

## **César Martínez, Head of International Affairs Office at the National Telecommunications Commission (CONATEL) of Paraguay**

César Martínez is the Head of International Affairs Office at the National Telecommunications Commission (*Comisión Nacional de Telecomunicaciones*, CONATEL), the authority of telecommunications regulatory office of Paraguay.

From this post, Mr. Martínez is currently in charge of coordinating Paraguay's position at the many international telecommunications/ICT fora, following the lines of the National Telecommunications Plan (PNT 2022-2025) of CONATEL and the National ICT Plan of the Ministry of Information and Communication Technologies (MITIC).

With over 35 years of experience in the telecommunications/ICT sector, Mr. Martínez has started in the private sector implementing terrestrial and satellite links for data transmission; later, for Internet access as a development tool for the country.

His incursion into the public sector began at the former *Administración Nacional de Telecomunicaciones* (ANTELCO), nowadays the *Compañía Paraguaya de Comunicaciones* (COPACO), the Public Telephone Operator, where he was involved in network planning for fixed telephony services.

With the creation of the telecommunication's regulatory authority in the mid-90s, Mr. Martínez joined the CONATEL. This transfer allowed him to have a more holistic view of the sector and inspired him to contribute to the development and universalization of telecommunications as an instrument of change of Paraguayans lives.

At CONATEL, Mr. Martínez has had the opportunity to be Office Manager of Telecommunications Services, responsible for the administration and regulation of fixed and mobile telephony services, as well as the Internet, among other services.

Afterwards, as Head of the Interinstitutional Relations Office, Mr. Martínez was in charge of coordinating and articulating the work with other government institutions, to contribute to the development of communities that had difficulties in accessing telecommunications, including the Internet. Also, in this position, Mr. Martínez carried out the coordination and registration of satellite capacity providers.

Within the work of the ITU, his continuous participation as a delegate of his country in the Plenipotentiary Conferences since 2010 in Guadalajara, when Paraguay was elected as a Member State of the Council, could be considered as remarkable.

Similarly, he has participated in various meetings of the Council and its Working Groups. It should be noted that Mr. Martínez has been a Vicechair of CWG-Internet since 2019 and has even chaired several Open Consultations.

Mr. Martínez has attended other ITU meetings, especially of the Standardization and the Development Sectors, including Study Groups, RPM and WTDC.

At a regional level, Mr. Martínez has attended several CITEL conferences, including Assemblies, and the Permanent Executive Committee (COMCITEL) and the Permanent Consultative Committee I "*Telecommunications/ICT*" (PPC.I) meetings.

Mr. Martínez also took part of participated in the Assemblies of Parties and the Advisory Committee of the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (ITSO) and many training courses given by USTTI, ISOC, LACNIC, KISDI, JICA and others.

Mr. Martínez has a degree in Electronics and Telecommunications Engineering from the National University of Asuncion (Universidad Nacional de Asunción, UNA).

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