

PCC.I/RES. 225 (XXIV-14) ¹

**STRUCTURE AND TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE WORKING GROUPS AND
RAPPORTEURSHIPS OF PCC.I**

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

CONSIDERING:

- a) That Resolution CITES RES. 74 (VI-14) “ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PERMANENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES” emanating from the VI Regular Meeting of the CITES Assembly established the Permanent Consultative Committee I: Telecommunications/Information and Communication Technologies (PCC.I), its objective and mandate;
- b) That the objective of PCC.I is to serve as an advisory committee to CITES in matters relating to telecommunications/Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), particularly those regarding telecommunications/ICTs policy, regulatory aspects, standardization, cybersecurity, and international Internet-related public policy, insofar as such matters involve telecommunications networks or ICT infrastructure, universal service, economic and social development, environment and climate change, infrastructure development, and new technologies;
- c) That by Resolution CITES RES. 70 (VI-14) of the VI Regular Meeting of the Assembly, CITES’s Strategic Plan for the 2014-2018 period was approved;
- d) That it is necessary to adopt a structure for PCC.I in accordance with its objective, mandate and the CITES Strategic Plan for the 2014-2018 period,

RESOLVES:

- 1. To approve the structure, mandate, terms of reference, and authorities for the Working Groups and Rapporteurships of PCC.I, as detailed in the Annex attached.
- 2. To request the Chairmen of Working Groups for period 2014-2018, to present their Working Plan in XXV Meeting of PCC.I.
- 3. To revoke Resolution PCC.I/RES. 163 (XVI-10) and Resolution PCC.I/RES. 215 (XXII-13).

ANNEX TO RESOLUTION PCC.I/RES. 225 (XXIV-14)

**STRUCTURE AND TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE WORKING GROUPS AND
RAPPORTEURSHIPS OF PCC.I**

I. Working Group on Policy and Regulation (WGPR)

1. Authorities:

¹ CCP.I-TIC/doc. 3246/14

Chair: Paraguay

ViceChairs: Brazil, Colombia, United States of America

2. Mandate:

The Working Group on Policy and Regulation (WGPR) will promote the discussion and exchange of information about regulatory and policy-related matters arising from the existing and changing telecommunications/ICTs environment with relation to the protection of user and consumer rights, international Internet-related public policy matters, international mobile roaming, quality of service and quality of experience, economic aspects of telecommunication services, broadband, fraud and regulatory non-compliance practices, and control and supervision of services, among others, for the preparation of reports, recommendations, resolutions and best practice guidelines for Member States.

3. Terms of reference:

- a. To promote discussions among Member States on the status of regulations on new telecommunication networks and services, in order to produce recommendations on how to implement an efficient, fair, operational, and progressive regulatory frame of reference for countries of the region, so that it can be adjusted to changing technological conditions and thereby promote infrastructure development, innovation, healthy competition, and legal certainty.
- b. To promote coordination, planning, and harmonization among Member States of policies and regulations related to the quality of telecommunications/ICTs services.
- c. To produce recommendations of best practices that foster better relations between service users and providers.
- d. To encourage coordination, planning and consensus among Member States with respect to the protection and dissemination of the rights of users and consumers of telecommunications services.
- e. To identify measures for reducing the costs of telecommunication services in the region through coordination, planning, and consensus among Member States regarding tariff and economic matters, as well as to produce recommendations on economic aspects like healthy competition and rating principles of telecommunications/ICTs services.
- f. To identify measures facilitating more accessibility to international mobile roaming services and a reduction in their cost, paying special attention to the situation and needs of border areas.
- g. To study matters relating to prevention, detection, policies, and action as regards fraud and regulatory non-compliance practices in the provision of telecommunications/ICTs services, by recommending best practices that would make it possible to minimize impacts for Member States, users, and operators.
- h. To promote the adoption of regional measures against theft of mobile terminal equipment.
- i. To prepare studies, reports, recommendations or resolutions on international Internet-related public policy matters that would help promote more and better participation by the region's developing countries in Internet governance, considering the environment of multiparty interests.
- j. To foster and promote policies and regulations for establishing interconnection infrastructure in the region in order to increase international Internet connectivity and reduce the cost of access to it.
- k. To improve collaboration and coordination within the Organization of American States (OAS) on cross-cutting issues related to telecommunications and ICT use.
- l. To follow up on discussions of matters addressed within this work group in the International Telecommunication Union ITU-D and ITU-T Study Groups, with a view to arriving at and approving CITEL positions and Inter-American proposals (IAPs) that will be sent to those Study Groups.

I.1 Rapporteurship on protecting the rights of telecommunication service users

1. Authorities:

Rapporteur: Peru
Co-Rapporteur: Mexico

2. Mandate:

To disseminate among Member States the best practices, regulatory frameworks and procedures related to the rights of users and consumers of public telecommunication services.

3. Terms of reference:

- a. To support improving the regulatory framework currently in force for the rights of public telecommunication service users of the Member States of CITEL.
- b. To motivate the Member States to participate in this working group.
- c. To identify activities and regulatory frameworks of other countries and international organizations regarding the protection of users.
- d. To review aspects related to procedures and handling of user complaints, terminal devices, service provision contracts, and user outreach policies. To draw up a Technical Notebook that would include topics related to standards and procedures to protect user rights.
- e. To draw up recommendations on regional policies and/or models that would bring together the interests of all stakeholders for the benefit of users, as the beneficiaries of public policies in this matter.
- f. To identify human resource training in issues relative to protecting user rights.

I.2 Rapporteurship on Internet: ecosystem and international connectivity

1. Authorities:

Rapporteur: Argentina
Co-Rapporteur: Paraguay

2. Mandate:

To focus on studying the current Internet ecosystem considering issues related to Internet Governance, data security and protection, management of critical resources, connectivity and its costs, and to continue with the transition from IPv4 to IPv6. Also to continue exchanging experiences in ccTLD, gTLDs and IP address block management, working closely with the Internet technical community.

3. Terms of reference:

- a. To identify and disseminate the principal international forums that address policy, technical, etc. issues about Internet.
- b. To follow up on the activities of the United Nations Secretary-General's Working Group on Internet Governance (WGIG) and Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) in coordination with the Rapporteurship on economic aspects of telecommunications/ICTs services.
- c. To create an environment conducive to debating the salient aspects of Internet Governance.

- d. To hold both onsite and online seminars, workshops, and conferences to keep PCC.I Member States and associate members informed and trained in aspects of the Internet and its technologies.
- e. To identify and disseminate guidelines on suitable policies and regulatory aspects in terms of data security and protection.
- f. To continue working with Member States and associate members on gathering information on Internet resources, among others: ccTLD, gTLDs, and IP address block management, including the activities of other competent entities and governance of critical Internet resources, by Internet numbering resource management.
- g. To promote and foster the adoption of IPv6 and ensure capacity building for its deployment.
- h. To disseminate experiences acquired in implementing IPv6-based services and applications.
- i. To compile the requirements and needs of the countries in their transition to IPv6.
- j. To identify network security aspects throughout the transition to IPv6 and report to the Working Group on Deployment of Technologies and Services.
- k. To work in coordination with regional Internet Registries (RIRs) of the region (LACNIC and ARIN), local technical communities, national education and research networks, and industry to promote facilitation of the deployment of IPv6.
- l. To identify best practices to reduce costs of international connectivity to Internet (transit and peering).
- m. To compile and disseminate regional policies to reduce costs of international connection to Internet, including the deployment of regional IXPs.
- n. To identify and disseminate studies on the cost structure of international connectivity to Internet, especially for developing countries, with emphasis on the influence and effect of modes of connectivity (transit and peering) and the availability and costs of the physical infrastructure for the backhaul and long-distance connection network.
- o. To create and uphold an exchange of information on work, studies and progress achieved in this area in ITU-T Study Group 3 and ITU regional Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (SG3RG-LAC), as contributions to the Committee's work.
- p. To identify and propose opportunities for training and technical assistance to encourage and promote the creation and development of regional interconnection infrastructures as a platform to Internet traffic exchange.
- q. To draw up and promote strategies to increase the development of local content.
- r. To draw up recommendations deemed appropriate and useful for the countries of the region.

I.3 Rapporteurship on roaming

1. Authorities:

Rapporteur: Peru

Co-Rapporteur: Paraguay

2. Mandate:

To study the various aspects of international roaming services to promote their affordability and better use, for the benefit of users of the region's countries.

3. Terms of reference:

- a. To undertake actions to facilitate greater access to roaming services for a broader sector of the population.
- b. To recognize the elements of importance that must be stressed to improve roaming services.
- c. To draw up best practices to provide consumers with information about roaming services.

- d. To identify market changes that have taken place in the various Administrations, regions and the world and that have contributed to reducing the rates of roaming for the benefit of consumers.
- e. To consider the consequences of regulatory measures, such as the liberalization of international access, on roaming rates.
- f. To consider the consequences of prepaid and postpaid services on prices.
- g. To examine the studies and consider the measures proposed by regulatory authorities, operators, government institutions and other bodies.
- h. To review the progress made by other organizations that are working on or are interested in the development of international roaming services in the Americas, such as the Latin American Forum of Telecommunication Regulators (REGULATEL), the Telecommunication regional Technical Commission of Central America (COMTELCA) or others.
- i. To participate actively in the various roaming processes implemented regionally.
- j. To identify and evaluate the international experiences and agreements entered into by Member States of CITEL to promote the development of cross-border international roaming services.

I.4 Rapporteurship on fraud control, regulatory non-compliance practices in telecommunications and regional measures against the theft of mobile terminal devices

1. Authorities:

Rapporteur: Colombia

Co-Rapporteur: Argentina

2. Mandate:

To study and recommend strategies and best practices to detect and reduce fraud in the area of telecommunications/ICTs and to identify the principal regulatory non-compliance behaviors currently affecting the normal development of telecommunications/ICTs activities, as well as to urge Member States to identify and adopt best practices to restrict the operation of stolen mobile terminal devices in the networks of all the countries of the region and to control their marketing.

3. Terms of reference:

- a. To identify the evolution and impact of fraud on ICTs in accordance with the evolution of technology, globalization and convergence.
- b. To share experiences and identify best practices against fraud in ICTs.
- c. To recommend to Member States actions against fraud in ICTs in order to reduce its impact on governments, industry, and users.
- d. To promote the application of the recommendations issued by PCC.I in the area of fraud control and regulatory non-compliance practices in the region.
- e. To encourage user protection systems that improve the situation of users encountering fraudulent actions.
- f. To analyze the regulatory non-compliance practices affecting telecommunication activities that infringe the regulations governing telecommunication service provision.
- g. To investigate the causes of the occurrence and proliferation of regulatory non-compliance practices.
- h. To establish guidelines for the control of regulatory non-compliance practices, at the regulator level, for the purpose of protecting the quality and security of communications.
- i. To issue recommendations regarding the adoption of action policies, for the purpose of setting common procedures to combat regulatory non-compliance practices.

- j. To establish conditions tending to prevent the use, in telecommunication networks, of stolen mobile terminal devices.
- k. To promote the exchange of negative databases among Member States, considering among other current alternatives the use of platforms such as GSMA IMEI DB.
- l. To identify the regulatory aspects that are needed to define conditions for blocking mobile terminal devices among Member States.
- m. To invite Member States and associate members to adopt mechanisms that prevent alteration of the international identifier of a mobile terminal device, as well as to develop tools that protect access to user information and make it possible to block the stolen mobile terminal device.
- n. To promote in the Member States police and judiciary measures against those who tamper with the identification mechanisms of mobile terminal devices.
- o. To propose actions that make it possible to restrict marketing of stolen mobile terminal devices or their parts.
- p. To examine the problems relative to the use and marketing of counterfeit, substandard and unapproved mobile terminal devices.
- q. To assess the need for Member States and associate members to promote advertising campaigns aimed raising user awareness about the purchase of mobile terminal devices in authorized outlets and the use of applications making it possible to protect user data.

I.5 Rapporteurship on economic aspects of telecommunications/ICTs services

1. Authorities:

Rapporteur: Peru

Co-Rapporteur: Paraguay

2. Mandate:

To study the economic aspects of telecommunications/ICTs services, including rate-setting aspects and the promotion of competitive intensity in order to make recommendations on best regulatory practices.

3. Terms of reference:

- a. To identify, study and assess cost models for the various telecommunications/ICTs services, giving priority to experiences in the region and the needs of member countries, permanently assessing the incidence of new technologies.
- b. To identify, study and evaluate the regulatory aspects of services based on next-generation networks in the region's countries.
- c. To study the economic aspects relative to tariffs and prices, access charges, interconnection, etc., considering the impact of next-generation networks.
- d. To define the basic indicators for economic performance facilitating follow-up and comparability of the sector's evolution: market scale, investment levels, average prices or income per service, quality-adjusted pricing methodologies (cable, Internet), connection volumes and levels of use.
- e. To identify, study and assess the various factors of the activities regarding telecommunications, their incidence and impact on economic development.
- f. To study regulatory aspects associated with broadband and Internet in the region.
- g. To study the competitiveness of telecommunication markets, among which are the impacts of anti-trust practices and the regulatory measures to prevent them.

- h. To design a mechanism that would facilitate sharing case law and precedent in those cases dealing with unfair competition and noncompetitive practices in the provision of telecommunication services that were heard in court.
- i. To promote the exchange of best practices in providing subsidies and/or incentives aimed at facilitating access of low-income households to telecommunication services.
- j. To study and assess the drafting of policies aimed at promoting higher levels of competitive intensity, such as the classification of important operators and the specification of obligations, regulation, and monitoring of agreements for sharing infrastructure, economic rules for the operation of virtual mobile operators, among others.

I.6 Rapporteurship on telecommunication service quality

1. Authorities:

Rapporteur: Colombia

Co-Rapporteur: Argentina

2. Mandate:

To study, assess and promote the discussion and exchange of information on aspects related to quality for telecommunication services, including quality of service (QoS)/quality of experience (QoE) and the applications of information and communication technologies (ICTs) to make recommendations and proposals leading to objective measurement of telecommunication services and a better control and surveillance of these aspects.

3. Terms of reference:

- a. To conduct, publish, and update, on an ongoing basis, regional benchmarking on Quality of Service (QoS)/Quality of Experience (QoE), that would make it possible to gather and share best practices as an incentive to operators to improve service quality in the region.
- b. To share with all Member States the conditions that have been adopted with respect to quality indicator measuring processes, as well as the metrics, results of the measurements conducted by the Administrations, and information on the technological equipment used.
- c. To propose technical recommendations on service quality which consider, among others, user expectations.
- d. To design a standard model of ICT Service Quality.
- e. To design a model for control and surveillance of these services in the region.
- f. To promote joint measures among Member States to determine the technical conditions for service quality and to assess dynamic models that would lead to an effective way of controlling and monitoring ICT services.
- g. To draw up recommendations on regional policies and/or models that bring together the interests of all stakeholders for users as the final beneficiaries of public policy in the matter.
- h. To follow up on the activities of ITU-T Study Group 12 “Performance, Quality of Service and Quality of Experience,” creating and adopting CITEI positions and inter-american proposals (IAPs) that will be sent to this Study Group.
- i. To promote the coordination, planning, and harmonization among Member States of policies and regulations on telecommunications/ICTs service quality.
- i. To propose technical recommendations in quality of service that take into account user expectations, among others.
- k. To promote elements proposing a solution to the problem of quality in ICT services.

1. To identify the needs for human resource training in issues related to ICT quality services and to propose the corresponding actions.

II. Working Group on Development (WGD)

1. Authorities:

Chair: Dominican Republic

ViceChairs: Mexico and Paraguay

2. Mandate:

The Working Group on Development (WGD) will identify specific actions aimed at reducing the digital divide and encouraging the universalizing of telecommunications/ICTs, fostering the integration of the telecommunications/ICTs infrastructure in order to promote social inclusion of the population for its economic, social and cultural development, as well as other uses of telecommunications/ICTs and their impact on the environment, taking into account the follow-up and implementation of the regional Initiatives adopted in the World Telecommunication Development Conference of 2014 (WTDC-14).

3. Terms of reference:

- a. To promote and encourage the development and universalization of telecommunications/ICTs, especially emphasizing broadband, and the new services arising from it, as tools to promote inclusion and the economic, social, and cultural development of the peoples of the region.
- b. To promote the exchange of experiences and studies on the adoption of broadband deployment policies, with special attention to remote and/or rural and/or hard-to-access areas.
- c. To design and promote the implementation of projects that support the development and digital literacy of persons with disabilities, older persons, women, children, and native and indigenous peoples and communities with specific needs by means of telecommunications/ICTs, in order to facilitate their access, use and social inclusion.
- d. To promote the creation of local content, in order to increase the use of broadband access, favoring cultural exchange and digital inclusion for all peoples.
- e. To propose, develop, and disseminate strategies that allow telecommunications/ICTs infrastructure as a decisive factor in natural disaster prevention, mitigation, relief, rescue, and reconstruction actions.
- f. To identify and assess the impact of telecommunications/ICTs on climate change, in particular the reduction of ICTs own emissions over the entire lifecycle (direct impact) and mitigation that follows through the adoption of telecommunications/ICTs in other relevant sectors (indirect impact), and to disseminate pertinent information among the Member States.
- g. To intervene in the design, implementation, and follow-up of regional initiatives adopted by the World Telecommunication Development Conference of 2014 (WTDC-14) for the Americas region, coordinating the necessary actions with the Working Group for the Preparation and Follow-up of the WTDC, WTSA and WCIT of PCC.I, and with the ITU Development Sector.
- h. To identify areas for cooperation with CITEL Permanent Consultative Committee II: Radiocommunications and to establish the cooperation and coordination mechanisms needed to avoid a duplication of efforts.
- i. To promote greater participation by developing countries in the activities of ITU-D, promoting follow-up to the work done, and the adoption of positions regarding matters of interest to the Member States.

- j. To maintain updated information regarding the different policies and projects promoted by the Member States to promote the development of telecommunications/ICTs, seeking to ensure that that information can be accessed by interested parties.
- k. To enhance collaboration and coordination with regard to cross-cutting topics relating to telecommunications and the use of ICTs within the Organization of American States (OAS).

II.1 Rapporteurship on disaster prevention, response and mitigation

1. Authorities:

Rapporteurs: United States of America and Mexico

2. Mandate:

To propose and draw up recommendations and provide information to Member States to provide assistance to Member States in all disaster management phases, that is, preparedness for disasters, including early warning, disaster response/relief and rehabilitation of telecommunications networks, particularly in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDC).

3. Terms of reference:

- a. To identify the appropriate technologies to be used for emergency communications.
- b. To improve links and emergency communications exchange to maximize resources and give lieu to more innovative and effective programs for the region, and to allow, among others, coordinated actions in border zones.
- c. To contribute to designing national and subregional communication and emergency plans and early warning systems, with special focus on Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries, taking into account climate change impact.
- d. To collaborate in developing appropriate national and regional emergency communication policies and regulatory frameworks for the adoption of best practices.
- e. To increase emergency communication capacities.
- f. To promote the temporary availability of emergency communication equipment in the region during the initial disaster intervention stage, as part of ITU cooperation in emergency cases.
- g. To develop recommendations or guidelines for the mitigation of the impact of emergencies on the telecommunication sector. In the wake of emergencies, to provide advice for telecommunication network reconstruction.

II.2 Rapporteurship on Broadband for universal access and social inclusion

1. Authorities:

Rapporteur: Peru

2. Mandate:

To review and research the problems of universal access and the digital divide for the purpose of drawing up specific actions aimed at promoting inclusion and social appropriation of telecommunications/ICTs, taking into consideration the needs of minority or vulnerable social groups. Also to foster the use of ICTs to facilitate the integral development of the population, especially in the area of health and education.

Terms of reference:

- a. To assess the needs of social groups with specific problems linked to ICT access, use and appropriation, thereby promoting their social inclusion.
- b. To propose policies for the development and/or improvement of national broadband plans with the aim of increasing universal access to broadband services and applications and bridging the digital divide.
- c. To promote access to ICTs in public service institutions, such as educational centers and health centers.
- d. To prepare proposals for building capacities among the population related to the use of ICTs and the development of content and applications addressing local needs, including those related to e-government, telehealth, teleducation, and e-commerce, among others, in light of the social, economic, and demographic conditions, taking account of the best practices of executing specific projects.
- e. To identify and propose indicators for assessment of the impact of actions intended to increase universal access to broadband services and bridge the digital divide.
- f. To encourage and promote initiatives, actions, and activities of the “Prof. Marcelo Petrich Telehealth Network of the Americas,” and to promote the development of other thematic networks so as to enable the benefits of those networks to reach the population.
- g. To interact with different international and regional organizations, operators (TELCOS), and civil society with the aim of achieving strategic partnerships to attain the outcomes of the broadband and social inclusion-related projects presented.
- h. To promote the inclusion of self-sustainability criteria in universal access and social inclusion-related projects, taking account of the best practices implemented in the region.

II.3 Rapporteurship on follow-up of regional initiatives**1. Authorities:**

Rapporteur: Argentina

2. Mandate:

To take part in designing, implementing and following up on regional initiatives approved in the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) for the Americas region, by identifying priorities and linking projects and goals as well as their relationship to each initiative, through coordination of the necessary efforts with the Working Group for the Preparation and Follow-up of the WTDC, WTSA and WCIT, and with the ITU Development Sector.

3. Terms of reference:

- a. To participate in designing projects on development issues, which come from CITELE and are included in the framework of the regional initiatives adopted by the WTDC, along with the ITU Development Sector.
- b. To follow-up these projects, along with the ITU Development Sector and the ITU regional Office for the Americas region, in order to keep up-to-date information on compliance with and advancement of each initiative for CITELE members.
- c. To keep a record of the projects and activities that are carried out to comply with the regional initiatives.

- d. To identify and propose indicators to assess the impact of the implementation of said projects.
- e. To collaborate in identifying the organizations/stakeholders that could support project implementation by providing resources.
- f. To propose implementation of ITU-D projects that have been successful in other regions and that are consistent with the purpose of the regional initiatives of the Americas.
- g. To collaborate with ITU-D and its regional Office and Area Offices in all those activities conducive to the implementation of the initiatives.
- h. To develop management instruments enabling it to monitor the tasks entrusted to it.
- i. To work within PCC.I in coordination with the Working Group for the Preparation and Follow-up of the WTDC, WTSA and WCIT.

III. Working Group on Deployment of Technologies and Services (WGDTs)

1. Authorities:

Chair: Canada

ViceChairs: Argentina, United States of America

2. Mandate:

Focus on the technical aspects of telecommunications/ICTs services, aiming to encourage their use, taking into account such aspects as conformity and interoperability, interconnection, convergence, cybersecurity, numbering, services, applications, and infrastructure.

3. Terms of reference:

- a. To identify and evaluate technical issues relating to the service, architecture and protocol standards, and their conformity assessment, required for interconnection and interoperability of existing and future communications networks (wireline and wireless) across the region.
- b. To develop frameworks, architectures and scenarios to foster an enhanced understanding of new infrastructures, services and related technologies in the region of the Americas, taking into account such aspects as the convergence and evolution of networks, services and applications.
- c. To study the security aspects relating to telecommunication networks and ICTs, both governmental and nongovernmental, their role in supporting other critical infrastructures, the role of the private sector in securing the communication network, and the domestic and regional approaches required in the region of the Americas on this matter.
- d. To encourage coordination, planning and consensus among Member States with respect to building trust and security in the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs), privacy and data protection in the region, including cybersecurity.
- e. To identify and evaluate technical issues related to Numbering Plans for the network evolution and new services, and to meet the demand of numbering resources to support convergent networks.
- f. To study the new technologies and technological trends, seeking to promote capacity building among Member States and foster a better understanding of their regulations.
- g. To study the requirements for conformity assessment procedures for telecommunications equipment in the different OAS/CITEL countries, including analyses for potential harmonization of those procedures in this region.
- h. To develop PCC.I positions, through contributions and/or inter-american proposals (IAPs), to be submitted to the Study Groups of ITU-T and ITU-D.

III.1 Rapporteurship on Standards, conformity and interoperability

1. Authorities;

Rapporteur: United States of America

2. Mandate:

To study the standards development activities for ICT standards and the conformity of products and network deployments to these standards. To focus on the ongoing evolution toward converged networks to ensure the interoperability of network equipment and services. To promote the exchange of information and to raise awareness about the development of standards and about conformity assessment and interoperability activities that best serve the current and future needs of the users of these networks in the region.

3. Terms of reference:

- a. To identify and assess technical issues related to ICT standards required for the inter-connectivity and interoperability of existing and future networks (wireline and wireless) across the region. To monitor and draw on the work of existing standards-setting bodies, including ITU-T, IETF, and other forums, as appropriate.
- b. To recommend endorsement and deployment of those specific ICT standards considered to have a specific and substantial impact for the Americas region, considering topics such as:
 - Next-generation networks (architectures, services, protocols);
 - Mobile telecommunications (wireless Internet, mobile and fixed network convergence, long-term evolution (LTE), mobility management, mobile multimedia network functions and services);
 - Information and communication network security (cybersecurity, identity management, vulnerability prevention, etc.);
 - Multimedia service definitions and architectures (including IPTV);
 - Cloud computing and services;
 - Machine-to-Machine (M2M) communications (including Smart Grid);
 - Management of communication services, networks and equipment;
 - Emergency telecommunications;
 - Access and network transport (wireless LAN, xDSL, cable modem, optical fiber, etc.);
 - Performance, quality of service (QoS), quality of experience (QoE).
- c. To study the mechanisms and methodologies that contribute to assessing product and network conformity to existing standards (test specifications, protocol implementation conformity statements, etc.);
- d. To study the selections of standards/options that maximize interoperability and the testing programs that verify particular interworking and interoperability scenarios.
- e. To identify, on a timely and ongoing basis, issues and impediments in assessing product conformity with standards and in ensuring interoperability.
- f. To conduct studies on the application of technical regulations in aspects related to security and the protection of human life, the telecommunication infrastructure and the radio spectrum, as well as those related to network interoperability and service quality.
- g. To identify recommendations and technical standards issued by the ITU and other standardization organizations that may be incorporated as technical regulations by Member States.
- i. To promote the exchange of information and raise awareness about the development of ICT standards, conformity assessment, and interoperability activities that best serve the future needs of the users of these networks throughout the region.

III.2 Rapporteurship on Infrastructure, connectivity and service deployment

1. Authorities:

Rapporteur: Paraguay

2. Mandate:

To develop frameworks, architectures and scenarios to promote a better understanding of the new networks and related technologies in the region, their inter-relation and their contribution to network and service convergence and evolution. To make recommendations and provide related policy guidelines that best serve the current and future needs of the users of telecommunication networks throughout the region.

2. Terms of reference:

- a. To develop frameworks, architectures and scenarios to promote a better understanding of new networks and related technologies in the region, their inter-relation and their contribution to network and service convergence and evolution.
- b. To investigate, inform and raise awareness about new network technologies, such as Next Generation Networks and broadband access and advanced services, in particular those supported by IP, such as cloud computing and smart grids, and their applications.
- c. To develop recommendations and related policy guidelines that best serve the current and future needs of telecommunication network users in the region.
- d. To identify, on a timely and ongoing basis, the obstacles that could prevent full interoperability of networks throughout the region and draft reports to inform the Member States on these.
- e. To establish liaisons with other industry forums, as necessary, to advance the work.
- f. To develop recommendations about connectivity.

III.3 Rapporteurship on Cybersecurity, vulnerability assessment and critical infrastructure

1. Authorities:

Rapporteur: United States of America

2. Mandate:

To study security aspects related to the development of communication networks, their role in supporting other critical infrastructure, the role of the private sector to provide communication networks with security, and national and regional approaches needed in the region. To assess the current work done by OAS, ITU, and other forums on issues that are relevant for security and the communication networks of critical infrastructure in the region.

2. Terms of reference:

- a. To develop domestic and regional approaches to network security, deployment strategies, information exchange, and outreach to the public and private sectors.
 - To compile regional best practices for network communication and infrastructure protection, taking into account ongoing activity in the ITU-D sector (Question 22-1/1).
 - To review the various frameworks and guidelines on networks and cybersecurity and their applicability in the Americas region.
- b. To foster cooperation among Member States on aspects related to network security.
- c. To help Administrations encourage network and service providers to implement technical standards for network security.
- d. To identify and evaluate implementation and policy issues relating to standards required for the security of existing and future communication networks (wireline and wireless) across the region. This task shall draw primarily on the work of ITU-T (especially the security Study Questions of Study Group 17). Other existing standards-setting bodies shall be taken into account, as appropriate, including the IETF and regional standard development organizations (SDOs).
- e. To identify, on a timely and ongoing basis, the obstacles to implementation of security measures in the networks of the region.
- f. To establish liaisons with other standards bodies and industry forums, as necessary, to advance the work.

III.4 Rapporteurship on Telecommunication numbering, portability and addressing

1. Authorities:

Rapporteur: Brazil

2. Mandate:

To identify and evaluate technical issues related to Numbering Plans for the evolution of networks and new services and to meet the demand for numbering resources to support convergent networks, as well as to make recommendations and technical notebooks.

2. Terms of reference:

- a. To identify and evaluate technical issues related to Numbering Plans for the evolution of networks and new services.
- b. To identify recommendations of the ITU and other bodies and forums, as appropriate.
- c. To establish liaisons with other standard bodies and industry forums, as necessary, to advance the work.
- d. To carry out studies on the impact of new services on converging networks.
- e. To study issues related to services, numbering systems and addressing.
- f. To draw up best practices guidelines of Numbering Plans.
- g. To study and assess technical issues related to portability.

III.5 Rapporteurship on Technological innovation and trends

1. Authorities:

Rapporteurs: Brazil and United States of America

2. Mandate:

To conduct a forecasting analysis of technological evolution and trends in telecommunications and ICTs, in order to share information, experiences and best practices with Member States.

3. Terms of reference:

- a. To identify world and regional trends regarding the evolution and development of telecommunication and ICT services.
- b. To conduct activities for capacity building of Member States in technological trends in telecommunications and ICTs.
- c. To follow up on the work of ITU-T and other international forums specializing in new services and technological convergence.
- d. To develop guidelines on possible technological trends and their impact on the emergence of new services.
- e. To develop recommendations and guidelines to enable Member States to generate related policies to meet in the best possible way current and future needs of users of telecommunications services.
- f. To study and evaluate technical issues related to the emergence of new technologies and services.
- g. To establish liaisons with other standards bodies, industry and services, as needed, in order to anticipate possible innovations in technologies and services.

IV. Working Group for the Preparation and Follow-up of the WTSA, WCIT and WTDC (WGCONF)

1. Authorities:

Chair: Mexico
ViceChair: Canada

2. Mandate:

To discuss and develop common proposals with a regional scope on telecommunications/ICTs matters, for presentation at international forums under the auspices of the International Telecommunication Union

(ITU). Likewise, to collaborate in the review of ITU programs, structure and work methods on telecommunications/ICTs matters.

3. Terms of reference:

- a. To develop common positions and draw up Inter-American proposals on the telecommunications/ICT topics of global and/or regional assemblies and conferences convened under the auspices of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in the areas of telecommunication standardization, telecommunications development, and international telecommunications regulations.
- b. To coordinate relations and information exchanges with other regions on the matters of their competency.
- c. To identify the matters that are relevant to the region with respect to the activities of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and the ITU Development Sector (ITU-D), for the purpose of discussing possible solutions and drafting proposals to tackle these matters.
- d. To coordinate the designation of spokespersons for the presentation and defense of inter-American proposals to the ITU assemblies and conferences, as well as representatives of CITELE to other regional organizations, including relations and information exchanges on the matters of their competency.
- e. To coordinate the work of CITELE during regional and global telecommunications/ICTs conferences such as the World Telecommunication Standardization Assemblies, the World Conferences on International Telecommunications, and the World Telecommunication Development Conferences.
- f. To coordinate with other PCC.I working groups on topics of mutual interest.
- g. To provide follow-up for the results of the regional meetings and world assemblies and conferences. Regarding the regional initiatives approved by WTDC, to work in coordination with the Working Group on Development of PCC.I.
- h. To review ITU-T and ITU-D programs, structure and work methods in order to present contributions.