

COM/CITEL/RES. 270 (XXXI-15)¹

REMOTE PARTICIPATION OF CARIBBEAN MEMBER STATES IN MEETINGS OF THE PERMANENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES (PCC) OF CITEL

The 31 Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL, COM/CITEL,

CONSIDERING:

- a) That the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) is the advisory body of the Organization of American States (OAS) in all matters related to telecommunications/ICTs in the hemisphere;
- b) That the vision and goals of CITEL are aimed at the integration of the Member States in the Information Society through the development of telecommunications/ICTs, facilitating and promoting their continuous development in the interest of sustainable development with particular attention on underserved areas in the Region;
- c) That the Strategic Plan for the 2014-2018 period, approved during the 6th Regular Meeting of the Assembly of CITEL held in 2014, establishes as strategic goal of CITEL *"Promoting greater and more active participation by the Member States of CITEL and all actors of the telecommunication/ICT sector in the activities of CITEL"* and as specific goal *"Increasing member participation in the activities of CITEL and increase Associate Members"*;
- d) That the functions of CITEL include identifying mechanisms to encourage participation by all Member States in the meetings of CITEL, and to increase the number of Associate Members;
- e) That remote participation has been recognized by CITEL as an effective mechanism to promote more attendance by Member States in the meetings of CITEL²;
- f) That, in accordance with paragraph 3 of Article 90 of the Regulations of CITEL, approved during the Fourth Plenary Session of the XLIV General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), Permanent Consultative Committees (PCCs) may approve resolutions, decisions or recommendations by electronic means by applying the procedures established by the COM/CITEL;
- g) That paragraph 10 of Article 96 of the aforementioned Regulations establishes that the PCC Plenary will adopt the recommendations or resolutions of the working groups by consensus and with the presence of at least one third of the Members. These measures may also be adopted by electronic means, provided there are no negative responses;
- h) That it is appropriate to take action to foster and encourage the participation of Member States that do not attend the face-to-face meetings of the Permanent Consultative Committees (PCCs) in the activities of CITEL through the use of electronic means;

RECOGNIZING:

¹ COM/CITEL/doc. 010/15 rev. 2

² CITEL Resolution RES.71 (VI-14) - Creation of a working group to consider amendments to the Statute and Regulations of CITEL to include remote participation and increase participation in the meetings of CITEL.

1. The needs to promote the participation of Member States from the Caribbean that do not participate in the PCC meetings in the activities of CITELE.
2. The interest of these Member States to participate in the discussions that take place in an international forum on relevant aspects for the development of telecommunications in the Region;
3. The importance and the need to increase the participation of Member States by bringing them closer and involving them in the activities of CITELE;
4. The development of procedures, mechanisms and working methods related to the use of electronic media will help facilitate and broaden the participation, as stakeholders, of those Member States that cannot attend face-to-face PCC meetings in the activities of CITELE;
5. Active, increased participation by Member States in the activities of CITELE will contribute to strengthen, consolidate and position CITELE

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Executive Secretary of CITELE to coordinate with the host countries of upcoming PCC meetings in order to organize pilot sessions during which the following guidelines are implemented, to the extent it is able:
 - a. To implement any technical facilities deemed necessary for the remote participation by electronic means.
 - b. To enable the countries to participate using this modality.
 - c. To provide suitable training on the use of electronic means.
 - d. To promote equal treatment of all participants, taking into account aspects such as simultaneous interpretation and the possibility of interventions.
 - e. To implement a registry for the accreditation of official (or officials) representing their country by means of remote participation.
 - f. To invite especially those countries that have not participated in the PCC activities to link up with such activities using electronic means.