

TECHNICAL NOTEBOOK “POLICIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF BROADBAND IN THE REGION OF THE AMERICAS”

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

RECOGNIZING:

- a) The impact of ICTs in the economic, cultural and social development of the nations, and the importance of promoting their access and fostering equal opportunities, taking into consideration the needs of the most underprivileged and vulnerable sectors;
- b) That in the context of United Nations, and according to the Millennium Development Goals agreed by all countries, ICTs are a fundamental tool that may contribute to the achieving of goals more important in nature;
- c) That currently the access to telecommunications services and the information and knowledge that may be gained from these has become a factor in social differentiation and positioning between those who have access and those who do not;
- d) That in the context of the Knowledge Society efforts must be oriented to the reduction of social, digital and educational breaches, promoting the use of these technologies as a way to access information and knowledge;
- e) That the reduction of the digital divide in this context does not only cover the deployment of infrastructure but the generation of capabilities for their profitable use;
- f) Therefore, the States must not only promote access to ICTs but also look after the promotion of their proper use and facilitate their social appropriation;
- g) That, therefore, the use of ICTs must have a strategic position in the public agenda, taking into account that their use allows social inclusion and fosters the development of nations;
- h) That for this reason it is vital to count on the support, commitment and participation of the strategic social actors involved in the before mentioned process: government, private sector and civil society;
- i) And likewise, the International and regional Organizations not only have a key role in the spreading, technical cooperation and assessment of the results but also they provide a ground that enables exchange and mutual collaboration between the most and least developed countries,

CONSIDERING:

- a) That in the context of CITEL, the Mexico Declaration approved by the V Regular Meeting of the Assembly of CITEL stated that to continue to move forward in building the Information and Knowledge-based Society in the Americas, it is advisable to reaffirm our commitment to promoting the growth of

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telecommunication/ICT infrastructure through public and private investment, and to establish mechanisms access at affordable costs, benefiting, mainly the most disadvantaged sectors of the populace;

b) That along those lines the Assembly approved modifications to the CITEI Statute and Regulations, defined new mandates and terms of reference for the Permanent Consultative Committees and approved the new CITEI Strategic Plan for the 2010-2014 period;

c) That as a consequence of this, there is a need of uniting efforts and achieving more consensus between the Member States and Associate Members of CITEI to collaborate in the reduction of the digital divide existing among the countries of the region;

d) That Item 2 of the new PCC.I Mandate, approved by the V Meeting of the Assembly of CITEI establishes that the development of Telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services must be encouraged and promoted in the region;

e) That additionally Item 7 of the above mentioned Mandate establishes that the development and universalization of the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and the new convergent Telecommunications/ICT services based on the new technologies must be promoted and encouraged, foreseeing their constant evolution;

f) That the Mexico Declaration of the V Meeting of the Assembly of the CITEI stated that the access to broadband for the most part of the population of the Americas is one of the main challenges for Governments, and therefore CITEI as main telecommunications/ICT body of the region must act as a strategic pillar for the establishment of public policies favoring better regional development and integration;

g) That in the contribution of the World Telecommunication Development Conference of 2010 (WTDC-10) to the Draft Strategic Plan of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) it was established that the access to broadband will be considered ever more as a basic service which every citizen must have access to, therefore governments are encouraged to promote policies fostering access network and broadband core network deployment and to share the best practices related to the deployment of the most adequate infrastructure technologies, as well as promoting policies on infrastructure investment and competition based on services,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

a) That the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-10) adopted Question 7-3/1: Implementation of universal access to broadband services as one of the issues to be analyzed by Study Group 1;

b) That in the last years the States have assumed the internationally agreed commitments and have devoted themselves to the development of national policies and projects in order to promote the universal access to ICTs, in particular encouraging the development of broadband and favoring the development of the necessary infrastructure to foster connectivity and access to the technologies;

c) That in the context of the above mentioned development-oriented national policies there are various strategies and action methods based on different economic, financial and politic models as well as different technological paradigms;

d) That likewise these policies may vary according to geographical environments, sociodemographic characteristics; with approaches oriented to groups with special needs, isolated areas, etc;

- e) That finally, the above said models or policies may serve as useful benchmarks for less developed countries;
- f) That likewise the activities and progress assessment carried out to improve connectivity and ICT access may promote the improvement of the implemented policies;
- g) That it would be beneficial for the Member States and the Associate Members to have access to information related to public policies and private initiatives on broadband development and expansion in the region, with the goal of achieving common ground that allows establishing the main guidelines in the matter;
- h) That by virtue of the existence within the CITEL PCC.I of the format Technical Notebook, we understand that it would be beneficial for the region its utilization as data compilation and updating platform in this matter,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the creation of a Technical Notebook on "Policies for the Development of broadband in the region of the Americas", with the goal of providing updated and detailed information of the experiences that the Member States of CITEL are developing in the matter, including infrastructure expansion and connectivity promotion.
2. To designate Ms. Gimena Delorenzi of the Argentine Administration as Coordinator for this Technical Notebook, who will be in charge of compiling the information contributed by the Member States and Associate Members.
3. To request to the Executive Secretariat of CITEL the distribution of this Resolution among the Administrations so as to begin the information compilation process.

ANNEX TO RESOLUTION PCC.I/RES. 172 (XVII-10)

ANNEX I

TABLE OF CONTENT

1. CURRENT SITUATION

- 1.1. Country (*We suggest including the following data*)
 - Population
 - % rural/urban population
 - Households
 - Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (in US\$)
 - GDP per capita (in US\$)
- 1.2. Market Indicators (*We request/suggest including the following data*)

1.2.1. Fixed Telephony

Number of operators
Number of lines installed
Number of lines in service
Changes over the past 5 years (*or Year-to-Year Changes*)
Service penetration rate per 100 inhabitants (*Teledensity*)
Service penetration rate (households)
Number of public telephony lines

1.2.2. Mobile Telephony

Number of operators
Number of lines in service
Changes over the past 5 years (*or Year-to-Year Changes*)
Service penetration rate (*Teledensity*)
Service penetration rate (households)
Distribution of Lines in Service: Postpayment vs. Prepayment
Traffic: Voice, SMS and Data

1.2.3. Internet

Access to the Internet: volume and changes over past 5 years) (“Access to the Internet” comprises both “subscriber accounts” and “users with cost-free access”)
% of “subscriber accounts” vs. “users with cost-free access”
Number of active accounts/broadband connections (refers to the different types of connection allowing end-users access to the Internet)
% broadband vs. Dial Up
Changes vis-à-vis the year before
(Broadband) service distribution by type of technology (*Cable modem, xDSL, Wi-Max, satellite, dedicated lines, FTTH, other wireless technologies*)
Broadband service penetration rate per 100 inhabitants
Broadband service penetration rate (households)
Distribution by market segment: Residential vs. Corporate
Distribution of connections by speed
Mobile broadband:

- Number of subscriptions
- Year-to-year changes
- Service penetration rate per 100 inhabitants
- Distribution by market segment: Residential vs. Corporate

1.3. Core regulations: *please specify your country’s basic norms with respect to telecommunications, such as*
Framework Law on Telecommunications
Rules governing the provision of fixed and mobile telephony and Internet services
Licensing rules

2. **POLICY** (This section should describe the strategies being implemented in your country to achieve the objectives put forward at the World Summit on the Information Society [WSIS] with respect to broadband: *1. To connect rural and remote areas and establish community access points; 2. to connect universities, colleges, secondary schools and primary schools, 3. to equip and connect scientific and research centers; 4. to connect public libraries, cultural centers, museums, post offices and archives; 5. to connect health centers and hospitals; 6. to connect all local and central government departments and establish websites and e-mail addresses; 7. To expand broadband access to the Internet. In each case, please specify the following:*

Beneficiaries (*here please provide details on whether a policy is differentiated for particular groups or sectors, such as women, indigenous peoples, youth, or persons with disabilities*)

2.1. Objectives and scope: *here we suggest including*

- Policy goals
- Strategic pillars and their spheres of action
- Expected developments
- Impact on society and individual players

2.2. Implementation process: *this should include data on*

- Action Plan
- Planned stages
- Deadlines or proposed milestones

2.3. Financial resources (*This should specify the resources to be tapped to finance the Plan; whether, for instance, they will be drawn from a pre-existing fund, whether it will be necessary to create a fee or tax, whether private sector participation is envisaged, and so on*)

2.4. Strategic players (*Please specify here who will be participating in implementation of the Plan –any ministries or government secretariats, for instance; the private sector; international organizations; nongovernmental organizations, and so on*)

2.5. Specific rules and regulations (*Please mention any specific norm adopted to establish the policy*)

2.6. Relevance of the policy for attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (Here please specify whether the policy described is expected to have some impact on achievement of the MDGs).

3. **INFRASTRUCTURE:** We recommend that this section include the following data

3.1. Regional Processing Centers (*CORE NETWORK*)

3.1.1. Switching: Circuit/Packets/Mixed; Types of technology and Physical Devices

3.2. Transportation (*from the regional center to the last mile*)

3.2.1.1. Wired/Wireless; Physical Medium (*fiber optic, copper cabling, etc.*) or Frequency Band; Type of Technology (*WDM, SDH, etc Satellite, PDH, SDH*). and Capacity (Mbps)

3.3. Access (*last mile*)

3.3.1.1. Wired/Wireless; Physical Medium/Frequency Bands; Type of Technology (*ADSL, Cable Modem, FTTH, Wimax, Wifi, LTE, etc.*); Maximum Speeds (*Upload, Download, etc.*) and Subscriber Terminals (*in the case of wireless access only*)

4. **TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION**

4.1. Existing programs for developing broadband technology and applications