shall be required to furnish, if possible, the full surname and Christian or personal name (or at least the initial of one Christian or personal name) both of the remitter and of the payee, or the name of the firm or company who are the remitters or payees, and the address of the remitter and payee. If, however, a Christian or personal name or initial cannot be given, an Order may nevertheless be issued at the remitter's risk.

Article IX.

If a Money Order miscarries or is lost, a duplicate shall be granted on a written application from the payee (containing the necessary particulars) to the Chief Money Order Office of the country in which the original Order was payable, and, unless there is reason to believe that the original Order was lost in transmission through the post, the Office issuing the duplicate shall be entitled to charge the same fee as would be chargeable under its own internal arrangements.

On the receipt from the remitter of an application containing similar particulars, instructions shall be given to stop payment of a Money Order.

Article X.

When it is desired that an error in the name of a payee shall be corrected, or that the amount of a Money Order shall be repaid to the remitter, application must be made by the remitter to the Chief Office of the country in which the Order was issued.

Article XI.

Repayment of an Order shall not, in any case, be made until it has been ascertained, through the Chief Office of the country where such Order is payable, that the Order has not been paid, and that the said Office authorises the repayment.

Article XII.

A Money Order shall remain payable for twelve months after the expiration of the month of issue, and the amount of every Order not paid within that period shall be returned to the Administration of the country of issue to be dealt with in accordance with the regulations of that country.

Article XIII.

The remitter of a Money Order may at the time of issue make application for an advice of payment of the Order by paying in advance, to the exclusive profit of the Administration of the country of issue, a fixed charge equal to that which is made in that country for acknowledgments of receipt of registered correspondence.

The advice shall be on a form in accordance with or analogous to the annexed specimen (Appendix A).

The advice of payment shall be prepared by the paying Office, and shall be transmitted direct to the Office of issue either by the Office of payment or by the Exchange Office of the country of payment.

The advice of payment of a "Through" Money Order (see Article XX) shall be sent through the Offices of Exchange of the two countries, and any application for an advice of payment made subsequent to the issue of the Order shall be sent in the same manner.

Article XIV.

Money Orders sent from one country to the other shall be subject, as regards issue, to the rules in force in the country of origin, and, as regards payment, to the rules in force in the country of destination.

Article XV.

The Bulgarian Office of Exchange shall communicate to the British Office of Exchange the particulars of sums received for payment in Great Britain, and the British Office of Exchange shall communicate to the Bulgarian Office of Exchange the particulars of sums received for payment in Bulgaria. Advice Lists similar to the annexed forms "B" and "C" shall be used for the purpose, and every such List shall be forwarded by the first available mail after the issue of the Orders to which it relates.

Article XVI.

The Money Orders entered upon the Advice Lists shall be numbered serially, the series commencing each month with No. 1. The number borne by an Order in the List shall be known as its International Number. The Lists shall also be numbered serially, the series commencing each year with No. 1.

Article XVII.

Any missing Advice List shall be immediately applied for by the Office of Exchange to which it should have been sent. The despatching Office of Exchange shall, in such a case, transmit without delay to the receiving Office of Exchange a duplicate List, duly certified as such.

Article XVIII.

Every Advice List shall be carefully verified by the Office of Exchange to which it is sent, and shall be corrected if it contains a manifest error. Any correction shall be communicated to the despatching Office of Exchange.

If a List shows other irregularities, the Office of Exchange receiving it shall require an explanation from the despatching Office of Exchange, which shall give such explanation with as little delay as possible. In the meantime, the issue of internal Money Orders relating to any entries which are found to be irregular shall be suspended.

Article XIX.

As soon as an Advice List reaches the receiving Office of Exchange, that Office shall, after verifying its contents, prepare internal Money Orders in favour of the payees for the amounts specified in the List as payable in the money of the country of payment, and shall then forward such internal Money Orders to the payees or to the paying Offices according to the arrangements existing in the country of payment.

Article XX.

If the Bulgarian Post Office desires to send Money Order remittances, through the medium of the British Post Office, to any of the other countries with which the British Post Office transacts Money Order business, it shall be at liberty to do so, provided that the following conditions are fulfilled :

- (a) The Bulgarian Post Office shall advise the amount of any such " Through " Order to the Money Order Department, London, which will re-advise it to the country of payment.
- (b) No such Order shall exceed the maximum amount fixed by the country of destination for Money Orders issued in Great Britain.
- (c) The particulars of " Through " Orders shall be entered either in red ink at the end of the ordinary Advice Lists despatched to London, or on separate sheets, and the total amounts of " Through " Orders shall be included in the totals of such Lists.
- (d) The name and address of the payee of a " Through " Order, including the names of the town and country of payment, shall be given as fully as possible.
- (e) The Bulgarian Post Office shall allow to the British Post Office the same percentage (see Article VI) on " Through " Orders as on Orders payable in Great Britain, the British Office of Exchange crediting the Office of the country of payment with the same percentage for " Through " Orders as for Orders issued in Great Britain, and, for its intermediary services, deducting from the amount of each re-adviced Order a special commission to be fixed by the British Post Office.
- (f) When the amount of a " Through " Order is repaid to the remitter, the commission charged for the intermediary service shall not be refunded.

If the British Post Office desires to send Money Orders through the medium of the Bulgarian Post Office to any of the countries with which the Bulgarian Post Office transacts Money Order business, it shall be at liberty to do so under similar conditions to those stated in the foregoing paragraphs.

Each Administration shall communicate to the other the names of the countries with which it transacts Money Order business, the limit of amount adopted for each, and the rates of commission deducted for its intermediary services.

Article XXI.

Telegraph Money Orders, for sums not exceeding the maximum amount allowed in the case of ordinary Money Orders, shall also be exchanged between Great Britain and Bulgaria.

Article XXII.

Each of the contracting Administrations shall indicate to the other the Offices which it admits to the exchange of Telegraph Money Orders.

Article XXIII.

The remitter of a Telegraph Money Order shall be required to pay, in addition to the commission, which shall be fixed and retained by the issuing Administration, the cost of a Telegram of Advice from one country to the other.

Independently of the charges above mentioned, each of the contracting Administrations reserves to itself the right to levy from the sender of each Telegraph Money Order a supplementary charge, the amount of which shall be fixed and retained by the issuing Administration.

Article XXIV.

All Telegraph Money Orders payable in Great Britain shall be transmitted to the Central Telegraph Office in London, but those payable in Bulgaria shall be transmitted direct to the paying Offices.

In the case of a Telegram of Advice to a place in Great Britain other than London, the words "voie Londres" shall appear in the preamble as a service instruction.

The Telegram of Advice shall be in the French language, and shall be drawn up as follows :

Mandat.

Number of the Order at the Post Office of Issue.

Postes.

Name of the Office of Payment.

Avis paiement (if an Advice of Payment is required).

Name of the Remitter or Remitters in accordance with the regulations for ordinary Money Orders.

Amount in figures and (as regards the units of currency) in words in the money of the country of payment.

Name and address in full of the payee or payees in accordance with the regulations applying to ordinary Money Orders.

If the payee is a woman, the prefix "Mrs." or "Miss" must appear before the surname, even though accompanied by a Christian name, except in cases where the inclusion of a name of a quality, title, official position or profession clearly showing the personality of the payee makes the addition of the prefix superfluous.

The foregoing particulars shall always appear in the Telegram of Advice in the order given above.

The sender and the payee may not be described by an abbreviation or by a registered abbreviated address.

The remitter of a Telegraph Money Order shall be allowed, on paying at the ordinary rate for the extra words required, to add to the Telegram of Advice any short communication which he may wish to send to the payee.

Article XXV.

The regulations of the International Telegraph Convention¹ (Lisbon Revision), or any regulations which may in future be substituted therefor, shall apply to telegrams sent in connection with Money Orders, to the apportionment of the charges on such telegrams, and to the reimbursement of the charges on such telegrams.

Article XXVI.

As in the case of ordinary Money Orders, the issuing Administration shall account to the paying Administration for one-half of one per cent. on the amount of Telegraph Money Orders paid. To

¹British and Foreign State Papers, vol. 102, page 214.

this end the Telegraph Money Orders shall be entered by the Offices of Exchange in Advice Lists in the same manner as ordinary Money Orders, but on separate sheets, with the heading "Advised by Telegraph."

Article XXVII.

In case of a fictitious Order in which it may be impossible to determine in which country a fraud may have been committed, or in case of fraud or error in connection with the transmission of a Telegram of Advice over the wires of an intermediate country or cable company, the responsibility for any losses involved, other than the loss of telegraph charges, shall be shared equally by the contracting Administrations.

Article XXVIII.

In other respects Telegraph Money Orders shall be subject to the same general conditions as ordinary Money Orders.

Article XXIX.

At the end of every month the Office of Exchange of each of the contracting Administrations shall prepare and forward to the other :

- (1) A detailed statement showing the total of each Advice List received from the other Administration during that month (see Appendix D).
- (2) A list showing particulars of every Order which it has authorised the other Administration during that month to repay to the remitter (see Appendix E).
- (3) A list showing particulars of every Order issued by the other Administration which has not been paid within twelve months after the end of the month of issue, and has during that month become forfeited to the country of issue (see Appendix F).

The statements "D" and "E" shall be rendered in duplicate, and one copy of each statement, duly verified by the receiving Office, shall be returned to the despatching Office.

Article XXX.

As soon as it receives the verified copies of the Statements "D" and "E" provided for in Article XXIX, the Office of Exchange at Sofia shall furnish to the Office of Exchange at London a Money Order Account (in duplicate) which shall include the following items :

- (a) To the credit of Great Britain : — The total of the Advice Lists which have been despatched from Bulgaria during the month — less the amount of Orders authorised to be repaid in Bulgaria, and the total amount of Bulgarian Orders which have become void during the month — and the allowance of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the amount of Orders paid in Great Britain.
- (b) To the credit of Bulgaria : — The total of the Advice Lists which have been despatched from London during the month — less the amount of Orders authorised to be repaid in Great Britain, and the total amount of British Orders which have become void during the month — and the allowance of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the amount of Orders paid in Bulgaria.

The Money Order Account shall be prepared on a form similar to that in Appendix "G." One copy of the Account, duly accepted, shall be returned to the Office of Exchange at Sofia.

Article XXXI.

The balance of the Account shall be shown in the currency of the country to which it is due. In order that this may be done, the amount of the smaller credit shall be converted into the currency

of the country with the larger credit at the average of the market rates of exchange current in the debtor country during the month to which the Account relates. The balance shall then be ascertained by the deduction of the smaller from the larger credit. These arrangements may be modified by agreement between the contracting Administrations when they shall consider it desirable.

Article XXXII.

Whenever during a month it is found that the Orders drawn upon one of the two countries exceed in amount by £1,000 or its approximate equivalent in Bulgarian currency the Orders drawn upon the other, the latter shall at once send to the former, as a remittance on account, the approximate amount, in a round sum, of the ascertained difference.

Article XXXIII.

When the Bulgarian Post Office has to pay to the British Post Office the balance of the General Account, it shall do so at the same time at which it forwards the Account to the British Office of Exchange, and when the British Post Office has to pay the balance, it shall do so at the same time at which it returns to the Bulgarian Office of Exchange the duplicate of the Account accepted.

Such payments, as well as any payments required under the provision of Article XXXII, shall be effected by means of drafts in the currency of the creditor country payable at sight at a place in that country. The contracting Administrations may, however, by mutual agreement, determine upon another method of settlement.

Any amount remaining due from one Administration to the other at the expiration of six months following the period covered by the relative Account shall thenceforth be subject to interest at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum.

Article XXXIV.

Should it appear at any time that Money Orders are being used by mercantile men or other persons in Great Britain, or in Bulgaria, for the transmission of large sums of money, the British Post Office or the Bulgarian Post Office, as the case may be, shall be authorised to increase the commission, and shall have power even wholly to suspend, for a time, the issue of Money Orders. It shall immediately notify the other Administration, if necessary by telegraph, of the suspension of the Service.

Article XXXV.

Each of the contracting Administrations shall be authorised to adopt any additional rules (if not in contradiction to the foregoing) for greater security against fraud, or for the better working of the system generally, provided that it shall communicate all such additional rules to the other Administration.

Article XXXVI.

This Agreement shall come into operation on a date to be mutually agreed upon, and shall be terminable on a notice by either Party of six calendar months.

Done in duplicate and signed at Sofia on the 7th day of June, 1925, and at London on the 7th day of May, 1925.

(L.S.) (Signed) W. MITCHELL-THOMSON.

APPENDICE A.
APPENDIX A.

Avis de Paiement d'un Mandat-Poste.
Advice of Payment of a Money Order.

Le soussigné déclare que la somme de }
The undersigned certifies that the sum of }

montant du mandat N° }
the amount of Money Order No. } { émis par le bureau de
..... } { *issued by the Office of*

..... { le } 192 { au profit de
..... { *on the* } { *in favour of*

M. { a été dûment payé le
..... { *has been duly paid on the*

..... 19 .

Timbre du bureau payeur }
Stamp of Paying Office }



Signature { du destinataire ou
..... { *of the payee or*
..... { de l'agent du bureau payeur
..... { *of the Paying Officer.*

¹ Cet avis doit être signé par le bénéficiaire, ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le com-
This advice must be signed by the payee, or, if the regulations of the country of destination allow it,

portent, par l'agent du bureau payeur, puis être mis sous enveloppe et envoyé, par le premier courrier,
by the Paying Officer, enclosed in an envelope and despatched by the first post to the Office of origin of

au bureau d'origine du mandat.
the Order.

APPENDIX B.

To the Controller, Money Order Department, London.

General Post Office, Sofia.

The of 19...

(Office Stamp.)

List of Money Orders advised by Bulgaria to Great Britain.

Date of issue	Inter-national Money Order No. of the Money Order	Original No. of the Money Order	Office at which the money was paid in	Name of the Remitter	Name of the Person to whom the money is to be paid	Address of the Person to whom the money is to be paid	Amount received in Bulgaria	Amount to be paid in Great Britain			Advice of payment	For use by the British Office of Exchange London No. of the Order	Office where payable
								£	s.	d.			
							Leva.	Sto.					
					Total								

List No. Sheet No. Rate of conversion Leva = £1.

Entered by Checked by { 1 2 Director-General.

1 TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

APPENDICE B.

Au contrôleur du Bureau des mandats-poste à Londres.

Bureau Central des Postes, Sofia.

Le 192...

(Timbre officiel.)

Liste des mandats-poste notifiés par la Bulgarie à la Grande-Bretagne.

Date d'émission	Numéro inter-national du mandat-poste	Numéro d'origine du mandat-poste	Bureau payeur	Nom de l'expéditeur	Nom du destinataire	Adresse du destinataire	Montant versé en Bulgarie	Montant à verser en Grande Bretagne			Avis de paiement	A remplir par le Bureau d'échange britannique	
								£	s.	d.		Numéro du mandat à Londres	Bureau où le remboursement doit s'effectuer
							Leva.	Sto.					
					Total								

Liste No. Feuille No. Taux de conversion Leva = 1£.

Enregistré par Vérifié par { 1 2 Directeur Général.

1 Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations.

1 Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations.

APPENDIX C.

The Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs, Sofia.

Money Order Department, G.P.O., London.
The of 19...

(Office Stamp.)

List of Money Orders advised by Great Britain to Bulgaria.

List No. Sheet No. Rate of conversion £1 = Leva.

Serial number of Telegraph Money Order	Date of issue	International No. of the Money Order	Original No. of the Money Order	Office at which the money was paid in	Name of the Remitter	Name of the Person to whom the money is to be paid	Address of the Person to whom the money is to be paid	Amount in British money	Amount to be paid in Bulgarian	Advice of payment	For use by the Bulgarian Office of Exchange	
											No. of the internal Order	Office of Payment
								£ s. d.	Leva Sts.			

Entered by Checked by { 1 2 }

..... Controller

APPENDIX D.

Month of19 .

Detailed Account of Money Orders issued in Great Britain and payable in Bulgaria

Number of List	Date of List	International Numbers of Orders		Totals of Lists		Number of List	Date of List	International Numbers of Orders		Totals of Lists	
		From	To	Leva	Sto.			From	To	Leva	Sto.
								Brought forward			
		Carried forward									Total

Month of19 .

Detailed Account of Money Orders issued in Bulgaria and payable in Great Britain

Number of List	Date of List	International Numbers of Orders		Totals of Lists			Number of List	Date of List	International Numbers of Orders		Totals of Lists		
		From	To	£	s.	d.			From	To	£	s.	d.
									Brought forward				
		Carried forward										Total	

APPENDIX E.

Month of19

List of Money Orders issued in Bulgaria and payable in Great Britain or beyond, repayment of which has been authorised by the Administration of the Country of Payment.

Number of Advice List	Date of List	International Number of Order	Office of Issue	Amount in British Money			Remarks
				£	s.	d.	
			Total....				

Month of19

List of Money Orders issued in Great Britain and beyond and payable in Bulgaria, repayment of which has been authorised by the Administration of the Country of Payment.

Number of Advice List	Date of List	International number of Order	Office of Issue	Amount in Bulgarian Money		Remarks
				Leva	Sto.	
			Total....			

APPENDIX F.

List of Money Orders issued in Great Britain and beyond on Bulgaria during the Month of 19....., which have not been paid within twelve clear months after that in which they were issued, and have therefore become forfeited to the Country of Issue.

Number of List	Date of List	International Number of Order	Original Number of Order	Date of Issue	Office of Issue	Amount in Bulgarian Money	Remarks
						Leva	Sto.
					Total		

List of Money Orders issued in Bulgaria on Great Britain and beyond during the Month of 19....., which have not been paid within twelve clear months after that in which they were issued, and have therefore become forfeited to the Country of Issue.

Number of List	Date of List	International Number of Order	Original Number of Order	London Number	Date of Issue	Office of Issue	Office of Payment	Amount in British Money	Remarks
								£ s. d.	
							Total		

APPENDIX G.

General Account of Money Order transactions between Great Britain and Bulgaria for the Month of 19...

CREDIT OF GREAT BRITAIN		CREDIT OF BULGARIA	
£	s. d.	Leva	Stotinki
Total amount of Orders issued in Bulgaria...		Total amount of Orders issued in Great Britain	
To be deducted :		To be deducted :	
Repaid Orders issued in Bulgaria		Repaid Orders issued in Great Britain ...	
Void Orders issued in Bulgaria		Void Orders issued in Great Britain ...	
Allowance of 1/2 per cent. on total amount of Orders paid in Great Britain ...		Allowance of 1/2 per cent. on total amount of Orders paid in Bulgaria ...	
Total credit of Great Britain ...		Total credit of Bulgaria ...	
Deduct total credit of Bulgaria converted at the rate of Leva = £ 1 ...		Deduct total credit of Great Britain converted at the rate of £ 1 = Leva ...	
Balance in favour of Great Britain ...		Balance in favour of Bulgaria ...	