The Ministers of France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland responsible for telecommunications or their representatives having met in Bonn on 19 May 1987

recognise that

- the European Community Heads of State in December 1986 asked the Commission and the Council to make a special effort to secure agreement on standards and the commitment of operators necessary to enable Europe to compete in the development and marketing of digital cellular radio in the 1990s;

- the agreement on co-operation in the field of digital cellular mobile radiocommunications signed in Nice on 20 June 1985 and extended on 2 July 1986 has as one of its objectives to actively support the work of CEPT relating to the definition of a common European standard;

- the mounting of a new technology requires concerted action by a number of parties in order to achieve early economies of scale and reduce the commercial risks;

- a pan European service requires the early participation of the greatest possible number of countries;

- an early date for a commercial service is essential for Europe both in terms of ensuring enough parties are ready to move in concertation to open a service and the creation of the new digital cellular technology equipment market timed to maximise benefit to European manufacturing industry;

and agree to the following declaration on the introduction of a pan European public digital cellular radiocommunication service.

...
1) Europe must have a single standard supported throughout the CEPT. This should be based on the narrowband TDMA concept defined by CEPT at its Madeira meeting in Feb. 1987, enhanced in the areas of modulation and coding to provide the greatest flexibility in receiving equipment implementation.

2) All necessary measures shall be taken to ensure the opening of commercial service in the four countries in 1991.

3) In order to achieve this the network operators of the four countries are invited to agree on a coordinated implementation programme. This shall include a harmonised approach to the implementation of network features, such as frequency hopping, common functional specifications and coordinated implementation phases and related milestones.

4) The agreement between network operators shall be formalised in a Memorandum of Understanding, open to all authorised operators in CEPT countries to join. The Directors General for Telecommunications of the four countries are invited to draw up such an MOU for signature by September 1987.

5) To harness the dynamism of European Industry, competition is necessary in each of the markets for mobile stations, base stations and mobile switching equipment. To this end, the four countries shall act together to develop and enforce the necessary open interface standards.

6) The strength of the European industrial contribution could be further enhanced by international collaboration on Research and Development and component design and production.

7) This declaration shall be communicated to other governments of the CEPT countries, to CEPT, the Commission of the European Communities and the Secretariat of EFTA.
This declaration has been deposited in four originals, one each in the German, French, Italian and English languages. In case of divergent interpretation the French text shall prevail.

The declaration was signed in Bonn on May, 1987 between the Ministers or their representatives from Germany (Federal Republic of), France, Italy and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

For Germany, Federal Republic of

Dr. C. Schwarz-Schilling
Minister of Posts and Telecommunications

For France

on behalf of the Minister

M. Roulet
Director General for Telecommunications

For Italy

on behalf of the Minister

R. Panella
Director General of Posts and Telecommunications

For the United Kingdom
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Rt. Hon. Geoffrey Pattie M.P.
Minister of State for Industry and Information Technology
and also as co-signatories of the Quadripartite Agreement

G.A. Whent
Chairman
Racal Telecommunications Ltd.

J.C. Carrington
Director
BT Mobile Communications

P. Masarati
Amministratore Delegato
Società Italiana per l'Esercizio
delle Telecomunicazioni p.a.