

No. 7679

**AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND,
PHILIPPINES, REPUBLIC OF CHINA,
REPUBLIC OF KOREA and THAILAND**

**Asian-Oceanic Postal Convention (with Final Protocol and
Detailed Regulations). Signed at Manila, on 23 January
1961**

Official text : English.

Registered by the Philippines on 8 April 1965.

**AUSTRALIE, NOUVELLE-ZÉLANDE,
PHILIPPINES, RÉPUBLIQUE DE CHINE,
RÉPUBLIQUE DE CORÉE et THAÏLANDE**

**Convention postale pour l'Asie et l'Océanie (avec Protocole
final et Règlement d'exécution). Signée à Manille,
le 23 janvier 1961**

Texte officiel anglais.

Enregistrée par les Philippines le 8 avril 1965.

No. 7679. ASIAN-OCEANIC POSTAL CONVENTION.¹ SIGNED AT MANILA, ON 23 JANUARY 1961

The undersigned, representatives duly authorized by their respective Governments :

—considering the importance of the common problems which face the Postal Administrations in the Asian and Oceanic area ;

—convinced of the opportunity of instituting and developing a large degree of cooperation between them ; and

—in exercise of the right granted them by Article 8 of the current Universal Postal Convention ;²

have agreed to conclude, under reservation of acceptance, ratification or approval by their respective Governments, the following Convention :

PART I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

CONSTITUTION AND PURPOSE OF THE UNION

1. The countries between which the present Convention is concluded form, under the name of "Asian-Oceanic Postal Union", a single postal territory.

2. The purpose of the Union is to extend, facilitate and improve the postal relations between the member-countries and to promote cooperation in the field of the postal services.

Article 2

ORGANS OF THE UNION

There are established as the organs of the Union : the Congress, the Executive Committee, the Central Office and such other organs as may be necessary.

¹ In accordance with article 24, paragraph 4, of the Convention, the closing paragraph of the Final Protocol, and article 110 (1) of the Detailed Regulations, all three acts came into force on 1 April 1962 in respect of the following States on behalf of which the instruments of ratification and the notifications that they wished to proceed with the formation of the Asian-Oceanic Postal Union were deposited with the Government of the Philippines on the dates indicated :

	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Notifications</i>
Philippines	15 March 1961	1 April 1962
Republic of Korea	19 October 1961	12 April 1962
Republic of China	8 January 1962	29 March 1962
Thailand	15 February 1962	11 May 1962

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 364, p. 3.

Article 3

ADHERENCE TO THE UNION

1. Any sovereign country in Asia and Oceania which is a member of the Universal Postal Union or any territory in that area whose Postal Administration is a member of the Universal Postal Union may request adherence as a member of the Asian-Oceanic Postal Union.

2. The request for adherence is transmitted through diplomatic channels to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and by the latter to the member-countries of the Union.

3. The country concerned is considered as adhering to the Union if its request is approved by at least two-thirds of the member-countries of the Union.

4. Member-countries of the Union failing to reply within four months are considered as abstaining.

5. Adherence to the Union is made known by the Government of the Republic of the Philippines to the Governments of all the member-countries of the Union.

Article 4

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE UNION

1. Any member-country has the right to withdraw from the Union by means of a notice of its renunciation of the present Convention given through diplomatic channels to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines, which makes it known to the Governments of the member-countries.

2. Withdrawal from the Union becomes effective at the expiration of a period of one year, counting from the date of receipt of the notification by the Government of the Republic of the Philippines.

Article 5

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the Union. However, member-countries whose language is not English may provide for a translation at their own expense.

Article 6

SPECIAL AGREEMENTS

1. The member-countries of the Union, or their Postal Administrations if the legislation of the countries permits, may conclude special agreements concerning the international postal service between themselves on condition that they do not introduce provisions less favorable to the public than those laid down in the present Convention.

2. These special agreements are notified through the intermediary of the Central Office to the member-countries or their Postal Administrations, as appropriate.

Article 7

CONGRESSES

1. The delegates of the member-countries of the Union meet in Congress not later than two years after the holding of each Universal Postal Congress in order to revise the Convention of the Union, if necessary, and to consider such other postal problems of common interest to the member-countries of the Union as they may deem necessary.

2. Each country is represented in the Congress by one or more delegates duly authorized for the purpose by their respective Governments.

3. Each country has only one vote.

4. Observers may be invited to attend meetings of the Union in an advisory capacity without the right to vote provided that they represent the United Nations or one of its specialized Agencies or Postal Administrations which are members of the Universal Postal Union. At the request of Congress or the Executive Committee, the invitation is made by the Government of the country in which the meeting is to take place.

5. Each Congress fixes the place and date of the next one. The latter Congress is convoked by the Government of the country in which the Congress will meet through diplomatic channels at least six months before it is held.

Article 8

EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESSES

1. An extraordinary Congress may be held at the request or with the consent of at least two-thirds of the member-countries.

2. The place and date of assembly is fixed by the Executive Committee in agreement with the member-countries initiating the Congress.

3. The regulations of Article 7, Paragraphs 2 and 3, apply to extraordinary Congresses.

Article 9

INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSITIONS TO CONGRESSES

1. The Postal Administration of any member-country has the right to present propositions to Congresses which propositions must reach the Central Office at least three months before the holding of the Congress. Nevertheless, propositions which

reach the Central Office during the period of three months preceding the holding of the Congress may also be considered at the discretion of the Congress.

2. The Central Office publishes these propositions and distributes them, as early as possible, among the Postal Administrations of the member-countries.

Article 10

DECISIONS OF MEETINGS OF THE UNION

1. Except as otherwise provided in the Convention, decisions at meetings of the Union are taken by a majority of members present and voting.

2. At meetings of the Union convened in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, a country may arrange for its representation by another country, provided that a delegation may represent and vote for only one country other than its own.

Article 11

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE CONGRESS

The Congress draws up the Standing Rules of Procedure necessary for its work.

Article 12

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. To ensure the continuity of the work of the Union in the interval between Congresses, an Executive Committee meets once each year as a general rule at the place where the Central Office is situated.

2. The Committee comprises all the member-countries of the Union, with a quorum of five.

3. The President of each Congress convenes the first meeting of the Committee after the holding of that Congress. At that meeting the Committee elects from among its members, a Chairman and Vice-Chairman, who hold office until the conclusion of the next Congress.

4. The annual meetings of the Executive Committee following the first meeting are convened by its Chairman.

5. Between ordinary sessions, the Committee may be convened as a general rule at the place where the Central Office is situated, by the Chairman at the request of a two-thirds majority of the member-countries of the Union.

6. The Committee may appoint sub-Committees or working groups to assist with its work or to study specific postal questions.