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Barbara Khol

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Andean Nations Plan Telecommunications Integration

by Barbara Khol

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Andean Pact member-nation governments (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela) are preparing plans for integrating respective telecommunications systems to coincide with implementation of a common market in 1995. The five governments have established agreements on a master plan for upgrading communications networks, and have accepted a bid from the US-based Intelsat company for construction of a satellite ("Condor"). Telephone lines installed in Pact nations are summarized below. Bolivia: 165,000 lines, or 2.3 per 100 inhabitants. Colombia: 2.3 million, 2.4/100. Ecuador: 500,000, 5/100. Peru: 490,000, 2.4/100. Venezuela: 1 million, 8/100. (Basic data from AFP, 06/25/91)

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