RATIFICATION OF THE HAVANA CHARTER

The Sixth Committee of the Havana Conference, for the purpose of inserting a date in Article 103 (2)(b), requested delegations to state the earliest dates by which it would be possible for their governments to accept the Havana Charter. Ratifications have, however, lagged considerably behind these optimum estimates (summarized in E/CONF.2/C.6/70). The present position is that the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia has authorized the Government of Australia to deposit an instrument of acceptance on the date on which similar action has been taken by the Government of the United Kingdom and the United States of America. The Charter has also been ratified by the Government of Liberia. The Charter has been presented to the Congress of the United States for ratification. Several other governments are also understood to be contemplating the early submission of the Charter to their legislative bodies.

A revised estimate of the probable timetable for ratification would be of great assistance in making plans for the future work of the Interim Commission and in estimating the probable date of the First Annual Conference which will have to be fitted into the co-ordinated programme of United Nations Conferences for 1949/50. It would also no doubt be of interest and value to members of the Interim Commission.

It would be appreciated, therefore, if members of the Interim Commission which are in a position to do so would complete and return the form below:

The Government of expects to submit the Havana Charter to its legislature for ratification in the month of , 19 and expects that the legislative process may be completed by 19.