

COMMONWEALTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS ORGANISATION FINANCIAL  
AGREEMENT

The Governments signatories to this Agreement;

Having established the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation to replace the existing arrangements under the Commonwealth Telegraphs Agreements 1948 and 1963;

Desiring to constitute new financial arrangements to replace those subsisting under the said Agreements;

Agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1

The Parties to this Agreement shall be known as Partner Governments.

ARTICLE 2

In this Agreement:

- (a) the expression 'Council' means the Commonwealth Telecommunications Council established by the constitution of the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation;
- (b) the expression 'common-user system' means:
  - (i) such telecommunications facilities as the Council with the concurrence of the Partner Governments from time to time prescribes which are used to provide external telecommunications services other than the facilities used for services excluded by the Council under sub-paragraph (ii) of this paragraph; and
  - (ii) all telecommunications services for which the prescribed telecommunications facilities are used other than those services which the Council may from time to time determine to exclude and the facilities used for those excluded services;
- (c) the expression 'common-user facilities' means telecommunications facilities which form part of the common-user system;
- (d) the expression 'common-user services' means telecommunications services which form part of the common-user system.

ARTICLE 3

For the purpose of operating and maintaining its common-user facilities and common-user services each Partner Government shall nominate a Department, public corporation or other body (hereinafter referred to as the 'National Body') having the powers necessary for the purpose of this Agreement and references hereinafter to the National Body shall include any operator subordinate to that National Body in operating and maintaining common-user facilities and common-user services.

ARTICLE 4

The Partner Governments on their own behalf and on behalf of their National Bodies shall use the Council as a means of consultation on all matters substantially affecting the common-user system and will give due consideration to the recommendations and advice given by the Council.