



Organización de los Estados Americanos  
Organização dos Estados Americanos  
Organisation des États Américains  
Organization of American States

## **FINAL REPORT**

### **V REGULAR MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF CITEL**

The Chairman of the Fifth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission, CITELE, has special pleasure to attach the "Declaration of Mexico" adopted by unanimity by the delegations present during that meeting that took place in Mexico, DF, Mexico, March 8 to 11, 2010.

In addition, the Final Report of the meeting is attached.

Mr. Héctor Olavarría  
Chairman of the Assembly

March 11, 2010

**INTER-AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATION COMMISSION  
(CITEL)**

**DECLARATION OF MEXICO**

**March 11, 2010**

The Representatives of the telecommunication administrations of the Organization of American States (OAS), at the Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL), held in Mexico, D.F., Mexico, from March 8 to 11, 2010,

**TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:**

That the Heads of State and Government, at the Fifth Summit of the Americas, decided to reaffirm the values of the Charter of the United Nations, the Charter of the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Democratic Charter, the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development, and the Millennium Declaration, in order to intensify the fight in the region against poverty, hunger, social exclusion, discrimination and inequality, and to promote inclusion and social cohesion to improve the living conditions of our people and achieve development and social justice;

That the 2009 Report of the Millennium Development Goals Gap Task Force, established by the United Nations Secretary-General to improve tracking of the Millennium Development Goals, notes that the digital divide, in the form of differences in access and affordability, is still very wide between developing and developed countries, as well as within countries;

That the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas recognizes the profound impact of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) on our lives, as well as their social and economic consequences, including the disparity in the capacity to access information and the need (i) to transform such information into knowledge for the benefit of all citizens of the Americas, and (ii) for active participation by civil society, including the private sector, in implementing the Agenda for Connectivity; and

That resolution AG/RES. 2440 (XXXIX-O/09), “Telecommunications Development in the Region to Reduce the Digital Divide,” adopted by the OAS General Assembly, reiterates and strengthens the priority mandate of CITEL, *inter alia* to address the ongoing evolution of telecommunication/ICTs and to reduce the divide separating countries in the area of telecommunications/ICTs,

**RECOGNIZING:**

That confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs are highly important pillars in creating the Information and Knowledge-based Society, as a result of which the countries of the region, especially the developing countries, require an ongoing exchange of experiences and best practices for the formulation of national, regional, and international policies;

That telecommunications/ICTs have the potential to provide solutions to development problems, promoting economic growth, competitiveness, and access to knowledge through information, contributing to the eradication of poverty and the integration of all countries of the Americas;

That Mexico will host the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to be held from November 29 to December 10, 2010, considering that telecommunications/ICTs play a very important part in international, regional, and national efforts to mitigate climate change, prevent natural disasters, and provide emergency relief;

That governments are formulating policies designed to meet national development needs, these being a significant factor in promoting participation by many interested parties to contribute to these efforts and ensure that measures adopted are supported by information exchange and regional and international collaboration;

That progress has been achieved in terms of the level of connectivity, driven especially by the growth of mobile wireless access. However, substantial disparities remain in the region in terms of the penetration and affordability of telecommunication services. Therefore, connectivity promotion activities will constitute a tool to generate the integral development of the region;

That developing countries require support to profit further from technological convergence and the new technologies, to which end, more telecommunication infrastructure should be created to reduce the existing digital divide;

That governments, academic institutions, and university-associated research centers have a strategic part to play in building the Information and Knowledge-based Society; and

That diverse initiatives worldwide incorporate, as a societal goal, the facilitation of access to telecommunications/ICTs, based on an inclusive, universal, and supportive approach,

**DECLARE:**

That to continue to move forward in building the Information and Knowledge-based Society in the Americas, it is advisable to reaffirm our commitment to promoting the growth of telecommunication/ICT infrastructure through public and private investment, and to establish mechanisms for infrastructure-sharing at affordable costs, benefiting the end user, mainly the most disadvantaged sector of the populace;

That broadband access by the majority of the population of the Americas is one of the main challenges faced by governments; hence CITELE, as the region's leading telecommunications/ICTs, entity, must constitute a strategic pillar for the establishment of public policy designed to promote better development and regional integration; and

That the advantages afforded by broadband are of great support in the development and implementation of public and social services, such as health, education, and culture, and for different areas of economic activity and government,

**AGREE:**

To promote, in the framework of CITELE, the generation and recommendation of guidelines supporting the Administrations in the establishment of policies and standards that promote: technological innovation, the transfer of knowledge, service development, market development, expansion of telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, promotion and development of medium and long-term sustainable applications, e-commerce, the security of networks, and the provision of government services applications, and, especially, to point to practical applications and provide mechanisms designed to achieve optimal use

of telecommunications/ICTs;

To promote convergence and increased competition as forces driving the provision of telecommunication services at affordable tariffs for the population as a whole, especially the most disadvantaged, while fostering effective public policies to facilitate universal access;

To promote the dissemination of information enabling the populace to learn about the characteristics of the service, and its tariffs and security, available on the market;

To strengthen CITELE so that it can remain the leading regional telecommunication/ICT reference point, proposing initiatives, developing programs, and executing projects aimed at fostering the sector's optimal development with a view to achieving the Millennium Development Goals;

To collaborate internally with the OAS to formulate joint projects, among others, related to health and education, climate change, combating security concerns, gender equity, and the rights of indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities;

To establish closer ties with other regional and international organizations, promoting information exchange, technical assistance, and mutual support in analyzing specific matters, which will enable, among other things, awareness to be gained of international telecommunication trends;

To strengthen the development of activities and the review of best practices focusing on the use of telecommunications and ICTs to counteract the impacts of climate change;

To promote the coordination of efforts by public and private entities aimed at the appropriate handling of electronic waste and the use of reusable, recyclable and biodegradable equipment and materials, as well as products manufactured with recycled material in processes that do not damage the environment;

To promote the creation of local content enabling greater advantage to be taken of broadband access, taking the due precautions with respect to intellectual property rights in order to combat piracy and forgery;

To promote information exchange among interested parties regarding online security measures to protect children and young people from potential attacks and harmful content via the Internet.

To promote information exchange regarding the protection of confidential data of users who conduct various activities over the Internet and to afford interested parties greater certainty regarding the security of their transactions;

To propose and develop strategies that enable telecommunication infrastructure to be recognized as a decisive factor in natural disaster prevention, mitigation, aid, relief, and reconstruction actions;

To promote access by all citizens to the Information and Knowledge-based Society; to promote online network communities in education, research, health, business, and government; and to promote job creation and economic development, especially by small and medium-sized enterprises, trade and services, tourism, the agricultural and export sectors, culture, and recreation;

To continue fulfilling the telecommunication-related commitments assumed at the Summits of the Americas, and to promote and disseminate the implementation of the recommendations and guidelines of CITELE;

To encourage, on a voluntary basis, the implementation of Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs), such as that of CITEL, which can serve as instruments to facilitate efficient trade of telecommunication equipment in the region, to promote an effective regulatory cooperation, as well as to collaborate in the establishment of consistent procedures of market surveillance and exchange of information for the purpose of protecting the integrity of the telecommunication market in the region;

To build up CITEL's telecommunication training program, in coordination with CITEL's Regional Training Centers, the International Telecommunication Union's Center of Excellence for the Americas Region, the private sector, and regional and subregional organizations, through the use of advanced education and research networks, and the establishment of Caribbean networks, as well as other civil society entities; and

To present this declaration to other regional and international forums for their information.

In witness whereof, the delegates of the member states participating in the Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission hereby adopt this Declaration in Mexico City, Mexico, on March 11, 2010.

#### **CHAIR OF THE ASSEMBLY**

<b>Argentina</b>	<b>El Salvador</b>
<b>Bolivia</b>	<b>Guatemala</b>
<b>Brazil</b>	<b>Haiti</b>
<b>Canada</b>	<b>Mexico</b>
<b>Chile</b>	<b>Panama</b>
<b>Colombia</b>	<b>Paraguay</b>
<b>Costa Rica</b>	<b>Peru</b>
<b>Dominican Republic</b>	<b>United States of America</b>
<b>Ecuador</b>	<b>Uruguay</b>
	<b>Venezuela</b>

**FIFTH REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE ASSEMBLY OF CITEL  
March 8 to 11, 2010  
Mexico, D.F., Mexico**

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16 June 2010  
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**FINAL REPORT**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>I.</b>	<b>AGENDA.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>II.</b>	<b>OFFICERS OF THE MEETING.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>III.</b>	<b>RESOLUTIONS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
	<i>CITEL RES. 58 (V-10) TRANSITION TO IPv6.....</i>	<i>5</i>
	<i>CITEL RES. 59 (V-10) ADOPTION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN OF CITEL FOR 2010-2014.....</i>	<i>7</i>
	<i>CITEL RES. 60 (V-10) CONTRIBUTIONS BY ASSOCIATE MEMBERS TO CITEL.....</i>	<i>15</i>
	<i>CITEL RES. 61 (V-10) MODIFICATION OF ARTICLE 86 OF THE CITEL REGULATIONS .....</i>	<i>16</i>
	<i>CITEL RES. 62 (V-10) MODIFICATIONS TO CITEL STATUTES AND REGULATIONS.....</i>	<i>62</i>
	<i>CITEL RES. 63 (V-10) DECLARATION OF MEXICO .....</i>	<i>87</i>
	<i>CITEL RES. 64 (V-10) ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PERMANENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES.....</i>	<i>93</i>
	<i>CITEL RES. 65 (V-10) OPERATION OF THE CONFERENCE PREPARATORY WORKING GROUP TO ADDRESS REGIONAL PREPARATIONS FOR WORLD CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS.....</i>	<i>96</i>
	<i>CITEL RES. 66 (V-10) REVIEWING THE AGENDA FOR CONNECTIVITY IN THE AMERICAS.....</i>	<i>97</i>
	<i>CITEL RES. 67 (V-10) PARTICIPATION BY OBSERVERS IN MEETINGS OF CITEL .....</i>	<i>99</i>
<b>IV.</b>	<b>DECISIONS .....</b>	<b>101</b>
<b>V.</b>	<b>ELECTION OF CITEL OFFICERS .....</b>	<b>103</b>
<b>VI.</b>	<b>LIST OF BASIC DOCUMENTS.....</b>	<b>104</b>

## **FINAL REPORT OF THE FIFTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF CITEL**

The Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission, CITEL, was held in Mexico, DF, Mexico, March 8 to 11, 2010.

### **I. AGENDA<sup>1</sup>**

1. Adoption of the Agenda.
2. Organization of the Assembly.
  - 2.1 Order of precedence.
  - 2.2 Creation of Working Committees.
  - 2.3 Establishment of the Committees on Credentials, Style, and Drafting.
3. Election of the Assembly's Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen.
4. Report by the Chair of COM/CITEL.
5. Reports from the Chairs of the Permanent Consultative Committees:
  - 5.1 PCC.I: Telecommunications.
  - 5.2 PCC.II: Radiocommunications including Broadcasting.
6. Report of the Conference Preparatory Working Group dealing with regional preparations for world conferences and meetings.
7. Situation of Connectivity in the Americas.
8. CITEL Strategic Plan.
9. Proposals to amend the Statute and Regulations of CITEL.
10. Establishment of the Permanent Consultative Committees: allocation, purpose, and specific mandate.
11. Appointment of a Member State to serve as Vice-Chairman of COM/CITEL.
12. Election of the Member States of COM/CITEL.
13. Election of Member States to chair the Permanent Consultative Committees.
14. Response by CITEL to the Fifth Summit of the Americas.
15. Establishment of CITEL's Operations Plan for 2010-2014 and of the corresponding program-budget.
16. Coordination with other regional and international bodies.
17. Convocation of the XXII and XXIII meetings of COM/CITEL.
19. Other business.
20. Adoption of the Final Report.

### **II. OFFICERS OF THE MEETING**

Chair:	Mr. Héctor Olavarría (México)
First Vice Chair:	Mr. Montaigne Marcelin (Haití)
Second Vice Chair:	Mr. Jorge Antonio Seall Sasiain (Paraguay)

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<sup>1</sup> CITEL/doc. 391/10

Executive Secretary of CITEL

Mr. Clovis Baptista (OAS)

**Committee on Credentials**

Chair:

Mr. Minor Samayoa Recari (Guatemala)

Members:

Mr. Héctor Carril (Argentina)  
Mr. Facundo Fernández Begni (Argentina)  
Mr. Juan Manuel López Alcoba (Argentina)  
Mr. Guillermo Santiago Thornberry Villarán (Peru)  
Mr. Alejandro Gustavo Jiménez Morales (Peru)  
Mr. Jose David Hurtado Fudinaga (Peru)

**Drafting Committee**

Chair:

Ms. Elizabeth C. Peña Jáuregui (MEXICO)

Members:

Mr. Juan Manuel López Alcoba (Argentina)  
Mr. Santiago Reyes Borda (Canada)  
Ms. Cara Grayer (United States of America)  
Ms. Mariana Calderón (Venezuela)

**Style Committee**

Chair:

(Brazil)

Members:

(Canada)  
(Mexico)  
(Costa Rica)

**Working Committee 1: Structure and Strategic Planning**

Chair:

Mr. Facundo Fernández Begni (Argentina)

**Working Committee 2: 2010-2014 Plan of Operations**

Chair:

Ms. Marian Gordon (United States of America)

**Working Committee 3: Modification of the CITEL Statute and Regulations**

Chair:

Mr. Allan Ruiz (Costa Rica)

**Working Group on the preparation of the Declaration of Mexico**

Chair:

Mr. Reynaldo González Bustamante (Mexico)

Delegates:

Mr. Davison Silva (Brazil)  
Mr. Santiago Reyes Borda (Canada)

Mr. Allan Ruíz (Costa Rica)  
Ms. Elizabeth Peña Jáuregui (Mexico)  
Mr. Héctor Valdés Moreno (Mexico)  
Ms. Janet Hernández (United States of America)  
Ms. Mariana Calderón (Venezuela)  
Ms. Nadia Márquez (Venezuela)

### **III. RESOLUTIONS**

#### **CITEL RES. 58 (V-10) <sup>2</sup>**

#### **TRANSITION TO IPV6**

The Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL),

#### **WHEREAS:**

- a) The Internet has been one of the determining factors in the paradigm shift of technological evolution in the telecommunications, broadcasting, and information technology sectors;
- b) The CITEL Member States are at different stages in their understanding and awareness of the scope of this transformation and its impact on the convergence of networks and services,

#### **RECOGNIZING:**

- a) That regional coordination for the administration of IP addresses has proven to be efficient and has made a significant contribution to improving conditions of fairness in the allocation of IP addresses;
- b) That in particular the administration of IP addresses in the African and Latin American and Caribbean regions has arisen with the aim of providing more efficient and timely attention for the needs of the regions they serve;
- c) That the regional Internet registries, in particular in the region of the Americas, have shown their willingness to collaborate in understanding and developing the Internet in the region, placing particular emphasis on the least developed countries and on the creation of a regional technical community that can help share knowledge among the different countries of the region,

#### **BEARING IN MIND:**

- a) That for more than a decade the CITEL Member States have been working with different public/private partnership mechanisms, particularly with regional Internet registries and local technical communities to develop IPv6 and to understand the development processes for IP address administration policies;

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<sup>2</sup> CITEL/doc. 422/10 rev. 3

b) That interaction between all the players involved with topics related to the administration of IP addresses and the development of IPv6 has been of great value in enriching discussions within CITEL;

b) That as a result of that collaboration, the CITEL Member States issued Recommendation CCP.I/REC.2 (XII-08) on the implementation of IPv6, in which they recommended actions to enable the Member States, in conjunction with the private sector, to pursue the timely deployment of the IPv6 protocol in their respective countries,

**ALSO RECOGNIZING:**

a) That Opinion 5 of the ITU World Telecommunication Policy Forum, (Lisbon, 2009), “Capacity building in support of the adoption of IPv6”, underscored the importance of close collaboration and cooperation among all concerned international, regional and national entities and organizations to facilitate the timely adoption of IPv6;

b) That interaction with the academic sector has been limited and that there is a great potential for the CITEL Member States if national research and education networks (NRENs) play a facilitating role for the study of the IPv6 protocol and, in collaboration with governments and private enterprise, establish IPv6 laboratories to empower training and skill-building activities at the regional level, such as the one recently announced in Mexico by CISCO and the University Corporation for Internet Development (CUDI);

c) That those CITEL Member States that have stepped up interactions and exchanges of information among governments, academia, industry, NRENs, and the corresponding Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) for the development of IPv6 have attained a successful deployment of the IPv6 protocol;

d) That that same collaboration can be carried over to other regions,

**RESOLVES:**

1. To invite the Member States to call on the regional Internet registries (RIRs), local technical communities, national education and research networks (NRENs), and the industry to expand and enrich their cooperation and exchanges of information, discussions, and awareness of Internet issues so that their governments can better understand the areas of opportunity in which they can act and facilitate the deployment of IPv6 and related topics to the benefit of telecommunications network users.

2. To invite the Member States to submit the contributions resulting from resolves 1 to the Secretariat of CITEL and to PCC.I for the corresponding actions, in order to strengthen the exchange of experiences and identify the region’s needs for the transition to IPv6.

**INSTRUCTS THE SECRETARIAT OF CITEL**

1. To forward a report based on the contributions received to the Secretary-General of the ITU and to the regional groups, such as APT, CEPT, ATU, RCC, and the Arab Group.

2. To invite those regional groups to bring together all players involved to continue working on the development and adoption of IPv6 and to contribute to the continuous improvement of Internet-related processes.

**CITEL RES. 59 (V-10)**<sup>3</sup>

**ADOPTION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN OF CITEL FOR 2010-2014**

The Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL),

**CONSIDERING:**

- a) That by resolution CITEL RES. 52 (IV-06), the Strategic Plan of CITEL 2006-2010 was approved;
- b) That in 2009, COM/CITEL and the Permanent Consultative Committees examined the matter; and
- c) That at the Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly, Working Committee 1, “Structure and Strategic Planning,” was formed, which prepared the Strategic Plan for 2010-2014, containing the vision, purpose, telecommunications/ICT environment, strategic goals, specific objectives, and plan of action for that term,

**RESOLVES:**

To adopt the Strategic Plan of CITEL for 2010-2014, hereto annexed.

**ANNEX TO RESOLUTION CITEL RES. 59 (V-10)**<sup>4</sup>

**STRATEGIC PLAN OF CITEL FOR 2010-2014**

The definitions of the terms used throughout this document are contained in Annex 1.

**1. VISION**

High-level specialized advisory body of the Organization of American States (OAS), leader in the region in all aspects involving telecommunications and information and communications technologies (ICTs) (hereinafter telecommunications/ICTs), representing to the world the aspirations and cultural diversity of different regional players, with the aim of achieving the region’s full integration into the Information and Knowledge-based Society.

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<sup>3</sup> CITEL/doc. 466/10

<sup>4</sup> CITEL/doc. 429/10 rev. 5

## **2. PURPOSE**

To facilitate and promote the integral and sustainable development of telecommunications/ICTs in the Americas based on the principles of universality, solidarity, transparency, equity, reciprocity, nondiscrimination, technological neutrality, and resource optimization, taking account of the environment and sustainable human development to benefit society in every country of the region.

## **3. THE TELECOMMUNICATION/ICT ENVIRONMENT**

Historically, in the framework of the OAS, the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) has directed its actions toward seeking consensus and convergence of interests among its Member States on matters where a joint position is needed, whether in political, regulatory, or technical and economic aspects, or to exert substantial influence in forums in which other regions participate.

The telecommunication sector has evolved and grown substantially in recent years. The adoption of Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) technologies, the development of Fourth Generation (4G) networks and higher systems, the expansion of mobile services, the development of wireless technologies, the adoption of the IP protocol, the implementation of digital television, and the incipient growth of high-speed Internet access are some of the trends now noted worldwide.

Technological development has meant access to new technologies and diversification of the supply of services. However, it has also impacted the population, defining new consumption habits and new ways of interrelating, communicating, and interacting with the environment, from which new public demands and expectations have ensued..

Moreover, this development/progress has resulted in new inequalities and divides among the countries of the region that stem from their array of situations and generating a need for efforts to reduce them and to promote regional development as a whole.

In that connection, we recognize that the development of telecommunications/ICTs can widen existing inequalities or can – on the contrary – contribute to and encourage social development if an appropriate course is taken.

Therefore, we realize that harmonized participation by the different players based on a participatory dialogue of equals is essential to guarantee the sustainability of actions undertaken to contribute to efforts at the regional and international levels to reduce social inequality and promote our region's development.

Accordingly, account must be taken of the environment in which CITEL works and the factors to be considered in implementing its mandate.

### **3.1 POLITICAL AND REGULATORY FACTORS**

Account should be taken of the following:

- a) In 2000, the United Nations (UN) Millennium Summit was held, where member countries agreed to establish eight goals to be achieved by 2015.

In order to promote the attainment of these goals, Target 8f urged the United Nations member countries, in co-operation with the private sector, to make available the benefits of information and communication technologies (ICTs).

In that regard, it was affirmed that national policy supported by the use of ICTs should guarantee universal and equal access, eliminating not only the technological but also the social and economic divide that prevents the most disadvantaged population from accessing them.

b) The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) reached consensus regarding political declarations and the implementation of the goals established in the following documents:

- Declaration of Principles
- Plan of Action
- Tunis Agenda for the Information Society
- Tunis Commitment

c) Declarations and plans of action of the Summits of the Americas.

d) Policy statements and reference documents providing guidelines for telecommunication development in the Americas, such as “The Blue Book: Telecommunication Policies for the Americas.”

e) Market trends of both products and services are promoting greater private sector participation and creating new needs and expectations.

f) The convergence of all areas of telecommunications has altered its nature, which may entail adjustments to national regulatory systems.

g) The importance of telecommunications/ICTs for economic and social development in the context of the Information Society.

h) Today’s developments in society, the use of science and technology, and awareness of the need for environmental protection are making it necessary for the telecommunications/ICT sector to seek options promoting environmental policies and, hence, to establish policies for responsibility and awareness of the use of green technologies.

### **3.2 TECHNOLOGICAL FACTORS**

The recent changes in the field of telecommunications/ICTs are characterized by the following realities:

a) Rapid technological advances – among others, broadband development, Internet access, and digitization of broadcasting – have made it possible to improve service efficiency, reduce infrastructure costs, and implement new services.

b) The rapid development of IP-based networks and wireless systems, as well as the need to take optimal advantage of the benefits of that technology for all peoples of the world, at fair prices.

c) The convergence of telecommunication networks and services/ICTs is redefining the frontiers of the industry and promoting new opportunities in terms of products and services, especially to support, *inter alia*, education, health, governmental, environmental, green technology, and industrialization programs, posing new and policy and regulatory challenges.

- d) Substantial differences among countries as regards the expansion and modernization of telecommunication services and major deficiencies in information and communication technology infrastructure in most Member States.
- e) The development of telecommunications/ICTs entails an increase in the supply of products and services, with an ensuing need to establish programs that promote and improve the supply of technical and professional human resources. To that end, policies, plans, and programs need to be designed to improve education and training in keeping with the needs of these sectors.
- f) The need for appropriate public policies, regulations, and standards to promote the introduction on the market of new technologies with a high degree of reliability and interoperability, in an environment of legal certainty and healthy competition.
- g) It is now essential for telecommunications/ICTs to be used to achieve the economic and social development of the States, and their organizations and citizenry. Therefore, regulatory policy, standardization, and legislation must take account of principles such as technological neutrality, which promotes greater accessibility and development.
- h) Convergence of technology and services is leading to new demands for digital inclusion and a need to assess the scope of the concept of universal service.
- i) Technological advances, the supply of new services, and their access costs are widening the divide between and within the countries of the region, pointing to a need for infrastructure development and industry promotion plans, and for cost structures to be defined and reviewed.
- j) The steady growth of the Internet has transformed the lives of citizens, with implications such as the proliferation of cyber-threats and online browsing risks.

#### **4. STRATEGIC GOALS**

1. To promote greater active participation by the Member States of CITELE and all actors of the telecommunication/ICT sector in the activities of CITELE.
2. To promote and coordinate activities, initiatives, projects, and programs of interest to the Member States related to the development of telecommunications/ICTs in the region.
3. To step up cooperation and coordination of activities, initiatives, projects, and programs with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and other international, regional, and subregional organizations and entities, including those with which CITELE has cooperation agreements, in order to optimize the use of scarce human and financial resources.
4. To represent and defend the interests of CITELE in regional and international forums, especially the interests of the Member States for which international representation is difficult, with a view to defining future consensus positions in those forums.
5. To promote discussions and actions in order to present results to the countries of the region, addressing matters related to, *inter alia*, universal service, economic and social development, environment, the development of infrastructure and new technologies, and the harmonized and efficient use of the radio spectrum.

6. To ensure the long-term financial stability and sustainability of CITEL.

## **5. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

1. To maintain, expand, and strengthen cooperation among the Member States of CITEL and the associate members, as well as with the private sector in general and international, regional, and subregional telecommunication organizations and other entities related to the telecommunication sector, with a view to greater rapprochement with market agents and to achieving the sustainable integral development of telecommunications/ICTs in the region.

2. To strengthen mechanisms for preparations for international telecommunications/ICT meetings in order to submit consensus-based common proposals enabling the regional position to be defended in the international context.

3. To identify and recommend options to address problems of the existing digital divide among and within the Member States, in keeping with the mandates of the Summits of the Americas and, most recently, the Declaration of Port of Spain of the Fifth Summit, and with the activities and projects undertaken by the Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean (ECLAC) related to the implementation of the Strategy for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC-2010).

4. To disseminate information on latest generation telecommunications/ICTs and to serve as a focal point for the information needs of the Member States.

5. To promote training, technical cooperation, and technology transfer through the ITU's Center of Excellence for the Americas Region, CITEL's Regional Training Centers, and organizations with which CITEL has cooperation agreements.

6. To promote the efficient use of the radiofrequency spectrum and of satellite orbit resources in the region based on the priorities and requirements of the Member States.

7. To promote the drafting and development of documents and studies on regulation for the preparation of telecommunication/ICT-related reports and recommendations.

8. To strengthen the institutional image of CITEL.

9. To serve as a means for the Member States to channel their needs regarding natural disaster mitigation and – should the need arise – their telecommunication needs, including in kind donations and collaboration of human capital.

## 6. PLAN OF ACTION

Specific objectives	Expected results	Party responsible
1. To maintain, expand, and strengthen cooperation among the Member States of CITELE and the associate members, as well as with the private sector in general and international, regional, and subregional telecommunication organizations and other entities related to the telecommunication sector, with a view to greater rapprochement with market agents and achieving the sustainable integral development of telecommunications/ICTs in the region.	Debates and studies on priority matters and dissemination of the corresponding results.	COM/CITEL, PCC.I, PCC.II
	Expanded participation by the Members in the meetings of CITELE and new memberships.	COM/CITEL, PCC.I, PCC.II
	Greater cooperation and the establishment of new cooperative ties with other entities.	Member States, Secretariat of CITELE
2. To strengthen mechanisms for preparations for international telecommunications/ICT meetings in order to submit consensus-based common proposals enabling the regional position to be defended in the international context.	Development in time and form of common proposals for presentation at world conferences of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), with greater participation by Members of CITELE.	Member States
	Effective, efficient participation by spokespersons of the Member States.	Member States, the Conference Preparatory Working Group, PCC.I, PCC.II, Secretariat of CITELE
	Greater participation in relevant interregional meetings.	Member States
3. To identify and recommend options to address problems of the digital divide existing among and within the Member States, in keeping with the mandates of the Summits of the Americas and, most recently, the Declaration of Port of Spain of the Fifth Summit, and with the activities and projects undertaken by the Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean (ECLAC)	Greater connectivity and digital literacy.	COM/CITEL, PCC.I, PCC.II
	Greater use of telecommunications/ICTs.	Member States, Secretariat of CITELE
	Identification of standardization priorities for the region.	PCC.I

<b>Specific objectives</b>	<b>Expected results</b>	<b>Party responsible</b>
related to the implementation of the Strategy for the <b>Information</b> Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC- 2010.)	Double broadband penetration over the next four years.	Member States
4. To disseminate information on the latest generation of telecommunications/ICTs and to serve as a focal point for the information needs of the Member States.	Information available and updated.	COM/CITEL, PCC.I, PCC.II, associate members, Secretariat of CITEL
5. To promote training, technical cooperation, and technology transfer through the ITU Center of Excellence for the Americas Region, the CITEL Regional Training Centers, and organizations with which CITEL has cooperation agreements.	Seminars, workshops, tutorials, and courses of interest to the Member States.	COM/CITEL, PCC.I, PCC.II
6. To promote the efficient use of the radiofrequency spectrum and of satellite orbital resources in the region, based on the priorities and requirements of the Member States.	Recommendations by CITEL on radiocommunication services to achieve interconnectivity, interoperability, and the most efficient use of the spectrum and orbit resources.	PCC.II
	Training related to the management of radio spectrum allocations and the use of satellite orbit resources, with the collaboration of the ITU and other organizations.	PCC.II
7. To promote the drafting and development of documents and studies on regulation, in order to prepare telecommunication/ICT-related reports and recommendations.	Documents addressing the needs of the Member States.	COM/CITEL, PCC.I, PCC.II
8. To strengthen the institutional image of CITEL.	Greater recognition of the work of CITEL by the Member States and the telecommunications sector.	COM/CITEL, PCC.I, PCC.II, Secretariat of CITEL
9. To serve as a medium for the Member States to channel their needs regarding natural disaster mitigation and – should the need arise – their telecommunication needs, including in	Recommendations to ensure the least impact on the telecommunication sector in the event of natural disasters.	PCC.I, PCC.II

<b>Specific objectives</b>	<b>Expected results</b>	<b>Party responsible</b>
kind donations and collaboration of human capital.	Coordination between Member States to restore telecommunication/ICT services.	Member States, Secretariat of CITEL
	Advice for telecommunication network reconstruction.	Member States

## **ANNEX 1 STRATEGIC PLAN OF CITEL FOR 2010-2014**

### **Definition of the terms used in the document**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose describes the main overall function of CITEL, as stipulated in its Statute and Regulations.

#### **Strategic goals**

The high-level goals of CITEL, to which the Committee's objectives contribute directly or indirectly.

#### **Specific objectives**

The specific objectives of CITEL. The results expected to be achieved within a specific period.

#### **Expected results**

Expected results should reflect the desired outcome of activities (outputs, which are sometimes referred to as "outcomes"). They should be linked, where applicable, to the underlying objectives of the Strategic Plan.

#### **Key performance indicators**

Key performance indicators (KPI) are the criteria or characteristics used to measure the results obtained, which in turn are used to achieve the different objectives defined in the strategic planning process. Those indicators may be qualitative, quantitative or both. They are the scale used to measure and evaluate, among other things, progress toward the generation of results and the achievement of objectives.

**CITEL RES. 60 (V-10)**<sup>5</sup>

**CONTRIBUTIONS BY ASSOCIATE MEMBERS TO CITEL**

The Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL),

**CONSIDERING:**

- a) That, under Article 24 of the Statute of CITEL, associate members of a Permanent Consultative Committee (PCC) may fully participate in all the activities of that Permanent Consultative Committee;
- b) That, under Article 29 of the Statute of CITEL, fees of the associate members shall be determined in accordance with the CITEL Regulations;
- c) That pursuant to Article 87 of the Regulations of CITEL, the minimum contribution by associate members as fees shall be “one” unit, whose monetary value in U.S.A. dollars shall be established by the CITEL Assembly;
- d) That Article 17.g of the Statute of CITEL authorizes COM/CITEL to adopt any urgent measures which cannot be deferred until the next meeting of the Assembly of CITEL and which shall remain in force until the CITEL Assembly can consider them; and
- e) That COM/CITEL adopted resolution COM/CITEL RES. 220 (XX-08), and requested that that resolution be submitted to the Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of CITEL for ratification,

**TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:**

- a) That the minimum unit amount must cover the costs of the associate member representatives’ annual participation in each PCC to which they belong;
- b) That the minimum amount of this contribution unit for associate members was set at two thousand U.S. dollars (US \$2,500) at the Third Assembly of CITEL, held in Washington, D.C., United States, in 2002;
- c) That since then, CITEL activities and responsibilities, as well as the costs of convening and holding meetings and other activities of the PCCs, have increased;
- d) That the associate members may voluntarily choose a contribution of more than “one” unit; and
- e) That it is urgent to implement an increase of the minimum unit amount to three thousand U.S. dollars (US\$3,000) to defray the higher costs of PCC activities,

**RESOLVES:**

1. To set the unit value for contributions of associate members at three thousand U.S. dollars (US\$3,000) for each Permanent Consultative Committee, effective as of January 1, 2010.

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<sup>5</sup> CITEL/doc. 418/10

2. To urge associate members to choose to contribute more than “one” contribution unit.
3. To revoke resolution CITEL RES. 40 (III-02).

**CITEL RES. 61 (V-10) <sup>6</sup>**

**MODIFICATION OF ARTICLE 86 OF THE CITEL REGULATIONS**

The Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL),

**HAVING SEEN:**

resolution COMCITEL RES. 206 (XVIII-06) “Modification of the CITEL Regulations,

**CONSIDERING:**

a) That COM/CITEL, at its Eighteenth Regular Meeting adopted resolution COM/CITEL RES. 206 (XVIII-06), which approved the modification of Section 2 of Article 86 of the CITEL Regulations, so as to state:

2. “Associate members of a PCC may fully participate in all the activities of that PCC with voice but without vote; nevertheless, without the support of the respective Member State, they shall not be able to take the floor to request the PCC to consider a proposal for the purpose of taking a decision. An associate member of any PCC shall also be entitled to participate in the work of any joint working group to which its PCC belongs, without being requested the payment of additional fees.”;

b) That by that same resolution, COM/CITEL recommended that the CITEL Assembly approve that modification at its next meeting;

c) That Article 100 of the CITEL Regulations requires that modifications to those Regulations be presented to the General Assembly of the Organization of American States for its information,

**RESOLVES:**

To approve the modification of Section 2 of Article 86 of the CITEL Regulations recommended in resolution COM/CITEL RES. 206 (XVIII-06), and request that the CITEL Secretariat inform the General Assembly of the Organization of American States of this modification.

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<sup>6</sup> CITEL/doc. 456/10



Organización de los Estados Americanos  
Organização dos Estados Americanos  
Organisation des États Américains  
Organization of American States

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# Regulations of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL)

Edition ~~2006~~2010

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. The Regulations of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission were approved by resolution AG/RES.1259 (XXIV-O/94) and amended by resolution AG/RES. 2159 (XXXVI-O/06).
2. The text indicates the amendments introduced by resolutions [resolutions](#) CITEL RES. 29 (II-98), CITEL RES. 34 (III-02) and CITEL RES.54 (IV-06).
3. The Articles of the Regulations have been renumbered taking into account the modifications approved during the III CITELE Assembly. By a footnote we indicate at what meeting –a modification has been approved.
4. The text includes the modifications approved by resolutions [resolutions](#) COM/CITEL RES. 178 (XIV-04), COM/CITEL RES. 183 (XIV-04), [COM/CITEL RES. 200 \(XVI-05\)](#) and COM/CITEL RES. [200 \(XVI-05\)206 \(XVIII-06\)](#).
5. [The text includes the modifications approved by resolutions CITEL RES. 61 \(V-10\) and CITEL RES. 62 \(V-10\).](#)

Example: The footnote [CITEL-2002] indicates changes introduced to the original text at the Third Assembly of CITELE held in Washington, DC, USA, August 12 to 16, 2002.

**TABLE OF CORRESPONDING ARTICLES**

Article number of the CITES Regulations before the III CITES Assembly	Article number of the CITES Regulations after the III CITES Assembly
17	18
18	19
19	20
20	21
21	22
22	23
23	24
24	25
25	26
26	27
27	28
28	29
29	30
30	31
31	32
32	33
33	34
34	35
35	36
36	37
37	38
38	39
39	40
40	41
41	42
42	43
43	44
44	45
45	46
46	47
47	48
48	49
49	50
50	51
51	52
52	53
53	54
54	55
55	56
56	57
57	58
58	Text moved to new Article 46
77	80
78	81
79	82

<b>Article number of the CITES Regulations before the III CITES Assembly</b>	<b>Article number of the CITES Regulations after the III CITES Assembly</b>
80	83
81	84
82	85
83	86
84	87
85	88
86	89
87	90
88	91
89	92
90	93
91	94
92	95
93	96
94	97
95	98
96	99
97	100
98	101
99	102

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>EXPLANATORY NOTES</b> .....	<b>18</b>
<b>CHAPTER I</b> .....	<b>24</b>
<b>NATURE, ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP</b> .....	<b>24</b>
Article 1 Nature .....	24
Article 2 Organization .....	24
Article 3 Applications for Membership .....	25
Article 4 Liaison .....	25
<b>CHAPTER II</b> .....	<b>26</b>
<b>CITEL ASSEMBLY</b> .....	<b>26</b>
<b>A. MEETINGS</b> .....	<b>26</b>
Article 5 Regular Meetings.....	26
Article 6 Principle of Rotation.....	26
Article 7 Special Meetings.....	26
Article 8 Alternative Site for the Meetings.....	26
Article 9 Notice of Convocation of Meetings.....	27
<b>B. PARTICIPANTS</b> .....	<b>27</b>
Article 10 Delegations .....	27
Article 11 Credentials .....	27
Article 12 Order of Precedence .....	27
Article 13 Permanent Observers to the Organization .....	27
Article 14 Observers from Inter-American specialized organizations, Organs of the OAS and from Inter-American intergovernmental regional organizations .....	28
Article 15 Observers from the United Nations .....	28
Article 16 Other Observers .....	28
Article 17 .....	29
Article 18 .....	29
Article 19 Observer's participation fee .....	29
Article 20 Guests .....	30
Article 21 .....	30
Article 22 .....	30
<b>C. ASSEMBLY OFFICERS</b> .....	<b>30</b>
Article 23 Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen .....	30
Article 24 Duties of the Chairman of the CITEL Assembly.....	30
Article 25 Participation by the Assembly Chairman in Voting and Discussion .....	31
Article 26 Duties of the Vice-Chairmen Acting as Chairman .....	31
Article 27 Absence or Disability of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen.....	31
<b>D. AGENDA</b> .....	<b>31</b>
Article 28 Agenda of the Regular Meetings .....	32
Article 29 Agenda of Special Meetings .....	32
Article 30 Reports and Proposals.....	32
Article 31 .....	32
<b>E. SESSIONS</b> .....	<b>33</b>

Article 32	Informal Meeting of Heads of Delegations.....	33
Article 33	First Plenary Session.....	33
Article 34	Adoption of Decisions .....	33
Article 35	.....	33
Article 36	Public and Private Sessions .....	33
Article 37	.....	34
Article 38	.....	34
<b>F. COMMITTEES</b>	.....	<b>34</b>
Article 39	Steering Committee .....	34
Article 40	Committee on Credentials .....	34
Article 41	Style Committee .....	35
Article 42	Drafting Committee.....	35
Article 43	Working Committees.....	35
Article 44	Subcommittees and working groups.....	36
<b>G. QUORUM</b>	.....	<b>36</b>
Article 45	.....	36
<b>H. DEBATES AND PROCEDURES</b>	.....	<b>36</b>
Article 46	Proposals and Amendments.....	36
Article 47	Withdrawal of Proposals.....	37
Article 48	Reconsideration of Decisions .....	37
Article 49	Points of Order.....	37
Article 50	Suspension of Discussion .....	37
Article 51	Closing Discussion .....	38
Article 52	Suspension or Adjournment of a Session .....	38
Article 53	Order of Procedural Motions .....	38
Article 54	General Provisions for All the Deliberative Bodies of the CITES Assembly Meeting.....	39
<b>I. VOTING</b>	.....	<b>39</b>
Article 55	Voting on Proposals.....	39
Article 56	Abstentions .....	39
Article 57	Ties .....	39
Article 58	Repeat Vote .....	39
Article 59	.....	39
Article 60	.....	40
Article 61	.....	40
<b>J. ELECTIONS</b>	.....	<b>40</b>
Article 62	.....	40
Article 63	.....	40
Article 64	.....	40
<b>K. DOCUMENTS</b>	.....	<b>41</b>
Article 65	Summary Minutes.....	41
Article 66	Summary of the Activities .....	41
Article 67	Filing of Documents .....	41
<b>CHAPTER III</b>	.....	<b>42</b>
<b>THE PERMANENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (COM/CITES)</b>	.....	<b>42</b>
Article 68	Length of Term.....	42
Article 69	Appointment of Representatives of COM/CITES .....	42
Article 70	Functions .....	42

Article 71	Work Program .....	42
Article 72	Duties of the Chairman .....	42
Article 73	Order of Succession .....	43
Article 74	Headquarters of COM/CITEL .....	44
Article 75	.....	44
Article 76	.....	44
Article 77	.....	44
Article 78	.....	45
Article 79	.....	45
<b>CHAPTER IV .....</b>		<b>46</b>
<b>PERMANENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES (PCCS).....</b>		<b>46</b>
<b>A. ORGANIZATION AND OFFICERS .....</b>		<b>46</b>
Article 80	.....	46
Article 81	Duties of the Chairman of a PCC .....	46
Article 82	Chairman's Office .....	47
Article 83	Working groups and ad hoc groups .....	47
<b>B. PARTICIPATION IN THE PCC .....</b>		<b>47</b>
Article 84	Members .....	47
Article 85	Associate members .....	48
Article 86	Participation of associate members.....	49
Article 87	Associate membership Fee .....	49
Article 88	Observers and Guests .....	50
<b>C. MEETINGS .....</b>		<b>51</b>
Article 89	.....	51
Article 90	Decisions .....	52
<b>CHAPTER V .....</b>		<b>53</b>
<b>THE SECRETARIAT .....</b>		<b>53</b>
Article 91	.....	53
Article 92	The Executive Secretary of CITEL.....	53
<b>CHAPTER VI .....</b>		<b>55</b>
<b>GENERAL PROVISIONS.....</b>		<b>55</b>
Article 93	.....	55
Article 94	Schedule of meetings and agendas .....	55
Article 95	Conduct of meetings and administrative support.....	56
Article 96	Working Procedures governing the activities of the PCCs .....	56
Article 97	.....	58
Article 98	.....	59
Article 99	Entry into Force .....	59
Article 100	Amendments to the Regulations .....	59
Article 101	Suspension of provisions from Chapter II .....	59
Article 102	Unregulated matters.....	60
<b>NAMES OF THE PCC .....</b>		<b>61</b>

# REGULATIONS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATION COMMISSION

## CHAPTER I

### NATURE, ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP

#### ARTICLE 1

##### Nature

1. CITEL is governed by its Statute and these Regulations. The Regulations complement the Statute which was approved by resolution of the OAS General Assembly, and serve to provide more specific rules for the operation, administration, and procedures of CITEL for the achievement of its purposes and objectives.
2. In case of conflict between the Statute and these Regulations, the Statute shall take precedence.
3. The technical autonomy of CITEL established pursuant to the Statute, includes:
  - a. The capacity and competence to freely program its activities within the scope of Article 1 of the Statute;
  - b. A direct technical relationship with the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (hereafter "the Organization") notwithstanding its obligation to submit its Annual Report of activities to the Permanent Council of the Organization, so that the Council has the opportunity to present its observations and recommendations to the General Assembly pursuant to Article 91(f) of the Charter of the Organization;
  - c. Direct contact with the Secretary General of the Organization for all administrative and budgetary matters;
  - d. Competence to establish relations with other international organizations that participate in the development of telecommunications/[information and communication technologies \(ICT\)](#) ([hereinafter telecommunications/ICT](#)) throughout the American States; and
  - e. Participation in the planning of technical assistance to CITEL members.

#### ARTICLE 2<sup>7</sup>

##### Organization

CITEL fulfills its objectives through the following organs: the CITEL Assembly, the Permanent Executive Committee (COM/CITEL), the Permanent Consultative Committees, and the Secretariat. The first three organs shall include such committees, sub-committees, working groups and ad hoc groups, joint working groups and rapporteurs as may be established in accordance with these Regulations.

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<sup>7</sup> [CITEL-1998] [CITEL-2002]

### **ARTICLE 3**

#### **Applications for Membership**

Any American State which is not a member of the Organization, must submit its membership request to the Secretary General of the Organization, who shall transmit it to COM/CITEL for study and recommendation before it is considered by the CITEL Assembly and approved by the General Assembly of the Organization.

### **ARTICLE 4**

#### **Liaison**

Each Member State shall notify the Executive Secretary of CITEL, in writing, within thirty days of the termination of the Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly, the name of the institution and the person within the institution that will serve as the official liaison between CITEL and that Member State with respect to telecommunications/[ICT](#). The person appointed shall serve as the official to whom and from whom, official correspondence shall be addressed and exchanged, including all notices, technical contributions to meetings, reports of meetings, and accreditation letters.

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**CHAPTER II**  
**CITEL ASSEMBLY**

**A. MEETINGS**

**ARTICLE 5**

**Regular Meetings**

CITEL shall endeavor to schedule the Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly, held every four years, during the first quarter of the year. The Regular Meetings shall be numbered consecutively.

**ARTICLE 6**

**Principle of Rotation**

In the application of the principle of rotation in selecting the country where a Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly is to take place, it is understood that the Regular Meeting shall not be held in the territory of a Member State if another Member State in which fewer meetings have been held should offer its territory for this purpose. Recognized regional affinities shall also be considered when applying the principle of rotation, e.g. North America, Central America, Andean, Caribbean Region, or other distinguishable regional affinities.

**ARTICLE 7**

**Special Meetings**

In special circumstances, at the initiative of the General Assembly of the Organization, on the recommendation of any Council of the Organization, or at the initiative of COM/CITEL, the CITEL Assembly may hold a Special Meeting to consider specific matters, if those matters are of such importance as to preclude waiting for the next Regular Meeting of the Assembly. COM/CITEL will convene and set the date and place for such Special Meeting, subject to available funding.

**ARTICLE 8**

**Alternative Site for the Meetings**

If for any reason a Regular or Special Meeting of the CITEL Assembly cannot be held in a selected country, it shall be held at the General Secretariat of the Organization headquarters, unless one of the Member States, with sufficient advance notice, offers to host the Assembly, in which case COM/CITEL may agree to hold the meeting in that country.

## **ARTICLE 9**

### **Notice of Convocation of Meetings**

The Secretary General of the Organization, or by delegation, the CITELE Executive Secretary, shall transmit the notice of convocation of the CITELE Assembly Meeting and the invitations to the participants as soon as the country offering to host the Assembly confirms to the CITELE Secretariat the exact date, city and specific location for the meeting, and that it has available sufficient funds for that purpose. The country offering to host the Assembly shall provide this information to the Executive Secretary, no later than sixty days before the proposed date of the meeting.

## **B. PARTICIPANTS**

### **ARTICLE 10**

#### **Delegations**

Each head of delegation may delegate his duties to the alternate head, or if there is none, to any other member of his delegation. Each Member State shall endeavor to designate to its delegations representatives who are versed in telecommunications/ICT. Delegations shall have the right to participate with voice and vote, in all public and private meetings of the Assembly, including its committees, subcommittees, working groups and ad hoc groups, in accordance with these Regulations and any special Rules of Procedure adopted for such meetings.

### **ARTICLE 11**

#### **Credentials**

Accreditation of the members of each delegation shall be made by the respective governments by means of written communications to the Executive Secretary, granting the delegates full powers to participate in the decisions on subjects included in the agenda of the sessions of the Assembly.

### **ARTICLE 12**

#### **Order of Precedence**

At the informal session prior to the opening session of the Assembly, the delegations shall establish by lot an order of precedence to be used for the delegations' location in the sessions room, in the voting process and in the use of the floor whenever the delegations are requested to give their opinions on some subject-matter. The host delegation shall not be included in the "by lot" procedure and shall hold last place in the order of precedence.

### **ARTICLE 13**

#### **Permanent Observers to the Organization**

1. States that are Permanent Observers to the Organization shall enjoy the same status in the CITELE and any of its organs. They shall accredit their respective representatives to participate in the meetings of the CITELE Assembly, by means of a written communication addressed to the Executive Secretary.

2. The representatives of the Permanent Observers may attend the public sessions of the CITELE Assembly Meetings, and of its principal committees and, when invited by the corresponding presiding officer, the private sessions. With the permission of the presiding officer, Permanent Observers may speak at any meeting.

#### **ARTICLE 14**

##### **Observers from Inter-American specialized organizations, Organs of the OAS and from Inter-American intergovernmental regional organizations**

Representatives of Inter-American specialized organizations and organs of the OAS, and Inter-American intergovernmental regional organizations may attend the CITELE Assembly as observers. With the permission of the presiding officer, those representatives may speak at the meeting or address the meeting in writing.

#### **ARTICLE 15**

##### **Observers from the United Nations**

Representatives of the United Nations and its specialized agencies may attend the Meetings of the CITELE Assembly as observers. With the permission of the presiding officer, they may speak at the meeting or address the meeting in writing.

#### **ARTICLE 16 <sup>8</sup>**

##### **Other Observers**

1. International and national organizations that are parties to agreements or arrangements establishing relations of cooperation with the Organization, its organs, organizations or agencies may also attend the CITELE Assembly meetings when such agreements or arrangements provide for the participation of observers.

2. Subject to COM/CITELE's approval, the following may send observers to the CITELE Assembly:

- a. American States that are not Members or Permanent Observers of the Organization who have asked to participate in the meeting.
- b. Non-American States that are Members of the United Nations or its specialized agencies who have asked to participate in the meeting.
- c. International, regional, subregional, and national agencies and organizations that are involved in telecommunications/[ICT](#) activities in the region who have asked to participate in the meeting.

3. The observers referred to in this Article may speak at the plenary session of the CITELE Assembly or at the sessions of its principal committees, only when invited to do so by the corresponding presiding officer, because of special interest or expertise in a specific topic of discussion. Similarly, such observers

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<sup>8</sup> [CITELE-2002]

may provide written statements on such topics when expressly authorized or requested to do so by the presiding officer.

4. The participation of the observers referred to in this Article, before the CITEL Assembly, is without prejudice to the status that they may have, as associate members of the PCCs, in accordance with Article 85 of the Regulations.

#### **ARTICLE 17<sup>9</sup>**

Active associate members may attend the public sessions of the CITEL Assembly as observers. The observers referred to in this Article may speak at the plenary sessions of the CITEL Assembly or at the sessions of its principal committees only when invited to do so by the corresponding presiding officer because of special interest or expertise in a specific topic of discussion. Similarly, such observers may provide written statements on such topics when expressly authorized or requested to do so by the presiding officer.

#### **ARTICLE 18<sup>10</sup>**

Unless otherwise specified by COM/CITEL, any State or entity referred to in Article 16 that wishes to participate in a meeting of the CITEL Assembly as an observer, shall apply to attend, in writing, to the Chairman of COM/CITEL, at least sixty days before the anticipated opening of that meeting. The Chairman of COM/CITEL shall consult such applications with the Members of COM/CITEL, and if they approve, the corresponding invitations shall be extended in accordance with Article 9 of these Regulations.

#### **ARTICLE 19**

##### **Observer's participation fee**

1. Distribution of documents of the meetings of the CITEL Assembly to the categories of observers identified in Articles 13, 14 and 15 of these Regulations, shall be governed by the applicable principles, practices and rules of the Organization.

2. Distribution of documents of the meetings of the Assembly to the observers identified in Article 16, shall be conditioned upon payment of a fee to cover the administrative cost of that category of observer's participation in the meeting. This fee called "a participation fee" shall be equivalent to 15% of the "contributory unit" corresponding to an associate member.

3. Notwithstanding the foregoing, COM/CITEL may decide to exempt payment of the participation fee by any observer, covered by Article 16, where CITEL is exempted from making similar payments to that observer, on the basis of reciprocity.

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<sup>9</sup> [CITEL-2002]

<sup>10</sup> [CITEL-1998] [CITEL-2002]

## **ARTICLE 20**

### **Guests**

Subject to COM/CITEL's approval and in consultation with the government of the host country, any person or entity not covered in Article 16, that is a recognized authority or that has a particular interest in the field of telecommunications/[ICT](#) may attend the meetings of the CITEL Assembly as a guest. COM/CITEL will develop guidelines to determine qualifications for guests.

## **ARTICLE 21 <sup>11</sup>**

Individuals or entities wishing to participate as guests to a meeting of the CITEL Assembly, under Article 20, should apply in writing to the Chair of COM/CITEL no later than forty five days prior to the scheduled start of the CITEL Assembly meeting. The Chair of COM/CITEL will consult with COM/CITEL members and, with their consent, extend the corresponding invitations pursuant to Article 9 of these Regulations, unless the Government of the host country objects.

## **ARTICLE 22**

Guests may attend the plenary meetings and the meetings of the committees for the sole purpose of following the discussions. However, they may take part in committee discussions only if they are requested to do so by the Chairman of the Committee and there is no objection from any Member State present. Guests shall not receive copies of contributions, papers or reports of the proceedings, unless COM/CITEL decides to provide the documents to a guest when it approves an invitation.

## **C. ASSEMBLY OFFICERS**

## **ARTICLE 23**

### **Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen**

The Assembly Chairman and both Vice-Chairmen shall be elected in the first plenary session, in accordance with the procedures outlined in Article 8 of the Statute. These officials will remain in office until the Assembly is adjourned.

## **ARTICLE 24**

### **Duties of the Chairman of the CITEL Assembly**

1. The Assembly Chairman shall:
  - a. Convoke plenary sessions;

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<sup>11</sup> [CITEL-2002]

- b. Establish the order of business of the sessions;
  - c. Open and close the plenary sessions and direct their discussions;
  - d. Grant the floor to the participants in the order in which they request it, giving precedence to representatives of the Member States when appropriate;
  - e. Put the topics under discussion to a vote, and announce decisions taken;
  - f. Rule on points of order being submitted to the Assembly for consideration;
  - g. Establish the working committees, and
  - h. Generally, ensure compliance with these Regulations.
2. When any speaker departs from the topic under discussion the Assembly Chairman may draw this to his attention. Likewise, during discussion of a topic, the Chairman may propose limitation of the time to be allowed to speakers, limitation of the number of times a participant may speak, closure of the list of speakers, or closure of discussion. He may also propose the suspension or adjournment of a session, or postponement of discussion of the matter under consideration.

## **ARTICLE 25**

### **Participation by the Assembly Chairman in Voting and Discussion**

The Assembly Chairman shall not participate from the chair in a substantive discussion, nor shall vote on any matter before the plenary sessions of the Assembly.

## **ARTICLE 26**

### **Duties of the Vice-Chairmen Acting as Chairman**

If the Chairman is absent from a session or from part of it, one of the Vice-Chairmen shall take his place, according to the order of precedence, and shall enjoy the same powers and duties as the Chairman.

## **ARTICLE 27**

### **Absence or Disability of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen**

In the event of the absence or disability of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairmen of the CITELE Assembly, the Meeting shall be presided over by one of the Chairmen of the working committees, according to the order of numbering of those committees.

## **D. AGENDA**

## **ARTICLE 28**

### **Agenda of the Regular Meetings**

1. COM/CITEL shall prepare a preliminary agenda for each Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly to be provided to the Member States for their consideration at least three months in advance of the anticipated opening of the Assembly.
2. In preparing the preliminary agenda, COM/CITEL shall take into account the topics proposed by the governments of the Member States, those mandated by the General Assembly of the Organization, and may take into consideration those recommended by other organs of the Organization.
3. The Member States shall have thirty days to present their observations on the preliminary agenda to the Chairman of COM/CITEL. On the basis of these observations, COM/CITEL shall draw-up the agenda for the Assembly meeting.
4. The agenda so approved, may be amended or otherwise modified only during the Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly by a vote of two thirds of the participating Member States.

## **ARTICLE 29**

### **Agenda of Special Meetings**

The agenda of each Special Meeting of the CITEL Assembly shall be confined to the subject or subjects for which the Meeting was convoked. The procedures and time periods for the preparation of the agenda of a Special Meeting shall be established in each case by COM/CITEL.

## **ARTICLE 30**<sup>12</sup>

### **Reports and Proposals**

Generally, the CITEL Assembly shall consider two kinds of papers: reports and proposals. Reports shall be informative in nature, while proposals shall be submitted to the Assembly for its consideration. During an Assembly meeting, other forms of work or technical contributions may be solicited. The documents thus submitted shall not include any information of a promotional or commercial nature.

## **ARTICLE 31**<sup>13</sup>

1. Reports and proposals shall normally be presented to the Executive Secretary fifteen days in advance of the date set for the opening of the CITEL Assembly, in order to permit their distribution to the Member States in CITEL working languages, together with the report of COM/CITEL and that of the Secretariat. Documents that do not meet the deadlines set in this Article will be presented at the meeting of heads of delegation to determine whether they are to be considered as information or working documents during said meeting. The Executive Secretary shall make such documents available to the Member States as they are received, by the most suitable means, before the start of a meeting.

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<sup>12</sup> [CITEL-2002] [CITEL-2006, only Spanish]

<sup>13</sup> [CITEL-1998] [CITEL-2002] [CITEL-2006, only Spanish]

2. At the beginning of a meeting, the Assembly may establish a period of time in which additional proposals may be submitted to it for consideration.

## **E. SESSIONS**

### **ARTICLE 32**

#### **Informal Meeting of Heads of Delegations**

Prior to the inaugural session, the heads of delegations of the Member States or their alternates shall meet informally, upon being called together by the Chairman of COM/CITEL, to agree on the various aspects concerning the organization of the work of the CITEL Assembly.

### **ARTICLE 33**

#### **First Plenary Session**

The first plenary session shall be held as soon as possible after the CITEL Assembly Meeting has been inaugurated. At that session, the CITEL Assembly shall elect its officers, and establish the committees referred to in Chapter II section F of these Regulations. Immediately thereafter the working committees shall be installed and their respective officers elected.

### **ARTICLE 34**

#### **Adoption of Decisions**

The CITEL Assembly shall adopt its decisions in the form of resolutions, recommendations and declarations, at its plenary sessions. The Secretariat shall distribute those decisions immediately after their adoption.

### **ARTICLE 35**

Decisions with financial repercussions for the Organization shall include an estimate of the corresponding cost.

### **ARTICLE 36<sup>14</sup>**

#### **Public and Private Sessions**

1. Plenary sessions at the Assembly and of the working committees shall be public. However, if the chairman so provides or any representative Member State so requests, the session shall be private, and shall so continue unless the members participating in the session decide otherwise.

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<sup>14</sup> [CITEL-2002]

2. Private Sessions may only be attended by the heads of delegations of the Member States, the members of the delegations designated by those heads and such Secretariat personnel as the Chairman of the respective body may expressly authorize in each case.

#### **ARTICLE 37 <sup>15</sup>**

All decisions taken by the CITEL Assembly in a private plenary session shall be announced at the next public plenary session.

#### **ARTICLE 38**

No plenary, committee, subcommittee, ad hoc group, or working group session shall be held unless the place and time have been announced to participants sufficiently in advance to permit them to attend.

### **F. COMMITTEES**

#### **ARTICLE 39**

##### **Steering Committee**

1. The Steering Committee is made up of the Chairman of the CITEL Assembly, who shall preside over it, the two Vice-Chairmen, and the Chairmen of the working committees.
2. The Chairman of the CITEL Assembly shall convoke the Steering Committee whenever he deems it desirable for the best performance of the work of the Assembly.
3. The task of the Steering Committee is to resolve any difficulties that may arise regarding the functioning of the CITEL Assembly and to suggest appropriate solutions to the committees or to a plenary session. For the effective operation of the CITEL Assembly, it shall coordinate the work of the working committees.

#### **ARTICLE 40**

##### **Committee on Credentials**

1. The Committee on Credentials is composed of the representatives of three member states elected at the first plenary session of the CITEL Assembly. The Committee shall elect its chairman.
2. The Committee on Credentials shall examine the credentials of the delegations and submit a report to the CITEL Assembly forthwith.

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<sup>15</sup> [CITEL-1998]

## **ARTICLE 41**

### **Style Committee**

1. The Style Committee is composed of the representatives of four Member States elected at the first plenary session of the CITEL Assembly, each of which shall represent one of the four languages.
2. The Style Committee shall receive the drafts of resolutions and recommendations adopted by committees before they are submitted to a plenary session of the Assembly for its consideration, and shall introduce in them such style changes as it deems necessary. If the Style Committee notes that a draft suffers from defects of form that it can not correct, then it shall raise the question with the committee concerned, or at a plenary session of the Assembly.

## **ARTICLE 42**

### **Drafting Committee**

The Drafting Committee for the working sessions of the Plenary meetings and for the Final Report of the Assembly, shall be designated during the first Plenary Session and shall be composed of the first four delegates by order of precedence who volunteer. The Drafting Committee shall draft the minutes of the meeting of the informal session, of each Plenary session, of the inaugural and closing sessions, as well as the Final Report. The Committee shall present to each Plenary Session a draft report of all preceding sessions.

## **ARTICLE 43**<sup>16</sup>

### **Working Committees**

1. The CITEL Assembly shall establish such working committees as it deems desirable for consideration of the various topics on the agenda.
2. A working committee is made up of the delegations of the Member States that advise the Chairman of the CITEL Assembly before the first working meeting of the committee, that they wish to take part in that committee.
3. The installation meeting of each working committee shall be held with the delegations that up to the time of the meeting, have expressed their desire to form part of it.
4. Each working committee shall elect a chairman, and may also elect a vice-chairman and a rapporteur.
5. Each working committee shall study the topics assigned to it by the CITEL Assembly and shall present to the plenary session a report on its discussions, the draft resolutions or proposals considered, and its recommendations.

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<sup>16</sup> [CITEL-2006, only Spanish]

## **ARTICLE 44**

### **Subcommittees and working groups**

1. Each working committee may establish such subcommittees and/or working or drafting groups, as it considers advisable. A working committee may also authorize its Chairman to appoint to the subcommittees or groups, members who reflect the different views that have been expressed on the matters which the subcommittee or group is to consider.
2. Each subcommittee may establish such working or drafting groups as it may consider necessary. The Chairman of each such group shall present to the body that established it, its conclusions or recommendations.
3. Delegations that are not members of a subcommittee, working group, or drafting group, shall have the right to participate in the meetings of these bodies with voice but without vote.

## **G. QUORUM**

### **ARTICLE 45**

1. For Plenary Sessions, the presence of more than half of the Member States shall constitute a quorum.
2. For the committees, subcommittees, and working groups of the CITEL Assembly, the presence of more than half of the members of the body concerned shall constitute a quorum.

## **H. DEBATES AND PROCEDURES**

### **ARTICLE 46<sup>17</sup>**

#### **Proposals and Amendments**

##### **PROPOSALS**

1. Proposals must be presented in writing to the Secretariat by the Member State delegations no later than the day before the session at which they are to be discussed or submitted to a vote, in order to be distributed in the CITEL working languages to participating Member States before deliberation of them begins. However, if no Member State objects, the Chairman of the body that is required to deal with the matter may authorize discussion of a proposal that was not distributed in time.
2. The delegation that presents a proposal shall indicate the working committee that should study it, unless the proposal is one that is required to be submitted to a plenary session for discussion. In case of doubt, the Chairman of the Assembly shall decide.

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<sup>17</sup> [CITEL-2002] [CITEL-2006]

## **AMENDMENTS**

3. Motions to amend a proposal may be made during the deliberations on the proposal.
4. A motion is considered an amendment to a proposal if it merely adds to, deletes from, or revises part of a proposal. A motion that would totally replace the original proposal, or that is not directly related to it, shall not be considered as an amendment.

### **ARTICLE 47**

#### **Withdrawal of Proposals**

A proposal or an amendment may be withdrawn by its proponent before it has been put to a vote. Any delegate may present again a proposal or amendment that has been withdrawn.

### **ARTICLE 48**

#### **Reconsideration of Decisions**

Proposals concerning decisions that have already been taken may be reconsidered, if a request to do so is made prior to the adjournment of the session at which the proposal was voted upon, or at the session immediately following. In the case of a motion for reconsideration, the floor shall be granted to one speaker to second the motion and to two other speakers to oppose it, after which the motion shall be submitted to a vote. For approval of such a motion, the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the body concerned is required. When the motion for reconsideration has been approved, the discussion and vote on the substance of the matter shall be governed by the applicable provisions of these Regulations.

### **ARTICLE 49<sup>18</sup>**

#### **Points of Order**

During the discussion of a matter, any delegation may raise a point of order, which shall be decided upon immediately by the Chairman. Any representative of a delegation may appeal the decision of the Chairman, in which case the appeal shall be put to a vote. When raising a point of order, a representative may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

### **ARTICLE 50<sup>19</sup>**

#### **Suspension of Discussion**

The Chairman or any representative of a delegation may make a motion that discussion be suspended. Only two such representatives may speak briefly in favor of such a motion and two against it, after which it shall be immediately put to a vote.

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<sup>18</sup> [CITEL-2006]

<sup>19</sup> [CITEL-2006]

## **ARTICLE 51**<sup>20</sup>

### **Closing Discussion**

1. Any representative of a delegation may make a motion that debate be closed when he/she considers that a topic has been discussed sufficiently. This motion may be opposed by two representatives of delegations, after which it shall be declared approved if it receives the vote of two-thirds of the delegations present at the session. The Chairman may limit the time allowed to speakers under this Article.

2. The Chairman may close the debate if he/she considers that it has become repetitive, or if it no longer addresses the issue at hand. In which case, the Chairman shall take into consideration the issues which have up to then obtained consensus and establish the way in which the meeting shall proceed. Two delegations may speak briefly against such a decision, after which it shall be declared approved if it receives the vote of two-thirds of the delegations present at the session.

## **ARTICLE 52**<sup>21</sup>

### **Suspension or Adjournment of a Session**

During the discussion of any topic, a representative of a delegation may make a motion that the session be suspended or adjourned. Such motions shall be put to a vote immediately, without discussion. The Chairman may limit the length of the remarks of the representative who proposes suspension or adjournment of the session.

## **ARTICLE 53**

### **Order of Procedural Motions**

Except as provided in Article 48, the following motions shall have precedence over all other proposals or motions, in the order set forth below:

- a. Suspension of the session.
- b. Adjournment of the session.
- c. Suspension of discussion of the topic under consideration.
- d. Close of the debate of the topic under consideration.

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<sup>20</sup> [CITEL-2002] [CITEL-2006]

<sup>21</sup> [CITEL-2006]

## **ARTICLE 54**

### **General Provisions for All the Deliberative Bodies of the CITEL Assembly Meeting**

The general provisions relating to discussion contained in this chapter shall be applicable to the plenary sessions, and to the committees, subcommittees, and working groups of the CITEL Assembly.

## **I. VOTING**

## **ARTICLE 55**

### **Voting on Proposals**

After debate is closed, and if the proposals presented are not approved by consensus, those proposals, together with any proposed amendments, shall be put to a vote. Proposals shall be voted upon in the order in which they are presented, unless the respective body decides to the contrary. After the chairman has announced the start of the voting, no representative may interrupt it, except for a point of order relating to the manner in which the voting is being conducted. The process of voting and vote-counting shall end when the chairman announces the result.

## **ARTICLE 56**

### **Abstentions**

For the purpose of establishing the necessary majority, abstentions shall be counted as votes cast.

## **ARTICLE 57**

### **Ties**

In the event of a tie, the proposal voted on shall be considered to have been rejected.

## **ARTICLE 58**

### **Repeat Vote**

Should any doubt arise as to the results of a vote, any delegation may request that the vote be repeated immediately. The new vote shall be limited to the same delegations that took part in the original vote.

## **ARTICLE 59**

When an amendment to a proposal is presented, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments to a proposal are made, the vote shall be taken first on the one that departs furthest from the original text. The other amendments shall be voted upon in like order. In case of doubt in this regard, they shall be voted upon in the order of their presentation.

## **ARTICLE 60**

When the fact that one amendment has been adopted necessarily implies the exclusion of another, the latter amendment shall not be put to a vote. If one or more of the amendments are adopted, the complete proposal as amended shall be put to a vote.

## **ARTICLE 61**

If any delegation so requests, a proposal or amendment shall be put to a vote by parts. If any delegation is opposed to that request, the body concerned shall decide whether the voting should be by parts. If the request for voting by parts is accepted, the various parts of the proposal or amendment that are accepted shall be voted upon as a whole. If all the operative parts of a proposal or amendment are rejected, it shall be deemed that it has been rejected entirely.

## **J. ELECTIONS**

### **ARTICLE 62**

In cases where only one Member State or one person is to be elected, if no candidate obtains the vote of an absolute majority of the participating Member States on the first ballot, a second, or if necessary a third ballot shall be taken, limited to the two candidates receiving the largest number of votes. If after the third ballot no candidate has obtained the required majority, the election shall be suspended for a period of up to twenty-four hours. When the election is resumed, up to two additional ballots shall be taken. If neither of the two candidates is elected, the balloting procedure established in this Article shall be started again, with respect to the candidates who are presented.

### **ARTICLE 63**

When two or more elected posts are to be filled at the same time and under the same conditions, the candidates obtaining the vote of an absolute majority on the first ballot shall be declared elected. If the number of candidates obtaining such majority is less than the number of persons or members to be elected, there shall be additional ballots to fill the remaining posts, the voting being limited to the candidates who have received the most votes on the previous ballot, in such a way that the number of candidates will not be more than twice the number of posts remaining to be filled.

### **ARTICLE 64**

In case of a tie among two or more candidates or Member States, as the case may be, who have received at least the required majority, if the number of places to be filled is less than the number of candidates or Member States who have received the same number of votes, another ballot shall be taken. If the tie is not broken in this second ballot, the elections shall be decided by lot.

## **K. DOCUMENTS**

### **ARTICLE 65**

#### **Summary Minutes**

Summary minutes shall be kept of the open plenary sessions and of the open committee meetings of the CITELE Assembly. The Secretariat of CITELE shall distribute the summary minutes to the delegations as promptly as possible. The delegations shall present to the Secretariat, within twenty-four hours following the distribution of the summary minutes, any corrections of style they consider necessary. The minutes so corrected and the appendices shall be published as part of the official documentation of the CITELE Assembly. The appendices of the summary minutes shall contain the complete statement of a delegation if the delegation so requests.

### **ARTICLE 66**

#### **Summary of the Activities**

After the termination of the Assembly Meeting, the Secretariat shall prepare and distribute the final report of the Assembly, containing a summary of the activities carried out by it, which shall include background information on the Assembly; the list of officers of the Assembly and of the Committees, Subcommittees, Working groups and ad hoc groups; the official list of participants; a brief summary of the sessions held, and the decisions adopted by the Assembly in their final form. This document shall be prepared in the four official languages. For this purpose, the Secretariat may request the advice of the delegations to the Permanent Council of the Organization that represent the countries where those languages are spoken, and of COM/CITELE.

### **ARTICLE 67**

#### **Filing of Documents**

The Secretariat shall be the custodian of the official documents and files of the meetings of the Assembly. The Chairman of COM/CITELE shall keep in his possession copies of all these documents and files.

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## **CHAPTER III**

### **THE PERMANENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (COM/CITEL)**

#### **ARTICLE 68**

##### **Length of Term**

The Officers and members of COM/CITEL shall occupy their positions until the election of the new members at the next Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly.

#### **ARTICLE 69**

##### **Appointment of Representatives of COM/CITEL**

The institution designated to act on behalf of each Member State elected to COM/CITEL, shall appoint a principal representative and an alternate representative, both of them specialized in telecommunications/[ICT](#) matters, and the Member State may replace them as it deems advisable. The names of the representatives shall be communicated in writing to the Executive Secretary as they are appointed.

#### **ARTICLE 70**

##### **Functions**

The functions of COM/CITEL are set out in Article 17 of the Statute.

#### **ARTICLE 71** <sup>22</sup>

##### **Work Program**

1. At each installation session, COM/CITEL shall prepare its work program for the intervening period until its next meeting, and shall set the date and place for its meetings.
2. COM/CITEL may establish technical committees, subcommittees, working groups and ad hoc groups, joint working groups and rapporteurs to perform its functions.

#### **ARTICLE 72**

##### **Duties of the Chairman**

The Chairman of COM/CITEL is an ex officio member of all committees of CITEL and shall have the following duties in addition to those identified in the Statute:

- a. To preside provisionally over the Regular and Special Meetings of the CITEL Assembly until the Chairman of the Assembly is elected.

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<sup>22</sup> [CITEL-1998]

- b. To represent CITEL before other organs of the Organization, the governmental telecommunications/ICT entities of the CITEL Members, and other organizations that participate in telecommunications/ICT development activities in the American States.
- c. To see that the functions of COM/CITEL as provided in Article 17 of the Statute are performed.
- d. In cooperation with the Executive Secretary, to draw up the agendas for the meetings of COM/CITEL, in consultation with the other members.
- e. To speak for COM/CITEL to the Secretary General of the Organization, and to communicate to him the decisions that COM/CITEL has adopted.
- f. To communicate through the Executive Secretary with the governments of the Member States of CITEL and institutions interested in the objectives of CITEL regarding matters relating to the functioning of CITEL.
- g. To represent CITEL, when COM/CITEL so authorizes him, at public functions and at meetings of international organizations, with authority to delegate this representation to another member of COM/CITEL.
- h. Through the Executive Secretary of CITEL, to present to the Secretary General of the Organization an annual progress report on the activities of CITEL to comply with Article 91 (f) of the Charter of the Organization.
- i. With the assistance of the Executive Secretary, to make known and to coordinate on behalf of COM/CITEL, the work of the technical committees, and working groups established by COM/CITEL and see that it is carried out.
- j. To coordinate the work of the Permanent Consultative Committees, and to see that it is carried out.

### **ARTICLE 73** <sup>23</sup>

#### **Order of Succession**

In the event of temporary impediment of the Chair of COM/CITEL to serve, the Vice-Chair shall replace him/her. In the event of impediment of both, the eldest of the Chairs of the Permanent Consultative Committees shall exercise the duties of the Chair while the impediment lasts.

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<sup>23</sup> [CITEL-2002]

## **ARTICLE 74**

### **Headquarters of COM/CITEL**

1. The Member State elected to preside over COM/CITEL shall organize and maintain during its term, at its sole expense, and under the exclusive responsibility of the Chairman, an office composed of a full-time assistant to the Chairman, and all necessary technical and administrative personnel. In addition, that Member State shall provide premises for the office and for meetings, as well as other suitable work facilities for the best possible performance of COM/CITEL's duties and responsibilities. For all purposes, the office shall be responsible exclusively to the Chairman of COM/CITEL, and shall not be dependent upon the General Secretariat of the Organization.

2. The Chairman of COM/CITEL shall maintain close cooperative and working relations with the Executive Secretary for purposes of coordination and liaison, as well as for the best possible performance of the various tasks of COM/CITEL. The Chairman of COM/CITEL shall send copies of all official correspondence sent or received by him to the Executive Secretary.

## **ARTICLE 75**

When COM/CITEL establishes a technical committee, subcommittee, a working group, or an ad hoc group, that committee, subcommittee or group shall have its headquarters in the country selected to preside over it. As in the case of the headquarters of COM/CITEL, the country concerned shall provide, at its expense, the staff and the necessary facilities for the performance of its functions.

## **ARTICLE 76**<sup>24</sup>

Rules governing COM/CITEL meetings, quorum, voting and travel expenses are as contained in Articles 18 to 21 of the Statute.

## **ARTICLE 77**<sup>25</sup>

1. The COM/CITEL shall adopt its decisions in the form of resolutions, recommendations, or decisions at its plenary sessions.

2. In order to ensure their due deliberation, all draft resolutions, recommendations or decisions presented must be distributed in writing in the CITEL working languages to participating delegations, before the start of the session in which they are to be debated or submitted to a vote. However, if there is not objection on the part of any COM/CITEL Member State present at the meeting, a proposal written in only one of the working languages of CITEL may be discussed and decided upon.

3. If for any reason a regular Meeting of COM/CITEL cannot be held in the country of the Chairperson, it shall be held at the General Secretariat of the Organization headquarters, unless one of the

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<sup>24</sup> [CITEL-1998]

<sup>25</sup> [CITEL-2002] [CITEL-2006]

Member states, with sufficient advance notice, offers to host the meeting, in which case COM/CITEL may agree to hold the meeting in that country.

4. The General Secretary of the Organization, or by delegation, the CITEL Executive Secretary, shall transmit the notice of the convocation of the Meeting and the invitations to the participants as soon as the country offering to host a meeting confirms to the CITEL Secretariat the exact date, city and specific location for the meeting, and that it has available sufficient funds for that purpose. The country offering to host the meeting shall provide this information to the Executive Secretary no later than sixty days before the proposed date of the meeting.

5. Observers in the categories stipulated in Articles 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 may attend COM/CITEL meetings as observers on the same conditions as those established in the Regulations for their participation in the CITEL Assembly meetings.

#### **ARTICLE 78 <sup>26</sup>**

When, in view of their urgency, matters to be resolved cannot be left until its next meeting, COM/CITEL may approve resolutions, recommendations, or decisions by correspondence. Such resolutions, recommendations, or decisions shall be approved in keeping with such procedures as may be adopted by COM/CITEL for that purpose. The CITEL Secretariat shall keep a written record of the consultation made and its results, and shall inform the Chair and the other members COM/CITEL thereof.

#### **ARTICLE 79 <sup>27</sup>**

COM/CITEL may invite representatives of associate members to participate in its Working Groups because of a special interest or expertise in a specific topic pertaining to the mandate of the working group.

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<sup>26</sup> [CITEL-2002]

<sup>27</sup> [CITEL-2002]

## CHAPTER IV

### PERMANENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES (PCCS)

#### A. ORGANIZATION AND OFFICERS

##### ARTICLE 80<sup>28</sup>

1. The CITELE Assembly shall establish the Permanent Consultative Committees (PCCs) that it considers necessary to attain the objectives defined in Article 3 of the Statute together with specific terms of reference for each PCC. For the selection of countries to host meetings of the PCCs, the principles of rotation and equitable geographic distribution shall be observed to the extent possible. A PCC shall continue in force until such time as the CITELE Assembly itself, or COM/CITELE, deems its functions and purpose to be concluded. The names of the PCCs are listed in Annex 1 of these Regulations.

2.. The host countries of the PCCs may submit their candidacy for one re-election only. A Member State may not submit its candidacy for a second re-election, if another Member State – which has been elected fewer times – should present its candidacy.

3. Each PCC shall be presided over by a Chairman who shall be the representative appointed by the government of the host country for the PCC. The PCC may establish one or two Vice Chairman positions to assist the Chairman in the performance of his duties. The Chairman of each PCC shall recommend to the PCC the number of Vice Chairmen he deems appropriate, taking into account insofar as possible an equitable geographical distribution. The country from which a Vice Chairman is appointed, may host an additional meeting of the PCC in a given year, and in such case, will be responsible for providing meeting sites, personnel, and administrative support for the meeting.

##### ARTICLE 81<sup>29</sup>

#### Duties of the Chairman of a PCC

The Chairman of a PCC shall:

- a. Convene through the Executive Secretary the PCC at least once a year and designate the place and date for the meeting.
- b. Direct the work of the PCC, prepare the material for meetings, as well as studies, decisions, and draft resolutions, and send them to the Chairman of COM/CITELE for information and to the Executive Secretary for processing.
- c. Report PCC work results, in writing, every six months, to the Executive Secretary and to the Chairman of COM/CITELE.
- d. Report to the CITELE Assembly on matters within the competence of the PCC.

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<sup>28</sup> [CITELE-2002] [CITELE-2006]

<sup>29</sup> [CITELE-2002, e,f,g]

- e. Ensure that the Working Groups, Ad Hoc Groups, and Rapporteurs established as well as the coordination tasks assigned operate in accordance with the working procedures that govern PCC activities, as provided in Article 96.
- f. Seek to ensure that all decisions taken by the PCC Plenary are consensus decisions.
- g. Confirm that the quorum provided for in the regulations is present at the meeting.

## **ARTICLE 82**

### **Chairman's Office**

The Member State elected to preside over a PCC shall organize, and maintain at its sole expense, and under the exclusive responsibility of the Chairman, an office composed of the necessary technical and administrative personnel. For all purposes, this office shall be responsible exclusively to the Chairman of the PCC and shall not be dependent in any way upon the General Secretariat of the Organization.

## **ARTICLE 83**<sup>30</sup>

### **Working groups and ad hoc groups**

1. Each PCC may establish working groups and ad hoc groups in accordance with Article 96. Those groups shall submit reports of their activities to the PCC.
2. PCCs shall also appoint rapporteurs for their working groups and ad hoc groups in order to deal with the issues entrusted to said groups. The rapporteurs shall submit their reports to the working groups or ad hoc groups to which they belong.

## **B. PARTICIPATION IN THE PCC**

## **ARTICLE 84**

### **Members**

Each CITELE Member State may appoint a representative who is a specialist in telecommunications/[ICT](#) to a PCC in accordance with the method set out in Article 4. A Member State may remove or replace its representative by notifying the Executive Secretary, in writing, of its decision to do so.

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<sup>30</sup> [CITELE-1998]

## ARTICLE 85 <sup>31</sup>

### Associate members

1. Associate membership on a PCC is open to:
  - a. Any entity, organization or institution related to the telecommunications/[ICT](#) industry, that has legal personality (hereinafter "entity"), provided that the entity's associate membership is approved by the corresponding Member State of CITELE. The expression "corresponding Member State of CITELE" means the country where the "entity" was constituted or has its principal office.
  - b. An international or regional inter-governmental organization with multiple membership of States of the Americas that is related to telecommunications/[ICT](#) and has legal personality (hereinafter "the organization"), with the approval of COM/CITELE.
2. Applications from entities wishing to become associate members of a PCC must be forwarded to the corresponding Member State, together with an indication of the elected contributory unit and the pertinent information of a contact person to whom procedural information may be sent. The corresponding Member State shall be responsible for examining and approving such applications based on such criteria or procedures for sponsoring associate members as it deems appropriate.
3. In the case of an organization, the application procedures for acquiring the status of associate member of a PCC will be made to COM/CITELE.
4. Where appropriate, the corresponding Member State or COM/CITELE will notify the Executive Secretary of its approval of an application received from an entity or organization, indicating the elected contributory unit and the pertinent information of the contact person appointed by the entity or the organization to whom procedural information may be sent.
5. The Executive Secretary will notify the requesting entity or organization of the decision taken with respect to its application and the procedures which associate membership entails.
6. The Executive Secretary will notify the Chairman of COM/CITELE and the Chairman of the respective PCC about the admission of the entity referred to in number 5 of this Article. In the case of the admission of an organization, the notification shall be sent only to the Chairperson of the respective PCC.
7. A list of all entities and organizations granted associate membership in each PCC shall be compiled and maintained by the Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary shall provide the Secretary General of the Organization, all Member States of CITELE and the Chairs of the PCCs with a copy of that list.
8. An entity shall cease to be an associate member in the event that approval is withdrawn by the corresponding Member State. An organization shall cease to be an associate member in the event that approval is withdrawn by COM/CITELE.

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<sup>31</sup> [CITELE-1998] [CITELE-2002]

## ARTICLE 86<sup>32</sup>

### Participation of associate members

1. Each associate member has the right to participate in any of the meetings of the PCCs to which the associate member is affiliated by sending one or more representatives. To that end, associate members shall provide in writing to the Executive Secretary the names of their representatives before the opening of each PCC meeting.
2. Associate members of a PCC may fully participate in all the activities of that PCC with voice but without vote. ~~They may present technical papers and receive;~~ nevertheless, without the ~~documents~~ support of ~~that~~ the respective Member State, they shall not be able to take the floor to request the PCC to consider a proposal for the purpose of taking a decision. An associate member of any PCC shall also be entitled to participate in the work of any joint working group to which its PCC belongs, without being requested the payment of additional fees.
3. In order for an associate member to speak on behalf of and in representation of the corresponding Member State, he shall:
  - a. Have been previously accredited as part of that Member State delegation, and
  - b. be presented by his/her delegation, before speaking, indicating that his/her verbal statements are as a representative of that member State.

## ARTICLE 87<sup>33</sup>

### Associate membership Fee

1. Associate members shall share in the costs of operation of the PCC in which they participate by voluntarily choosing a contributory level. The minimum contribution shall be "one" unit, which may be increased in levels of half a unit, as a minimum.
2. The monetary value of the unit, stated in U.S.A. dollars, shall be established by the CITEL Assembly, and shall cover membership payment for one calendar year or, as the case may be, for the prorated corresponding part.
3. Associate members shall have until October of each year to notify the Executive Secretary of CITEL of any change in the level of their contributions, which must comply with the provisions of this Article. Any such change shall take effect as of the year immediately following. Associate members that do not indicate any change shall continue to be considered as being at the previously selected contributory level.
4. Funds derived from associate membership fees shall be allocated to the budget of the corresponding PCC and used as directed by the respective PCC Chairman to defray expenses of PCC meetings, their groups, and relevant activities of the corresponding PCC.

<sup>32</sup> [CITEL-1998] [CITEL-2002] [COM/CITEL RES. 206 (XVIII-06)] [\[CITEL-2010\]](#)

<sup>33</sup> [CITEL-1998] [CITEL-2002] [CITEL-2006]

5. Associate members shall pay their annual contribution in advance. The due date for the payment of the annual membership fee is January 1 of the corresponding year; however, for a new associate member, the due date during the first year of membership is thirty days after that Member receives notice of its acceptance as an associate member. Associate members who pay their membership fees within sixty days after the due date shall be deemed active associate members. Those who do not pay within this time without informing the Executive Secretary on the reasons for such delay shall be deemed passive associate members, and shall have their membership privileges suspended by the Executive Secretary until such time as their accounts are paid up to date. If the Executive Secretary is satisfied with the justification of the delayed payment of fees by a Member, he may extend the deadline for payment up until June 30 of the corresponding year.

6. Any associate member may renounce membership in any PCC by written notification of such intention to the Executive Secretary. Such renunciation will become effective ninety days from the date of notification. In such a case, membership fees will be prorated on a yearly basis. Passive associate member that is more than two years in arrears in the payment of membership fees shall be deemed to have implicitly renounced membership effective immediately.

7. In case of resignation, associate members shall be liable for their fees up until the effective date of renunciation, and likewise, those who are up to date in their fees shall be considered active associate members up until that same effective date.

8. The Executive Secretary shall make all reasonable efforts to collect past due membership fees and shall report on those efforts annually to COM/CITEL. Membership fees past due for more than three years shall be considered uncollectible and shall be treated accordingly on CITEL's financial statements.

9. Fee incomes shall be credited against the outstanding balance of the earliest fiscal year, as is the practice in the OAS.

## **ARTICLE 88**<sup>34</sup>

### **Observers and Guests**

#### **Observers**

1. Observers in the categories set out in Articles 13, 14, 15, and 16, paragraph 1 may participate as observers to the PCCs on the same terms as prescribed in Regulations for their participation in the meetings of the CITEL Assembly, by appointing their representatives in a written notice addressed to the Executive Secretary, who will inform the Chairman of the corresponding PCC.

2. Observers in the categories referred to in Article 16, paragraph 2 may participate as observers of the PCCs, subject to the approval of their request to participate by the Chair of the corresponding PCC. The request to participate shall be presented in writing to the Executive Secretary of CITEL fortyfive days in advance of the corresponding meeting.

3. Observers referred to in Article 16, paragraphs 1 and 2 may speak at the PCC meetings only when invited to do so by the corresponding presiding officer, because of a special interest or expertise in a specific

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<sup>34</sup> [CITEL-1998] [CITEL-2002]

topic of discussion. Similarly, such observers may provide written statements on such topics when expressly authorized or requested to do so by the presiding officer.

### **Guests**

4. An entity involved in telecommunications/[ICT](#) or a person with a specific interest in telecommunications/[ICT](#) may attend as a guest the meetings of PCCs, its Working Groups, and Ad Hoc Groups under the following conditions:
  - a. The person or entity must request the Executive Secretary in writing their interest to participate in a meeting at least forty five days before the meeting.
  - b. The Executive Secretary shall inform the corresponding Chairman and the Member States that participate in the group.
  - c. If there is no objection and on the instructions of the respective Chairman, the Executive Secretary will extend the corresponding invitation.
5. The guests, with the authorization from the Chair, and if there is no objection from a Member State attending the meeting, may receive copy of the documents of the meeting and make verbal or written presentations at the meeting.

## **C. MEETINGS**

### **ARTICLE 89<sup>35</sup>**

1. Each PCC shall meet at least once a year at a time and place determined by its respective Chairman. The meetings of a PCC shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations corresponding to the CITELE Assembly, to the extent that such provisions are applicable.
2. Papers, studies, decisions, and draft resolutions of a PCC which require the consideration of the CITELE Assembly shall be submitted to COM/CITELE at least four months before a meeting of the CITELE Assembly is held.
3. A PCC may hold private sessions restricting participation solely to Members and associate members. The Chairman of a PCC, a Working Group, or an Ad Hoc Group may convene private sessions during a meeting at his discretion or at the request of a Member State. However, on the basis of reciprocity, observer organizations may be invited by the Chairman to attend these private sessions, if there is no objection from a Member State.
4. If for any reason a Regular Meeting of a Permanent Consultative Committees cannot be held in the country chosen by the Chairperson, it shall be held at the seat of the General Secretariat of the Organization, unless one of the Member States, with sufficient advance notice offers to host the meeting, in which case the Chairman of COM/CITELE may agree to hold the meeting in that country.

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<sup>35</sup> [CITELE-1998] [CITELE-2002]

5. The Secretary General of the Organization, or by delegation, the CITELE Executive Secretary, shall transmit the notice of convocation of the meeting and the invitations to the participants as soon as the country offering to host the meeting confirms to the CITELE Secretariat the exact date, city and specific location for the meeting. The country offering to host a meeting shall provide this information to the Executive Secretary, no later than sixty days before the proposed date of the meeting.

## **ARTICLE 90<sup>36</sup>**

### **Decisions**

1. In the absence of consensus in the deliberations of the PCCs, draft resolutions shall be adopted in accordance with the Regulations on voting established in Article 97 of these Regulations. In order to approve a resolution, decision or recommendation by vote or consensus, the PCC meeting must have a quorum of one third of the Member States of CITELE.

2. The approval of any PCC resolution will require the affirmative vote of at least one third of all CITELE Member States.

3. In addition, PCCs may adopt resolutions, decisions, or recommendations by correspondence provided there are no negative responses from the CITELE Member States and applying such procedures as may be established by COM/CITELE.

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<sup>36</sup> [CITELE-2002]

## CHAPTER V

### THE SECRETARIAT

#### ARTICLE 91

The Secretariat shall be composed of the Executive Secretary, appointed by the Secretary General of the Organization, in consultation with the members of COM/CITEL, and the professional and administrative staff that the Secretary General appoints in accordance with the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States.

#### ARTICLE 92<sup>37</sup>

##### The Executive Secretary of CITEL

1. The Executive Secretary of CITEL shall be a person highly versed in the subject matter. The post of Executive Secretary of CITEL is a position of trust, regulated by the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States.
2. In addition to the functions established in the CITEL Statute, the Executive Secretary shall have the following duties:
  - a. To prepare the technical documents assigned to him by the organs of CITEL and the working documents for CITEL meetings.
  - b. To serve as Technical Secretary of the meetings of the CITEL Assembly and of COM/CITEL.
  - c. To see that the minutes, decisions, papers, and draft resolutions of all the organs of CITEL are in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the Organization, the mandates of the General Assembly, the Statute of CITEL, and these Regulations.
  - d. To receive official correspondence relating to CITEL, to deal with it appropriately, and to handle communications regarding the work of the Secretariat, informing the Secretary General of the Organization thereof. Copies of such correspondence shall be sent to the Chairman of COM/CITEL.
  - e. To carry out the decisions and tasks that the different organs of CITEL may request.
  - f. To cooperate with the Chairman of COM/CITEL in the preparation of the draft agenda for each CITEL Assembly Meeting, as well as in the preparation of the agenda for each COM/CITEL meeting.
  - g. To prepare documents, studies, and reports necessary for each CITEL Assembly and COM/CITEL meetings, taking into account the guidelines established in this regard by COM/CITEL.

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<sup>37</sup> [CITEL-1998] [CITEL-2002, r, t]

- h. Once COM/CITEL has decided upon the date and place for the regular and special meetings of the Assembly, to so inform the Member States immediately in writing.
- i. To prepare notices of convocation for the meetings of all CITEL organs.
- j. To cooperate with COM/CITEL in the preparation of the annual report of CITEL to be presented through the Secretary General to the Permanent Council of the Organization for its consideration.
- k. To keep CITEL Member States permanently informed of technical activities in the telecommunications/[ICT](#) field, in accordance with the instructions received from the Chairman of COM/CITEL and taking into account the information received by COM/CITEL.
- l. To provide information on the resolutions and decisions of the CITEL Assembly on telecommunications/[ICT](#) matters to world or regional governmental or non governmental agencies specializing in telecommunications/[ICT](#), for which purpose a periodic newsletter may be utilized.
- m. To provide a periodic information service, with widespread coverage on the progress of telecommunications/[ICT](#) and their development in the American States.
- n. To maintain custody of the files containing the official documentation of all the meetings of the CITEL organs.
- o. To represent the Chairman of COM/CITEL at public or private functions and at meetings of international organizations, when the Chairman so decides.
- p. After consultation with the Chairmen of the Permanent Consultative Committees, to prepare and submit to COM/CITEL an annual preliminary draft budget taking into account the directions given by the previous CITEL Assembly Meeting.
- q. To supervise the staff of the CITEL Secretariat, in order to ensure the most effective use of personnel.
- r. To prepare and make available to the Member States and associate members by electronic means the resolutions, recommendations, decisions, and declarations of the organs of CITEL.
- s. To prepare annually, for submission to and approval by COM/CITEL, a schedule of meetings covering the coming two-year period. In preparing the schedule of meetings, the Secretariat should take into consideration the schedule of pertinent OAS, ITU and Regional Organizations meetings, and should also coordinate beforehand with the chairpersons of the various committees.
- t. Regularly to prepare and distribute to the Chairman of COM/CITEL and the Chairpersons of PCCs a report on the expenditures paid with CITEL financial resources, including associate membership fees.

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**CHAPTER VI**  
**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**A. TRAVEL EXPENSES**

**ARTICLE 93**

Travel expenses for staff members of the General Secretariat of the Organization attending any meeting of the CITELE organs, in order to be charged to CITELE's budget, must be expressly provided for and approved in that budget.

**B. WORKING METHODS OF CITELE**

**ARTICLE 94**<sup>38</sup>

**Schedule of meetings and agendas**

1. Meeting dates should be set well in advance.
  - a. COM/CITELE shall set and distribute a calendar of proposed meetings for all CITELE organs, including specific dates and venue.
  - b. The calendar of proposed meetings should be drawn up to minimize conflict with major activities of the ITU, and as appropriate, with regional meetings of related standards or development organizations.
  - c. To the extent practicable, meetings of CITELE organs provided for in the Statute should be regularized. Additional meetings may be scheduled at the discretion of the Chairmen.
2. Information about the calendar meetings and meeting notices should be published regularly.
3. COM/CITELE shall prepare a draft preliminary agenda for each Regular Meeting of the CITELE Assembly one year in advance.
4. Chairmen of the PCCs, with the assistance of the Executive Secretary, shall send proposed agendas for the PCC meetings to all participants of the respective committees at least two months prior to the meeting.

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<sup>38</sup> [CITELE-2006]

## **ARTICLE 95** <sup>39</sup>

### **Conduct of meetings and administrative support**

1. The Secretariat shall provide administrative support to prepare for, conduct, and follow up on all the meetings of the CITEL Assembly, COM/CITEL and each of the PCCs in accordance with the budget, and taking into account the level of support provided by the host country to the meetings.
2. The Chairman's reports and the technical contributions or proposals to be considered at each PCC Plenary meeting should be made available to all members as they are received, by the most suitable means, prior to the meeting. Additional technical contributions may be submitted up to the date of the meeting at the discretion of the Chairman.
3. The Chairman may limit the time for the presentation and discussion of documents, taking into account whether they are information documents or proposals. Information documents shall not be submitted for discussion, but rather comments will be requested thereon which will also be subject to a time limit. The Chairman will have to respect at all times the right to speak of the Member States and the associate members.
4. All documents for meetings of the CITEL Assembly and COM/CITEL are to be translated and distributed by the Secretariat to members in final reproducible form, if possible in English and Spanish, as soon as they are available.
5. Members are encouraged to use modern means of communication to conduct business to the extent possible. This should be the normal way for working groups and ad hoc groups to work to minimize the number of meetings.
6. Seminars, ad hoc groups and working groups meetings of each PCC should be scheduled in as much as possible, in conjunction with a relevant PCC Plenary meeting.
7. Member States or associate members who host seminars, ad hoc groups or working groups that meet independently of a regular PCC meeting shall bear the costs of such meetings, if there are not resources approved for that purpose in the CITEL program-budget.

## **ARTICLE 96** <sup>40</sup>

### **Working Procedures governing the activities of the PCCs**

1. The process that determines areas of priority interest among the participants involves holding seminars on topics of interests, and forming ad hoc groups to explore areas that may be subject of permanent working groups. This process should be used at the PCC level.
2. Seminars and discussions on topics of interest should be held in conjunction with PCC meetings, with the meetings of Working Groups or Ad Hoc groups, or whenever necessary as agreed with the PCC.

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<sup>39</sup> [CITEL-2002] [CITEL-2006, only Spanish]

<sup>40</sup> [CITEL-1998] [CITEL-2002]

3. For a Working Group to be created, at least six Member States should undertake to actively participate in its work. The establishment of the Working Group shall be approved by a PCC resolution indicating its scope of interest and mandate.
4. For an ad hoc group to be created, at least three Member States shall undertake to actively participate in its work. The establishment of an ad hoc group shall be approved by a resolution indicating its specific tasks, its mandate, its duration, and its working schedule. The same resolution shall include the proviso that the findings of the group shall be reflected in a technical report attaching a draft resolution, decision, or recommendation.
5. Ad hoc groups shall work up to two consecutive years, their term may be exceptionally extended by the corresponding Committee or by the Assembly when applicable, for a limited period to allow for the completion of tasks. Eventually, the PCC may transform the ad hoc group into a Working Group, pursuant to the procedure described in paragraph 3 above.
6. Every Working Group and ad hoc group shall have a Chairman and one or more Vice-Chairmen appointed by the Chairman of the PCC. The Chair and Vice-Chair may be held by either a Member State or an associate member. In the selection of a Chair or Vice-chair, equitable geographic distribution should be taken into account in as far as possible.
7. All PCC members may attend the meetings of the Working Groups and the ad hoc groups. However, only those that specifically register as members of the Working Group or ad hoc group may be assured of getting working documents and would be expected to participate actively in the work of the group. The discussions on the working documents and the reports arising there-from shall take place within the meetings held by the Group and shall at all times observe the provisions of the mandate.
8. The Chairpersons of the Working Groups and Ad Hoc Groups must provide reports in writing and/or verbally at each PCC meeting. The final report presented by any Group shall reflect its results and must be distributed by the Executive Secretariat to the PCC members. The final report cannot be amended by the PCC. Nevertheless, any proposal for action that might arise as a result of the report must be dealt with by the PCC.
9. Any actions proposed to the PCC in the form of resolutions, recommendations, or decisions from a Working Group or Ad Hoc Group must be clearly identified and supported in the Group report. The report shall state whether the action being proposed has received approval from all the participating members of the Group.
10. With a view to ensuring their due consideration by the Member States, all draft resolutions, recommendations, or decisions presented to the PCC Plenary meeting by a Working Group or Ad Hoc group shall be distributed, in the working languages of CITELE, to the Member States present at the PCC meeting before the start of the meeting, where they shall be discussed or submitted to a vote.
11. The plenary of the PCC shall adopt the resolutions or recommendations of the Working Groups by consensus and with the presence of one third of the Members; those measures can be adopted also by correspondence provided that there are not negative answers.
12. PCCs are allowed to change and adapt their work methods to most efficiently meet the needs of their members, provided they do not contravene the provisions of the CITELE Statute and Regulations.

13. COM/CITEL shall routinely review the work programs of PCCs and provide advice to the PCC chairmen regarding areas where there is overlap or redundancy and where more coordination among the PCCs is required. In this regard, the chairmen of the PCCs should routinely coordinate to avoid duplication and to identify areas where formal cooperation between of among PCCs would be useful. Likewise, efforts should be made to ensure that new Working Groups or Ad Hoc groups do not duplicate the work that is being performed by already existing groups. This may be achieved by reviewing the mandates of the existing groups and taking such actions as may be necessary to effectively coordinate the work of the corresponding Working Groups, Ad Hoc Groups, or PCCs.

14. PCCs shall regularly evaluate the need to retain their Working Groups and *Ad Hoc* groups depending on their activities and on the effectiveness of their work, in particular those having failed to submit their report at two consecutive meetings of the PCC. This evaluation may result in a draft resolution whereby:

- a. The group is required to continue its tasks.
- b. The group's work is terminated.
- c. The group's scope of activities, mandate or duration is changed.
- d. A new Chairman and/or Vice-Chairman are/is appointed for the group.
- e. Any other action is taken to contribute to achieving the goals sought.

15. Work shall be performed, insofar as possible, with the use of electronic documents transmission systems.

16. Both the CITEL Assembly and COM/CITEL may apply the above procedures or any part thereof in establishing their Working Groups or Ad Hoc Groups.

## **C. VOTING RULES**

### **ARTICLE 97**

1. Where the Statute or these Regulations requires that a decision be taken and a consensus is not reached, there shall be a vote by secret ballot. The secret ballot rule may be suspended temporarily on a case by case basis, provided that, before the secret vote is begun, a motion is made to suspend the rule, and an absolute majority of the participating Member States approves that motion by a show of hands.

2. The Chairman may permit a delegate to explain his vote, either before or after the voting, and he may limit the time for such an explanation.

## **D. RELATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

### **ARTICLE 98**

1. With a view to maximizing cooperation and coordination in its activities and work, CITELE shall collaborate, through such agreements as it deems pertinent, with technical, governmental, nongovernmental and intergovernmental agencies engaged in activities similar to those contemplated in the objectives and functions of CITELE, set out in Article 3 of the Statute.
2. When the activities of CITELE are germane to the technical competence of an inter-American specialized organization, the subsidiary organs, agencies, and other entities of the inter-American System, CITELE shall request their cooperation in carrying out those activities.

## **E. OTHER PROVISIONS**

### **ARTICLE 99**

#### **Entry into Force**

These Regulations shall enter into force on the date of their approval by the CITELE Assembly and shall govern all meetings of all CITELE organs.

### **ARTICLE 100**

#### **Amendments to the Regulations**

1. Proposals to amend these Regulations shall be submitted to the CITELE Assembly for adoption. Adoption of amendments shall be by an absolute majority of the participating Member States.
2. When COM/CITELE determines that an amendment is urgent, it may decide to apply that amendment provisionally pending final decision by the CITELE Assembly at its next Regular or Special meeting, in accordance with Article 17(g) of the Statute.
3. Amendments to these Regulations, once adopted by the CITELE Assembly, shall be presented to the General Assembly of the Organization at its next regular session for its information.

### **ARTICLE 101**

#### **Suspension of provisions from Chapter II**

The provisions of Chapter II of these Regulations shall apply to all meetings of the CITELE Assembly. However, in exceptional circumstances, the Assembly may decide by a two-thirds majority vote of the participating Member States to suspend temporarily any provision of Chapter II of these Regulations for the more efficient functioning of the Assembly. This suspension shall not contravene any provision of the Statute.

## **ARTICLE 102**

### **Unregulated matters**

Situations and matters not provided for in these Regulations shall be decided by COM/CITEL by an absolute majority vote of the Member States participating in the CITEL Assembly or COM/CITEL members if the Assembly is not in session. Should the Assembly or COM/CITEL not be in session, they shall be dealt with provisionally by the Chairman, after consulting with the other members of COM/CITEL, until COM/CITEL ratifies this decision at its next meeting. COM/CITEL shall report all decisions adopted under this Article, to the next Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly. No decision adopted under this Article can contradict the provisions of the CITEL Statute.

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## ANNEX <sup>41</sup>

### NAMES OF THE PCC

In reference to Article 80 of these Regulations, CITEI has the following Permanent Consultative Committees (PCCs):

Permanent Consultative Committee I (PCC.I): Telecommunications ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ information and communication technologies (ICT) (Telecommunications/ICT)

Permanent Consultative Committee II (PCC.II): Radiocommunications including Broadcasting

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<sup>41</sup> [CITEI-2002] [CITEI-2006] [\[CITEI-2010\]](#)

**CITEL RES. 62 (V-10)** <sup>42</sup>

**MODIFICATIONS TO CITEL STATUTES AND REGULATIONS**

The V Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission, CITEL,

**HAVING SEEN:**

The Report of the Assembly Working Committee 3 on the modifications to the CITEL Statute proposed by the Member States, and the modifications of the CITEL Regulations already adopted and placed into force *ad referendum* of the CITEL Assembly included in resolution CITEL/RES. 61 (V-10),

**CONSIDERING:**

- a) That for the purpose of clarifying the participation of associate members in CITEL meetings, CITEL adopted resolution CITEL/RES. 61 (V-10) approving the modification of Section 2 of Article 86 of the CITEL Regulations recommended in resolution COM/CITEL RES. 206 (XVIII-06), and requesting the CITEL Secretariat to inform the OAS General Assembly of that modification;
- b) That to facilitate implementation of CITEL's 2010-2014 Strategic Plan, it is necessary to modify Article 3 of the CITEL Statute regarding CITEL's Objectives and Functions;
- c) That to reflect the changes in terminology used in the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and other international organizations since the CITEL Statutes were first adopted, it is necessary to substitute the term telecommunications for "telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICT)"(hereinafter referred to as "telecommunications/ICT") wherever it occurs in CITEL's Statute and its Regulations;
- d) That pursuant to Articles 5 and 34 of the CITEL Statute, all modifications of the Statute subject to the approval of the OAS General Assembly, and CITEL must send all modifications of its Regulations to the OAS General Assembly for its information,

**RESOLVES:**

1. To approve the modifications to the CITEL Statute contained as Annex 1 of this Resolution, *ad referendum* the approval of the OAS General Assembly.
2. To request that the OAS General Assembly in its next Regular Period of Sessions approve the modifications to the CITEL Statute set out in Attachment A *nunc pro tunc* as of the date of this Resolution, by adopting the draft Resolution attached hereto as Annex 2.

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<sup>42</sup> CITEL/doc. 464/10

ANNEX 1 TO RESOLUTION CITEL RES. 62 (V-10)



Organización de los Estados Americanos  
Organização dos Estados Americanos  
Organisation des États Américains  
Organization of American States

# Statute of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL)

Edition ~~2006~~2010

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. The Statute of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission was approved by resolution AG/RES 1224 (XXIII-O/93) and amended by resolution AG/RES 1589 (XXVIII-O/98).
2. This text includes the amendments approved by resolution CITEL RES. 34 (III-02) during the Third Assembly of CITEI. These amendments were approved by the General Assembly of the Organization by resolution AG/RES.1946 (XXXIII-O/03).
3. This text includes the amendments approved by resolution-[resolution](#) CITEI RES.54 (IV-06) during the Fourth Assembly of CITEI. These amendments were approved by the General Assembly of the Organization by resolution AG/RES. 2159 (XXXVI-O/06).
4. [This text includes the amendments approved by resolution CITEI RES.62 \(V-10\) during the Fifth Assembly of CITEI.](#)

Example: The footnote [CITEI-2002] indicates changes introduced to the original text at the Third Assembly of CITEI held in Washington, DC, USA, August 12 to 16, 2002.

[23 February 2006](#)[10 April 2010](#)

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>EXPLANATORY NOTES</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>CHAPTER ONE</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>ORGANIZATION, FUNCTIONS AND MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>67</b>
<i>Article 1</i> .....	67
Nature .....	67
<i>Article 2</i> .....	67
Structure .....	67
<i>Article 3</i> .....	67
Objectives and Functions.....	67
<i>Article 4</i> .....	69
Membership.....	69
<b>CHAPTER TWO</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>CITEL ASSEMBLY</b>	<b>71</b>
<i>Article 5</i> .....	71
Purpose and Functions.....	71
<i>Article 6</i> .....	71
Place and Frequency of Meetings .....	71
<i>Article 7</i> .....	72
Participation in the CITEL Assembly.....	72
<i>Article 8</i> .....	73
Officers of the CITEL Assembly.....	73
<i>Article 9</i> .....	73
Agenda.....	73
<i>Article 10</i> .....	73
Sessions and Meetings.....	73
<i>Article 11</i> .....	73
Committees.....	73
<i>Article 12</i> .....	74
Quorum.....	74
<i>Article 13</i> .....	74
Voting.....	74
<b>CHAPTER THREE</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>THE PERMANENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (COM/CITEL)</b>	<b>75</b>
<i>Article 14</i> .....	75
Membership.....	75
<i>Article 15</i> .....	75
Installation Session and Officers .....	75
<i>Article 16</i> .....	75
Chairman of COM/CITEL.....	75
<i>Article 17</i> .....	76
Functions of COM/CITEL.....	76
<i>Article 18</i> .....	77
Meetings and Headquarters of COM/CITEL.....	77
<i>Article 19</i> .....	77

Quorum.....	77
Article 20 .....	77
Voting.....	77
Article 21 .....	78
Travel Expenses.....	78
<b>CHAPTER FOUR</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>PERMANENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES</b>	<b>79</b>
Article 22 .....	79
Purpose .....	79
Article 23 .....	79
Structure of the Permanent Consultative Committees .....	79
Article 24 .....	80
Participation in the Permanent Consultative Committees: Members, Associate Members and Observers .....	80
<b>CHAPTER FIVE</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>THE SECRETARIAT</b>	<b>81</b>
Article 25 .....	81
Purposes and Functions .....	81
Article 26 .....	81
The Executive Secretary of CITEL.....	81
Article 27 .....	82
Secretariat Services.....	82
<b>CHAPTER SIX</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>EXPENSES AND FUNDS OF CITEL</b>	<b>83</b>
Article 28 .....	83
CITEL Funding Sources .....	83
Article 29 .....	83
Specific Funds .....	83
<b>CHAPTER SEVEN</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>OFFICIAL AND WORKING LANGUAGES</b>	<b>84</b>
Article 30 .....	84
Official Languages .....	84
Article 31 .....	84
Working Languages.....	84
Article 32 .....	84
Documents.....	84
<b>CHAPTER EIGHT</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>GENERAL PROVISIONS REGARDING THE STATUTE AND RULES OF PROCEDURES</b>	<b>85</b>
Article 33 .....	85
Governing Norms .....	85
Article 34 .....	85
Amendment .....	85
Article 35 .....	85
CITEL Regulations.....	85
Article 36 .....	85
Entry into force.....	85

**STATUTE OF THE  
INTER-AMERICAN  
TELECOMMUNICATION COMMISSION**

**CHAPTER ONE**

**ORGANIZATION, FUNCTIONS AND MEMBERSHIP**

**ARTICLE 1**

**Nature**

The Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) is an entity of the Organization of American States (hereinafter "the Organization"), established by the General Assembly, in accordance with Article 53 of the Charter of the Organization.

CITEL shall enjoy technical autonomy in the performance of its functions, within the limits of the Charter of the Organization, this Statute, and the mandates of the General Assembly of the Organization.

**ARTICLE 2**

**Structure**

CITEL shall achieve its objectives through the following:

- a. The CITEL Assembly;
- b. The Permanent Executive Committee (COM/CITEL);
- c. The Permanent Consultative Committees; and
- d. The Secretariat.

**ARTICLE 3**<sup>43</sup>

**Objectives and Functions**

**OBJECTIVES**

- a. To facilitate and promote, by all means available to it, the continuing development of telecommunications, ~~including~~ information and communication technologies, ~~in this hemisphere (ICT) (hereinafter telecommunications/ICT) in the Hemisphere, in pursuance of sustainable development.~~
- b. To promote and foster the existence of appropriate telecommunications, ~~including information and communication technologies, for the~~ ICT that contribute to the integral development process of regional development in the region, with particular attention to underserved areas.

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<sup>43</sup> [CITEL-2006] [AG/RES. 2159 (XXXVI-O/06) (objectives a and b, functions f, g, h)] [\[CITEL-2010\]](#)

- c. To organize ~~promote~~, and ~~sponsor~~evaluate the periodic holding of meetings of technicians and experts to study planning, financing, construction, operation, standardization, technical assistance, maintenance, and other matters related to the use and ~~operation~~development of telecommunications/ICT in the Americas.
- d. To promote the ~~adoption~~unification of ~~uniform criteria and~~ technical standards for the installation, operation, and criteria for the operation/maintenance of the systems, in order to obtain maximum benefit from the ~~available~~ facilities for available to each ~~individual~~ country and for the region as a whole within to the ~~framework of region in general, in the~~ global standardization framework of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and other relevant standardization organizations.
- e. To promote and study technical assistance, in agreement with the governments of the respective countries ~~concerned, giving priority to the needs of developing countries~~.
- f. To foster the improvement and harmonization of administrative, financial, and operational procedures for the planning, installation, improvement, maintenance, and operation of the telecommunication networks of the Member States of CITEL, within the framework of the recommendations of the ITU, as well as of other international and regional organizations, that promote widespread access to services, the use of new technologies, job creation, and the deployment of infrastructure in underserved areas.
- g. To recommend studies and promote the adoption of official agreements ~~between the among~~ governments of ~~the Member States~~member states of the Organization, ~~in connection with~~ for the planning, installation, maintenance, and operation of telecommunications systems in the ~~hemisphere~~Hemisphere.
- h. To promote and encourage the study and dissemination of problems related to the impact of telecommunications on the environment and climate change and their relationship to ICT, in keeping with policies developed by the ITU and other organizations with competence in this area.

## FUNCTIONS

- a. ~~To sponsor~~To serve as the Organization's leading advisory body in all matters relating to telecommunications/ICT in the Hemisphere.
- b. To promote or undertake studies ~~that will permit~~and programs for the orderly development of telecommunications/ICT networks, ~~making use of~~utilizing the most suitable and efficient systems available.
- bc. To maintain ~~continuous~~ongoing contact with the various international governmental and non-governmental ~~international~~ organizations in the field of telecommunications/ICT, and to promote the coordination of their activities with those of the ~~Member States~~member states of the Organization.
- ed. To request the cooperation of world or regional governmental organizations, especially the ITU, and the Caribbean ~~Telecommunication~~Telecommunications Union, and of international agencies ~~concerned with~~entities working in the field of telecommunications/ICT that enjoy consultative status with the United Nations or maintain cooperative relations with the Organization.

- d. ~~To collecte.~~ To analyze and propose different forms of financing to support the plans and projects of CITEL.
- f. To compile and disseminate among the Member States of CITEL information pertaining to ~~accomplishment~~the fulfillment of its objectives, as well as any other information that may be of interest, including the evaluation of those results.
- e. ~~To serve as the principal advisory body of the Organization in all matters related to telecommunications in the Americas.~~
- f.g. To study ~~the~~the policy and regulatory aspects of telecommunications/ICT at the regional level.
- gh. To study legal ~~problems~~issues related to direct ~~transmission via~~ satellite transmissions, in order to prepare draft ~~inter-inter~~-American agreements on ~~this~~that subject and ~~to~~ formulate ~~a common uniform~~ position thereon for adoption by the Member States of CITEL ~~to take in this connection when dealing with~~before the ~~pertinent~~relevant international ~~ageneies~~organizations.
- hi. To prepare studies on ~~the harmonization of public~~ policies ~~on matters relating to~~ in the area of telecommunications/ICT.
- ij. To make recommendations in the field area of telecommunications/ICT to the governments of the Member States of CITEL, taking into account those made by the ITU and by other relevant organizations.
- j-k. To ~~prepare and coordinate~~promote research and technological development in the field of telecommunications ~~and electronics~~/ICT.
- kl. To consider any other matters ~~relating to Inter-related to inter~~-American cooperation in the field of telecommunications ~~as requested~~/ICT assigned to it by the General Assembly; or the Councils of the Organization.
- m. To promote the development of new applications that promote the inclusion of the region's countries in the Knowledge-based society.
- n. To review and assess the effectiveness of technical cooperation with the ITU and other regional and international organizations on an ongoing basis.
- o. To develop mechanisms for full participation by all Member States in the meetings of CITEL, and to increase the number of associate members of the Committees of CITEL.

## ARTICLE 4

### Membership

The following States can be members of CITEL:

- a. All the Member States of the Organization.

- b. Other American States which are not members of the Organization, whose request for membership in CITELE is favorably decided upon by the CITELE Assembly and the General Assembly of the Organization, because of the special interest shown by those governments in cooperating in the attainment of the purpose and objectives of CITELE.

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## CHAPTER TWO

### CITEL ASSEMBLY

#### ARTICLE 5 <sup>44</sup>

##### Purpose and Functions

###### Purpose

To serve as an Inter-American Forum in which the highest telecommunications/[ICT](#) authorities of the CITEL Member States will share opinions and experiences and make appropriate decisions to direct their activities towards achieving its assigned objectives and mandates.

###### Functions

- a. Establishing the policies for achieving the objectives and functions set out in Article 3 of this Statute.
- b. Electing the members of COM/CITEL.
- c. Establishing the Permanent Consultative Committees.
- d. Approving the request for membership in CITEL of American States that are not members of the Organization, subject to ratification by the General Assembly of the Organization.
- e. Proposing amendments to this Statute for approval by the General Assembly of the Organization.
- f. Approving the CITEL Regulations and presenting them to the General Assembly of the Organization for its information.

#### ARTICLE 6

##### Place and Frequency of Meetings

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.

The CITEL Assembly may hold Special Meetings as provided in the Regulations.

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<sup>44</sup> [CITEL-2006, f] [AG/RES. 2159 (XXXVI-O/06)]

## ARTICLE 7 <sup>45</sup>

### Participation in the CITEL Assembly

#### Delegations

Each Member State is entitled to send a delegation to the CITEL Assembly. The delegation of each Member State may include a head of delegation, an alternate head of delegation, and such delegates and advisors as that State may accredit to the CITEL Assembly.

#### Secretary General of the Organization

The Secretary General of the Organization, or his representative, may participate with voice but without vote in the deliberations of the CITEL Assembly, both in the plenary sessions and in the committees and subcommittees.

#### Observers

The following may be represented by observers at a meeting of the CITEL Assembly with the right to voice but without vote:

- a. Permanent Observers to the Organization.
- b. Subject to COM/CITEL's approval, those American States which are not Members of the Organization and which have asked to participate in the meeting.
- c. Subject to COM/CITEL's approval, those Non-American States that are Members of the United Nations or its specialized Agencies and which have asked to participate in the meeting.
- d. Inter-American specialized organizations and entities of the Organization, and Inter-American intergovernmental regional organizations.
- e. The United Nations and its specialized agencies.
- f. International and national organizations that are parties to agreements or arrangements establishing relations of cooperation with the Organization, with its organs, organizations or agencies, when such agreements or arrangements provide for participation of observers.
- g. Subject to COM/CITEL's approval, those international, regional, subregional and national agencies and organizations that are involved in telecommunications/[ICT](#) activities in the region and which have asked to participate in the meeting.
- h. The Associate members of the Permanent Consultative Committees.

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<sup>45</sup> [CITEL-2002, f, h] [AG/RES.1946 (XXXIII-O/03)]

## **Guests**

Subject to COM/CITEL's approval and in consultation with the government of the host country, other persons or institutions not covered in this Article as may be deemed advisable, may attend the CITEL Assembly as special guests, as defined in the Regulations.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### **Officers of the CITEL Assembly**

There shall be a Chairman and two Vice Chairmen of the CITEL Assembly, elected at the first plenary session, by an absolute majority of the Member States represented at the Assembly. Before the election of the Chairman of the CITEL Assembly, the Chairman of COM/CITEL shall serve as the provisional Chairman.

## **ARTICLE 9**

### **Agenda**

COM/CITEL shall prepare the preliminary agenda for each CITEL Assembly meeting, and shall submit it to the Member States for consideration, at least three months in advance of the opening of the CITEL Assembly Meeting. The Member States shall have thirty consecutive days to present their observations on the draft agenda to the Chairman of COM/CITEL. On the basis of these observations, COM/CITEL shall draw up the final agenda.

The agenda so approved, may be amended or otherwise modified only during the Meeting of the CITEL Assembly by a vote of two thirds of the participating Member States.

## **ARTICLE 10**

### **Sessions and Meetings**

Each Meeting of the CITEL Assembly shall consist of such Plenary Sessions as are required to complete the Agenda for the Meeting and the sessions of the Committees of the CITEL Assembly as provided under this Statute.

## **ARTICLE 11**

### **Committees**

There shall be a Steering Committee, a Credentials Committee and a Style Committee, as further provided in the Regulations.

The CITEL Assembly may establish such other committees, subcommittees, and working groups when required.

## **ARTICLE 12**

### **Quorum**

For Plenary Sessions, the presence of more than half of the Member States shall constitute a quorum.

For the committees, subcommittees, and working groups of the CITELE Assembly, the presence of more than half of the Member States of the body concerned shall constitute a quorum.

## **ARTICLE 13**

### **Voting**

The decisions of the CITELE Assembly shall be adopted at the plenary sessions. Each delegation of a Member State shall have the right to one vote. The right to vote does not imply an obligation to vote.

In the absence of consensus in the deliberations, the decisions of the CITELE Assembly shall be adopted by the vote of an absolute majority of the Member States participating, except in those cases where a two-thirds vote of the participating Member States is expressly required.

In the committees, subcommittees, and working groups, decisions shall be adopted by a simple majority.

For purposes of this Statute, the term "absolute majority" means more than half of the votes of the Member States participating in a meeting of the CITELE Assembly. A simple majority means more than half of those present and voting in any given session of a Committee, subcommittee, or working group.

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## CHAPTER THREE

### THE PERMANENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (COM/CITEL)

#### ARTICLE 14 <sup>46</sup>

##### Membership

The Permanent Executive Committee (COM/CITEL) is the executive organ of CITEL. It is composed of representatives of thirteen Member States of CITEL elected at the CITEL Assembly, who shall serve until the next Regular Meeting of the Assembly. The principles of rotation and of an equitable geographic representation shall be observed, insofar as possible, in the election of eleven of these Member States. One of the two remaining members shall be the representative of the Member State hosting the meeting of the CITEL Assembly in which the election takes place. The other shall be the representative of the Member State in whose territory the next Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly will be held.

#### ARTICLE 15

##### Installation Session and Officers

COM/CITEL shall be installed by the Chairman of the CITEL Assembly before the closing of the Meeting at which the Member States that are to serve on COM/CITEL are elected.

At the installation session of COM/CITEL, the Chairman of the CITEL Assembly shall be appointed Chairman of COM/CITEL. The representative of the Member State that has offered to host the next Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly shall become the Vice-Chairman of COM/CITEL.

#### ARTICLE 16

##### Chairman of COM/CITEL

The COM/CITEL Chairman shall have the following specific responsibilities:

- a. To preside over the meetings of COM/CITEL.
- b. To preside initially at the CITEL Assemblies.
- c. To represent CITEL before other Organs of the Organization, the governmental telecommunications/[ICT](#) entities of the CITEL Members, and other organizations that participate in telecommunications/[ICT](#) development activities in the Americas.
- d. To supervise and coordinate the fulfillment of the responsibilities of COM/CITEL, especially during the interim between Regular Meetings.
- e. To direct and coordinate the meetings and forums, that COM/CITEL may conduct with other entities of the regional telecommunications/[ICT](#) sector, or with other international entities.

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<sup>46</sup> [CITEL-2006] [AG/RES. 2159 (XXXVI-O/06)]

## ARTICLE 17 <sup>47</sup>

### Functions of COM/CITEL

The functions of COM/CITEL are the following:

- a. To carry out the decisions of the CITEL Assembly, taking into consideration the recommendations of the General Assembly of the Organization and of the pertinent Councils with respect to telecommunications/[ICT](#).
- b. To carry out and enforce the objectives of Article 3 of this Statute.
- c. To set the date for the Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly, the date and place for the Special Meetings of the CITEL Assembly and make amendments as necessary.
- d. To prepare the draft agendas for the Regular and Special Meetings of the CITEL Assembly and to submit them to the governments of the Member States of CITEL for consideration, through the Executive Secretary, pursuant to Article 9 of this Statute.
- e. To propose to the CITEL Assembly any amendments it may consider necessary to introduce to this Statute and the Regulations.
- f. To establish a work program for the Secretariat and for the office of the Chairman of COM/CITEL for implementation of the decisions of the CITEL Assembly.
- g. To adopt any urgent measures, which cannot be deferred until the next meeting of the CITEL Assembly and which shall remain in force until the CITEL Assembly can consider them.
- h. Through its Chairman or some other designated member of COM/CITEL, to represent CITEL at world, regional, or national meetings or conferences on telecommunications/[ICT](#) or related activities.
- i. With the cooperation of the Secretariat, to prepare studies, drafts of inter-American conventions and treaties, and any other documents relating to telecommunications/[ICT](#) in the hemisphere.
- j. Through the Secretary General and the appropriate Council of the Organization, to present to the General Assembly an annual report on the activities of CITEL.
- k. To establish such technical committees and working groups as it may consider necessary determining its work program.
- l. Within the framework of CITEL's objectives, to plan and coordinate inter-American activities in the area of telecommunications/[ICT](#).
- m. To review and approve a work program based on the program-budget approved by the General Assembly and an annual proposed budget for CITEL in pursuance of the provisions of Article 112

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<sup>47</sup> [CITEL-2002, m] [AG/RES.1946 (XXXIII-O/03)]

( c ) of the Charter of the Organization; ensuring the strictest possible economy but mindful of the obligation upon CITEL to achieve satisfactory results from the work programs undertaken.

## **ARTICLE 18**

### **Meetings and Headquarters of COM/CITEL**

COM/CITEL shall meet at least once a year, in the country represented by its Chairman, in another country, or at the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the Organization, as the Committee may decide at its preceding meeting.

Any Member State which is not a member of COM/CITEL may participate in the meetings of COM/CITEL, with voice but without vote. The Chairmen of the Permanent Consultative Committees, whose countries are not Members of COM/CITEL shall be invited to participate in COM/CITEL with voice but without vote.

In consultation with COM/CITEL members, the Chairman may invite representatives of specialized agencies or experts in matters to be considered at the meetings to advise as required.

The Member State elected to preside over COM/CITEL shall organize, at its expense, and under the exclusive responsibility of the Chairman, an office in accordance with the Regulations.

## **ARTICLE 19**

### **Quorum**

More than half of the members of COM/CITEL shall constitute quorum for a COM/CITEL meeting.

## **ARTICLE 20**<sup>48</sup>

### **Voting**

In the deliberations of COM/CITEL, each Member State shall have one vote, and in the absence of consensus, decisions of COM/CITEL shall be adopted by the vote of an absolute majority of its Members. However, on questions of procedure, decisions shall be taken by a simple majority of those present and voting. In the latter case, abstentions shall not be counted as votes cast.

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<sup>48</sup> [CITEL-2006] [AG/RES. 2159 (XXXVI-O/06)]

## **ARTICLE 21**

### **Travel Expenses**

Travel expenses of the Chairman of COM/CITEL or some other member acting on his behalf, to attend a meeting of an international agency as the representative of CITEL, shall be defrayed by the Organization as provided in the Organization's Program-Budget.

Travel expenses incurred by the members of COM/CITEL to attend its meetings or those of the CITEL Assembly shall be defrayed by the respective Member States they represent.

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## CHAPTER FOUR

### PERMANENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES

#### ARTICLE 22

##### Purpose

The purpose of Permanent Consultative Committees is to provide advice to all those entities that constitute the regional telecommunications/[/ICT](#) sector, in matters relating to their respective areas of competence.

#### ARTICLE 23

### Structure of the Permanent Consultative Committees

##### Organization <sup>49</sup>

The CITELE Assembly shall organize the Permanent Consultative Committees it considers necessary to attain the objectives defined in Article 3 of this Statute and shall elect the host countries of the Permanent Consultative Committees, observing to the extent possible, the principles of rotation and an equitable geographic distribution.

##### Officers

The representative appointed by the host country shall be the corresponding Chairman of the Permanent Consultative Committee and shall have the duties set forth in the Regulations. Each Permanent Consultative Committee may establish up to two positions of Vice President.

The Member State elected to preside over a Permanent Consultative Committee shall organize, at its expense, and under the exclusive responsibility of the Chairman, an office in accordance with the Regulations.

##### Meetings

The Permanent Consultative Committees shall meet at least once a year at a time and place determined by its respective Chairman. The Vice-Chairman shall be responsible for assisting the Chairman in his duties, and may offer to host an additional meeting of the Consultative Committee if deemed necessary.

Each Consultative Committee may set up working groups which shall submit reports concerning their activities to the Consultative Committee.

Papers, studies, decisions, and draft resolutions of the Permanent Consultative Committees which require consideration of the CITELE Assembly shall be submitted to COM/CITELE at least four months before a meeting of the CITELE Assembly takes place.

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<sup>49</sup> [CITELE-1998] [AG/RES 1589 (XXVIII-O/98)] [CITELE-2002] [AG/RES.1946 (XXXIII-O/03)] [CITELE-2006] [AG/RES. 2159 (XXXVI-O/06)]

In the absence of consensus in the deliberations of the Permanent Consultative Committees, draft resolutions shall be adopted in accordance with the voting procedures set forth in the Regulations. The approval will always require the favorable vote of at least one third of the Member States.

## ARTICLE 24<sup>50</sup>

### **Participation in the Permanent Consultative Committees: Members, Associate Members and Observers**

Member States and Associate members of CITELE, whose rights and obligations are defined in this Statute, collaborate with a view to attaining the objectives of CITELE.<sup>51</sup>

#### **Members**

Each CITELE Member State may appoint a representative to each Permanent Consultative Committee. The representative shall be a specialist in telecommunications/[ICT](#). A Member State may remove or replace its representative simply by notifying the Executive Secretary of CITELE of its decision to do so.

#### **Associate members<sup>52</sup>**

1. Any agency, organization or institution related to the telecommunications/[ICT](#) industry, which has legal personality, with the approval of the corresponding Member State of CITELE, may become an Associate member of a Permanent Consultative Committee. The Member State shall notify the Chairman of COM/CITELE in writing of the names of the agencies, organizations, or institutions it has approved. An agency, organization, or institution shall cease to be an associate member in the event that approval is withdrawn by the Member State.
2. An international or regional inter-governmental organization with multiple memberships of States of the Americas that is related to telecommunications/[ICT](#) and has legal personality may become an associate member of a Permanent Consultative Committee with the approval of COM/CITELE. This international or regional organization shall cease to be an associate member in the event that approval is withdrawn by the COM/CITELE.
3. Associate members of a Permanent Consultative Committee may fully participate in all the activities of that Permanent Consultative Committee, with voice but without vote. They may present technical papers and receive the documents of the Committee to which they pertain.

#### **Observers**

The terms and manner of participation of observers are dealt with in the Regulations.

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<sup>50</sup> [CITELE-1998] [AG/RES 1589 (XXVIII-O/98)]

<sup>51</sup> [CITELE-2002] [AG/RES.1946 (XXXIII-O/03)]

<sup>52</sup> [CITELE-2002] [AG/RES.1946 (XXXIII-O/03)]

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **THE SECRETARIAT**

#### **ARTICLE 25**

##### **Purposes and Functions**

The Secretariat is the central and permanent administrative organ of CITEL. It shall coordinate the administrative services required for implementing the decisions of the CITEL Assembly, COM/CITEL, and the Permanent Consultative Committees, and it shall perform such other functions as are assigned by those organs.

#### **ARTICLE 26**

##### **The Executive Secretary of CITEL**

In consultation with COM/CITEL, the Secretary General of the Organization shall appoint the Executive Secretary of CITEL, whose functions shall include:

- a. Performance of technical and administrative duties entrusted to the Secretariat, and coordination of the administrative services provided by the Secretariat.
- b. Preparation and submission to COM/CITEL and to the Secretary General of the Organization of the proposed Program-Budget of CITEL, which should include travel expenses and salaries of the personnel assigned to the Secretariat.
- c. Representation of the Secretary General of the Organization, when so authorized, with voice but without vote, in the meetings of the CITEL Assembly, COM/CITEL, and the Permanent Consultative Committees.
- d. Assistance in the coordination and implementation of the work plans of the Permanent Consultative Committees and the working groups of COM/CITEL.
- e. Preparations for holding the Regular and Special Meetings of the CITEL Assembly.

The Executive Secretary of CITEL shall perform those functions in accordance with the General Standards Governing the Operation of the General Secretariat of the Organization ("General Standards") and such other rules and regulations that apply to the General Secretariat and its personnel.

## **ARTICLE 27**

### **Secretariat Services**

The General Secretariat of the Organization shall provide secretariat services to CITEL in accordance with the allocation of funds in the Program-Budget of the Organization and the Secretary General shall appoint the technical and administrative personnel to provide those services in accordance with the General Standards and such other rules and regulations governing the operations of the General Secretariat of the Organization.

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## CHAPTER SIX

### EXPENSES AND FUNDS OF CITEL

#### ARTICLE 28

##### CITEL Funding Sources

The resources of CITEL operations will come from:

- a. The Regular Fund of the Organization; and
- b. Specific Funds.

Each Member State of CITEL shall bear the expenses of its representatives.

#### ARTICLE 29<sup>53</sup>

##### Specific Funds

The General Secretariat shall establish the following Specific Funds, pursuant to Article 74 of the General Standards for the Operations of the General Secretariat of the Organization.

- a. A Supplementary Fund for the Activities of the Permanent Consultative Committees to be funded by voluntary contributions from CITEL Members and by fees from associate members, as determined by the CITEL Regulations.
- b. A Supplementary Fund for Development Activities within CITEL's work program to be funded by specific gifts, donations, and contributions.
- c. A Supplementary Fund for Support of General Operations to be funded by voluntary contributions of CITEL Members.

Accounting for these Specific Funds shall be carried out in accordance with the General Standards and Financial Rules and Regulations of the Organization.

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<sup>53</sup> The number of the Article of the General Standards for the Operation of the General Secretariat was modified to take into account the updated version. (January 2006). [CITEL-2006] [AG/RES. 2159 (XXXVI-O/06)]

## **CHAPTER SEVEN**

### **OFFICIAL AND WORKING LANGUAGES**

#### **ARTICLE 30**

##### **Official Languages**

English, French, Portuguese and Spanish are the official languages of the CITEL.

#### **ARTICLE 31**

##### **Working Languages**

Spanish and English shall be the working languages. For the Regular and Special Meetings of the CITEL Assembly, the Executive Secretary shall inquire of the CITEL Members concerned if simultaneous interpretation into French and Portuguese will be necessary. Working documents of CITEL shall be made available in Spanish and English. Delegations may present their proposals to the CITEL Assembly in any of the official languages of CITEL.

#### **ARTICLE 32**

##### **Documents**

The draft resolutions, recommendations and decisions, and any amendments thereto, as well as the decisions of the CITEL Assembly, shall be published in the official languages. The CITEL annual report and the reports of the CITEL Assembly meetings shall be published in the official languages. Other documents emanating from CITEL shall be published in the working languages.

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## **CHAPTER EIGHT**

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS REGARDING THE STATUTE AND RULES OF PROCEDURES**

#### **ARTICLE 33**

##### **Governing Norms**

CITEL shall be governed by the present Statute, by its Regulations, and by the resolutions of the General Assembly of the Organization.

#### **ARTICLE 34**

##### **Amendment**

The present Statute, approved by the General Assembly of the Organization, may be amended only by the General Assembly, at its own initiative or upon CITEL's request as provided under CITEL's Regulations.

#### **ARTICLE 35**

##### **CITEL Regulations**

CITEL shall adopt its Regulations in accordance with this Statute and shall submit them to the General Assembly of the Organization with its first annual report.

#### **ARTICLE 36**

##### **Entry into force**

The present Statute shall enter into force on the date of its approval by the General Assembly.

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**ANNEX 2 TO RESOLUTION CITEL RES. 62 (V-10)**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE  
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION**

**AG/RES. yyyy (XXXX-O/10)**

**MODIFICATIONS TO CITEL STATUTE AND REGULATIONS**

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

**HAVING SEEN:**

The revisions to the CITEL Regulations and Statute adopted by the Fifth Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly by resolution CITEL RES. 61 (V-10) and CITEL RES. 62 (V-10),

**CONSIDERING:**

That by resolution CITEL RES. 61 (V-10), the CITEL Assembly modified Section 2 of Article 86 of the CITEL Regulations, to clarify the participation of associate members in CITEL meetings;

That the CITEL Assembly, by resolution CITEL RES. 62 (V-10), has approved modifications to Article 3 of the CITEL Statute regarding its Objectives and Functions to facilitate the implementation of CITEL's 2010-2014 Strategic Plan;

That also by resolution CITEL RES. 62 (V-10), the CITEL Assembly has approved the change from "telecommunications" to "telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICT)" ((hereinafter referred to as "telecommunications/ICT")) in the text of the Statute and the Regulations;

That amendments to the CITEL Statute adopted by the CITEL Assembly, pursuant to Articles 5 and 34 of the CITEL Statute, are subject to the approval of the OAS General Assembly, and modifications of the CITEL Regulations approved by the CITEL Assembly must be sent to the OAS General Assembly for its information,

**RESOLVES:**

1. To approve, retroactive to the date of their adoption by the Fifth Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly by resolution CITEL RES. 62 (V-10), the modifications to Article 3 of the CITEL Statute set out in Attachment No. 1 of this resolution, together with the editorial changes in the Statute approved in that resolution.
2. To take note of the modifications of the CITEL Regulations approved by the Fifth Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly in resolution CITEL RES. 61 (V-10) set out in Attachment No. 2 of this resolution.

**CITEL RES. 63 (V-10)** <sup>54</sup>

**DECLARATION OF MEXICO**

The Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL),

**CONSIDERING:**

- a) That at the Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of CITEL, held in Mexico, D.F., Mexico, on March 8 was held the High-level Forum “Toward a Better Future: Redefining the Information and Communication Technology Sector in the Americas,” which discussed matters to contribute to the technological and economic development of the countries of the region, and
- b) That the Strategic Plan of CITEL for 2010-2014 was also reviewed in depth and adopted,

**RESOLVES:**

To adopt the Declaration of Mexico, annexed hereto.

**ANNEX TO RESOLUTION CITEL RES. 63 (V-10)** <sup>55</sup>

**INTER-AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATION COMMISSION  
(CITEL)**

**DECLARATION OF MEXICO**

**March 11, 2010**

The Representatives of the telecommunication administrations of the Organization of American States (OAS), at the Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL), held in Mexico, D.F., Mexico, from March 8 to 11, 2010,

**TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:**

That the Heads of State and Government, at the Fifth Summit of the Americas, decided to reaffirm the values of the Charter of the United Nations, the Charter of the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Democratic Charter, the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development, and the Millennium Declaration, in order to intensify the fight in the region against poverty, hunger, social exclusion, discrimination and inequality, and to promote inclusion and social cohesion to improve the living conditions of our people and achieve development and social justice;

That the 2009 Report of the Millennium Development Goals Gap Task Force, established by the United Nations Secretary-General to improve tracking of the Millennium Development Goals, notes that the

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<sup>54</sup> CITEL/doc. 465/10

<sup>55</sup> CITEL/doc. 421/10 rev. 5

digital divide, in the form of differences in access and affordability, is still very wide between developing and developed countries, as well as within countries;

That the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas recognizes the profound impact of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) on our lives, as well as their social and economic consequences, including the disparity in the capacity to access information and the need (i) to transform such information into knowledge for the benefit of all citizens of the Americas, and (ii) for active participation by civil society, including the private sector, in implementing the Agenda for Connectivity; and

That resolution AG/RES. 2440 (XXXIX-O/09), “Telecommunications Development in the Region to Reduce the Digital Divide,” adopted by the OAS General Assembly, reiterates and strengthens the priority mandate of CITELE, *inter alia* to address the ongoing evolution of telecommunication/ICTs and to reduce the divide separating countries in the area of telecommunications/ICTs,

#### **RECOGNIZING:**

That confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs are highly important pillars in creating the Information and Knowledge-based Society, as a result of which the countries of the region, especially the developing countries, require an ongoing exchange of experiences and best practices for the formulation of national, regional, and international policies;

That telecommunications/ICTs have the potential to provide solutions to development problems, promoting economic growth, competitiveness, and access to knowledge through information, contributing to the eradication of poverty and the integration of all countries of the Americas;

That Mexico will host the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to be held from November 29 to December 10, 2010, considering that telecommunications/ICTs play a very important part in international, regional, and national efforts to mitigate climate change, prevent natural disasters, and provide emergency relief;

That governments are formulating policies designed to meet national development needs, these being a significant factor in promoting participation by many interested parties to contribute to these efforts and ensure that measures adopted are supported by information exchange and regional and international collaboration;

That progress has been achieved in terms of the level of connectivity, driven especially by the growth of mobile wireless access. However, substantial disparities remain in the region in terms of the penetration and affordability of telecommunication services. Therefore, connectivity promotion activities will constitute a tool to generate the integral development of the region;

That developing countries require support to profit further from technological convergence and the new technologies, to which end, more telecommunication infrastructure should be created to reduce the existing digital divide;

That governments, academic institutions, and university-associated research centers have a strategic part to play in building the Information and Knowledge-based Society; and

That diverse initiatives worldwide incorporate, as a societal goal, the facilitation of access to telecommunications/ICTs, based on an inclusive, universal, and supportive approach,

**DECLARE:**

That to continue to move forward in building the Information and Knowledge-based Society in the Americas, it is advisable to reaffirm our commitment to promoting the growth of telecommunication/ICT infrastructure through public and private investment, and to establish mechanisms for infrastructure-sharing at affordable costs, benefiting the end user, mainly the most disadvantaged sector of the populace;

That broadband access by the majority of the population of the Americas is one of the main challenges faced by governments; hence CITEL, as the region's leading telecommunications/ICTs, entity, must constitute a strategic pillar for the establishment of public policy designed to promote better development and regional integration; and

That the advantages afforded by broadband are of great support in the development and implementation of public and social services, such as health, education, and culture, and for different areas of economic activity and government,

**AGREE:**

To promote, in the framework of CITEL, the generation and recommendation of guidelines supporting the Administrations in the establishment of policies and standards that promote: technological innovation, the transfer of knowledge, service development, market development, expansion of telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, promotion and development of medium and long-term sustainable applications, e-commerce, the security of networks, and the provision of government services applications, and, especially, to point to practical applications and provide mechanisms designed to achieve optimal use of telecommunications/ICTs;

To promote convergence and increased competition as forces driving the provision of telecommunication services at affordable tariffs for the population as a whole, especially the most disadvantaged, while fostering effective public policies to facilitate universal access;

To promote the dissemination of information enabling the populace to learn about the characteristics of the service, and its tariffs and security, available on the market;

To strengthen CITEL so that it can remain the leading regional telecommunication/ICT reference point, proposing initiatives, developing programs, and executing projects aimed at fostering the sector's optimal development with a view to achieving the Millennium Development Goals;

To collaborate internally with the OAS to formulate joint projects, among others, related to health and education, climate change, combating security concerns, gender equity, and the rights of indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities;

To establish closer ties with other regional and international organizations, promoting information exchange, technical assistance, and mutual support in analyzing specific matters, which will enable, among other things, awareness to be gained of international telecommunication trends;

To strengthen the development of activities and the review of best practices focusing on the use of telecommunications and ICTs to counteract the impacts of climate change;

To promote the coordination of efforts by public and private entities aimed at the appropriate

handling of electronic waste and the use of reusable, recyclable and biodegradable equipment and materials, as well as products manufactured with recycled material in processes that do not damage the environment;

To promote the creation of local content enabling greater advantage to be taken of broadband access, taking the due precautions with respect to intellectual property rights in order to combat piracy and forgery;

To promote information exchange among interested parties regarding online security measures to protect children and young people from potential attacks and harmful content via the Internet.

To promote information exchange regarding the protection of confidential data of users who conduct various activities over the Internet and to afford interested parties greater certainty regarding the security of their transactions;

To propose and develop strategies that enable telecommunication infrastructure to be recognized as a decisive factor in natural disaster prevention, mitigation, aid, relief, and reconstruction actions;

To promote access by all citizens to the Information and Knowledge-based Society; to promote online network communities in education, research, health, business, and government; and to promote job creation and economic development, especially by small and medium-sized enterprises, trade and services, tourism, the agricultural and export sectors, culture, and recreation;

To continue fulfilling the telecommunication-related commitments assumed at the Summits of the Americas, and to promote and disseminate the implementation of the recommendations and guidelines of CITEL;

To encourage, on a voluntary basis, the implementation of Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs), such as that of CITEL, which can serve as instruments to facilitate efficient trade of telecommunication equipment in the region, to promote an effective regulatory cooperation, as well as to collaborate in the establishment of consistent procedures of market surveillance and exchange of information for the purpose of protecting the integrity of the telecommunication market in the region;

To build up CITEL's telecommunication training program, in coordination with CITEL's Regional Training Centers, the International Telecommunication Union's Center of Excellence for the Americas Region, the private sector, and regional and subregional organizations, through the use of advanced education and research networks, and the establishment of Caribbean networks, as well as other civil society entities; and

To present this declaration to other regional and international forums for their information.

In witness whereof, the delegates of the member states participating in the Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission hereby adopt this Declaration in Mexico City, Mexico, on March 11, 2010.

**CHAIR OF THE ASSEMBLY**

<b>Argentina</b>	<b>El Salvador</b>
<b>Bolivia</b>	<b>Guatemala</b>
<b>Brazil</b>	<b>Haiti</b>
<b>Canada</b>	<b>Mexico</b>
<b>Chile</b>	<b>Panama</b>
<b>Colombia</b>	<b>Paraguay</b>
<b>Costa Rica</b>	<b>Peru</b>
<b>Dominican Republic</b>	<b>United States of America</b>
<b>Ecuador</b>	<b>Uruguay</b>
<b>Grenada</b>	<b>Venezuela</b>



**CITEL RES. 64 (V-10)** <sup>56</sup>

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PERMANENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES**

The Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL),

**CONSIDERING:**

- a) That the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) is the specialized entity of the Organization of American States (OAS) in the field of telecommunications;
- b) That Article 5 of the Statute of CITEL authorizes its Assembly to establish any Permanent Consultative Committees (PCCs) it considers necessary to attain its objectives and fulfill its functions, which are contained in Article 3 thereof;
- c) That in accordance with the Regulations of CITEL, the Assembly shall define a specific mandate for each PCC; and
- d) That the Permanent Consultative Committees are the basis for the work done to implement the objectives and functions of CITEL,

**RESOLVES:**

- 1. To rescind resolution CITEL RES. 55 (IV-06).
- 2. To establish the following Permanent Consultative Committees:  
  
PCC.I: Telecommunications/Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)  
PCC.II: Radiocommunications including Broadcasting
- 3. To establish the following objectives and mandates for the Permanent Consultative Committees:

**Permanent Consultative Committee I: Telecommunications/ICT (PCC.I):**

**Objective**

To serve as an advisory committee of CITEL in the area of telecommunications/ICTs, especially in matters related to telecommunication/ICT policy, regulatory aspects, standardization, universal service, economic and social development, environment and climate change, and the development of infrastructure and new technologies.

To implement this objective, Permanent Consultative Committee I has the following mandates:

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<sup>56</sup> CITEL/doc. 412/10 rev.2

## **Mandates:**

In accordance with the relevant regulations, procedures, and recommendations of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU):

- a) To promote discussion of new technologies with a view to understanding how countries in the region are creating forward looking policy frameworks that stimulate infrastructure, innovation, and uptake of new services in an environment of legal security, and healthy competition, and evolving technological conditions and to develop recommendations.
- b) To encourage and promote the development of telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services in the region.
- c) To promote coordination, planning, and harmonization among member states with regard to technical standards in general and service quality in coordination with relevant international standards.
- d) To promote the coordination, planning, and consensus among member states with respect to tariff and economic matters, as well as draw up recommendations on economic aspects and tariff principles of telecommunication/ICT services.
- e) To promote the coordination, planning, and consensus among member states with respect of technical standards and conformity assessment procedures.
- f) To encourage the creation and implementation of inter-American agreements on various matters.
- g) To promote and encourage the development and universalization of information and communication technologies (ICTs) and the new telecommunication/ICT services arising from them as tools to promote economic, social, and cultural development.
- h) To encourage and promote the development of convergent telecommunication/ICT networks and services based on the new technologies, taking account of their ongoing evolution.
- i) To understand environment and climate change-related issues and their linkage to ICTs, and to disseminate relevant information thereon to the Member States.
- j) To coordinate regional preparations for specific ITU events, as appropriate, such as the World Telecommunication Standardization Assemblies and the World Conferences on International Telecommunications, including the preparation of inter-American proposals (IAPs) and common positions, and to conduct interregional consultations in preparation for these events.
- k) To work in coordination with the different committees and working groups of CITELE in those areas which, by their nature, lend themselves to joint action.
- l) To encourage active participation by the private sector as associate members.

## **Permanent Consultative Committee II (PCC.II): Radiocommunications including Broadcasting**

### **Objective**

To serve as an advisory committee to CITEC, promoting the planning, coordination, harmonization, and efficient use of the radio spectrum, as well as geostationary and non-geostationary satellite orbits for radiocommunication services including broadcasting.

To implement this objective, Permanent Consultative Committee II has the following mandates:

### **Mandates:**

In accordance with the relevant regulations, procedures, and recommendations of the ITU:

- a) To promote among the Member States harmonization of the use of the radiofrequency spectrum, taking into account especially the need to prevent and avoid harmful interference, as well as protection against the electromagnetic environment.
- b) To promote and foster the development of radiocommunication services, including broadcasting, in the region.
- c) To promote the development and implementation of new technologies that enable the needs of Member States to be met in terms of efficient spectrum use.
- d) To encourage and promote the development of convergent telecommunication/ICT networks and services based on the new technologies, taking into account their ongoing evolution.
- e) To provide information to the Member States on the outputs and outcomes of the World Radiocommunication Conferences.
- f) To coordinate regional preparations for ITU World and Regional Radiocommunication Conferences, including the preparation of inter-American proposals (IAPs) and common positions, and to conduct interregional consultations in preparation for those conferences.
- g) To work in coordination with the different CITEC groups in those areas which, by their nature, lend themselves to joint action.
- h) To promote the efficient use of the radiofrequency spectrum and of satellite orbit resources in the region, based on the priorities and requirements of the Member States.
- i) To encourage active participation by the private sector as associate members.

**CITEL RES. 65 (V-10)** <sup>57</sup>

**OPERATION OF THE CONFERENCE PREPARATORY WORKING GROUP TO ADDRESS  
REGIONAL PREPARATIONS FOR WORLD CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS**

The Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL),

**HAVING SEEN:**

The report of the Chair of the Working Committee of the V Assembly on Modification of the Statute and Regulations of CITEL,

**CONSIDERING:**

- a) That the Assembly of CITEL, at its Third Regular Meeting, adopted resolution CITEL RES. 46 (III-02), which established the CITEL Conference Preparatory Working Group to Address Regional Preparations for World Conferences and Meeting;
- b) That although this Working Group was created as an organ of the Assembly, in practice, the group has operated in the framework of COM/CITEL; and
- c) That it is timely to adjust the regulations of CITEL to reflect this practice, based on the need for optimization of financial and administrative resources,

**RESOLVES:**

- 1. To make the Conference Preparatory Working Group a Working Group of COM/CITEL.
- 2. To maintain the mandate of said Working Group and other terms of reference established in resolution CITEL RES. 46 (III-02).

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<sup>57</sup> CITEL/doc. 455/10

**REVIEWING THE AGENDA FOR CONNECTIVITY IN THE AMERICAS**

The Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL),

**WHEREAS:**

- a) Article 3 of the Statute of CITEL establishes, among others, the goal of promoting and fostering the existence of appropriate telecommunications, including information and communication technologies, for the process of regional development;
- b) The Third Summit of the Americas, held on April 20 to 22, 2001, in Quebec City, Canada, recognized that a technical revolution with far-reaching social, economic, and political consequences was underway;
- c) In fulfillment of the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas, the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) drew up the document known as the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas, addressing the three basic components of infrastructure, utilization, and content;
- d) The Third Regular Meeting of the Assembly of CITEL adopted resolution CITEL RES. 33 (III-02) on the implementation of the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas, in which it recognized that the Agenda and the Plan of Action of Quito drawn up by CITEL represented a significant, positive contribution to the efforts being made in various forums to overcome the digital divide;
- e) The Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL, through resolution COM/CITEL RES. 152 (XII-02), bearing in mind resolution COM 6/10 (Marrakech, 2002), “Support for the ‘Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas and Quito Action Plan,’” adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference, instructed the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to “release appropriate financial resources to support and stimulate the implementation of projects...,” with reference to resolution CITEL RES. 33 (III-02);
- f) Resolution COM 6/10 (Marrakech, 2002) instructed the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau to “provide appropriate support to the Member States in this regard through the ITU Regional Office for the Americas, and to help identify additional financial resources that could supplement those assigned by ITU for supporting the development of all related projects in the Americas region,”

**BEARING IN MIND:**

- a) That the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), held in two phases – in Geneva on December 10 to 12, 2003, and in Tunis on November 16 to 18, 2005 – adopted the Declaration of Principles of Geneva, the Geneva Plan of Action, the Tunis Commitment, and the Tunis Agenda, which must be taken into consideration in the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas;

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<sup>58</sup> CITEL/doc. 457/10

b) That the Declaration of Commitment of Port of Spain, adopted by the Fifth Summit of the Americas, held on April 17 to 19, 2009, in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, renewed the commitment to work with regional, subregional, and multinational agencies in order to make progress with implementing the results of the WSIS, the Connectivity Agenda for the Americas, the Plan of Action of Quito, and the Declaration of the OAS General Assembly held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, in 2006 on “Good Governance and Development in the Knowledge-based Society”;

c) That the commitment of San Salvador approved at the Second Ministerial Conference on the Information Society of Latin America and the Caribbean highlights the relevant role and the support of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the facilitation, follow-up, technical assistance and the exchange of information and best practices for the preparation of national strategies and the application of results of regional conferences in conformity with the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society,

**RESOLVES:**

1. To ask Permanent Consultative Committee I, and Permanent Consultative Committee II, within their spheres of competence, to review the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas and the Plan of Action of Quito, in order to update them if necessary, propose strategies for their implementation, and report back to the Permanent Executive Committee (COM/CITEL) with the results thereof.

2. To ask the Permanent Executive Committee to follow up on the implementation of this resolution and to coordinate with the Secretariat of CITEL and the Permanent Consultative Committees in order to take the appropriate steps with the ITU and other international and regional, and other entities.

3. To instruct the Secretariat of CITEL to support the Consultative and Permanent Committees and COM/CITEL as required.

**PARTICIPATION BY OBSERVERS IN MEETINGS OF CITEL**

The Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL),

**CONSIDERING:**

- a) Article 7 of the Statute and articles 14, 15, 16, 17 and 85 of CITEL Regulations referring to those organizations that may be represented by observers at CITEL meetings, and
- b) Resolution CITEL RES. 50 (IV-06), approved during the Fourth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of CITEL, that includes a list of entities and organizations invited to participate in CITEL meetings.

**BEARING IN MIND:**

- a) That, since then, the following organizations have signed up Cooperation Agreements with the General Secretariat of the OAS through and for the CITEL:
  - IA-450
  - Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)
  - Internet Society (ISOC)
  - Francisco José de Caldas District University, Bogotá, Colombia

**RESOLVES:**

1. To authorize the CITEL Secretariat to invite the following entities and organizations that are directly involved in the telecommunications sector, to participate in CITEL meetings:
  - 3G Americas
  - African Telecommunications Union (ATU)
  - Alliance for Telecommunication Industry Solutions (ATIS)
  - American Radio Relay League Incorporated (ARRL)
  - Association of Telecommunication Undertakings of the Andean Sub-Regional Agreement (Asociación de Empresas de Telecomunicaciones del Acuerdo Subregional Andino) (ASETA)
  - Caribbean Association of National Telecommunication Organizations (CANTO)
  - Caribbean Latin American Action (C/LAA)
  - Caribbean Telecommunication Union (CTU)
  - CDMA Development Group (CDG)
  - European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT)
  - European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI)
  - Francisco José de Caldas District University
  - Global VSAT Forum

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<sup>59</sup> CITEL/doc. 408/10

- Hispano-American Association of Telecommunications Research and Enterprises (Asociación Hispanoamericana de Centros de Investigación y Empresas de Telecomunicaciones) (AHCJET)
- International Amateur Radio Union, Region 2 (IARU-2)
- International Astronautical Federation (IAF)
- International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
- International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO)
- International Organization of Aeronautical Telecommunications (SITA)
- International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (ITSO)
- International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- International Telecommunications Users Group (INTUG)
- IA-450
- Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)
- Internet Society (ISOC)
- Pacific Telecommunication Council (PTC)
- Regional Commonwealth in the Field of Communications (RCC)
- Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
- Telecommunications Regional Technical Commission of Central America (COMTELCA)
- Postal Union of the Americas, Spain and Portugal (Unión Postal de las Américas, España y Portugal) (UPAEP)

2. To repeal Resolution CITEL RES. 50 (IV-06).

3. To authorize COM/CITEL, *ad referendum* the decision of the next CITEL Assembly, to extend Observer status to all other entities and organizations that offer similar reciprocal observer privileges to CITEL by way of the pertinent Cooperation Agreements, and to authorize the CITEL Secretariat to invite them to all CITEL meetings.

4. To affirm that with respect to Observer participation in the Permanent Consultative Committees (PCCs), the CITEL Secretariat's authority to invite Observers pursuant to this Resolution is subject to the corresponding rules and regulations of each PCC.

**INSTRUCTS THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:**

To prepare a table containing a summarized program of CITEL annual activities, showing in detail the date, place and purpose of the meetings, which will be forwarded to the other international organizations and/or entities in order to keep them informed on those activities and enable them to request their participation as observers through usual procedures.

#### **IV. DECISIONS**

The Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL),

#### **DECIDES:**

**CITEL DEC. 5 (V-10)**<sup>60</sup> To request the Executive Secretary to forward as an attachment to the Annual Report for 2009 to be presented to the OAS General Assembly at its fortieth regular session the draft resolution annexed hereto.

#### **ANNEX TO DECISION CITEL DEC. 5 (V-10)**

DRAFT RESOLUTION  
AG/RES. XXX (XXXX-O/10)

PROMOTION BY THE INTER-AMERICAN  
TELECOMMUNICATION COMMISSION (CITEL)  
OF COOPERATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT  
AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION AND  
COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES IN THE AMERICAS

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Resolution AG/RES. 2440 (XXXIX-O/09), “Telecommunications Development in the Region to Reduce the Digital Divide,” by which the OAS General Assembly expresses its support for the Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of CITEL, as well as its interest in representation of the member states of the Organization in that meeting by their highest-level governmental telecommunication authorities; and

That from March 8 to 11, 2010, the Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of CITEL was held in Mexico City, where the Declaration of Mexico was adopted, which reiterates the shared desire to build an integrating and development-oriented Information and Knowledge-based Society in the Americas region, as well as the Strategic Plan for 2010-2014, which indicates goals and actions so that these needs are fully translated into practical actions;

CONSIDERING:

That the environment of telecommunications and information and communication technologies (ICT) (hereinafter telecommunications/ICTs) is undergoing major change as a result of rapid technological progress, market globalization, and growing demand from users for integrated

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<sup>60</sup> CITEL/doc.458/10

services adapted to their needs;

That telecommunications/ICTs are promoting economic growth, employment, and greater sustainable development in the region;

That the advance of global information infrastructure, specifically the development of the Internet protocol (IP)-based networks and, especially, the Internet, remains of fundamental importance, since it is an important force driving economic growth in the 21st century; and

That telecommunications/ICTs are essential at all stages -- disaster prevention, preparedness, response, and relief operations -- and provide the necessary means and links to mitigate the effects of disasters, whatever their nature;

AWARE that despite advances in regional connectivity, the digital divide persists in many member states, and that challenges are enormous, especially at a time when the region is slowly recovering from the economic crisis and from devastating natural disasters;

#### RECOGNIZING:

That the establishment of national telecommunication policy and effective regulatory frameworks that promote the sustainable development of telecommunication/ICT services is essential for the integral development of the Americas;

That recent tragic events in the region clearly demonstrate the need for telecommunication/ICT services to contribute assistance in disaster relief operations so as to minimize risks to human life and meet the corresponding general needs for information and communication with the public in such situations;

That, as a result of the application and development of telecommunications/ICTs, new threats of different origins have arisen that may compromise confidence and security in the use of these services by all users;

That such threats may also affect the preservation of peace and the economic and social development of all member states, so that reliable telecommunication/ICT systems are essential;

That it is necessary to prepare proposals coordinated at the regional level, for presentation in international forums regarding matters that determine the strategy for telecommunication/ICT development in the region if the shared objectives of the members states in this area are to be achieved; and

That the OAS, through CITELE, is in an ideal position and has the necessary experience to serve as the forum for coordination, debate, and

harmonization of national and regional telecommunication strategies and policy, as well as information exchange in this area,

RESOLVES:

1. To congratulate and thank the Government of Mexico for successfully hosting the Fifth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL).

2. To endorse the Declaration of Mexico, adopted on March 11, 2010 (see Appendix 1), which is an integral part of this resolution.

3. To urge CITEL to continue coordinating efforts to harmonize, develop, and improve telecommunication/ICTs and to continue to provide a platform where policymakers, regulators, private sector representatives, researchers, academics, and other interested parties can exchange views, experiences, and best practices in this area to promote the inclusion of the countries of the region in the Information and Knowledge-based Society.

4. To urge the member states to participate in the activities of CITEL in order to ensure regional representation in the debates.

5. To request CITEL to report to the General Assembly at its next regular session on the implementation of this resolution, the execution of which shall be subject to the availability of financial resources in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.

**CITEL DEC. 6 (V-10)** <sup>61</sup> With regard to the consultation effected by AHCIET and contained in document CITEL/doc. 448/10, the Executive Secretary is requested to forward a communication to AHCIET thanking it for this document and requesting it kindly to clarify the proposal in the framework of the existing cooperation agreement with that entity.

## V. ELECTION OF CITEL OFFICERS

During the Third Plenary Session, the Assembly elected the following officers:

Chair of COM/CITEL:	Mexico
Vice Chair of COM/CITEL:	Dominican Republic
Chair of PCC.I:	Argentina
Chair of PCC.II:	Colombia

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<sup>61</sup> CITEL/doc.448/10

The composition of COM/CITEL for the period 2010-2014 will be:

Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Peru, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

## **VI. LIST OF BASIC DOCUMENTS.**

Minutes of the Inaugural and the First Plenary Session	CITEL/doc. 444/10 rev.1
Minutes of the Second Plenary Session	CITEL/doc. 454/10 rev.1
Minutes of the Third Plenary Session	CITEL/doc. 460/10
Minutes of the Fourth Plenary Session,	CITEL/doc. 461/10 rev.1
List of Documents	CITEL/doc. 389/10 rev.5
List of Participants	CITEL/doc. 390/10 rev.2
Final Report	CITEL/doc. 463/10 rev.2