



**ORGANIZACION DE LOS ESTADOS AMERICANOS
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES**

**Comisión Interamericana de Telecomunicaciones
Inter-American Telecommunication Commission**

**GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS
EIGHTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITEL ASSEMBLY ON PARTICIPATION,
ELECTIONS, AND VOTING**

Specific information on the Eighth Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly is provided below:

1. PARTICIPANTS IN THE EIGHTH CITEL ASSEMBLY

Each delegation's members shall be accredited by their respective governments via a written communication sent to the Executive Secretary, granting their delegates full powers to participate in the decision making on the matters including in the Assembly's agenda.

The provisions for participation in the Assembly can be found in the CITEL Statute and Regulations. The articles of the Regulations specifically explaining the conditions of participation are indicated below:

Article of the Regulations	Corresponding to:
Article 10	<p style="text-align: center;">Delegations</p> <p>“Delegation” means the person or persons designated as representatives of a country to participate in the Assembly. If the delegation is composed of more than one delegate, a head of delegation shall be designated.</p> <p>Each head of delegation may delegate his duties to the alternate head, or if there is none, to any other member of the delegation. Each Member State shall endeavor to designate to its delegations representatives who are versed in telecommunications/ICT. Delegations shall have the right to participate with voice and vote, in all public and private meetings of the Assembly, including its committees, subcommittees, working groups and ad hoc groups, in accordance with these Regulations and any special Rules of Procedure adopted for such meetings.</p>
Article 11	<p style="text-align: center;">Credentials</p> <p>Accreditation of the members of each delegation shall be made by the respective governments by means of written communications to the Executive Secretary, granting the delegates full powers to participate in the decisions on subjects included in the agenda of the sessions of the Assembly.</p>
Article 12	<p style="text-align: center;">Order of Precedence</p> <p>At the informal heads of delegation prior to the opening session of the Assembly, the delegations shall establish an order of precedence for the delegations. This order of precedence shall be used for the delegations' location in the meeting room, in the voting process and in the use of the floor whenever the delegations are requested to give their opinions on some subject-matter.</p>
Article 13	<p style="text-align: center;">Permanent Observers to the Organization</p> <p>1. States that are Permanent Observers to the Organization shall enjoy the same status in the CITEI and any of its organs. They shall accredit their respective representatives to participate in the meetings of the CITEI Assembly, by means of a written communication addressed to the Executive Secretary.</p> <p>2. The representatives of the Permanent Observers may attend the public sessions of the CITEI Assembly Meetings, and of its principal committees and, when invited by the corresponding presiding officer, the private sessions. With the permission of the presiding officer, Permanent Observers may speak at any meeting.</p>
Article 14	<p style="text-align: center;">Observers from Inter -American Specialized Organizations, Organs of the OAS, and Inter-American Intergovernmental Regional Organizations</p> <p>Representatives of Inter American specialized organizations and organs of the OAS, and Inter-American intergovernmental regional organizations may attend the CITEI Assembly as observers. With the permission of the presiding officer, those representatives may speak at the meeting or address the meeting in writing.</p>

<p>Article 15</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Observers from the United Nations</p> <p>Representatives of the United Nations and its specialized agencies may attend the Meetings of the CITEL Assembly as observers. With the permission of the presiding officer, they may speak at the meeting or address the meeting in writing.</p>
<p>Article 16</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Other Observers</p> <p>1. International and national organizations that are parties to agreements or arrangements establishing relations of cooperation with the Organization, its organs, organizations or agencies may also attend the CITEL Assembly meetings when such agreements or arrangements provide for the participation of observers.</p> <p>2. Subject to COM/CITEL's approval, the following may send observers to the CITEL Assembly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. American States that are not Members or Permanent Observers of the Organization who have asked to participate in the meeting. b. Non-American States that are Members of the United Nations or its specialized agencies who have asked to participate in the meeting. c. International, regional, subregional, and national agencies and organizations that are involved in telecommunications/ICT activities in the region who have asked to participate in the meeting. <p>3. The observers referred to in this Article may speak at the plenary session of the CITEL Assembly or at the sessions of its principal committees, only when invited to do so by the corresponding presiding officer, because of special interest or expertise in a specific topic of discussion. Similarly, such observers may provide written statements on such topics when expressly authorized or requested to do so by the presiding officer.</p> <p>4. The participation of the observers referred to in this Article, before the CITEL Assembly, is without prejudice to the status that they may have, as associate members of the PCC, in accordance with Article 73 of the Regulations</p> <p>5. Unless otherwise specified by COM/CITEL, any State or entity referred to in Article 16 that wishes to participate in a meeting of the CITEL Assembly as an observer, shall apply to attend, in writing, to the Chair of COM/CITEL, at least sixty days before the anticipated opening of that meeting of the CITEL Assembly. The Chair of COM/CITEL shall consult such applications with the Members of COM/CITEL, and if there are no objections, the corresponding invitations shall be extended in accordance with Article 9 of these Regulations.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sixty days before the Eighth Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly correspond to <u>December 16, 2021.</u></p>

<p>Article 17</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Observers Participation of associate members</p> <p>Active associate members may attend the public sessions of the CITELE Assembly as observers. The observers may speak at the plenary sessions of the CITELE Assembly or at the sessions of its principal committees only when invited to do so by the corresponding presiding officer because of special interest or expertise in a specific topic of discussion. Similarly, such observers may provide written statements on such topics when expressly authorized or requested to do so by the presiding officer.</p>
<p>Article 19</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Guests</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Subject to COM/CITEL's approval and in consultation with the government of the host country, any person or entity not covered in Article 16, that is a recognized authority or that has a particular interest in the field of telecommunications/ICT, may attend the meetings of the CITELE Assembly as a guest. COM/CITEL will develop guidelines to determine qualifications for guests. 2. Individuals or entities wishing to participate as guests to a meeting of the CITELE Assembly, under Article 20, should apply in writing to the Chair of COM/CITEL no later than forty five days prior to the scheduled start of the CITELE Assembly meeting. The Chair of COM/CITEL will consult with COM/CITEL members and, with their consent, extend the corresponding invitations pursuant to Article 9 of these Regulations, unless the Government of the host country objects. 3. Guests may attend the plenary meetings and the meetings of the committees for the sole purpose of following the discussions. However, they may take part in committee discussions only if they are requested to do so by the Chair of the Committee and there is no objection from any Member State present. Guests shall not receive copies of contributions, papers or reports of the proceedings, unless COM/CITEL decides to provide the documents to a guest when it approves an invitation. <p style="text-align: center;">Forty-five days before the Eighth Regular Meeting of the CITELE Assembly correspond to <u>January 2, 2022.</u></p>
<p>Article 32</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Public and Private Sessions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plenary sessions at the Assembly and of the working committees shall be public. However, if the Chair so provides or any representative Member State so requests, the session shall be private, and shall so continue unless the members participating in the session decide otherwise. 2. Private Sessions may only be attended by the heads of delegations of the Member States, the members of the delegations designated by those heads and such Secretariat personnel as the Chair of the respective body may expressly authorize in each case. 3. All decision taken by the CITELE Assembly in a private plenary session shall be announced at the next public plenary session. 4. No plenary, subcommittee, ad hoc group, or working group session shall be held unless the place and time have been announced to participants sufficiently in advance to permit them to attend.

2. ELECTION

The CITELE Assembly shall proceed to elect the members of COM/CITELE and two vice-chairs for the Assembly, as well as to determine the number of Permanent Consultative Committees (PCC), their mandates, and the election of the respective host countries, observing to the extent possible an equitable geographical distribution.

How should a candidate be submitted?

To submit a candidate, the administration of the member state that is interested must send the corresponding communication to the CITELE Secretariat, which shall forward it to the other CITELE member states and include it as a document for the Assembly submitted by the member state concerned. It is also a practice to have the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the corresponding member state to support the Administration's candidacy and to undertake related procedures.

What is the deadline for submitting the candidacies?

It is not set forth in the CITELE Statute or Regulations.

3. VOTING

In the event no consensus is reached in the deliberations, the decisions of the CITELE Assembly shall be adopted by an absolute majority, that is, more than half of the votes of participating member states, unless a two-thirds majority is specifically required.

In the committees, subcommittees, and working groups, decisions shall be adopted by a simple majority, that is, more than half of those attending and voting.

Who is entitled to vote?

Each delegation of a Member State shall have the right to one vote. The right to vote does not imply an obligation to vote.

Article 20 Regulation: Election of the Chair and Vice Chairs

The Assembly Chair and both Vice Chairs shall be elected in the first plenary session, in accordance with the procedures outlined in Article 8 of the Statute. These officials will remain in office until the Assembly is adjourned.

Article 8 Statute: Officers of the CITELE Assembly

There shall be a Chair and two Vice Chairs of the CITELE Assembly, elected at the first plenary session, by an absolute majority of the Member States represented at the Assembly. Before the election of the Chair of the CITELE Assembly, the Chair of COM/CITELE shall serve as the provisional Chair.

Article 13 Statute: Voting

The decisions of the CITELE Assembly shall be adopted at the plenary sessions and consensus shall always be sought. Each delegation of a Member State shall have the right to one vote. The right to vote does not imply an obligation to vote.

In the absence of consensus in the deliberations, the decisions of the CITELE Assembly shall be adopted by the vote of an absolute majority of the Member States participating, except in those cases where a two-thirds vote of the participating Member States is expressly required.

In the committees, subcommittees, and working groups, decisions shall be adopted by a simple majority.

For the purposes of this Statute, the term "absolute majority" means more than half of the votes of the Member States participating in a meeting of the CITELE Assembly. The term "simple majority" means more than half of those present and voting in any given session of a Committee, subcommittee, or working group.

Article 14 of the Statute: Membership

The Permanent Executive Committee (COM/CITELE) is the executive organ of CITELE. It is composed of representatives of thirteen Member States elected at the CITELE Assembly, who shall serve until the next Regular Meeting of the Assembly.

One of the members The Chair shall be the representative of the Member State hosting the meeting of the CITELE Assembly in which the election takes place. The Vice-Chair shall be the representative of the Member State in whose territory the next Regular Meeting of the CITELE Assembly will be held. In the election of the remaining eleven Member States, the principles of rotation and of an equitable geographic representation shall be observed, insofar as possible.

Artículo 15 del Estatuto: Sesión de constitución y autoridades

El COM/CITELE será constituido por el Presidente de la Asamblea de la CITELE antes de la clausura de la reunión en la que hubieran sido elegidos los Estados Miembros del mismo.

En la sesión de constitución del COM/CITELE, el Presidente de la Asamblea de la CITELE será nombrado Presidente del COM/CITELE. El representante del Estado Miembro que haya ofrecido ser sede de la próxima Reunión Ordinaria de la Asamblea de la CITELE será el Vicepresidente del COM/CITELE.

Article 68 of the Regulations: Establishment and chairmanship of a PCC

1. The CITELE Assembly shall establish the Permanent Consultative Committees (PCCs) that it considers necessary to attain the objectives defined in Article 3 of the Statute together with specific mandates for each PCC. For the selection of countries to chair meetings of the PCCs, the principles of rotation and equitable geographic distribution shall be observed to the extent possible. A PCC shall continue in force until such time as the CITELE Assembly itself, or COM/CITELE, deems its functions and purpose to be concluded. The names of the PCCs are listed in Annex 1 of these Regulations.

2. The countries of the PCCs may submit their candidacy for one re-election only. A Member State may not submit its candidacy for a second re-election, if another Member State – which has been elected fewer times – should present its candidacy.

3. Each PCC shall be presided over by the representative appointed by the government of the elected country. Each PCC may establish up to three vice chairmanships to assist the Chair in the performance of his duties. The Chair of each PCC shall recommend to the PCC the number of Vice Chairs he deems appropriate, taking into account insofar as possible an equitable geographical distribution. The countries from which a Vice-Chair is appointed, may host an additional meeting of the PCC in a given year, and in such case, will be responsible for providing meeting sites, personnel, and administrative support for the meeting.

4. Each PCC shall determine its internal work structure, which must fully comply with the provisions of the Statute and these Regulations.
