

**PCC.I/RES. 309 (XXXVII-20)<sup>1</sup>**

**WORKSHOP “CONNECTING THE UNCONNECTED IN RURAL AND REMOTE AREAS”**

The 37 Meeting of Permanent Consultative Committee I: Telecommunications/Information and Communication Technologies (PCC.I),

**CONSIDERING:**

- a) That one of the objectives of PCC.I for 2018-2022, according to resolution CITEL/RES. 85 (VII-18) approved at the VII Regular Meeting of the Assembly of CITEL, is the identification of comprehensive strategies related to access and financing mechanisms for the expansion and connectivity of networks, such as universal service, public investment, among others, with specific measures in rural areas, remote or difficult to access, with a view to improving their affordability.
- b) That in the 34<sup>th</sup> meeting of the PCC.I the WGPR approved the workplan of the Rapporteurship on Broadband, universal access, digital inclusion and gender equality, in which it was defined that a workshop on infrastructure development and service provision in rural and remote areas would be organized in an upcoming meeting of PCC.I to enable discussions on public policy aspects, broadband plans, resources that can contribute to universal access, etc.
- c) That in 2018 the General Secretariat of the Organization of the American States (OAS), through the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL), and the Internet Society signed a collaboration agreement to promote the creation of new community networks, understood as alternative and complementary solutions to other models to connect the unconnected and strengthen regional efforts to reduce the digital divide.
- d) That the deployment and the expansion of community networks in the region depend on several variables such as the existence of efficient and sustainable organizations in the local level, the availability of technical capabilities, the amount of resources available, environmental conditions, as well as regulatory and institutional settings that might favor or impair the development of such networks.

**RESOLVES:**

- 1. To approve the holding of a workshop on **“CONNECTING THE UNCONNECTED IN RURAL AND REMOTE AREAS”**, on Tuesday of the 38 Meeting of PCC.I.
- 2. That the coordination of said seminar will be undertaken by the Internet Society, the Rapporteurship on Broadband, universal access, digital inclusion and gender equality of WGPR / PCC.I, in cooperation with CITEL’s Secretariat.
- 3. To approve the draft agenda attached to this resolution.

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<sup>1</sup> CCP.I-TIC/doc. 5033/20 rev. 1

**ANNEX TO RESOLUTION PCC.I/RES. 309 (XXXVII-20)**

**DRAFT AGENDA**

**SESSION I**

**DIAGNOSIS: ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS TO CONSIDER IN THE COVERAGE IN RURAL AND REMOTE AREAS**

**SESSION II**

**EXPERIENCES: CASES OF SUCCESS IN THE AMERICAS**

**SESSION III**

**POLICY AND REGULATION FOR CONNECTIVITY IN RURAL AND REMOTE AREAS**