

PCC.I/RES. 274 (XXIX-16)¹

WORKSHOP ON DIGITAL INCLUSION AND MEANINGFUL BROADBAND ADOPTION IN THE AMERICAS

The 29th. Meeting of Permanent Consultative Committee I: Telecommunications/Information and Communication Technologies (PCC.I),

CONSIDERING:

- a) That the 31 Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL) in 2015 adopted COM/CITEL/RES. 268 (XXXI-15) “Support from CITEL for the Implementation of the Outcomes of the Seventh Summit of the Americas” and promotes within the framework and work plans of the appropriate CITEL working group(s) the access and increase in adoption of broadband services and deployment of broadband infrastructure;
- b) That the same COM/CITEL Res. 268 supports the goal of the Global Connective Initiative to bring 1.5 billion new Internet users online by 2020, including its principles to achieve Internet connectivity;
- c) That to be able to realize projects in the region, it is advisable to have up-to-date information on the areas of action and lines of funding that regional and international organizations have available for the development of telecommunications;

RECOGNIZING:

- a) That while considerable progress has been made, the digital divide persists in many places in the Americas region;
- b) That according to the 2016 World Bank Report on Digital Dividends, in Latin America, fewer than 1 in 10 poor households is connected to the Internet;
- c) That advancing access to broadband and increasing adoption of broadband services and deployment of broadband infrastructure supports economic and social growth and opportunity in the region and is essential to reduce the digital divide and technological gap within societies;
- d) That it is within the Terms of Reference of the Work Plan of the Rapporteurship on Broadband for Universal Access and Social Inclusion to conduct activities related to information sharing and capacity building of Member States related to broadband service and infrastructure deployment within CITEL;
- e) That it is also part of the Terms of Reference of the Work Plan of the Rapporteurship on Broadband for Universal Access and Social Inclusion to provide recommendations and best practices regarding broadband deployment and use for reducing the digital divide and increasing development benefits, “digital dividends,” from using the broadband technologies.
- f) That in recent years, we have observed in countries of the region several examples of policies aimed at deploying transport backbones in order to expand broadband services to rural and isolated areas, as well as the deployment of last-mile high-capacity infrastructure;

¹ CCP.I-TIC/doc. 4022/16 rev.1

g) That in some regions there is a need and the opportunity of interconnecting national networks and also to make possible the interconnection of networks of a country with networks of another country.

ALSO CONSIDERING:

a) That, through Resolution 269 (XXVIII-16), it was approved to conduct a full one-day workshop on “Digital Inclusion and Meaningful Broadband Adoption in the Americas,” to take place on the Monday before the 29 Meeting of PCC.I;

b) That, it was deemed convenient to postpone the conduction of the aforementioned workshop in order to incorporate some additional topics as issues to be developed in such workshop;

RESOLVES:

1. To conduct a full day Workshop on “Digital Inclusion and Meaningful Broadband Adoption in the Americas,””, approved by virtue of Resolution 269 (XXVIII-16), to take place on the Monday before the first day of the 30 Meeting of the Permanent Consultative Committee I: Telecommunications, Information and Communication Technologies.

2. To designate the Administration of Peru as the coordinator of the workshop with the support of Costa Rica and United States of America.

3. To approve the list of topics included in the Annex, as a starting point for discussions on the issues to be addressed during the Seminar.

ANNEX TO RESOLUTION PCC.I/RES. 274 (XXIX-16)

TOPICS FOR WORKSHOP

DIGITAL INCLUSION AND MEANINGFUL BROADBAND ADOPTION IN THE AMERICAS

1. Policies to promote deployment of broadband infrastructure and reasonable provision of service.
2. Radio spectrum management and new technologies to develop mobile broadband services.
3. Successful experiences in the deployment of National Transport Networks and regional initiatives for interconnecting Networks.
4. Digital inclusion and adoption of broadband services by population interest groups, for example, the disabled.
5. Adoption of broadband services and opportunities for e-government.
6. Supplementary policy mechanisms for the availability of low-cost terminal equipment and digital literacy in the adoption of broadband services.

7. Approaches and instruments for the evaluation of digital inclusion and the meaningful adoption of broadband services.
8. Best practices and/or successful examples from the Americas region.
9. Conclusions and follow-up actions or compilation of information.