

18. The Bermuda Agreement provides for substantial reductions in telegraph rates between countries of the Commonwealth and the United States, and contemplates the eventual introduction of a world ceiling telegraph rate of 1s. 10½d. per word, New Zealand currency, subject to the agreement of foreign administrations. The Agreement includes a statement of the principles to be adopted in determining whether a direct wireless telegraph circuit should be established between two countries, the intention being that this statement should be presented for consideration at the next International Telegraph Conference. Broadly, the proposal is that such circuits should be opened when justified by traffic or service needs, and the adoption of the principles suggested would enable the problems referred to in paragraph 5 above to be very largely met. The countries represented at the Bermuda Conference recognized the important strategic role which cables play in a co-ordinated telecommunications system, and agreed that to secure the optimum development of telecommunication services, research and development work in both cable and radio communication is essential.

19. The New Zealand Government regards the Agreement as a settlement likely to be of immediate benefit to the peoples of the Commonwealth and of the United States, and at a valuable contribution towards the resolution of world telecommunication problems. This view is fully shared by the Governments of the United Kingdom, the Dominions, and India.

APPENDIX 1

FORM OF OVERALL AGREEMENT BETWEEN PARTNER GOVERNMENTS

This Agreement is made on the day of 194 between His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (hereinafter referred to as "the U.K. Government") of the first part His Majesty's Government in Canada of the second part His Majesty's Government in the Commonwealth of Australia of the third part His Majesty's Government in the Dominion of New Zealand of the fourth part His Majesty's Government in the Union of South Africa of the fifth part the Government of India of the sixth part the Government of Southern Rhodesia of the seventh part (all of whom are hereinafter collectively referred to as "the Partner Governments"):

Whereas at a Commonwealth Telecommunication Conference of representatives of the Partner Governments held in London in July 1945 decisions were reached to recommend certain measures for promoting and co-ordinating the efficiency and development of the telecommunication services of the British Commonwealth and Empire:

And whereas the Partner Governments have adopted the recommendations of the said conference and are entering into this Agreement for the purpose of giving effect to such recommendations: