

No. 7040

**SOUTH AFRICA
and
JAPAN**

Parcel Post Agreement. Signed at Tokyo, on 6 April 1963

Official texts: English and Japanese.

Registered by South Africa on 3 January 1964.

**AFRIQUE DU SUD
et
JAPON**

**Arrangement relatif à l'échange de colis postaux. Signé à
Tokyo, le 6 avril 1963**

Textes officiels anglais et japonais.

Enregistré par l'Afrique du Sud le 3 janvier 1964.

No. 7040. PARCEL POST AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA AND JAPAN. SIGNED
AT TOKYO, ON 6 APRIL 1963

The Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Government of Japan desiring to improve the parcel post service between the two countries;

The undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective Governments for that purpose, have agreed upon the following articles :

Article 1

CONDITIONS OF EXCHANGE

1. Parcels under the designation of postal parcels may be exchanged between the contracting countries by direct sea service or through the intermediary of one or more other Postal Administrations.
2. Parcels sent to or from a third country may be forwarded by either closed mail or open mail transit and shall be re-forwarded by the most rapid land and sea routes which are used for their own mails by the countries undertaking the transit.
3. The parcels shall be despatched in bags and closed mails shall only be made up on such offices of exchange as may be mutually agreed upon by the Postal Administrations of the contracting countries (hereinafter referred to as the "Postal Administrations").

Article 2

WEIGHT AND DIMENSIONS

The weight of each parcel shall not exceed 10 kilogrammes and the dimensions shall not exceed 1.05 metres in length and 1.80 metres in length and girth combined.

Article 3

PARCEL RATES

1. The parcel rates shall be composed only of the sum of the territorial and maritime rates of the countries of origin, transit and destination.

¹ Came into force on 1 October 1963, two months after the date of an exchange of notes, on 1 August 1963, indicating the approval of the Agreement, in accordance with the provisions of article 23 (1).

2. Prepayment of parcel rates on all parcels is obligatory except in the case of redirected parcels.

Article 4

TERRITORIAL AND MARITIME RATES

1. The territorial rates for each country shall be those as may be fixed from time to time by mutual consent between the Chiefs of the Postal Administrations on the basis of the cost of handling and territorial conveyance in its service.

2. The maritime rate shall be the total amount of the cost of sea conveyance between the two countries and in addition costs in respect of transportation required by the postal administration of origin.

3. For parcels sent by open mail transit from one of the contracting countries to the other through one or more third countries, the maritime rates, the transit charges and the territorial rates which are applicable between the countries of origin and transit, between the countries of transit and between the countries of transit and of destination, shall be applicable instead of the maritime rates and the territorial rates due to the country of destination referred to in the preceding paragraphs.

4. The Postal Administration of origin undertakes to pay for the sea conveyance of the parcels despatched to the country of destination.

Article 5

CUSTOMS CLEARANCE FEE, WAREHOUSING CHARGE, ETC.

The Postal Administrations may collect the amounts in respect of the Customs clearance fee, warehousing charge, and the other postal rates for the various services prescribed hereinafter in this Agreement, of which the amounts are not fixed clearly therein, within the limits of maximum amounts for these services prescribed in the Parcel Post Agreement¹ of the Universal Postal Union.

Article 6

REQUEST FOR INQUIRY

The sender of a parcel may make a request for an inquiry about the disposal of the parcel within the period of one year counting from the day following that of posting.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 365, p. 3; Vol. 391, p. 327; Vol. 404, p. 381, and Vol. 412, p. 352.

Article 7

RESPONSIBILITY

1. The Postal Administrations are not responsible as a rule for the loss of parcels, theft or damage of their contents; but either Postal Administration is at liberty to indemnify the sender for such loss of parcels or theft or damage to their contents as may occur in its own service, without giving rise to the right to demand compensation from the other Postal Administration.
2. The sender of a parcel shall be responsible for packing the parcel securely so as to protect the contents from damage and moreover so that it is impossible to tamper with the contents without leaving an obvious trace of violation.

Article 8

PROHIBITIONS

1. Parcels shall not contain materials of a dangerous, destructive, explosive or offensive nature, or contraband articles or materials, or liquids (unless securely packed in suitable containers) nor shall they contain a letter or any article, the transmission of which by parcel post is prohibited by the country of destination.
2. The Postal Administrations shall communicate to each other, by means of "Liste des objets interdits" published by the International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union, a list of the prohibited articles.
3. Any parcel, the contents of which are found to be prohibited in terms of the preceding paragraphs shall be disposed of in accordance with the internal regulations of the country concerned.
4. If the parcel be found to contain an unpaid or insufficiently prepaid letter, such letter shall be charged with double the deficient postage at the letter rate and the amount of charge shall accrue to the country of destination.
5. Parcels sent by open mail transit from one of the contracting countries to the other shall not contain articles of which the open mail transit is forbidden by the country of transit.

Article 9

CANCELLATION OF CUSTOMS AND OTHER NON-POSTAL CHARGES

1. The Postal Administrations agree to consult 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 sender, wholly destroyed or forwarded to a third country.