

**IV MEETING OF THE PERMANENT EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE OF CITEL (COM/CITEL)
11-15 November 1996
Montevideo, Uruguay**

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FINAL REPORT



Inter-American Telecommunication Commission - CITEL

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

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**REPORT OF THE FOURTH MEETING
PERMANENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF CITEL (COM/CITEL)**

I. AGENDA

1. Approval of the Agenda.
2. Establishment of the Working Groups.
3. Report by the Chairman of COM/CITEL.
4. Reports of the Chairpersons of the Permanent Consultive Committees.
5. Report on the Activities of the Working Group on Development.
6. Report from the Chairman of COM/CITEL on the Meeting of Senior Telecommunication Officials.
7. Approval of the Annual Report of the Activities of CITEL.
8. Report on Strategic Plan Activities.
9. Report on the Follow-up Activities originating from the Summit of the Americas.
10. Program-Budget & Schedule of Meetings. Procedures for gaining support for the CITEL budget.
11. Improvement on CITEL Work. Improvement of the Image of CITEL, Electronic Document Handling.
12. Proposals to Modify the Statute and the Regulations. Rules of Procedure. New Class of Membership for INTELSAT, INMARSAT, etc.
13. Report of Temporary Working Group on CITEL Preparations for the 1998 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference.
14. CITEL Preparations for the 1998 ITU World Telecommunication Development Conference.
15. Follow-up from the Senior Telecommunication Officials Meeting.
16. Establishment of a Temporary Working Group on Preparations for the 1998 CITEL Assembly and to Eventual Review the Structure of CITEL.
17. Session for Information on the WTO.
18. Resolution 18 of Kyoto.
19. ITU Regional Presence & Improving Coordination with the ITU-T & R Sectors.
20. Proposal to Offer Information Sessions on Telecommunications for School Children.
21. Results from the ITU Policy Forum.
22. Agreement with AHCJET.
23. Date, Agenda and Place of the next Meeting.
24. Reports of the Working Groups of the Meeting.
25. Other business.
26. Approval of the Final Report

II. AUTHORITIES OF THE MEETING

Chairman: Mr. Ernesto Dehl Sosa de Uruguay
Vice Chairman: Mr. César Yepez de Ecuador
Executive Secretary: Mr. Roberto Blois OEA/CITEL

1) Strategic Planning Working Groups

- Chairman: Mr. Héctor Bude (Uruguay)

2) Ad hoc Working Group on the Structure and Functioning of CITEL on the Preparation for the 1998 CITEL Assembly

- Chairman: Mr. Fernandino Maglione (Brazil)

3) Program-Budget

- Chairman: Mr. Bruce Gracie (Canada)

4) Review of the Regulations

- Chairman: Mr. Robert Stephens (USA)

5) Ad hoc Working Group on the Preparation of the ITU 1998 World Telecommunication Development Conference

- Chairman: Mr. José Gregorio González (Venezuela)

6) Preparation of the 1998 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference

- Chairman: Mr. José Vivanco (Ecuador)

7) Drafting Group

- Chairman: Mr. Diego Souto (Uruguay)
- Participants: Ms. Paula Córdoba (Argentina)
Ms. Nancy Eskenazi (United States)
Mr. Francisco Brancato (Venezuela)

III. RESOLUTIONS

COM/CITEL RES. 31 (IV-96)

TO URGE PCCs AND JOINT WORKING GROUPS TO TAKE PROMPT ACTION ON CERTAIN ITEMS IN THE SENIOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS OFFICIALS (STO) PLAN OF ACTION

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL),

NOTING THAT:

The Senior Telecommunications Officials (STO) Plan of Action directs CITEL in action item 6 "to examine and consider this Plan of Action with view to its follow-up and implementation to help fulfill its objectives and commitments."

The STO Plan of Action contains ten action items and that each action item contains detailed commitments.

That many of the above noted action items are relevant to the work of the PCCs, the Working Groups, the Joint Working Groups and the Steering Committee

That the PCCs may have working groups addressing some, though not all, of these action items.

That some of the action items or commitments are relevant to the work program or one or more of the PCCS, Working Groups, Joint Working Groups.

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the STO Declaration and Plan of action for the Americas.
2. To request the Permanent Consultative Committees, the Joint Working Groups, the Working Groups, and the Steering Committee to examine and consider, in their work, The Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action, for follow-up and implementation as a means to cooperate in complying with their objectives and commitments.
3. To urge PCC.I to give special attention to the following action items and commitments in the STO Plan of Action:

5.1: I, ii, iii, iv

5.2.: ii, iii.

5.3.

5.7: I, ii, iii.

5.10: I, ii, iii, iv, v.

4. To urge PCC.II to give special attention to the following action items and commitments in the STO Plan of Action:

- 5.1: vi
- 5.2: ii, iii.
- 5.3.
- 5.5: I, ii.
- 5.6.
- 5.8.

5. To urge PCC.III to give special attention to the following action items and commitments in the STO Plan of Action:

- 5.1: iii, iv, v, vi.
- 5.2. ii, iii.
- 5.3.
- 5.5: I, ii.
- 5.6.
- 5.7: I.
- 5.8.
- 5.9.
- 5.10: I, ii, iv, v.

6. To urge the Working Group for Coordination with the Human Resources Training Centers to give special attention to action item 5.3.

7. To urge the PCCs and Working Groups to take any action necessary at their next meetings to ensure that they are carrying out an active and effective work program to address the above noted STO action items. The PCCs, when appropriate, should coordinate with other PCCs their work on action items that involve more than one PCC.

COM/CITEL RES. 32 (IV-96)

TO ENCOURAGE THE APPROACH TO THE CONVERSION TO ELECTRONIC DATA EXCHANGE IN THE AMERICAS

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL),

CONSIDERING:

The clear direction, strong support and substantial momentum towards free trade throughout the Western Hemisphere which is currently evident and is widely endorsed;

The progressive liberalization throughout the telecommunications industry in this Hemisphere,

BEARING IN MIND:

That the Declaration of Principles of the Meeting of Senior Telecommunication Officials in Washington in September, 1996 highlighted the point that the development of partnership strategies between governments and the private sector should be promoted to accelerate the process of conversion to electronic commerce;

That the Plan of Action for the Americas of the Meeting of Senior Telecommunication Officials set as an objective to promote regional coordination in the areas of value-added services, equipment certification, and coordination of standards,

RECOGNIZING:

CITEL's objective to improve its working methods through the use of electronic document handling techniques, particularly to support work in the areas of certification harmonization and standards coordination;

That electronic document handling techniques applied on a network basis throughout the Americas could facilitate electronic data exchange;

That many successful examples of the application of such technology exist, for example one being the airline industry, and have proven to be of substantial value to countries where it has been applied;

That such techniques in the Americas will provide an opportunity to reduce costs and accelerate the provision and extension of telecommunication services;

That the Plan of Action for the Americas includes the promotion of the installation of networks and systems that provide by electronic means interaction between citizens and Government and, internally, among state agencies at various levels;

RESOLVES:

To encourage the States of the Region to consider ways and means to utilize the available techniques and systems to accelerate the process of advancing electronic data exchange as submitted and self-financed by appropriate entities.

INVITES:

Appropriate entities to consider the possibility of submitting proposals to administrations for such prototype electronic support systems which are self-financed and can accelerate the availability of electronic data exchange.

COM/CITEL RES. 33 (IV-96)
STRATEGIC PLAN OF CITEL

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL),

CONSIDERING:

That Resolution COM/CITEL Res. 24(111-95) approved the Strategic Plan of CITEL for 1995-1999.

HAVING SEEN:

That it is necessary to introduce modifications to the above Plan tending to its improvement and adaptation, contemplating, at the same time, the results of the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action for the Americas as approved by the Meeting of Senior Telecommunication officials held in September 1996.

RESOLVES:

1. To adopt the Strategic Plan for 1996-1999 as prepared by the Executive Secretariat, which, as regards policy priorities and general programs shall be worded as follows:

Recommendation N°1 - The needs of CITEL member States Associate Members, the world telecommunications sector and telecommunication user groups should be systematically analyzed in order to determine what they require and expect from CITEL. Further and possibly a more targeted analysis should be conducted at regular intervals throughout the period between CITEL Assemblies by the COM/CITEL Steering Committee. The activities of CITEL should be adjusted in light of this analysis by COM/CITEL and future Assemblies.

Recommendation N°2 - The participation in CITEL activities by non-Administration telecommunication entities and organizations should be enhanced. Because of the intergovernmental nature of CITEL, this may be done in the first instance by encouraging national entities and organizations to participate in national delegations and in forum established by Member Administrations for developing national positions for CITEL meetings. The terms and conditions under which Associate Members participate in CITEL activities should be reviewed and updated, as appropriate, in light of their changing needs and CITEL's changing requirements.

Recommendation N°3 - Linkages between the activities of the three PCCs should be increased, and the process of cooperation between the three PCCs reinforced.

Recommendation N°4 - CITEL's relationship with other international organizations should be strengthened. Particular emphasis should be placed on increasing the active participation of CITEL countries in the ITU at all levels of activity and to strengthen the coordination among them in

all sectors. In the global information economy and society, telecommunications will be increasingly important to the activities of international organizations, particularly those involved in large-scale peace, security and development projects. By working in partnership with other organizations and making its core technical competence in telecommunications available to support their activities, CITELE will leverage its own resources and multiply the effectiveness of its activities.

Recommendation N°5 . - CITELE's public information capabilities should be increased. At present, and outside the telecommunication community, CITELE is one of the least known organizations within the OAS and the region, in spite of the fact that the development of the global telecommunications network is increasingly vital to the welfare of mankind. The members of CITELE have asked it to play a leadership role in the telecommunications community of the Americas. To do this, CITELE must communicate its message more effectively than it does at present. This topic should be on the agenda of the Steering Committee each year so that they may evaluate the effectiveness of the ongoing program.

Recommendation N°6 - There are a number of areas where the Steering Committee could and should play a stronger role in activities of the Commission, i.e.:

There Should be an annual meeting of the Steering Committee at the OAS Headquarters. Having a separate meeting would help draw the attention of the participants to the issues facing CITELE and provide the opportunity for the Committee to focus on which approach should be followed. In addition, this meeting would offer the opportunity for the Group to put on a short seminar for the benefit of the Permanent Missions to the OAS. These Missions are a critical element to the future success of CITELE and it is easier to gain their support if they are familiar with the impact that CITELE is having on the economic and social development of Member States.

The Steering Committee should have on its agenda every year, the review of the ongoing activities in support of the implementation of the objectives of the Summit. These activities are important to the future development and welfare of all Member States.

The Steering Committee shall evaluate the activities related to telecommunications development in the Region that needs to be carried out.

Recommendation N°7 - The telecommunications sector truly has an impressive story to tell and CITELE should consider ways to inform the general population and the OAS organs of the advances that are happening each and every day in this field of endeavor that we have chosen.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

- 1 . COM/CITELE should request the Chairpersons of the Permanent Consultative Committees:
 - a) to present to COM/CITELE each year those items within their mandates that should be brought to the attention of the General Assembly of the OAS and other appropriate bodies of the OAS.
 - b) to review each year, prior to COM/CITELE, the operation of their committee for the purpose of identifying areas where the image of CITELE could be improved..

2. COM/CITEL should place on the agenda of the Steering Committee an item dealing with ways in which the image of CITEL can be enhanced and its visibility increased within the Region of the Americas, the organs and organisms of OAS and the ITU.

3. COM/CITEL should also direct the Steering Committee to plan and conduct seminar for the benefit of the Permanent Missions to the OAS at its annual meeting in Washington covering the significance of the CITEL program of activities, the significance of the accomplishments achieved during the previous year, and what is viewed as significant goals for the next year.

4. The Steering Committee shall analyze the actions tending to gain awareness among children and youngsters on the benefits and the role of telecommunications, taking into account the fact that the debates held on this issue at the IV Meeting of COM/CITEL stressed the advisability of:

- a) making use of mass media;
- b) entering into agreements, wherever not existing, with the different basic, medium, and high education authorities involving the dissemination of information through such channels;
- c) preparing the programs to be disseminated taking into account the support the Associate Members might be in a position to offer in such connection;
- d) taking into account the regional and subregional organizations, such as AHCET, ASETA, COMTELCA, and CTU, that might contribute to the dissemination of several information programs.

INSTRUCTS:

The Executive Secretary to introduce the above amendments and any necessary editing corrections to the Strategic Plan, and to engage in a follow-up with a view to its enhancement and ongoing updating.

COM/CITEL RES. 34 (IV-96)
BUDGET for 1998 and 1999
and CALENDAR for 1997 and 1998

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL),

CONSIDERING:

The review of the Program of Meetings contained in Document COM/CITEL-165/96;

The budget forecasts presented in Document COM/CITEL-182/96, for the years 1998 and 1999;

The discussions held in the Budget and Program Committee,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the annexed calendar of CITEL meetings for the years 1997 and 1998;
2. To approve the annexed budget forecasts for the years 1998 and 1999.

1997
CITEL MEETINGS

2/17-21	PCC.II Meeting in Trinidad & Tobago
3/10-14	PCC.I Meeting in Venezuela
4/7-11	PCC.III Meeting (venue to be determined)
6/16-20	PCC.III Meeting in Brazil
8/12-13	Steering Committee Meeting (1 day); Meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Structure and Functioning of CITEL (1 day) in Washington
8/14-15	Meeting of the Joint Working Group on Legal Matters in Washington
8/25-29	Meeting of the Working Group on Standards Coordination in Paraguay
9/22-26	PCC.III Meeting in Mexico

- 10/13-17 PCC.I Meeting in Brazil
- 12/1-5 Meeting of COM/CITEL in Uruguay.

NOTES:

1. *The meeting of PCC.III in April will be preceded from 31 March to 4 April by the Preparatory Meeting for the ITU World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-98).*
2. *Provision will be made for a meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Structure and Functioning of CITEL during COM/CITEL.*

1998

CITEL MEETINGS

- 2/9-13 PCC.III Meeting (venue to be determined)
- 3/2-6 Second CITEL Assembly in Quito, Ecuador.

NOTES:

1. *The only meeting scheduled prior to the CITEL Assembly is PCC.III (9-13 February).*
2. *The schedules of the remainder of the meetings in 1998 and in 1999 will be established by the 1997 Session of COM/CITEL.*

ANNEX

CITEL 1998 -1999 PROPOSED BUDGET

	PROJECTED 1998 (US\$ 1000)	PROJECTED 1999 (US\$ 1000)
Annual meeting of COM/CITEL		
One meeting of five days		
Costs of travels for the Executive Secretary, Principal Specialist, Conference Specialist and a Lawyer	\$ 10.90	\$ 10.90
Costs of meeting	\$ 31.80	\$ 31.80
Assembly of CITEL in Ecuador		
One meeting of five days		
Costs of travel for the Executive Secretary, Principal Specialist, Conference Specialist and a Lawyer	\$ 12.80	
Costs of the meeting	\$ 45.80	
Meeting of PCC.I		
Three meetings of five days		
Costs of travel for the Executive Secretary, Principal Specialist and Conference Specialist	\$ 20.90	\$ 20.90
Costs of the meeting	\$ 95.40	\$ 95.40
Meeting of PCC.II		
Two meetings of five days		
Costs of travel for the Executive Secretary, Principal Specialist and Conference Specialist	\$ 9.00	\$ 9.00
Costs of the meeting	\$ 63.60	\$ 63.60
Meeting of PCC.III		
Three meetings of five days		
Costs of travel for the Executive Secretary, Principal Specialist and Conference Specialist	\$ 21.40	\$ 21.40
Costs of meeting	\$ 95.40	\$ 95.40
Meeting of the Coordination Committee		

One meeting of three days			
Costs of the meeting	\$	20.80	\$ 20.80
Meeting of the Working Group on Legal Matters			
One meeting of two days			
Cost of the meeting			\$ 14.00
Participation and presentation of contributions from CITEL by the Executive Secretariat			
Caribbean Telecommunication Union Assembly, 5 days	\$	3.00	\$ 3.00
World Development Telecommunication Conference, Malta, 7 days	\$	3.90	
Annual Meeting of the Council of Pacific Telecommunications. 7 days (PTC)	\$	3.80	\$ 3.80
OAS General Assembly 5 days	\$	3.20	\$ 3.20
World Radiocommunications Conference, 7 days			\$ 3.80
Plenipotentiary Conference of the ITU	\$	2.90	
Unprogrammed travels of the Executive Secretariat	\$	9.30	\$ 9.30
Expenses for the Office of CITEL			
Establish access to the electronic system of the OAS for handing documents	\$	60.00	
Access to INTERNET for CITEL (six)	\$	1.20	\$ 1.20
Express mail	\$	2.00	\$ 2.00
Air mail	\$	3.50	\$ 3.50
Mailing	\$	4.10	\$ 4.10
Telephone and FAX	\$	18.60	\$ 18.60
Photocopies	\$	8.30	\$ 8.30
Publications	\$	1.70	\$ 1.70
Translations at Headquarters	\$	14.00	\$ 14.00
Office supplies	\$	1.80	\$ 1.80
Subtotal	\$	569.10	\$ 461.50
Executive Secretariat Staff	\$	381.00	\$ 381.00
Total	\$	950.10	\$ 842.50

COM/CITEL RES. 35 (IV-96)

BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR FELLOWSHIPS

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL),

CONSIDERING:

The need to support the development of training courses on telecommunications through the Regional Centers;

That the 1997 budget allocated by the OAS to that end has been reduced from US\$ 154,000 to US\$ 60,000.

HAVING SEEN:

That it is essential for the countries in the Americas to keep updated as to the new trends in telecommunications at world level.

That the training of human resources is an essential element for the evolution of telecommunications and related services in the countries of the region, and the restriction of such process would consequently have a negative impact on the incorporation of the countries to said evolution. which would be even greater in the less developed countries.

RESOLVES:

1. To request the OAS Fellowship Department to consider the possibility of amending the agreements that resulted in the reduction of the budget allocated to CITEL for training fellowships;
2. To request the Executive Secretary of CITEL to be the channel before the OAS pertinent officials in order to obtain a revision of the 1997 budgetary reduction for training fellowships on telecommunications;
3. To request the OAS Fellowship Department to include in the 1998-1999 budget the necessary funding to hold at least seven five-day training courses per year with the attendance of fifteen students in each course;
4. To urge the authorities of the Regional Centers to establish or increase, as the case may be, the relationship with the entrepreneurial and industrial sectors in order to obtain supplementary support for the organization of courses and the granting of fellowships.

COM/CITEL RES 36 (IV-96)

AGENDA, DATE AND PLACE FOR THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE PERMANENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF CITEL

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL),

RESOLVES:

1. To hold the Fifth meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL) in Montevideo, Uruguay, on 1-5 December, 1997.
2. To approve the agenda attached to this Resolution as the Agenda for this Meeting of COM/CITEL.

Draft Agenda

Fifth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL, 1997)

1. Approval of the Agenda.
2. Establishment of the Working Groups.
3. Report by the Chairman of COM/CITEL.
4. Reports of the Chairpersons of the Permanent Consultive Committees.
5. Report on the results of the 1997 ITU World Radiocommunication Conference.
6. Approval of the Annual Report of the activities of CITEL.
7. Report on Strategic Plan Activities of CITEL.
8. Report on the follow-up activities originating from the Summit of the Americas.
9. Report on the follow-up activities from the Senior Telecommunication Officials Meeting.
10. Program-Budget & Schedule of Meetings.
11. Electronic Document Handling in CITEL.
12. Improvement on CITEL work.
13. Proposals to modify the Statute and the Regulations.
14. Report of Temporary Working Group on CITEL preparations for the 1998 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference.
15. Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Structure and Functioning of CITEL on the Preparations for the 1998 CITEL Assembly.
16. Report on the Preparation for the 1998 CITEL Assembly.
17. Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on CITEL to prepare for the 1998 ITU World Telecommunications Development Conference, WTDC-98.
18. Improving coordination with Regional and International telecommunication Organizations.
19. Date, agenda and place of the next meeting.
20. Other business.
21. Approval of the Working Groups Final Reports.
22. Approval of the Final Report.

COM/CITEL RES.37 (IV-96)

**PREPARATION FOR THE ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE
(PP-98)**

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL),

HAVING SEEN:

Documents COM/CITEL-204/96 and COM/CITEL-208/96

CONSIDERING:

That the Third COM/CITEL Meeting established a provisional Working Group to prepare for the 1998 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-98)

That the Working Group chaired by Mr. Jose Vivanco, held its first meeting and entrusted to COM/CITEL the issues that might be considered by the Group.

RESOLVES:

1. To assign the following topics for study by the Working Group:
 - a) Regional presence of ITU - review and outlook
 - b) Sectoral activities
 - Telecommunications development
 - Radiocommunications
 - Radiocommunications standardization
 - c) ITU's Strategic Plan for 1999-2003
 - d) Review of resolutions and recommendations of previous Plenipotentiary Conferences
 - e) Election matters
 - f) Financial matters
 - g) Amendments to ITU's Constitution and Convention

2. To appoint the following persons as Coordinators of the aforementioned topics described in item 1:
 - Topics *a* and *f*: Mr. Bruce Gracie from Canada.

 - Topic *b*:
 - Telecommunications Development: Mr. Jose Gregorio Gonzalez from Venezuela .
 - Radiocommunications and Telecommunications Standardization: Mr. Roger Rondon from Venezuela.

Topic c: Mr. Luis Brown from Mexico.
Topic d: Mr. Fernandino Maglione from Brazil.
Topic g: Mr. Richard Beard from the United States.
(Later changed to Richard Shrum)

3. To invite the Member States and the regional and subregional organizations to actively participate in the tasks of the Working Group, and present contributions to the Coordinators in the various topics for study.

INSTRUCTS:

The Executive Secretary to distribute to the Member States and to the regional and subregional organizations a copy of the Working Group Report, the documents mentioned in this report as well as the pertinent documentation to the respective Coordinators.

COM/CITEL RES. 38 (IV-96)

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON THE PREPARATION OF CITEL'S PARTICIPATION IN THE SECOND WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE (WTDC)

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL),

CONSIDERING:

That telecommunications offer a significant support to the economic and social development of our countries;

That in March-April, 1998, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) will hold the Second World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) in Malta;

That the ITU has scheduled a Preparatory Meeting of WTDC-98 for the Region of the Americas to be held in 1997;

That the Regional Office of ITU will be sending a questionnaire to standardize and harmonize the needs of the Region in the field of Telecommunications;

That the Study Groups, the Working Groups, and the Rapporteur Groups of ITU-D have requested contributions from the Member States and the Members of the Telecommunication Sector to advance in their works associated to the implementation of the Buenos Aires Action Plan;

That the World Forum on Telecommunication Policies (WFTP) held in October, 1996, included, among its conclusions, an invitation to the Director of the Bureau for the Development of Telecommunications (BDT), in coordination with the Directors of the Bureau of the Telecommunications Standardization Sector (BT) and the Radiocommunications Bureau (BE), to establish a Group of Experts from Developed Countries to prepare, inter alia, a list of the main factors for these countries as regards the introduction of GMPCS;

That Opinion N° 4 in the Report by the Chairman of WFTP invited the Administrations, System Operators, and other interested entities to sign a Memorandum of Understanding to facilitate the free circulation of GMPCS user terminals;

That the States in the Americas have had successful experiences, through several means, in the development of telecommunications;

That the Senior Telecommunication Officials in the Americas have supported a Declaration of Principles and a Plan of Action for the Region;

That the First World Telecommunication Development Conference held in Buenos Aires approved twelve programs, six of which were deemed to be of a high priority for the region;

That the ITU-D Study Group, Working Groups, and Groups of Rapporteurs have produced a significant background on these issues;

That the Support Programs of ITU include serious budget restrictions that may affect their implementation, and that it is necessary to take into consideration the changing nature of the countries' needs;

That it is necessary to enhance the links between the Regional Telecommunication Organizations and ITU;

That many public and private entities related to the Sector may make a significant contribution to these issues;

That the above experiences, works, and contributions may as a whole be an excellent contribution to other regions in the world;

RECOGNIZING:

That in its meeting held in July, 1996, the Steering Committee suggested that it would be advisable for CITELE to prepare a contribution to VVTDC-98,

RESOLVES:

1. To establish an Ad Hoc Working Group in order to offer advice to the Member States of CITELE in the preparation of WTDC-98;

2. To request the Ad Hoc Working Group, in close coordination with the ITU Regional Office and other Regional Telecommunication Organizations, to inter alia:

- a) prepare a report on the status of telecommunications in the Americas since the 1994 Buenos Aires Conference, to be considered by WTDC-98;
- b) include in such report a list of priority issues, the draft of which is included in Annex 1, that should be dealt with by the BDT as a follow-up of the Conference;
- c) also include in such report the outcome of the evaluation of priorities in the States of the region of the Americas performed by the ITU Regional Office on the basis of the twelve (12) programs contained in the Buenos Aires Action Plan, as well as other activities pertaining to telecommunication development; and
- d) prepare joint proposals and/or recommendations for the development of the Conference;

3. To entrust a Drafting Group integrated by Brazil, Canada, Ecuador, Uruguay and Venezuela, and by the ITU Regional Office with the drafting of the above documents;

4. To invite the member States to:

- a) answer the questionnaire that the ITU Regional Office will be sending them in the near future, including the evaluation criteria of said Office as shown in Annex 2, on the basis of the twelve programs approved in Buenos Aires, the Declaration of Principles, and the Plan of Action for the Americas, as well as their assessment of the preliminary list of priority issues;
- b) present their contributions to the last September Meeting of ITU-D Study Groups 1 and 2;
- c) consider their participation in the Group of Experts and in the Group for the preparation of the Memorandum of Understanding referred to in items 6 and 7 above, related to the implementation of the GMPCS;
- d) send to the Ad Hoc Working Group their contributions for the Preparatory Meeting of WTDC-98, no later than February 1997;

5. To request the Ad Hoc Working Group to present the above mentioned documents, on the basis of contributions received and its own work, and to distribute them to Member States through the Executive Secretariat; the countries may take them into consideration for preparing their respective participation in WTDC-98;

6. To include in the Agendas of the Permanent Consultative Committees (PCCs) the holding of meetings of the Ad Hoc Group which should, inter alia, inform PCCs and receive the respective contributions.

ANNEX 1

PRELIMINARY LIST OF PRIORITY ISSUES AND NAME OF THE CORRESPONDING RAPPORTEUR COUNTRY

1. Development of plans for the development of telecommunications in rural and low income urban areas (CANADA);
2. Human resources development (VENEZUELA);
3. Management of the Radio Spectrum (URUGUAY);
4. Methodology for the development of global interconnection (VENEZUELA);
5. Regional integration through project identification (ECUADOR);
6. Methods for GMPCS implementation (BRAZIL); and
7. Utilization of telecommunications as a means to preserve human life and public safety under natural disaster circumstances (CANADA).

ANNEX 2

LIST OF CRITERIA TO BE INCORPORATED TO THE SURVEY TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE ITU REGIONAL OFFICE TO FACILITATE ITS EVALUATION

1. Relevance of works and projects for national telecommunication plans;
2. Number and quality of the Office's human resources;
3. Matching between the Office's works and the preliminary list of priority issues (Annex 1);
4. Ability to respond to the countries' needs;
5. Suggestions to overcome limitations;
6. Suggestions to strengthen positive aspects; and
7. Mission and vision of the Office.

COM/CITEL RES.39 (IV-96)

Preparation of the 1998 CITEL Assembly (Approved by the Fourth Plenary Session)

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL),

CONSIDERING:

That the CITELE Assembly will be held from 2 to 6 March 1998, in Quito, Ecuador,

That the Assembly will be held at a ministerial level and will deal with the future of telecommunications in the Americas,

The importance of a continued support to the objectives of the Summit of the Americas.

RESOLVES:

1. To request the CITELE Steering Committee:
 - a) To prepare a preliminary draft agenda;
 - b) To prepare a calendar of activities for the Meeting of the Assembly;
 - c) To report to the Executive Secretariat of CITELE, by August 1997, on the outcome of the actions developed in compliance with the above a) and b) items, for its further distribution to the member States.

INSTRUCTS:

The Executive Secretary of CITELE to inform the OAS General Assembly, through the corresponding channels, on the holding of the 1998 CITELE Assembly, while requesting the largest participation of member States.

COM/CITELE RES 40 (IV - 96)

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONING OF CITELE IN THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE 1998 CITELE ASSEMBLY

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITELE (COM/CITELE),

CONSIDERING:

That the Steering Committee, at its meeting in July 1996, decided to recommend to COM/CITELE that it would be desirable to have an Ad Hoc Group to prepare the necessary background materials required for a review of **the organization, objectives and functions of CITELE**;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

Initiatives being undertaken in other regional and international organizations which could lead to modifications to the structure and functioning of these organizations

RESOLVES:

1. To establish an Ad Hoc Working Group on the structure and functioning of CITELE in

preparation for the 1998 CITELE Assembly

2. That the terms of reference of the Ad Hoc Working Group shall be the following :
 - a) To prepare a report containing a list of priority areas for CITELE with special reference to the Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action agreed by the Meeting of the Senior Telecommunications Officials in September 1996
 - b) To examine the existing structure of CITELE to ensure that the Commission will be able to be responsive to the needs of the Members as they move into the 21st century.;
 - c) To consider measures to strengthen the financial basis of CITELE taking into account the needs and interests of the Member States and the support that might be offered by Associate Members.
 - d) To develop a recommended set of "*Rules of Procedure for Conferences and Meetings of CITELE*", and proposals for improving the working methods of CITELE.
 - e) To develop the utilization of an Electronic Document Handling capability, taking into account the particular requirements of each Member State.
3. To designate Fernandino Maglione of Brazil. as Chairperson of this Ad Hoc Working Group.
4. To designate:
 - a) Mr. Bruce Gracie of Canada as Rapporteur for the Task Areas outlined in 2.a), 2.b) and 2.c)
 - b) Mr. Gary Fereno of the United States of America as Rapporteur for the Task Areas outlined in 2.d)
 - c) Mr. José Gregorio Gonzalez of Venezuela as Rapporteur for the Task Areas outlined in 2.e),
5. To invite the Ad Hoc Working Group to prepare a set of recommendations for consideration of the CITELE Assembly.
6. To organize two meetings of the Ad Hoc Group in conjunction with the Steering Committee meeting in August 1997, in Washington, and in the 1997 meeting of COM/CITELE in Montevideo.

COM/CITELE RES. 41 (IV-96)

**IMPLEMENTATION OF COM/CITELE RES.15 (111-95)
REGARDING THE WORKING GROUP ON REGIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS
DEVELOPMENT (GTD)**

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITELE (COM/CITELE),

RECALLING THAT:

COM/CITEL in 1995 had an extensive discussion on the future of the Working Group on Regional Telecommunication Development (GTD) and that the outcome of this discussion was COM/CITEL RES. 15 (III-95).

COM/CITEL RES.15 (III-95) in item 2 directed the GTD to undertake a series of tasks, including the distribution of short document to the Chairpersons of the PCCs, Joint Working Groups and Working Groups two months prior to the 1996 COM/CITEL meeting.

COM/CITEL RES.15 (III-95) in item 3 directed the 1996 COM/CITEL to "evaluate compliance with the duties assigned to the GTD under this Resolution and contemplate the possibility of channeling due compliance with such tasks to this or any other CITEL group.

NOTING THAT:

The COM/CITEL meeting in 1996 discussed and reviewed the work carried out by the GTD in 1996 to fulfill COM/CITEL RES. 15 (III-95).

That the resources of CITEL, CITEL Members and CITEL Associate Members are limited and that this creates a constraint on the number of meetings that can be convened by CITEL.

The PCCs are carrying out an increasingly active and effective work program and that the CITEL Steering Committee is demonstrating an increased ability to assist with supervising and administering the activities of CITEL.

RECOGNIZING THAT:

Numerous regional and subregional organizations have and are continuing to carry out important work in this area.

RESOLVES:

1. To commend Chile for the work it conducted as Chairman of the GDT;
2. To close the work of the GDT;
3. To request the CITEL Steering Committee to determine, at its next meeting, which tasks will be assigned to the CITEL organs, taking into consideration the importance of avoiding duplication of efforts;
4. To request the CITEL Steering Committee to address, at its next meeting, the matter of strengthening the relationship between CITEL and the ITU/BDT and other regional and subregional organizations;
5. To invite the CITEL Members and Associate Members and its regional and subregional organizations to provide contributions regarding this Resolution to the Executive Secretariat, to be considered at the next Steering Committee meeting;

INSTRUCTS:

The Executive Secretariat to send this Resolution to CITELE Members and Associate Members, and to the regional and subregional organizations.

COM/CITEL Res. 42 (IV-96)
REGULARIZATION OF THE SITUATION OF REGIONAL CENTERS IN CONNECTION
WITH THEIR RECOGNITION BY CITELE

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITELE (COM/CITEL),

CONSIDERING:

That the Coordination of CITELE with Regional Centers held its first meeting with the Heads of the Centers on September 10, 1996 in the city of Lima, Peru, simultaneously to the Fifth Meeting of the Permanent Consultative Committee I: Public Telecommunication Services.

That item 4.2 on its agenda included the analysis of the Regularization of the situation of Regional Centers in connection with their recognition by CITELE, as well as the procedure for obtaining said recognition,

RESOLVES:

1. To develop and adopt guidelines to be followed by the institutions in order to obtain the recognition of CITELE as Regional Training Centers, as well as to apply for the funding of the OAS Fellowship Department.
2. To request the Coordinator of CITELE with Regional Centers to develop provisional procedures to be applied until their consideration at the next COM/CITEL meeting.
3. To invite CITELE member States to inform the heads of training institutions in their countries about these provisional procedures, so that they may forward the CITELE Coordination the data provided for in said procedures, in order to obtain its recognition as Regional Centers.
4. To request the CITELE Coordinator to inform the Chairman of COM/CITEL and the Executive Secretary about those training institutions that have complied with the requirements and have been designated as CITELE Regional Centers, thus justifying the consideration of the above mentioned guidelines.

COM/CITEL RES. 43(IV-96)

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING FELLOWSHIPS FROM OAS/CITEL

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITELE (COM/CITEL),

CONSIDERING:

That the Coordination of CITEL with Regional Centers held its first meeting with the heads of the centers on September 10, 1996 in the city of Lima, Peru, simultaneously to the Fifth Meeting of the Permanent Consultative Committee 1: Public Telecommunication Services.

That item 4.3 on its agenda included the analysis of the Guide of Proceedings for the Operation of Regional Centers, reflected in a proposal prepared by the CCR.

That the proposed procedure is based on the experience obtained from the application of current proceedings, including the modifications deemed necessary for the purpose of establishing similar and standard mechanisms, particularly for obtaining fellowships from OAS/CITEL.

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION:

The need to count on a document establishing a standard procedure for obtaining the financial support from the OAS Fellowship Department.

That the document proposed by the CCR does not modify the internal procedures of the OAS Fellowship Department and that the participants in the meeting recommended their adoption and application.

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the proposed procedure, promoting its adoption by the OAS Fellowship Department through the Executive Secretary and the Coordinator of CITEL with the Regional Centers, including any suitable modifications.
2. To entrust the Coordinator of CITEL to prepare, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of CITEL, the final version of the document and its distribution to all involved agencies and Regional Centers recognized by CITEL for its implementation in obtaining fellowships.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

COM/CITEL REC. I (IV-96)

SUPPORT TO CITEL THROUGH THE PERMANENT MISSIONS

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL),

HAVING SEEN:

The need to divulge the program of activities, plans, as well as the initiatives and undertakings of CITEL,

CONSIDERING:

That it is fundamental that the administrations, on an individual basis, divulge the activity programs of CITEL to the Permanent Representatives of the member States to the Organization of American States.

RECOMMENDS:

The member States of CITEL that, in the process of disseminating the activities carried out by CITEL, take into account the guidelines included in the Annex attached to this draft recommendation.

ENTRUSTS:

The Executive Secretary of CITEL to distribute a draft note, together with this recommendation, to all member States.

ANNEX

In order to maintain the leadership of CITEL in the region, it is necessary to disseminate its programs of activities, plans and needs, as well as it is essential to count on the support to the efforts of CITEL by the Permanent Representatives of member States before the Organization of American States.

Consequently, the following topics should be taken into consideration in the draft note to be sent to the representatives of CITEL in the member States and to the corresponding Ministries of Foreign Affairs, thus allowing for a better understanding and dissemination of our activities.

- To underline the importance of telecommunication development in the region as a thrusting force of political, economic, social and cultural development.
- To request the strengthening of the interrelation existing between the Permanent Representatives before the OAS and the delegations that usually participate in CITEL activities.
- To request, through the permanent representatives before the OAS, a greater support to CITEL efforts and needs, taking into account that the activities of this Commission allow for the harmonious development of telecommunications in the region, which will facilitate the inter-operation of systems. Actual and specific cases in each country should be indicated.
- To stress that the strengthening process of the Commission must continue, for which it should be noted that most of its objectives involve greater responsibilities and needs.
- To underline the transformations detected in the sector as a result of technological evolution, which makes it essential to maintain and strengthen the dynamism of CITEL as a Forum for the coordination of IV. common positions. To reiterate the importance that member states assign to the working programs designed for such purpose.
- To state that the budget allocated to CITEL is inadequate for a thorough fulfillment of the working plan designed by the Consultative Committees, as well as for extending the possibilities on telecommunication training through the granting of fellowships.
- To list some of the programs underway:
 - Standard coordinated documents on: ISDN, PCS, Signaling System N°. 7, Intelligent network, etc.
 - Organization of numbering plans.
 - Information and matching of the new available technologies by subject- matter experts;
 - Harmonization of the spectrum harmonization for new and existing services;
 - Coordination of administrative legal procedures in the Americas;
 - Analysis of the regulatory situation in the region (Blue Book) that shows the existing possibilities, which turns it into a reference book for the countries;
 - Identification and promotion of training courses of interest for the member countries;
 - Definition of guidelines for value-added services;
 - Definition of guidelines for the certification of equipments;
 - Analysis of LMDS for the harmonious introduction of this service into the region;

- Identification of the frequency bands and analysis of the various available technologies for the low earth orbit satellite services;
- Coordination with ITU for preparing and maintaining a record of frequency band allocation in the region; and
- Harmonization of the use of wireless systems.

COM/CITEL REC. 2 (IV-96)

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION POLICY FORUM

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL),

HAVING SEEN:

The report resulting from the World Telecommunication Policy Forum (WTPF) on the Policy and Regulation issues raised by the introduction of Global Mobile Personal Communication by Satellite (GMPCS) held on 21-23 October, 1996, in Geneva

RECOGNIZING:

The importance to the region of the impact of the introduction of GMPCS;

The need for CITEL Members to identify common positions and regional interests,

The benefits that could be derived from GMPCS.

RECOMMENDS:

That the member States and Associate Members of CITEL actively participate in the work carried out within the scope of the ITU and any follow-on activities from the WTPF and to use their best efforts to identify common positions in the region, specially:

- a) To consider participation in a group of experts that will be established by the BDT Director in conjunction with the Directors of the other Bureaus of the ITU to prepare a check list of factors which developing countries may take into account in the process of introducing GMPCS services, and,
- b) to consider participation in an informal group of Administrations, GMPCS operators, service providers, and manufacturers that will be convened by the ITU Secretary General to develop a memorandum of understanding to facilitate the free circulation

of GMPCS user terminals.

V. DECISIONS

COM/CITEL DEC.7 /96 (IV-96)

INFORMATION ON REGULATORY STRUCTURES

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL) decided to entrust the Executive Secretary to consider the possibility of including in an Internet page information related to regulatory structures of the Citel member countries.

COM/CITEL DEC.8 /96 (IV-96)

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PROMOTION OF LIBERALIZATION TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICIES

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL) decided that the Steering Committee should undertake the follow-up of the work accomplished by the Permanent Consultative Committees in connection with the activities performed in application of the Plan of Action for the Americas regarding the liberalization of telecommunication policies in the region.

COM/CITEL DEC. 9/96 (IV-96)

FOLLOW-UP OF THE MEETING OF SENIOR TELECOMMUNICATION OFFICIALS

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL) decided to entrust the Executive Secretary of CITEL with submitting the Draft Resolution on the Follow-up of the Meeting of Senior Telecommunication Officials to the OAS General Assembly through the corresponding channels (Annex).

ANNEX

FOLLOW-UP OF THE MEETING OF SENIOR TELECOMMUNICATION OFFICIALS

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

The Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action for the Americas prepared by CITEL in compliance with the mandate of the Summit of the Americas and adopted during the Meeting of Senior Telecommunication Officials that was held in Washington, DC, USA, on 25-26 September 1996,

CONSIDERING:

That, in December 1994 Heads of State of 34 countries in the Americas met at Miami at the "Summit of the Americas" and adopted a Plan of Action whereunder their governments:

- Via the OAS Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL), and in coordination with the sub-regional telecommunications organizations, undertook to develop and carry out a work program to:
 - Evaluate regulatory, technical and legal means to promote liberalization, common standards, interoperability of networks and compatible use of the radio spectrum.
 - Examine ways to promote greater consistency of the certification processes for telecommunications equipment among member countries.
 - Develop regional guidelines for the provision of international value-added network services.
 - Support a meeting by 1996, coordinated by CITEL of Senior Telecommunications Officials to conduct further discussions of the above actions.

That the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegations of the OAS Member States, Meeting on the occasion of the XXV Regular Session of the General Assembly, adopted its Declaration of Montrouis, "A NEW VISION OF THE OAS", and in relation to CITEL declared as follows:

27. *"Their commitment to promoting investment in information, communication, and telecommunication infrastructure, requesting the Secretary General to promote access for our countries' institutions to information networks, and to support and propose policies for strengthening the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) so that it may fulfill the mission entrusted to it in the Plan of Action of the Summit of the Americas."*

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action for the Americas;

2. To recommend to the Administrative and Budget Committee of the Permanent Council to identify, within the existing assignments the resources needed for follow-up of the activities recommended by the ministers. as an assistance for the fulfillment of its objectives and commitments.

3. To request CITELE that it continues to include, in its report to the General Assembly, a summary of the follow up of the Summit of the Americas and on the development of activities in response to the decisions adopted by the Meeting of Senior Telecommunication Officials.

COM/CITEL DEC. 10 (IV-96)

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITELE decided to request the Executive Secretary of CITELE to submit the Draft Resolution on the Second Regular Meeting of the CITELE Assembly to the General Assembly of the Organization of American States through the corresponding channels (Annex).

APPENDIX

DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE SECOND REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITELE ASSEMBLY

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING:

That the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITELE) is the OAS body responsible for telecommunications in the Americas;

That CITELE is carrying out very important work in following up the initiatives in the area of telecommunications emanating from the Summit of the Americas, and is undertaking programs and projects of great value for development in the countries of the Hemisphere, which will all be studied and evaluated at the Second Regular Meeting of the CITELE Assembly; and

That at the First Regular Meeting of the CITELE Assembly held in Montevideo, Uruguay, in February 1994, the Republic of Ecuador was selected as the venue for the Second Regular Meeting of the CITELE Assembly and that, by note of October 28, 1996, to the Secretary General, the Government of Ecuador confirmed its willingness to host that meeting,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the Secretary General to use his good offices with the member state governments to ensure the participation of the highest-level government telecommunications authorities in the Second Regular Meeting of the CITELE Assembly, which is to be held in Quito, Ecuador, from March 2 to 6, 1998.

2. To ask the General Secretariat to distribute to the member states a copy of this resolution along with the convocation notice for the above-mentioned CITEL Assembly, signalling this General Assembly's support and interest in having government representatives of the highest possible level at the Second Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly in order to ensure its success.

COM/CITEL DEC. 11 (IV-96)

AUTHORIZATION FOR SIGNING COOPERATION AGREEMENTS

The Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL) decided to empower the Chairman of COM/CITEL for signing, upon previous consultation by mail with the COM/CITEL Members, general cooperation agreements similar to the agreement to be executed with AHCJET under the authorization granted by this Meeting.