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**PLDT AND GLOBE TELECOM FURTHER STRENGTHEN
INTERCONNECTION LINKS**

PLDT and Globe Telecom recently made major headway in addressing interconnection problems as the two telecom companies entered into a formal agreement to significantly increase interconnection facilities.

The interconnection agreement between PLDT and Globe Telecom will significantly increase interconnection facilities between the carriers. Under the agreement, the technical implementation will start in May 1999 with the installation of additional interconnect facilities. More interconnect facilities will be installed during the year.

"The signing of these agreements with Globe Telecom is part of my previously announced policy for PLDT to improve interconnect arrangements with all Philippine carriers. We would expect to sign similar agreements with other operators in the near future", Mr. Pangilinan said.

"After a series of long negotiations with PLDT, and after certain interconnection concerns were addressed in the course of these negotiations, we welcome this development. This arrangement will be of mutual benefit to the parties," said Globe Telecom President Gerardo Ablaza Jr.

This development is also seen to contribute significantly in alleviating the problems of interconnection experienced by subscribers of the telephone companies. With the improved interconnection facilities, both companies hope that there would be seamless connection between the two networks, with their subscribers able to easily call the subscribers of the other company.