



Organización de los Estados Americanos
Organização dos Estados Americanos
Organization des États Américains
Organization of American States

The Chairman of the Second Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission, CITEL, has special pleasure to attach the "Declaration of Quito" adopted by unanimity by the delegations present during that meeting that took place in Quito, Ecuador, March 2-6, 1998.

The Declaration of Quito expresses nearly all of the commitments our nations have made to make telecommunications the motor that drives development in our countries and to continue along the path of increasing the availability of these services at all social levels, especially for the under-privileged.

In addition we attach the Final Report of the meeting.

Mario Burbano de Lara
Chairman of the Assembly



CITEL
Organization of American States
1889 F St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20006
Tel: 202 458 3004
Fax: 202 458 6854

**THE INTER-AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATION COMMISSION
CITEL**

DECLARATION OF QUITO

At the conclusion of the Second Regular Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL) in Quito, March 2-6, 1998, representatives of the telecommunications administrations of CITEL's Member States

Declare:

That the strategic importance of telecommunications compels governments to cooperate in strengthening this sector in order to achieve their social and economic goals.

That our countries must prepare themselves to face the challenges of the twenty-first century. In this regard, and given the sheer pace of the changes ahead, the development of telecommunications infrastructure is a top priority. It must combine the introduction of state-of-the-art technologies that ensure the efficient handling of information, and the adoption of policies, strategies and programs that foster development of the telecommunications sector in ways that raise the standard of living and reinforce the skills and know-how of all our citizens.

That we must combine our efforts in order to ensure the development of the telecommunications infrastructure and services essential to developing the economic, social, cultural and political well-being of our Member States.

That the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission of the Organization of American States (CITEL) is the senior technical telecommunications body in the Americas for recommending actions to further the development of the region's telecommunications sector.

That, acting as a catalyst with respect to the consideration of the views of Member States on issues of mutual interest, CITEL has made possible the presentation in the International Telecommunication Union and other international telecommunications fora of common Inter-American proposals benefiting all countries of the Americas and Associate Members.

And thereby resolve:

- To consolidate CITEL's capabilities, so that it can fully implement the instructions issued by heads of state in the Summit of the Americas process, in view of the fact that telecommunications is a fundamental element in the sustainable development of the region.
- To encourage the development of basic telecommunications infrastructure as well as new telecommunications services and technologies within a legal framework that is predictable, consistent, nondiscriminatory and transparent.
- To strengthen coordination with telecommunications bodies of the Americas in developing programs regarding infrastructure, training and research.
- To promote the development of projects designed to make available the basic telephone services and the benefits of new technologies required to meet the communications needs of more remote areas and of lower-income groups, particularly with regard to telemedicine, distance learning and access to the Internet.

- If appropriate, to establish mechanisms to reinforce and facilitate the participation of CITELE, as a specialized technical telecommunications organization, in the region's various processes of integration.

In witness thereof, the Delegates of the Member States taking part in the Second Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission adopt this declaration in the City of San Francisco de Quito, March 6, 1998.

Mario Burbano de Lara
CHAIR OF THE ASSEMBLY

Hugo Jorge Zothner
Argentina

José Alfredo Arce Jofré
Bolivia

Renato Guerreiro
Brasil

Bruce Gracie
Canadá

Alejandra Moya
Chile

Félix Castro
Colombia

Luz Argentina Calderón de Aguilar
Costa Rica

Angel López
Ecuador

Eric Casamiquela
El Salvador

John P. Deasy, Jr.
Estados Unidos

José Raúl Solares
Guatemala

Mario Martínez
Honduras

Winston Hay
Jamaica

Salma Jalife
México

René Gutiérrez Cortés
Nicaragua

José Cabrera
Panamá

Juan Manuel Cano Fleitas
Paraguay

Julio García
Perú

Miguel Rodríguez
República Dominicana

Rupert Griffith
Trinidad y Tobago

Raúl Iturria
Uruguay

Alfredo Chaparro Osio
Venezuela



Organización de los Estados Americanos
Organização dos Estados Americanos
Organization des États Américains
Organization of American States

**SECOND REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITEL**
March 2 to 6, 1998
Quito, Ecuador

**OEA/Ser.L/XVII.2.2
CITEL/doc.214/98 rev.1
23 March 1998
Original: Spanish**

FINAL REPORT



CITEL
Organization of American States
1889 F St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20006
Tel: 202 458 3004
Fax: 202 458 6854

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**REPORT OF THE SECOND REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ASSEMBLY OF CITEL**

The Second Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission, CITEL, was held in Quito, Ecuador, March 2-6 1998.

I. AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Agenda.
2. Organization of the Assembly.
 - 2.1 Order of precedence.
 - 2.2 Establishment of Working Committees.
 - 2.3 Integration of the Credentials, Style and Drafting Committees.
3. Election of the Chairperson and two Vice Chairpersons of the Assembly.
4. Report by the Chairman of COM/CITEL.
5. Reports by the Chairs of Permanent Consultative Committee I: Public Telecommunications Services; II: Broadcasting, and III: Radiocommunications.
6. Proposals for the amendment of the CITEL Statute and Regulations.
7. Establishment of Permanent Consultative Committees: denomination, purpose and specific mandate.
8. Election of the venue for the Third Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly (and election of the Vice Chairman of COM/CITEL).
9. Election of COM/CITEL Member Countries (except the Chairman and Vice Chairman).
10. Election of countries to chair the Permanent Consultative Committees as established by the Assembly.
11. Preparation of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (PP/98), Minneapolis, October 12 through November 6, 1998.
12. Preparation of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-98), Malta, March 22 through April 1st, 1998.
13. Response of CITEL to the Summit of the Americas.
14. Impact of the negotiations of the World Trade Organization (WTO) on Telecommunications in the Americas, and the participation of CITEL in the FTAA process.
15. Establishment of a CITEL Operations Plan for 1998-2002 and corresponding Program-Budget.
16. Electronic document handling.
17. Convening of the VI Meeting of COM/CITEL.
18. Other matters.
19. Adoption of the Final Report.

II. OFFICERS OF THE MEETING

Chairman: Mr. Mario Burbano de Lara (Ecuador)
First Vice Chairman: Mr. Félix Castro Rojas (Colombia)
Second Vice Chairman: Mr. Rupert Griffith (Trinidad and Tobago)

Credentials Committee

Chairman: Mr. Juan Manuel Cano (Paraguay)
Members: Mr. Antonio Cristiani (Argentina)
Mr. Robert Stephens (United States of America)

Drafting Committee

Chairwoman: Mrs. Cecilia Jaramillo (Ecuador)
Members: Mr. Eduardo Gabelloni (Argentina)
Mr. Jaime Blanco (Brazil)
Mr. Ken Yokoyama (Canada)
Mr. Walter Ireland (United States)
Mrs. Laila Macc Adan (Venezuela)

Style Committee

Chairman: Mr. Jonathan Streeter (United States)
Members: Mr. José Antonio Riveros (Colombia)

Committee 3: Amendment of the Statute and Regulations

Chairman: Mr. Ferdinando Maglione (Brazil)

Committee 4: Planning

Chairman: Mr. Bruce Gracie (Canada)

Assembly Working Group to Prepare the Declaration of Quito

Chairman: Mr. Saúl Vázquez (El Salvador)
Members: Mrs. Paula Córdoba (Argentina)

Mr. Mario Marsiaj (Brazil)
Mr. Godfrey Williams (Canada)
Mr. Félix Castro Rojas (Colombia)
Mr. Ricardo Espinosa (Ecuador)
Mr. John P. Deasy (United States)
Mr. Carlos Bello (Mexico)
Mr. Diego Souto (Uruguay)

III. RESOLUTIONS

CITEL/RES. 14 (II-98)¹

USE OF E-MAIL FOR THE TRANSMISSION OF OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO MEMBERS, PERMANENT MISSIONS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

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

CONSIDERING:

That the amount of work and cost involved in preparing and sending various communications concerning the activities of CITEL has increased dramatically with the growth of the number of Associate members; and

The advantages (convenience and speed) of electronic mail for distribution of communications to large numbers of organizations;

RESOLVES:

That, being the telecommunications arm of the OAS, CITEL should be an example for all in the utilization of modern means of telecommunications to distribute the communications of CITEL.

INSTRUCTS:

That the Executive Secretary utilize the electronic mail capability whenever possible, in place of facsimile and regular mail, to distribute the communications of CITEL.

¹ CITEL/doc. 129/98 (Approved during the Second Plenary Session)

CITEL/RES. 15 (II-98)²

COORDINATION MEETING ON REGULATORY TRAINING

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

CONSIDERING:

The rapid changes occurring in the telecommunication regulatory environments in member countries;

That the changes that are taking place are creating the need for regulatory frameworks that are new to the majority of member countries;

That to function in an effective manner, government officials need experience and training on regulatory issues and that access to such training is limited;

That this need for expanding access to training in the regulatory area is recognized by governments, companies, regional telecommunication organizations and institutes of higher learning;

REALIZING:

That several organizations, including the ITU, C/LAA, the North South Center of the Miami University and the OAS, are seeking effective means to stimulate the provision of training and will meet on March 3rd in Miami, Florida to discuss potential collaboration in this area;

That by working with CITEL, the combined efforts of these groups would be most effective in strengthening existing training programs offered by individual governments and organizations.

RESOLVES:

1. To organize a coordination meeting of governments, companies and organizations with an interest in developing a mechanism to provide regulatory officials with training and expertise in a multilateral forum which draws on the experiences of both business and government representatives.
2. That this organizational meeting takes place in conjunction with the annual meeting of the CITEL Steering Committee in Washington in August 1998;
3. That invitations to the meeting be extended to all CITEL members, associate members and to organizations interested in participating.
4. That all interested parties indicate by 15 April 1998 their interest in participating, provide a point of contact for their organization and offer comments on the draft agenda annexed to this Resolution.

² CITEL/doc. 128 rev.1/98 (Approved during the Third Plenary Session)

5. That the designated meeting Coordinators distribute a final draft agenda to all interested parties by 1 May 98 and request at that time additional comments and feedback to be submitted to the Coordinator by 1 July 98.

6. That CITEL and C/LAA are designated as Coordinators for the organization of this meeting, and can be reached through William Moran (tel: + 1 202 4583137, fax: +1 202 4586854, email: WMoran@oas.org) or Jennifer Norberg (tel 202 466 7464, fax 202 822 0075, email norberg@claa.org).

7. That use be made of the electronic document handling capability of the OAS in the preparatory process for the coordination meeting.

INSTRUCTS:

The CITEL Executive Secretary to make the necessary arrangements to hold this coordination meeting at the OAS Headquarters in conjunction with the annual meeting of the CITEL Steering Committee, in accordance with the Agenda contained in the Annex.

Annex

**Draft Agenda
Initial Coordination Meeting on Mechanisms for Regulatory Training**

**OAS Headquarters
1889 F Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. USA
August __, 1998**

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Introductory remarks by the Meeting Coordinator
3. Issues to be addressed
 - a. Proposed Mechanism for Regulatory Training
 - b. Specific Topics on which training is to be provided
 - c. Speakers/Instructors on the topics identified above
 - d. Location and frequency of programs
 - e. Funding of programs
4. Other business
5. Adjournment

CITEL RES.16 (II-98)³

**MODIFICATION OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE CITEL
STEERING COMMITTEE**

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

CONSIDERING:

That the Steering Committee has an important function in the effective operation of CITEL, and that it is necessary to have clear Terms of Reference for this Committee.

HAVING SEEN:

That by Resolution CITEL RES.8 (I-94), it was approved the establishment of the Steering Committee and its composition and terms of reference.

RESOLVES:

To modify the Terms of Reference of the Steering Committee as follows:

"Will be responsible for proposing to COM/CITEL the review of CITEL's program of activities to ensure that the Commission is responding to the needs of its members; assuring the continued effective and efficient use of CITEL resources and, when it deems necessary, to propose additions to the agenda of COM/CITEL".

CITEL RES.17 (II-98)⁴

CENTER OF EXCELLENCE CONCEPT FOR THE AMERICAS REGION

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

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

That the Second World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-98) meeting in Malta will address the important issue of Human Resource Development, and that the CITEL Assembly wishes to

³ CITEL/doc. 112/98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

⁴ CITEL/doc. 139 rev.1/98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

express its strong interest in developing the Center of Excellence concept, and particularly, how the concept will evolve in the Americas Region.

CONSIDERING:

The need to increase the number of training opportunities made available to the Member States in priority areas where access to such training is limited.

That priority training needs have been identified in the region, such as senior level training of policy makers, regulators and senior corporate managers, among others.

REALIZING:

The importance of further developing the Center of Excellence concept in the Americas Region as a way to expand access to training and substantially contributing to the fulfillment of human resource development priority needs, with due regard to the CITEL Plan of Action.

That in the case of the Americas Region the Center of Excellence concept may involve the generation of a cooperative effort among numerous participating entities.

That the Center of Excellence concept seeks the most effective means to stimulate the provision of training in the identified priority areas.

NOTING:

That the ITU, through the Telecom Surplus Development Program, has allocated 2 million Swiss Francs as seed money for the establishment of a Center of Excellence in the Americas Region.

That the Center of Excellence concept has been strongly supported by representatives of the Americas Region on the ITU Council, as well as during the Regional Preparatory Meeting to the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-98) held in Margarita Island, 1 September, 1997, and during the last COM/CITEL meeting held in Uruguay in 1-5 December, 1997.

HAVING EXAMINED:

The documents submitted by the ITU/BDT to this Assembly as well as to the last COM/CITEL meeting held in Uruguay and the relevant comments made by interested delegates to the ITU in order to improve the preliminary project proposal.

RESOLVES:

1. To express the highest interest of CITEL Member States in further developing the Center of Excellence concept for the benefit of the Americas Region and to secure the resources allocated by the ITU for that project.
2. To coordinate efforts in conjunction with the ITU/BDT, the regional and international telecommunication organizations in the Americas Region, and other interested bodies in the region, fostering the continued development of the Center of Excellence concept for the Americas Region.

3. To support ITU/BDT efforts towards perfecting the Center of Excellence concept for the Americas Region and to request all Member States to specially support this matter at the WTDC-98.

INSTRUCTS THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT:

1. To distribute this resolution to CITEL Member States, as well as to the regional and international telecommunication organizations in the Americas Region.
2. To present this resolution as a common CITEL proposal to the Second World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-98).

CITEL RES.18 (II-98) ⁵

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PERMANENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES

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

CONSIDERING:

That the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission, CITEL, is the specialized entity of the Organization of American States dealing with telecommunications.

That the Permanent Consultative Committees constitute the basis for the technical work for the fulfillment of the objectives and functions of CITEL.

That the work performed by the three Permanent Consultative Committees: Public Telecommunications services (PCC.I), Broadcasting (PCC.II), and Radiocommunications (PCC.III), has been relevant and has contributed to the fulfillment of the mission of CITEL; and

That the Member States of CITEL must work together to give a strong impetus to matters concerning the development of telecommunications, with a view to obtaining the best possible support from the International Telecommunication Union and other international agencies so as to achieve the harmonious and sustained development of telecommunications in all Member States,

RESOLVES:

1. To maintain the three Permanent Consultative Committees established by the First Regular Meeting of the Assembly of CITEL:
 - PCC.I : Public Telecommunications services;
 - PCC.II : Broadcasting; and
 - PCC.III : Radiocommunications.

⁵ CITEL/doc. 121 cor 4/98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

2. To establish the following objectives and mandates for the Permanent Consultative Committees:

• **PCC.I : Public Telecommunications services**

Objective

To act as a technical advisory body within the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission with respect to standards coordination, planning, financing, construction, operations, maintenance, technical assistance, equipment certification processes, rate principles, and other matters related to the use, implementation, and operation of public telecommunications services in the Member States.

Mandates

In accordance with the ITU Regulations and taking into account the ITU recommendations:

- a) To promote and watch over the integration and strengthening of networks and public telecommunications services operating in the Member States, taking into account the need for their modernization and for the promotion of basic services, as well as for increasing the public availability of specialized services.
- b) To promote the development and implementation of new services that will make it possible to meet the telecommunications needs of all the inhabitants of the Americas, especially those in the most poorly served areas and sectors, on the basis of the national targets of each country and taking into account the programs established by subregional, regional, and worldwide organizations, in particular the ITU World Telecommunication Development Conferences.
- c) To provide incentives for research, training, technology transfer, and the experiences of all Member States and to see to it that these activities are considered necessary in all development and implementation processes.
- d) To undertake a coordinated effort with the different CITEL Groups in those areas that, by their very nature, lend themselves to joint action.
- e) To undertake the coordination of regional preparations for major ITU Conferences and meetings, including the preparation of common regional proposals (IAP) and positions when deemed appropriate.

PCC.II : Broadcasting

Objective

To act as a technical advisory body within the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission with respect to standards coordination, planning, operation, and technical assistance for the broadcasting service in its different forms.

Mandates

- a) To stimulate and foster the development of the broadcasting service in the region.
- b) To promote and stimulate the use of modern technologies and to evaluate their impact.
- c) To promote the efficient use of the radio spectrum allocated to the broadcasting service, taking into account, in particular, the need to prevent and avoid, to the extent possible, harmful interferences to the radiocommunication services.
- d) To undertake a coordinated effort with the different CITEL groups in those areas that, by their very nature, lend themselves to joint action.
- e) To undertake the coordination of regional preparations for major ITU Conferences and meetings, including the preparation of common regional proposals (IAP) and positions when deemed appropriate.

PCC.III : Radiocommunications

Objective

To act as a technical advisory body within the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission with respect to standards coordination, planning, and full and efficient use of the radio spectrum and satellite orbits, as well as matters pertaining to the operation of radiocommunication services in the Member States.

Mandates

In accordance with the ITU Radio Regulations and taking into account ITU recommendations:

- a) To promote harmonization in the utilization of the radiofrequency spectrum and the operation of radiocommunication services in the Member States, bearing especially in mind the need to prevent and avoid, to the extent possible, harmful interferences in radiocommunication services.
- b) To foster the development and implementation of modern technologies and new services in the field of radiocommunication that make it possible to meet the needs of Member States, in conjunction with a more efficient utilization of the spectrum.
- c) To undertake a coordinated effort with the different CITEL Groups in those areas that by their very nature lend themselves to joint action.
- d) To undertake the coordination of regional preparations for major ITU Conferences and meetings, including the preparation of common regional proposals (IAP) and positions when deemed appropriate.

CITEL RES.19 (II-98) ⁶

**STRENGTHENING OF CITEL PREPARATIONS FOR THE
1998 PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE OF THE ITU (PP-98)**

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

HAVING SEEN:

Resolutions COM/CITEL RES.29 (III.95) and COM/CITEL RES.37 (IV-96), establishing the Provisional Working Group for Preparing the 1998 Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-98), its mandate and priority topics for consideration, as well as designating the Chairman and Coordinators for specific issues.

The Report presented by the Temporary Working Group for Preparing the 1998 Plenipotentiary Conference of the ITU.

CONSIDERING:

That the 1998 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, from October 12 through November 6, thus leaving little time available for CITEL Member Countries to prepare common proposals.

That the Plenipotentiary Conference is the supreme body of the International Telecommunication Union and its resolutions consequently constitute the basic policy for the development and progress of the Union.

That a calendar of meetings of the Provisional Working Group has been prepared in order to deal with priority issues,

RESOLVES:

1. To invite CITEL Member Countries and Subregional Telecommunication Organizations to present their valuable contributions during CITEL preparations, conveying them to the Chairman of the Working Group, the Coordinators for specific topics or the Executive Secretary of CITEL.
2. To urge CITEL Member Countries and Subregional Telecommunication Organizations to participate in the meetings scheduled in the attached agenda, and
3. To entrust the Executive Secretary to circulate a copy of this Resolution to all Member Countries and Subregional Telecommunication Organizations, including the information presented by the Provisional Working Group.

⁶ CITEL/doc. 151 rev.1/98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

(SEE ANNEXES I, II, III and IV)

ANNEX I

PREPARATION OF COMMON CITEL PROPOSALS FOR THE 1998 ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE (PP-98)

CHAPTER 1

REGIONAL PRESENCE OF THE ITU – EXAM AND PERSPECTIVES

CHAPTER 2

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

CHAPTER 3

DEVELOPMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

CHAPTER 4

RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS

CHAPTER 5

STANDARDIZATION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

CHAPTER 6

STRATEGIC PLAN OF THE ITU FOR THE PERIOD 1999-2003

CHAPTER 7

REVISION OF RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF FORMER PLENIPOTENTIARY
CONFERENCES (SUGGESTIONS FOR MODIFICATION, SUBSTITUTION AND SUPPRESSION)

CHAPTER 8

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND CONVENTION OF THE ITU.

ANNEX II

INFORMATION ON THE CHAIRMAN AND COORDINATORS OF THE WORKING GROUP

Chairman:

Mr. José Vivanco (Ecuador)
International Management Director
Telefax: (593 -2) 231 591
e-mail: senatel2@senatel.gov.ec

Coordinators:

Chapter 1 and 2

Mr. Bruce Gracie (Canada)
Senior Advisor, International Organizations
Industry Canada
Tel: 1 613 990 4254
Fax: 1 613 998 4530
e-mail: gracie.bruce@ic.gc.ca

Chapter 3

Mr. José Brett (Venezuela)
Engineer
Tel: 9090357
Fax: 993 5389
e-mail: Asesores@infoline.wtfe.com

Chapter 4 and 5

Ms. Villavicencio (Venezuela)
Engineer
Tel: 9090357
Fax: 993 5389
e-mail: Asesores@infoline.wtfe.com

Chapter 6

Mr. Alejandro Gutiérrez Quiroz
Adviser
Comisión Federal de Telecomunicaciones
Tel: 525 261 4222
Fax: 525 261 4055

Chapter 7

Mr. Ferdinando Maglione (Brasil)
International Adviser
ANATEL
Tel: 55 61 312 2236
Fax: 5561 223 4992
e-mail: ferdinando@anatel.gov.br

Chapter 8

Sr. Jack Deasy (United States)
Director, International Telecommunications and Information Policy
Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs
Department of State
Tel: 1 202 647 4736
Fax: 1 202 647 7407
e-mail: deasyjp@ms6820wpoa.us-state.gov

ANNEX III

PATTERN TO FOLLOW WHEN PRESENTING A COMMON PROPOSAL

Presented by the following Administration(s):

Title/Subject:

Introduction/Background:

Proposal:

Reasons:

ANNEX IV

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

From the Second Assembly of CITEL, the following calendar of activities is proposed:

a) Fourth Meeting of the Working Group during the X Meeting of PCC.III (probably in June 1998), for the purpose of:

- To prepare draft common proposals for the PP-98, especially on the Radiocommunications Sector.
- To analyze the results of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Malta, March 22 – April 1, 1998).

b) Fifth Meeting of the Working Group during one of the regular meetings of CITEL (PCCs), so as to:

- Analyze the Strategic Plan of the Unión 1999-2003, proposed by the Council to the PP-98.
- Analyze the proposals for modification of the Constitution and Convention that will be presented by the Group ITU-2000.
- Prepare projects of common proposals of the Member countries of CITEL.

CITEL RES.20 (II-98)⁷

**COMPLETION OF THE WORK
OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON
TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT**

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

HAVING SEEN:

Resolution COM/CITEL RES.41 (IV-96), which presents the findings of the ad hoc Working Group on Telecommunication Development;

CONSIDERING:

That this Working Group was established by Resolution CITEL RES. 7 (I-94), which describes its mandate;

That its work included drafting a document in 1996 encompassing the following:

- a. An Evaluation of the Plan of Action of Buenos Aires and of the Issues raised in the two ITU/D Study Committees, in order to identify priorities for CITEL member countries.
- b. Gathering information on relevant activities carried out within the Organization of American States (OAS) that have a bearing on telecommunication development.

That the Working Group therefore completed the tasks entrusted to it;

RESOLVES:

To congratulate Chile on its work as Chair of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Telecommunication Development, and to conclude that Group's assignment.

⁷ CITEL/doc. 160/98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

CITEL RES.21 (II-98)⁸

FEES OF ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

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

CONSIDERING:

That, pursuant to Article 24 of the CITEL Statute, Associate Members may participate with a voice, but not a vote in all activities of the Permanent Consultative Committee (PCC) meetings,

That, pursuant to Article 29 of the CITEL Statute, fees from Associate Members are to be determined by the CITEL Regulations;

That, pursuant to Article 84 of the CITEL, Regulations, the Assembly shall determine the monetary value of the unit;

That, pursuant to Article 84 of the CITEL Regulations, the smallest contributory level of Associate Member fees is one "unit", with the monetary value of the unit stated in U.S. dollars, being set by the CITEL Assembly; and

BEARING IN MIND:

That the value of the unit as a minimum level would correspond to all costs related to attendance by representatives of Associate Members in each PCC in which it holds a membership, per year; and

That, since membership is voluntary and the level of subscription may voluntarily exceed one "unit", the value of the unit should be set low enough to be affordable to private sector organizations throughout the Americas, yet high enough to cover costs associated with Associate Members' participation.

RESOLVES:

1. That the value of the "unit" for Associate Member fees be set at two thousand U.S. dollars (US\$2,000.00), per year, beginning in January 1, 1999;
2. That the value of the "unit" for Associate Member fees may be reviewed and adjusted, if necessary, at subsequent regular meetings of the CITEL Assembly;
3. That, once the one unit minimum level fee has been met, the Associate Member may also pay in half-unit levels; and
4. That the Associate Members shall have a period of seven months, as of the closing date of the Second Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly, in which to inform the Executive Secretary of CITEL of their fee level, which shall be applied as of the calendar year immediately following.

⁸ CITEL/doc. 191/98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

URGES:

The Associate Members that are in a position to do so, to subscribe to multiple units as their Associate Member fee in each PCC.

INSTRUCTS:

The Executive Secretary to distribute this Resolution among the Associate Members no later than 30 days of the Second Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly.

CITEL RES.22 (II-98)⁹

**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;

⁹ CITEL/doc. 193 rev. 1/98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

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;
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.

CITEL RES.23 (II-98)¹⁰

APPROVAL OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN OF CITEL 1998-2002

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

CONSIDERING:

That CITEL has consolidated its organization and properly geared the work mandated to it by the General Assembly of the OAS;

That great development possibilities have been identified as a result from the technological advances and ongoing restructuring of the telecommunications sector of the Member States;

That a general framework of Strategic Policies and Priorities must be prepared that better gears the work of each and every one of the components that make up CITEL;

That COM/CITEL, through Resolution 50 (V-97) "CITEL Response to the Second Summit of the Americas", decided to send to the members of CITEL a draft document with recommendations on the telecommunications part of the Plan of Action, containing the general policies that would be adopted by the governments of the region to support the development and continual updating of national plans on the information infrastructure, the trade in services, access to universal service, and the interconnection of networks, among others;

That the Second Summit of the Americas will establish a Plan of Action for Telecommunications.

RESOLVES:

1. To adopt the Strategic Plan of CITEL 1998-2002 enclosed in the annex.
2. To ask COM/CITEL and, when necessary, the Steering Committee to include in the Strategic Plan the necessary actions for CITEL in response to the Summit of the Americas.

¹⁰ CITEL/doc. 197/98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

3. To ask COM/CITEL to evaluate and update annually the Strategic Plan, including projects that will put into practice objectives, policies and strategies.
4. For purposes of achieving the objectives outlined in Resolves 2 and 3, to establish a working group of COM/CITEL under the chairmanship of Ecuador, and to request the Member States of CITEL to provide comments and suggestions on elements to be included in future amended texts of the Strategic Plan, as well as the annual operational plans of CITEL.

Inter-American Telecommunication Commission

**STRATEGIC
PLAN
of
CITEL
1998-99**

Revised February 1998

Published as CITEL/doc.115/98 rev.1

February 1998

This plan was prepared at the initiative of the Executive Secretariat and with the concurrence of the Steering Committee of CITEL. It has been revised at the direction of 1996 SESSION OF COM/CITEL.

Roberto Blois Montes de Souza
Executive Secretary of CITEL
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
1889 F Street, N.W. Room 250
Washington, D.C. 20006

Tel. - (202) 458-3004
Fax. - (202) 458-6854
E-mail - citel@oas.org
Webpage - <http://citel.oas.org/citel.htm>

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Strategic Plan concentrates on elements of the CITEL mandate that are essential if CITEL is to be an effective body within the region for promoting the economic and social development of member countries and which are not being addressed at the present time. The Strategic Plan contains a brief summary of the existing telecommunications environment and the impact that the environment, the Summit of the Americas and the Meeting of Senior Telecommunications Officials of the Americas are having on the program of activities of CITEL.

Also included in this plan are recommendations for:

- Strengthening CITEL, its Steering Committee;
- Follow-up activities for the Summit of the Americas;
- Follow-up activities for the Action Plan of the Meeting of Senior Telecommunication Officials;
- An increased role for Associate Members;
- An increased role for the Steering Committee.

Also, included is the budget of CITEL as was approved in 1998.

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Strategic Plan of CITEL 1998-1999

SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION

This strategic plan for the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission covering the 1998-99 period has been prepared as an initiative of the Executive Secretary with the concurrence of the Steering Committee of CITEL. The basic purpose of this report is to recommend strategies and priorities which will enable CITEL to achieve its purposes as set out in the Statute in light of changes in the telecommunications environment and the directives given to CITEL by the 1994 Summit of the Americas and the 1996 Meeting of Senior Telecommunication Officials. It is also intended to provide the strategic framework for CITEL's overall budget for 1998-99, which has been proposed by the CITEL Assembly. The OAS General Assembly has established the 1998 CITEL budget at its 1997 Meeting in Lima.

The purposes of CITEL can be fulfilled through a plan of action that addresses the following areas:

- cooperation between CITEL Member Administrations and harmonization of their actions;
- participation by non-Administration entities and organizations including Associate Members in the activities of CITEL's Permanent Consultative Committees;
- coordination with world and other regional intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the Americas concerned with telecommunications;
- expand the information exchange with ITU Members and actively participate in the activities of the ITU at the Global level.

The Changing Telecommunications Environment

A number of important trends in the international telecommunication environment will continue to affect CITEL as it seeks to carry out its mission in the 1998-99 period.

Restructuring of the Telecommunications Sector: Telecommunications is being restructured and liberalized at both national and international levels. This is being done by separating telecommunication operations from the regulatory functions of government administrations and by introducing competition in the provision of telecommunication goods and services. As a result of these changes, the role of many CITEL Member Administrations is changing. At the same time, the role of many operators and manufacturers is also changing, as monopoly gives way to competition in liberalized segments of the telecommunications market. The telecommunications sector will continue to liberalize as a result of trade as elements such as the WTO Agreement on Trade on Basic telecommunications and the development of the Free Trade in the Americas initiative. These trends are changing the membership profile of CITEL and creating new needs and expectations on the part of Members and Associate Members alike. The focus of CITEL, its structure and work programs must therefore continue to be reexamined and realigned to reflect the changed nature of the communities it is meant to serve.

Technological Convergence: The rapid development and convergence of telecommunications, computer, broadcasting and information technology are redefining the boundaries of the telecommunications industry, giving rise to new product and service opportunities, and posing new questions for government policy-makers and regulators. The development of advanced terrestrial and satellite communication

systems and services and the parallel development of multimedia communication services will raise issues concerning the priorities of the activities the Permanent Consultative Committees undertake, the manner in which the benefits of these services are broadly extended to developing countries, the regulatory treatment of convergent industries at the domestic and international level, and the membership profile of CITEL. CITEL must continue to be responsive to the phenomenon of technological convergence and carry out technical work programs that represent the interests of the rapidly expanding telecommunication sector throughout the Americas in preparation for the twenty-first century.

Globalization: Global telecommunication operators are beginning to emerge as a result of alliances, mergers and acquisitions between national operators; and through the development of entirely new systems, most notably global mobile personal communication systems via satellite intended to provide global coverage through portable, hand-held terminals. The emergence of these global operators will fundamentally change the nature of international telecommunications. In the past, international services were jointly provided by national operators. In the future, they will increasingly be provided through national arrangements with global system operators. CITEL will of course continue to provide a forum for discussion and coordination on developing technical, operational, and service standards for global systems, and for preparing for international conferences which allocate spectrum to these services. However, at present there is no forum in CITEL for harmonizing other elements of policy and regulation that would normally be expected to govern the operation of these systems (e.g. licensing, interconnection, competition policy, tariffs, etc.). The policy and regulatory issues raised by new global telecom systems and services present new challenges for CITEL and its members.

The ITU has initiated this type of discussion at its Policy Forum held in early 1996 and in attempting to obtain a Global MOU covering the implementation of the new mobile satellite systems. CITEL must ensure that it takes an active role in this process as a first step in assisting the countries in addressing these issues now and over the coming years.

The Summit of the Americas

The Summit of the Americas was a critical milestone for the hemisphere with significant positive consequences for all OAS Member States. The 34 Heads of State attending the Summit decided to work in the Americas to:

- strengthen the democratic systems;
- eradicate poverty and discrimination;
- conserve the natural environment;
- guarantee sustainable development; and
- promote prosperity through economic integration and free trade.

Recognition of the Role of Telecommunications in the Development of the Region by the Summit of the Americas: The Summit of the Americas addressed the topic of telecommunications and its role in sustainable development recognizing that *“a country's information infrastructure (telecommunications, information technology, and broadcasting) is an essential component of political, economic, social and cultural development”*. The Summit also recognized that the information infrastructure development needs in the Americas are immense. The governments of the Americas stated their intent to meet the information infrastructure development needs of Member States *“by engaging in multiple actions, where consistent with their respective governing laws, such as: encouraging private sector investment to increase participation in the telecommunications and information infrastructure sectors; promoting competition; implementing flexible regulatory regimes; stimulating diversity of content, including cultural and linguistic diversity; providing access to information networks for service and information providers; and ensuring universal*

service, so that the benefits of the information infrastructure will be available to all members of our societies”.

How these goals are to be achieved is outlined in the Action Plan of the Summit. CITEL, in the Action Plan, has been given the responsibility for implementing the following items:

Via the OAS Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL), and in coordination with the sub-regional telecommunications organizations, develop and carry out a work program to:

- 0 Evaluate regulatory, technical and legal means to promote liberalization, common standards, interoperability of networks and compatible use of the radio spectrum.*
- 0 Examine ways to promote greater consistency of the certification processes for telecommunications equipment among member countries.*
- 0 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.

Meeting of the Senior Telecommunication Officials

The Meeting of Senior Telecommunication Officials, which was held at the direction of the Summit of the Americas, endorsed the decisions of the Summit and adopted its own Declaration and Action Plan. The Declaration and Action Plan also provide an expanded explanation of the activities that need to be undertaken by the telecommunications sector in order that the telecommunications sector be supportive of the decisions taken by the Heads of State in Miami.

A General Strategic Approach

For the last 104 years, CITEL's fundamental mission has been technical. The greater part of the Organization's resources are allocated to this mission, and its successes have been in this area. CITEL is the only regional organization open to all OAS Member States with a thorough technical knowledge of telecommunications, not only because Member countries are represented by telecommunication administrations, but because now the door has been opened to the active participation of the private sector and benefits of their participation has become clear. CITEL's future strategy should build on these developments.

A strategy based on this foundation, must continue to develop and strengthen CITEL's role in standards coordination, in radiocommunication, and in telecommunications development activities bearing in mind the differences between the ITU and CITEL.

The ITU is the global telecommunications body and as such it addresses problems from a global perspective. CITEL on the other hand was established to address regional issues as they impact and are impacted by global issues. This role of CITEL is recognized in the constitution of the ITU article 43) where the rights of members are clearly stated. Article 43 states “*Members reserve the right to convene regional conferences, to make regional arrangements and to form regional organizations for the purpose of settling*

regional telecommunication questions which are susceptible of being treated on a regional basis. Such arrangements shall not be in conflict with either this Constitution or the Convention.”

Now that CITEL is open to membership by the private sector, it is providing the private sector the opportunity to participate in the definition and execution of its program of activities. CITEL is actually providing the telecommunications industry and member countries with a forum where they can take an active role establishing standards in the Americas, harmonizing equipment certification procedures, liberalizing regulatory structures in member countries, promoting competition and privatization and coordinating spectrum allocation and use. Participation in CITEL also provides the private sector with additional access to the markets within the Americas.

As a result of the changes that have taken place in the structure of the world telecommunication sector, public policies, legislative frameworks and regulatory institutions are playing a decisive role in the development of telecommunications at both national and international levels. To maintain its role in telecommunications in the region, CITEL should develop a core technical competence in these areas. CITEL has participated in the preparation and revision of the Blue Book. In addition, the emergence of global telecommunication operators, the expansion of free trade in the Americas, the GATT agreement on a global framework for regulating trade in telecommunication goods and services, and the establishment of the World Trade Organization strongly indicate that reviewing and updating CITEL's role in international telecommunications should be a strategic priority for the 1998-99 period.

Providing a specific focus on development activities is a new element in CITEL's mission. However, it is clear that little progress has been made in the decade since the Maitland report towards the fundamental development goal of universal access to basic telecommunication services. In the interval between meetings of the CITEL Assembly, demonstrable success in the area of development is one of the goals of the Commission. Certainly, the needs of the CITEL countries must be a major consideration as the region moves forward to achieve the objectives established by the Summit of the Americas.

As the ITU's High Level Committee noted, the telecommunications needs of the developing countries are great, while the resources to treat the problems are limited and currently declining. In this situation, improved cooperation and coordination between the Permanent Consultative Committees is one of the essential elements of this strategy. In addition, CITEL and other elements of the OAS must add to their expertise in telecommunications policy, law and regulation to the inventory of core competencies. Strengthening CITEL's technical capacity in telecommunications will position CITEL to be a credible partner in development - to the service providers and equipment manufacturers who are driving the development of telecommunications world-wide, to the private investors and public institutions that possess the financial resources needed by developing countries, and to the other international organizations involved in infrastructure, economic and social development programs which increasingly depend for their success on telecommunications.

In summary, the overall strategic challenge facing CITEL in the next two year period is to strengthen its core activities so that it can use its position in the technical and development areas - along with its still budding competence in telecommunications policy and regulation - to better serve the changing needs of its members and to undertake new initiatives to the general benefit of the region. This strategy will ensure that the member countries of CITEL have an effective forum in which they will actively participate in the regional information economy and society of the twenty-first century.

SECTION 2**GENERAL POLICY AND PROGRAM PRIORITIES**

The following policy and program priorities are recommended to carry out this strategy in this next two year period:

In order to strengthen the foundation of CITEL, the following actions should be undertaken in addition to the present program of activities in this interval between meetings of the Assembly.

Recommendation Nr. 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 Nr. 2 - The participation in CITEL activities by non-Administration telecommunication entities and organizations including the Associate Members should continue to 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 a established by Member States 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 Nr. 3 - Linkages between the activities of the three PCCs should be increased, and the process of cooperation between the three PCCs reinforced.

Recommendation Nr. 4 - CITEL's relationship with other international organizations should be strengthened. 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, CITEL will leverage its own resources and multiply the effectiveness of its activities.

Recommendation Nr. 5 - CITEL's public information capabilities should be increased. At present, CITEL is surely 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 CITEL have asked it to play a leadership role in the telecommunications community of the Americas. To do this, CITEL 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 Nr. 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 CITEL 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 CITEL and it is easier to gain their support if they are familiar with the impact that CITEL 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 need to be carried out.

Recommendation Nr. 7 – CITEL, to the extent possible, should play a role in demonstrating to all segments of society the important benefits of telecommunication and information technologies. The telecommunications sector truly has an impressive story to tell and CITEL should consider ways to impress on young minds the fascinating things that are happening each and every day in this field of endeavor that we have chosen.

Recommended Actions

1. COM/CITEL should Request the Chairpersons of the Permanent Consultative Committees:
 - a) To present to COM/CITEL 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/CITEL, the operation of their committee for the purpose of identifying areas where the image of CITEL 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 the OAS and the ITU.
3. COM/CITEL should also direct the Steering Committee to plan and conduct a 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 should consider implementation strategies to demonstrate the benefits and role of telecommunications such as:
 - a) making use of mass media;
 - b) entering into agreements, as appropriate, with the different basic, medium and higher 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 AHCIET, ASETA, COMTELCA and CTU, that might contribute to the dissemination of several information programs.

SECTION 3**CITEL FINANCES AND MEETING SCHEDULE**

These two items have been included in this strategic plan in order to provide the Members and Associate Members with a convenient reference point in their evaluation of the recommendations herein. The budget is that which has been approved by the OAS General Assembly in Lima in 1997.

BUDGET APPROVED FOR CITEL FOR 1998
(In Thousand of Dollars)

	Amount	Sub-total
	US \$	US \$
Executive Secretariat's Personnel	382.0	382.0
Annual Meeting of COM/CITEL		
One meeting of five days		
Costs of travel for the Executive Secretary, Principal Specialist, Conference Specialist and a Lawyer	9.5	
Costs of the meeting	39.5	
Sub-total		49.0
Regular Assembly of CITEL		
One meeting of five days		
Costs of travel for the Executive Secretary, two Specialists from CITEL, Conference Specialist and a Lawyer	9.5	
Costs of the meeting	31.0	
Sub-total		40.5
Meeting of PCC.I		
Two meetings of five days		
Costs of travel for the Executive Secretary, Principal Specialist and Conference Specialist	12.0	
Costs of the meetings	62.2	
Sub-total		74.2

	Amount	Sub-total
	US \$	US \$
Meeting of PCC.II		
One meeting of five days		
Costs of travel for the Executive Secretary, Principal Specialist and Conference Specialist	3.9	
Cost of the meeting	31.0	
Sub-total		34.9
Meeting of PCC.III		
Three meetings of five days Costs of travel For the Executive Secretary, Principal Specialist And Conference Specialist	18.6	
Costs of the meetings	85.9	
Sub-total		104.5
Steering Committee		
One meeting of three days		
Costs of the meeting	12.3	
Sub-total		12.3
Participation and presentation of contributions of CITEL by the Executive Secretariat		
Annual Meeting of the Pacific Telecommunication Conference (PTC)	3.8	
OAS General Assembly,	3.2	
World Telecommunication Development Conference	3.9	
ITU Conference of Plenipotentiaries	2.9	
Unscheduled travels of the Executive Secretary	6.3	
Sub-total		20.1

	Amount	Sub-total
	US \$	US \$
General costs of the CITEL Office		
INTERNET	1.2	
Express mail	6.6	
Air mail, courier, telephone, fax	11.0	
Photocopies	5.8	
Publications	1.5	
Office supplies	1.8	
Translations at Headquarters	14.0	
Sub-Total		41.9
Total	\$ 759.4	\$ 759.4

Note: The amount of \$8,500 was allotted to COM/CITEL when it should have been allotted to the CITEL Regular Assembly.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

CITEL Assembly

Second Regular Meeting 2-6 March, Quito, Ecuador

Permanent Consultative Committee I: Public Telecommunication Services

Forum of CITEL/PCC.I in Telecommunications 13-17 April, Buenos Aires, Argentina
VIII Meeting 16-20 November, Colombia

Permanent Consultative Committee II: Broadcasting

IV Meeting 17-21 August, Montevideo, Uruguay

Permanent Consultative Committee III: Radiocommunications

X Meeting 8-12 June, Sao Paulo, Brazil
XI Meeting 14-18 September, Lima, Peru

Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL)

VI Meeting 6 March, Quito, Ecuador
VII Meeting 7-11 December, Ecuador

Steering Committee

V Meeting 3-4 August, Washington, DC, USA

**Working Group on Structure and
Functioning of CITEL** 5-6 August, Washington, DC, USA

**Ad Hoc Working Group on the preparations
for the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference,
1998** 7 August, Washington, DC, USA

Annex 1

Excerpt from the Statute of CITEL.

This article was included here to provide the reader with a convenient reference for the terms of reference for CITEL. Having such a reference readily available when examining the Strategic Plan is useful for determining the appropriateness of the recommendations contained in the Plan.

Article 3 Objectives and Functions

The objectives and functions of CITEL are:

Objectives

- a. To facilitate and promote, by all means available to it, the continuing development of telecommunications in this hemisphere;*
- b. To promote and foster the existence of appropriate telecommunications for the process of regional development.*
- c. To organize and sponsor the periodic holding of meetings of technicians and experts to study planning, financing, construction, operation, standardization, technical assistance, maintenance, and other matters related to the use and operation of telecommunications in the Americas;*
- d. To promote the adoption of uniform technical standards and criteria for the operation of the systems, in order to obtain maximum benefit from the available facilities for each individual country and for the region as a whole within the framework of global standardization of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU);*
- e. To promote and study technical assistance, in agreement with the governments of the countries concerned;*
- f. To foster the improvement and harmonization of administrative, financial, and operational procedures for the planning, installation, improvement, maintenance, and operation of the telecommunication networks of the Member States of CITEL in the framework of the recommendations of the ITU;*

- g. To recommend studies and promote the adoption of official agreements between the governments of the member states of the Organization, in connection with the planning, installation, maintenance, and operation of telecommunications systems in the hemisphere;*

Functions

- a. To sponsor or undertake studies that will permit the orderly development of telecommunications networks, making use of the most suitable and efficient systems available;*
- b. To maintain continuous contact with the various governmental and non-governmental international organizations in the field of telecommunications, and to promote the coordination of their activities with those of the Member States of the Organization.*
- c. To request the cooperation of world or regional governmental organizations, especially the ITU, the Caribbean Telecommunication Union, and of international agencies concerned with telecommunications that enjoy consultative status with the United Nations or maintain cooperative relations with the Organization;*
- d. To collect and disseminate among the Member States of CITEL information pertaining to accomplishment of its objectives, as well as any other information that may be of interest;*
- e. To serve as the principal advisory body of the Organization in all matters related to telecommunications in the Americas;*
- f. To study the legal aspects of telecommunications, taking into account existing Inter-American instruments, with a view to the preparation of new draft conventions in this field;*
- g. To study legal problems related to direct transmission via satellite, in order to prepare draft Inter-American conventions or agreements on this subject and to formulate a common position for the Member States of CITEL to take in this connection when dealing with the pertinent international agencies;*
- h. To prepare studies on the harmonization and unification of the legislation of the Member States of CITEL on matters relating to telecommunications;*
- I. To make recommendations in the field of telecommunications to the governments of the Member States of CITEL, taking into account those made by the ITU;*
- j. To prepare and coordinate research in the field of telecommunications and electronics;*
- k. To consider any other matters relating to Inter-American cooperation in the field of telecommunications as requested by the General Assembly, or the Councils of the Organization*

CITEL RES.24 (II-98)¹¹

**CURRENT AND FUTURE DISPOSITION OF ASSOCIATE MEMBER
FEES IN SUPPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF CITEL**

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

CONSIDERING:

The increasing importance of inter-governmental bodies such as CITEL to expand their membership base to address the variety and complexity of issues in the changing telecommunications environment;

The valuable expertise which is available from the private sector to offer perspectives on such issues;

The decision adopted by the First CITEL Assembly (Montevideo, 1994) to create a category of membership (Associate Members) in recognition of this expertise and the desirability of enhancing the work of the Permanent Consultative Committees (PCCs) through such membership;

The further decision adopted by the First Assembly to establish an initial level of contribution applicable for Associate Members at an amount of \$1000 USD annually for each PCC;

The decision taken by the Second CITEL Assembly (Quito, 1998) to increase this fee to \$2000 per annum per PCC, effective 1 January 1999;

NOTING:

The purposes for which associate member fees are to be used as specified in article 84 of the CITEL Regulations.

RECOGNIZING:

The increasing role and contribution from Associate Members in the enhancement of the efficiency and effectiveness of the work of CITEL;

That associate member fees may be used for extra-budgetary funding for increased costs associated with documentation, translation, etc. at the meetings of the PCCs, and for staff costs related to increased workload of the Executive Secretariat to ensure the timely processing; and distribution of the decisions and conclusions of such meetings as determined by the chairmen of the PCCs;

The need to establish a clear differentiation between the financial allocation from the Ordinary Budget of the OAS in support of the increasing workload of CITEL and the funds available through Associate Member fees;

¹¹ CITEL/doc. 198 rev.1 /98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

RESOLVES:

To encourage the Member States of CITEL to advise their Permanent Representatives to the OAS, in preparation for the future General Assemblies of the OAS, to take into consideration the need to differentiate between the budgetary allocations in support of the activities of CITEL, and the uses and purposes of fees related to the contributions of Associate Members.

CITEL RES.25 (II-98)¹²

ROAMING FOR MOBILE TELECOMMUNICATIONS

SERVICES IN THE AMERICAS

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

CONSIDERING:

That globalization has made it desirable for users of telecommunications services to be able to obtain them anywhere, notwithstanding the geographic location of said users;

That mobile telecommunications service should make it possible to provide coverage and automatic roaming, throughout the Americas; and

That likewise, to secure automatic roaming, when technically feasible, there must be interconnection and commercial agreements among American operators,

RECOGNIZING:

That a coordinated work effort is already underway between PCC.I and PCC.III regarding approaches to facilitate international roaming services among the region's mobile networks.

That the Seventh Meeting of PCC.I adopted Decision PCC.I/Dec.10 (VII-97) encouraging administrations to adopt ITU-T Recommendation E.212 that supports development of numbering plans for international roaming.

That agreements are required between administrations for customs arrangements, and recognition of licensing and marks.

RESOLVES:

1. That PCC.I and PCC.III continue their work to enable roaming throughout the Americas, including automatic roaming if technically feasible, and to identify relevant international fora, in which operators could participate if deemed appropriate.

¹² CITEL/doc. 199 rev.1 /98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

2. To encourage administrations to adopt ITU-T Recommendation E.212 to support roaming among the region's mobile communications networks.
3. To encourage operators to undertake commercial and interconnection arrangements to provide roaming among mobile communications networks in the region.
4. To request administrations of the region to support roaming agreements by taking the administrative steps identified in recognizing c).

CITEL RES.26 (II-98)¹³

**ROLE OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL
TELECOMMUNICATION ORGANIZATIONS IN THE AMERICAS REGION**

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

CONSIDERING:

That the CITEL Plan of Action, in 1996 provided for close collaboration of regional telecommunications bodies in the work of CITEL.

That the Forum held in conjunction with this Assembly, on March 2, 1998, has identified a series of important contributions which regional bodies have made and are making to the development of telecommunications in the Americas.

REALIZING:

The importance of building on the major work of Regional Telecommunications organization in geographical areas (CTU, CANTO, COMTELCA, ASETA, etc.) and specialized fields (AHCIET, PTC, INTELSAT, etc.).

The specific contributions which some groups have already made in relation to new satellite services (GMPCS), Regional Development Conferences, and in the development of the Blue Book on Telecommunication Policy for the Americas.

NOTING:

That the evidence from the Panel Discussion on March 2, 1998 drew attention to the promotion of telecommunication business sectors.

That it is vital to focus on the sharing of technology, expertise and information.

¹³ CITEL/doc. 200 rev.1/98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

That the Regional Telecommunication Organizations (RTO) can create spheres of influence in the Region.

That RTOs have demonstrated great cooperation among themselves.

ALSO NOTING:

That the regional and international telecommunications organizations in the Americas are participating in the ITU under Article 19 of its Convention.

HAVING EXAMINED:

The major development demands in the Americas and the role of regional and international organizations especially for the GII, new satellite systems, etc.

RESOLVES:

To instruct COM/CITEL and the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Structure and Functioning of CITEL to examine, within their spheres of competence, alternative courses of action for strengthening the role of the international organizations of the Americas and their links with the various CITEL organs, including the possibility of establishing a category of membership that appropriately reflects those links.

CITEL RES.27 (II-98) ¹⁴

DECLARATION OF QUITO

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

CONSIDERING:

The special importance of the principles and actions contained in the Declaration of Quito, adopted by the Member States of CITEL present at the Second Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly, held in Quito from March 2 to 6, 1998,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the Chair of COM/CITEL to forward this Declaration to the Chair of the Permanent Council of the OAS for presentation to the General Assembly of the OAS, for information and circulation.
2. To instruct the Executive Secretary to communicate this Declaration to all of the CITEL Member States and Associate Members.

¹⁴ CITEL/doc. 205/98 (Approved in the Fourth Plenary Session)

**THE INTER-AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATION COMMISSION
CITEL**

DECLARATION OF QUITO

At the conclusion of the Second Regular Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL) in Quito, March 2-6, 1998, representatives of the telecommunications administrations of CITEL's Member States

Declare:

That the strategic importance of telecommunications compels governments to cooperate in strengthening this sector in order to achieve their social and economic goals.

That our countries must prepare themselves to face the challenges of the twenty-first century. In this regard, and given the sheer pace of the changes ahead, the development of telecommunications infrastructure is a top priority. It must combine the introduction of state-of-the-art technologies that ensure the efficient handling of information, and the adoption of policies, strategies and programs that foster development of the telecommunications sector in ways that raise the standard of living and reinforce the skills and know-how of all our citizens.

That we must combine our efforts in order to ensure the development of the telecommunications infrastructure and services essential to developing the economic, social, cultural and political well-being of our Member States.

That the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission of the Organization of American States (CITEL) is the senior technical telecommunications body in the Americas for recommending actions to further the development of the region's telecommunications sector.

That, acting as a catalyst with respect to the consideration of the views of Member States on issues of mutual interest, CITEL has made possible the presentation in the International Telecommunication Union and other international telecommunications fora of common Inter-American proposals benefiting all countries of the Americas and Associate Members.

And thereby resolve:

- To consolidate CITEL's capabilities, so that it can fully implement the instructions issued by heads of state in the Summit of the Americas process, in view of the fact that telecommunications is a fundamental element in the sustainable development of the region.
- To encourage the development of basic telecommunications infrastructure as well as new telecommunications services and technologies within a legal framework that is predictable, consistent, nondiscriminatory and transparent.
- To strengthen coordination with telecommunications bodies of the Americas in developing programs regarding infrastructure, training and research.
- To promote the development of projects designed to make available the basic telephone services and the benefits of new technologies required to meet the communications needs of more remote areas and of lower-income groups, particularly with regard to telemedicine, distance learning and access to the Internet.
- If appropriate, to establish mechanisms to reinforce and facilitate the participation of CITEL, as a specialized technical telecommunications organization, in the region's various processes of integration.

In witness thereof, the Delegates of the Member States taking part in the Second Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission adopt this declaration in the City of San Francisco de Quito, March 6, 1998.

Mario Burbano de Lara
CHAIR OF THE ASSEMBLY

Hugo Jorge Zothner
Argentina

José Alfredo Arce Jofré
Bolivia

Renato Guerreiro
Brasil

Bruce Gracie
Canadá

Alejandra Moya
Chile

Félix Castro
Colombia

Luz Argentina Calderón de Aguilar
Costa Rica

Angel López
Ecuador

Eric Casamiquela
El Salvador

John P. Deasy, Jr.
Estados Unidos

José Raúl Solares
Guatemala

Mario Martínez
Honduras

Winston Hay
Jamaica

Salma Jalife
México

René Gutiérrez Cortés
Nicaragua

José Cabrera
Panamá

Juan Manuel Cano Fleitas
Paraguay

Julio García
Perú

Miguel Rodríguez
República Dominicana

Rupert Griffith
Trinidad y Tobago

Raúl Iturria
Uruguay

Alfredo Chaparro Osio
Venezuela

CITEI RES.28 (II-98)¹⁵

COMMON PROPOSALS

FOR THE SECOND

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

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

CONSIDERING:

That the Fourth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission COM-CITEI, held in Montevideo in November 1996, resolved in Ref.38 (IV-96) to establish an Ad Hoc Working Group to prepare CITEI's participation in the Second World Telecommunication Development Conference, WTDC-98;

That the above-mentioned Ad Hoc Working Group was mandated by COM/CITEI to prepare CITEI's participation in WTDC-98;

That in accordance with part of that mandate the Ad Hoc Working Group worked on a number of issues considered important for the development of telecommunications in the region;

That the Member States of CITEI participated in the ITU planning process in 1997 and in the preparatory meetings for the WTDC-98;

That as part of their preparatory work, at a meeting held on September 1, 1997 on the Island of Margarita, the Ad Hoc Working Group in conjunction with the countries of the region, drafted a preliminary document containing the proposals to be presented at WTDC-98.

That the proposals in this preliminary document were put before the Regional Preparatory Meeting of the ITU held on September 2 and 3, 1997 on the Isla of Margarita.

That the preliminary proposals were analyzed and added to at the Fifth Meeting of COM/CITEI held in Punta del Este on December 1-5, 1997; and,

That the Meeting resolved to present the definitive proposals to WTDC-98 in the form of common proposals by the countries of the region.

RESOLVES:

1. To request the Second World Telecommunication Development Conference to incorporate the Common Proposal in Annex 1 of this Resolution into the scheduled activities of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, the ITU-D Study Groups, and the ITU's Regional Office in Brasilia, as deemed appropriate;

¹⁵ CITEI/doc. 147 rev.2/98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

2. That the names of the countries from the Americas that support the common proposals be added to the table of supporters contained in Annex 1 for submission to the BDT as common Inter-American Proposals of the named Administrations;
3. To request the Executive Secretary of CITELE to expeditiously re-distribute this Resolution to the CITELE Administrations pointing out the importance of their support for the above mentioned proposals and to urge the Administrations to adhere to the proposals contained in this Resolution that suggests a time limit up to March 16, 1998. However, in case this is not possible we ask to bring that information to the WTDC-98 in Malta.
4. To request the Executive Secretariat to submit this Resolution, following the procedures contained in resolution PCC.III/RES. 47 (VI-96), to the WTDC-98 for it to be considered at that meeting;
5. Urge CITELE Members to participate in the 1998 World Telecommunication Development Conference of the ITU and support these common Inter-American Proposals (IAP).

ANNEX 1**COMMON INTER-AMERICAN PROPOSALS (IAP)**

The following are common proposals presented by the member countries comprising the Americas Region of the ITU to the Second World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC).

The BDT

IAP//1 To hold a Regional Telecommunication Development Conference for the Americas before the next World Telecommunication Conference that will be held in the year 2002.

IAP//2 That the ITU continue to develop the Centers of Excellence in the Americas.

IAP//3 To develop a project in support of the creation of the World Telecommunication University for the Training and Development of Human Resources through the Virtual Classroom and computerization of Documentation and Information Centers as backing for Distance Education and Research, bearing in mind language differences in the member countries.

IAP//4 To establish ways that will enable countries to share experiences regarding the development of telecommunications in rural and low-income urban setting such as virtual regional fora, databases, etc.

IAP//5 To conduct a study, through ITU-D Study Groups, on universal access/service, and the critical issues involved in order to:

Identify the best practice guidelines for countries to take into consideration when developing policies, legislation, and/or regulations;

Identify the objectives, impact, and expected benefits of existing policies regarding universal access/service;

Identify the most common and the most innovative approaches to attracting and allocating funds for initiatives and programs for universal access/service observing advantages and disadvantages at each one.

Describe the legislative and legal frameworks that have been used or are needed to implement initiatives and programs for universal access/service.

Identify guiding principles for raising, allocating and administering universal access/service programs, such as transparency, equitable distribution and access, competitively and technologically neutral allocation, and a focus on the end user.

Identify and analyze the relationship that universal access/service policies have on other key telecommunication issues that arise as competition increases in countries, such as access charges, interconnection frameworks and agreements, accounting rates, and tariff re-balancing.

Note: For an efficient and effective study to be performed on universal access/service. Study Group 1 of the ITU-D should utilize the work already done on questions 2/1 and 3/1 for the period 1994-1998, as well as any other background on this subject.

- IAP//6 Through the ITU-D Study Group 2 (specifically in reference to Question 4/2), a special emphasis should be placed on the need to:
- Define models that will allow a comparison of technologies suited to rural and remote areas in order to encourage the adoption of appropriate solutions;
 - Promote initiatives for the development of national rural telecommunications as part of a planned, orderly, progressive, multi-year program, which is managed on a commercial basis;
 - Foster the application of telecommunications facilities for developing various sectors of rural infrastructure and rural economy;
 - Establish appropriate regulatory structures as a means of encouraging the expansion of telecommunications services to remote and rural areas; and
 - Take advantage of a wide range of innovative and entrepreneurial financial and promotional approaches to minimize costs and maximize revenue in providing telecommunications to rural and remote areas.
- IAP//7 To evaluate the effectiveness and, based on the results, to continue, in coordination with regional organizations, the execution of pilot projects for community-based, access-oriented communications facilities which build upon work initiated by the ITU-D such as the implementation of tele-centers at all levels ranging from the simple telephone call box to more sophisticated communications centers.
- IAP//8 To establish a temporary Group of Experts, taking into consideration any work of ITU Study Groups, to conduct a study to help member countries with economic, regulatory, and technical issues related to interconnection. This study should conclude its work by the end of 1998.
- IAP//9 That the ITU-D work with the ITU-R to identify the needs of developing countries on spectrum management, and make efforts to provide assistance in this regard, including improving available systems and taking into account the emerging needs concerning the management of the spectrum, through the use of state of the art programming techniques and the reduction of the development and distribution time.
- IAP//10 To continue consultations with organizations such as the World Bank, FAO, UNEP, and UNESCO for the establishment of a framework for cooperation in the area of environmental protection, through the use of telecommunication technologies, including the implementation of a global telecommunications project directed towards providing ways to support and improve initiatives toward preservation of the environment.
- IAP//11 To urge the WTDC-98 to request that the ITU evaluate the implications of Internet services, and specifically voice services, on the policies of the operators/carriers, in view of the effects that these may have on member countries.
- IAP//12 To request the ITU-D to identify a set of best practice guidelines for countries to take into consideration when developing policies, legislation, and/or regulations to establish regulatory bodies. This task should be accomplished by the ITU-D study groups.

- IAP//13 As part of the Action Plan of Valetta, to update the Blue Book in order to bring it into line with the current situation in telecommunications.
- IAP//14 To urge the ITU to give Haiti higher priority in all the special programs established for the Least Developed Countries.
- IAP//15 To assist Developing Countries to respond to global telecommunications restructuring, especially regarding financial issues and the transition to new accounting rates regimes.
- IAP//16 Strengthen the regional presence of the BDT and its participation in the Americas by providing sufficient support to undertake the current activities and programs.

To Member Countries:

- IAP//17 To urge Member Countries to ratify their support for the “Draft Convention on the Provision of Telecommunications Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations” and to request and emphasize the need for implementation, as soon as possible.

NOTICE:

INSERT TABLE OF SUPPORTERS

CITEL RES.29 (II-98)¹⁶

AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTE AND THE REGULATIONS OF CITEL

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

HAVING SEEN:

The amendments to the Statute of CITEL proposed by the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Structure and Functioning of CITEL;

The amendments to the Regulations of CITEL contained in resolutions COM/CITEL RES. 1 (II-94) and COM/CITEL RES. 28 (III-95), the provisional application of which was approved by COM/CITEL, pursuant to Article 97 of the Regulations of CITEL; and

CONSIDERING:

That the definition of Associate Member appearing in Article 82 of the Regulations of CITEL is broader than the definition in Article 24 of the Statute of CITEL and that it is desirable to maintain the scope of the definition given in the Regulations;

That Article 23 of the Statute establishes that each Permanent Consultative Committee may establish a position of Vice Chairman, but that the work of these committees has shown that it is necessary to establish more than one such position;

That, under Article 34 of the Statute of CITEL, only the General Assembly of the Organization of American States, at its own initiative or upon CITEL's request, may amend the Statute of CITEL;

That, in accordance with Article 97 of the Regulations of CITEL, it is incumbent on the CITEL Assembly to adopt amendments to the Regulations of CITEL, by an absolute majority of the participating Member States, and, once the amendments have been adopted by the CITEL Assembly, they must be presented to the General Assembly at its next regular session, for its information,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the General Assembly of the Organization at its twenty-eighth regular session, to be held in June 1998, to amend articles 23 and 24 of the Statute of CITEL, as set forth in Appendix 1 to this resolution.
2. To approve the amendments to the Articles of the Regulations of CITEL contained in resolutions COM/CITEL RES. 1 (II-94) and COM/CITEL RES. 28 (III-95). The modified texts are included in Appendix 2.

¹⁶ CITEL/doc 210 /98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

3. To submit to the General Assembly of the Organization at its twenty-eighth regular session, for its information, the amendments to the Regulations of CITEL adopted by the CITEL Assembly.

APPENDIX 1

AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTE OF CITEL

1. In Article 23, amend the last sentence of the first paragraph of the section “Officers” to read as follows:

Each Permanent Consultative Committee may establish up to two positions of Vice Chair.

2. In Article 24, amend the first paragraph of the section “Associate Members” to read as follows:

Any recognized operating agency or scientific or industrial organization or any financial or development institution that is related to the telecommunications industry and is a legal entity may become an associate member of a Permanent Consultative Committee. The member state shall notify the Chairman of COM/CITEL in writing of the names and agencies of organizations it has approved. An agency, organization or institution shall cease to be an associate member in the event that approval is withdrawn by the member state.

APPENDIX 2

AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES OF THE REGULATIONS OF CITEL

Organization

Article 2

CITEL fulfills its objectives through the following organs: the CITEL Assembly, the Permanent Executive Committee (COM/CITEL), the Permanent Consultative Committees, and the Secretariat. The organs shall include such committees, sub-committees, working groups and ad hoc groups, joint working groups and rapporteurs as may be established in accordance with these Regulations.

Article 17

Unless otherwise specified by COM/CITEL, any state or entity referred to in Article 16 that wishes to participate in a meeting of the CITEL Assembly as an observer, shall apply to attend, in writing, to the Chairman of COM/CITEL, at least 120 days before the anticipated opening of that meeting. The Chairman of COM/CITEL shall consult such applications with the Members of COM/CITEL, and if they approve, the corresponding invitations shall be extended in accordance with Article 9 of these Regulations.

Article 30

Reports and proposals shall normally be presented to the Executive Secretary four months in advance of the date set for the opening of the CITEL Assembly, in order to permit their distribution to the Member States in the working languages, together with the report of COM/CITEL and the Secretariat. The Executive Secretary shall distribute these documents to the Member States by the most effective means of communication so that they are received not later than two months before the start of a meeting.

At the beginning of a meeting, the Assembly may establish a period of time in which additional proposals may be submitted to it for consideration.

Article 36

All decisions taken by the CITEL Assembly in a private plenary session shall be announced at the next public plenary session.

Work Program

Article 71

At each installation session, COM/CITEL shall prepare its work program for the intervening period until its next meeting, and shall set the date and place for its meetings.

COM/CITEL may establish technical committees, subcommittees, working groups and ad hoc groups, joint working groups and rapporteurs to perform its functions.

Article 76

Rules governing COM/CITEL meetings, quorum, voting and travel expenses are as contained in Articles 18 to 21 of the Statute.

If for any reason a Regular Meeting of COM/CITEL cannot be held in the country of the Chairperson, it shall be held at the General Secretariat of the Organization, unless one of the Member States, with sufficient advance notice, offers to host the meeting, in which case COM/CITEL may agree to hold the meeting in that country.

The General Secretary of the Organization, or by delegation, the CITEL Executive Secretary, shall transmit the notice of convocation of the Meeting and the invitations to the participants as soon as the country offering to host the meeting confirms to CITEL Secretariat the exact date, city and specific location for the meeting. The country offering to host a meeting shall provide this information to the Executive Secretary, no later than 60 days before the proposed date of the meeting.

Working Groups, Ad Hoc Groups, and Rapporteurs

Article 80

Each PCC may establish working groups and ad hoc groups in accordance with Article 93. Those groups shall submit reports of their activities to the PCC.

PCCs shall also appoint rapporteurs for their working groups and ad hoc groups in order to deal with the issues entrusted to said groups. The rapporteurs shall submit their reports to the working groups or ad hoc groups to which they belong.

Associate Members

Article 82

1. Associate Membership on a PCC is open to any recognized operating agency, scientific or industrial organization or financial or development institution related to the telecommunications industry, that has a legal personality, (hereinafter "entity") provided that the entity's Associate Membership is approved by the corresponding Member State of CITEL.

2. The expression "corresponding Member State of CITEL" means the country where the "entity" was incorporated or has its principal office.

3. Applications from entities wishing to become Associate Members of a PCC must be forwarded to the Member State belonging to the respective PCC, together with an indication of the elected contributory unit and the pertinent information of a contact person to whom procedural information may be sent. The corresponding Member State shall be responsible for examining and approving such applications based on such criteria or procedures for sponsoring Associate Members as it deems appropriate.

4. Where appropriate, the Member State will notify the Executive Secretary of its approval of an application received from an entity, indicating the elected contributory unit and the pertinent information of the contact person to whom procedural information may be sent.

5. The Executive Secretary will notify the entity of the decision taken with respect to its application and the procedures which Associate Membership entails.

6. The Executive Secretary will notify the Chairman of COM/CITEL and the Chairman of the respective PCC about the admission of the entity referred to in 5 above.

7. A list of all entities granted Associate Membership in each PCC shall be compiled and maintained by the Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary shall provide the Secretary General of the Organization, as well as all Member States of CITEL and of the PCCs with a copy of that list.

8. An "entity" shall cease to be an Associate Member in the event that approval is withdrawn by the corresponding Member State.

Participation of Associate Members**Article 83**

Associate Members of a PCC may fully participate in all the activities of that PCC with voice but without vote. They may present technical papers and receive the documents of that PCC. An Associate Member of any PCC shall also be qualified to participate in the work of any joint working group to which its PCC belongs, without the payment of additional fees.

Associate Membership Fee**Article 84**

(Third paragraph of Article 84)

Associate Members who pay their membership fees within 90 days of billing shall be deemed active Associate Members. Those who do not pay within this time without informing the Executive Secretary of the reasons for such delay shall be deemed passive Associate Members, and shall have their membership privileges suspended until such time as their accounts are paid up to date. If the Executive Secretary is satisfied with the justification of the delayed payment of fees by a Member, he may extend the deadline for account updating to a maximum of sixth months from the original payment deadline.

Observers and Guests**Article 85**

Observers in the categories set out in Articles 13, 14 and 15 may participate as observers to the PCCs under the same conditions which these Regulations prescribe for their participation in the meetings of the CITEL Assembly, by appointing their representatives in a written notice addressed to the Chairman of the corresponding PCC.

Subject to the approval of the Chairman of the corresponding PCC and upon consultation with the country hosting the meeting, any person or entity not covered by the paragraph above or by Article 16 of the Regulations of CITEL, whether a recognized authority or other person or entity having particular interest in telecommunications, may attend the meetings of the PCCs, their working groups, and their ad hoc groups as a guest.

Article 86

Each PCC shall meet at least once a year at a time and place determined by its respective Chairman. The meetings of a PCC shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations in relation to the CITEL Assembly, to the extent that those provisions may be applied.

Papers, studies, decisions, and draft resolutions of a PCC which require consideration of the CITEL Assembly shall be submitted to COM/CITEL at least four months before a meeting of the CITEL Assembly is held.

A PCC may hold private sessions restricting participation solely to Members and Associate Members. However, on the basis of reciprocity, observer organizations may be invited by the Chairman of the PCC concerned to attend these private sessions.

If for any reason a Regular Meeting of the Permanent Consultative Committees cannot be held in the country chosen by the Chairperson, it shall be held at the General Secretariat of the Organization, unless one of the Member States, with sufficient advance notice offers to host the meeting, in which case the Chairman of COM/CITEL may agree to hold the meeting in that country.

The Secretary General of the Organization, or by delegation, the CITEL Executive Secretary, shall transmit the notice of convocation of the meeting and the invitations to the participants as soon as the country offering to host the meeting confirms to the CITEL Secretariat the exact date, city and specific location for the meeting. The country offering to host a meeting shall provide this information to the Executive Secretary, no later than 60 days before the proposed date of the meeting.

The Executive Secretary of CITEL

Article 89

The Executive Secretary of CITEL shall be a person highly versed in the subject matter. The post of Executive Secretary of CITEL is a position of trust, regulated by the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States.

In addition to the functions established in the CITEL Statute, the Executive Secretary shall have the following duties:

- a. To prepare the technical documents assigned to him by the organs of CITEL and the working documents for CITEL meetings;
- b. To serve as Technical Secretary of the meetings of the CITEL Assembly and of COM/CITEL;
- c. To see that the minutes, decisions, papers, and draft resolutions of all the organs of CITEL are in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the Organization, the mandates of the General Assembly, the Statute of CITEL, and these Regulations;
- d. To receive official correspondence relating to CITEL, to deal with it appropriately, and to handle communications regarding the work of the Secretariat, informing the Secretary General of the Organization thereof. Copies of such correspondence shall be sent to the Chairman of COM/CITEL;
- e. To carry out the decisions and tasks that the different organs of CITEL may request;
- f. To cooperate with the Chairman of COM/CITEL in the preparation of the draft agenda for each CITEL Assembly Meeting, as well as in the preparation of the agenda for each COM/CITEL meeting;
- g. To prepare documents, studies, and reports necessary for each CITEL Assembly and COM/CITEL meetings, taking into account the guidelines established in this regard by COM/CITEL;
- h. Once COM/CITEL has decided upon the date and place for the regular and special meetings of the Assembly, to so inform the Member States immediately in writing;
- i. To prepare notices of convocation for the meetings of all CITEL organs;
- j. To cooperate with COM/CITEL in the preparation of the annual report of CITEL to be presented through the Secretary General to the Permanent Council of the Organization for its consideration;
- k. To keep CITEL Member States permanently informed of technical activities in the telecommunications field, in accordance with the instructions received from the Chairman of COM/CITEL and taking into account the information received by COM/CITEL;
- l. To provide information on the resolutions and decisions of the CITEL Assembly on telecommunications matters to world or regional governmental or non governmental

- agencies specializing in telecommunications, for which purpose a periodic newsletter may be utilized;
- m. To provide a periodic information service, with widespread coverage on the progress of telecommunications and their development in the American States;
 - n. To maintain custody of the files containing the official documentation of all the meetings of the CITEL organs;
 - o. To represent the Chairman of COM/CITEL at public or private functions and at meetings of international organizations, when the Chairman so decides;
 - p. After consultation with the Chairmen of the Permanent Consultative Committees, to prepare and submit to COM/CITEL a biennial preliminary draft budget for the following two years taking into account the directions given by the previous CITEL Assembly Meeting. Also, to prepare for submission to COM/CITEL any adjustments to the second half of the biennial budget as may be required;
 - q. To supervise the staff of the CITEL Secretariat, in order to ensure the most effective use of personnel;
 - r. To prepare and distribute to Member States and Associate Members a publication containing the resolutions, recommendations, and declarations of the Assembly, COM/CITEL and the PCCs;
 - s. To prepare annually, for submission to and approval by COM/CITEL, a schedule of meetings covering the coming two-year period. In preparing the schedule of meetings, the Secretariat should take into consideration the schedule of pertinent OAS, ITU and Regional Organizations meetings, and should also coordinate beforehand with the chairpersons of the various committees.

Working Procedures governing the activities of the PCCs

Article 93

10. The Statute and Regulations of CITEL allow each of the PCCs to change and adapt its work methods to most efficiently meet the needs of its members, *within the authorized scope*.

13. Both the Assembly of CITEL and COM/CITEL may apply the above processes or any part thereof when establishing their working or ad hoc groups.

14. For purposes of Article 93, the term "working group" shall be taken to include a "joint working group".

DRAFT RESOLUTION

AG/RES. (XXVIII-O/98)

AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTE OF CITEI

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN Resolution CITEI/RES.29 (II-98), adopted by the Second Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEI), which contains amendments to articles 23 and 24; and

CONSIDERING:

That, pursuant to Article 34 of the Statute of CITEI, it is incumbent on the General Assembly of the Organization to amend the Statute of CITEI, at its own initiative or upon CITEI's request; and

That Resolution CITEI RES.29 (II-98) of the Second Regular Meeting of CITEI requests the General Assembly to amend articles 23 and 24 of the Statute of CITEI in the manner and for the reasons expressed therein,

RESOLVES:

1. In Article 23, to amend the last sentence of the first paragraph of the section "Officers" to read as follows:

Each Permanent Consultative Committee may establish two positions of Vice President.

2. In Article 24, to amend the first paragraph of the section "Associate Members" to read as follows:

Any recognized operating agency or scientific or industrial organization or any financial or development institution that is related to the telecommunications industry and is a legal entity may become an associate member of a Permanent Consultative Committee. The Member State shall notify the Chairman of COM/CITEI in writing of the names and agencies of organizations it has approved. An agency or organization shall cease to be an associate member in the event that approval is withdrawn by the Member State.

CITEL RES.30 (II-98)¹⁷

**POSSIBLE COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
EUROPEAN TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDS INSTITUTE (ETSI)
AND THE INTER-AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATION COMMISSION**

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

CONSIDERING:

That the Executive Secretary of CITEL received a communication from the Director General of ETSI suggesting the establishment of a co-operation agreement between the two organizations;

That the Second Regular Assembly of CITEL was asked to provide direction to PCC.I and the Working Group on Standards Co-ordination to determine the advisability of entering into such an arrangement with ETSI;

That comments were advanced on the advisability of such an arrangement, some of which are reflected in Annex 1 to this Resolution;

RESOLVES:

To defer a decision on the matter pending further review by PCC.I and the Standards Coordination Working Group as well as further reflection by the Member States and Associate Members of CITEL.

On the basis of the recommendation of the matter by PCC.I, to render a decision at the next meeting of COM/CITEL.

¹⁷ CITEL/doc. 211/98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

ANNEX
COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSAL FOR A MOU BETWEEN CITELE AND ETSI

(Document submitted by the Delegation of the United States of America)

In analyzing the offer by ETSI to establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with CITELE, we must reflect on the role and working methods of CITELE's Working Group on Standards Coordination (WGSC), the role and working methods of ETSI, and the extent to which the interests of CITELE would be supported (or not) by establishing an MOU with ETSI, a Regional Standardization Organization (RSO) outside of the Americas.

The role of CITELE's Working Group on Standards Coordination (DOC 107) is to:

- Coordinate with other Permanent Consulting Committees in those areas related to standardization in order to attain common objectives of CITELE.
- Identify organizations that influence telecommunications standards in the region and facilitate regional and global network interconnectivity and interoperability, with special emphasis on the body of standards laid down by the ITU's Standardization Telecommunication Sector,
- To promote harmonization of telecommunications standards among countries of the region so as to facilitate network interconnectivity and interoperability.

In this analysis it is important to note that the CITELE Working Group on Standards Coordination is not a standards making body. Instead, the terms of reference for the Working Group are *to facilitate network interconnectivity and interoperability* on a regional as well as on a global basis.

In order to achieve global interoperability, this working group looks first to the standards developed by the International Telecommunications Union, which operates with the participation by all recognized standards bodies, and with members of the ITU-R and ITU-T sectors. Harmonization on a regional basis should incorporate the use of standards from bodies both within and from outside the region, as appropriate, with respect to the telecommunications networks operating in the region today.

According to Document 127, the role of ETSI is to produce European standards in the field of telecommunications and undertakes pre-standardization and standardization activities in areas common to telecommunications information technology, sound and TV broadcasting. In addition, ETSI is a European organization whose membership includes numerous entities that are not members of CITELE and do not operate within the Americas. Further, Doc. 127 proposes that, "ETSI and (CITELE) have common objectives with the international standardization of (telecommunications) that there should be an internationally agreed standard with the aim of contributing to the establishment of a Global Information Infrastructure."

CITELE looks to the ITU to determine (a) if a single internationally agreed standard is necessary; and (b) to determine what such a standard would be. CITELE's WGSC is not a standards making body. Since both Member States and Associate Members of CITELE are also members of the ITU, it would seem that the most appropriate means for CITELE to contribute to the work of the ITU would be through collaboration within the Americas that could lead to common proposals from CITELE Members into the ITU. This is consistent with the approach used by CITELE in preparing for other ITU activities including preparations for the World Radiocommunication Conference 1997 (WRC'97), the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), and the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference.

1. Should CITELE consider standards developed by ETSI?

Certainly, as appropriate to achieve CITELE's objective of promoting harmonization of telecommunications standards among the countries of the region to facilitate network interconnectivity and interoperability.

2. Is a structural relationship with ETSI necessary?

We believe that a formal structural relationship between CITELE and ETSI is unnecessary. The working methods of the CITELE WGSC have been developed to allow them to consider standards, as appropriate, from all recognized standards bodies with a preference for ITU standards, but also from Europe, North America, Japan, etc.

3. Should CITELE establish MOUs with other recognized standardization organizations?

The Working Group on Standard Coordination has been one of the most active and productive of CITELE's working groups in meeting its mandates. We believe that, given this experience and the Working Group's unique mandate and structure, it would require a significant amount of effort for them to structure an appropriate MOU that could be used both with ETSI and with other recognized standards bodies around the world. We believe that such an effort would distract the group from achieving its objectives.

Recalling the effort that was necessary to develop an understanding on standards coordination across different working groups within CITELE, we would discourage the undertaking of such a project with external bodies outside of CITELE, as a diversion of time and resources from the working group's important goals.

CITEL RES.31 (II-98)¹⁸

FUTURE PROPOSALS OF AMENDMENTS TO THE CITEL REGULATIONS

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

CONSIDERING:

The excellent progress made during the Second Regular Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission by the Ad Hoc Group on Structure and Functioning to agree on a full revision of the Commission's procedural regulations,

The significance of the proposed revisions and the subsequent need for all Member States and the Legal Services Department of the Organization of American States to have an opportunity to review fully the work of the Ad Hoc Group,

The critical importance of bringing this work to a conclusion as quickly as possible,

RESOLVES:

1. To commend the Chairman and members of the Ad Hoc Group for their success in substantially narrowing the remaining questions which Member States must address in order to effect a comprehensive amendment of CITEL's procedural regulations,
2. To use the emerging consensus reflected in Assembly document CITEL/doc.207.98 as the basis for CITEL's future efforts in this area,
3. To request Member States to review Assembly document CITEL/doc.207.98 and to provide comments and/or their agreement to the Chairman of the COM/CITEL Ad Hoc Working Group on Structure and Functioning no later than June 1, 1998.
4. To instruct the Ad Hoc Working Group to develop a proposal based on CITEL/doc.207.98 for consideration at the August 1998 meeting of the COM/CITEL Steering Committee in order to prepare for provisional adoption of agreed procedural changes at the December 1998 meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee.
5. To further instruction the Executive Secretariat to circulate any new proposals developed by the Ad Hoc Working Group in coordination with the Steering Committee no later than October 1, 1998.
6. To request that the Legal Services Department of the Organization of American States conduct a thorough legal review of Assembly document CITEL/doc.207/98 in support of the deliberations of the August 1998 Steering Committee on this issue.

¹⁸ CITEL/doc. 207/98

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

CITEL REC.1 (II-98)¹⁹

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE FOR THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONING OF CITEL

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

CONSIDERING:

That the Chairmanship of the PCCs is determined at the regular meetings of the CITEL Assembly;

That it is important to have the scheduling of meetings continue without experiencing an interruption due to the uncertainty of where the chairmanship resides or will reside;

REALIZING:

That the Associate Members are an important element in CITEL contributing to the technical competence and to the financial support of the organization;

RECOMMENDS:

That the working group studying the Structure and Functioning of CITEL:

Examine possible ways in which the Associate Members may take on an expanded role in CITEL Activities and include appropriate proposals in its report to COM/CITEL.

CITEL REC.2 (II-98)²⁰

REQUEST FOR INPUTS FOR THE WORK OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONING OF CITEL

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

¹⁹ CITEL/doc. 130/98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

²⁰ CITEL/doc. 209 rev.1 /98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

CONSIDERING:

The importance of the work of the Ad Hoc Group for the future structure of CITEL, the possibility of an expanded role for the Associate Members, and the operating procedures that will guide the work of the Commission;

RECOMMENDS:

1. That Member States submit their recommendations covering the structure and operation of CITEL to the Executive Secretary by June 1, 1998 in order that the proposal be compiled, translated and distributed to all the participants prior to the meeting of the Ad Hoc Group in August.
2. That Member States, where appropriate, seek the views of their Associate Members in the preparations of proposals for the work of the Ad Hoc Group.

INSTRUCTS THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

To distribute the proposals for the work of the Ad Hoc Group to all Member States and associate members by July 15, 1998.

V. DECISIONS

CITEL DEC.1 (II-98)²¹

CITEL RESPONSE TO THE SECOND SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS

The Second Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission decided to instruct the Executive Secretary to send to the General Coordinator on the Preparations for the Second Summit of the Americas the revised version of the telecommunications section for the Action Plan of the Santiago Summit based on the amendments agreed by the Second Regular Meeting of the Assembly of CITEL, and also requested the Executive Secretary to forward the annex to this decision to CITEL Member States urging them to forward this document as soon as possible to their respective authorities in preparation for the second Summit.

ANNEX

Telecommunications

Governments shall:

Establish strategies to support the development and continuous updating of a regional telecommunications infrastructure plan, taking into account national plans, the need for universal access to basic telecommunications services throughout the Region, and the evolution of the Global Information Society.

²¹ CITEL/doc. 192 rev.1 /98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

Work together in close cooperation with the private sector to rapidly build out the telecommunications infrastructure in the region, adopting strategies to make affordable access available to all for basic telephone service and the INTERNET, such as implementing the CITELE Guidelines on Value-Added Services and encouraging the development of community information service centers that provide access to basic telephone and value-added services, computers, the INTERNET and multimedia services bearing in mind the diverse needs of the countries of the Region and divergent levels of development;

Promote, in cooperation with the private sector, the exchange and distribution of information concerning regulatory matters such as universal access/service, interconnection and the establishment of independent regulatory bodies, taking into account the commitments made in the World Trade Organization's Agreement on Trade in Basic Telecommunications Services (the GBT Agreement), developments in the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas process, and the Declaration and Action Plan adopted by the 1996 Senior Telecommunications Officials Meeting held in Washington, D.C., with a view to developing, wherever possible, and subject to national constraints, best practice guidelines, and requesting when needed the assistance of CITELE, regional telecommunications organizations, the ITU, the IDB and others as appropriate.

Foster, together with the private sector, the development of applications over electronic networks, such as the INTERNET, broadcast television and radio which, taking into account different socio-economic conditions and languages, will support education, health, agriculture and sustainable rural development, electronic commerce and other applications assisting small savers, micro-enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), and modernization of the State.

Encourage CITELE to address, as a matter of urgency, studies of standards coordination aspects of telecommunications infrastructure, including the areas of Telecommunication Management Network (TMN) and Intelligent Networks (IN) so that the network can evolve to meet the interconnection requirements and to support the implementation of new applications in the Regional context.

Continue to examine ways to develop consistent regulatory approaches among member countries leading to the promotion of greater commonality in the certification processes for telecommunications equipment and to the establishment of a framework for a Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) and to move toward the negotiation and implementation of such an agreement for telecommunications equipment encompassing all the countries of the Region.

CITELE DEC. 2 (II-98)²²

PRESENCE OF THE TRADE PRESS AT CITELE MEETINGS

The Second Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission decided to instruct the Working Group on the Structure and Functioning of CITELE to propose specific provisions, to be included in the regulations, regarding the presence of the trade press at CITELE meetings.

²² CITELE/doc. 202/98 (Approved during the Fourth Plenary Session)

VI. ELECTION OF CITEL OFFICERS

During the Fourth Plenary Session, the Assembly elected the following officers:

Chairman of COM/CITEL: Ecuador

Vice Chairman of COM/CITEL: Argentina

Chairman of PCC.I: Colombia

Chairman of PCC.II: Uruguay

Chairman of PCC III: Mexico

COM/CITEL was made up of the following countries: Ecuador as Chairman, Argentina as Vice Chairman, and Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Grenada, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay, United States and Uruguay as members.

VII. LIST OF BASIC DOCUMENTS.

Minutes of the Inaugural and the First Plenary Session, CITEL/doc.184/98.

Minutes of the Second Plenary Session, CITEL/doc.186/98.

Minutes of the Third Plenary Session, CITEL/doc.204/98.

Minutes of the Fourth Plenary Session, CITEL/doc.212/98 rev. 1.

Minutes of the Fifth Plenary Session, CITEL/doc.213/98.

List of Documents, CITEL-103/98 rev.1.

List of Participants, CITEL-106/98 rev.1.

Final Report, CITEL/doc.214/98 rev.1