

PCC.I/RES.89 (VII-05) ¹

**CREATION OF A TECHNICAL NOTEBOOK ON THE ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF
DISABILITY ACCESS TO COMMUNICATIONS**

The VII Meeting of the Permanent Consultative Committee: Telecommunication Standardization,

IN VIEW OF:

- a) The terms of reference of the Working Group on Economic Aspects and Tariff Principles PCC.I/RES. 5 (1/02); and
- b) The Working Plan of the Working Group on Economic Aspects and Tariff Principles included in document PCC.I-TEL/doc.104/03 rev.5;

CONSIDERING:

- a) That many of our citizens are unable to use telecommunications services due to hearing and speech disabilities;
- b) That some countries have created systems to allow those with disabilities to have access to telecommunications services;
- c) That there is an ever increasing recognition that all of our citizens should have access to telecommunications services;
- d) That technological advances may improve the feasibility of providing telecommunications services to the disabled community, and
- e) That, in order to give priority and provide universal access to service for this population with special requirements, studies to that end should be conducted,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

- a) That citizens in the information age have become crucially dependent on telecommunications access and that an enormous amount of economic activity takes place over the global telecommunications network;
- b) That individuals with hearing and speech disabilities can have access to telecommunications services that are functionally equivalent to those provided to persons without disabilities;
- c) That many countries are interested in providing such services and may benefit from information pertaining to such services and subsidy models, and
- d) That it is the joint responsibility of Member States and operators to facilitate access to telecommunications services for persons with disabilities,

¹ CCP.I-TEL/doc. 745/05 rev.1

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the creation of a Technical Notebook of the PCC.I, on the Economic Aspects of Disability Access, using PCC.I-TEL/doc.679/05 as an initial document.
2. To thereby assist Administrations in their efforts to improve access to telecommunications by disabled citizens.
3. To designate the Administration of the United States of America, as coordinator of the above-mentioned study, to coordinate the update of the Technical Notebook indicated in *resolve* 1.
4. To share information about different subsidy models for disability access.
5. To invite member Administrations to make presentations on the status of disability access in their countries during the first working session of the Working Group on Economic Aspects and Tariff Principles at the VIII meeting of CITEL's PCC.I to expose the PCC.I community to service deployment, technology, cost, and regulatory issues in disability access.

TO INSTRUCT THE CITEL SECRETARIAT:

To underscore, in a note to Member States, the importance of this resolution so that they may become interested in and respond to the concern it raises.