

**PCC.I/DEC. 186 (XXIII-13) <sup>1</sup>**

**LIAISON TO ITU TSB REGARDING THE ITU'S BRIDGING THE STANDARDIZATION GAP PROGRAMME**

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

**DECIDES:**

To instruct the Executive Secretary of CITEL to send a letter to the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) regarding the ITU's invitation related to Bridging the Standardization Gap Programme using the Liaison Statement in the Annex.

**ANNEX TO DECISION PCC.I/DEC. 186 (XXIII-13)**

**LIAISON STATEMENT**

<b>Committee/ Working Group/</b>	PCC.I Working Group on the Deployment of Technologies and Services	XXIII Meeting of PCC.I, Mendoza, Argentina October 8-11, 2013
<b>Rapporteurship</b>	Standards, Conformance and Interoperability	
<b>Title:</b>	Reply to a letter from Malcolm Johnson, Director, ITU Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) regarding the ITU's Bridging the Standardization Gap Programme	
<b>For information to:</b>	Malcolm Johnson, Director of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Bureau	
<b>Approval:</b>	WGDTs	
<b>Contact:</b>	Clovis Baptista CITEL	Tel: +1 202 370 4713 Email: citel@oas.org

The CITEL Executive Secretary is instructed to respond by letter to the ITU TSB Director with information to include:

CITEL PCC.I has received, with interest, your letter describing the goals and activities of the ITU Bridging the Standardization Gap (BSG) Programme. CITEL also is actively working to facilitate increased involvement of developing countries in standardization, ensuring that developing countries experience the economic benefits of associated technological development, and that standards better reflect the requirements and interests of developing countries.

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<sup>1</sup> CCP.I-TIC/doc. 3133/13 rev.1

We have also considered your proposal to hold annual one-day Regional Standardization Forum co-located with CITEL meetings to disseminate information about the standardization activities ongoing in ITU-T Study Groups, to invite countries in the region to present the standardization topics of interest and innovations, and to identify areas for collaboration with ITU on future standardization work. Such a meeting would be of value to the CITEL community and for other participants of our region. It would also provide CITEL an opportunity to present its activities related to standards coordination and the deployment of technologies and services to the Region in order to bridge the standardization gap.

CITEL is open to the idea of planning such a Forum with the ITU at the earliest opportunity. We have shared your information with the participants of CITEL PCC.I and would encourage Member States and Associate Members to contribute to the success of such an effort. Your letter reaches CITEL at the end of our current four year period and just prior to our CITEL Assembly to be held February 11-13, 2014. At that time our structure, objectives and meeting schedule will be set for the next four year period. It also should be noted that, while such a joint Forum with the ITU is desirable, our current (and likely future) operating procedures specify that seminars, workshops or any other similar event cannot incur any additional costs for the meetings established by CITEL.

We look forward to continued collaboration with the ITU and will keep you informed of potential dates in 2014 for holding an ITU Regional Standardization Forum co-located with a CITEL meeting.