

**COM/CITEL RES. 38 (IV-96)**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AD HOC WORKING GROUP  
ON THE PREPARATION OF CITEL'S PARTICIPATION IN THE  
SECOND WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT  
CONFERENCE (WTDC)**

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL),

**CONSIDERING:**

That telecommunications offer a significant support to the economic and social development of our countries;

That in March-April, 1998, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) will hold the Second World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) in Malta;

That the ITU has scheduled a Preparatory Meeting of WTDC-98 for the Region of the Americas to be held in 1997;

That the Regional Office of ITU will be sending a questionnaire to standardize and harmonize the needs of the Region in the field of Telecommunications;

That the Study Groups, the Working Groups, and the Rapporteur Groups of ITU-D have requested contributions from the Member States and the Members of the Telecommunication Sector to advance in their works associated to the implementation of the Buenos Aires Action Plan;

That the World Forum on Telecommunication Policies (WFTP) held in October, 1996, included, among its conclusions, an invitation to the Director of the Bureau for the Development of Telecommunications (BDT), in coordination with the Directors of the Bureau of the Telecommunications Standardization Sector (BT) and the Radiocommunications Bureau (BE), to establish a Group of Experts from Developed Countries to prepare, inter alia, a list of the main factors for these countries as regards the introduction of GMPCS;

That Opinion N° 4 in the Report by the Chairman of WFTP invited the Administrations, System Operators, and other interested entities to sign a Memorandum of Understanding to facilitate the free circulation of GMPCS user terminals;

That the States in the Americas have had successful experiences, through several means, in the development of telecommunications;

That the Senior Telecommunication Officials in the Americas have supported a Declaration of Principles and a Plan of Action for the Region;

That the First World Telecommunication Development Conference held in Buenos Aires approved twelve programs, six of which were deemed to be of a high priority for the region;

That the ITU-D Study Group, Working Groups, and Groups of Rapporteurs have produced a significant background on these issues;

That the Support Programs of ITU include serious budget restrictions that may affect their implementation, and that it is necessary to take into consideration the changing nature of the countries' needs;

That it is necessary to enhance the links between the Regional Telecommunication Organizations and ITU;

That many public and private entities related to the Sector may make a significant contribution to these issues;

That the above experiences, works, and contributions may as a whole be an excellent contribution to other regions in the world;

#### **RECOGNIZING:**

That in its meeting held in July, 1996, the Steering Committee suggested that it would be advisable for CITEL to prepare a contribution to VVTDC-98,

#### **RESOLVES:**

1. To establish an Ad Hoc Working Group in order to offer advice to the Member States of CITEL in the preparation of WTDC-98;
2. To request the Ad Hoc Working Group, in close coordination with the ITU Regional Office and other Regional Telecommunication Organizations, to inter alia:
  - a) prepare a report on the status of telecommunications in the Americas since the 1994 Buenos Aires Conference, to be considered by WTDC-98;
  - b) include in such report a list of priority issues, the draft of which is included in Annex 1, that should be dealt with by the BDT as a follow-up of the Conference;
  - c) also include in such report the outcome of the evaluation of priorities in the States of the region of the Americas performed by the ITU Regional Office on the basis of the twelve (12) programs contained in the Buenos Aires Action Plan, as well as other activities pertaining to telecommunication development; and
  - d) prepare joint proposals and/or recommendations for the development of the Conference;
3. To entrust a Drafting Group integrated by Brazil, Canada, Ecuador, Uruguay and Venezuela, and by the ITU Regional Office with the drafting of the above documents;
4. To invite the member States to:
  - a) answer the questionnaire that the ITU Regional Office will be sending them in the near future, including the evaluation criteria of said Office as shown in Annex 2, on the basis of the twelve programs approved in Buenos Aires, the Declaration of Principles, and the Plan of Action for the Americas, as well as their assessment of the preliminary list of priority issues;
  - b) present their contributions to the last September Meeting of ITU-D Study Groups 1 and 2;
  - c) consider their participation in the Group of Experts and in the Group for the preparation of the Memorandum of Understanding referred to in items 6 and 7 above, related to the

- d) implementation of the GMPCS;  
send to the Ad Hoc Working Group their contributions for the Preparatory Meeting of WTDC-98, no later than February 1997;

5. To request the Ad Hoc Working Group to present the above mentioned documents, on the basis of contributions received and its own work, and to distribute them to Member States through the Executive Secretariat; the countries may take them into consideration for preparing their respective participation in WTDC-98;

6. To include in the Agendas of the Permanent Consultative Committees (PCCs) the holding of meetings of the Ad Hoc Group which should, inter alia, inform PCCs and receive the respective contributions.

## **ANNEX 1**

### **PRELIMINARY LIST OF PRIORITY ISSUES AND NAME OF THE CORRESPONDING RAPPORTEUR COUNTRY**

1. Development of plans for the development of telecommunications in rural and low income urban areas (CANADA);
2. Human resources development (VENEZUELA);
3. Management of the Radio Spectrum (URUGUAY);
4. Methodology for the development of global interconnection (VENEZUELA);
5. Regional integration through project identification (ECUADOR);
6. Methods for GMPCS implementation (BRAZIL); and
7. Utilization of telecommunications as a means to preserve human life and public safety under natural disaster circumstances (CANADA).

## **ANNEX 2**

### **LIST OF CRITERIA TO BE INCORPORATED TO THE SURVEY TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE ITU REGIONAL OFFICE TO FACILITATE ITS EVALUATION**

1. Relevance of works and projects for national telecommunication plans;
2. Number and quality of the Office's human resources;
3. Matching between the Office's works and the preliminary list of priority issues (Annex 1);

4. Ability to respond to the countries' needs;
5. Suggestions to overcome limitations;
6. Suggestions to strengthen positive aspects; and
7. Mission and vision of the Office.