

FINANCING FOR THE ACTIVITIES OF CITEL BY THE OAS REGULAR FUND

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

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

That the mission of CITEL is to facilitate and promote the harmonious development of telecommunications and information technologies in the Americas for the benefit of society,

ACKNOWLEDGING:

- a) That it is universally recognized that telecommunications is essential to attaining the objectives of democratic, economic, and social development established in the Organization of American States Charter, and to the peace and security of our region;
- b) That CITEL is the intergovernmental organization of the inter-American system that promotes and facilitates telecommunication development in the region and coordinates Inter-American proposals in the relevant international forums;
- c) That the regulation and allocation of the radio spectrum is a purely governmental function and responsibility, and that CITEL provides its Members with the mechanism to fulfill that function at the international level;
- d) That the presentation to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) of inter-American positions developed at meetings of CITEL is essential to ensure that the countries of the inter-American system and their peoples have access to the spectrum, and to technology and telecommunication policies and regulations in order to maintain communications among themselves and with other parts of the world and to achieve the noble objectives of the OAS Charter,

CONSIDERING:

- a) That, as an intergovernmental organization, CITEL depends primarily on the financial support it receives from its Member States as an allocation in the annual OAS Regular Fund budget;
- b) That, since 2002, the Secretariat of CITEL has suffered a marked reduction in its in-house staff financed by that allocation;
- c) That if that reduction is not rectified through an increased allocation to the Secretariat of CITEL in the Regular Fund budget for 2010, it will limit CITEL's effectiveness in continuing to formulate, promote, and safeguard the shared interests of the countries of the inter-American system in the vital area of telecommunications;
- d) That a reduction in the capacity of CITEL would be detrimental to the interests of the peoples of the Americas, expressed in the OAS Charter, who depend on the development and maintenance of modern and accessible telecommunication systems,

¹ COM/CITEL/doc. 1276/08

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the representatives of the Member States of CITELE to discuss the content of this Resolution with the pertinent authorities of their Ministries of Foreign Affairs and to make an effort to obtain their support for a substantial increase in the allocation made to CITELE in the OAS Regular Fund budget for 2010.
2. To request the Chair of COM/CITELE to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Chair of the OAS Permanent Council, the Chair of the Committee of Administrative and Budgetary Affairs of the Permanent Council, the OAS Secretary General, and the OAS Executive Secretary for Integral Development.
3. To request the Executive Secretary of CITELE to organize and hold in Washington, D.C., United States, prior to February 28, 2009, an informal roundtable with the permanent representatives and other members of delegations of the permanent missions to the OAS to discuss the indispensable role CITELE plays in furthering the objectives of the OAS, and the need to strengthen the financial support given to CITELE and its Secretariat by increasing its allocation in the Regular Fund budget for 2010.