

CITEL RES.22 (II-98)¹

**FORUM TO ASSIST CITEL COUNTRIES TO MEET
THE REGULATORY CHALLENGES OF A CHANGING
TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENVIRONMENT**

The Second Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission, CITEL,

CONSIDERING:

The rapid changes occurring in the telecommunications regulatory environments in the Member States of CITEL;

The importance of activities associated with the GATS process and the conclusion of the WTO Agreement on basic telecommunications services in February 1997 and the implementation of the Agreement on February 5, 1998, as well as the development of the FTAA process in the Region;

The decision of the ITU to convene the second World Telecommunication Policy Forum on the theme of trade in telecommunications services in recognition of its importance in a changing environment;

The importance of assisting the countries of the Region in understanding the implications of the global trade agreements, particularly developing countries, and the evolution of the international accounting and settlement system;

The introduction of new technologies which will affect established regulatory practices and underscore the need for training in new approaches to the regulation of telecommunications;

NOTING:

Those initiatives have been identified within CITEL to address the need for regulatory training for the countries of the Region;

RESOLVES

1. To request the CITEL Steering Committee to organize a forum on the subject of trade in telecommunications services for the countries of the Region to share experiences and to examine regulatory principles and practices appropriate to the changing environment, drawing on expertise as may be available from organizations such as the ITU and the WTO;
2. To task the Steering Committee with identifying appropriate regulatory training opportunities in consultation with other concerned organizations;

¹ CITEL/doc. 193 rev. 1/98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

3. To consider this matter along with the initial coordination meeting on mechanisms for regulatory training scheduled to be held in conjunction with the Steering Committee meeting in August 1998.