

**STRATEGIES FOR THE DEPLOYMENT OF BROADBAND PLANS IN THE AMERICAS
REGION**

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

CONSIDERING:

- a) The existing consensus that widespread access to telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICT) is essential to economic, social, and cultural development worldwide and to the creation of a Global Information Society;
- b) That broadband development has become a key topic of discussion in laying the groundwork for Information Societies in an effort to promote infrastructure availability and telecommunications/ICT services development;
- c) That broadband development plans are becoming a means of promoting citizen access to ICT and bridging the digital divide in the Americas;
- d) That several countries of the region, including Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, and United States, have developed national broadband plans consistent with those objectives;
- e) That these policies have made evident a strong public commitment to achieving broadband development as a means of reducing existing disparities in broadband penetration and promoting opportunities for the most disadvantaged areas;
- f) That the need to have affordable services available to the public entails for the Member States the adoption of initiatives to reduce the cost of broadband access, either through direct investment in uncompetitive market segments or the adoption of measures to promote competition among private stakeholders;
- g) That the fundamental part played by the Member States in deploying connectivity points to their intent to achieve balanced growth among all sectors involved so as to distribute the benefits of connectivity throughout society as a whole;
- h) That for those countries now preparing or reviewing their broadband policies, it is useful to take account of provisions for the optimal implementation of any guidelines established; and
- i) That, in that regard, in the Americas region, a period of great impetus to ICT is under way, with many projects in execution making evident a staunch and responsible intent to move towards an Information Society without exclusion,

¹ CCP.I-TIC/doc.2896/13 rev.2

BEARING IN MIND:

- a) That the Broadband Commission for Digital Development has called for action, emphasizing the opportunities afforded by broadband in promoting progress and sustainable development;
- b) That a call has also been issued to include broadband in every Millennium Development Goal (MDG) as an essential tool for achieving the sustainable development of peoples;
- c) That the Member States have defined progress towards urban and rural broadband development as strategic for the region;
- d) That in the framework of the Working Group on Development, the Technical Notebook “Policies for the Development of Broadband in the Region of the Americas” has been created to provide updated and detailed information of the experiences that the Member States of CITELE are developing in the matter, including infrastructure expansion and connectivity promotion (Resolution PCC.I/RES. 199 (XX-12)); and
- e) That Recommendation PCC.II/REC. 39 (XXI-13) addresses a need to take account of relevant aspects of the use of the radio spectrum for deployments of broadband plans in the region; and

RECOGNIZING:

- a) Resolution 64 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) facilities, services and applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms;
- b) Resolution 17 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on implementation of initiatives approved by the regions at the national, regional, interregional and global levels; and
- c) Resolution 20 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on non-discriminatory access telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications,

RECOMMENDS:

1. To the Member States that are currently in the execution or definition stage of their communications policy, to lead the process and promote a favorable environment for the universalization of Broadband through the development of a National Policy, Plan or Strategy that provides a suitable framework and orientation in accordance with the political vision and established goals.
2. To this end, to drive strategies and policies for the development of Broadband, promoting the necessary investments and infrastructure deployment and safeguarding a harmonious, balanced process that benefits the population as a whole.
3. With respect to infrastructure and connectivity, to consider the development of national trunk networks and the creation of national and regional Internet Exchange Points (IXP), taking into account the benefits this would entail in terms of reduced access costs and service efficiency.
4. The aforementioned policies would promote competition, which would in turn improve the range and quality of the services being offered to the general public.

5. These policies should include strategies aimed at expanding both connectivity and capacity, taking into account user behavior trends and future applications.
6. The Member States should consider strategies to optimize the Radio Frequency Spectrum in order to promote the deployment of broadband wireless access infrastructure.
7. To evaluate the use of all available technologies to encourage the development of Broadband, including both terrestrial and satellite communications services, for the benefit of all.
8. Those Member States that have to update or design their Broadband policy must take in consideration its potential and impact on social and economic development, so they can facilitate a horizontal policy that includes the needs of other domains such as education, healthcare, employment and industry.
9. In this sense, said policies should aim at the articulation or proposal of specific programs for the inclusion of marginalized areas and groups with special needs.
10. Moreover, they should contemplate its articulation with other regional integration processes with the purpose of improving and expanding connectivity and access to international networks.

INSTRUCTS THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF CITEL:

1. To forward this Recommendation to the Permanent Consultative Committee II (Radiocommunications including Broadcasting) (PCC.II) for their knowledge in the framework of the activities that they have ongoing on this subject.
2. To forward this Recommendation to the Member States and Associate Members.