

No. 2984

**ISRAEL
and
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Agreement for an exchange of postal parcels. Signed at
Pretoria, on 31 December 1954, and at Jerusalem, on
12 January 1955**

Official text: English.

Registered by Israel on 1 November 1955.

**ISRAEL
et
UNION SUD-AFRICAINE**

**Arrangement concernant l'échange de colis postaux. Signé
à Prétoria, le 31 décembre 1954, et à Jérusalem, le 12
janvier 1955**

Texte officiel anglais.

Enregistré par Israël le 1er novembre 1955.

No. 2984. AGREEMENT¹ FOR AN EXCHANGE OF POSTAL PARCELS BETWEEN THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA AND THE STATE OF ISRAEL. SIGNED AT PRETORIA, ON 31 DECEMBER 1954, AND AT JERUSALEM, ON 12 JANUARY 1955

The undersigned being duly authorised have agreed, on behalf of their respective Governments, to the exchange of postal parcels between the Union of South Africa and the State of Israel, in accordance with the following provisions:—

Article I

There shall be a regular exchange of postal parcels between the Union of South Africa and the State of Israel. The exchange shall be effected per medium of the exchange offices of the two contracting countries as may be determined by the respective Postal Administrations.

Article II

LIMITS OF SIZE AND WEIGHT

1. Parcels may not exceed 3 feet 6 inches (1.07 metres) in length and the sum of the length and of the greatest circumference measured in a direction other than that of the length shall not exceed 6 feet (1.83 metres).
2. Parcels may not exceed 11 English pounds avoirdupois or 5 Kilograms.
3. For the correct computation of the weight or measurement of a parcel, the opinion of the Administration of origin shall be taken as final unless an obvious error has been made.
4. The foregoing limits of size and weight shall be subject to alteration by mutual agreement between the two contracting Administrations.

Article III

PROHIBITIONS

1. The contracting Administrations shall furnish to each other a list of the articles the importation of which into their countries is prohibited.
2. Any parcel, the contents of which are found to be contrary to the regulations of the country of destination, according to the particulars furnished on

¹ Came into force on 1 January 1955, in accordance with article XXVII.

the list, shall without further formalities be returned to the Administration of origin. Exceptionally dangerous, explosive or offensive articles shall be disposed of in accordance with the internal regulations of the country concerned and a verification note will be raised in each such case against the office of exchange and a copy thereof forwarded to the Administration of origin when that Administration so requires.

3. The same procedure shall be adopted by the Administration of destination in case of confiscation or destruction of the parcel by the competent authorities of the country of destination in accordance with their internal legislation.

4. If a parcel be found to contain a letter such a letter shall be surcharged with double the letter rate of postage by surface or air mail route, as the case may be, and the amount of surcharge shall accrue to the country of destination.

Article IV

ADDRESSING OF PARCELS

1. Every parcel shall bear the name and address of the person or company for whom/which it is intended and given with such completeness as will enable delivery to be effected.

2. Addresses in pencil shall not be allowed, provided that parcels bearing addresses written in copying pencil on a surface previously damped shall be accepted.

3. The addresses shall be written on the wrapper of the parcel itself or when impracticable on a label so firmly affixed to it that it cannot become detached.

4. The Administration of destination shall in the absence of an address or when the address appears to be incorrect or incomplete, return the parcel as undeliverable but may request the Administration of origin to furnish the complete and correct address. Such information will be supplied as early as possible preferably by air mail.

Article V

CUSTOMS DECLARATIONS

1. Every parcel shall be accompanied by a despatch note and one or more customs declarations duly completed.

2. The contracting Administrations shall inform each other of the number of customs declarations required by them.

Article VI

PARCEL BILLS

1. Parcels exchanged between the contracting Administrations shall be entered by the despatching office of exchange on parcel bills in the manner agreed upon by the Administrations concerned. The parcel bills shall be forwarded with the parcels to the office of exchange of the country of destination.

2. The parcel bills despatched by each office of exchange shall be numbered consecutively, commencing with No. 1 for the first despatch of each calendar year and these numbers shall be termed parcel bill numbers.

3. The entries on each parcel bill shall also be numbered consecutively commencing with No. 1 for each parcel bill, and these numbers shall be termed entry numbers.

Article VII

PAYMENT FOR CONVEYANCE

1. The despatching Administration shall bear the cost of the conveyance of the parcels to the country of destination.

2. The routes by which the parcels shall be forwarded and the ports at which the parcels shall be landed shall be determined by mutual arrangement between the contracting Administrations.

3. When one Administration uses for the conveyance of its parcels a vessel which is under contract to the other, payment for the service shall be made in accordance with the scale which the Administration contracting for the sea service has adopted for general application.

Article VIII

INTERMEDIARY SERVICES

1. The services of one Administration may at any time be utilized by the other for the transmission of parcels to any place or country with which the former has a parcel post service.

2. In the absence of any arrangement to the contrary the parcels shall be forwarded *à découvert*.

3. The payment for intermediary services shall be in accordance with the scale which the creditor Administration has adopted for general application to transit parcels.

Article IX

EXPRESS AND URGENT PARCELS

A service for express delivery and for urgent parcels shall not be available for parcels exchanged between the contracting Administrations. The introduction of such services, may, however, subsequently be effected by mutual consent.

Article X

WITHDRAWAL — ALTERATION OF ADDRESS

A service for withdrawal of a parcel from the post or alteration of address shall not be available after the parcel has been despatched from the country of origin. It shall, however, be open to the two Administrations at a later date to arrange mutually for the provision of this service under conditions satisfactory to both parties.

Article XI

ADVICE OF DELIVERY

No advice of delivery facilities will be available for parcels despatched in both directions. The introduction of such service may, however, subsequently be introduced by mutual consent.

Article XII

NON-DELIVERY

1. Senders may request that in the event of non-delivery—
 - (a) the parcel be returned to sender;
 - (b) the parcel be treated as abandoned;
 - (c) the parcel be delivered to another addressee in the country of destination.

Other requests are not admitted. The request must be stated on the despatch note (if one is used) as well as on the parcel.

2. Undelivered parcels forwarded from one contracting Administration to the other bearing instructions by the sender which are not permitted, and undelivered parcels in respect of which there are no instructions by the sender in regard to disposal, shall without notification be returned to the sender after the expiration of one calendar month, reckoned from the day following that on which the parcel was available for delivery to the addressee.

3. Fresh charges in accordance with the regulations of the Administration returning the parcels, which charges shall be indicated on the relative parcel bill, and any charges leviable in the country of origin in connection with the return of the parcel to the sender shall be collected from the sender and apportioned among the Administrations taking part in the return of the parcel.

Article XIII

CANCELLATION OF CUSTOMS AND OTHER NON-POSTAL CHARGES

1. The contracting Administrations undertake to use their influence with the competent authorities of their respective countries in order to obtain the cancellation of customs and other non-postal charges on parcels returned to the country of origin, abandoned by the senders, destroyed or forwarded to a third country.

2. Similar action is undertaken in respect of parcels lost, rifled or damaged in their service.

Article XIV

ERRORS AND IRREGULARITIES

Every error, irregularity or discrepancy between a parcel bill and the parcels entered thereon which may be detected upon the arrival of a mail at the receiving office of exchange or the non-receipt of a parcel bill in the mail shall be recorded in a verification note which shall be forwarded to the despatching office of exchange. The non-receipt of a verification note within a reasonable period shall be taken as an indication that the mail has been received in order.

Article XV

MISSENT PARCELS

Missent parcels shall be forwarded to destination by the normally used route. The credits allowed in respect of the missent parcels shall be considered as cancelled but all the expenses involved in retransmitting the missent parcels to proper destination shall be borne by the Administration of origin.

Article XVI

REDIRECTION

Redirection charges for postal parcels redirected in consequence of a mistake by the sender or removal of the addressee from one country to another shall be borne by the addressee or his representative at the delivering Administration. In case of refusal by the addressee or his representative to bear these charges the parcel shall be returned to sender at his expense.

Article XVII

INSURED PARCELS

The insured parcel service shall not be available for parcels exchanged between the two Administrations nor to parcels from a third country received

by one of the two Administrations for transmission to the other. Nevertheless it shall be open to the two Administrations at a later date to arrange for the provision of this service.

Article XVIII

CASH-ON-DELIVERY PARCELS

The cash-on-delivery service shall not be available for parcels exchanged between the two Administrations nor for parcels from a third country received by one of the two Administrations for transmission to the other. Nevertheless it shall be open to the two Administrations at a later date mutually to arrange for the provision of this service.

Article XIX

RESPONSIBILITY

1. The contracting Administrations are not responsible in principle for the loss, spoliation or damage of parcels. They, however, will make enquiry in cases which are submitted to them in this connection.

2. The sender of a parcel shall be responsible for ensuring that it is securely packed in such a manner as to protect the contents from damage.

Article XX

TERMINAL CREDITS

1. The Administration of origin shall pay terminal or transit charges on parcels despatched to the other contracting Administration at rates fixed by the latter.

2. The creditor Administration shall have the power to alter the rates by giving advanced notice to the other Administration of one month at least.

Article XXI

DETERIORATION OF CONTENTS

Where the deterioration or imminent corruption of the contents of a parcel is feared, they may be sold immediately without previous notice or judicial formality for the benefit of the right party or they may be disposed of in such other manner as provided for in the regulations of the country concerned.

Article XXII

EMPTY BAGS

Except where special arrangements exist for reciprocal use, empty bags shall be returned to the administration to which they belong by the earliest

convenient mail. No territorial or maritime transit fees are payable in respect of these returned empties and they must be returned to the despatching office of origin or to any other office nominated by the Administration.

Article XXIII

GOVERNMENT PARCELS

Government parcels shall be subject in all respects to the conditions applicable to ordinary parcels. However, every possible effort will be exercised by the two Administrations to provide for an expeditious treatment and early delivery of parcels addressed to government departments and members of diplomatic corps in their respective countries.

Article XXIV

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN ADMINISTRATIONS

1. In ordinary matters relating to the preparation, transmission or correction of parcel bills (which can be dealt with by means of verification notes) the offices of exchange shall be the offices of correspondence. Principal matters and questions other than those of detail shall be settled in communication between the chief offices of the Administrations concerned.

2. A duplicate of each verification note shall be sent to the chief office of the Administration to which the office of origin belongs when that Administration so requires.

Article XXV

ACCOUNTS AND SETTLEMENT OF ACCOUNTS BALANCE

1. (a) Each Administration shall prepare quarterly statements showing details, and corresponding credits, of parcel despatches received from the other Administration.

(b) Separate statements shall be prepared by the receiving Administration for the parcel mails despatched by each office of exchange.

2. A summary statement showing the total credits due by the despatching country shall also be prepared by the receiving Administration and this summary together with the detailed statements referred to in paragraph 1 shall be sent from the creditor to the debtor Administration as early as possible and not later than the end of the third month following the close of the accounting period.

3. The statements shall conform to designs mutually agreed upon between the two contracting Administrations.

4. The statements (detailed and summary) shall be verified by the debtor Administration and an accepted copy of each returned to the creditor Administration as soon as possible.

5. Immediately following notification of acceptance, each Administration shall ascertain whether it is a debtor or a creditor in respect of parcels forwarded in both directions. The debtor Administration shall forthwith advise the creditor Administration of the net balance and at the same time arrange for settlement of such net balance.

Article XXVI

ADDITIONS OR ALTERATIONS TO THE AGREEMENT

Each contracting Administration reserves the right to suggest from time to time to the other, additions or alterations which will be incorporated in the agreement upon mutual consent.

Article XXVII

ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE AGREEMENT

This agreement shall come into operation on the first day of January, 1955, and shall remain in force until one year after the date on which one party has given notice to the other party of its intention to terminate it.

EXECUTED in duplicate and signed at Pretoria this 31st day of December 1954.

L. C. BURKE

Postmaster-General of the Union of South Africa

At Jerusalem this 12th day of January 1955.

A. RANAN

Director of Postal Services of the State of Israel