

DECIDES:

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| <p>COM/CITEI DEC. 62 (XIX-07)¹</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To send to the OAS 2008 General Assembly the attached draft Resolution highlighting the important activities carried out by CITEI in 2007.2. To attach this draft Resolution to the Annual Report to be submitted by CITEI to the OAS General Assembly. <p style="text-align: center;">OAS/RES. YYY (XXXVIII-O/08)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CITEI AND THE INTEGRATION OF THE PEOPLES OF AMERICA INTO THE GLOBAL INFORMATION SOCIETY</p> <p>THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,</p> <p>HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEI);</p> <p>CONSIDERING:</p> <p>That the mission of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEI) is to facilitate and promote the harmonious and comprehensive development of telecommunications, including information and communication technologies in the Americas, and to coordinate the efforts of Member States and the private sector, ensuring the achievement of those goals for the good of society;</p> <p>That CITEI plays an important role in facilitating the study of the changing environment of international telecommunications, providing relevant and timely information regarding telecommunication technologies,</p> <p>BEARING IN MIND:</p> <p>The important role that telecommunications and information technologies play in the economic and social development of all countries and the provision of universal, sustainable, and uniform access to information;</p> <p>The initiatives developed within the framework of the implementation of the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas</p> |
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¹ COM/CITEI/doc.1188/07

and the Plan of Action of Quito for the reduction of the digital divide in the region;

The persistence of the digital divide, despite the substantial growth and expansion of telecommunication services, and the hemispheric priority of the elimination of this divide;

The increased efficiency and economy that new telecommunication technologies make possible, and the challenges they pose for the public and private sectors;

The need of countries that are vulnerable to natural disasters for reliable telecommunication systems,

RECOGNIZING:

The success of CITELE at the 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference, where it submitted 468 inter-American proposals and established numerous joint positions on the issues discussed;

The other achievements of CITELE during 2007, which are highlighted in its annual report and include the following:

- Approval of recommendations that promote network inter-operability, the timely adoption of advanced technologies, the protection of critical infrastructure, and regional spectrum harmonization;
- Twenty-six professional development courses in cooperation with the ITU, which involved the granting of over 300 scholarships for professional telecommunications training,;
- An agreement with the ITU for the regional project "Reducing the Digital Divide and Advancing the information Society;
- The organization of seminars on priority issues, including the following: bridging the standardization divide; fraud in the use of telecommunication systems; the use of telecommunications in disaster-relief operations; and technical and regulatory aspects of the effects of non-ionizing electromagnetic emissions,

CONSIDERING:

That the Regular Fund assigned to CITELE no longer suffices to cover the minimum expenses incurred by the Secretariat. Consequently, specific funds allocated to the Permanent Consultative Committees, per regulations, have been used to cover these costs;

RESOLVES:

1. To congratulate CITEL for its achievements in 2007, particularly with regard to the progress made in the implementation of the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas, which seeks to create an inclusive Information Society.
2. To support CITEL in all aspects of telecommunications.
3. To encourage OAS Member States to continue adopting the measures required to adapt to current trends in the development of telecommunications infrastructure and information technologies.
4. To encourage Member States to continue implementing the commitments adopted at the Summits of the Americas with regard to telecommunications and information technologies, and to continue promoting and disseminating CITEL recommendations within their respective Administrations.
5. To encourage CITEL and OAS Member States to continue facilitating the development of inter-American proposals, positions, and common views at the 2008 World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, the 2010 World Telecommunication Development Conference, the 2010 Plenipotentiary Conference, the 2011 World Radiocommunication Conference, and other equally important events sponsored by the International Telecommunication Union.
6. To invite Member States to join the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations, the Inter-American Convention on an International Amateur Radio Permit (IARP), and its Protocol of Amendment.
7. To instruct CITEL to continue assisting Member States in the development of strategies to facilitate access to telecommunications infrastructure – particularly in rural areas – as well as the creation of an effective policy and regulatory framework for telecommunications and the assessment of cost models for the provision of accessible and sustainable services to all social strata of the population.
8. To urge OAS Member States to increase horizontal cooperation, as well as the exchange of information, experiences, and best practices with regard to telecommunications and information technologies.
9. To instruct the Secretary General for a sufficient increase

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| | <p>in the 2010 CITES budget to cover the basic additional costs incurred by the Secretariat.</p> <p>10. To request the submission by CITES of a follow-up report at the thirty-ninth regular session of the General Assembly.</p> |
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