

**No. 2622**

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

**Agreement for the establishment of telecommunication  
services between British Honduras and Mexico. Signed  
at Mexico City, on 12 June 1952**

*Official texts: English and Spanish.*

*Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on  
26 July 1954.*

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

**Accord relatif à l'établissement d'un service de télécom-  
munications entre le Honduras britannique et le  
Mexique. Signé à Mexico, le 12 juin 1952**

*Textes officiels anglais et espagnol.*

*Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le  
26 juillet 1954.*

No. 2622. AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND MEXICO FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES BETWEEN BRITISH HONDURAS AND MEXICO. SIGNED AT MEXICO CITY, ON 12 JUNE 1952

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Her Majesty The Queen of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas; and the President of the United Mexican States; desiring to improve the existing telecommunication services between British Honduras and Mexico; have resolved to conclude an Agreement and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries for this purpose :

Her Majesty The Queen of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas :

For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland :

John William Taylor, Esq., C.M.G., M.B.E., Her Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Mexico; and

The President of the United Mexican States :

Señor Agustín García López, Secretary of Communications and Public-Works;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, which were found in due and good form, have agreed as follows :—

*Article 1*

The General Postal and Telegraphic Administration of British Honduras and the General Directorate of Telecommunications of Mexico (which Administration and Directorate are hereinafter referred to as “the Administrations”) will maintain, subject to such modifications as may be necessary, telegraph and telephone connexion between British Honduras and Mexico and establish direct communication between the wireless-telegraph stations of the two countries

*Article 2*

The connexion of the telegraph and telephone lines and wireless-telegraph stations of British Honduras and Mexico to which the present Agreement refers is connexion between lines and stations belonging to the Governments

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 18 May 1954 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification at Mexico City, in accordance with article 26.

of the two countries, which in the case of British Honduras are styled "Government Lines and Stations" and in the case of Mexico "National Lines and Stations." In no case shall any of the said lines or stations of one country be connected with a line or station in private ownership situated in the other country.

### *Article 3*

The connexion of the telegraph and telephone lines and wireless-telegraph stations of the Government of British Honduras with the telegraph and telephone lines and wireless-telegraph stations of the Federal Government of Mexico has for its sole object the reciprocal exchange of messages and other electrical-communication services between the two countries, or originating in or destined for other countries and transmitted by means of the telegraph or telephone lines or wireless-telegraph stations of British Honduras and Mexico.

### *Article 4*

The Administrations shall determine by agreement the places in which telegraph and telephone offices and wireless-telegraph stations to be used for the purpose of the connexion referred to in the present Agreement (hereinafter referred to as "Offices and Stations of Exchange") shall be situated.

### *Article 5*

The act of bringing the connecting wires into the offices of exchange of the respective countries and of placing instruments necessary for the operation of such wires in the said offices shall constitute the actual connexion of the telephone and telegraph lines of the Government of British Honduras with those of the Federal Government of Mexico.

The act of reciprocally exchanging wireless-telegraph communications shall constitute the establishment of direct communication between the wireless-telegraph stations of exchange of the Government of British Honduras and those of the Federal Government of Mexico.

### *Article 6*

The offices and stations of exchange of British Honduras shall receive, transmit and accept all traffic offered to them by or for the offices and stations of exchange of Mexico including that originating in or destined for other countries. Reciprocally the offices and stations of exchange of Mexico shall receive, transmit and accept all traffic offered to them by or for the offices and stations of exchange of British Honduras including that originating in or destined for other countries.

*Article 7*

The offices and stations of exchange of the one country shall transmit to the offices and stations of exchange of the other country, besides the traffic interchanged between the two countries and that which under the sender's instructions must pass in transit through them, a quantity of traffic intended for other countries without a route indication, but only to the extent which the Administration of origin deems fit, having regard to agreements with other governments, administrations and companies.

*Article 8*

The Government of British Honduras and the Federal Government of Mexico shall each bear all the expenses of construction, equipment, maintenance and operation of the lines, offices and stations on its territory intended for the international traffic to which the present Agreement refers and shall construct, equip, maintain and operate them in such manner as to provide secure and efficient transmitting and receiving services and so as to satisfy all the modern technical requirements, but neither Government shall be liable to the other Government for any loss or damage sustained by reason of any failure or breakdown of any of the services, whatsoever shall be the cause of such failure or breakdown and howsoever long it shall last.

*Article 9*

Neither the Government of British Honduras nor its agents will have direct communication with the public in the territory of Mexico concerning the services which are the object of the present Agreement and in all matters relating to the said services the General Directorate of Telecommunications of Mexico shall be the only legal intermediary between the Government of British Honduras or its agents and the said public. The Federal Government of Mexico and its agents will observe the same rules *mutatis mutandis* through the General Postal and Telegraphic Administration of British Honduras with regard to the public in the territory of British Honduras.

*Article 10*

The International Telecommunication Convention signed at Atlantic City on 2nd October, 1947,<sup>1</sup> and the Regulations annexed thereto and any convention or regulations which shall at any time be in force in amendment or substitution thereof shall apply to all messages and services which are the object of the present Agreement.

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 193, p. 188.

*Article 11*

Telegraph, telephone and wireless-telegraph communications exchanged between British Honduras and Mexico under the present Agreement and originating from or destined for some point within their territories shall be classified thus :

Government,  
Service and  
Private.

*Article 12*

For the purposes of the classification referred to in Article 11—

(1) All communications emanating from the authorities of the Government of British Honduras or of the Federal Government of Mexico including communications from the diplomatic or consular representatives or duly authorised special agents of the said Governments and dealing with purely official matters shall be regarded as "Government";

(2) Subject to such rules as may be agreed upon between the Administrations, all communications exchanged between the Administrations or between offices or stations subject to the Administrations on matters relating to the services which are the object of the present Agreement shall be regarded as "Service";

(3) All other communications shall be regarded as "Private."

*Article 13*

Government and private communications may take, at the option of the sender, one or more of the following forms:—

Ordinary (including code and cypher).  
Urgent.  
Multiple.  
Collated.  
Notification of Delivery.  
Reply Paid.  
Letter-Telegrams.

*Article 14*

The Administrations may by agreement establish for the purposes of the services between the two countries and in respect of communications which pass in transit through British Honduras and Mexico for other countries in pursuance of the present Agreement, such other classes of messages and services as experience may show to be necessary.

*Article 15*

For the purpose of Government communications the General Postal and Telegraphic Administration of British Honduras may use the English language and the General Directorate of Telecommunications of Mexico may use the Spanish language. For the purpose of service communications the Spanish language shall be used : and, for the transmission of communications in general, the international telegraph alphabet at present in use on the lines and stations of the Federal Government of Mexico shall be used unless the Administrations agree to adopt some other alphabet.

*Article 16*

(1) The tariff of charges for telegraph, telephone and wireless-telegraph communications and other services which are the object of the present Agreement will be fixed in United States dollars by agreement between the Administrations and may be modified, as necessary, in the same manner, it being understood that in all cases where a telegram or telephone call, in order to arrive at its final destination, has to be forwarded by post or by telegraph or telephone lines in private ownership, or by special delivery, or by all or any such means in turn, the postal charges and the charges for the use of the said lines and for special delivery will be added to the charges prescribed in the said tariff.

(2) The apportionment between the Administrations of the said charges will also be settled by agreement between them, it being understood that the amount received for the use of postal facilities or of telegraph or telephone lines in private ownership or for special delivery in the country of destination, will be paid to the Administration of the country of destination without any deduction.

*Article 17*

(1) Private communications shall be paid for in cash at the full rate prescribed in the tariff fixed under Article 16.

(2) Government communications of the Government of British Honduras from or for points in Mexico shall be free of charge in respect of lines, stations and services of British Honduras and shall be charged only 50 per cent. of the ordinary tariff in respect of those of Mexico. Government communications of the Federal Government of Mexico from or for points in British Honduras shall be free of charge in respect of lines, stations and services of Mexico and shall be charged only 50 per cent. of the ordinary tariff in respect of those of British Honduras. Such official communications of the Government of British Honduras and of the Federal Government of Mexico shall, unless the sender

otherwise directs, be given the priority in transmission applicable to "Urgent" communications and shall be collated without payment of the special charge due on collated and urgent communications. Government communications destined for another country, that is to say passing only in transit through British Honduras or Mexico, shall be charged 50 per cent. of the ordinary tariff between British Honduras and Mexico fixed under Article 16 and the appropriate charges in respect of the lines, stations and services of the connecting administrations and companies, and such communications shall be given the benefit of the urgent and collated services free of charge only in so far as concerns the circuits of British Honduras and Mexico.

(3) Service communications shall be free of charge.

#### *Article 18*

Supplementary services at reduced rates which may be established as a consequence of the present Agreement may be used in government communications of the Government of British Honduras and of the Federal Government of Mexico, but in such case the tariff in force for the public in the same class of service shall be applied.

#### *Article 19*

If, with the object of evading payment of a charge according to the tariff, it should happen that a message or service, originating at a point situated in British Honduras or Mexico, is sent to be directly handed in at an office or station in the other country, the office or station at which the handing in takes place shall compute and collect charges for such message or service in strict accordance with the tariff and shall credit the other Administration with the amount which would have been due to it if the message or service had been handed in at one of the offices or stations of the country of origin.

#### *Article 20*

The offices and stations of each Government shall collect the total sum payable in respect of communications and other services to which the present Agreement applies originating in its territory and shall render to the Administration of the other country an account in whatever form that Administration may determine.

#### *Article 21*

(1) Accounts shall be settled quarterly between the Administrations in Mexico City and the Administrations shall determine by agreement the manner in which accounts shall be rendered for this purpose. The balance shown shall be paid to the creditor Administration in United States dollars without delay.

(2) The quarterly periods shall be as follows:—

1st Quarter : January, February, March.

2nd Quarter : April, May, June.

3rd Quarter : July, August, September.

4th Quarter : October, November, December.

#### *Article 22*

In cases where partial or total reimbursement is claimed from both Administrations or either of them in respect of a complaint regarding the performance of any service which is the object of the present Agreement, such partial or total reimbursement shall be assessed and paid by the Administrations or either of them in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Telegraph Regulations and the Telephone Regulations as revised in Paris in 1949 and annexed to the International Telecommunication Convention of 1947 or any convention or regulations which shall at any time be in force in amendment or substitution thereof.

#### *Article 23*

In the case of international conflict or grave disturbance of the public peace in British Honduras or in Mexico, each of the High Contracting Parties reserves the right to suspend all or part of the services which are the object of the present Agreement.

#### *Article 24*

From the date of the coming into force of the present Agreement, the Convention between Great Britain and Mexico respecting Telegraphic Communication between British Honduras and Mexico, signed at Mexico City on 27th May, 1910,<sup>1</sup> shall, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 27 thereof, be deemed to be terminated.

#### *Article 25*

Any dispute which may arise in regard to the interpretation or application of the present Agreement shall be decided by agreement between the High Contracting Parties and, if this is not possible, the dispute shall be settled by arbitration, the arbitrators or arbitrator to be chosen in accordance with the terms of Annex 3 of the International Telecommunication Convention signed at Atlantic City in 1947 or the relevant provisions of any convention which shall at any time be in force in amendment or substitution thereof.

<sup>1</sup> De Martens : *Nouveau Recueil général de Traités*, troisième série, tome VII, p. 288.



*Article 26*

The present Agreement shall be ratified and the instruments of ratification shall be exchanged at Mexico City as soon as possible. It shall come into force on the date of exchange of the instruments of ratification and shall continue in force until one year after the date on which it shall have been denounced by either of the High Contracting Parties by notification in writing to the other High Contracting Party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the above-mentioned Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Agreement and have affixed thereto their seals.

DONE at Mexico City, in duplicate, this twelfth day of June, nineteen hundred and fifty-two, in the English and Spanish languages, both texts being equally authoritative.

[L.S.] John W. TAYLOR  
[L.S.] Agustín GARCÍA LÓPEZ

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