

PCC.I/RES. 213 (XXII-13)¹

SEMINAR ON TOOLS, ROLES AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS FOR COMBATING SPAM

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

RECOGNIZING:

- a) That the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) of the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Internet Society have entered into a Cooperation Agreement (“Agreement”) to cooperate with each other on matters of common interest within the scope of their general objectives;
- b) That specific areas for possible cooperation under the Agreement include Access and Multilingualism, Internet policy, Internet security and Internet and development. In particular,
 - i. Promoting access to Internet in OAS Member States, especially by communities that are currently deprived from access to Internet (Rural and Remote communities, Women, the Disabled, etc.);
 - ii. Promoting the increasing use of the languages of the OAS Member States on the Internet;
 - iii. Organizing joint activities to increase the awareness of policy makers on Internet policy issues;
 - iv. Organizing Internet policy discussions and debates;
 - v. Assisting member countries to participate in worldwide Internet policy discussions;
- c) The Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) of the Organization of American States (OAS) relationship with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU);
- d) That the World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT-12) in 2012 has added to the International Telecommunication Regulations a new Article 7 on the subject of unsolicited bulk electronic communications: “Member States should endeavor to take necessary measures to prevent the propagation of unsolicited bulk electronic communications and minimize its impact on international telecommunication services. Member States are encouraged to cooperate in that sense.”;
- e) That the World Telecommunication and Standardization Assembly of 2012 (WTSA-12) Resolution 52 “Countering and combating spam” (Dubai, 2012) resolves to continue to support ongoing work, in particular in Study Group 17, related to countering spam (e.g. e-mail) and to continue collaboration with the relevant organizations in order to continue developing, as a matter of urgency, technical Recommendations with a view to exchanging best practices and disseminating information through joint workshops, training sessions, etc.;
- f) That the challenges of improving Internet access are multifaceted, particularly in developing countries. They include, for example, access to technical skills and knowledge, the regulatory and policy environment for information and telecommunications services, and broader economic and market factors, language diversity, and the diffusion and reliability of basic exchanges of information and experiences related to Internet services and infrastructure management;

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- g) That there is a need for both policy approaches, industry best practices, partnerships and technical tools that will empower developing regions so that they can better manage the amount of unwanted and unsolicited forms of spam that impact their Internet access;
- h) The Internet depends on actions and partnership between many stakeholders to address unwanted and unsolicited forms of spam;
- i) That increasing access to the Internet while reducing the cost to users is a priority for CITEL,

RECOGNIZING FURTHER:

- a) That the Internet Society has served as the international organization for global coordination and cooperation on the Internet since 1992, promoting a broad array of activities focused on the Internet's development, availability, and associated technologies throughout the Americas and in other regions;
- b) That CITEL and the Internet Society have the shared goal of building the capacity of the OAS Member States to face the challenges and benefits of a global and technology-driven economy;
- c) That one of the objectives of CITEL's PCC.I is to serve as a telecommunication advisory body of CITEL with respect to new policy, regulatory, and economic matters arising as a result of the rapid evolution of telecommunications;
- d) That ITU is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs) and is also a global Standards Developing Organization (SDO) that develops technical standards to counter spam and build confidence and security in the use of ICTs;
- e) That the format of the Seminar proposed by the Internet Society is a six hour program for high-level policy-makers and key regional stakeholders focusing on spam mitigation, tools and risks. The Seminar will address unwanted and unsolicited forms of communications known as spam and the roles of policy makers, the role of the technical community and the industry considerations that need to be taken into account;
- f) That the Seminar is designed to promote regional awareness of the tools, approaches and partnerships that can be used to mitigate spam;
- g) That the Seminar will introduce existing technical experts who are involved in spam mitigation so that a dialogue among the participants can occur to gain a better understanding of what exists to address the proliferation of spam;
- h) That this activity is of interest to the Rapporteur Group on Internet Issues;
- h) That this proposed collaboration will positively contribute to the Working Group on Policy and Regulatory,

NOTING:

That the topics suggested by the Internet Society for the Seminar involve issues capable of generating a significant impact in the Americas and which are within CITEL's PCC.I mandate,

BEARING IN MIND:

That a Seminar examining the spam mitigation techniques, policy considerations and technical roles, along with the collaboration needed to consider issues concerning spam and the management of unwanted and unsolicited communications that flow over the Internet in the Americas is both relevant and timely,

RESOLVES:

1. To hold a Seminar on “Tools, Roles and other considerations for Combating Spam” the day before the XXIII meeting of PCC.I, jointly offered and organized by the Internet Society, the ITU and the PCC.I. The attached Annex offers a draft description of said Seminar.
2. To appoint the Rapporteur on Cybersecurity and Vulnerability Assessment and Mr. Andres Piazza of LACNIC as Coordinators of the Seminar in representation of PCC.I., who will work together with Mr. Sebastian Bellagamba from Internet Society and ITU
3. That this Seminar will be held without using CITELE’s financial resources.

ANNEX TO PCC.I RESOLUTION PCC.I/RES. 213 (XXII-13)

DRAFT DESCRIPTION

The Workshop will begin with an introductory discussion of “definitions” – the goal is to demonstrate that spam or unwanted and unsolicited forms of communications is a complex subject that has many meanings. This will also help to frame the workshop’s discussion to unwanted traffic and not free speech or other content control aspects as those are out of scope for this workshop.

Three highly interactive panels of expert’s discussion tracks will follow:

- Role of Tools – discussion of what software and equipment options that governments and network operators can consider implementing as part of a spam, malware, and botnet mitigation program.
- Role of Governments – discussion of policy development based on existing examples and models of what other countries have adopted to mitigate spam, malware and botnets. The Policy Makers will discuss legislative approaches, regulatory processes, and enforcement criteria with a government that has enacted spam legislation.
- Role of Industry and the Technical Community – discussion of existing industry organizations where technical experts from network operators, Internet Service Providers (ISPs), other applications, services and email providers develop practices and codes of conduct to mitigate spam and its impact to Internet access. Including establishment of a trust community, introduction to Industry Standards and Best Practices, partnerships with Governments, risks associated with spam mitigation, and establishing relationships to mentor and assist stakeholders facing unwanted consequences from mitigation adoption.