

<p>COM/ CITEL DEC. 68 (XX-08) ¹</p>	<p>1. To send to the OAS 2009 General Assembly the attached draft Resolution highlighting the important activities carried out by CITEL in 2008.</p> <p>2. To attach this draft Resolution to the Annual Report to be submitted by CITEL to the OAS General Assembly.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AG/RES. YYYY (XXXIX-O/09)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DEVELOPMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN THE REGION TO REDUCE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The GENERAL ASSEMBLY,</p> <p>HAVING SEEING: The document AG/doc. XXXX (XXXIX-O/09) “Annual Report of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL);</p> <p>WHEREAS: CITEL should continue in its condition of regulating intergovernmental organization, in which the Member States and associate members work together in favor of the sustainable expansion and development of telecommunication and information networks and to facilitate universal access to them so that all the parties may participate in the world economy and society of information and take advantage of its benefits;</p> <p>RECALLING: That the commitments assumed by the Heads of State and Government at the Summit of the Americas with regards to the strengthening of the strategies to support the development and continuous updating of a regional telecommunication infrastructure plan and the effort to reduce the digital divide with the continued implementation of the Agenda for Connectivity for the Americas and the Quito Action Plan;</p> <p>That the Declaration of Santo Domingo: “Good Governance and Development in the Knowledge-Based Society” requests that “the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization of American States (OAS) continue to support the incorporation of information and communication technologies (ICTs) into national development plans;”</p>
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¹ COM/CITEL/doc. 1272/08

BEARING IN MIND:

That CITELE will hold the Fifth Regular meeting of its Assembly in 2010;

RECOGNIZING:

That CITELE carried out the following activities during 2008:

- a. The approval of several recommendations regarding the coordination of standards to guarantee the interoperability and appropriate introduction of advanced technologies; harmonization of the radio spectrum and operation of radiocommunication services, including broadcasting; development and implementation of advanced technologies and economic aspects to promote the development of telecommunication services and networks;
- b. The offering of several professional updating courses on telecommunications with materials prepared by training centers accredited in the region in coordination with the Centre of Excellence for the Americas Region of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU);
- c. The coordination and harmonization of regional perspectives before world telecommunication forums through the development of common positions and Inter-American Proposals; and
- d. The organization of several seminars and workshops about priority issues for the countries; and

RESOLVES:

1. Reiterate and strengthen the priority mandate of CITELE to attend to the constant evolution of the information and communication technologies (ICTs) and reduce the gap that divides developed and developing countries with regards to telecommunications.
2. [Instruct the Commission on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs of the Permanent Council to assign the resources necessary for holding the Fifth Assembly of CITELE.] Note: This paragraph will be included only if there is no specific line item for this meeting in the budget for fiscal year 2010.
3. Request the Secretary General to lobby before the governments of the Member States to secure the participation of the highest governmental telecommunication authorities in order to guarantee the success of the Fifth Ordinary Meeting of the CITELE Assembly to be held in the first quarter of 2010.

	<p>4. To commission the General Secretariat of the OAS to support, through CITEL, the efforts of the Member States that aim at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Supporting telecenter setup programs which include not only the provision of applications useful for the activities in the area but also guidance and education so that citizens may use these applications.b. Complying inasmuch as possible with the guidelines and requirements related to the use and sharing of the frequency spectrum established by CITEL to harmonize the spectrum use.c. Updating national policies and legislations and promoting the exchange of experiences taking into account that the network and service convergence process is generating a new scenario that requires the creation of suitable standards.d. Enhancing the efforts to have preparation plans to effectively address emergencies caused by natural disaster to which all of the Region's countries are vulnerable.e. Promoting the dissemination and application of CITEL Recommendations among different actors, so that they can contribute to their implementation;f. Enhance the preparation and follow-up processes of high-level international telecommunication meetings and, in particular, the preparation of Inter-American Proposals (IAPs) for them;g. Promoting the use of information and communication technologies and, in particular, the availability of broadband infrastructure; andh. Intensifying the cooperation between developed and developing countries as well as among developing countries in order to facilitate access to the telecommunication infrastructure, in particular, in rural areas.
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