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I N D U S W A T E R S

Washington Working Party: 11th Meeting, September 7, 1960.

Present: Mr. Iliff and representatives of Australia, Canada, Germany, New Zealand, United Kingdom and United States.

A. PUBLICITY.

Mr. Iliff said that while it had been a pleasant task to call a meeting on publicity arrangements for the signature ceremony, these arrangements nevertheless needed careful handling in case there should be any last minute hitches before the documents were signed. He would in particular like to emphasise that both India and Pakistan were anxious that there should be no formal announcement of the contents of the Treaty, before it was actually signed, whether by the Bank or by any of the contributing Governments.

2. Mr. Iliff said that the Bank had prepared a press release which they would issue through their own machinery after signature of the Treaty. This was at present tentatively timed for 6.30 p.m. (local time) at Karachi on September 19. Immediately after signature, the Bank party in Karachi would send telegrams to their offices in Washington (who would inform the Canadian and United States Governments), in Paris (who would inform the German and United Kingdom Governments) and in Delhi (who would inform the Indian Government) as well as direct to Canberra and Wellington. On receipt of these telegrams the Bank machinery for distribution of press releases, where it existed, would be set in motion; elsewhere, the local Government Information machinery would be used. In view of the considerations in paragraph 1 above the Bank did not propose to distribute their releases before hand under embargo.

3. The draft of the Bank press release had already been circulated (copies with Mr. Stanley's letter to Mr. Norris of September 7) classified "Secret" for the reasons in paragraph 1 above. The reference, on page 11 of the draft, to the Bank's administration of the Fund would have to be expanded to clarify the relationship between the Bank and the Pakistan authorities. A final text of the release would be circulated shortly to Working Party members, together with a map and some photographs of construction projects in Pakistan. This material would also of course be put out in the ordinary way through the Bank machinery.

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4. The Bank release was designed to make a balanced presentation of the story. No doubt the participating Governments would wish to make their own statements too, and, on the timing of these, he wished to remind the meeting of the point in paragraph 1 above. Individual Governments would of course be free to make use of the Bank release, the map, and the photographs.

5. In discussion, it was agreed that the names of the Governmental representatives who signed the I.B.D.F. Agreement, and the fact, where applicable, that contributions under the Agreement had been offered subject to Parliamentary authority, could best be brought out, as desired, in individual Governmental statements and publicity material. The meeting offered no comments on the text of the Bank release.

B. SIGNATURE ARRANGEMENTS

6. Mr. Iliff said he would be leaving Washington on September 14 and arriving in Pakistan in the morning of September 17, to make final arrangements with the Pakistan authorities for the signature ceremony. At present it seemed likely that the I.B.D.F. and Loan Agreements would be signed at one ceremony during the morning of September 19, so that the Pakistan authorities would be assured of the finance before they signed the Treaty. Mr. Nehru would be arriving that morning and the signature ceremony for the Treaty would, as he had already indicated, probably take place at 6.30 p.m. the same day. These ceremonies would have to be fitted into the plans the Pakistan Government were making for Mr. Nehru's reception. Official functions would probably include a lunch for the signatories of the I.B.D.F. and Loan Agreements, an afternoon reception with a large guest list, and a State Dinner for Mr. Nehru, to which Governmental representatives present would be invited.

7. The signature ceremony for the I.B.D.F. and Loan Agreements would be quite a simple one. Mr. Iliff had in mind discussing the detailed arrangements with the participants, over a drink on September 18. It was however worth mentioning at this stage that Mr. Shoaib, who was likely to sign the I.B.D.F. and Loan Agreements for Pakistan, would almost certainly wish to make a short statement, and the representatives of other signatory Governments might therefore like to have something prepared themselves

WASHINGTON, D.C.

September 8, 1960

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