



Treaty Series No. 58 (1952)

Supplementary Agreement

revising Article II of Agreement annexed to
Final Act of Commonwealth-United States
Telecommunications Meeting
signed 12th August, 1949

London, 1st October, 1952

*Presented by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to Parliament
by Command of Her Majesty
October 1952*

LONDON
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

FOURPENCE NET

Cmd. 8683

**SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENT TO REVISE ARTICLE II OF
THE AGREEMENT ANNEXED TO THE FINAL ACT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH-UNITED STATES TELECOMMUNICATIONS
MEETING, SIGNED AT LONDON ON 12th AUGUST, 1949**

London, 1st October, 1952

The Governments of the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, India, Pakistan, Ceylon and Southern Rhodesia;

Desiring to replace Article II of the Agreement annexed to the Final Act of the London Telecommunications Meeting signed on 12th August, 1949⁽¹⁾ (hereinafter called the Main Agreement), by the provisions contained in the Annex hereto;

Have agreed as follows:—

ARTICLE I

As from the date of the coming into force of the present Agreement the provisions of the Annex to the present Agreement shall be substituted for Article II of the Main Agreement, and the said Article II shall be abrogated.

ARTICLE II

The present Agreement, which is supplementary to and shall be read as one with the Main Agreement, shall come into force on the 1st of October, 1952.

In witness whereof the undersigned, being duly authorised to that effect, have signed the present Agreement.

Done at London this 1st day of October, 1952, in the English language in a single copy, which shall be deposited in the archives of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and of which certified copies shall be furnished to the other signatory Governments.

For the Government of the United States of America:

WALTER S. GIFFORD.

For the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:

DE LA WARR.

For the Government of Canada:

N. A. ROBERTSON.

For the Government of Australia:

THOMAS WHITE.

For the Government of New Zealand:

F. W. DOIDGE.

⁽¹⁾ "Treaty Series No. 37 (1950)," Cmd. 7994.

655
For the Government of the Union of South Africa:

A. L. GEYER.

For the Government of India:

B. G. KHER.

For the Government of Pakistan:

M. A. H. ISPAHANI.

For the Government of Ceylon:

V. COOMARASWAMY.

For the Government of Southern Rhodesia:

K. M. GOODENOUGH.

ANNEX

Article II.—Telegraph Rates

Section 6.—Ceiling Collection Charges

(i) The ceiling rates for collection charges in respect of traffic exchanged between the United States on the one hand and each of the countries of the British Commonwealth on the other hand shall be as follows:—

For ordinary full rate telegrams, 30 cents or 2s. 2d. per word.

For letter telegrams, 15 cents or 1s. 1d. per word.

For ordinary rate press telegrams, 10 cents or 8½d. per word.

(ii) Any party to this Agreement may, upon ninety days' notice to the other parties to this Agreement, raise to a level above the respective ceiling rates established by this Section any rate which is at or below the ceiling.

(iii) The dollar and sterling ceiling rates prescribed in Sub-section (i) of this Section are approximately equivalent at \$2·80 to £1, but in the event of an alteration in the average of buying and selling rates for telegraphic transfer of dollars and sterling by more than 2 per cent. from \$2·80 to £1, arrangements shall be made promptly at the request of any country for consultation between the parties to this Agreement as to the appropriate adjustments of the ceiling rates.

(iv) In any country other than the United States and the United Kingdom, the ceiling rates for collection charges in local currency shall be the approximate equivalent of the dollar and sterling ceiling rates prescribed in this Section at the current rate of exchange between the local currency and the dollar or pound sterling.

NOTE.—The press rate within the British Commonwealth may be extended to press traffic between the countries of the British Commonwealth and any other country.

Section 7.—Terminal and Transit Charges

(i) Terminal and transit charges shall be regarded as payments for services rendered. The terminal charges are payable for traffic originating in or destined for a country. The transit charges are payable for traffic carried across the territory of a country for onward transmission beyond that country.

(ii) For the purpose of assessing terminal and transit charges for the traffic referred to in paragraph (i) of this Section, countries shall be classified in two categories, as follows:—

(a) Countries of extensive area, namely, Canada, Australia, India, Union of South Africa, Pakistan and the Continental United States.

(b) All other countries.

Section 8.—Accounting

(i) The rates which shall be used for the purpose of accounting for traffic exchanged between the United States on the one hand and each of the countries of the British Commonwealth on the other hand (in this Section referred to as "the accounting rates") shall be expressed in dollars, and accounts shall be kept in that currency by the parties concerned.

(ii) The accounting rates are made up of the following components, namely, terminal charges, transit charges, cable parcours charges and wireless parcours charges.

657

(iii) The accounting rates and each component of the accounting rates shall be the rates and components of rates which were in force for the purpose of accounting on 1st July, 1952.

(iv) Subject to any special arrangements, the terminal charges and transit charges for an ordinary full rate word shall be:—

(a) A terminal charge of 4 cents for countries referred to in paragraph (ii) (a) of Section 7 and $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents for countries referred to in paragraph (ii) (b) of that Section.

(b) A transit charge of $3\frac{1}{2}$ cents for countries referred to in the said paragraph (ii) (a) and $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents for countries referred to in the said paragraph (ii) (b)

and the terminal and transit charges for other categories of telegrams shall bear the same proportion to the accounting rates for such categories.

(v) The variation of any rate of collection charge within the ceilings referred to in Section 6, or the raising of any rate of collection charge above such ceilings, or the existence of different rates of collection charge in the two directions, shall not involve any variation of the accounting rates or of the separate components of the accounting rates laid down in paragraph (iv) of this Section.

(vi) For traffic carried by direct radio-telegraph circuits, the portion of the accounting rate remaining after deduction of terminal and transit charges shall be divided equally between the transmitting and receiving organisations.

(vii) Provided the charges accruing to the other international carriers are not affected, the division of charges between an international carrier and its corresponding domestic carrier shall be of no concern to the other international carriers.

Section 9.—Payment of Balances

Payment of the balance of the accounts shall be made in the currency of the creditor party. Where payment is due in a currency other than dollars, conversion of the dollar balance in the account into the currency of payment shall be made at the rate current for telegraphic transfers of that currency in terms of dollars at the time of payment.

Section 10.—General Provisions

(i) All references in this Article to dollars and cents and to pounds, shillings and pence, are to United States and United Kingdom currencies respectively.

(ii) The application of Sections 7, 8 and 9 of this Agreement to existing contracts and the specific arrangements to give effect to them shall be considered by the parties concerned. Special arrangements as to matters covered by Sections 7, 8 and 9 of this Agreement, and differing from its provisions, may be concluded at any time between the United States and any country (or countries) of the British Commonwealth on the understanding that such country (or countries) will, before concluding any such special arrangements, consult, as necessary, as to its effect, with the other parties to this Agreement.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

To be purchased from.

York House, Kingsway, LONDON, W.C.2 423 Oxford Street, LONDON, W.1

P.O. Box 569, LONDON, S.E.1

13a Castle Street, EDINBURGH, 2 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, CARDIFF

39 King Street, MANCHESTER, 2 Tower Lane, BRISTOL, 1

2 Edmund Street, BIRMINGHAM, 3 80 Chichester Street, BELFAST

or from any Bookseller

1952

Price 4*d.* net

PRINTED IN GREAT BRITAIN