

COM/CITEL RES.112 (IX-00)¹

PREPARATION OF THE III ORDINARY ASSEMBLY OF CITEL AND MEETING OF SENIOR OFFICIALS

The Ninth Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL, COM/CITEL,

REMEMBERING:

That the telecommunications officials of the Member States of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission declared, at the Second Ordinary Meeting of the Assembly held in Quito in 1998, that our countries must prepare adequately for facing the great challenge of the Twenty First Century, whose dynamic changes require that maximum priority be given to the implementation of telecommunications infrastructure to ensure a more efficient handling of information, state of the art technologies and the adoption of policies, strategies and programs that will facilitate that implementation so that it will contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of all citizens and empower their talents and knowledge,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

That at the Santiago Summit, the heads of state of the hemisphere assigned to the telecommunications area the mandate of implementing, through the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL), guidelines on added value services and encouraging the development of community information services centers that provide telephone services, computers, Internet and multimedia service; to support the promotion of the exchange and distribution of information on regulatory matters taking into account the commitments of the Agreement on Trade in Basic Telecommunications Services of the World Trade Organization (WTO), developments of the FTAA process and the Declaration and Plan of Action of the Meeting of Senior Telecommunications Officials and to undertake studies of coordination aspects of the standardization of telecommunications infrastructure,

CONSIDERING:

- a) That the need to continuously reestablish dialog between the state sector, private sector and civil society is increasingly evident, in order to achieve practical results in extending the benefits of information and communication technologies (TIC);
- b) That in this dialog CITEL must play a fundamental role as the regional coordinator in the telecommunications area, not only as the highest technical authority for recommending steps toward the effective development of the sector in the Americas, but also as the sponsor of the proper surroundings for this dialog, and
- c) That matters such as access to communications services, the evolution of the INTERNET and its expansion and uses, 3rd Generation services and beyond for obtaining communications at any time and at any place, and changes resulting from technological convergence, are intimately related to the actual establishment of the World Information Society and the opportunities provided to each of the citizens of the Americas,

¹ Document COM/CITEL 561/00.

RESOLVES:

1. To hold the Ordinary Assembly of CITEL during the first quarter of 2002 in the city of Buenos Aires.
2. To call, within this framework, a meeting of Senior Telecommunications Officials in order to support the strengthening of the sector, so that through the opportunity provided by CITEL, a fruitful dialog will continue to be created between Governments and the private sector that will allow the careful development of mechanisms to continue so that telecommunications services can reach all the inhabitants of the Region.
3. To entrust the Argentine Administration, with the cooperation of the Executive Secretariat of CITEL and in consultation with the president of COM/CITEL, with the initiation of the preparation for that Meeting of Senior Officials and Ordinary Assembly of CITEL, so that the former can utilize the Guidelines found in the Annex.

ANNEX

GUIDELINES FOR PREPARING THE MEETING OF SENIOR OFFICIALS

- 1) To hold the Meeting of Senior Officials during the first day or day and a half of the week in which the Ordinary Assembly of CITEL is called so that a Forum can be established with the participation of:
 - Senior telecommunications officials from the Member States of CITEL: Political Telecommunications Authorities, Regulatory and Control Agencies and Authorities responsible for decisions involving the Internet.
 - Authorities from regional telecommunications organizations: CANTO, ASETA, AHCET, COMTELCA, CTC, PTC, ARRL, SITA, CTU, IARU-2, OACI, and others that can be identified
 - ITU authorities: Secretary General, Vice Secretary General and Directors of the Sectors Bureaux.
 - Representatives from the private telecommunications sector: associate members of CITEL and other private sector representatives.
 - The press.
- 2) To ensure that as a result of this forum, a document will be adopted that contains the understandings, guidelines, actions and/or challenges that have been identified for the Region by the state as well as private sector.
- 3) To ensure consensus on the draft document with the full participation of the invited sectors.
- 4) To carry out an extensive campaign of dissemination in order to ensure the presence of representatives from all the sectors that are invited.