

§ 2. The Governments recognize that, until technical development reaches a stage that permits the elimination of radio interference of an international character, regional or subregional agreements which, in order to satisfy essential radio needs, take into account the peculiar conditions in the countries party to such arrangements, are essential in order to promote standardization and to minimize such interference.

§ 3. The contracting Governments agree to assign frequencies to stations, which by their very nature are capable of causing interference with the services of another contracting country, in conformity with the rules for the allocation and use of frequencies as established in the international telecommunications agreements in force to which their respective Governments are party, as supplemented by this Convention and the regulations for its execution.

ARTICLE 16

Special agreements

The contracting Governments reserve for themselves the right to make special, bilateral or multilateral agreements, of regional or subregional character, to solve those problems which do not concern all the Governments. These agreements however shall not be in conflict with the provisions of this Convention or the Regulations in execution thereof.

ARTICLE 17

Telecommunication as a public service

The contracting Governments agree to recognize that the public has the right to use the public telecommunications services. The service, rates and guarantees shall be equal for all users in each category of telecommunications, without any priority or preference whatsoever.

CHAPTER V

RATES

ARTICLE 18

General principles regarding rates

Rates for international telecommunications services shall be fair, reasonable and equitable, and shall correspond to the services actually rendered. The same principles shall be applied on terminal service charges or transit service charges or any other component entering into the determination of such rates, without prejudice to the uniform terminal charge which government administrations establish for all international telegrams as a contribution toward the upkeep of the telegraph services which the said administrations furnish, whether or not they intervene in the handling of the international telegraph service.

ARTICLE 19

Equality of treatment in rates

The contracting Governments agree to assure equality of treatment in the establishment or approval of rates for all legally established telecommunications companies, so that any company may charge, for service between any two countries, rates as low as those charged by any other company or administration of the country, operating between the same countries.