



**ORGANIZACION DE LOS ESTADOS AMERICANOS
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES**

**Comisión Interamericana de Telecomunicaciones
Inter-American Telecommunication Commission**

**XV MEETING OF THE PERMANENT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF CITEL (COM/CITEL)
June 1-3, 2005
Washington, D.C., United States of America**

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FINAL REPORT

(Item on the Agenda: 17)

(Document submitted by the Drafting Group)

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FINAL REPORT

XV MEETING OF THE PERMANENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (COM/CITEL)

The XV Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee was held in Washington, DC, United States, June 1 to 3, 2005.

I. AGENDA¹

1. Approval of the agenda and schedule.
2. Establishment of committees for the meeting:
 - 2.1 Committee to draft the Final Report.
 - 2.2 Committee to review the 2005 Plan of Operations.
3. Report of the Chair of COM/CITEL.
4. Reports of the Chairs of the Permanent Consultative Committees.
5. Report and meeting of the Conference Preparatory Working Group to consider regional preparations for World Conferences and Meetings.
6. Report and meeting of the Working Group to Prepare for the Meetings of the Council of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
7. Report of the formalities with the Permanent Missions regarding the CITEL financing.
8. Approval of the review of the 2005 Plan of Operations.
9. Preparations for the IV Assembly of CITEL.
10. Report on the Summit of the Americas.
11. Report of the Coordinator of the Blue Book update.
12. Report on the preparations for the World Summit on the Information Society (Tunis, 2005).
13. Report on the status of the CITEL Cooperation Agreements.
14. Status of associate members.
15. Date, agenda, and venue of the next meeting.
16. Other issues.
17. Approval of Final Report.

II. AUTHORITIES OF THE MEETING

Chair: Mr. Guillermo Moreno (Argentina)
Alternate Chair: Mr. Carlos Cancelli (Argentina)
Executive Secretary: Mr. Clovis Baptista

Drafting Group:

Chair: Mr. Antonio Cristiani (Argentina)
Members: Ms. Lorena Piñeiro Ugarte (Chile)
Ms. Nyurka Rodríguez (Venezuela)
Mr. Jonathan Siverling (United States)

¹ COM/CITEL/doc. 946/05 rev.2

III. RESOLUTIONS

COM/CITEL RES. 188 (XV-05)²

TERMS ON WHICH CITEL'S DISTANCE EDUCATION COURSES ARE OFFERED

The XV Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL, COM/CITEL,

CONSIDERING:

- a) The report of the Coordinator for the Development of Human Resources on the status of CITEL's 2005 Training Program, adopted in Resolution COM/CITEL RES. 175 (XIV-04); and
- b) That a request was received from the ITU Center of Excellence for the Americas to calculate the 10% for the Seed Fund only on the amount contributed by CITEL for scholarships to provide support for the Center's sustainability,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the following terms on which distance education courses are offered which, unless otherwise expressly indicated:
 - A maximum of 35 students will be permitted in each distance education course group.
 - The maximum tuition fee for all distance education courses offered through CITEL will be US\$200.
 - 10% of the total amount collected as tuition fees of recipients of CITEL/OAS scholarships on distance education courses offered through the ITU Center of Excellence platform will be deposited in an account to be used as seed budgetary resources for course programs of coming years. Authorization for use of that account shall be through the Coordination Center for the Development of Human Resources.
2. That the said Coordination is authorized to schedule the course dates, select other courses that meet Member State training needs, and decide the number of scholarships to be awarded in each case, up to the limit of the Commission's budget for scholarships and in accordance with the needs of the Administrations.
3. To repeal *resolve 5* of Resolution COM/CITEL RES. 175 (XIV-04).

INSTRUCTS THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

- a) To carry out the relevant procedure for distance learning and face to face courses selected for the year 2005;
- b) To disseminate these courses as widely as possible; and

² COM/CITEL/doc. 980/05

- c) To inform the Center of Excellence for the Americas of this Resolution.

COM/CITEL RES.189 (XV-05)3

PREPARATIONS FOR THE FOURTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITEL ASSEMBLY

The XV Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL, COM/CITEL,

HAVING SEEN:

- a) That Article 6 of the Statute of CITEL provides that “CITEL shall hold a Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly every four years, in the place as determined by the CITEL Assembly in accordance with the principle of rotation set forth in the Regulations”;
- b) That Article 5 of the Regulations of CITEL establishes that CITEL shall endeavor to schedule the Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly during the first quarter of the year, and
- c) That in Resolution COM/CITEL RES. 187 (XIV-04), COM/CITEL approved the draft agenda for the Fourth Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly,

CONSIDERING:

- a) That the telecommunication environment is undergoing constant change owing to different aspects, particularly, technological progress, regulatory changes, convergence of platforms and services, growing user demand, and greater needs;
- b) That there is an evident need for information exchange regarding telecommunication strategies and policies with a view to their better comprehension and to obtaining guidelines for harmonized development of telecommunication services in the Region, and
- c) That CITEL has responsibility for promoting regional dialogue regarding the most relevant challenges in the area of telecommunications,

RECOGNIZING:

That the Assembly of CITEL is an ideal occasion to serve as a forum to conduct dialogue among the different telecommunication players to establish the frameworks required by new telecommunication services and technologies and to examine any other general policy matter that may benefit from a general exchange of ideas, and

³ COM/CITEL/doc. 971/05 rev.1

UNDERSCORING:

That it is advisable for ministers of state and highest authorities with responsibility for telecommunication policy in each Administration to meet in order to, based on examination of the telecommunication environment, contribute their visions and policies for the future,

RESOLVES:

1. To hold the Fourth Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly February 20-23, 2006, in San José, Costa Rica.
2. To hold a Special Meeting of the Assembly comprised of representatives of governments and the private sector on the afternoon of February 20, 2006, to discuss matters of common interest in the area of telecommunication regulation, with a view to producing a series of recommendations intended to direct CITEL's future work, thereby contributing to the advancement of regional telecommunications.
3. To hold, on the morning of February 21, 2006, a roundtable of high authorities with responsibility for telecommunication policy in each Administration.
4. To instruct the Chair of COM/CITEL to, in coordination with the Vice Chair of COM/CITEL, the Chairs of the PCCs and the Chair of the WG on the Strategic Plan of CITEL, prepare draft agendas for the Assembly's Special Session and roundtable of high authorities, to include the speakers who will be invited to the Special Session and taking into account such suggestions as may be received from the Member States.

URGES:

The Administrations of the OAS Member States to ensure participation by the highest telecommunication authorities in their delegations to the Assembly.

INVITES THE ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF CITEL:

To participate in the Special Meeting of the Assembly.

INSTRUCTS THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

To carry out such actions as are requested of him to ensure fulfillment of this Resolution.

ANNEX I TO RESOLUTION COM/CITEL RES. 189 (XV-05)

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE PREPARATIONS FOR A SPECIAL MEETING
AND A ROUNDTABLE OF MINISTERS OF STATE AND HIGH TELECOMMUNICATION
AUTHORITIES TO BE HELD DURING THE FOURTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITEL
ASSEMBLY**

1. A pertinent topic of great interest to Member States in connection with their policies, strategies, and priorities is to be selected.
2. A draft schedule for the event is to be prepared by August 1, 2005.
3. Invitations to the speakers at the Special Meeting are to be issued by no later than mid-August 2005. The number of speakers will be limited.
4. A document introducing the meeting's topic of discussion, underscoring the key points to be addressed by the speakers, is to be prepared.
5. The director of the Special Meeting will present the corresponding report to the Assembly.
6. A draft declaration will be prepared for approval by the roundtable of ministers of state and high telecommunication authorities.

COM/CITEL RES. 190 (XV-05)⁴

DRAFT AGENDA, SITE, AND DATE OF THE XVI MEETING OF COM/CITEL

The XV Meeting of the Permanente Executive Committee of CITEL, COM/CITEL,

RESOLVES:

1. To hold the XVI Meeting of COM/CITEL in Buenos Aires, Argentina, December 6 to 9, 2005.
2. To approve the draft agenda for the XVI Meeting of COM/CITEL annexed hereto.

ANNEX TO RESOLUTION COM/CITEL RES. 190 (XV-05)

DRAFT AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda and calendar.
2. Establishment of the committees for the meeting:
 - 2.1 Committee to draft the final report.
 - 2.2 Committee to Review the 2005 Plan of Operations.

⁴ COM/CITEL/doc. 992/05 rev.1

3. Report of the Chair of COM/CITEL.
4. Reports of the Chairs of the Permanent Consultative Committees.
5. Report and meeting of the Conference Preparatory Working Group to consider regional preparations for world conferences and meetings.
6. Reports and meetings of the COM/CITEL working groups:
 - 6.1 Coordination Center for the Development of Human Resources.
 - 6.2 Working Group on the Strategic Plan of CITEL.
 - 6.3 *Working Group to Prepare for the Meetings of the Council of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).*
 - 6.4 Working Group on Connectivity in the Americas.
 - 6.5 Ad hoc Group on Scope of Participation of Non-Member States of CITEL.
 - 6.6 Ad hoc Group to Prepare the Telecommunication Section of the Action Plan for the Fourth Summit of the Americas.
7. Adoption of the Annual Report on the activities of CITEL.
8. Approval of the 2006 Plan of Operations (activities, budget, and scheduling of meetings to be held in 2006).
9. Joint CITEL/ITU activities in the Region.
10. World Summit on the Information Society (Tunis, 2005).
11. Proposed amendments to the Statute and Regulations of CITEL.
12. Examination of OAS General Assembly resolutions with impact on CITEL.
13. Report on the status of the CITEL cooperation agreements.
14. Situation of the Associate Members.
15. Summit of the Americas.
 - 15.1 Report on implementation of mandates of the Third Summit of the Americas.
 - 15.2 Fourth Summit of the Americas (2005).
16. Preparations for the Fourth Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly.
17. Date, agenda, and site of the next meeting.
18. Other issues.
19. Adoption of Final Report.

COM/CITEL RES. 191 (XV-05)⁵
BLUE BOOK “TELECOMMUNICATION POLICIES FOR THE AMERICAS”

The XV meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL, COM/CITEL,

HAVING SEEN:

Resolutions CITEL/RES.41 (III)-02; COM/CITEL RES. 145 (XII-02); COM/CITEL RES. 163 (XIII-03); deciding the update of the Blue Book: Telecommunication Policies for the Americas,

CONSIDERING:

a) That CITEL, by means of Resolution COM/CITEL RES. 145 (XII-02), established a Coordination for Updating the Blue Book and that Mr. Rodrigo Robles of the Administration of Guatemala was designated for this purpose;

⁵ COM/CITEL/doc. 989/05 rev.1

- b) That, with support from ITU-D, the first drafts that were circulated among the Administrations for their comments were drawn up, and an expert who collaborated on the initial phase of the update process was hired;
- c) That, at the XIII Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITELE (COM/CITELE) (December 16-19, 2003, El Calafate, Argentina), the expert hired by ITU made a presentation on the progress in drawing up the first draft of the new version of the Blue Book;
- d) That, on August 14, 2003, in Washington, D. C., United States, the First Regional Dialogue took place by videoconference and was attended by representatives of the Administrations at CITELE headquarters participating in the IX Meeting of the Steering Committee and six other Administrations by distance (videoconference and audioconference), for the purpose of permitting the exchange of ideas on the update of the Blue Book and the priority topics that should be incorporated into this new edition;
- e) That, on May 27, 2004, in Washington, D.C., United States, the Second Regional Dialogue was held by videoconference and was attended by the Administrations at CITELE headquarters participating in the X Meeting of the Steering Committee and four other Administrations by distance (videoconference), as well as ITU representatives for the purpose of examining the first draft of the Blue Book;
- f) That, at this X Meeting of the Steering Committee, the new table of contents and structure for the Blue Book was adopted, and it was agreed that contributions would be made to the contents of the Update of the Blue Book, using the discussion group "AZUL" of CITELE's Electronic Forum and by means of specific contributions to the chapters;
- g) That after the texts were received, the Third Draft was presented at the meeting of the Drafting Group (September 29-October 1, 2004, Buenos Aires, Argentina), where a wide-ranging debate of each chapter, paragraph by paragraph, took place, at the end of which the attending Delegations reached a consensus on a text as the Fourth Draft, which was subsequently referred to the Administrations of the Member States for their comments;
- h) That, at the XIV Meeting of COM/CITELE (November 30-December 3, 2004, Buenos Aires, Argentina), discussions once again took place and Decision COM/CITELE DEC.42 (XIV-04) was adopted, recognizing the progress in organizing the texts, although it was necessary to check alignment of the texts in English and Spanish, and a new working calendar was established and rapporteurs and co-rapporteurs were designated for each chapter, and
- i) That, in the week of May 23-27, 2005 (Washington, D.C, United States), the text presented at the XV Meeting of COM/CITELE was discussed and agreed upon,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

- a) That the text of the preamble to the third version of the Blue Book: "Telecommunication Policies for the Americas" indicates that:

“

- a) The Blue Book is a reference tool to provide the countries of the Americas region with objective descriptions of and information regarding telecommunication policies and regulatory matters, including difficulties and opportunities of the development of new telecommunication technologies.

- b) Descriptions of the situation of policy and regulation in some countries of the region as described in this version of the Blue Book do not reflect the situation prevailing in all countries of the Americas.
- c) The texts contained in Chapter 4 to 11 represent the general view of the Member States of CITEL. However, some descriptions and views contained in Chapters 1-3 do not reflect the policies, regulations, or situation of telecommunications in every country of the region. Therefore, those texts are not based on a consensus view.

“

- b) That the texts for the Update of the Blue Book have been widely discussed, with contributions and participation of the Administrations,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve, in the context of its preamble, the text of the third version of the Blue Book “Telecommunication Policies for the Americas” included in document COM/CITEL/doc.973/05 rev.6.
2. To request the Chair of COM/CITEL to send a note to the regional office of ITU expressing CITEL’s appreciation of its support for the present version of the Blue Book.
3. To request the Chair of COM/CITEL to send the third version of the Blue Book to the Administrations of the Member States of OAS, the Permanent Missions, the Secretary General of OAS, and subregional and international telecommunication organizations.
4. To request the Administrations to send the texts of the documents they wish to be included in the annexes of the third edition of the Blue Book by July 8, 2005, at the latest.
5. To request the establishment of a comprehensive evaluation mechanism to identify and qualify the results that Administrations in the region are deriving from the use of the Blue Book.

INSTRUCTS THE CITEL SECRETARIAT:

To implement the corresponding procedures for the publication of this Book.

COM/CITEL RES. 192 (XV-05)⁶

DRAFT TEXT ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS FOR THE FOURTH SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS

The XV Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL),

BEARING IN MIND:

- a) The Fourth Summit of the Americas, to be held in Mar del Plata, Argentine Republic, November 4-5, 2005, whose theme will be “Creating Jobs to Confront Poverty and Strengthen Democratic Governance”; and

⁶ COM/CITEL/doc. 998/05 rev.1

b) That in Resolution COM/CITEL RES. 185 (XIV-04), an Ad Hoc Group was established to prepare the contribution to the Fourth Summit of the Americas requested by the OAS Summits of the Americas Secretariat, in consultation and based on exchange of content with all Member States,

RECOGNIZING:

That the Summit of the Americas, as highest-level political forum, is that authority that formulates public policy mandates for the adoption of the OAS,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the draft telecommunication text for the Fourth Summit of the Americas included in the Annex.
2. To forward this draft telecommunication text to the OAS Summits of the Americas Secretariat.

ANNEX TO RESOLUTION COM/CITEL RES. 192 (XV-05)

To press ahead with the implementation of the information society in the Americas striving to raise their standard of living by making full use of individuals' expertise through work. To that end, we will promote the elimination of barriers that prevent access to the labor markets in our countries.

It is important to profit from the introduction of new broadcasting technologies to continue to promote universal inclusion of the citizens of the Americas in a new digital society, recognizing people's basic need for information and communication, especially as regards television and sound broadcasting, taking into account support for research and development initiatives, education of the public regarding the new digital technologies.

To promote in the CITEL framework technical recommendations that support governments in the development of telecommunications, and promote application of technologies and socio-economic, industrial, and cultural development through use of the radio spectrum across the region in an efficient and harmonized manner.

To promote technical cooperation to allow every country to have the possibility to gain the expertise and develop and extend their technological and industrial capacity and strengthen partnerships among government, industry and telecommunication operators, and sector workers.

To improve the conditions required for connectivity, with respect to both availability and costs, so that citizens have the tools they need to take advantage of the job opportunities that the information society affords and at the same time enhance their qualifications in order to attain more satisfactory working conditions.

To facilitate and promote connectivity in the Americas and the Information Society, promote the availability of a broadband infrastructure, with a variety of systems and reduced connectivity costs, as essential elements in promoting mass access to information networks.

In the regulation of services, Administrations should take into account the social impact of broadcasting, as broadcasting services throughout the Americas are extremely widespread and reach essentially all individuals.

To facilitate the timely and orderly introduction of next generation networks and assess the impact of their implementation.

COM/CITEL RES 193 (XV-05)⁷
PREPARATION OF THE PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE OF 2006 (PP-06)

The XV Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL, COM/CITEL,

CONSIDERING:

That the Conference Preparatory Working Group (WGCP) is in charge of coordinating the regional preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference 2006 (PP-06) and specifically, for the development of Inter-American Proposals (IAPs) and Positions for PP-06,

CONSIDERING ALSO:

That the preparations for and the results of the ITU Council 2005 are clearly linked to the preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference 2006,

RECOGNIZING:

The important work at ITU that has been undertaken in follow-up to the decisions of Plenipotentiary Conference 2002 concerning the review and modernization of the financial management and administration of the Union, and the priority of ensuring the full implementation of the improvement measures which have been developed,

CONSCIOUS OF:

The difficult financial and human resource constraints on the ITU and the corresponding need to affirm the core mandates of the ITU, to set clear priorities among the activities of the Union, to prevent duplication of effort, to ensure cohesion and synergy among the Sectors and the General Secretariat and to maintain effective oversight of the functioning of the Union by the membership,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The approaching deadlines for the submission of proposals for the Plenipotentiary Conference, the limited number of Conference Preparatory Working Group meetings and the CITEL procedures for the adoption of Inter-American Proposals (IAPs);

RESOLVES:

To support the establishment by the Conference Preparatory Working Group of a discussion group in the Electronic Forum of CITEL to facilitate preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference and, in particular to facilitate the development of draft IAPs for consideration at future meetings of WGCP.

This discussion group will be used to:

⁷ COM/CITEL/doc. 999/05 rev.1

- a) Consult on the development of draft IAPs, and
- b) Disseminate information on the pertinent results of ITU Council as well as any relevant information on the preparations of other Member States or regional groups for PP-06 to assist CITEL Members in their preparations for PP-06 and the development of IAPs or positions,

URGES MEMBER STATES:

- a) To identify experts to act as focal points/rapporteurs on identified themes or issues within the discussion group and to develop draft IAPs for consultation and consideration at the next WGCP meeting.
- b) To participate actively in the work of the discussion group.

COM/CITEL RES. 194 (XV-05)⁸

APPROVAL OF THE REVISED PLAN OF OPERATIONS FOR 2005

The XV Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL, COM/CITEL,

CONSIDERING:

- a) The revised 2005 budget program submitted by the Committee of the Plan of Operations of COM/CITEL, and
- b) The information on the status of associate members submitted by the Secretariat of CITEL,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the revised Schedule of Meetings for 2005 included in Annex 1 to this Resolution.
2. To approve the revised Draft Budget Program of CITEL for 2005, contained in Annex 2 to this Resolution.
3. To repeal *resolves* 1 and 2 of Resolution COM/CITEL RES. 182 (XV-05).

INSTRUCTS THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

To present a financial report to the XVI meeting of COM/CITEL detailing the execution of CITEL's revised budget program for 2005.

⁸ COM/CITEL/doc. 997/05 rev.1 cor.1

ANNEX 1 TO RESOLUTION COM/CITEL RES. 194 (XV-05)

MEETING	DATE	VENUE
VI Meeting of PCC.I	11 to 14 April 2005	Tegucigalpa, Honduras
V Meeting of PCC.II	26 to 29 April 2005	Guatemala city, Guatemala
Meeting of rapporteurs to organize the texts of the Blue Book on "Telecommunications Policies for the Americas"	23 to 24 May 2005	Washington, DC, United States
Meeting of Administrations to organize the texts of the Blue Book on "Telecommunications Policies for the Americas"	25 to 27 May 2005	Washington, DC, United States
XV Meeting of the COM/CITEL	1 to 3 June 2005	Washington, DC, United States
XV Meeting of the Working Group to Prepare the meetings of the Council of the ITU	During the XV Meeting of COM/CITEL	Washington, DC, United States
VI Meeting of the Working Group to Prepare for Conferences	During the XV Meeting of COM/CITEL	Washington, DC, United States
XVI Meeting of the Working Group to Prepare the meetings of the Council of the ITU	12 to 22 July 2005	Geneva, Switzerland
VII Meeting of PCC.I	20 to 23 September 2005	Washington, DC, United States
VI Meeting of PCC.II	25 to 28 October 2005	San José, Costa Rica
XVI Meeting of COM/CITEL	6 to 9 December 2005	Buenos Aires, Argentina
XVII Meeting of the Working Group to Prepare the meetings of the Council of the ITU	During the XVI meeting of the COM/CITEL	Buenos Aires, Argentina
VII Meeting of the Working Group to Prepare for Conferences	During the XVI meeting of the COM/CITEL	Buenos Aires, Argentina

COM/CITEL RES. 195 (XV-05)⁹

**RECOGNITION OF AND THANKS TO THE COORDINATOR OF THE BLUE BOOK:
TELECOMMUNICATION POLICIES FOR THE AMERICAS**

The XV Meeting of the Permanente Executive Committee of CITEL, COM/CITEL,

CONSIDERING:

- a) That CITEL, in Resolution COM/CITEL RES. 145 (XII-02), established a Coordination for the update of the Blue Book, and that Mr. Rodrigo Robles of the Administration of Guatemala was appointed to serve in that capacity;
- b) That Mr. Robles coordinated all the work for the update of the Blue Book, and
- c) That, at the present meeting of COM/CITEL, it was possible to finalize the third version of the Blue Book: Telecommunication Policies for the Americas,

RESOLVES:

- 1. To acknowledge and express appreciation to Mr. Rodrigo Robles for his valuable contribution and coordination in leading the work to update the Blue Book “Telecommunication Policies for the Americas”.
- 2. To request the Chair of COM/CITEL, with the assistance of the Secretariat, to send to the Administration of Guatemala a letter of appreciation and recognition of Mr. Rodrigo Robles’ excellent efforts in connection with this task.

COM/CITEL RES. 196 (XV-05)¹⁰

**UPDATE OF THE AGENDA FOR CONNECTIVITY IN THE AMERICAS
AND PLAN OF ACTION OF QUITO**

The XV Meeting of the Permanente Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL),

HAVING SEEN:

- a) That the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas and Plan of Action of Quito proposes guidelines for use by the Member States in developing national connectivity agendas;
- b) That Resolution COM/CITEL RES. 148 (XII-02) instructs that the text of this Resolution and the “Agenda for Connectivity and the Plan of Action of Quito” be conveyed to the OAS Executive Secretariat for the Summit Process for that Secretariat to take appropriate action to encourage further development and implementation, as appropriate to each Member State;

⁹ COM/CITEL/doc. 1002/05 rev.1

¹⁰ COM/CITEL/doc. 1001/05 rev.1

RECOGNIZING:

- a) That, based on the adoption of the “Agenda for Connectivity and the Plan of Action of Quito”, much headway has been made in all countries of the region in accomplishing the connectivity objectives, supported by actions carried out in the framework of multilateral world, regional, and subregional organizations and within the scope of the World Summit on the Information Society process, and
- b) That the objectives proposed for the Americas should be updated in light of the progress made and the objectives and principles adopted at the World Summit on the Information Society, which are in keeping with the objectives of the Millennium Summit,

UNDERSCORING:

That CITEL, in fulfillment of the objectives of the Agenda, has implemented a work plan, whose results include:

- a) Adoption of various recommendations pertaining to network interconnection guidelines and to facilitate universal service and/or access. It has approved documents for the coordination of appropriate, stable, and viable standards to ensure interoperability and timely introduction of advanced technologies, particularly standards for the protection of critical infrastructure. It has adopted guidelines for the introduction of broadcasting topics and for spectrum harmonization. It has prepared studies on problems associated with telecommunication convergence and economic aspects of telecommunications;
- b) Elaboration of a program of professional development courses on telecommunications with materials prepared by accredited training centers in the region, in coordination with the Center of Excellence for the Americas Region of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU);
- c) Presentation of a harmonized regional vision through the development of Inter-American proposals, which it has presented to world forums of the sector for their consideration, such as the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, the World Telecommunication Development Conference, the Plenipotentiary Conference, and the World Radiocommunication Conference;
- d) Organization of different seminars and workshops on topics of priority to the countries, such as Next Generation Networks, cybersecurity, economic aspects of telecommunications, and telecommunications over IP protocol, access to broadband by satellite, mutual recognition agreements for conformity assessment of telecommunication equipment, and wireless access;
- e) Publication or in the process of publication of several books on topics of great importance to the sector, such as:
 - Book on telehealth in the Americas, in coordination with the ITU and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), which recommends policies and strategies to be adopted by OAS Member States to extend access to health services to a greater number of people and enhance the quality of such services;
 - Book on tele-education in the Americas, whose objective is to provide information on the development of distance education in the Hemisphere to promote access by teachers, students, educational organizations, and administrators to use of new technologies for distance education to assist in the development of new teaching methods and make it possible

- to formulate better policies that help to reduce inequality in access to knowledge and reduce the technological divide in our Americas;
- Electronic compilation of technical and regulatory aspects pertaining to the effects of non-ionizing electromagnetic emissions;
 - Blue Book on Telecommunication Policies for the Americas, which seeks to ensure that ICTs are utilized effectively through regulations promoting the development of telecommunication infrastructure and competition among providers;
 - Book on Universal Service, which analyzes strategies and programs developed by Member States that seek to make telecommunication services universally available to all income groups throughout the Hemisphere;
 - Guide on the results of the CITELE study to quantify issues of incompatibility between fixed wireless access and PCS in the 1850-1990 MHz band.
- f) Works to promote connectivity in the Americas region by disseminating the Agenda for Connectivity and Plan of Action to Quito.

BEARING IN MIND:

- a) That an inventory is available, provided by the Administrations of the region, on connectivity initiatives being implemented, and
- b) That in particular, a major contribution was received from the Office of Education, Science, and Technology, indicated in document COM/CITEL/doc. 956/05 on connectivity for scientific and advanced research, which proposes including the topic of science and technology in the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas,

CONSIDERING:

- a) That *recognizing* b) of Resolution COM/CITEL RES. 148 (XII-02) recommends “further development of the Agenda for Connectivity and the Plan of Action of Quito”, and
- b) That *recognizing* e) of the said Resolution indicates the “possible need to further revise or update the Agenda for Connectivity to reflect changes in the telecommunications environment”;
- c) That it would be important to update the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas and Plan of Action of Quito to further promote its results and facilitate the beneficial integration of the Hemisphere into a society based increasingly on knowledge,

CONSIDERING ALSO:

That in Resolution COM/CITEL RES. 180 (XIV-04), amendments were made to the mandate of the Working Group on Connectivity in the Americas, including, among others, the following:

- “b) To do a systematic follow-up of the implementation of the Agenda for Connectivity and Plan of Action of Quito and the Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action the first phase of the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS).”

RESOLVES:

1. To update appropriately the “Agenda for Connectivity and the Plan of Action of Quito” and to present a proposal for the consideration of COM/CITEL.
2. To designate the Administration of Colombia responsible for the responsibility for the said update, in the framework of the Working Group on Connectivity in the Americas, with the support of the Administrations of Argentina and Canada.
3. To request the Member States to provide such support as is required in making the update indicated in *resolve* 1.

INSTRUCTS THE CITEL SECRETARIAT:

To provide support for this update as required.

IV. DECISIONS

The XV Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL, COM/CITEL,

DECIDES:

<p>COM/CITEL DEC.43(XV -05)¹¹</p>	<p>As support to the activities developed by the Conference Preparatory Working Group, to instruct the CITEL Executive Secretary to send the following draft Inter-American Proposals to the Member States of CITEL, so that they can consider their positions regarding them and possible adherence, so that they can become Inter-American Proposals (IAPs) of CITEL for the 2006 World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-06):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of human resources of the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas (GT-PC/doc.060/05 rev.2 cor.1) • Promotion of the development of impact indicators to assess the meeting of specific ICT needs of Indigenous Peoples (GT-PC/doc.061/05 rev.2 cor.1) • Support for connectivity programs in remote and distant regions for the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas (GT-PC/doc.063/05 rev.2 cor.1)
<p>COM/CITEL DEC.44 (XV -05)¹²</p>	<p>To provide support to the Conference Preparatory Working Group in its request to the Member States of CITEL to reply to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A questionnaire prepared by the Group, in collaboration with the ITU Regional Office, which seeks to identify the region’s priorities for WTDC-06. Replies must be sent to the the ITU Regional Office, (luciene.tavares@ties.itu.int) with copy to the

¹¹ COM/CITEL/doc. 991/05

¹² COM/CITEL/doc.1000/05

	<p>Secretariat of CITEL (citel@oas.org) by July 8, 2005.</p> <p>– The CITEL Circular that reiterates the importance of having names of experts to participate in the WCTD-06 discussion group and to serve as points of contact for consultations with the ITU on initiatives and priorities. This information may be sent to the CITEL Secretariat (citel@oas.org) by July 8, 2005.</p>
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V. LIST OF BASIC DOCUMENTS

Summary Minutes of the Inaugural Session and the First Plenary Session:	COM/CITEL/doc. 990/05 rev.2
Summary Minutes of the Second Plenary Session:	COM/CITEL/doc. 991/05 rev.1
Summary Minutes of the Third Plenary Session and Closing Session:	COM/CITEL/doc. 993/05
Summary Minutes of the Fourth Plenary Session and Closing Session:	COM/CITEL/doc. 994/05
List of Documents:	COM/CITEL/doc.944/05 rev.3
List of Participants:	COM/CITEL/doc.945/05 rev.2
Final Report for the Meeting	COM/CITEL/doc.1003/05 rev.1