

PCC.II/REC. 63 (XXXVI-20)¹

INITIATIVES IN THE MATTER OF RADIOELECTRIC SPECTRUM TO EXPAND TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ICTS IN RURAL, UNSERVED OR UNDERSERVED AREAS

The 36 Meeting of Permanent Consultative Committee II: Radiocommunications (PCC.II).

CONSIDERING:

- a) That Decision PCC.I/DEC 309 (XXXVII-20) instructed the Secretariat of CITELE to remit to PCC.II the document “Improving Coverage, Universalizing Telecommunication/ICT Services, and Identifying the Development of Models for Bridging the Digital Divide by Connecting the Unconnected in Rural, Unserved or Underserved Areas” and also the Recommendation “Initiatives to Expand Telecommunications/ICT in Rural, Unserved or Underserved Areas” for discussion, comments, and the feasibility of a proposal with specific recommendations related to spectrum issues.
- b) That it is necessary for the Administrations to promote urgent actions to facilitate technological development and connectivity to broadband networks, which should be affordable to benefit all sectors of the population.

RECOGNIZING:

- a) That as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, there is an urgent need to accelerate the implementation of connectivity solutions to serve all citizens.
- b) The importance of technological neutrality.
- c) That the availability of spectrum and orbit resources are an extremely important input to bridge the connectivity divide and should be developed as recommended by the ITU-R and other similar organizations.
- d) That the administrations may have different priorities, legal and regulatory requirements, social and economic-financial conditions and availability of radioelectric spectrum.
- e) That it is necessary to consider new alternatives, technologies, means of access, and services that can solve in the short term the lack of connectivity and Telecommunication/ICT services in areas that do not have them or that are not affordable.

RECOMMENDS:

That CITELE administrations that wish to develop projects or initiatives for the expansion of Telecommunications/ICTs in rural, unserved or underserved areas, observing the regulatory provisions applicable in each country, consider the following initiatives:

- 1. Consider incentives for suitable use of the radioelectric spectrum to expand the coverage of affordable, quality Telecommunication/ICT services, implementing flexible regulatory frameworks that facilitate

¹ PCC.II-2020-36-5230r5_i

access to service and the use of radioelectric spectrum, in order to encourage investment in these areas and promote compliance with service coverage obligations.

2. Consider alternative, innovative models for assignments, licensing and payment for the use of radioelectric spectrum that aim to facilitate the expansion of coverage.
3. Consider policies to promote targeted investments aimed at satellite, and terrestrial solutions including, aeronautical and stratospheric platforms, among others that could provide Telecommunication/ICT services in the short term.
4. Consider implementing new technologies and techniques for dynamic management of licensed and license-exempt radioelectric spectrum to enable its flexible or shared use.