BRITISH COMMONWEALTH-NETHERLANDS WAR GRAVES AGREEMENT

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BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, CANADA, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, THE UNION OF SOUTH-AFRICA, INDIA AND PAKISTAN

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS RELATIVE TO THE GRAVES OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH IN NETHER-LANDS TERRITORIES.

The Governments of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, India and Pakistan (in the present Agreement referred to as "the Commonwealth Countries") on the one hand and

The Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands on the other hand,

Animated by a common desire to honour the memory of the members of the Armed Forces of the Commonwealth Countries, who in the wars of 1914-1918 and 1939-1945 have fallen on the field of battle or have died and are buried in Netherlands territories,

Desiring to make provision with regard to the cemeteries, graves and memorials of these members of the Armed Forces of the Commonwealth Countries,

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

- (1) "Commonwealth cemeteries, graves and memorials" means the cemeteries and graves in Netherlands territories in which are buried the bodies of members of the Armed Forces of the Commonwealth Countries, fallen or died in the wars of 1914-1918 and 1939-1945 and the memorials erected, or which may be erected, in their honour;
- (2) "the Commission" means the Imperial War Graves Commission incorporated by Royal Charter granted by His Majesty The King of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas;
- (3) For the purposes of the present Agreement the expression "Netherlands territories" means the territory of the Netherlands, Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles.

ARTICLE 2

The Commission is recognised by the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands as the sole authority charged on behalf of the Commonwealth Countries with the permanent care in Netherlands territories of Commonwealth cemeteries, graves and memorials.