

## COM/CITEL 218 (XX-08) <sup>1</sup>

### ACTIVITIES ON CONNECTIVITY

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

#### HAVING REVIEWED:

The documents “Pre-feasibility Study for the ICT Application Research and Development Center,” COM/CITEL/doc. 1219/08 cor. 1; “Report of the Chair of the Working Group on Connectivity in the Americas,” COM/CITEL/doc. 1218/08; and “CITEL’s Capacity to Implement Projects in the Field, COM/CITEL/doc. 1216/08 (hereinafter, “the documents”),

#### RECOGNIZING:

- a) That the Working Group on Connectivity in the Americas, led by the Administration of Costa Rica, has made a significant effort in trying to implement the Regional Project Framework on Support for Reducing the Digital Divide and Advancing the Information Society in the Americas, which includes the Study prepared in document COM/CITEL/doc. 1219/08 cor.1; document COM/CITEL/doc. 1257/08 “Regional Project Framework to help in the closing of the Digital Divide and the inclusion in the Information Society”;
- b) That delegation of Costa Rica has submitted a proposal in document COM/CITEL/doc. 1216/08 for the reorganization of CITEL in order to facilitate its capacity to formulate and implement projects;
- c) That the Member States have submitted, for the consideration of COM/CITEL projects on Connectivity, which are included in the regional project titled “Reducing the digital divide and promoting the inclusion of the public in the information society” described in the same document, and the project titled “Pre-feasibility study of the ICT Application Research and Development Center”, described in document COM/CITEL/doc.1219/08 cor.1; and the other contents in document COM/CITEL/doc. 1257/08 (hereafter “the Projects”);
- d) Regardless of the importance of the issues and concepts presented by the delegation of Costa Rica in document COM/CITEL/doc. 1216/08 and in document COM/CITEL doc. 1219/08 cor.1, it is not appropriate or convenient to implement it given the current financial crisis at the Organization of American States (OAS) and the unavailability of the necessary resources to carry them out;
- e) That a viable alternative to advance toward the achievement of the Project objectives is to present them in the form of an Inter American Proposal on Connectivity to be financed and carried out in cooperation with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and other interested entities;
- f) That the Preparatory Meeting for the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) will be held in Costa Rica in August 2009, where it may be possible to submit a draft of this proposal on Connectivity;
- g) That Costa Rica has offered to be in charge of reformulating the Projects as a proposal on Connectivity in order to submit it as an Inter American Proposal during the WTDC-10,

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<sup>1</sup> COM/CITEL/doc. 1264/08 rev.1

**RESOLVES:**

1. To thank the delegation of Costa Rica as well as the Working Group on Connectivity for the Americas for the elaboration and presentation of proposals and recommendations on the Projects and the reorganization of CITELE, presented in the documents.
2. To postpone the re-structuring of CITELE until a more convenient and appropriate time according to the financial situation of OAS.
3. To accept the offer of the delegation of Costa Rica of reformulating the projects as a Proposal on Connectivity to be submitted to WDTC-10, and urge the members of CITELE to support the proposal of Costa Rica so that it transforms into an Inter-American Proposal.
4. To stipulate that the formulation, submission, and likely implementation of the Inter-American Proposal on Connectivity should be coordinated closely with ECLAC and other entities that have similar projects and interests in order to save and avoid duplication of efforts.
5. Encourage the members of CITELE to continue exploring and identifying partners interested in the Inter American Proposal on Connectivity and that could contribute resources for the implementation of this initiative.

**INSTRUCT THE SECRETARIAT OF CITELE TO:**

1. To look for partners interested in participating in the execution of the Inter American Proposal on Connectivity and to provide all the necessary support so that the Administration of Costa Rica coordinates and prepares this proposal; and
2. To collect and include in the webpage of CITELE the best practices on connectivity of the Member States.