

No. 1149

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND
and
CEYLON**

External Affairs Agreement. Signed at Colombo, on 11 November 1947

Official text: English.

Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 10 April 1951.

**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD
et
CEYLAN**

Accord relatif aux affaires extérieures. Signé à Colombo, le 11 novembre 1947

Texte officiel anglais.

Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le 10 avril 1951.

No. 1149. EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND CEYLON. SIGNED AT COLOMBO, ON 11 NOVEMBER 1947

Whereas Ceylon has reached the stage in constitutional development at which she is ready to assume the status of a fully responsible member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, in no way subordinate in any aspect of domestic or external affairs, freely associated and united by common allegiance to the Crown;

And whereas the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ceylon are desirous of entering into an agreement to provide for certain matters relating to external affairs;

Therefore the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of Ceylon have agreed as follows :—

(1) The Government of Ceylon declares the readiness of Ceylon to adopt and follow the resolutions of past Imperial Conferences.

(2) In regard to external affairs generally, and in particular to the communication of information and consultation, the Government of the United Kingdom will, in relation to Ceylon observe the principles and practice now observed by the Members of the Commonwealth, and the Ceylon Government will for its part observe these same principles and practice.

(3) The Ceylon Government will be represented in London by a High Commissioner for Ceylon, and the Government of the United Kingdom will be represented in Colombo by a High Commissioner for the United Kingdom.

(4) If the Government of Ceylon so requests, the Government of the United Kingdom will communicate to the Governments of the foreign countries with which Ceylon wishes to exchange diplomatic representatives proposals for such exchange. In any foreign country where Ceylon has no diplomatic representative the Government of the United Kingdom will, if so requested by the Government of Ceylon, arrange for its representatives to act on behalf of Ceylon.

¹ Came into force on 4 February 1948, in accordance with the provisions of clause 7.

(5) The Government of the United Kingdom will lend its full support to any application by Ceylon for membership of the United Nations, or of any specialised international agency as described in Article 57 of the United Nations Charter.

(6) All obligations and responsibilities heretofore devolving on the Government of the United Kingdom which arise from any valid international instrument shall henceforth insofar as such instrument may be held to have application to Ceylon devolve upon the Government of Ceylon. The reciprocal rights and benefits heretofore enjoyed by the Government of the United Kingdom in virtue of the application of any such international instrument to Ceylon shall henceforth be enjoyed by the Government of Ceylon.

(7) This Agreement will take effect on the day when the constitutional measures necessary for conferring on Ceylon fully responsible status within the British Commonwealth of Nations shall come into force.

DONE in duplicate, at Colombo, this 11th day of November, 1947.

Signed on behalf of the Government of the United Kingdom
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland :

Henry MOORE

Signed on behalf of the Government of Ceylon :

D. S. SENANAYAKE
