



DECLARATION OF THE MINISTERS OF COMMUNICATIONS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AMERICAN NATIONS

THIRD MEETING OF MINISTERS OF COMMUNICATIONS

Lima, Republic of Peru

August 9, 2013

The Ministers of Communications of the Member States of the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR) gathered in the city of Lima, Republic of Peru, on August 9, 2013, within the framework of the South American Infrastructure and Planning Council (COSIPLAN):

1. Acknowledge the constant evolution of digital economy that is changing the way citizens, communities, companies and governments around the world relate to each other, communicate, supply and have access to goods and services.
2. Concur that the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), services and applications available through the Internet, reinforce the actions of productive, educational, health, organized communities and governmental sectors, with substantial impacts on social and economic development, as well as on competitiveness, complementarity and innovation.
3. Agree that the good use of Digital Economy benefits increasingly depends on the availability of an Internet broadband connection, as new services and applications require high speed and capacity connectivity.
4. Reaffirm their commitment with the regional challenge involved in moving forward in the universalisation of broadband connection in South America, highlighting the key role of the States, based on the consolidation and expansion of interconnection among the countries; overcoming the insufficient infrastructure to Internet access, mainly in isolated and difficult-to-access areas, principally, in Border Areas.
5. Therefore, acknowledge the significance and urgency to make progress in the compliance with the commitments set in the Sixth Meeting of Heads of State and Government of UNASUR, with regard to the construction of the project "South American Connectivity Network towards Integration", cost reduction and universal access to the Internet.



6. Highlight the need to promote the strengthening of the project “South American Connectivity Network towards Integration”, the establishment of regional transit points of exchange, the inclusion of satellite technology and the development, distribution, hosting of digital resources in South America, as the vehicles to ensure digital sovereignty in South America in order to foster regional development, privacy and regional traffic security, to reduce costs, to improve user experience and minimize dependency on international links.
7. Acknowledge the importance of strengthening and expanding government participation in Internet governance fora, encouraging multilateral discussion scenarios on this issue, more appropriate to government participation, irrespective of acknowledging the importance of the participation of the different stakeholders of the society under the “multistakeholder model”.
8. Reject any action any communications tapping without the authorization of the relevant authorities through the due process of member countries, since it is a violation of the nation sovereignty, the principle of non-intervention in the State internal affairs provided for in the Letter of the United Nations, the international treaties and agreements, human and fundamental rights and the right to privacy of citizens.
9. Urge COSIPLAN Telecommunications Group to continue exploring actions and exchanging experiences to strengthen communications security of South American countries and to reduce technological dependency on other regions in coordination with the South American Defence Council and other relevant regional instances.
10. Agree upon the need to prepare a joint agenda on ICTs technological development that allows reducing the vulnerability of communications.
11. Acknowledge the significance of strengthening dialogue on privacy and cyber security within the scope of UNASUR and ICT/telecommunications multilateral organizations.
12. Highlight the importance and need to foster joint actions in case of any intent of appropriation of first level domain names that refer to geographic, historic, cultural, natural or any other names, which must be preserved as part of the cultural identity of peoples and as world heritage.
13. Acknowledge the work done at the Second Meeting of the South American Telecommunications Working Group, in particular, regarding the approval of the Terms of Reference to prepare the studies for the “South American



Connectivity Network towards Integration”, to be financed by the Technical Cooperation provided by the Inter-American Development Bank – IDB.

14. Renew the commitment to promote actions to develop the project "South American Connectivity Network towards Integration" in order to establish connections among South American countries and to improve the conditions for their connections with other continents. For such effect, the draft Agreement with the IDB to benefit UNASUR Member States with the above mentioned Technical Cooperation was reviewed, and subsequently approved. The Presidency Pro Tempore is urged to sign said agreement.
15. Establish a Working Group, to be coordinated by the Presidency Pro Tempore of COSIPLAN and made up by the representatives of the countries that express their interest in participating, to prepare the Confidentiality Agreement, review the Terms of Reference to be used to sign the Agreement between UNASUR and IDB, and become an accompaniment group the IDB to prepare the studies on the “South American Connectivity Network towards Integration”. This Commission shall perform this task until August 19, 2013.
16. To this respect, the countries agree that the Terms of Reference must include the following minimum conditions: (i) the results of the study shall not be binding; (ii) the consultants shall be from the region and selected by the Working Group referred to in the foregoing article; and, (iii) the working meetings shall be held within the region.
17. For this purpose, agree upon the need to create a Working Group, based on the national capabilities of each country, which will prepare a strategic document on the South American Connectivity Network, including, among other relevant issues, those referred to networks, security, and contents.
18. Congratulate Presidency Pro Tempore of COSIPLAN for conducting the Third Meeting of Ministers of Communications and express gratitude for the presentations made by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Peruvian Administration.
19. Agree to organize the new meeting of Ministries of Communications in the second quarter of 2014, according to relevant COSIPLAN Working Plan.



Argentine Republic	Plurinational State of Bolivia
Federative Republic of Brazil	Republic of Chile
Republic of Colombia	Republic of Ecuador
Co-operative Republic of Guyana	Republic of Peru
Republic of Suriname	Oriental Republic of Uruguay
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	