

TECHNICAL NOTEBOOK ON CONFORMANCE AND INTEROPERABILITY

The XXII Meeting of Permanent Consultative Committee I: Telecommunications/Information and Communication Technologies (PCC.I),

CONSIDERING:

- a) That conformance and interoperability discussions have been ongoing within the Working Group on Deployment of Technologies and Services (WGDTs) since early 2010;
- b) That the ongoing mandate of the Rapporteur Group on Standards, Conformance and Interoperability includes:
 - i) studying ICT standards development activities and the conformance of products and network deployments to ICT standards,
 - ii) focusing on the continued evolution toward converged networks with the intent to ensure interoperability of network equipment, networks, and services, and,
 - iii) producing documentation (e.g., Technical Notebooks) that facilitate information sharing and raises awareness of the standards development, conformity assessment and interoperability activities that best serve the current and future needs of the users of these networks throughout the Region,
- c) That, since 2010, successive CITEI PCC.I meetings have examined conformance and interoperability in the Americas Region (testing programs, inter-american proposals (IAP) development) as well as the progress of the Conformance and Interoperability Testing (CIT) Program at the International Telecommunication Union (ITU);
- d) That CITEI IAPs on Interoperability were forwarded to the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-10) (Guadalajara, October 2010) and to the World Telecommunications Standardization Assembly 2012 (WTSA-12) (Dubai, November 2012), and that the IAPs promoted the analysis of conformance and interoperability mechanisms to prove their viability and, prior to implementation, follow a “step-by-step” approach - the first step being the identification of interoperability and conformity problems in the Americas Region;
- e) That recent Global Standards Collaboration (GSC) meetings have provided additional insight and experiences regarding interoperability in various Regions (including the Americas) as well as assessments of the ITU CIT Program, and
- f) That ITU representatives have provided a number of presentations to PCC.I on the content and progress of the ITU CIT Program and these presentations have detailed the ITU’s interoperability consultation meetings, conformity assessment program, interoperability events program, capacity building and testing facilities in developing countries, and the development of a CIT business plan,

¹ CCPI-TIC/doc. 3009/13

RESOLVES:

1. To create a Technical Notebook on “Conformance and Interoperability” as a repository of relevant and current Conformance and Interoperability reference material for PCC.I information sharing and as source material for future external communications (e.g., liaisons, inter-american proposals (IAPs)).
2. To urge the Member States and Associate Members to contribute to the contents of this Notebook and utilize it for the purposes of sharing information, raising awareness, and drafting future documents on this topic.

ANNEX TO RESOLUTION PCC.I/RES. 212 (XXII-13)

RECOMMENDED CONTENTS OF THE TECHNICAL NOTEBOOK ON CONFORMANCE AND INTEROPERABILITY

The Technical Notebook should include relevant reference material from:

- a) CITEL PCC.I (documents, presentations, IAPs) ;
- b) Regional Standards Development Organizations (especially from within the Americas Region);
- c) ITU CIT Program (program elements, presentations, action plan, ITU Resolutions).

Contents of the Technical Notebook should provide information on:

- a) issues and impediments in assessing product conformance with standards and in ensuring interoperability;
- b) mechanisms and methodologies that assist in the evaluation of product and network conformance to existing standards (test specifications, protocol implementation conformance statements);
- c) the selection of standards/options that maximize interoperability and the testing programs that verify particular interworking and interoperability scenarios.