

TELECOMMUNICATION: INTER-AMERICAN RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS (CONVENTION)

*Convention, signed at Havana December 13, 1937, with annexes
Senate advice and consent to ratification June 15, 1938*

Ratified by the President of the United States June 30, 1938

Ratification of the United States deposited at Havana July 21, 1938

*Entry into force: Parts One, Three, and Four July 1, 1938 (for the
United States July 21, 1938); Part Two April 17, 1939*

Proclaimed by the President of the United States September 19, 1938

*Part Two terminated December 20, 1958, by multilateral declaration
of December 20, 1957¹*

53 Stat. 1576; Treaty Series 938

INTER-AMERICAN RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS CONVENTION

concluded at Havana, on December 13th, 1937 among the Governments
of the States named below:

Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Chile, Dominican Republic, United
States of America, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama,
Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

The governments named above, recognizing the benefits of cooperation
and mutual understanding resulting from the exchange of views with respect
to radiocommunications, have designated the undersigned plenipotentiaries
to the first Inter-American Radio Conference, held in the City of Havana,
Republic of Cuba, who by common consent and subject to ratification, have
concluded the following Convention, in conformity with the provisions of
the International Telecommunications Convention of Madrid, 1932.²

PART ONE

Conferences

ARTICLE 1. OBJECTIVE

The contracting governments agree to meet periodically in conferences
of plenipotentiaries for the purpose of resolving by common understanding

¹ 9 UST 1037; TIAS 4079.

² TS 867, *ante*, p. 65.

such problems as may arise in the field of radiocommunications in the American continent.

ARTICLE 2. COMPOSITION OF THE CONFERENCES

The conferences shall be composed, as provided in the Internal Regulations of the Inter-American Radio Conferences, (Annex 1 of this Convention), of the delegates of all the Governments of the American Continent which agree to attend.

Representatives of institutions and organizations associated with radiocommunications, of enterprises or groups of enterprises and bodies or persons engaged in the operation of radio services may also attend, as observers, provided they are authorized by their respective Governments.

ARTICLE 3. VOTING

A) Only one vote shall be had in the Conferences by each State that meets the following qualifications:

- I a permanent population;
- II a defined territory;
- III government;
- IV capacity to enter into relations with the other States.

B) Countries or territories not possessing these qualifications may have voice but no vote in the conferences; but agreements resulting from the conferences shall be open for their adherence through the medium of their respective home governments.

ARTICLE 4. PLACE AND DATE OF CONFERENCES

The conferences shall be held at intervals not greater than three years. The country and the date at which each conference is to meet shall be fixed by the preceding conference. However, the date scheduled for a meeting may be advanced or postponed by the organizing government at the request of five or more participating governments.

The government of the country in which the conference is scheduled to be held, hereafter referred to as the organizing government, shall fix the place and the final date of the meeting and shall send out the invitations for attendance through the customary diplomatic channels, at least six months in advance.

ARTICLE 5. INTERNAL REGULATIONS FOR CONFERENCES

This convention has annexed Internal Regulations for the Inter-American Radio Conference (Annex 1) which establish the procedure to be followed at the meetings and which may be amended only by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the states participating at the Conference in question.

PART TWO

Inter-American Radio Office, (O.I.R.)

ARTICLE 6. OBJECT

The contracting governments agree:

(A) To establish the Inter-American Radio Office, (OIR), as an Inter-American organization of a consultative character which shall centralize and facilitate, among the administrations of the American countries, the interchange and circulation of information relative to radiocommunications in all their aspects, and collaborate in the organization of the conferences mentioned in Part One of this convention; and

(B) 1.-To communicate at the proper time to the Inter-American Radio Office all provisions of internal and international radio legislation and the regulations in force in their territories, and such amendments as may be introduced in these provisions; as well as statistical, technical and administrative reports relative thereto; and

2.-Specifically, to transmit to the OIR every six months an official list of the frequencies assigned by them to all broadcasting stations and to notify monthly all changes and additions thereto.

Such notification shall be made in accordance with the procedure adopted in the current General Radio Regulations annexed to the International Telecommunication Convention and shall also include:

- a. Power actually in use.
- b. Maximum contemplated power.
- c. Hours of transmission.

The required notifications referred to shall be made in all cases, independently of the usual notification sent to the Bureau of the International Telecommunication Union.

ARTICLE 7. FUNCTIONS

The Inter-American Radio Office shall be charged with:

(A) the preparatory work of conferences and the work resulting from their decisions;

(B) providing in accord with the organizing government concerned, the Secretariat of the conferences;

(C) the issuance of such publications as may be established by conferences;

(D) the publication and circulation of technical information other than that resulting from conferences, including the exchange of data relating to the accuracy and stability of frequencies, to interference or other disturbances observed in the territories of the contracting countries, and such other studies as may be carried on, such as the propagation of waves, the general

characteristics of antennas, etc.; also the exchange of documents of a legal nature, treaties and general information designed for a better understanding and raising of the standards of radiocommunications in the American continent;

(E) the submission of an annual report of its work, which shall be communicated to all contracting governments;

(F) the performance of such other duties as may pertain to it or be assigned to it by the conferences.

ARTICLE 8. MAINTENANCE OF THE OFFICE

(A) The general expenses of the Inter-American Radio Office shall not exceed the sum of Twenty Five Thousands Dollars (\$25,000.00) currency of the United States of America, per annum.

(B) In order to defray these expenses each of the American governments agrees to contribute in proportion to a certain number of units corresponding to the category to which it belongs, as provided in the Internal Regulations of the OIR. For this purpose six categories are established with the units assigned to each as shown below:

Categories:	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Units:	25	20	15	10	5	3

(C) The general expenses will not include the expenses incidental to the work of conferences, which shall be borne by the organizing government.

(D) The funds required for the Office shall be payable half yearly in advance by the governments forming part of the Inter-American Radio Office. If any country is in arrears of payment the government of the country in which the Office is located shall advance amounts as required. The sums thus advanced must be reimbursed by the debtor governments as soon as possible and at the latest at the expiration of the fourth month following the date on which payments are due.

ARTICLE 9. SEAT AND SUPERVISION OF THE OFFICE

(A) The seat of the Inter-American Radio Office and appointment of Director will form a subject of the Agenda for each conference.

(B) The Government of the country where the Office has its seat shall exercise general supervision over its organization, budget and finances and make the necessary advances of funds.

(C) The accounts of the Inter-American Radio Office shall be submitted by the Government where the Office is located to the next succeeding conference for approval.

(D) The Office is placed initially under the auspices of the Government of Cuba. Its headquarters shall be in the city of Havana.

ARTICLE 10. INTERNAL REGULATIONS FOR O. I. R.

This Convention has annexed Internal Regulations of the Inter-American Radio Office (Annex 2), which provide the details for the internal administration of this organization and which may be amended only by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the States represented at a conference.

PART THREE

Special Provisions

ARTICLE 11. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

(A) The contracting Governments recognize the sovereign right of all nations to the use of every radio broadcasting channel.

(B) The American Governments, upon the sole condition that no interference will be caused to the services of another country, may assign any frequency and any type of wave to any radio station under their authority.

(C) Nevertheless, the Governments recognize that, until technical development reaches a state that permits the elimination of radio interference of international character, regional arrangements are essential in order to promote standardization and to minimize such interference.

(D) For the solution of those problems which, because of special propagation characteristics and interference conditions of radio transmission in the various geographical zones require special provisions, the contracting Governments agree to divide the American continent into three regions, designated as the northern zone, the central zone, and the southern zone (Annex 3).

ARTICLE 12. BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

The contracting governments whenever they shall deem it desirable within the scope of this convention shall negotiate bilateral agreements concerning the operation of radiotelegraph stations as between their respective nations in order to facilitate direct communication.

ARTICLE 13. FREQUENCY MEASURING STATIONS

The contracting governments agree to establish frequency measuring stations as soon as possible.

ARTICLE 14. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

The contracting governments which have not undertaken to communicate data relating to radiocommunications to an Inter-American centralizing office, shall interchange with all the other American governments the data referred to in Article 6, paragraph B (2), of this Convention.

ARTICLE 15. SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA AND IN THE AIR

The contracting Governments shall take appropriate measures to ensure the maintenance of an adequate radio service, operated or licensed by the Government for the safety of navigation by sea and air.

ARTICLE 16. OBLIGATION OF ALL COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT TO CARRY
RADIO EQUIPMENT

The contracting Governments agree that:

(A) All aircraft when operating on International scheduled services and carrying passengers shall compulsorily be provided with radio apparatus, both sending and receiving, which must be in efficient operating condition and in charge of properly licensed operators; and

(B) Aircraft used for the transportation of passengers on international scheduled services making journeys over the sea beyond seventy five kilometers from any coast, shall be able to transmit and receive on the frequency of 500 kc/s. for the purpose of establishing emergency communication with stations in the marine radio service.

ARTICLE 17. ESTABLISHMENT OF AERONAUTICAL RADIO STATIONS

The contracting Governments agree independently or in accord with neighbouring countries to take the steps necessary to establish a sufficient number of regional stations, operated or licensed by the Government, to furnish meteorological and safety information necessary for air traffic and aircraft guidance.

ARTICLE 18. EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Subject to the internal regulations of each country, any radio transmitting station, may, during a period of emergency in which normal communication facilities are disrupted as a result of hurricane, flood, earthquake or similar disaster, carry on emergency communication with points other than those normally authorized.

ARTICLE 19. CULTURAL BROADCASTING

The contracting governments shall take the necessary measures in order to facilitate and promote the retransmission and exchange of international cultural, educational and historical programs of the countries of the American continent by their respective broadcasting stations.

ARTICLE 20. PRESS TRANSMISSIONS TO MULTIPLE DESTINATIONS

The contracting Governments agree that:

(A) The respective governments shall encourage the rapid and economical transmission, dissemination and interchange of news and information among the nations of America;

(B) Informative publications and news agencies be granted the use and enjoyment of the advantages of press radiocommunications to multiple destinations, these being offered at minimum prices, for which the tariffs may be based on units of time devoted to the transmission, or other means similarly economical;

(C) The low rates and other advantages, deriving from the principles established in the foregoing paragraphs of this article be enjoyed by all regularly constituted news and information agencies, newspapers and other periodicals, broadcast stations, news reels, news by printer services, bulletin boards, and any other proper means which may be developed;

(D) Encouragement should be given to the use and development of devices and methods designed to prevent unauthorized interception of press radio multiple address transmissions.

ARTICLE 21. RETRANSMISSIONS

The contracting Governments shall take appropriate measures to ensure that no program transmitted by a broadcasting station may be retransmitted or rebroadcast, in whole or in part, by any other station without the previous authorization of the station of origin.

The rebroadcasting station shall announce at suitable periods during the retransmission the nature of the broadcast, the location and the official call letters or other identification of the station of origin.

ARTICLE 22. CLANDESTINE STATIONS

The contracting Governments agree to give mutual support in discovering and suppressing clandestine transmitting stations whenever this becomes necessary.

PART FOUR

General Provisions

ARTICLE 23. ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE CONVENTION AND RATIFICATION

A) The present Convention shall be ratified by the contracting States in conformity with their respective constitutional procedures.

B) Parts One, Three and Four of the present Convention shall come into force on the first day of July, 1938, if at that date two ratifications or final adherences have been deposited with the government of the country where the conference was held. If two ratifications or final adherences have not been deposited on that date those Parts of the Convention shall come into force thirty days after the second ratification or adherence has been deposited.

C) In order that Part Two of this Convention shall come into force, it will be necessary that the ratifications or final adherences deposited by the American governments shall represent, when added together, more than one-half

of the contributory units established for the maintenance of the Inter-American Radio Office (O. I. R.), in accordance with Article 8, paragraph B, of this Convention, as classified in the Internal Regulations of the O. I. R. (Annex 2, article 7).

D) The depository government shall notify, as soon as possible, the ratifications and adherences which are received to all the governments of the States of the American Continent.

ARTICLE 24. ADHERENCES

This Convention shall be open to adherence by all non-signatory American countries.

ARTICLE 25. DIVISIBILITY OF CONVENTION

The ratifications or adherences to the present Convention may refer to the totality thereof or to two or more of its parts; provided that, in every case Parts One and Four (Conferences and General Provisions) be ratified or adhered to.

ARTICLE 26. REPORTS OF RATIFICATIONS AND ADHERENCES

On June 1, 1938, and subsequently at intervals of six months, the depository government shall request those governments of the Americas which may not have ratified or adhered to this Convention, to report regarding such ratification or adherence. These reports shall be communicated to all the other governments of the American Continent.

ARTICLE 27. DENUNCIATION

A) This Convention may be denounced in its entirety, or Parts Two and Three separately, by notice addressed to the depository government. This notice shall become effective one year after date of receipt thereof, and shall be effective only for the Government denouncing.

B) The depository government shall notify all the governments of the States of the Americas of the denunciations received.

ARTICLE 28. LANGUAGES

The present Convention has been drafted in Spanish, English, Portuguese and French, all of which shall be authentic.

ARTICLE 29. SPECIAL AGREEMENTS

The contracting governments reserve for themselves the right to make special or regional agreements which do not concern the governments in general. These agreements, however, must be within the limits of this Convention and the Regulations annexed thereto so far as concerns the interference which may result from such agreements with the services of the other countries.

ARTICLE 30. CODIFICATION

At future conferences all provisions of this Convention remaining unchanged shall be included with the new provisions that may be adopted.

ARTICLE 31. ARBITRATION

A) In case of disagreement between two or more contracting governments concerning the execution of the present Convention, the dispute, if it is not settled through diplomatic channels, shall be submitted to arbitration at the request of one of the governments in disagreement.

B) Unless the parties in disagreement agree to adopt a procedure already established by bilateral or multilateral treaties concluded among them for the settlement of international disputes or the procedure provided for in Paragraph G of this article, arbitrators shall be appointed in the following manner:

C) (1) The parties shall decide, by mutual agreement, whether the arbitration is to be entrusted to individuals or to governments; failing an agreement on this matter, governments shall be resorted to.

(2) In case the arbitration is to be entrusted to individuals the arbitrators must not be of the same nationality as any one of the parties concerned in the dispute.

(3) In case the arbitration is to be entrusted to governments, the latter must be chosen from among the parties adhering to the agreement, the application of which caused the dispute.

D) The party appealing to arbitration shall be considered as the plaintiff. This party shall designate an arbitrator and notify the opposing party thereof. The defendant must then appoint a second arbitrator, within two months after the receipt of plaintiff's notification.

E) If more than two parties are involved, each group of plaintiffs or of defendants shall appoint an arbitrator, observing the same procedure as in Paragraph (D).

F) The two arbitrators thus appointed shall agree in designating an umpire who, if the arbitrators are individuals and not governments, must not be of the same nationality as either of them or either of the parties involved. Failing an agreement of the arbitrators as to the choice of the umpire, each arbitrator shall propose an umpire in no way concerned in the dispute.

Lots shall then be drawn between the umpires proposed. The representative of an American government, not interested in the dispute, selected by the two arbitrators, will draw the lots.

G) Finally, the parties in dispute shall have the right to have their disagreement settled by a single arbitrator. In this case, either they shall agree on the choice of the arbitrator, or the latter shall be designated in conformity with the method indicated in Paragraph (F).

H) The arbitrators shall be free to decide on the procedure to be followed.

I) Each party shall bear the expenses it shall have incurred in the investigation of the dispute. The cost of the arbitration shall be apportioned equally among the parties involved.

In witness whereof, the respective delegates have signed copies of this instrument, one each in Spanish, English, Portuguese and French, to be deposited in the archives of the Government of Cuba, which shall forward an authenticated copy thereof in each language to the other contracting Governments.

Done in the city of Havana, Republic of Cuba, on the 13th. day of December, 1937.

Reservations of Brazil

The Government of the United States of Brazil has authorized the Chief of its Delegation to the First Inter-American Radio Conference to sign "ad-referendum" the International Agreements just adopted by the Conference, under the reservation that the Government of Brazil will only ratify same, in case their provisions are not in conflict with the South American Agreement of Rio Janeiro and its Internal Regulations, nor with any other International Commitments already entered into by the Brazilian Government.

HAVANA, *December 13th, 1937.*

Brazil:

The Brazilian Delegate signs "Ad-Referendum" with the reservations as stated above.

JOSÉ ROBERTO DE MACEDO-SOARES

Canada:

LAURENT BEAUDRY
C. P. EDWARDS

Colombia:

JORGE SOTO DEL CORRAL
RICARDO GUTIÉRREZ LEE Y RIVERO

Cuba:

WIFREDO ALBANÉS Y PEÑA
ANDRÉS ASENSIO Y CARRASCO
NICOLÁS GONZÁLEZ DE MENDOZA Y
DE LA TORRE
ALFONSO HERNÁNDEZ CATÁ Y GALT

Chile:

EMILIO EDWARDS BELLO

Dominican Republic:

ROBERTO DESPRADEL
MÁXIMO LOVATÓN P.

United States of America:

T. A. M. CRAVEN

Guatemala:

ARTURO CÓBAR L.

Haiti:

JUSTIN BARAU

Mexico:

IGNACIO GALINDO
SALVADOR TAYABAS
FERNANDO SÁNCHEZ AYALA
RUBÉN FUENTES

Nicaragua:

GUILLERMO ARGUEDAS

Panama:

ERNESTO B. FÁBREGA

Peru:

CARLOS A. TUDELA

Uruguay:

CÉSAR GORRI

Venezuela:

ALBERTO SMITH

ANNEX 1

To the Inter-American Radiocommunications Convention Signed in Havana,
on December 13, 1937

INTERNAL REGULATIONS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCES

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Chapter I

DEFINITIONS

ARTICLE 1. AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS, DELEGATES, AND REPRESENTATIVES

When in the Inter-American Convention concerning Radiocommunications, of which these Regulations form a part, the words American Governments, Delegates, and Representatives are mentioned, they shall be understood to mean:

- A) *American Governments*: the Governments of the States of the American Continent;
- B) *Delegates*: the persons officially appointed by the participating Governments with sufficient powers to act on their behalf;
- C) *Representatives*: Members of public or private institutions or bodies, or private individuals, of recognized interest in radiocommunications, who are accredited by a Government to observe the proceedings of the conference; who shall have neither voice nor vote, and who may express their points of view only through the delegation of their respective country.

However, representatives shall have voice, in technical matters, in the committees when expressly authorized to do so by their delegation.

Chapter II

ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE

ARTICLE 2. OFFICERS OF THE CONFERENCE

- A) *Provisional President*: The organizing Government will appoint the Provisional President who will preside over the inaugural session and continue in office until the Conference has elected its Permanent President.

B) *Permanent President*: The Permanent President shall be elected by a majority vote of the Delegations present at the Conference.

C) *Vice-President*: Lots shall be drawn at the first session to establish the order of precedence of the Delegations; and the Chairmen of the Delegations shall be Vice-Presidents in this order and act as President in his absence.

D) *Secretary General*: The Secretary General of the Conference will be appointed by the organizing Government.

ARTICLE 3. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

A) *President*: The President shall direct the work of the Conference, announce the opening, suspension and adjournment of the meetings of the Conference, accord the right to speak in the order requested, declare the debates to be closed, put the questions to vote, announce the result of the voting, and ensure the observance of the Regulations.

B) *Vice-President*: In the absence of the President the Vice-Presidents in the order of precedence established in article 2, paragraph C, will assume and exercise his duties.

C) *Secretary General*: The Secretary General is responsible for:

1. The organization, direction and coordination of the work of the staff appointed to the Secretariat;

2. Receiving and disposing of the official correspondence of the Conference;

3. Acting as intermediary between the delegations and the organizing Government in all matters relating to the conference;

4. Preparation and circulation of minutes of the meetings and information and documents of the conference and, in accordance with instructions of the President, orders of the day.

D) *Secretariat*: The organizing Government shall form the Secretariat staff of the Conference under the direction of the Secretary General.

ARTICLE 4. COMMITTEES

For the more effective functioning of the Conference, comprehensive study of the subjects forming the agenda and expedition of its work, committees shall be formed, the results of whose labors shall be submitted to the plenary sessions for approval. While the committees to be established may vary to conform to the agenda of the conferences, the following shall represent, in principle, the type of committees to be established:

- (A) Committee on Initiatives;
- (B) Credentials Committee;
- (C) Technical Committee;
- (D) Judicial and Administrative Committee;
- (E) Drafting Committee.

ARTICLE 5. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

A) The Committee on Initiatives shall be composed of the Chairmen of the Delegations or their alternates, and shall be presided over by the President of the Conference.

B) At the first plenary session the Conference, on the proposal of the President, shall appoint a Committee on Credentials of five members.

C) The remaining committees shall be composed of delegates in accordance with assignments made by the chairmen of the respective delegations and submitted to the permanent president. Representatives may attend and participate in the meetings of the committees in accordance with assignments made by their respective delegation chairmen and in conformity with article 1-(C).

D) The committees may invite to participate in their work individuals or juridical persons whose advice or statements may be considered to be of value.

ARTICLE 6. ORGANIZATION OF COMMITTEES

A) Each committee shall, at its organization meeting, be presided over by the permanent president of the conference and at that meeting shall choose from among its members a chairman and a vice-chairman.

B) The chairman of each committee may appoint one or more reporters.

C) Each committee may appoint such special subcommittees as it may deem desirable.

ARTICLE 7. DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

A) *The Committee on Initiatives* shall coordinate the business of the conference, rule upon questions of policy as related to the conference, resolve matters referred to it by other committees or the secretariat, decide by two thirds majority of the votes cast on new matters presented by the delegations, which should be considered by the conference, and advise the permanent president particularly with respect to matters not comprehended by these internal regulations.

B) *The Credentials Committee* shall examine the credentials submitted by members of delegations, ascertain that they are in good and proper form and report without delay to the conference.

C) *The Technical Committee* shall have charge of the study of all technical phases of radiocommunication and all matters involving engineering practices included in conference agenda.

D) *The Juridical and Administrative Committee* shall have charge of the study of all legal phases of the agenda subjects as well as of all matters of an essentially administrative character. In its legal character it shall pass upon the final terminology to be used in all agreements or resolutions pertaining, not only to matters within its immediate jurisdiction, but to all material emanating from other committees of the conference.

E) *The Drafting Committee* shall be entrusted with the final drafting of conference agreements and resolutions, without altering their sense, for the purpose of ensuring against duplication or repetition in which event the material shall be referred to the committee of origin for correction.

F) The reporters of the committees shall:

(a) Open the discussion of the questions under consideration and submit reports containing the facts and an analysis of the various aspects of the questions; those reports shall serve as the basis for discussion,

(b) At the end of the discussions make summaries of the debates in a report, and draft, in accordance with the opinion of the majority of each committee, the projects which, upon approval by the committee, will be submitted to the conference,

(c) The minority in any committee shall have the right to appoint a reporter who shall submit to the conference the opinions of the minority and the projects drafted by the latter.

Chapter III

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

ARTICLE 8. SPANISH, ENGLISH, PORTUGUESE, FRENCH

The official languages of the conferences shall be Spanish, English, Portuguese and French. The organizing Government shall take appropriate measures to insure fulfillment of this provision.

Chapter IV

QUORUM AND VOTING

ARTICLE 9. QUORUM

A majority of the delegations of the Conference must be in attendance, represented by one or more of their Delegates, in order to have a quorum at the plenary sessions of the conference.

A majority of the Delegations must be in attendance, represented by some of their delegates in order to have a quorum at committee meetings.

ARTICLE 10. VOTING

A) Voting shall be on the basis of only one vote for each State having the following qualifications:

- I a permanent population;
- II a defined territory;
- III government;
- IV capacity to enter into relations with other States.

Countries or territories not possessing these qualifications may have voice but not vote in the conferences, but agreements resulting from the conferences

shall be opened for their adherence through the medium of their respective home governments.

B) The vote of each delegation shall, in plenary sessions and committee meetings, be cast by the delegation chairman or other member acting in his behalf.

C) The vote may be taken by delegates rising in their seats, or in any other agreed manner. But at the request of any delegation, or by decision of the chairman, the vote must take place by "calling the roll" in the alphabetical order of the names of their respective states as expressed in the Spanish language.

D) Propositions and amendments will be adopted only when they obtain a majority of the votes cast. In case of a tie vote, they will be considered rejected.

Chapter V

PROCEDURE

ARTICLE 11. PLENARY SESSIONS

A) The inaugural session of the conference shall be held at the time and place designated by the organizing government, and the further sessions on such days as the Conference may determine.

B) Upon the convening of a plenary session, the minutes of the preceding meeting, except in the case of the inaugural plenary session, will be read and submitted for approval, unless by unanimous consent the assembly of the delegations agrees to omit this reading.

C) The minutes of the Plenary Sessions will be drafted by the staff of the General Secretariat, only the opinions and propositions with their fundamentals, in a brief form, will appear in the minutes, together with a brief statement of the debates.

Any Delegate may, however, request the insertion "in extenso" in the minutes of any declaration he has expressed; but in this case, he shall furnish the Secretariat with the corresponding text immediately after the closing of the Plenary Session.

D) The delegates may submit to the conference their opinions in writing on matters under discussion, and request that they be added to the minutes of the session or meeting at which they are submitted.

E) The Plenary sessions of the conference shall be of a public character. On motion of any delegate the sessions may be declared private by a majority vote. Such motion shall have precedence and is not debatable.

F) By a vote of two thirds of the delegations present the conference may dispense with the usual procedure and proceed to consider a question except in the case of new matter, when the rules of procedure promulgated in article 13 shall, under all circumstances, be observed.

G) Amendments shall be submitted for discussion and be voted upon before the motion which they purport to amend.

H) The minutes of plenary sessions shall be signed by the President and Secretary General.

I) At the closing plenary session the agreements and resolutions adopted by the different committees of the Conference shall be signed and the country and date of the next conference shall be designated.

ARTICLE 12. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

A) The procedure for Plenary Sessions shall also be followed in the committee meetings as far as practicable.

B) Minutes of the committee meetings shall be signed by the Chairman and Secretary.

Chapter VI

NEW MATTER

ARTICLE 13. RULES OF PROCEDURE

If any delegation should propose a topic not included in the agenda, for the consideration of the conference, the new matter should be referred to the Committee on Initiatives and after a report is submitted and accepted by a vote of two thirds of the delegations at the Conference, it shall be referred to the appropriate committee.

ANNEX 2

Inter-American Radiocommunications Convention Signed at Havana on
December 13, 1937

INTERNAL REGULATIONS FOR THE INTER-AMERICAN RADIO OFFICE (O. I. R.)

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ARTICLE 1. ADMINISTRATION

The Inter-American Radio Office shall be in charge of a Director who shall be appointed by the Inter-American Radio Conference on the recommendation of a special committee thereof.

ARTICLE 2. FIRST DIRECTOR

The first Director shall be appointed by the Government of Cuba.

ARTICLE 3. APPOINTMENT OF STAFF

The Director shall appoint such competent assistants and staff, including interpreters and translators, as may be required for the work of the office.

ARTICLE 4. BUDGET

The Director shall submit annually to the government of the country where the office is established a draft budget of revenues and expenditures for the ensuing year. When the budget has been approved by the aforesaid government it shall be communicated to the other participating governments with a statement of the amount that each is to pay, pursuant to the quota established in Article 7.

ARTICLE 5. SALARIES OF THE STAFF

The salaries of the personnel of the office shall not exceed two thirds of the annual budget.

ARTICLE 6. ACCOUNTS

The Director shall be charged with the collection and disbursement of the funds of the office. He shall submit to the government where the office is established a monthly report of receipts and expenditures and a semi-annual report on the general accounts of the administration. After examining the latter the said government shall submit them to the ensuing Conference for consideration.

ARTICLE 7. CONTRIBUTIONS TO O. I. R.

In accordance with Article 8(B) of the Convention the contribution of the States of the American continent will be assigned under the following categories:

Category	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Units	25	20	15	10	5	3
States	Argentine Canada United States of America		Brazil Mexico	Cuba	Colombia Chile Perú Venezuela	Bolivia Costa Rica Dominican Rep. Ecuador Guatemala Haití Honduras Nicaragua Panama Paraguay Salvador Uruguay

ANNEX 3

To the Inter-American Radiocommunications Convention Signed in Havana
on December 13, 1937

DEFINITION OF ZONES

For the purpose of Article 11, paragraph D, of the Inter-American Radiocommunications Convention, it shall be understood that:

Northern Zone, is that which comprises the countries located to the North of Guatemala and North of the Southern coast of the Dominican Republic and Haiti;

Central Zone, is that which comprises the countries or portions of countries located South of Mexico and the Southern coast of the Dominican Republic and Haiti and extending to parallel 5° of South latitude;

Southern Zone, is that which comprises the countries or portions of countries to the South of parallel 5° of the South latitude.