harmonization of Radio-Radiation Protection among various countries.

With the expansion of radio usage, inappropriate use of radio frequencies by unlicensed radio stations has increased and a number of failures in radio usage have been reported. In order to conduct effective detection of unlicensed radio stations, the government has been developing the Detect Unlicensed Radio Stations (DEURASÅFDetect Unlicensed Radio Stations) since 1993.

Section 3
Establishment of a Safe and Secure Ubiquitous Network Society

1. Consumer administration in relation to telecommunications services

(1) Illegal and harmful information on the Internet

Illegal and harmful information on the internet is increasing social concerns in Japan. The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications has convened meetings of the Study Group to Address Illegal and Harmful Information on the Internet since August 2005 to deliberate on voluntary efforts of providers to tackle illegal and harmful information on the Internet and systems and measures to effectively support such efforts. Then, a finalized report was compiled in August 2006. Based on the proposals from the study group, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications continues to develop a network environment where the administration can support voluntary actions of providers and users against illegal and harmful information on the internet with due considerations to freedom of expression. For example, the Ministry assists the associations and others in the business to create and promote a guideline for proper operation of the Provider Liability Limitation Law, supports providers to voluntarily tackle illegal and harmful information on the internet, and disseminates and promotes the application of filtering.

(2) Measures against nuisance e-mails

The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications has been and continues to take comprehensive measures against e-mails delivered to cellular phones and PCs unilaterally for advertisement and commercial purposes without consent of the receiver (so-called nuisance mails). These measures include effective enforcement of Law on Regulation of Transmission of Specified Electronic Mail promotion of a project to banish nuisance emails, technical solutions, and international cooperation.

(3) Misuse of cellular phones

With rapid diffusion of cellular phones, cellular phone related crimes such as billing fraud or drug deals are becoming a social issue that needs to be addressed. The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications address this issue by properly enforcing the "Law on Identification of Cellular Phone Users by Mobile Operators and Prevention of Abusive Use of Cellular Phones" (Fully enforced in April 2006)

(4) Protection of personal information in the telecommunications field

With respect to protection of personal information encompassing all areas, the Law concerning the Protection of Personal Information became fully enforced in April 2005. To conduct proper enforcement of this law, the Nippon Information Communications Association and Secure Broadcasting Authorization and Research Center are the accredited organizations for protection of personal information in the telecommunication field and broadcasting field, respectively. In March 2007, a recommendation based on this law was made to a telecommunication service provider which caused a mass leakage of personal information (first time in the information and communication field).

For personal information protection in the telecommunication service field, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications revised Guidelines regarding the Protection of Personal Information in the Telecommunications Business in August 2004, and for the broadcasting field, formulated the "Guidelines concerning Protection of Personal Information of Broadcast Services Users" in August 2004 (enforced in April 2005). The guideline was reviewed and revised in March 2007 based on a final report, etc. from the Study Group on the Future Direction of Satellite Broadcasting (October 2006 to October 2007).

2. Promotion of Information Security Policy

(1) Information security measures of the government

The government has been promoting information security measures in a concerted manner by establishing

the National Information Security Center in the Cabinet Secretariat (NISC) in April 2005, as a central organization for information security measures, and the Information Security Council (chairman: Cabinet Secretary) in the Strategic Headquarters for Promotion of an Advanced Information Telecommunications Network Society in May 2005. The Council formulated the First Information Security Basic Plan in February 2006.

(2) Realization of an environment for safe and secure use of the Internet

Establishing a safe and secure usage environment with improved information security is essential to promote an advanced information and communication network society in the future. Based on the progress of efforts in information security measures of the entire government and the second report "Proposals of Information Security Policy 2005" (July 2004) of the Study Group on Next Generation IP Infrastructure (February 2004 – June 2005), the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications has been making efforts to strengthen information security measures from three aspects: 1 Preventing failures from spreading out through networks, 2. Corresponding to diversification of products connected to networks, and 3. Overcoming vulnerability of human resources.

(3) Ensuring safety and reliability in the telecommunications services

As an index for safety and reliability measures for information and communications systems, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications created "Safety and Reliability Criteria for Information and Communications Network". The Ministry is promoting

the use of the criteria among telecommunications service providers; however, an increase in the number of accidents such as communication failure in services as well as unconventional network accidents are being confirmed, due to the advancement of IP technology and expansion of usage of ICT services. In consideration of such situation, safety and reliability measures for network IP technology have been discussed at the Information and Communications Council since August 2006.

(4) Promotion of safety assessment and advancement of cryptographic technology

The CRYPTREC (Cryptography Research and Evaluation Committee), or the project to assess cryptography by study groups, which is co-hosted by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, continued to conduct the study, research, and compilation of standards to audit e-government recommended ciphers and ensure the safety and reliability of the e-government recommended ciphers in fiscal 2006.

3. Ensuring reliability of electronic data

In order to further promote socio-economic activities using the network such as e-commerce by ensuring a smooth user environment for electronic signatures, the Law concerning Electronic Signature and Certification Services has been enforced since April 2001. The Law provides for the government's introduction of arbitrary certification systems which satisfy certain standards, and as of the end of fiscal 2006, 18 specific certification services had been accredited.

Section 4

Development of affluent and vital ubiquitous network society

1. Elimination of geographic digital divide and promotion of information system to local communities

The government has been actively promoting optic fibers, etc., in the effort toward elimination of zero-broadband regions by 2010 in the IT New Reform Strategy.

Based on this government policy, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications formulated the "Next Generation Broadband Concept 2010" which specified the development goals including elimination of

zero-broadband regions by 2010, the basic plan for broadband development such as creation of a roadmap, assignment of roles between the public and private sectors, and a promotional system followed by concerned parties. Using the prefecture roadmap and development manual, etc., the Ministry will make a further effort to support and work with private sectors and local public entities established under the Law for Telecommunication Infrastructure Improvement, in order to eliminate zero-broadband regions.

Also, the Ministry is supporting "services to reduce