

CREATION OF A RAPPORTEUR GROUP FOR TO ADDRESS MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST FOR CITEL AND UPAEP

The XIV Meeting of Permanent Consultative Committee I: Telecommunications,

RECOGNIZING:

- a) That there is a Cooperation Agreement signed between the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (OAS) through the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) and the General Secretariat of the Postal Union of the Americas, Spain and Portugal (UPAEP);
- b) That this Agreement provides that the Parties shall cooperate in matters of common interest, in the framework of their general objectives;
- c) That electronic commerce and universal service have been identified as among the principal matters of interest;
- d) That new matters of common interest have emerged such as certification of digital signature, provision of services by the postal services as virtual mobile operators, communication service convergence, and others;
- e) That the governments attending the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) have pledged to use information and communication technologies (ICT) to reach the objectives included in the Millennium Declaration;
- f) That, with respect to the Postal Service, commitments have also been made to create ICT capabilities to improve access to services and postal networks;
- g) That the need to establish multipurpose community centers for sustainable public access has been identified to provide citizens with affordable or free access to various communication services, especially Internet, which must have sufficient capacity to provide assistance to the users in the post offices, with special emphasis on rural and unattended areas;
- h) That the joint use of postal and telecommunication infrastructure could generate synergies aimed at developing both sectors,

CONSIDERING:

That PCC.I is in a position to cooperate with the UPAEP, providing experiences in the telecommunication sector, especially with respect to the topic of universal service and best practices for the use of ICT, by means of studies and up-to-date information, and promoting the exchange of information and discussion with UPAEP as well,

¹ CCP.I-TEL/doc.1640/09

RESOLVES:

1. To establish a Rapporteur Group to address matters of common interest for CITEL and UPAEP, which would report directly to the Chair/Plenary Meeting of PCC.I, in order to identify matters of common interest and make progress in studying them and thus create an environment of cooperation, consultation and discussion.
2. To designate the Alternate Chair of PCC.I as the person responsible for this Rapporteur Group and who shall be in charge of coordinating its work.
3. To adopt the structure, mandate and terms of reference for the Rapporteur Group to address matters of common interest for CITEL and UPAEP, attached herewith as an Annex.

INVITES:

1. The member countries and territories of the UPAEP to participate and cooperate in identifying the topics and work of the Rapporteur Group.
2. The members of PCC.I to participate and cooperate in identifying matters of common interest.
3. The other Working Groups of PCC.I to contribute to this Group's good performance.

INSTRUCTS THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF CITEL:

To send a copy of this Resolution to UPAEP.

ANNEX TO RESOLUTION CCP.I/RES. 147 (XIV-09)**1. RAPPORTEUR GROUP TO ADDRESS MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST FOR CITEL AND UPAEP**

Coordinator: Alternate Chair of PCC.I (Argentina)

Mandate:

To focus on identifying, studying and monitoring topics of common interest for the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission and the Postal Union of the Americas, Spain and Portugal aimed at implementing the Cooperation Agreement signed by both organizations. To address in particular matters involving universal service, electronic commerce, the use of ICTs in post offices in order to provide better and affordable access to users and to examine the convergence of services. To submit Recommendations for best practices that might be of use to meet the current and future needs of the users of these networks throughout the region, especially in rural and unattended areas.

Terms of reference:

- a) To work on the study of the joint implementation of universal service in the region, in line with the specific characteristics of each country.
- b) To identify and assess the policies needed to promote the development of electronic commerce in the region.
- c) To study the identification of best practices in the use of ICT in postal offices, as deemed appropriate.
- d) To work on the study of possible joint provision of telecommunication services by the postal services.
- e) To establish Recommendations of best practices in the joint use of postal and telecommunication infrastructure.
- f) To identify other topics of common interest for CITEI and UPAEP throughout the region.
- g) To organize once a year a joint CITEI-UPAEP Seminar in the framework of the meetings of PCC.I.
- h) To establish ties with other organizations that have made progress in similar cooperation agreements, such as the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the Universal Postal Union (UPU), as deemed necessary, to further the work.

Work Plan:**XV Meeting of PCC.I (2009)**

- a) To identify, with the help of UPAEP, the government structures and contacts in the postal area of each of the region's countries;
- b) To gather information available in the region's countries on implementing universal service in both telecommunications and the postal sector;
- c) To start studies on the implementation of policies for the development of electronic commerce;
- d) To start studies on the services/options provided by ICTs for development in postal offices;
- e) To identify areas where the joint use of postal and telecommunication infrastructure is feasible;
- f) To organize the first joint CITEI-UPAEP Seminar at the first meeting of PCC. I in 2010.