

**COM/CITEL RES. 249 (XXVI-12)<sup>1</sup>**

**SECURING FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY FOR CITEL DURING 2013 AND BEYOND**

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

**CONSIDERING:**

- a) That CITEL's Secretariat Personnel financed by the OAS Regular Fund are CITEL's Executive Secretary at the P-5 level; a Senior Specialist at the P-4 level; and a Secretary at the G-6 level;
- b) That the 2013 Program-Budget Resolution scheduled for approval by a Special Session of the OAS General Assembly meeting on November 15, 2012, assigns an allocation of US\$531.9 thousand from the OAS Regular Fund to CITEL, which may not be sufficient to cover the full cost of CITEL's Regular Fund financed personnel together with the administrative costs necessary to sustain CITEL's essential activities;
- c) That in response to Member State concerns that the amount assigned to CITEL under the 2013 Program Budget likely to be approved by a Special Meeting of the OAS General Assembly on November 15, 2012, may not cover the full cost of CITEL's Regular Fund financed personnel, the Director of the OAS General Secretariat's Department of Planning and Evaluation informed this meeting of COM/CITEL that: (i) an account existed within that proposed Budget to finance shortfalls in the funding of Regular Fund financed personnel; and (ii) shortfalls could also be covered by within and between Regular Fund Chapter transfers, pursuant to the applicable General Standards;
- d) That Article 29 of the CITEL Statute requires the General Secretariat to establish among CITEL's specific funds the Supplementary Fund for Support of General Operations to be funded by CITEL Member States voluntary contributions and a Supplementary Fund for the Activities of the Permanent Consultative Committees, to be funded by voluntary contributions from CITEL Member States and by fees from Associate Members, as determined by CITEL Regulations;
- e) That several Members have expressed concern over the financial sustainability of COM/CITEL in light of possible future reductions in OAS Regular Fund financing, and they have suggested that a special Ad Hoc group of interested Member States be formed to study the financial sustainability of CITEL and make the corresponding recommendations to COM/CITEL and CITEL's next Assembly;
- f) That the reality of reduced budgetary allocations makes it incumbent upon the membership in consultation with the Secretariat of CITEL, to identify the priorities for CITEL activities in the future,

**RESOLVES:**

1. To instruct the Executive Secretary of CITEL to explore with the appropriate authorities within the OAS General Secretariat the availability of the mechanisms suggested by the Director of the Department of Planning and Evaluation at this meeting for covering budgetary shortfalls, in the event any such shortfalls arise in the execution of CITEL's 2013 Regular Fund Budget.

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<sup>1</sup> COM/CITEL/doc. 1521/12 rev.1

2. To urge the Members to contribute additional resources each year to CITEL's Supplementary Fund for Support of General Operations, which may be used, in part, to cover any shortfall in CITEL's essential administrative costs.
3. To instruct the Executive Secretary of CITEL to determine the percentage of each line-item of CITEL administrative costs currently covered by the Regular Fund, if any, that can be legitimately allocated to the Permanent Consultative Committees and to so inform the Steering Committee at its next meeting.
4. To instruct CITEL's Steering Committee to meet quarterly to review CITEL's budget execution during the 2013 fiscal period and to take the necessary measures, including the adjustment and reprogramming of CITEL's Budget, to assure that shortfalls are covered or otherwise avoided.
5. To request COM/CITEL's Chair to establish a Ad Hoc Group to examine CITEL's future direction, together with possible alternatives for structural changes to CITEL and the corresponding modifications of its Statute, and to present a report with recommendations as to those possibilities and proposals to COM/CITEL so that they may be considered at the next CITEL Assembly.