

**PCC.III/RES. 129 (XIX-01)<sup>1</sup>**

**DRAFT INTER-AMERICAN PROPOSAL FOR THE 2002 WORLD  
TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE TO PROPOSE TO  
CARRY OUT STUDIES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REGIONAL TELE-  
HEALTH PROGRAMS**

The XIX Meeting of the Permanent Consultative Committee III: Radiocommunications,

**RECOGNIZING:**

- a) That in resolution COM/CITEL RES. 85 (VIII-99) a Working Group was established to prepare CITEL for the 2002 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-02);
- b) That in order to avoid duplicating efforts, it was considered convenient that the Working Group responsible for preparing CITEL for PP-02 be in charge of preparing the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-02);
- c) That due to the above, the resolution COM/CITEL RES.103 (IX-00) was issued which establishes that the Working Group for the preparation of CITEL for PP-02 be responsible for preparing for the WTDC-02 through the coordination of its chapters on “regional presence” and “Telecommunications development sector”, with the objective, among others, of preparing common proposals and/or recommendations for the work of the Conference, and that each Permanent Consultative Committee establishes an Ad Hoc Group to prepare contributions for the WDTC, and
- d) That resolution PCC.III/RES.111 (XVII-01), adopted during the Seventeenth Meeting of the CITEL Permanent Consultative Committee III: Radiocommunications (PCC.III), resolved to establish an Ad Hoc Group to develop, from the point of view of PCC.III, inputs on those items deemed important to the PCC.III area of responsibility,

**CONSIDERING:**

- a) That the issue “Development of plans for the development of telecommunications in rural and low income urban areas”, was one of those given priority in the resolution COM/CITEL RES.103 (IX-00);
- b) That in the Declaration “Connecting the Americas” participating countries made a commitment to expand access to global knowledge and provide full integration to the knowledge-society, particularly among rural and vulnerable groups, as well as to encourage the development of the telecommunications infrastructure needed to support all sectors of society and strengthen the application of information technologies for human development;

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<sup>1</sup> Document PCC.III/doc.2119/01.

- c) That said Declaration provides that it is by encouraging all members of society to access information and communication technologies, enabling them to play a greater role in the political, economic and social development of their respective societies, that makes it possible to face the transition to a knowledge-based society;
- d) That in this regard, as telecommunications are a major element for the development of rural and low-income communities, telecommunication development plans must fully achieve their goals in a proper framework that takes the specific needs of these populations into account;
- e) That a commitment was made in the Plan of Action for the Americas to narrow the gap between rural and urban populations in the region, through universal access to new information and communication technologies;
- f) That, likewise, the Plan of Action underscores greater competitiveness and productivity in every sector through applications, such as telemedicine, and
- g) That the Americas Regional Preparatory Meeting for the World Telecommunication Development Conference for 2002 of the ITU, also identified this issue, as a priority to be included in the next Plan of Action of the Telecommunication Development Bureau,

#### **FURTHER CONSIDERING:**

That it is probable that, as a result of the implementation of regional tele-health programs, some barriers may be encountered which may not be solved nationally only but need to be handled at the international level,

#### **RESOLVES:**

1. To approve the following as a Draft Inter-American Proposal to be submitted for consideration by the COM/CITEL Working Group to prepare CITEL for the Plenipotentiary Conference and the World Telecommunication Development Conference of the ITU of 2002:

To have specific studies done as requested by the Telecommunication Development Bureau from the other two sectors of the ITU, from the same Telecommunication Development Bureau and from the specialized health bodies of the United Nations system in order to make the Tele-health Program implementation and operation more efficient both nationally and regionally to solve the following issues:

- Standardization to accomplish system compatibility and interoperability.
- The development and application of national and international legislation
- Aspects of medical responsibility and ethics to be studied and solved by specialized international bodies to support the telecommunications sector.
- The creation of health and telecommunications integration platforms.
- Recommendations for the equipment taking into account medical requirements.

2. To forward this resolution to the COM/CITEL Working Group to prepare CITEL for the Plenipotentiary Conference and the World Telecommunication Development Conference of the ITU, for approval as an Inter-American Proposal of CITEL, if appropriate.

**INSTRUCTS THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:**

To carry out the steps necessary to comply with *resolve* 2 of this resolution.