

**CONVENTION CONCERNING
THE INTERNATIONAL
EXCHANGE OF PUBLICATIONS**

The General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, meeting in Paris from 4 November to 5 December 1958, at its tenth session,

Convinced that development of the international exchange of publications is essential to the free exchange of ideas and knowledge among the peoples of the world,

Considering the importance accorded to the international exchange of publications by the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Recognizing the need for a new international convention concerning the exchange of publications,

Having before it proposals concerning the international exchange of publications constituting item 15.4.1 on the agenda of the session,

Having decided, at its ninth session, that these proposals should be made the subject of international regulation by way of an international convention,

Adopts, this third day of December 1958, the present Convention.

ARTICLE 1.

Exchange of Publications

The Contracting States undertake to encourage and facilitate the exchange of publications between both governmental bodies and nongovernmental institutions of an educational, scientific and technical, or cultural nature, which are non-profit-making in character, in accordance with the provisions of the present Convention.

ARTICLE 2

Scope of the Exchange of Publications

1. For the purpose of the present Convention, the following publications may be considered appropriate articles to be "exchanged, for use but not for resale, between the bodies and institutions referred to in Article 1 of the present Convention :

(a) publications of an educational, legal, scientific and technical, cultural and informational nature, such as books, newspapers and periodicals, maps and plans, prints, photographs, microcopies, musical works, Braille publications other graphic material;

(b) publications covered by the Convention concerning the exchange of official publications and government documents between States, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the third day of December 1958.

2. The present Convention in no way affects exchanges carried out under the convention concerning the exchange of official publications and government documents between States, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the third day of December 1958.

3. The present Convention does not apply to confidential documents, circulars and other items which have not been made public.

ARTICLE 3

Exchange Services

1. The Contracting States may entrust the national exchange service or, where no such national exchange service exists,

the central exchange authority or authorities with the following functions in connexion with the development and co-ordination of the exchange of publications among bodies and institutions referred to in Article 1 of the present Convention :

(a) facilitating the international exchange of publications, in particular by transmitting, when appropriate, the material to be exchanged;

(b) supplying advice and information on exchange possibilities for bodies and institutions at home and abroad;

(c) encouraging, when appropriate, the exchange of duplicate material.

2. However, when it is deemed, undesirable to centralise in the national exchange service or in central authorities the development and coordination of exchanges among bodies and institutions referred to in Article 1 of the present Convention, any or all of the functions enumerated in paragraph 1 of the present article may be entrusted to other authority or authorities.

ARTICLE 4

Method of Transmission

The transmission may be made either directly between the bodies and institutions concerned, or through the national exchange service or exchange authorities.

ARTICLE 5

Transport Charges

When transmissions are made directly between exchange partners, the Contracting States shall not be required to bear the cost thereof. If the transmission is made through the exchange authority or authorities, the Contracting States shall bear the cost of the transmission as far as destination, but, for transport by sea, the cost of packing and carriage shall be paid only as far as the customs office of the port of arrival.

ARTICLE 6

Rates and Conditions of Transport

The Contracting States shall take all the necessary measures to ensure that the exchange authorities benefit from the most favourable existing rates and transport conditions, whatever the means of transport chosen: post, road, rail, inland or sea transport, airmail or air cargo.

ARTICLE 7

Customs and Other Facilities

Each Contracting State shall grant its exchange authorities exemption from customs duties for both imported and exported material under the provisions of the present Convention or under any agreement in implementation thereof and shall accord them the most favourable treatment as regards customs and other facilities.

ARTICLE 8

International Co-ordination of Exchange

To assist the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the performance of the functions assigned to it by its Constitution concerning the international coordination of exchange, the Contracting States shall send to the Organization annual reports on the working