

PRINCIPLE OF TECHNOLOGICAL NEUTRALITY

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

CONSIDERING:

- a) That the current development and technological evolution of the telecommunications sector allows the same services to be operated and supplied by means of different technologies, leaving behind models in which there was a strong relation between the service itself and certain technology;
- b) Furthermore, that this technological development allows multiple technologies to be deployed within the same spectrum band;
- c) That such changes are driven and consolidated within the current context of converging technologies and services;
- d) That, in this context, it is important to ensure the normal development of the telecommunications markets, avoiding the establishment of administrative measures that grant undue preference to a particular technology, at the expense of others, for the provision of services;
- e) That, in that sense, it is considered appropriate to adopt the Principle of Technological Neutrality as guidance for the decisions made by the Member States, allowing each operator to freely choose the technology that is most suitable for the provision of their telecommunications services;
- f) That the adoption of the aforementioned principle will make it possible to provide greater guarantees for the promotion of competition and convergence in the telecommunications market, resulting in the generation of efficiencies that will increase the wellbeing of users,
- g) That the development of Information and Communications Technologies, telecommunications, and their associated resources, establishing and guaranteeing complete technological neutrality, is in the public interest,

RECOGNIZING:

That, despite the adoption of the Principle of Technological Neutrality, the Member States of CITELE also have the responsibility of ensuring the interoperability of telecommunication networks and services, as well as meeting other legitimate public policy interests that have been declared by a competent national authority while following applicable legal procedures; Therefore, the implementation of this principle must not affect the essential conditions that allow the development of telecommunications within an environment of competition and universal service,

RECOMMENDS:

1. That all Member States follow and consider the Principle of Technological Neutrality, whereby:

¹ CCP.I-TIC/doc. 3752/15 rev. 1

no requirement of or conditions for shall be imposed on, nor shall there be any discrimination against, any technology for record-keeping or for awarding enabling titles related to telecommunication services delivery, safeguarding conditions of quality and equality for users.

2. That the Member States take into account that the implementation of the Principle of Technological Neutrality should not affect the interoperability of networks and telecommunication services, meeting all necessary requirements to satisfy legitimate public policy interests that have been declared by a competent national authority while following applicable legal procedures,

INSTRUCTS THE SECRETARY OF CITEL:

To communicate this Recommendation to the Member States for dissemination and information purposes.