

**ACTION PLAN FOR THE EMPOWERMENT OF YOUTH THROUGH
TELECOMMUNICATIONS / ICTS**

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

CONSIDERING:

- a) Resolution 198 (Busan, 2014) by the Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), “Empowerment of youth through telecommunication/ information and communication technology”, which addresses the impact that information and communication technologies (ICTs) can have on youth, identifies resolutions of the UN General Assembly, the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference and World Conference on Telecommunications Development, and the World Summit on the Information Society, which recognize the importance of young people’s empowerment and full development and the role of the ICTs as tools by which youth can substantively contribute to, participate in and leverage their economic, cultural and social development, and the role of the academia to provide young people access to the science, technologies and innovations of telecommunications and ICTs;
- b) The Declaration of the World Youth Summit, which highlights young people's need for tools to share information and knowledge in order to continue fostering their social, political and economic autonomy;
- c) Resolution 76 (Dubai, 2014) of the World Conference on Telecommunications Development, on the promotion of information and communication technologies among young men and women for social and economic emancipation;
- d) Resolution 70 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference, “Mainstreaming a gender perspective in ITU and promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women through information and communication technologies”, which takes measures to promote innovations in learning telecommunications / ICTs with equality of men and women, and to foster the empowerment of women and girls;
- e) Resolution 201 (Busan, 2014) of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference, “Creating an enabling environment for the deployment and use of information and communication technology applications,” which invites us to promote the inclusion of e-applications for sustainable development in various fields and to consider ways to increase cooperation and coordination with other Member States, international organizations and others to intensify their engagement and activities related to ICT applications;
- f) Resolution PCC.I/RES 240 (XXVII-15), entitled “**Action plan for the empowerment of youth through telecommunications / ICT**,” by the XXVI Meeting of Permanent Consultative Committee I of the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission, which resolved to develop a Regional Action Plan to help meet the commitments set out in Resolution 198 (Busan, 2014) of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference, “Empowerment of youth through telecommunication/ information and communication technology,”

¹ CCP.I-TIC/doc. 3683/15 rev. 1

RECOGNIZING:

- a. That the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEI (COM/CITEI) has given PCC.I the mandate to promote and encourage the development and universalization of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and the new telecommunication/ICT services derived therefrom as tools to promote economic, social and cultural development;
- b. That the role of Member States in the development of national strategies and exchange of best practices to use ICTs as tools for the educational, economic and social development of youth is essential;
- c. That the coordination and participation of government agencies, the academia, Associate Members and other international organizations are required;
- d. The urgency to explore further how youth in developing countries use ICTs and the impact they have on their development;
- e. That youth should be encouraged to seize the opportunities that ICTs offer them to promote their development and, in turn, contribute to local, national, regional, and international economic development;
- f. That youth are entitled to full engagement on the social, public, digital, and economic levels,

RESOLVES

- 1. To adopt the 2016-2018 Regional Action Plan described in Annex 1 to develop lines of action and mechanisms with a view to empowering youth through the use and development of telecommunications / ICTs to contribute to their development and in turn contribute to the economic, social and political development of the region.
- 2. To approve the participation of Costa Rica as the administration tasked with following up on the Action Plan described in Annex 1.
- 3. To request the Executive Secretary of CITEI to forward this resolution to all administrations and associate members, to the Secretary General of the OAS, and to the Inter-American Children's Institute.
- 4. To request the Executive Secretary of CITEI to convey to all administrations and associate members the interest in their participation in the activities described in the Action Plan contained in Annex 1, in coordination with the administration of Costa Rica.

ANNEX TO RESOLUTION PCC.I/RES. 257 (XXVII-15)

ACTION PLAN FOR THE EMPOWERMENT OF YOUTH THROUGH TELECOMMUNICATIONS / ICTS

I. General Objective

To develop lines of action and mechanisms with a view to empowering youth through the use and development of telecommunications / ICTs to contribute to their development and in turn to the economic, social and political development of the region.

II. Components

Program 1: Regional Cooperation

Goal: To develop digital platforms to facilitate the public participation of youth in discussions and open knowledge that will enable them to interact in seeking solutions to the specific issues that affect them.

Activities:

- Creating the Latin American ICT Youth Network to provide an environment of collaboration, cooperation and exchange of knowledge for the development of initiatives by all stakeholders in youth development in the telecommunications / ICT industry.

Implementation Date: 1st Semester, 2016

- Holding a regional hackathon to develop e-applications in areas that promote social innovation, in conjunction with regional organizations such as the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

Implementation date: 2nd Semester, 2016.

- Proposing, among the activities planned by the ITU in the region, an International Forum of Young ICT Leaders to encourage youth involvement in the telecommunications / ICT industry.

Implementation Date: 1st Semester, 2017.

Program 2: Capacity building and gaining new knowledge

Goal: To provide information and updated statistics on the status of youth in the region for decision-making.

Activities:

- Preparing terms of reference to develop a status report on youth access to and use of ICTs, in order to gather data and statistics in this regard. This report would serve to inform and enrich opportunities for discussion at the political and technical levels, both within CITEC and between CITEC and its members and/or other organizations and sectors.

Implementation Date: 1st Semester, 2016.

- Proposing that the Organization of American States create a repository of information on youth-centered initiatives and projects.

Implementation date: 2nd Semester 2016.

- Coordinating with ECLAC to create a dashboard for regional youth indicators for annual measurement of this population's status regarding the use and ownership of ICTs.

Implementation Date: 1st Semester, 2017

Program 3: National Capacity Building

Goal: To encourage digital entrepreneurship and social innovation projects that enable the economic development and productive empowerment of youth.

Activities:

- Organizing workshops and lectures on issues relating to the development of digital entrepreneurship, using the ICT education and training platforms available in the countries of the region to enhance the activities that other sectors have been carrying out in the region.

Implementation date: 2nd Semester, 2016.

- Designing a dissemination and communication strategy on the various ICT-based tools, programs and contents in place for youth, to help young people achieve better use and development of ICTs.

Implementation date: 2nd Semester, 2016.