

**MEASURES TO ENSURE AVAILABILITY OF GMPCS DURING EMERGENCIES AND
NATURAL DISASTERS**

The VIII Meeting of Permanent Consultative Committee II: Radiocommunications including Broadcasting,

CONSIDERING:

- a) The importance of immediate communications following a catastrophic natural disaster event such as an earthquake, hurricane or massive flooding;
- b) That such events can destroy or severely damage telecommunications infrastructure;
- c) That in these cases the communications services available are *inter alia* Mobile Satellite Service (MSS) systems having small portable terminals which do not rely on local infrastructure;
- d) That the availability of MSS capability for use in emergencies and natural disasters depends on a responsive communication regulatory framework;
- e) That in these cases the satellite technology available through GMPCS systems can be a uniquely important tool for meeting emergency communications requirements;
- f) That the deployment of mobile terminals in emergency situations depends on a responsive regulatory framework that will facilitate their temporal movement across borders and, where applicable, requires expeditious authorization procedures,

RECOGNIZING:

- a) That GMPCS systems can be essential components of critical emergency response communication networks, particularly those used by emergency responders;
- b) That the ITU-R has under development a draft recommendation on the “Use of systems in the mobile-satellite service in the event of natural disasters and similar emergencies for relief operations”;
- c) That the proper operations of communications for emergency rescue response to natural disasters requires that the radio electric spectrum allocated for that purpose to GMPCS systems be available and, to the extent possible, free of harmful interference;
- d) That the Declaration of San Jose calls upon states to “To develop strategies for reducing the vulnerability to natural disasters of telecommunication infrastructure and to promote the use of all types and media of communications that may contribute to access to communications in case of disaster.”,

RECOMMENDS:

- 1. That CITEL Member States consider the adoption of procedures that, subject to the permitted legal framework for relief operations in response to emergencies and natural disasters, facilitate the free

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circulation and implementation of GMPCS satellite system terminals for when each Administrations considers it is needed;

2. That operators of GMPCS systems must carry out the necessary procedures with CITEL Administrations to become authorized for relief operations in response to natural disasters or emergencies,

REQUESTS:

That Administrations that authorize the use of GMPCS satellite system terminals for relief operations in response to natural disasters or emergencies so advise the Executive Secretary of CITEL, so that the information may be posted on the CITEL web site. (Please see Annex.).

ANNEX TO RECOMMENDATION PCC.II/REC. 20 (VIII-06)

Authorized Mobile Satellite Capability Available for Disaster Relief

[ADMINISTRATION]

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
Organization	Name of the Telecommunication Authorization Organization.
Contact	Person or persons along with contact information responsible for coordination.
MSS Capability	Description of MSS facilities available for use in the country, and contact points: 1. Operator A: Name and telephone number. 2. Operator B: Name and telephone number of contact.
Terminals Authorizations	Nature of authorizations provided. Identify organization and e-mail address for electronic contact.