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# ANNUAL REPORT

## BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

### 1950

(82nd year since the Union's central organ came into being)

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I have the honour to submit herewith, to Members of the Union—in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 2, o) of the Convention and Administrative Council Resolution No. 123—a report on the activities of the Union during 1950.

This document is completed by the *Financial Operating Report*, drawn up in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 2, n) of the Convention, and published separately.

The present report is sub-divided as follows:

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## I. INTRODUCTION

1950 was a somewhat difficult year for the International Telecommunication Union, faced as it was by problems of such magnitude that it was even said in authoritative quarters that a turning-point in its history had arrived. Those problems arose mainly from “growing pains”, accompanying implementation of its new charter—the International Telecommunication Convention of Atlantic City, 1947—and from the complexity and magnitude of the tasks falling on the Union as the result of the decision to effect a general redistribution of the radio spectrum, beginning at the end of 1947.

If the Union's activities during 1950 were markedly influenced by these difficulties, it may be said here and now that the Union has lost nothing of its cohesion or its efficiency. In spite of temporary difficulties, it performed its traditional tasks with the same degree of conviction as in preceding years and made efficient use of the increased means with which it had been endowed by the Atlantic City Convention.

I have thought it well, before analysing the activities properly so called of the Union during 1950, briefly to outline the way in which the Union is organized and to supply some information about the tasks and resources of the various parts of the Union's organisation—*i.e.* the permanent organs.

Let us, however, first of all, recall the situation of the various countries which are Members of the Union.

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## II. COUNTRIES WHICH ARE MEMBERS OF THE UNION

According to the International Telecommunication Convention of Atlantic City:

“ 2. A Member of the Union shall be:

- “ a) any country or group of territories listed in Annex 1, upon signature and ratification of, or accession to, this Convention, by it or on its behalf;
- “ b) any country not listed in Annex 1 which becomes a Member of the United Nations and which accedes to this Convention in accordance with Article 17;
- “ c) any sovereign country not listed in Annex 1 and not a Member of the United Nations which applies for membership in the Union and which, after having secured approval of such application by two-thirds of the Members of the Union, accedes to this Convention in accordance with Article 17.”

A table showing the position of countries in relation to the Acts of the Union binding in international law will be found hereinafter. These Acts are:

The International Telecommunication Convention of Atlantic City, 1947;  
The Radio Regulations and the Additional Radio Regulations of Atlantic City, 1947;  
The Telegraph Regulations and the Telephone Regulations (Paris, 1949).

If, now, this table be compared with the list given in Annex 1 to the Atlantic City Convention, it will be seen that:

1. 4 countries not shown in Annex 1 have become Members by acceding to the Convention: Ceylon, Israel, Japan and Jordan.
2. 9 countries shown in Annex 1 have not yet ratified the Convention or have not yet acceded to it: Colonies, Protectorates and Overseas Territories under French Mandate, Ecuador, Haiti, Iran, Panama, the Philippines, Syria, Uruguay and Yemen.

These latter countries are not, legally speaking, Members, but in this connection the following resolution was adopted by the Council at its Fifth Session:

Nº 169. — APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 1 OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
TELECOMMUNICATION CONVENTION  
(cf. PV CA5/23)

The Administrative Council,

*considering*

that, in the interests of the universality of telecommunication services, all the countries listed in Annex 1 to the Atlantic City Convention (1947) should be able to take part with the right to vote in the conferences and meetings of the I.T.U., even if, as a result of their national legislation or because of special circumstances, they have not yet been able to ratify or to accede to the said Convention,

*resolves*

1. that, pending decision by the forthcoming Plenipotentiary Conference, all the countries listed in Annex 1 to the Atlantic City Convention (1947) may take part in administrative confer-

ences of the Union and, if the occasion arises, in the meetings of the Consultative Committees, with the right to vote, even if they have not ratified the Convention or acceded thereto by the opening date of the conference or meeting concerned;

2. that the above provision shall also apply to any consultation of administrations by the Secretary General, save in the case contemplated in Article 1, paragraph 2 c) of the Convention, where only those countries that have ratified the Convention before the closing date of consultation or have acceded thereto at the date of consultation shall have the right to vote.

\* \* \*

It will be noted, that the Convention, also makes provision for entry as Associate Member. Hitherto, no country or territory has declared its intention of acceding to the Convention in this capacity.

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# POSITION OF COUNTRIES IN RELATION TO THE ACTS OF THE UNION

## 1. The Atlantic City Convention (1947) and the Regulations annexed thereto

(as on 1 March 1951)

N. B. — Although this report deals only with the period from 1 January to 31 December 1950 it seemed expedient to bring this table up-to-date in such a way as to show the position obtaining on the date of its publication (1 March 1951).

Of the Atlantic City Acts, only the Convention has to be ratified. However, certain countries have thought fit to ratify or give express approval to other Acts of the Atlantic City Conferences. Such ratifications or expressions of approval are mentioned hereinafter in the form of notes.

The letter A means accession to the Convention or approval of the Regulations.

The letter S means that the Act has been signed.

Countries the names of which are preceded by an asterisk are Members of the United Nations.

Country or group of territories	Class of contribution	Plenipotentiary Conference				Radio Conference			Paris Conference 1949			
		Convention			Additional Protocols	Radio Regulations	Additional Radio Regulations	Additional Protocol	Telegraph Regulations		Telephone Regulations	
			Date on which the instrument of ratification or accession was deposited with the General Secretariat	Final Protocol								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
*Afghanistan . . . . .	VIII	A	31. III. 1949	—	—	—	—	—	S		S	
Albania (People's Republic of) .	VIII	S	30. VI. 1949 <sup>31)</sup>	S	S	S	S	S	S		S	
*Saudi Arabia (Kingdom of) <sup>1)</sup> .	VII	S	7. II. 1949 <sup>4)</sup>	S	S	S	S	—	—		—	
*Argentine Republic. . . . .	I	S	17. VIII. 1949	S	S	S	S	—	—	A	—	
*Australia (Commonwealth of) .	I	S	7. I. 1949 <sup>5)</sup>	S	S	S	S	—	S	A	S	A
Austria . . . . .	VIII	S	22. V. 1950 <sup>47)</sup>	S	S	S	S	S	S	A	S	A
*Belgium . . . . .	V	S	9. IX. 1949 <sup>39)</sup>	S	S	S	S	S	S	A	S	A
*Bielorussian Soviet Socialist Republic . . . . .	VI	S	1. III. 1949 <sup>6)</sup>	S	S	S	S	S	S		S	
*Burma . . . . .	VII	S	21. I. 1949	S	S	S	S	—	—	A	—	A
*Bolivia . . . . .	VII	A	9. VI. 1950	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	
*Brazil . . . . .	II	S	24. VIII. 1949 <sup>37)</sup>	S	S	S	S	—	—		—	
Bulgaria <sup>9)</sup> . . . . .	VII	S	19. V. 1949 <sup>28)</sup>	S	S	S	S	S	S	A	S	A
*Canada <sup>1)</sup> . . . . .	II	S	5. XI. 1948 <sup>7)</sup>	S	S	S	—	—	S	A	—	
Ceylon . . . . .	VII	A	1. VIII. 1949	—	—	—	—	—	S	A	S	A
*Chile <sup>1)</sup> . . . . .	VII	S	27. IX. 1950 <sup>49)</sup>	S	S	S	S	—	S		S	
*China <sup>1)</sup> . . . . .	II	S	11. V. 1949	S	S	S	S	—	S	A	S	A
Vatican City (State of) . . . .	VIII	S	1. VIII. 1949	S	S	S	S	S	S		S	
*Colombia (Republic of) <sup>1)</sup> . . .	VI	S	12. IX. 1949 <sup>41)</sup>	S	S	S	S	—	—		—	
Portuguese Colonies . . . . .	IV	S	7. VI. 1949 <sup>30)</sup>	S	S	S	S	—	S		S	
Colonies, Protectorates, Oversea Territories and Territories under Mandate or Trusteeship of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland .	III	S	20. VII. 1949 <sup>33)</sup>	S	S	S	S	—	—	A	—	

[illegible]



Country or group of territories	Class of contribution	Plenipotentiary Conference				Radio Conference			Paris Conference 1949			
		Convention		Final Protocol	Additional Protocols	Radio Regulations	Additional Radio Regulations	Additional Protocol	Telegraph Regulations	Telephone Regulations		
			Date on which the instrument of ratification or accession was deposited with the General Secretariat									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Liberia . . . . .	VII	A	24. VI. 1950	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Luxembourg . . . . .	VII	S	21. IV. 1949 <sup>25)</sup>	S	S	S	S	S	S	A	S	A
*Mexico <sup>1)</sup> . . . . .	V	S	9. IX. 1949 <sup>40)</sup>	S	S	S	—	—	—	—	—	—
Monaco . . . . .	VIII	S	17. IX. 1948 <sup>15)</sup>	S	S	S	S	S	S	—	S	—
*Nicaragua . . . . .	VII	S	20. II. 1950	S	S	S	S	—	S	—	S	—
*Norway . . . . .	V	S	30. XII. 1948	S	S	S	S	S	S	A	S	A
*New Zealand . . . . .	VI	S	21. IX. 1948 <sup>16)</sup>	S	S	S	S	—	S	A	S	A
*Pakistan <sup>1)</sup> . . . . .	IV	S	6. I. 1949 <sup>17)</sup>	S	S	S	S	—	S	A	S	<sup>48)</sup>
*Panama <sup>1)</sup> . . . . .	VII	S	—	S	S	S	—	—	S	—	S	—
*Paraguay . . . . .	VII	A	25. IX. 1950.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Netherlands, Surinam, Netherlands Antilles, New Guinea <sup>12)</sup> .	V	S	31. XII. 1948 <sup>12)</sup>	S	S	S	S	S	S	A	S	A
*Peru <sup>1)</sup> . . . . .	VI	S	10. III. 1950	S	S	S	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Philippines (Republic of the) <sup>1)</sup> .	VI	S	—	S	S	S	S	—	—	—	—	—
*Poland (Republic of) . . . . .	III	S	14. V. 1949 <sup>27)</sup>	S	S	S	S	S	S	A	S	A
Portugal . . . . .	IV	S	7. VI. 1949 <sup>30)</sup>	S	S	S	S	S	S	A	S	A
French Protectorates of Morocco and Tunisia . . . . .	VIII	S	17. III. 1950	S	S	S	S	S	S	A <sup>52)</sup>	S	A <sup>52)</sup>
Mongolian People's Republic . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	S	S	—	—	—	—	—
*Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia . . . . .	VIII	S	25. I. 1949 <sup>18)</sup>	S	S	S	S	S	S	A	S	A
*Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic . . . . .	IV	S	1. III. 1949 <sup>19)</sup>	S	S	S	S	S	S	—	S	—
Southern Rhodesia . . . . .	VIII	S	20. VII. 1949 <sup>32)</sup>	S	S	S	S	—	S	—	S	—
Roumania <sup>26)</sup> . . . . .	VIII	S	17. VIII. 1949 <sup>36)</sup>	S	S	S	S	S	S	A	S	A
*United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . . . .	I	S	29. XI. 1948 <sup>20)</sup>	S	S	S	S	S	S	A	S	A
*Siam <sup>3)</sup> . . . . .	V	S	12. VII. 1949	S	S	S	S	—	—	—	—	—
*Sweden . . . . .	V	S	21. XII. 1948	S	S	S	S	S	S	A	S	A
Switzerland (Confederation) . . . . .	V	S	21. XII. 1948 <sup>21)</sup>	S	S	S	S	S	S	A	S	A
*Syria . . . . .	VII	S	—	S	S	S	S	S	S	A	S	—
*Czechoslovakia . . . . .	V	S	24. VIII. 1948	S	S	S	S	S	S	A	S	A
Territories of the United States of America <sup>1)</sup> . . . . .	I	S	17. VII. 1948 <sup>22)</sup> <sup>9)</sup>	S	S	S	—	—	—	A	—	—

Country or group of territories	Class of contribution	Plenipotentiary Conference				Radio Conference			Paris Conference 1949			
		Convention		Final Protocol	Additional Protocols	Radio Regulations	Additional Radio Regulations	Additional Protocol	Telegraph Regulations		Telephone Regulations	
			Date on which the instrument of ratification or accession was deposited with the General Secretariat									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
*Turkey . . . . .	V	S	8. V. 1950 <sup>46)</sup>	S	S	S	S	S	S		S	
*Union of South Africa and Territory of South-West Africa <sup>34)</sup>	II	S	19. II. 1949 <sup>23)</sup>	S	S	S	S	—	S	A	S	A
*Union of Soviet Socialist Republics <sup>1)</sup> . . . . .	I	S	7. I. 1949 <sup>24)</sup>	S	S	S	S	S	S	A	S	A
*Uruguay (Oriental Republic of) )	VI	S		S	S	S	—	—	S		S	
*Venezuela (United States of) <sup>1)</sup> .	V	S	28. VII. 1950	S	S	S	—	—	S		S	
*Yemen . . . . .	VII											

\*) There are no Associate Members of the Union as yet.

<sup>1)</sup> At the time of signing the International Telecommunication Convention of Atlantic City, the undersigned plenipotentiaries took note of the following statements:

I

*For Canada:* The signature of Canada to this Convention is subject to the reservation that Canada does not accept Paragraph 3 of Article 13 of the Atlantic City Convention. Canada agrees to be bound by the Radio Regulations annexed to this Convention but does not at present agree to be bound by the Additional Radio Regulations nor by any Telegraph Regulations or Telephone Regulations.

II

*For the Republic of Chile:* The Chairman of the Delegation from Chile in signing the Radio Regulations of Atlantic City makes a provisional reservation in regard to the provisions of paragraphs 990, 991, 992, 994, 995, 996 and 997 of Section II of Article 41 of said Regulations.

The Chairman of the Delegation from Chile in signing the International Telecommunication Convention of Atlantic City, makes a provisional reservation in regard to the provisions of Article 39 of the Atlantic City Convention.

III

*For the Republic of Colombia:* The Republic of Colombia formally declares that the Republic of Colombia does not, by signature of this Convention on its behalf, accept any obligation in respect to the Telephone Regulations referred to in Article 13 of the Atlantic City Convention.

IV

*For the Republic of Ecuador:* The Republic of Ecuador formally declares that by signature of this Convention, it does not accept any obligation in respect to the Telegraph Regulations, the Telephone Regulations, or the Additional Radio Regulations, referred to in Article 13 of the Atlantic City Convention.

V

*For the United States of America:* Signature of this Convention for and in the name of the United States of America constitutes, in accordance with its constitutional processes, signature also on behalf of all territories of the United States of America.

The United States of America formally declares that the United States of America does not, by signature of this Convention on its behalf, accept any obligation in respect of the Telegraph Regulations, the Telephone Regulations, or the Additional Radio Regulations referred to in Article 13 of the Atlantic City Convention.

VI

*For the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:* When signing the International Telecommunication Convention, the U. S. S. R. Delegation declared formally its disagreement with paragraph 2, Article 1 of the Convention which it found legally unfounded and contradictory to the other articles of the Convention and to the resolution of the Madrid Telecommunication Conference.

At the same time the U. S. S. R. Delegation considered it unjustified that the following sovereign states, fully fledged participants of the Madrid Convention were without any legal foundation not included in the list of Members of the Union set forth in Annex 1: the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Estonian Socialist Republic and the People's Republic of Mongolia.

The U. S. S. R. Delegation was of the opinion that the whole status of Membership in the International Telecommunication Union should be brought up for revision at the next plenipotentiary conference.

VII

*For the Republic of China:* The Republic of China formally declares that the Republic of China does not, by signature of this Convention, accept any obligation in respect of the Telephone Regulations referred to in Article 13 of the Atlantic City Convention.

VIII

*For the Republic of the Philippines:* The signature of the Republic of the Philippines to the Atlantic City Convention is subject to the reservation that, for the present, it cannot agree to be bound by the Telephone and Telegraph Regulations referred to in Paragraph 3 of Article 13 of the above-mentioned Convention.

IX

*For Pakistan:* The Delegation of Pakistan formally declares that Pakistan does not, by signature of this Convention on its behalf, accept any obligation in respect of the Telephone Regulations referred to in Article 13 of this Convention.

X

*For the Republic of Peru:* The Chairman of the Delegation of Peru, in signing the Atlantic City Convention, makes a provisional reservation with respect to the obligations established in Article 13 of the said Convention, in relation to the Telegraph Regulations, Telephone Regulations and Additional Radio Regulations.

XI

*For the Republic of Cuba:* Signature of this Convention for and in the name of Cuba is subject to the reservation that Cuba does not accept, in regard to the Telephone Regulations, Paragraph 3 of Article 13 of the Atlantic City Convention.

XII

*For the United States of Venezuela:* The United States of Venezuela formally declares that the United States of Venezuela does not, by signature of this Convention on its behalf, accept any obligation in respect of the Telegraph Regulations, the Telephone Regulations or the Additional Radio Regulations referred to in Article 13 (Regulations).

XIII

*For the Oriental Republic of Uruguay:* The Delegation of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay formally declares that by signature of this Convention the Oriental Republic of Uruguay does not accept any obligation in respect of the Telegraph Regulations, Telephone Regulations, or Additional Radio Regulations referred to in Article 13 of the Atlantic City Convention.

XIV

*For the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:* The Saudi Arabian Delegation, in signing this Convention, reserves for its Government the right to accept or not accept any obligation in respect of the Telegraph Regulations, Telephone Regulations, the Radio Regulations or the Additional Radio Regulations referred to in Article 13 of the Atlantic City Convention.

XV

*For the Republic of Panama:* The Republic of Panama formally declares that by signature of this Atlantic City Convention of 1947, it does not accept any obligation in respect of the Telegraph Regulations, the Telephone Regulations, or the Additional Radio Regulations referred to in Article 13.

XVI

*For Mexico:* The Mexican Delegation states that the signing of the International Telecommunication Convention of Atlantic City does not oblige the Mexican Government to accept the Telegraph Regulations, nor the Telephone Regulations, nor the Additional Radio Regulations referred to in Article 13 of the above-mentioned Convention.

XVII

*For Ethiopia:* The Delegation of Ethiopia formally declares that it makes a temporary reservation in relation to Protocol I, concerning the Transitional Arrangements, as its powers are expressly subject to the limitation that all its signatures are subject to ratification.

XVIII

*For Iraq:* Signature of this Convention on behalf of Iraq is subject to reservation in regard to the right of Iraq to accept or not accept the Telephone Regulations and Telegraph Regulations referred to in Article 13.

2) Formerly: Colonies, Protectorates and Overseas Territories under French Mandate.

3) Present name: Thailand.

4) The Instrument also covers the Radio Regulations, the Final Protocol and the supplements annexed thereto.

5) The Instrument also covers approval of the Final Protocol, the Additional Protocols, the Radio Regulations and the Additional Radio Regulations annexed to the Convention.

This ratification is also valid for Papua, Norfolk Island and Territories under New Guinea and Nauru Trusteeship.

6) The Instrument also covers Annexes 1 to 5 of the Convention. The Convention has been ratified by the Supreme Soviet Praesidium of the Bielorussian S. S. R. with the following reservation concerning Article 13:

"As, in accordance with the provisions of Article 47 of the Radio Regulations annexed to the Convention, the entry into force of the most important part of this Regulation is subject to the decisions of a Special Administrative Conference mentioned in that article, the question of the approval of the Radio Regulations by the Bielorussian S. S. R. shall remain open until the completion of the work of the said Conference."

7) The Instrument also covers the General Regulations, the Final Protocol, the Additional Protocols and the Radio Regulations.

8) In addition, the General Secretariat was advised on 25th November 1948 by the Copenhagen P. T. T. Administration that the Atlantic City Radio Regulations and Additional Radio Regulations had been approved by Denmark.

9) The Instrument also covers the Final Protocol annexed to the Convention and the Radio Regulations.

10) The Instrument also covers the Final Protocol annexed to the Convention, the Additional Protocol and the Radio Regulations.

11) The Instrument also covers the Final Protocol and the Additional Protocols annexed to the Convention.

12) According to communications received in October 1948 by the General Secretariat from the Curaçao and the Netherlands Indies Administrations respectively, the name "Curaçao" has been changed to "Netherlands West Indies" and the name "Netherlands Indies" to "Indonesia", then to "Republic of the United States of Indonesia" and then to "Republic of Indonesia".

The Member "Netherlands, Surinam and Netherlands Antilles" becomes known as "Netherlands, Surinam, Netherlands Antilles, New Guinea".

The Instrument of Ratification of the Convention and Annexes deposited with the General Secretariat is valid for the Netherlands, the Netherlands Antilles, the Republic of the United States of Indonesia, Surinam and New Guinea.

13) The Instrument also covers the Final Protocol annexed to the Convention, the Radio Regulations and the Additional Protocol to the said Regulations.

14) The Instrument also covers the Final Protocol, Additional Protocols, Resolutions, Recommendations and Opinions, Radio Regulations, Additional Radio Regulations and Additional Protocol to the said Regulations.

15) The Instrument also covers the General Regulations annexed to the Convention.

16) The Instrument of Ratification is also valid for Western Samoa.

17) The Instrument of Ratification contains in addition:

1. the reservation formulated by the Delegation of Pakistan at the International Telecommunication Conference, Atlantic City, 1947, as shown in IX of the Final Protocol of the said Convention, viz:

"The Delegation of Pakistan formally declares that Pakistan does not, by signature of this Convention on its behalf, accept any obligation in respect of the Telephone Regulations referred to in Article 13 of this Convention."

2. the following statement:

"The Government of Pakistan have further decided that it is desirable in ratifying the said Convention to say that they expect that Pakistan's exceptional position as a new State will be given due and sympathetic consideration by other Members of the Union, particularly so in the allotment of radio frequencies adequate for the services in Pakistan, since Pakistan's ability to abide by the Radio Regulations and Additional Radio Regulations depends largely upon such allotment."

18) The Instrument also covers annexes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, the Final Protocol and the Additional Protocols to the Convention.

19) The Instrument also covers annexes 1 to 5 to the Convention. The Convention was ratified by the Supreme Soviet Praesidium of the Ukrainian S. S. R., with the following reservation regarding Article 13:

"Since, under Article 47 of the Radio Regulations completing the Convention, the entry into force of the essential part of these Regulations is dependent on the decisions of the future Administrative Conference mentioned in this Article, the Ukrainian S. S. R.'s acceptance of the Radio Regulations will remain an open question until the end of the work of the said Conference."

20) The Instrument also covers the Protocols annexed to the Convention.

21) Furthermore, on 5 January 1949, the General Secretariat was informed by the Federal Political Department, Berne, that the Federal Council had approved the Radio Regulations and also the Additional Radio Regulations of Atlantic City.

22) The Instrument of Ratification by the United States of America also applies to all the Territories of the United States of America.

23) The Instrument also covers the Final Protocol, Additional Protocols and the Radio Regulations annexed to the Convention.

24) The Convention was ratified by the Praesidium of the Supreme Council of the Union of S. S. R., with the following reservation regarding Article 13:

"Since, under Article 47 of the Radio Regulations completing the Convention, the entry into force of the essential part of these Regulations is dependent on the decisions of the future Administrative Conference mentioned in this Article, the Soviet Union's acceptance of the Radio Regulations will remain an open question until the end of the work of the said Conference."

25) The Instrument also covers the Final Protocol and Additional Protocols annexed to the Convention.

26) Present name: Roumanian People's Republic.

27) The Instrument of Ratification also covers the 5 annexes, the Final Protocol and the 10 Additional Protocols to this Convention.

The Convention was ratified by the President of the Republic of Poland with the following reservation to Article 13:

"The question of approving the Radio Regulations annexed to the Convention is left open until such a time as the conferences provided for in the Acts of the International Telecommunication Conference and Radio Conference of Atlantic City have finished their work, because those Regulations depend on the results achieved by the conferences in question."

28) In addition, the Instrument covers the Final Protocol, the Additional Protocols, the Radio Regulations, the Additional Radio Regulations and the Additional Protocol to the Acts of the International Radio Conference, annexed to that Convention.

The Convention was ratified by the Praesidium of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria with the following reservation to Article 13:

"Since, by virtue of Article 47 of the Radio Regulations annexed to the Convention, implementation of the basic part of the Regulations depends on decisions to be taken by the forthcoming administrative conference mentioned in this article, the question of approving the Radio Regulations on behalf of the People's Republic of Bulgaria will remain open until the work of that conference has been entirely completed."

29) Present name: People's Republic of Bulgaria.

30) The Instrument also covers the Final Protocol and the Additional Protocols annexed to the Convention.

31) The Instrument also covers the Final Protocol and the Additional Protocols annexed to the Convention.

32) The Instrument also covers the Final Protocol and the Additional Protocols annexed to the Convention.

33) The Instrument also covers the Final Protocol and the Additional Protocols annexed to the Convention.

34) The Administration of the Union of South Africa announced on 13 September 1948 that this entity would henceforward be known as "the Union of South Africa and the Territory of South-West Africa".

35) The Instrument also covers the Final Protocol, the Additional Protocols, and the Radio Regulations with Additional Regulations and Protocols.

36) The Convention was ratified by the Praesidium of the National Assembly of the Roumanian People's Republic with the following reservation to Article 13:

"Since, by virtue of Article 47 of the Radio Regulations annexed to the Convention, implementation of the basic part of the Regulations depends on decisions taken by the forthcoming administrative conference mentioned in this article, the question of approving the Radio Regulations on behalf of the Roumanian People's Republic will remain open until the work of that conference has been entirely completed."

37) The Instrument also covers the Annexes, the Final Protocol, the Additional Protocols, the Radio Regulations and the Additional Radio Regulations.

38) Now known as the Hungarian People's Republic.

39) The Instrument also covers Annexes 1 to 5 of the Convention.

40) The Instrument also covers the five annexes, the Final Protocol, the ten Additional Protocols, and the Radio Regulations with sixteen appendices of the first series and appendices A, B and C of the second series.

The Convention was ratified by the President of the United States of Mexico with the following reservation:

"In signing the International Telecommunication Convention of Atlantic City, the Mexican Delegation states that it does not by so doing engage the Mexican Government to accept the Telegraph and Telephone Regulations, nor the Additional Radio Regulations mentioned in Article 13 of the Convention."

41) The Instrument also covers the Radio Regulations, the Additional Radio Regulations and the Additional Protocol annexed to the Convention.

42) The Instrument also covers the Final Acts of the Atlantic City Telecommunication and Radio Conferences.

43) The Convention was ratified by the Praesidium of the Hungarian People's Republic with the following reservation to Article 13:

"Since, by virtue of Article 47 of the Radio Regulations annexed to the Convention, implementation of the basic part of the Regulations depends on decisions to be taken by the forthcoming administrative conference mentioned in this article, the question of approving the Regulations on behalf of the Hungarian People's Republic will remain open until the work of that conference has been entirely completed."

44) The Instrument also covers the five Annexes, the Final Protocol and the ten Additional Protocols annexed to the Convention.

45) The Instrument also covers the additional Protocols annexed to the Convention.

46) The Instrument also covers the five Annexes, the Final Protocol, the Additional Protocols and the Resolutions, Recommendations and Opinions annexed to the Convention.

47) The Instrument also covers the Final Protocol and the Additional Protocols annexed to the Convention.

48) See note 17), 1.

49) The instrument also covers the Additional Protocols, the Radio Regulations, the Additional Radio Regulations and the Additional Protocol thereto, annexed to the Convention.

The Convention has been ratified by the National Congress subject to reservations in regard to Articles 38 and 39 of the Convention and Nos. 990, 991, 992, 994, 995, 996, 997 of Section II of Article 41 of the Radio Regulations.

50) The instrument also covers the Radio Regulations annexed to the Convention.

51) The instrument also covers the Annexes to the Convention, the Radio Regulations and the Additional Radio Regulations annexed to the Convention.

The Convention was ratified with the following reservations:

a) The Republic of El Salvador reserves the right to accept or not the monetary unit defined in Article 14 of the International Telecommunication Convention.

b) As regards Chapter III, Article 3, of the Radio Regulations, the Republic of El Salvador reserves the right to use frequencies assigned to countries in other regions (regions other than Region 2) using the appropriate technical means to avoid interference, in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 160, 46), of the Regulations.

The General Secretariat has asked the Government of the Republic of El Salvador to clarify its reservation relative to the monetary unit, which is dealt with in Article 39 of the Convention and not in Article 14, as stated in the instrument.

52) French Protectorate of Morocco only.

## 2. Position in relation to the Madrid Convention (1932) of those countries enumerated in Annex 1 of the Atlantic City Convention which have not ratified the latter Convention or which have not acceded thereto

(as on 1 March 1950)

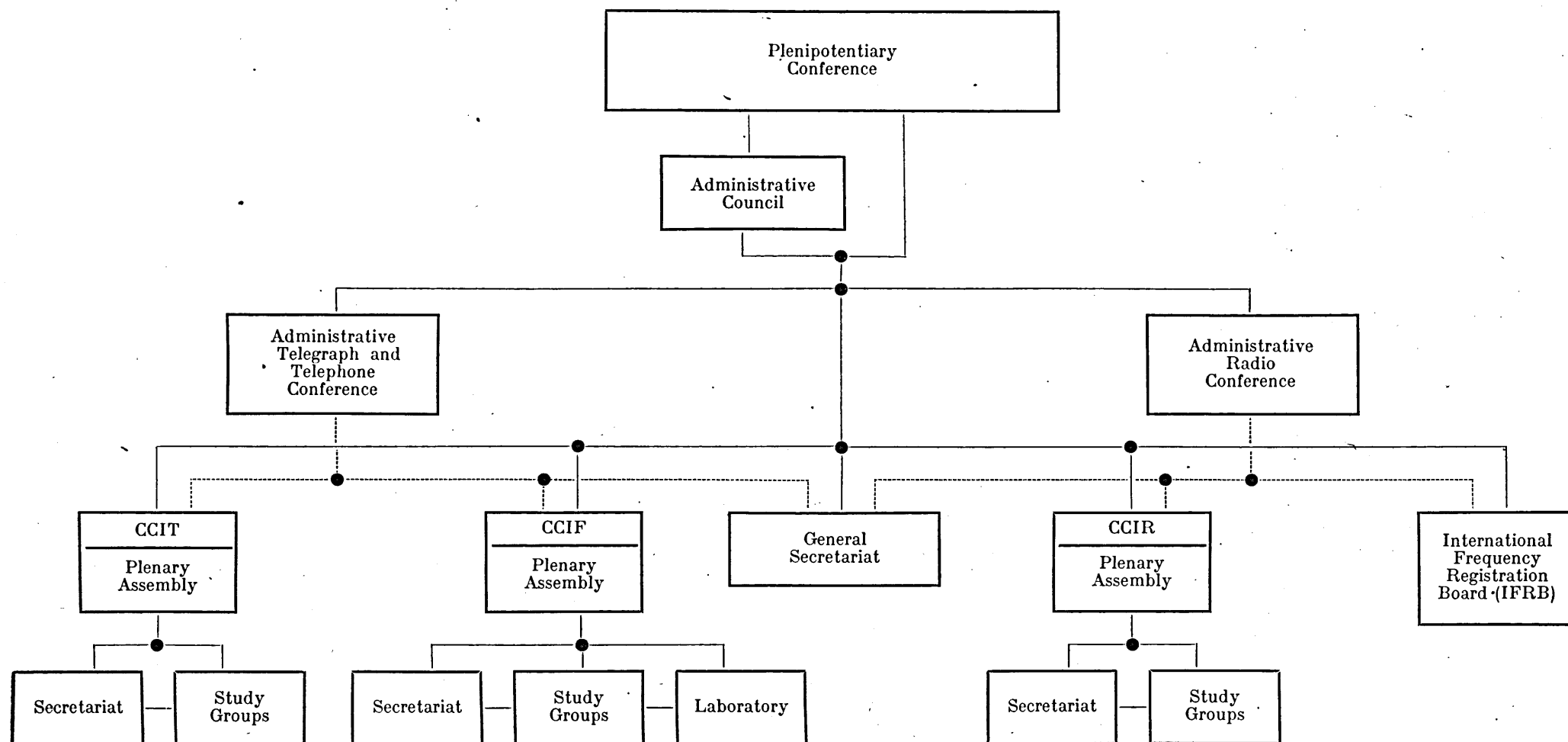
COUNTRY	Signature    Accession A	Date on which the instrument of ratification or accession was handed in, or date of statement <sup>1)</sup>
1	2	3
OVERSEA TERRITORIES OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND TERRITORIES ADMINISTERED AS SUCH. . .	S	5. V. 1938 <sup>2)</sup>
ECUADOR . . . . .	S	
REPUBLIC OF HAITI . . . . .	A	3. VIII. 1935
IRAN . . . . .	S	20. VII. 1934
PANAMA . . . . .	S	29. III. 1935
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES . . . . .	A	13. XII. 1947 <sup>3)</sup>
SYRIA . . . . .	S	22. V. 1934
ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY . . . . .	S	27. IV. 1936
YEMEN . . . . .	A	18. V. 1936

<sup>1)</sup> Article 5 of the Madrid Convention.

<sup>2)</sup> Probable date (Notification No. 425).

<sup>3)</sup> Notification made to the Bureau of the Union.

# INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION ORGANIZATION



### III. ORGANIZATION AND WORKINGS OF THE PERMANENT ORGANS

#### 1. General remarks

The structure bestowed on the Union by the International Telecommunication Convention of Atlantic City may be diagrammatically represented as shown on the preceding page. As regards the permanent organs, it may be well to point that, in accordance with the Convention:

1. The Administrative Council—called upon to supervise the administrative working of the Union and to coordinate the activities of the various permanent organs—is composed of 18 member-countries, and normally meets but once a year, for a period of four to five weeks;
2. The other permanent organs—the General Secretariat, the secretariats of the three International Consultative Committees, and the International Frequency Registration Board—are all on the same footing, none of them being either subordinate or superior to any of the others;
3. The studies carried on by the International Consultative Committees are made by national telecommunication services, the representatives of which periodically meet in study groups or in plenary assembly. The basic task of the specialized secretariats of these Committees is to provide secretarial assistance for the study groups and plenary assemblies, a task which the General Secretariat has to undertake in the case of conferences.
4. The International Frequency Registration Board has very special terms of reference, entirely different from those of the other permanent organs. The eleven persons sitting on the Board are nominated by eleven governments chosen by the last ordinary Administrative Radio Conference (Atlantic City, 1947). In principle, they remain in office until the following session of that Conference, which will decide on the membership of the Board for the following period. Thus these eleven persons are on an entirely different footing from the other Union officials, who are appointed for an indefinite period either by the Administrative Council, or by the Plenary Assemblies of the International Consultative Committees, or by the Secretary General.

These few remarks are essential if the structure and tasks of each permanent organ are to be properly understood.

Before we pass on to discuss the organization of these bodies, the following table, showing staff numbers during recent years, may be found instructive:

	<i>General Secretariat</i>		<i>IFRB</i>		<i>CCIF</i>		<i>CCIT</i>		<i>CCIR</i>		<i>Totals</i>	
	Classes A and B	Other classes	Classes A and B	Other classes	Classes A and B	Other classes	Classes A and B	Other classes	Classes A and B	Other classes	Classes A and B	Other classes
1947 . . . . .	3	41	<sup>1)</sup>	<sup>1)</sup>	1	12	<sup>2)</sup>	<sup>2)</sup>	<sup>2)</sup>	<sup>2)</sup>	4	53
1948 . . . . .	3	54	11	7	1	12	<sup>2)</sup>	<sup>2)</sup>	<sup>2)</sup>	<sup>2)</sup>	15	73
1949 . . . . .	3	75	11	8	1	15	<sup>2)</sup>	<sup>2)</sup>	2	6	17	104
1950 . . . . .	3	88	11	9	1	15	<sup>3)</sup>	2	2	9	17	123

<sup>1)</sup> The I.F.R.B. did not yet exist in 1947.

<sup>2)</sup> The secretariat was provided by the General Secretariat.

<sup>3)</sup> The secretariat of the C.C.I.T. is supervised by one of the Assistant Secretaries General.

N.B. These figures do not include supernumerary staff engaged for conferences or meetings.

The following table shows the ordinary expenses incurred by the permanent organs during recent years (in Swiss francs):

	Administrative Council	General Secretariat	IFRB	CCIF	CCIT	CCIR	Total of the Union's ordinary expenses
1947	<sup>1)</sup>	562,698.60	<sup>1)</sup>	218,514.40	<sup>2)</sup>	<sup>2)</sup>	
1948	252,222.71 <sup>4)</sup>	1,181,403.64	<sup>3)</sup>	227,824.15	<sup>2)</sup>	<sup>2)</sup>	1,433,626.35
1949	241,678.55 <sup>5)</sup>	2,123,191.91	888,534.55	378,555.25	7,204.75	245,770.65	3,884,939.66
1950	218,240.37 <sup>6)</sup>	1,845,237.65	959,824.43	372,569.75	66,839.26	356,262.14	3,818,973.60

<sup>1)</sup> In being only from 1948 onwards.

<sup>2)</sup> The Secretariat was provided by the General Secretariat of the Union.

<sup>3)</sup> I.F.R.B. expenses amounted to 1,060,713.64 Swiss francs, and were debited to the extraordinary budget.

<sup>4)</sup> The Council held two sessions in 1948: the Second Session, lasting 23, and the Third, 32 days.

<sup>5)</sup> Session lasting 50 days.

<sup>6)</sup> Session lasting 41 days.

## 2. The Administrative Council

For the period running from 1948 to the next meeting of the Plenipotentiary Conference scheduled for 1952, the Administrative Council consists of the representatives of the following 18 countries, chosen by the Atlantic City Plenipotentiary Conference: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Egypt, the United States of America, France, Italy, Lebanon, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the USSR.

In 1950, the Council held a single session, from 1 September to 11 October. Poland and the USSR were not represented.

Under the terms of the Convention, the Secretary General is the Secretary of the Administrative Council, and as such he, together with his staff, has to make preparations for the sessions and organize their secretariats.

The Council's activities during the past year are described in IV, 2 hereinafter.

## 3. The General Secretariat

There was little change in General Secretariat organization during 1950. A few temporary officials were made permanent, but, on the whole, staff numbers have remained unchanged. The most considerable change has been the recruitment of an engineer and a secretary exclusively for the CCIT secretariat, in accordance with an Administrative Council decision. Hitherto, of course, the secretariat of the CCIT has been supplied by the General Secretariat—as was, indeed, the case for the CCIR until the end of 1948. The CCIT Plenary Assembly held in 1948 decided—and this was confirmed by the Plenary Assembly of 1949—that the CCIT secretariat should be responsible to the Assistant Secretary General in charge of the Telegraph and Telephone Division of the General Secretariat, who would be known as the Interim Director of the CCIT. Thus, practically speaking, the CCIT secretariat is made up of General Secretariat officials. Recruitment of an engineer for the activities of the CCIT secretariat has meant a reduction in the work falling on the Telegraph and Telephone Division. In fact, it has been found possible, without inconvenience, to dispense with a Class 1 post in this Division and to transfer it to the Staff Section.

However, there may yet be some changes in the organization of the General Secretariat, since, in the opinion even of the Finance Control Committee set up by the Administrative Council, certain sections are obviously overloaded. Nevertheless, there can be no recruitment of new staff for the time being, for financial reasons.

#### 4. The International Consultative Committees

According to the Atlantic City Convention, the three International Consultative Committees of the Union each have a specialized secretariat under a Director.

As described above, the secretariat of the *International Telegraph Consultative Committee* is at present provided by the General Secretariat, with the exception of two specialized posts (for an engineer and a secretary) created for the CCIT in 1950.

The *International Telephone Consultative Committee* has had a specialized secretariat and a laboratory since 1924. These have now attained their normal development, and the resources available both in personnel and equipment correspond fairly closely to the requisites for the Committee's duties.

The specialized secretariat of the CCIF also provides the secretariat of the International Joint Committee for Experiments relative to the Protection of Telecommunication Lines and Underground Ducts. This gives rise to extra work, the cost of which is in part borne by the Union's budget.

The *International Radio Consultative Committee* is in process of organisation, and its specialized secretariat, which came into being at the beginning of 1949, has made demands for additional staff. It has not yet been possible to meet these requirements in their entirety.

#### 5. The International Frequency Registration Board (I.F.R.B.)

The eleven members of the International Frequency Registration Board serve, not as representatives of their respective countries, or of a region, but as custodians of an international public trust. The Board also possesses a specialized secretariat. During 1950, it was unable to take up all the duties laid down for it in the International Telecommunication Convention and the Radio Regulations, since the new international frequency list envisaged by the Administrative Radio Conference of Atlantic City has not yet been produced. Hence its secretariat has been expanded only to the size judged indispensable if the Board's present duties are to be performed. The members themselves, since they assumed office in January 1948, have been busy, to the exclusion of almost everything else, with preparation of the new international frequency list, either in the Provisional Frequency Board or in the various frequency assignment conferences which have been held during the last three years. During 1950, the IFRB secretariat has been increased by one person, but there can be no doubt that it will have to be considerably expanded as soon as the Board undertakes the tasks normally assigned to it.

\* \* \*

By way of conclusion to these general remarks on the organization and resources in staff of the permanent organs, we should emphasize that certain adjustments still remain to be made at the end of 1950, involving staff reinforcements—reinforcements which our present budgetary limits make it difficult, unfortunately, to obtain. As we shall shortly see, this state of affairs has caused the Administrative Council no little anxiety.

I might add that, in general, the quality and team-spirit of the staff have steadily improved, while the principle of internationalization is observed in so far as the situation allows.

During the past year, the Administrative Council put the finishing touches to the Staff Regulations and to the Staff Superannuation and Benevolent Funds—certainly one of the most satisfactory solutions yet found for the problem of international public service.

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## IV. ACTIVITIES OF THE UNION DURING 1950

### 1. General remarks

Before summarizing Union activities during 1950, it may perhaps be well to recall that the purposes of the Union, as defined in the Atlantic City Convention, are as follows:

- a) to maintain and extend international cooperation for the improvement and rational use of telecommunication of all kinds;
- b) to promote the development of technical facilities and their most efficient operation with a view to improving the efficiency of telecommunication services, increasing their usefulness, and making them, as far as possible, generally available to the public;
- c) to harmonize the actions of nations in the attainment of those common ends.

To this end, the Union has, in particular, to:

- a) effect allocation of the radio frequency spectrum and registration of radio frequency assignments in order to avoid harmful interference between radio stations of different countries;
- b) foster collaboration among its Members and Associate Members with a view to the establishment of rates at levels as low as possible consistent with an efficient service and taking into account the necessity for maintaining independent financial administration of telecommunication on a sound basis;
- c) promote the adoption of measures for ensuring the safety of life through the cooperation of telecommunication services;
- d) undertake studies, formulate recommendations, and collect and publish information on telecommunication matters for the benefit of all Members and Associate Members.

The activities resulting from the pursuit of these aims may be divided into four categories:

1. The drawing up, at administrative conferences, of regulations governing the constitution and operation of international telecommunication networks; legally, these regulations are as binding as the International Telecommunication Convention and steady technical progress makes it necessary to revise them at fairly frequent intervals. In principle, such revision is obligatory every five years.
2. The drawing up, by the three International Consultative Committees, of opinions and recommendations on matters relative to technique, operation and tariffs; the general application of these leads to standardization of technique and operating methods in the various countries.
3. The exchange between Member-countries, through the General Secretariat, of information about telecommunication developments, and of data indispensable for the operation of international telecommunication services (make-up of circuits, circuit and station characteristics, tariffs, etc.).
4. The registration, by the International Frequency Registration Board, of radio frequency assignments made by countries, so as to bring about official international recognition. This same Board has to supply Members of the Union with advice on the most rational and efficient use of spectrum space in those portions of it where harmful interference may occur.

All these activities have been prescribed by the Plenipotentiary Conference (which meets, in principle, every five years); they are coordinated by the Administrative Council which, in its turn, is called upon, at its annual session, to organize and supervise the administration of the Union.

It is important to note that the Union's activities are of an essentially international character and depend exclusively on free collaboration towards common ends and in the general interest. So far, one organ of the Union—the C.C.I.F.—has drawn up and periodically revises a programme of international connections for telecommunications, but the Union itself has never undertaken to finance such work.

The implementation of plans or programmes properly so-called, from laboratory research to the construction and operation of telecommunication equipment, comes within the exclusive domain of governmental or private enterprises which "carry on" telecommunication in conformity with the rules and recommendations of the Union.

\* . \* \*

We shall see that during 1950 the Union did not merely perform the tasks we have described above. Its activities during this period continued to be dominated by the problem of re-appportioning the radio frequency spectrum. This exceedingly complex problem (under study for the past three years) arose as the result of the new requirements presented by certain highly important services (aviation and broadcasting in particular—both of them rapidly expanding), and certain countries take the view that the sacrifices involved are heavy. Obviously, then, under the system of freely accepted discipline which has always prevailed in the ITU, a solution will be extremely difficult to find.

Before finishing this chapter, we must point out that the year 1950 has been one of very important events. During that year the International Telegraph Regulations and the International Telephone Regulations, as revised at the Paris Conference in 1949, entered into force.

In addition, 1950 saw the implementation of the Broadcasting Plan and the Maritime Radio Plan drawn up at Copenhagen in 1948. In implementing the former Plan, difficulties were encountered, and certain problems, which are as yet unsolved, were raised.

Lastly, the North American Regional Broadcasting Conference, which met at the end of 1950, achieved an agreement between the countries of North America on the distribution of frequencies assigned to broadcasting.

## **2. The activities of the Administrative Council**

The Council sat from 1 September to 11 October 1950.

A very long agenda comprised fifty-nine items, among which were the various major problems arising from postponement of the Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference. From the outset, the Council was faced with these problems, to which many meetings were devoted, and in the succinct account that follows, we shall deal, first of all, with the highly complex studies and debates which were involved.

### **A. *The Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference and the problem of frequency spectrum redistribution***

At the end of the second world war, the Frequency Allocation Table drawn up in 1938 by the Radio Conference of Cairo was obviously quite out of date.

The war had completely upset the existing pattern of frequency utilization, while new services, such as broadcasting and aviation, had considerably expanded. In addition, there had been major technical advances in radio which had substantially modified the conditions governing the use of frequencies.

Hence, if radio communications throughout the world were not to founder in utter chaos, a redistribution of the frequency spectrum had become a matter of the most pressing urgency.

It was therefore decided to call an international radio conference at Atlantic City, in 1947.

Thus, for a thorough grasp of the question, we must refer, as the Council did at its Fifth Session, to the decisions taken there.

The Atlantic City Conference, whilst maintaining the idea of "freedom of the ether"—an idea implied in the Preamble to the Convention, where it is laid down that Union Members fully recognize "the sovereign right of each country to regulate its telecommunication"—adopted the principle that no station should cause harmful interference to the stations of other countries operated in accordance with the Convention and Radio Regulations, and, under a system of discipline freely self-imposed, endeavoured to devise rules to ensure the most effective use of the spectrum. It drew up, with an eye to the requirements of the various services at that time, a frequency allocation table, defined the characteristics of stations, laid down general rules governing the assignment and use of frequencies and defined the procedure to be followed to avoid interference, with a view to increasing the number of stations which might be accommodated in the various parts of the frequency spectrum.

Major modifications, however, were made to the frequency allocation table then in force (Cairo, 1938), very largely with a view to catering for increased aeronautical and broadcasting requirements. For this reason, and also because of the fresh frequency requirements submitted, in particular by new countries and by countries the telecommunications of which had been destroyed or hamstrung by the second world war, the Conference considered it essential to effect a complete reapportionment of frequencies between all countries. Hence it was led to adopt a resolution relative to the preparation of a new international frequency list. The basic provisions of this resolution are given below:

*"Whereas:*

- A. In order to provide a basis for the formulation of a new International Frequency List, countries participating in the Atlantic City Radio Conference have undertaken to furnish Committee 6 of the Conference by September 15, 1947, with information regarding circuit requirements for fixed stations, together with information regarding requirements for tropical broadcasting stations and all classes of land stations . . .
- B. These countries have found that the compilation of such a List is necessary in order to implement the application of the Atlantic City allocation table.
- C. These countries have agreed that the compilation of such a List is necessary in order that the International Frequency Registration Board (I.F.R.B.) may function most effectively.
- D. The compilation of world frequency requirements as an initial step in the compilation of a new List has now begun and is hoped to be completed by October 15, 1947, and to be published and circulated by January 1st, 1948.
- E. It is recognized that it is essential to continue the work of preparing a new frequency list with minimum delay upon the conclusion of the Atlantic City Radio Conference.
- F. It is recognized that until frequency assignments for all services can be completely engineered, it will not be certain that the most effective use possible can be made of the frequency spectrum or that the frequency requirements of any service can be satisfied.
- G. It is recognized that it is necessary that an appropriate international group or committee continue with the preparation of the new International Frequency List after the close of the Atlantic City Radio Conference in order that such a List may be available for review and approval at a special international conference to be called for that purpose.

*Therefore, it is resolved that:*

"§ 1. A Board, to be designated the Provisional Frequency Board (PFB), shall be established, and shall be charged with the preparation of a draft new International Frequency List. This Board shall have as members:

- a) Members of the International Frequency Registration Board (I.F.R.B), hereinafter referred to as "International members".
- b) Representatives of administrations which have expressed a desire to have their experts participate in the work, hereinafter referred to as "National members".

.....

§ 6. The PFB shall arrive at its conclusions, as a general rule, by unanimous agreement. Any member of the PFB may have a statement included in the report of the PFB giving his views on any matter on which unanimous agreement has not been obtained. Should, however, a vote on any matter concerning the preparation of the new frequency assignment plan prove to be necessary, a decision shall be taken by a simple majority of those present and voting.

.....

§ 10. The PFB shall convene at the seat of the International Telecommunication Union on January 15, 1948.

§ 11. The PFB shall have as its objective the preparation of an International Frequency List based on an engineering plan which will improve the utilization of the radio spectrum by providing for the continued operation of all services in every country, while eliminating harmful interference. In addition, the PFB shall endeavour, in formulating such a plan, to make adequate provision for the future development of new radio services and the expansion of existing services, so that all countries may improve and increase their services to the fullest extent practicable. The PFB shall treat communications services which were interrupted by the World War II and which have not yet been restored, on the same basis as existing services, and, in addition, shall give special consideration to the needs of countries where natural developments have been impeded, especially as a result of the World War II.

.....

§ 12. g) The aim shall be to complete the drafting of the new International Frequency List, if possible, by 15 November 1948.

.....

§ 14. If the PFB, after having done its utmost to assign the frequencies on a sound engineering basis, meets with cases which cannot be resolved in a satisfactory way, consideration shall be given among other things, in the light of the general aim of the PFB, to the dates of notification contained in the archives of the BUIT, as well as to the priority of establishment of the circuits under consideration.

If the PFB is unable to decide in such cases on the entry to be made, such assignments will be dealt with by the Special Conference.

.....

§ 18. The date upon which the new International Frequency List shall become effective shall be the subject of a recommendation of the PFB to the Special Conference. In formulating this recommendation the PFB will take into consideration the urgent need for implementation which should be commenced, if possible, by September 1st, 1949."

.....

\* \* \*

The Atlantic City Radio Conference was under no illusions as to the magnitude of the task, having made a beginning itself; it was clearly foreseen that long and arduous labour would be required.

The Provisional Frequency Board (PFB) began its work on 15 January 1948, and continued without interruption until February 1950. At the same time, special conferences met to prepare draft assignment plans for particular services to which exclusive bands had been assigned (broadcasting, aeronautical), while the PFB considered the fixed service and mobile maritime service bands—a task of no little magnitude. In addition, regional conferences prepared draft plans for bands below 4,000 kc/s.

All the draft plans prepared, both by the PFB and by the other world-wide or regional conferences, had to be submitted to a special conference called upon to coordinate them and and to combine them into a single, uninterrupted frequency list: the new International Frequency List.

In 1949, however, when the Special Conference should normally have been held, the PFB had not finished its work. The Administrative Council, having considered the situation at its Fourth Session (September 1949) decided (Resolution No. 154) to prolong the life of the PFB and to transform the Special Conference envisaged at Atlantic City into an Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference. This change implied a broadening of the Conference's terms of reference, designed to make it competent to solve difficulties with which the PFB appeared unable to cope.

With the agreement of a majority of Union Members, it was decided that the Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference should begin in The Hague on 25 September 1950.

Preparations were accordingly under way when, in a telegram dated 28 July 1950, the United States of America proposed that, because of the contemporary world situation, the Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference should be postponed until a later date to be decided on by the Administrative Council or by "any other Conventional procedure". This proposal having been approved by a large majority of Union Members, all administrations were on 12 August 1950 informed that the conference which was to have met in The Hague on 25 September had been postponed and that all arrangements made for it had been cancelled.

The Atlantic City Conference had been of the opinion that its Frequency Allocation Table could not be implemented before the new International Frequency List had been produced, so that implementation of that Table was once again an open question. The Administrative Council, under no illusions as to the gravity of the situation, at once embarked on a realistic discussion of the matter from every angle.

In the light of the literature supplied by the General Secretariat and by the IFRB, it came to the conclusion that while it appeared impossible to evolve a frequency assignment list for certain important parts of the spectrum—the high frequency bands, in particular, used for the fixed services—in any foreseeable future, if the Atlantic City directives were to be rigorously observed, there was, on the other hand, a chance of reaching agreement with regard to the assignment plans prepared for several other parts of the spectrum. The Council also took the view that it was essential to implement the Atlantic City Frequency Allocation Table as soon as possible. Thus it would be possible to meet the requirements of important services such as the aeronautical service, which ICAO was desirous of expanding to the full.

Hence the Council was led to propose to Members of the Union that the Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference should meet in Geneva on 16 August 1951, with an agenda substantially different from that proposed for the Hague Conference. The opening date was, however, subject to confirmation by the Council at its Sixth Session, in April 1951 (Resolution No. 199).

This proposal having been approved by a large majority of Union Members, the Council considered how preparations could effectively be made, in order that the Conference might have the maximum chances of success. To this end, it adopted a second Resolution (No. 200), to coordinate the work of administrations and of the IFRB in this field, and to invite Members of the Union to make every possible effort to ensure the successful outcome of the conference. In this spirit Members were urged to act on the resolution which had been adopted by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations at its session of July/August 1950—a resolution by the terms of which implementation of the decisions taken by the Atlantic City Conferences was a matter to be studied at the highest governmental level in each country, in order that delegates to the Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference might be directed "to take steps to ensure that, without unnecessary delay, the Conference shall reach a successful conclusion, which can only be brought about by a broad, cooperative, and realistic approach to the problems".

## B. *Decisions regarding other conferences and meetings*

In considering radio problems, the Council was led to consider the probable dates on which the forthcoming ordinary conferences are to be held.

It took the view that there was no reason at that time to contemplate postponement of the *Plenipotentiary Conference* due to meet in 1952.

It was of the opinion, further, that it was not in a position to decide whether or not the *Ordinary Administrative Radio Conference*, also due to meet in 1952, should be postponed, but that the matter was one which could be more appropriately examined at the Sixth Session, in April 1951, after a final decision had been taken about the date of the Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference.

Lastly, after reviewing the Union's activities, especially in the field of telegraphy and telephony, the Council decided to propose to administrations:

1. that the *Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference*, which was to have met in 1952, should be postponed until 1954. This proposal was approved by a very large majority of Union Members.
2. that the *CCIT Plenary Assembly*, which was to have been held in The Hague in 1951, should be postponed until 1953. This proposal was also approved.

It was agreed that the *CCIF Plenary Assembly* should meet, as planned, in Rome (autumn of 1951), and that the Director of the CCIR should pursue his consultations with a view to convening the *CCIR Plenary Assembly* in Geneva, in June 1951.

In deciding to postpone the CCIT Plenary Assembly until 1953, the Council expressed the opinion that the activities of that body should nevertheless be vigorously pursued, and that, in case of need, joint meetings of several study groups might be held to put the finishing touches to any conclusions those study groups might have reached. This would be done relatively quickly, and the conclusions so drafted communicated to administrations, which would thus be able to put them into effect without delay.

## C. *Financial questions*

As is the case each year, the Council devoted a great deal of attention to financial matters, which, for various reasons, have been giving rise to some little anxiety.

It had been possible—although with some difficulty—to balance the budget for 1951 within the limit of 4,000,000 Swiss francs set at Atlantic City, and the Council was called upon to decide whether administrations ought to be consulted about a possible increase in this figure, as authorized by Additional Protocol No. VI of Atlantic City. It was finally decided not to raise the question for the time being, in spite of the fact that the present limit of 4,000,000 Swiss francs obviously does not permit full development of all the permanent organs as conceived at the Plenipotentiary Conference.

For the first time, the Council examined the financial management of the Union—for 1949 and the first half of 1950. This task is one of the most important of those falling to the lot of the Council, enabling it to appreciate in detail the entire administrative system of the Union.

The Council prepared a set of provisional Financial Regulations, which provide, *inter alia*, for a permanent finance control committee, composed of three senior Union officials. At the end of 1950, this Committee was called upon to study the internal organization of the organs of the Union from the point of view of financial repercussions.

Lastly, it should be noted that from 1951 onwards the financial operations relative to the publication of documents will no longer be shown in the ordinary budget, but in an auxiliary printed matter budget; this step will have the twofold result of clarifying the budget and of making it possible to conduct this highly important branch of the General Secretariat's activities in a manner more in accordance with commercial practice.

D. *Staff questions*

The Administrative Council has always been mindful of the staff's welfare, and this year again spent a good deal of time on the Staff Regulations and Statutes of the Staff Superannuation and Benevolent Funds. These latter funds, which have been in operation now for a year, seem to give satisfaction to the staff, thus endowed with a comprehensive and generous insurance scheme.

E. *Reports on conferences and meetings held under the auspices of the ITU*

The Council took note of the results achieved by the conferences and meetings held since the preceding session, and in fact subjected them to a rigorous scrutiny when preparing Resolution No. 199, relative to the convening of the Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference.

Conference expenditure was studied with much care. In this field the Council has introduced considerable improvements, by standardizing the composition and workings of conference or meeting secretariats, and by organizing the control of their expenditure.

F. *Relations with the United Nations and other international organizations*

Relations with the United Nations regularly present the Council with a number of problems, the solution of which is facilitated by the presence of United Nations observers at its sessions. This year, there were three such observers.

The major problem is how the Union can make its maximum contribution to the work of the United Nations with the very limited financial means at its disposal. Collaboration with the United Nations takes the form of an exchange of documents which occasions no great financial outlay, but it also involves reciprocal representation at conferences and meetings, and this is liable to be very expensive. Hence the Council tried to ensure that such representation should cost as little as possible. To this end, it recommended that recourse should be had, whenever feasible, to the services of Councillors domiciled in the countries where conferences or meetings are held.

It further decided to accept, on behalf of the ITU, the *Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies*, thus enabling the Union and its officials to benefit by that Convention.

Reverting to the question of *United Nations Conventions on Freedom of Information*, the Council decided that the Union's representative at the United Nations General Assembly should do no more than point out to the appropriate committee that there was a clash between Articles 29 and 30 of the Atlantic City Convention and a provision which it was planned to include in the United Nations Convention on the international transmission of news and the right of correction—a clause forbidding governments to use their right to stop press telegrams or to suspend the press telegram service.

The Council also discussed relations with other international organizations, more particularly relations with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). This organization was represented by an observer at meetings of the Council and its committees at which questions of particular concern to it were being discussed. Amongst these were all the various questions arising out of frequency assignment and convocation of the Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference. The Union and ICAO have to find a joint solution for certain other problems—for example, the establishment and operation of aeronautical fixed service circuits—and the Council made arrangements for the two organizations to remain in close contact, using, if required, the good offices of the Canadian Councillor, he being in a position to get in touch with senior ICAO officials in Montreal without delay.

### G. *Interpretation of the Convention or Regulations*

At each session, the Council is called upon to interpret clauses in the Convention or General Regulations. On the agenda of the Fifth Session there were no less than 14 such items, amongst them:

- Representation of several countries at a conference, by one and the same delegate;
- Participation in the activities of the International Consultative Committees;
- Signature and approval of the Regulations;
- Apportionment of expenses incurred by the use of additional working languages at conferences or meetings;
- Credentials of conference delegates.

We should perhaps make special mention of Resolution No. 169, on the application of Article 1 of the Convention. By virtue of this Resolution: "pending decision by the forthcoming Plenipotentiary Conference, all the countries listed in Annex 1 to the Atlantic City Convention (1947) may take part in administrative conferences of the Union, and, if the occasion arises, in the meetings of the Consultative Committees, with the right to vote, even if they have not ratified the Convention or acceded thereto by the opening date of the conference or meeting concerned".

### H. *Preparation of proposals for amendment of the Convention or General Regulations*

In the exercise of its functions during the years 1948 to 1950, the Council had noticed that certain provisions in the Convention or General Regulations needed amendment or revision. In the belief that the experience so acquired could be turned to good account and used to facilitate and shorten the activities of the forthcoming Plenipotentiary Conference to a considerable degree, it adopted the important Resolution No. 168, which describes how proposals for amendment of the Convention or General Regulations will be prepared by the Council. Such proposals will be put into definite form at the Sixth Session.

\* \* \*

The Administrative Council's Sixth Session will be held in Geneva, from 16 April 1951.

The Council decided to meet in the spring rather than in the autumn, as in preceding years, largely in order that the ITU's budget might be submitted to the Economic and Social Council at the same time as those of the other specialized agencies.

## 3. **The activities of the General Secretariat**

These may be divided as follows:

- Administration of the Union;
- Relations with Member-countries;
- Relations with other international organizations;
- Publication of documents;
- Providing a secretariat for the Administrative Council;
- Providing secretariats for conferences and meetings.



#### A. *Administration of the Union*

The Administrative Council, the main task of which it is to administer the Union, sits, in principle, but once a year, and that for a few weeks. For this reason the Secretary General has been entrusted in the Convention with general administrative duties of a most important kind, and these duties have been added to by the Council. It is his responsibility, *inter alia*, to:

- a) draw up the annual draft budget;
- b) implement the budget voted by the Council;
- c) administer the entire staff of the Union.

In normal times, these duties give rise to no special difficulties, but the same cannot, unhappily, be said to-day. During 1950, they gave the Secretary General a good deal of work and no little anxiety. For this there are various reasons.

As indicated in the introduction to this report, the Union was remoulded at Atlantic City, and is still passing through a period of growth, with the result that the administrative rules governing the working of its permanent organs have not in every case assumed their final form. Thus, for example, the Staff Regulations, the pensions system, and above all the Financial Regulations are liable to modification. Further, it seems that the permanent organs will not be able to develop to the full within the budgetary ceiling of four million Swiss francs. Lastly, it is difficult to stabilize staff numbers at any particular figure, since certain organs have insufficient experience of the tasks liable to fall on them in normal conditions.

#### B. *Relations with Member-countries*

Ever since the Union was created, in 1865, a need has made itself felt for a central body to ensure liaison between Members, or, more precisely, between the telecommunication administrations of Member-countries. In this respect, the International Bureau (now the General Secretariat) not only personifies the entity known as the International Telecommunication Union, and is the depositary of its Acts (the Convention and Regulations), but constitutes an actual part of the machinery of international telecommunications, thus possessing a twofold character.

In both these capacities, the General Secretariat has once more had to cope with an abnormally heavy burden. During 1950, a good many countries either ratified the Atlantic City Convention or acceded to it, giving rise to quite a considerable exchange of notes through diplomatic channels. Moreover, the Telegraph Regulations and Telephone Regulations, as revised by the Paris Conference (1949), came into force on 1 July 1950, with the result that telegraph tariffs and various data related thereto were completely revised by administrations and had to be entirely republished.

Current information essential for the operation of international telecommunications and circulated for the benefit of administrations was published in the fortnightly notifications (which in 1950 ran to a total of 450 pages), and in 28 special circulars.

Lastly, fresh efforts were made to enhance the interest of the Union's organ of information, the *Telecommunication Journal*.

#### C. *Relations with other international organizations*

We may appropriately recall here that relations with other international organizations (with the United Nations in particular), dealt with in Part IV of this report, are almost exclusively the responsibility of the General Secretariat, which is obliged to devote to such matters a substantial proportion of its staff.

#### D. *Publication of documents*

The General Secretariat is in fact a publishing house, issuing (apart from the working documents of conferences and meetings), in accordance with the most rigorous commercial practice,

the final acts of conferences and meetings, as well as a long series of lists, maps and statistics, all of them documents essential for the establishment or operation of international telecommunications.

The magnitude of this aspect of the General Secretariat's activities, and its practical utility, are sufficiently illustrated by the fact that it involves an annual budget of something like a million Swiss francs per year. All documents are sold.

In this field, again, the General Secretariat has had to cope, during 1950, with a task of peculiar arduousness and delicacy. The difficulty lies in combining the use of several languages with the principle that all documents should be sold at cost price. The Atlantic City Convention lays down that service documents shall be issued in the Union's five official languages, and that each document shall be charged for on the basis of what it costs to produce. This may sound simple enough, but in actual practice difficulties arise because of the considerable variation in numbers of copies ordered in each language. The Administrative Council helped matters considerably by deciding that the Secretary General must give up the idea of publishing a document in one of the official languages if there is a risk of the expenses thereby incurred exceeding the income from sales; nevertheless, publication of documents always involves long and delicate consultations with administrations. The General Secretariat does its utmost to meet the requirements of the greatest possible number of administrations, by publishing documents in multi-lingual editions, for example.

The problem, then, is far from being solved. Nevertheless, the experience acquired over three years has yielded some very accurate data which were not available to the Atlantic City Conference—data which will enable the next Conference to make a ruling as regards the languages to be used for service documents in full knowledge of the facts.

\* \* \*

Incidentally, it is not without interest to note that the data published in service documents are steadily increasing in amount, the increase being something like 60% in relation to the figures for 1947. Hence the work of preparing the manuscripts has become more and more laborious, and the staff engaged thereon more and more numerous. These service documents are of considerable value to administrations, and their preparation is a task to which the General Secretariat pays the most scrupulous attention.

\* \* \*

The following is a list of documents published and sold by the General Secretariat during 1950—150,000 volumes or booklets weighing, in all, some 75 tons. They were despatched to destinations all over the world, in 62,000 separate parcels.

	No. of copies printed	
Collected Resolutions of the Administrative Council, Fifth Session . . .	English	350
	French	300
	Spanish	100
Secretary General's Annual Report . . . . .	English	900
	French	1000
	Spanish	425
Financial Operating Report, 1949 . . . . .	English	1200
	French	1300
	Spanish	570
Provisional Financial Regulations . . . . .	English	170
	French	170
	Spanish	75



	No. of copies printed	
Coloured Chart showing frequency allocation . . . . .	English	1440
	French	1445
	Spanish	770
Maps of land stations open to public correspondence with aircraft . . . . .		1200
Documents of the Mexico City High-Frequency Broadcasting Conference, reprint by the offset method, to replace faulty copies . . . . .	English	150
	French	200
	Russian	100

*CCIF documents*

Instructions for telephone operators . . . . .	4250
Recommendations on the protection of cables against corrosion . . . . .	1500
Yellow Book (5 volumes and 2 annexes), per volume plus annexes . . . . .	1000
General switching programme for Europe and the Mediterranean Basin . . . . .	600
Maintenance instructions . . . . .	500

*CCIR documents*

Booklet containing Questions 34 to 42 (annex to the Collected Resolutions of Stockholm) . . . . .	English	3000
	French	2000
	Spanish	1000

*E. Provision of a secretariat for the Administrative Council*

Obviously, this task makes a considerable call on the Secretary General and his staff, particularly in the intervals between sessions, when action has to be taken in accordance with the decisions arrived at the during preceding session and documents have to be prepared for the following one. Between sessions, the Secretary General invariably acts under the Council's delegated authority, and although his functions are defined with some precision in the Convention and in Council decisions, his responsibility to the Council is heavier than it would be were his duties purely executive in nature.

With the experience acquired at three sessions, the Council's secretariat in 1950 worked smoothly and well. We shall not stress here the volume of work involved—work which in any case is part of the Secretary General's normal duties.

*F. Provision of secretariats for conferences and meetings*

The rate at which Union conferences were held during 1948 and 1949 noticeably slackened during 1950, when, apart from the Provisional Frequency Board, the life of which had been prolonged, the Union held only two conferences: the International High-Frequency Broadcasting Conference of Florence/Rapallo and the Second Session of the North American Regional Broadcasting Conference, which met in Washington. This latter conference ended with the signature of an agreement on the apportionment and use of broadcasting frequencies in North America. On the other hand, the Florence/Rapallo Conference had to break up without having reached any positive result.

In general, the burden represented by conferences was less, for staff of the Secretariat, than in preceding years. Thus, for the Regional Conference held in Washington, the General Secretariat had to detach no more than two of its officials.

#### 4. The activities of the International Frequency Registration Board

##### A. *Period 1st January-31st August 1950*

The Members of the IFRB continued to act as International members of the Provisional Frequency Board. With the departure of the National members of the PFB on 28th February 1950, the International members assumed responsibility for the outstanding work which had to be completed prior to the convening of the Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference which was then scheduled to meet in The Hague in September 1950.

In accordance with Resolution No. 154 of the Administrative Council, this work included:

- (1) the assembly of the observations and proposals made by Members of the Union
  - a) on the draft Frequency List prepared by the PFB;
  - b) on the plans and lists prepared by the Regional and Service conferences;
- (2) the preparation of all necessary documentation for the proposed conference.

In addition, the members of the Board, as International members of the PFB, had been charged by the Plenary Assembly of the PFB.

- (1) to convert the interim draft frequency lists prepared by the PFB into the agreed form for issue to Administrations by assembling and adding additional information; to arrange their preparation so that they would be readily understandable in the three working languages of the Union; and to dispatch them to Administrations by 31st March 1950;
- (2) to prepare lists of requirements for certain frequency bands for which no plans had been prepared and to despatch them as soon as possible to Administrations;
- (3) to prepare, in a uniform manner, fair copies of schematic presentations of the draft frequency assignment plans prepared by the PFB;
- (4) to proceed with the part implementation of Section 17 of the Atlantic City Resolution relating to the preparation of the new International Frequency List by
  - a) distributing to Administrations a list of requirements filed with the PFB up to 31st March 1950 under Section 16 of this Resolution;
  - b) preparing for the Extraordinary Conference the list of such requirements amended up to 31st August 1950;
  - c) examining these requirements and, to the extent possible, selecting suitable frequency complements for fixed-service requirements in accordance with the engineering rules adopted by the Provisional Frequency Board, and preparing suitable card records.

Furthermore, since the master records of the PFB would have been required by the Hague Conference, the International members, in the spirit of the latter part of its charter from the Administrative Council, checked and put these records in good order and prepared such references and indices etc. as were considered to be necessary to facilitate the work of the Conference.

All of this work either had been completed or was well in hand when, in August 1950 the Extraordinary Conference scheduled for The Hague was postponed pending consideration of the whole situation by the Administrative Council at its 5th Session.

*B. Period from 1 September to 31 December 1950*

In Resolution No. 199, dealing with the postponed Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference and giving it a new agenda, the Administrative Council requested: "pending the meeting of the Conference and in order to facilitate and shorten its work:

- " a) the active assistance of the IFRB . . . and of all Members of the Union in studying and making proposals for suitable methods of bringing the entire Atlantic City Table of Frequency Allocations into operation as soon as possible;
- " b) the IFRB to assemble and collate all comments and proposals and to circulate them to Members of the Union at least two months before the Conference."

In its Resolution No. 200 concerning preparation for the Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference, the Administrative Council specified the data and other information which it invited Administrations to supply to the IFRB so that these could be assembled, synthesized and circulated to reach Administrations not later than 15th June 1951.

During the period between the end of the 5th Session of the Administrative Council and the end of the year, therefore, the IFRB has been engaged, inter alia, in:

- a) assembling and collating such additional general and detailed comments as have been received concerning the PFB draft plans and the Regional and Service frequency assignment plans;
- b) assembling monitoring data which have been received from Administrations or other agencies in order to establish as comprehensive a picture as possible of present frequency usage;
- c) studying the existing Frequency List between 3.9 Mc/s and 27.5 Mc/s and establishing lists of those frequency notifications which are outside the bands provided for the service concerned under the Atlantic City Frequency Allocation Table;
- d) preparing such other information and documentation as the Board considers will facilitate the work of the Conference.

In addition, the Board has been engaged, in collaboration with the Secretary General, in preparing preliminary documentation to enable it to undertake the tasks assigned to it in Administrative Council Resolution No. 202 concerning the notification of frequencies above 27.5 Mc/s.

The IFRB took part in the activities of the International High-Frequency Broadcasting Conference of Florence/Rapallo and in the ordinary administrative work of the Union. In addition, a member of the Board, in conjunction with a General Secretariat official, acted as technical adviser to the Danish Administration when that administration acted as centralizing agency in the problem of marginal bands which arose when the Copenhagen broadcasting plan and European maritime plan came into force.

\* \* \*

The Chairman of the IFRB, in his report for 1950, pointed out how regrettable it was that the Board had been unable, during 1950, to perform the tasks assigned to it in the Atlantic City Radio Regulations, in view of the urgent need to introduce some order, for the benefit of radio users everywhere, into the use being made of frequencies throughout the world. Nevertheless, the Board trusts that the experience it has acquired will be of some value to the forthcoming

Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference when the multiple outstanding problems of frequency assignment have to be solved and the Atlantic City Frequency Allocation Table implemented as quickly as possible.

## **5. The activities of the International Telegraph Consultative Committee**

In November, 1949, the Chairmen of the CCIT Study Groups met in Geneva to discuss how the questions referred to the CCIT by the International Telegraph and Telephone Conference of Paris should be apportioned between study groups. Having reached agreement on this, they drew up a schedule of CCIT activities.

From the beginning of 1950, the CCIT has been receiving a steady flow of comments from administrations on questions under study. This has occasioned a considerable amount of secretarial work, shouldered, over and above their normal duties, by officials of the Telegraph and Telephone Division. For reasons of economy, the Committee began by publishing certain documents in a single language only, but, several administrations having demanded translations, their requests had to be complied with.

### **A. Meetings of Study Groups—1950**

The sub-committee for Telegraph Maintenance met at Geneva from 2 to 7 October 1950, at the same time as the sub-committee for Telephone Maintenance. As a result CCIF recommendations relating to voice frequency telegraph circuits were revised. The sub-committee also prepared ten draft recommendations which are at present submitted for examination to other Study Groups of the CCIT.

Study Group No. 11 (International service of telegraph subscribers and rates relating thereto) met in Geneva, from 2 to 11 November 1950 and new draft regulations for the Telex service and several draft recommendations were submitted to administrations participating in the work of the CCIT for approval as a provisional recommendation in accordance with the procedure described above.

### **B. Meetings of Study Groups in March 1951**

Numerous contributions to the studies in hand were received during the third quarter of 1950, and, in general, the Study Groups now have sufficient contributions on a great number of questions.

It was accordingly agreed, after consultation with the Group Chairmen concerned, that Study Groups Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10 and 11 should meet in Geneva, from 5 to 22 March 1951.

Numerous questions have features common to more than one Study Group, and joint meetings have been arranged. The CCIR is to take part in these meetings for questions in which it is concerned. It was arranged that during the latter half of this period Study Group No. 10 should meet with representatives of ICAO to discuss the problem of traffic to be routed over the aeronautical telecommunication network.

## **6. The activities of the International Telephone Consultative Committee**

During 1950, the CCIF study groups were exceedingly active.

At the following meetings, they were able to consider the numerous questions referred to them by the XVth Plenary Assembly (Paris, 26/30 July, 1949):

<i>February, 1950 (Algiers)</i>	— Meetings of the Sub-Committee for the Mediterranean Basin of
<i>and</i>	the Joint Committee for the General Switching Programme in
<i>October, 1950 (Geneva)</i>	Europe and the Mediterranean Basin.

This Committee accomplished a considerable amount of work in planning a network which would extend the European one into Africa and Asia.

*January 1950 (London)* — Meetings of the Committee for Experiments in International  
and Semi-Automatic Operation.  
*October 1950 (Geneva)*

This Committee took important decisions concerning the constitution and operation of two trial networks, one in western Europe and the other in Scandinavia. In these networks international calls will be made using the services of but a single operator and automatic remote-control switching.

*October 1950 (Geneva)* — Meeting of the Permanent Maintenance Sub-Committee.

This Committee drew up, *inter alia*, a programme for periodical maintenance of international circuits in Europe for 1951.

*June 1950 (Paris)* — Meetings of the Drafting Committee on recommendations con-  
and cerning the protection of underground cables against the action  
*October 1950 (Geneva)* of stray currents from electric traction networks (CRE).

This Committee is called upon to prepare recommendations which would facilitate the coexistence of underground cables and electric tramways or electric railways, without corrosion to the sheaths of underground cables.

*September 1950 and* — Meetings of the following study groups and sub-committees:  
*October 1950 (Geneva)*

Study Group 1, on protection of telephone lines against disturbance from electric power installations;

Sub-Committee on urgent transmission questions: plans for constructing and maintaining lines between the two terminal trunk offices in an international call, for telephony, telegraphy, relay of programme broadcast transmissions, or television.

Sub-Committee for the specification of quality of transmission. This Sub-Committee drew up a programme for the experiments in progress in the CCIF Laboratory, designed to lay a new foundation for the specification of telephone transmission quality in the chain of lines and devices linking either the calling or called subscriber to the terminal trunk exchange on which he depends.

Study Group 5, on coordination of radio and wire transmission, in long-distance telecommunication.

Study Groups 6 and 7, on telephone operation and tariff questions.

Study Group 8, on telephone signalling and switching.

International Telephone Vocabulary Committee.

## **7. The activities of the International Radio Consultative Committee**

During 1950, the day to day work of the permanent Secretariat of the CCIR continued to be expanded as the Secretariat was gradually built up.



*A. Preparatory work for the VIth Plenary Assembly*

On an invitation from the Czechoslovak authorities who were organizing the VIth Plenary Assembly, the Director of the CCIR, assisted by the Assistant Secretary General in charge of the Radio Division, went to Prague in January 1950. An agreement was drafted on certain aspects of the Plenary Assembly planned.

However, on 12 June a telegram was received from the Ministry of Posts, Prague, to say that the CCIR's 1951 meeting could not take place in Prague.

On receipt of this communication, the Director immediately began a consultation of all CCIR Members by telegram, to find another meeting place for the VIth Plenary Assembly, and, if need be, another date. This consultation was completed in November 1950. By 49 votes to 2, with 3 abstentions, it was decided to hold the VIth Plenary Assembly in Geneva, from 5 June to 6 July 1951.

The permanent secretariat made arrangements for this meeting forthwith, and took steps to prepare some preliminary literature in the Union's three working languages—English, French, and Spanish. The arrangements in question concerned the acquisition of premises and the engagement of additional staff, sufficiently early in 1951 to enable the permanent secretariat to observe the time limits set out in CCIR Recommendation No. 33 (Stockholm).

*B. Activities of study groups between Plenary Assemblies*

While the work of most study groups was carried on by correspondence, in accordance with the rules governing CCIR activities, the Chairmen of Study Groups 6, 10, and 11 felt it was essential to convene meetings of their study groups to speed up their work. Hence the following meetings were held:

Study Group 6 (ionospheric propagation) and Study Group 10 (broadcasting) met from 13 to 25 March. The work they accomplished, considerable in volume, was of the highest value.

Study Group 11 (television), in accordance with a decision taken at its Zurich meeting in July 1949, attended demonstrations of television systems either planned or in service, in several countries. These demonstrations took place in accordance with the following programme:

United States of America: from 27 March to 7 April, 1950.

France: from 20 April to 22 April.

Netherlands: from 24 April to 25 April.

United Kingdom: from 27 April to 5 May.

101 delegates, representing 24 administrations and 6 other bodies, took part, either continuously or for part of the time, in these extremely instructive demonstrations and in the study group meeting which was afterwards held in London, from 8 to 13 May 1950.

The Study Group reached unanimous agreement on five points of a technical character, but was unable, at the meeting referred to above, to recommend television standards of world-wide application, in view of the fact that television services in various parts of the world are based on different standards, and cannot be modified for economic reasons. However, seven European countries agreed to the adoption of a common standard (625 lines per picture and 25 pictures a second). This is also the fundamental standard recommended by various other countries, either in Europe or elsewhere, which were not represented at that particular meeting.

Certain details relative to this standard remained to be settled. To this end, the Group met in the offices of the CCIR secretariat, in Geneva, during the last week of July. Representatives of Austria, Belgium, Denmark, the United States of America, France, Italy, the United Kingdom, Sweden and Switzerland were present. Those European countries in favour of a 625-line definition reached unanimous agreement regarding certain technical details of the system, and the United States of America acceded to an agreement for the adoption of a common line frequency, as proposed by the Director of the CCIR at the London meeting of Study Group 11.

Although these recommendations are subject to approval by the next Plenary Assembly, they were favourably received in a good many countries, and are already being put into practice.

The experience acquired in the two years during which the CCIR has been working under the Atlantic City Regulations has shown the difficulty of carrying on activities by correspondence alone, and has proved how useful it may be to hold study group meetings in the intervals between Plenary Assemblies. This is a question which will be brought up at the next Plenary Assembly.

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## V. RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### 1. General remarks

The activities of the International Telecommunication Union are of an exceedingly specialized nature. It has always sought the collaboration of all organizations concerned with telecommunication or related matters. It is of interest to note that the rules governing its relations with other organizations—including international or national non-governmental bodies—are of the most liberal kind, the only condition in fact being that such organizations should be concerned with telecommunication problems.

Thus the Union, itself born of necessity, cooperated, up to 1947, with other organizations whenever and wherever such cooperation was required to further its own activities or those of other organizations.

When, in 1947, it entered into relations with the United Nations, its obligations in the realm of international collaboration were considerably extended thereby. To-day those obligations give rise to problems of the first importance which will be carefully considered by the Administrative Council at its Sixth Session.

### 2. Relations with other bodies during 1950.

#### A. *Relations with the United Nations.*

The Secretary General has made every effort to study the enormous volume of literature received from the United Nations—a literature so considerable that it is materially impossible to have it all read. Nevertheless, the major questions debated by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council have been studied in detail, to comply with the United Nations' desires as far as possible.

The principal difficulty is to arrange for the Union to be represented at United Nations conferences or meetings—a question which involves staff problems and necessitates credits for official mission expenses. The Administrative Council took a keen interest in this matter. Resolution No. 194 authorized the Secretary General to have himself represented by Councillors who might happen to be near the place at which the meeting was being held—an economical solution.

In fact, out of 27 invitations received from the United Nations during 1950, the Secretary General declined 18, and in the case of 4 others which he accepted, he was represented by a Councillor.

It is noteworthy that, as already stated, the Secretary General of the United Nations regularly sends observers to sessions of the Administrative Council, and they greatly assist the Council in considering questions of common interest to the two organizations.

The Secretariat loses no opportunity of cooperating with officials of the United Nations European Office in Geneva in solving staff problems common to all the organizations having offices in Geneva.

#### B. *Relations with other specialized agencies*

These largely consist in an exchange of documents.  
Nevertheless, special mention should be made of:

- a) *the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)*, which takes a direct interest in aeronautical telecommunications and maintains the closest relations with the ITU, especially as regards frequency assignments and the constitution of airline companies' fixed service networks, both by wire and radio;

- b) *the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization* (UNESCO) which regularly invites the Union to attend its conferences and takes an interest in the use of broadcasting for educational, cultural, and social purposes;
- c) *the World Health Organization* (WHO) which also invites the Union to its principal conferences and is at present drawing up a set of International Sanitary Regulations including clauses with a bearing on telecommunication.

C. *Relations with other international organizations.*

For many years past, the Union has been in continuous touch with the *International Meteorological Organization* (OMI), with a view to:

- a) coordinating the data sent to the two organizations by administrations, concerning the transmission of meteorological bulletins and time signals by certain radio stations;
- b) studying together, in technical committees, the telecommunication problems of the meteorological services and problems in connection with radio wave propagation.

Further, it cooperates with regional broadcasting organizations such as the International Broadcasting Organization (OIR), and the European Broadcasting Organization (UER), for the study of problems of frequency assignment and international monitoring, and for the consideration of technical questions in relation with the characteristics of radio equipment.

Finally—and more particularly within the International Consultative Committees—the Union cooperates with a whole series of international organizations having an interest of one kind or another in telecommunication, namely:

The International Railway Union;  
The International Electrotechnical Committee;  
The International Conference of the Main High Tension Networks;  
The International Union of Producers and Distributors of Electrical Power;  
The Communications Commission of the International Chamber of Commerce;  
The International Public Transport Union;  
International Gas Union;  
The International Committee on Standards;  
The International Bureau of Time;  
International Scientific Radio Union;  
International Radiomarine Committee;  
The International Air Transport Association;  
The International Radio Amateur's Union;  
The Special International Committee on Radio Interference.

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## **VI. FINANCES OF THE UNION**

In the Financial Operating Report, published separately, will be found all considerations and data relative to the Union's finances. Nevertheless, I feel that the comparative budget for 1950 and 1951 might usefully be reproduced here, in order that readers of this report may have some idea of the credits allotted for the Union's various activities.

The attached tables have been drawn up in the form prescribed in Article 11 of the Provisional Financial Regulations of the Union, i.e. in the summarised form adopted by the United Nations and the other specialised agencies.

Summary of budgetary estimates of the International Telecommunication Union, Geneva,  
for 1950 (revised budget) and 1951

(Swiss francs)

Function or object	GENERAL SECRETARIAT		IFRB		CCIF		CCIT		CCIR		TOTALS	
	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951
<b>GROUP I — MEETINGS</b>												
Annual conference												
According to Article 14, § 3 (1) of the International Telecommunication Convention of Atlantic City (1947), the expenses of plenipotentiary conferences, administrative conferences and meetings of the International Consultative Committees constitute <i>extraordinary expenses</i> . These are borne, not by all Members of the Union (except where decided otherwise), but only by those which have agreed to take part in those conferences or meetings. Hence these expenses are dealt with in budgetary estimates separate from those relative to ordinary expenses. Conference estimates for 1950 and 1951 are indicated in the annexes to this table.												
Travel and subsistence:												
Delegates . . . . .												
Staff . . . . .												
Consultants and liaison representatives												
Temporary staff . . . . .												
Local transportation . . . . .												
Supplies and materials . . . . .												
Contractual printing . . . . .												
Premises and equipment . . . . .												
All other services . . . . .												
Extraordinary expenses according to remarks above {										Total for 1950 . . . . .	(2 601 000.—) <sup>2)</sup>	
										Total for 1951 . . . . .		(2 070 700.—) <sup>2)</sup>
Ordinary expenses of the permanent organs <sup>1)</sup> (to be borne by all Members of the ITU)												
Governing Body, Councils and other organizational meetings												
Travel and subsistence:												
Members . . . . .											114 000.—	114 000.—
Staff . . . . .											—	—
Consultants and liaison representatives											—	—
Temporary Staff . . . . .											41 500.—	58 500.—
Local transportation . . . . .											—	—
Supplies and materials . . . . .											16 500.—	24 000.—
Contractual printing . . . . .											—	—
Premises and equipment . . . . .											—	—
All other services . . . . .											2 000.—	3 500.—
Total . . . . .											174 000.—	200 000.—
Less: direct contributions by host country . . . . .											—	—
Total for Group I . . . . .											174 000.—	200 000.—
<b>GROUP II — PERSONNEL SERVICES</b>												
Salaries, wages, and other pay items												
Established posts . . . . .	890 000.—	780 000.—	664 350.—	719 380.—	238 520.—	248 410.—	21 350.—	48 000.—	255 000.—	287 000.—	1 972 470.—	1 931 010.—
Consultants . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Temporary assistance . . . . .	313 000.—	321 750.—	7 000.—	10 300.—	7 000.—	5 325.—	9 000.—	16 000.—	7 000.—	5 325.—	439 750.—	510 480.—
Overtime . . . . .	6 000.—	6 000.—	—	—	400.—	200.—	1 000.—	—	1 000.—	500.—	8 400.—	6 700.—
Night differential . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Research and other personnel contract fees . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reimbursement for national income taxation . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total . . . . .	1 209 000.—	1 107 750.—	671 350.—	729 680.—	245 920.—	253 935.—	31 350.—	64 000.—	263 000.—	292 825.—	2 420 620.—	2 448 190.—
Recruitment and termination expenses												
Travel and removal expenses of staff and dependents . . . . .	20 000.—	20 000.—	2 500.—	35 000.—	5 000.—	—	3 400.—	—	5 000.—	10 000.—	35 900.—	65 000.—
Installation allowances and grants . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Termination pay and commutation of annual leave . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other . . . . .	—	6 000.—	—	—	6 000.—	—	150.—	—	—	—	6 150.—	6 000.—
Total . . . . .	20 000.—	26 000.—	2 500.—	35 000.—	11 000.—	—	3 550.—	—	5 000.—	10 000.—	42 050.—	71 000.—
Staff benefits and allowances												
Staff Provident Fund — Pension Fund	479 000.—	427 250.—	117 300.—	145 720.—	45 231.—	44 467.—	15 350.—	7 200.—	48 250.—	48 625.—	705 131.—	673 262.—
Children's allowances, education grants and related travel . . . . .	55 000.—	60 000.—	13 600.—	17 000.—	5 600.—	5 600.—	1 500.—	3 200.—	3 200.—	4 800.—	78 900.—	90 600.—
Expatriation allowances . . . . .	30 000.—	33 000.—	63 500.—	67 500.—	15 200.—	15 200.—	1 350.—	3 200.—	15 000.—	17 300.—	125 050.—	136 200.—
Rental allowances . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Travel on home leave . . . . .	2 000.—	27 000.—	69 500.—	67 200.—	3 000.—	3 500.—	—	—	600.—	24 500.—	75 100.—	122 200.—
Other . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total . . . . .	566 000.—	547 250.—	263 900.—	297 420.—	69 031.—	68 767.—	18 200.—	13 600.—	67 050.—	95 225.—	984 181.—	1 022 262.—
Staff training, health and welfare . . . . .												
Total for Group II . . . . .	1 795 000.—	1 681 000.—	937 750.—	1 062 100.—	325 951.—	322 702.—	53 100.—	77 600.—	335 050.—	398 050.—	3 446 851.—	3 541 452.—
Number of established posts . . . . .	56	56	17	26	13	13	1	1	8	17	95	113

<sup>1)</sup> Permanent organs: Administrative Council — General Secretariat — International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB) — International Telephone Consultative Committee (CCIF) — International Telegraph Consultative Committee (CCIT) — International Radio Consultative Committee (CCIR).

<sup>2)</sup> The figures in brackets are not included in the totals, since they are not considered when the budget is being drawn up and the relevant contributory share calculated.

Summary of budgetary estimates (continued)

(Swiss francs)

Function or object	GENERAL SECRETARIAT		IFRB		CCIF		CCIT		CCIR		TOTALS	
	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951
<b>GROUP III — GENERAL SERVICES</b>												
Travel and Transport . . . . .	14 300.—	14 000.—	1 400.—	10 000.—	5 000.—	5 000.—	3 000.—	4 000.—	20 500.—	20 500.—	44 200.—	53 500.—
Hospitality . . . . .	3 000.—	5 000.—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3 000.—	5 000.—
Communications Services . . . . .	20 000.—	20 000.—	5 000.—	5 000.—	5 400.—	6 000.—	600.—	900.—	6 000.—	6 000.—	37 000.—	37 900.—
Information Services . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Information Supplies and material . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rental and maintenance of Premises . . . . .	54 000.—	54 000.—	23 000.—	23 000.—	8 020.—	8 020.—	10 300.—	1 700.—	13 300.—	22 800.—	108 620.—	109 520.—
Stationery and office Supplies . . . . .	16 000.—	16 000.—	3 000.—	4 500.—	19 000.—	19 000.—	1 500.—	3 000.—	4 000.—	5 000.—	43 500.—	47 500.—
Supplies for internal reproduction . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Contractual printing . . . . .	(1 155 600.—) <sup>1)</sup>	(1 309 900.—) <sup>1)2)</sup>	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rental and maintenance of furniture, fixtures and equipment . . . . .	—	—	—	—	7 000.—	7 000.—	—	—	—	—	7 000.—	7 000.—
Freight, cartage, and express . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Supplies and Services . . . . .	11 200.—	7 500.—	1 350.—	2 900.—	3 929.—	3 778.—	3 700.—	2 300.—	6 350.—	5 650.—	26 529.—	22 128.—
Total for Group III . . . . .	118 500.—	116 500.—	33 750.—	45 400.—	48 349.—	48 798.—	19 100.—	11 900.—	50 150.—	59 950.—	269 819.—	282 518.—
<b>GROUP IV — SPECIAL PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES</b>												
Missions . . . . .	— <sup>3)</sup>	— <sup>3)</sup>	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total for Group IV . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>GROUP IV A — INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE . . . . .</b>												
<b>GROUP V — EQUIPMENT PURCHASE</b>												
Furniture, fixtures and office equipment . . . . .	10 500.— <sup>4)</sup>	10 500.— <sup>4)</sup>	9 500.— <sup>4)</sup>	9 500.— <sup>4)</sup>	4 800.— <sup>4)</sup>	24 300.— <sup>4)5)</sup>	6 500.— <sup>4)</sup>	6 500.— <sup>4)</sup>	38 500.— <sup>4)6)</sup>	25 500.— <sup>4)7)</sup>	69 800.—	76 300.—
Library books, periodicals and maps . . . . .	3 000.—	3 000.—	4 000.—	4 000.—	200.—	200.—	500.—	500.—	4 000.—	5 000.—	11 700.—	12 700.—
Other equipment . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total for Group V . . . . .	13 500.—	13 500.—	13 500.—	13 500.—	5 000.—	24 500.—	7 000.—	7 000.—	42 500.—	30 500.—	81 500.—	89 000.—
<b>GROUP VI — PROPERTY ACCOUNT</b>												
Alterations and improvements to leased premises . . . . .	6 000.—	6 000.—	1 000.—	1 000.—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7 000.—	7 000.—
Land and buildings . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Amortization of property loans . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total for Group VI . . . . .	6 000.—	6 000.—	1 000.—	1 000.—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7 000.—	7 000.—
<b>GROUP VII — OTHER BUDGETARY PROVISIONS</b>												
Unpaid Liability Fund . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Provisions for new projects, contingencies and unforeseen expenses . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reserve Fund . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Working Capital Fund . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other (interest) . . . . .	180 000.—	250 000.—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	180 000.—	250 000.—
Total for Group VII . . . . .	180 000.—	250 000.—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	180 000.—	250 000.—
Total Groups II to VII . . . . .	2 413 000.— <sup>8)</sup>	2 067 000.— <sup>8)</sup>	986 000.—	1 122 000.—	379 300.—	396 000.—	79 200.—	96 500.—	427 700.—	488 500.—	3 985 200.—	4 170 000.—
Group I . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	174 000.—	200 000.—
Balance carried forward . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	438 800.—	398 600.—
Grand total . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 598 000.—	4 768 600.—
<b>GROUP VIII — CASUAL REVENUE</b>												
Estimated returns for services rendered to other agencies . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Balance carried forward . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	337 139.—	438 800.—
Sale of publications . . . . .	(855 850.—) <sup>1)</sup>	(1 285 035.—) <sup>1)</sup>	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other . . . . .	256 551.—	405 500.—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	256 551.—	405 500.—
Total for Group VIII . . . . .	256 551.—	405 500.—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	593 690.—	844 300.—
NET TOTAL Contributory shares . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 004 310.— <sup>*)</sup>	3 924 300.—
<b>OPERATIONAL BUDGET . . . . .</b>												

1) There is a special budget for printed matter. The figures in brackets are not included in the totals, because they are not considered when the budget is being drawn up and the relevant contributory share calculated.

2) Including 144 000 Swiss francs for emoluments of staff occupied in publishing documents issued by the Union's organs.

3) Official mission expenses are included in "Travel and Transport Expenses" and "Hospitality".

4) Including installation expenses for the Central Library and Darkroom.

5) Of which 20 000 Swiss francs are allotted exclusively for laboratory fittings.

6) Of which 32 000 Swiss francs are allotted for the purchase of technical equipment.

7) Of which 20 000 Swiss francs are allotted for the purchase of technical equipment.

8) Including interest on overdue payments.

\*) The excess over the credit of 4 000 000 Swiss francs comes from accessions recorded after contributory shares had been calculated.

## VII. CONCLUSION

The International Telecommunication Union, then, as befits the senior of the international organizations now extant, has just lived through another busy year. Its rejuvenescence since 1948, after the last Plenipotentiary Conference, has inevitably led to attempts at adaptation to modern ideas of international relations, and there is no call for surprise if in certain matters, as, for example, the exceedingly thorny problem of effecting a general redistribution of frequencies, progress has been slow.

In fact, eighty years of experience make for caution, and what may appear as fumbling is in reality merely an attempt to find solid ground on which to take the next step forward.

In this report, I have endeavoured to bring out the salient features of the Union's situation and activities during 1950, and it may well be that the uninitiated will have gained an exaggerated idea of the difficulties with which the Union is having to cope.

Hence I shall conclude by stressing that, although the Union may yet have to solve certain problems pertaining to its statutes or finances, it nevertheless remains thoroughly capable of performing its traditional tasks in the normal manner, and that its activities in the realm of pure telecommunication are steadily growing in extent and efficacy.

Geneva, 19 March 1951.

**L. MULATIER.**

Secretary General.

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