

N° 1577.

**ALLEMAGNE, PAYS-BAS
ET SUISSE**

Arrangement concernant le service téléphonique entre les Pays-Bas et la Suisse, par l'Allemagne. Signé à Berne, le 1^{er} février, à La Haye, le 11 février, et à Berlin, le 19 février 1927.

**GERMANY,
THE NETHERLANDS
AND SWITZERLAND**

Agreement concerning the Telephone Service between The Netherlands and Switzerland via Germany. Signed at Berne, February 1, at The Hague, February 11, and at Berlin, February 19, 1927.

¹ TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

No. 1577. — AGREEMENT ² CONCERNING THE TELEPHONE SERVICE BETWEEN THE NETHERLANDS AND SWITZERLAND VIA GERMANY. SIGNED AT BERNE, FEBRUARY 1, AT THE HAGUE, FEBRUARY 11, AND AT BERLIN, FEBRUARY 19, 1927.

French official text communicated by the Netherlands Minister at Berne. The registration³ of this Agreement took place November 23, 1927.

Article 1.

In order to facilitate telephonic communication between the Netherlands and Switzerland, the Telegraph and Telephone Administrations of the Netherlands, Germany and Switzerland shall establish telephone circuit between Amsterdam and Basle and a circuit between Amsterdam and Zurich. There shall be no intermediate station on these two circuits, the main purpose of which shall be to provide for the traffic between the Netherlands and Switzerland. They may likewise be used, by agreement between the Administrations concerned, for communications beyond the Netherlands and beyond Switzerland.

Article 2.

The provisions laid down in Chapter XXIV (Telephone Service) of the International Regulations (Revision of Paris, 1925) annexed to the International Telephone Convention³ of St-Petersburg are applied to the telephone service between the Netherlands and Switzerland as amplified and modified by the following conditions :

C. LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS AND CALL OFFICES.

Paragraph 4. — Application for lists of subscribers (telephone directories) for sale to the public must be made to the Telegraph Office at The Hague or the Swiss General Direction of Telegraphs, Berne, as the case may be.

E. URGENT PRIVATE CALLS.

Paragraph 1. — Urgent private calls are admitted.

F. " LIGHTNING " CALLS.

Paragraph 1. — " Lightning " calls are not admitted.

¹ Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations.

¹ Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations.

² Came into force February 19, 1927.

³ Vol. LVII, page 201, of this Series.

G. GOVERNMENT CALLS.

Paragraph 1, § 2. — There are urgent Government calls and ordinary Government calls.

Paragraph 2, § 5. — The duration of Government calls is not limited. Nevertheless, the German Administration reserves the right to limit to six minutes the duration of ordinary Government calls when these calls are put through by one of its offices.

H. SUBSCRIPTION CALLS.

Paragraph 1, § 1. — Subscription calls are authorised at fixed hours during the period of light traffic and also during other periods.

Paragraph 1, § 4. — Subscription calls are subject to the following charges :

- (a) During the periods of light traffic ; half the unit charge ;
- (b) During other periods ; three times the unit charge.

Paragraph 3. — During the periods of light traffic, subscription calls of a longer duration than six minutes may be admitted by the offices concerned if the traffic on the circuits to be employed permits.

Paragraph 6, § 2. — Additional conversations are regarded and charged for in accordance with paragraph 1 (1) of Section L, *i.e.* as new calls. They will accordingly be charged for during the periods of heavy traffic, at the unit rate as minimum, and during the periods of light traffic at three-fifths ($\frac{3}{5}$) of the unit rate as minimum.

K. RATES. COLLECTION OF CHARGES.

Paragraphs 1-3. — *Zones.* For the fixing of terminal charges :

The Netherlands territory comprises a single zone.

Swiss territory comprises a single zone.

TERMINAL QUOTAS.

The quota of the Administration at each end per unit fee is fixed as follows :

Netherlands.

At one franc fifty centimes (1 fr. 50) for any call, irrespective of the offices of origin or destination in that country.

Switzerland.

At one franc fifty centimes (1 fr. 50) for any call, irrespective of the offices of origin or destination in that country.

TRANSIT QUOTA.

Germany.

Paragraph 4. — The transit quota of the German Administration per unit fee is fixed at three francs (3 frs.) for any conversation, irrespective of the offices of origin and destination.

The same transit charge shall also be granted to Germany if, owing to dislocation, calls are put through German offices.

The amount of the unit fee for services between the Netherlands and Switzerland is accordingly :

Netherlands quota 1 fr. 50 + Swiss share 1 fr. 50 + German share 3 fr. = 6 fr.

Paragraph 5. — The Netherlands and Swiss Administrations guarantee to Germany minimum annual receipts (transit fees) of fr. 70,000 (seventy thousand francs) per circuits except as regards the Amsterdam-Basle circuit.

When the annual receipts fall short of the sum guaranteed, the difference shall be paid to Germany when the accounts for the fourth quarter are settled, equal shares being contributed by the Netherlands and Swiss Administrations.

In the case of interruption or dislocation of the service, the German Administration shall do its utmost to re-establish communication within the shortest possible time. If the interruption or dislocation in German territory lasts for more than five days from the day on which the German Administration has been notified thereof by the Netherlands or Swiss Administration, the minimum guaranteed receipts shall be reduced by $\frac{1}{365}$ for each period of twenty-four hours or fraction thereof in excess of five days.

Paragraph 6. — The hours of light traffic are from 21 h. to 8 h. (legal time of the country of origin). As regards subscription calls, the country of origin is that in which the subscription has been paid.

During the hours of light traffic, the rate for an ordinary private call is fixed at three-fifths ($\frac{3}{5}$) of the unit rate.

L. METHOD OF APPLICATION OF RATES. DURATION OF CALLS.

Paragraph 8, §§ 2 and 3. — A caller who fails to reply, although his apparatus is in working order, is debited with the unit fee fixed for a call of the category demanded. No charge is made if the person called fails to reply.

If the caller or the person called, after replying to the preparatory call, fails to reply to the definite call, such non-reply is regarded as a refusal, and the charge for a three-minute call of the category demanded is then entered.

Paragraph 10. — Calls to commercial or Stock Exchanges or other markets will be charged for as soon as the office at the originating end and the public call office or chief public call office reply to the call.

N. "AVIS D'APPEL" AND TELEPHONIC "PRÉAVIS".

Paragraph 1. — Last §. — "Avis d'appel" are not admitted.

Telephonic "préavis" are admitted. In putting through such calls the Administrations agree to comply with the recommendations of the International Consultative Committee under the heading: "Method of establishing communications with préavis and avis d'appel", supplementary to the provisions of the International Regulations (Paris Revision).

O. ESTABLISHMENT AND DISCONNECTION OF CALLS.

Paragraph 2, § 3. — If the traffic is sufficiently heavy, demands for calls must be transmitted between the terminal offices in such a way that in addition to the conversation in progress, each terminal office has at least two demands for calls in hand in each direction.

Paragraph 4, § 5. — During periods of heavy traffic, there shall, as far as possible, be a special agent for each international long distance circuit.

Paragraph 11. — As regards the putting-through of calls through a German Office, the three Administrations agree to comply with the recommendations of the International Consultative Committee for longdistance Telephone Communications under the heading "Regulations for the Operation of International Transit Traffic", supplementary to provisions of the International Regulations (Paris Revision).

The optional clause under letter *h*) of these recommendations is, however, replaced by the following :

(*h*) Should a difference of opinion arise between the terminal office at the originating end and the transit office, in regard to the length of calls, the opinion of the transit office shall prevail.

Article 3.

In virtue of Article 8 of the International Convention of St. Petersburg, each of the Contracting Parties reserves the right to suspend the telephone service either wholly or in part without being liable to any indemnity.

Article 4.

The present Agreement shall take effect at the date which shall be fixed by the Contracting Administrations as soon as it becomes definitive in accordance with the special legislation of each of the States concerned.

It shall be valid for an indefinite period, and may be cancelled at any time subject to three months' notice.

Done in triplicate,

At Berne, February 1, 1927.

*Federal Department
of Posts and Railways,
Dr. HAAB.*

At The Hague, February 11, 1927.

*DAMME,
Director-General of Posts
and Telegraphs of the Netherlands,*

At Berlin, February 19, 1927.

*For the Postmaster-General,
FEYERABEND.*