

**BELGIQUE  
ET GRANDE-BRETAGNE**

Arrangement télégraphique entre le Congo belge et la Rhodésie du Nord, avec règlement de service y annexé, signés à Livingstone, les 22 octobre 1924 et 26 février 1925, et échange de notes entre les Gouvernements belge et britannique confirmant cet arrangement, Londres, les 22 et 24 décembre 1927.

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**BELGIUM  
AND GREAT BRITAIN**

Telegraph Agreement between the Belgian Congo and Northern Rhodesia, with Service Regulations annexed thereto, signed at Livingstone, October 22, 1924, and February 26, 1925, and Exchange of Notes between the Belgian and British Governments confirming this Agreement, London, December 22 and 24, 1927.

No. 1656. — TELEGRAPH AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE BELGIAN CONGO AND NORTHERN RHODESIA. SIGNED AT LIVINGSTONE, OCTOBER 22, 1924, AND FEBRUARY 26, 1925.

*Textes officiels anglais et français communiqués par le Ministère des Affaires étrangères de Sa Majesté britannique. L'enregistrement de cet arrangement a eu lieu le 2 mars 1928.*

THE BELGIAN CONGO GOVERNMENT, represented by E. J. JAMAR, Director of Posts and Telegraphs, and the GOVERNMENT OF NORTHERN RHODESIA, represented by B. D. WATERS, Acting Postmaster-General, being desirous of promoting greater facilities for the transaction of telegraph business between their respective countries, have agreed to the following articles :

*Article I.*

It is agreed that for all matters not specially mentioned in the present Agreement and Service Regulations attached hereto, the International Telegraph Convention of St. Petersburg and the International Service Regulations (Lisbon Revision 1908)<sup>2</sup>, or subsequent modifications thereof, will be considered as applicable to the telegraph relations between the Belgian Congo and Northern Rhodesia.

*Article II.*

Telegrams without text are not admitted by the Administrations of South Africa or Northern Rhodesia. Such telegrams may circulate in transit, excepting in the case of suspension defined in article 8 of the St. Petersburg Convention, Lisbon revision.

*Article III.*

The rates for telegrams exchanged between offices in the Belgian Congo and offices in Northern Rhodesia, excluding the African Transcontinental Telegraph Company, shall be 30 centimes (3 pence) per word for messages in plain language, 45 centimes (4 ½ *d.*) per word for messages in code or cipher, each with a minimum charge for twelve words.

For press telegrams the charges will be 30 centimes (3 pence) for four words with a minimum charge for 48 words.

These rates may be amended from time to time by mutual consent. Each country shall retain for its own use the whole of the charges which it may collect.

Telegrams on the service of the respective Governments shall be transmitted free of charge in both directions.

<sup>1</sup> Effectif à partir du 1<sup>er</sup> janvier 1925.

<sup>2</sup> DE MARTENS, *Nouveau Recueil général de Traités*, troisième série, tome V, page 208.

N<sup>o</sup> 1656. — ARRANGEMENT<sup>1</sup> TÉLÉGRAPHIQUE ENTRE LE CONGO BELGE ET LA RHODÉSIE DU NORD. SIGNÉ A LIVINGSTONE, LES 22 OCTOBRE 1924, ET 26 FÉVRIER 1925.

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*English and French official texts communicated by His Britannic Majesty's Foreign Office. The registration of this Agreement took place March 2, 1928.*

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LE GOUVERNEMENT DU CONGO BELGE, représenté par JAMAR, E. J., directeur des Postes et Télégraphes, et LE GOUVERNEMENT DE LA RHODÉSIE DU NORD, représenté par B. D. WATERS, Acting Postmaster-General, désireux de faciliter les relations télégraphiques entre leurs colonies respectives ont convenu des articles suivants :

*Article premier.*

Il est admis que, pour tout ce qui n'est pas spécialement prévu par le présent arrangement et le règlement de service y annexé, la Convention internationale de Saint-Pétersbourg et le Règlement de Service international (Revision de Lisbonne)<sup>2</sup>, ou tous autres arrangements qui viendraient à les remplacer, seront applicables dans les relations télégraphiques entre le Congo belge et la Rhodésie du Nord.

*Article II.*

Les télégrammes sans texte ne sont pas admis par les Administrations de l'Afrique du Sud ou de la Rhodésie du Nord. Cependant, ces télégrammes peuvent circuler en transit, excepté le cas de suspension déterminé à l'article 8 de la Convention de Saint-Pétersbourg, Revision de Lisbonne.

*Article III.*

La taxe des télégrammes échangés entre les bureaux du Congo belge et les bureaux de la Rhodésie du Nord, à l'exclusion de ceux de l'African Transcontinental Telegraph Company, sera de 30 centimes (3 pence) par mot pour les télégrammes en langage clair, 45 centimes (4 ½ pence) par mot pour les télégrammes en langage convenu ou chiffré, chaque fois avec une taxe minimum pour douze mots.

La taxe des télégrammes de presse sera de 30 centimes (3 pence) par série de quatre mots, avec une taxe minimum pour quarante-huit mots.

Ces taxes pourront être modifiées de temps à autre par consentement mutuel. Chaque pays conservera pour son propre compte la totalité des taxes qu'il aura perçues.

Les télégrammes concernant le service des gouvernements respectifs seront transmis sans frais dans les deux directions.

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<sup>1</sup> Effective as from January 1, 1925.

<sup>2</sup> *British and Foreign State Papers*, Vol. 102, page 214.

*Article IV.*

1. The transit rate for inland telegrams passing over the lines of Northern Rhodesia, excluding the African Transcontinental Telegraph Company, originating in or proceeding to the Belgian Congo, shall not exceed *1d.* (11 centimes) per word for messages in plain language, *1 ½ d.* (16 centimes) per word for code and cipher messages and *1d.* for each series of four words for press messages, with minimum of *1 s.* (1.27 fr.), *1 s 6 d.* (1.90 fr.) and *1 s.* (1.27 fr.), respectively.

2. The transit rates for overseas telegrams shall be *2 d.* (21 centimes) per word for messages in plain language, code or cipher, *1 d.* (11 centimes) per word for telegrams classified as accepted under the deferred cablegrams conditions and *½ d.* (0.05 fr.) per word for press messages, with, in all cases, such additional transit and terminal rates as may be payable in countries beyond Northern Rhodesia over whose lines the telegrams may be transmitted.

3. The transit rates payable to Northern Rhodesia may be amended from time to time by mutual consent.

*Article V.*

The terminal charges of the Belgian Congo for telegrams destined for or originating in the Belgian Congo, sent in transit through Northern Rhodesia, shall be as follows :

(1) For inland messages in plain language 30 centimes per word with a minimum of 3.85 fr. (3 s.), code and cipher messages 45 centimes per word with a minimum of 5.75 fr. (4 s. 6 d.) and press messages 30 centimes for each series of four words with a minimum of 3.85 fr. (3 s.) for 48 words.

2) For overseas messages 50 centimes (5 d.) per word, whether in plain language, code or cipher, 25 centimes (2 ½ d.) for deferred cablegrams and 12.5 centimes (1 ¼ d.) per word for press messages.

*Article VI.*

The Administration of Northern Rhodesia is only liable for the refund of charges for telegrams in accordance with article LXXIV of the International Telegraph Regulations. It does not accept responsibility for losses incurred through incorrect transmission, delay, or non-delivery of telegrams, and it does not undertake to refund the charges in cases of incorrect transmission, delay, or non-delivery.

The Administration of the Belgian Congo, except in the case of restrictions notified by the International Bureau at Berne, agrees to the refund of charges according to the provisions of the International Telegraph Convention and the Service Regulations annexed thereto.

*Article VII.*

Regulations for the carrying out of this Agreement shall be arranged mutually between the Telegraph Administrations of the two contracting Colonies. For this purpose the attached detailed regulations have been drawn up. Such regulations may be modified from time to time by mutual consent of the Telegraph Administrations.

*Article VIII.*

This Agreement annuls all previous Agreements and shall take effect from the 1st day of January 1925, and shall remain in force for an indefinite period, but either contracting party shall have the right to withdraw therefrom on giving twelve months' notice in writing to the other party.

Signed at Livingstone, this 22nd day of October, 1924.

*For the Belgian Congo :*

JAMAR,

*Directeur des Postes et Télégraphes.*

Signed at Livingstone, this 26th day of February, 1925.

*For Northern Rhodesia :*

B. D. WATERS.

*Acting Postmaster-General.*

**SERVICE REGULATIONS**

ANNEXED TO THE TELEGRAPH AGREEMENT DATED OCTOBER 22, 1924, BETWEEN THE  
BELGIAN CONGO AND NORTHERN RHODESIA.

The undersigned, in terms of article VII of the Telegraph Agreement of the 22nd October, 1924, have, in the name of their respective Administrations, by mutual agreement, adopted the following measures for the carrying out of the said Agreement :

**I.**

The offices for the direct transmission and receipt of telegrams exchanged between the two Colonies are :

In the Belgian Congo :

Elisabethville.

In Northern Rhodesia :

Livingstone and Broken Hill.

**II.**

The normal hours of attendance at the offices mentioned in article I shall be :

Mondays to Fridays : 8 A. M. to noon ; 2 to 4.30 P. M.

Saturdays : 8 A. M. to noon ; 4 to 5 P. M.

Sundays and Public Holidays : 9 to 10 A. M.

All traffic on hand must be disposed of before offices are finally closed for the day.

## III.

It is agreed that the contracting Administrations are not obliged to provide special wires for the International Telegraph Service.

## IV.

Except in the case of cablegrams, a word in plain language may contain an unlimited number of letters.

In the Belgian Congo, however, each word is counted at fifteen letters to the word according to the Morse alphabet plus one word for the excess, but only the number of actual words will be signalled and included in the monthly accounts between the two Colonies.

## V.

In regard to the order and rules of transmission, the Administration of the Belgian Congo conforms to the rules in force in the Administrations of Northern Rhodesia and the Union of South Africa.

All necessary information regarding this Regulation will be furnished to the Administration of the Belgian Congo.

## VI.

Urgent private telegrams are not admitted in the relations between the Belgian Congo and the Administrations of Rhodesia and the Union of South Africa ; urgent private telegrams are, however, accepted in transit under the conditions set forth in the Service Regulations annexed to the International Telegraph Convention.

## VII.

A reply to the telegrams mentioned in article III, article IV, paragraph 1, and article V, paragraph 1, of the agreement may be prepaid ; the minimum charge for such reply shall be the minimum charges fixed by the aforesaid articles. Such telegrams must bear the indication " Reply Paid ", or, if the prepaid reply is to consist of more than twelve words, " Reply Paid ..... words. " The indicator " Reply Paid " shall be transmitted free of charge.

Prepaid replies to cablegrams are admitted according to the provisions of the International Service Regulations.

## VIII.

Telegrams for which an acknowledgment of receipt is required are only admitted in the relations with overseas countries. They are subject to the provisions of the International Service Regulations.

## IX.

1. The accounts for telegrams originating in the Belgian Congo addressed to places beyond Northern Rhodesia, including the African Transcontinental Telegraph Company in Northern Rhodesia, and the accounts for telegrams from such places addressed to offices in the Belgian Congo, shall be exchanged monthly between the Administrations of Posts and Telegraphs of

the Belgian Congo and Northern Rhodesia, that is, Livingstone will send to Elisabethville its account of money owing by the Belgian Congo, and Elisabethville will send to Livingstone its account of money owing by Northern Rhodesia for verification.

2. If, on examination, either Administration detects in the account minor discrepancies, it will, notwithstanding this, accept the said account, the adjustments being made, where necessary, by means of adjusting entries in the first succeeding account.

3. The debtor Administration shall pay to the creditor Administration at the end of each month the balance due by means of drafts on a bank in Livingstone for those sums due by the Belgian Congo and on a bank in Elisabethville for those due by Rhodesia. The cost of payment will be borne by the debtor Administration.

#### X.

The above provisions will come into force from a date commencing on the day upon which the Agreement of the 22nd October, 1924, takes effect, and will have the same duration as the said Agreement.

Ordered at Livingstone, the 22nd October 1924.

*For the Belgian Congo :*

JAMAR,

*Directeur des Postes et Télégraphes.*

*For Northern Rhodesia :*

B. D. WATERS,

*Acting Postmaster-General.*

*February 26, 1925.*

### EXCHANGE OF NOTES.

#### I.

FOREIGN OFFICE

S. W. I.

*December 22, 1927.*

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

With reference to your note of the 22nd November last (3540), I have the honour to inform you that I am now authorised to confirm on behalf of His Majesty's Government in Great Britain the Agreement for the Exchange of Postal Parcels and the Telegraph Agreement, signed at Livingstone on May 11, 1926, and the October 22, 1924-February 26, 1925, respectively, between the Post Office of the Belgian Congo and the Post Office of Northern Rhodesia, of which printed copies are attached hereto.

2. In order to remedy certain minor discrepancies in the original signed texts of the two agreements, it is understood that in Article 10 of the French text of the Parcel Post Agreement the words "le commun accord" should read "d'un commun accord", and in Article 5 (2) of the

du Nord, c'est-à-dire que Livingstone adresse à Elisabethville le compte des sommes dues par le Congo belge, et que Elisabethville envoie à Livingstone le compte des sommes dues par la Rhodésie du Nord.

2. Si la vérification, par chaque administration, fait constater des erreurs peu importantes, lesdits comptes sont néanmoins acceptés et les rectifications sont faites, le cas échéant, au moyen d'un « état des différences » qui est repris dans le plus prochain compte.

3. L'Administration débitrice paie, à la fin de chaque mois, à l'administration créditrice, le solde de ces comptes au moyen d'une traite sur une banque à Livingstone ou à Elisabethville, selon le cas. Les frais de transfert sont à charge de l'administration débitrice.

## X.

Les dispositions ci-dessus entreront en vigueur à la date fixée pour la mise en vigueur de l'Arrangement du 22 octobre 1924, et auront la même durée que ledit arrangement.

Fait à Livingstone, le 22 octobre 1924.

*Pour le Congo belge :*

JAMAR,

*Directeur des Postes et Télégraphes.*

*Pour la Rhodésie du Nord :*

B. D. WATERS,

*Acting Postmaster-General.*

*Le 26 février 1925.*

## <sup>1</sup> TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

### ÉCHANGE DE NOTES

#### I.

FOREIGN OFFICE.

S. W. I.

MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE,

*Le 22 décembre 1927.*

Me référant à votre note du 22 novembre dernier (3540), j'ai l'honneur de vous informer que je suis maintenant autorisé à ratifier, au nom du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté en Grande-Bretagne, la Convention concernant l'échange des colis postaux et la Convention sur les Télégraphes, signées à Livingstone le 11 mai 1926, et les 22 octobre 1924-26 février 1925 respectivement, entre l'Administration des Postes du Congo belge et l'Administration des Postes de la Rhodésie septentrionale. (Des exemplaires imprimés desdites conventions sont annexés à la présente.)

2. En vue d'éliminer certaines divergences de minime importance entre les textes originaux signés des deux conventions, il est entendu que, dans l'article 10 du texte français de la Convention sur les colis postaux, les mots « le commun accord » doivent être remplacés par « d'un commun

<sup>1</sup> Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations.

<sup>1</sup> Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations.



English text of the Telegraph Agreement the words “ (1 ½) per word for press messages ” should read “ (1 ¼ d) per word for press messages ”.

3. If this proposal is agreeable to the Belgian Government, the present note and Your Excellency's reply in a similar sense will be regarded as constituting the understanding between our respective Governments in the matter.

I have the honour to be, with the highest consideration, Your Excellency's obedient Servant,

(Signed) Austen CHAMBERLAIN.

His Excellency  
Baron de Cartier de Marchienne,  
etc., etc., etc.

## II.

AMBASSADE DE BELGIQUE.

LONDRES, le 24 décembre 1927.

MONSIEUR LE SECRÉTAIRE D'ÉTAT,

J'ai reçu la lettre que Votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'adresser sous la date du 22 décembre 1927, N° T. 15040/545/382, par laquelle elle veut bien m'informer qu'elle est autorisée à ratifier, au nom du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté en Grande-Bretagne, la Convention concernant l'échange des colis postaux et la Convention sur les Télégraphes, signée à Livingstone le 11 mai 1926 et les 22 octobre 1924-26 février 1925 respectivement, entre l'Administration des Postes du Congo Belge et l'Administration des Postes de la Rhodésie septentrionale, dont des exemplaires imprimés sont annexés à la présente.

2. Votre Excellence ajoutait qu'afin d'éliminer certaines divergences de minime importance dans les textes originaux signés des deux conventions, il serait entendu que, dans l'article 10 du texte français de la Convention sur les colis postaux, les mots « le commun accord » devraient se lire « d'un commun accord », et dans l'article 5 (2) du texte anglais de la Convention sur les Télégraphes, les mots « (1 ½ d.) per word for press messages » devraient se lire « (1 ¼ d.) per word for press messages ».

3. J'ai l'honneur d'informer Votre Excellence que le Gouvernement du Roi accepte cette proposition et qu'il considère que la lettre de Votre Excellence et ma réponse constituent l'accord entre nos Gouvernements respectifs concernant cette question.

Je saisis cette occasion pour renouveler à Votre Excellence, les assurances de la plus haute considération avec laquelle j'ai l'honneur d'être, son très humble et obéissant serviteur.

(Signé) E. DE CARTIER.

Son Excellence  
The Right Honourable  
Sir Austen Chamberlain, K.G., M.P.,  
etc., etc.

accord », et dans l'article 5 (2) du texte anglais de la Convention sur les Télégraphes, les mots « 1 ½ d. per word for press messages » par « 1 ¼ d. per word for press messages ».

3. Si cette proposition a l'agrément du Gouvernement belge, la présente note et la réponse de Votre Excellence au même effet seront considérées comme constituant l'accord entre nos deux gouvernements sur cette question.

Je saisis cette occasion, etc.

(Signé) Austen CHAMBERLAIN.

Son Excellence  
le Baron de Cartier de Marchienne,  
etc., etc., etc.

## II.

BELGIAN EMBASSY.

LONDON, December 24, 1927.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I have received your Note of December 22, 1927, No. T. 15040/545/382, informing me that you are authorised to confirm on behalf of His Majesty's Government in Great Britain the Agreement for the Exchange of Postal Parcels and the Telegraph Agreement, signed at Livingstone on May 11, 1926, and October 22, 1924/February 26, 1925, respectively, between the Post Office of the Belgian Congo and the Post Office of Northern Rhodesia, of which printed copies are attached hereto.

2. Your Excellency added that, in order to remedy certain minor discrepancies in the original signed texts of the two Agreements, it would be understood that in Article 10 of the French text of the Parcel Post Agreement, the words " le commun accord " should read " d'un commun accord ", and in Article 5 (2) of the English text of the Telegraph Agreement, the words " (1 ½ d.) per word for press messages " should read " (1 ¼ d.) per word for press messages ".

3. I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that the Royal Belgian Government accepts this proposal and regards Your Excellency's letter and my reply as constituting the understanding between our respective Governments in the matter.

I have the honour to be, etc.,

(Signed) E. DE CARTIER.

His Excellency  
The Right Honourable  
Sir Austen Chamberlain, K.G., M.P.,  
etc, etc.