Directive 97/67/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December 1997 on common rules for the development of the internal market of Community postal services and the improvement of quality of service

#### CHAPTER 1

# Objective and scope

Article 1	This Directive establishes common rules concerning: the
	conditions governing the
Article 2	For the purposes of this Directive, the following definitions
	shall

## **CHAPTER 2**

## Universal service

Article 3	(1) Member States shall ensure that users enjoy the right
Article 4	(1) Each Member State shall ensure that the provision of
Article 5	(1) Each Member State shall take steps to ensure that
Article 6	Member States shall take steps to ensure that users and

## CHAPTER 3

## Financing of universal services

Article 7	(1) Member States shall not grant or maintain in force
Article 8	The provisions of Article 7 shall be without prejudice to

#### **CHAPTER 4**

Conditions governing the provision of postal services and access to the network

Article 9	(1) For services which fall outside the scope of the
Article 10	(1) The European Parliament and the Council, acting on a
Article 11	The European Parliament and the Council, acting on a proposal
Article 11a	Whenever necessary to protect the interest of users and/or to

## CHAPTER 5

# Tariff principles and transparency of accounts

Article 12	Member States shall take steps to ensure that the tariffs
Article 13	(1) In order to ensure the cross-border provision of the
Article 14	(1) Member States shall take the measures necessary to ensure
Article 15	The financial accounts of all universal service providers shall
	be

# CHAPTER 6

	Quality of services
Article 16	Member States shall ensure that quality-of-service standards are
Article 17	set and Member States shall day down quality standards for national
Article 18	mail (1) In accordance with Article 16, quality standards for intra-
Article 19	Community (1) Member States shall ensure that transparent, simple and inexpensive
	CHAPTER 7
	Harmonisation of technical standards
Article 20	The harmonisation of technical standards shall be continued, taking into
	CHAPTER 8
	The committee
Article 21	(1) The Commission shall be assisted by a committee.
	CHAPTER 9
	The national regulatory authority
Article 22	(1) Each Member State shall designate one or more national
	CHAPTER 9a
	Provision of information
Article 22a	(1) Member States shall ensure that postal service providers provide
	CHAPTER 10
	Final provisions
Article 23 Article 23a	Every four years, on the first occasion no later than The Commission shall provide assistance to the Member States on
Article 24	
Article 25	
Article 26 Article 27	
Article 27 Article 28	This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

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#### ANNEX I

Guidance on calculating the net cost, if any, of universal service

Part A:

Definition of the universal service obligations

Part B:

Calculation of net cost

Part C:

Recovery of any net costs of universal service obligations

#### ANNEX II

Quality standards for intra-Community cross-border mail

The quality standards for intra-Community cross-border mail in each country...

The standards must be achieved not only for the entirety...

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- (1) OJ C 322, 2. 12. 1995, p. 22, and OJ C 300, 10. 10. 1996, p. 22.
- (2) OJ C 174, 17. 6. 1996, p. 41.
- (3) OJ C 337, 11. 11. 1996, p. 28.
- (4) OJ C 42, 15. 2. 1993, p. 240.
- (5) OJ C 48, 16. 2. 1994, p. 3.
- (6) Opinion of the European Parliament of 9 May 1996 (OJ C 152, 27. 5. 1996, p. 20), Council Common Position of 29 April 1997 (OJ C 188, 19. 6. 1997, p. 9) and Decision of the European Parliament of 16 September 1997 (OJ C 304, 6. 10. 1997, p. 34); Decision of the European Parliament of 19 November 1997 and Decision of the Council of 1 December 1997.
- (7) OJ L 95, 21. 4. 1993, p. 29.