

MPHPT

June 26, 2003, Vol. 14, No. 6

Please feel free to use the articles in this publication, with proper credits.

COMMUNICATIONS NEWS

Biweekly Newsletter of the Ministry of Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications, Japan

The Radiocommunication Assembly (RA-03) Successfully Concluded

The Radiocommunication Assembly (RA-03) of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) was convened with attendance of about 400 people from 85 countries and 10 regional organizations, from June 2 through 6, 2003, in Geneva, Switzerland.

From Japan, 29 people, including Mr. ISHIHARA, Director-General for Technology Policy Coordination, MPHPT (seven officials from MPHPT, 22 people from the private sector), attended RA-03.

Major outcomes and agenda items are as follows:

1. Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chairs of RA

Mr. ITO Yasuhiko (KDDI Corp.) of Japan was appointed as the Chair of RA.

Mr. N. Kisrawi (Syria), Ms. M. Konner (Denmark), Mr. I. Samake (Mali) and Mr. R. Mayher (the U.S.) were appointed as Vice Chairs.

2. Approval of draft Recommendations submitted from Study Groups (SGs)

Draft Recommendations submitted from SGs were deliberated upon, and 37 Recommendations (25 new ones, and 12 revised ones) concerning visions of the fourth-generation (4G: systems beyond IMT-2000) mobile communications systems were approved.

3. Approval of the work programme for the next study period

The work programme was approved for the next study period containing some 361 questions, such as studies in the fields of 4G systems, 5GHz band Radio LAN/wireless access, Ultra-Wideband systems (UWB).

4. Appointment of SG Chairs and Vice-Chairs in the next study period

Four candidates from Japan were appointed as follows:

- Study Group 4 (Fixed-Satellite service): Mr. ABE Muneo (KDDI Corp.)
- Study Group 6 (Broadcasting services): Mr. KUMADA Junji (NHK)
- Study Group 8 (Mobile, radiodetermination, amateur and related satellite services): Mr. MIZUIKE Takeshi (KDDI Corp.)
- Study Group 9 (Fixed service): Mr. HASHIMOTO Akira (NTT DoCoMo, Inc.)

5. Revisions to the working methods

i) Procedure for simultaneous adoption and approval

At present, in order to approve recommendations, it is required to take two-step procedures, namely, adoption and approval. For shortening the two-step procedures to a one-step procedure, a "procedure for simultaneous adoption and approval (PSAA)" was introduced. By choosing either PSAA or the existing procedures according to the situation, the time required between the drafting of recommendations to approval of recommendations would be shortened from the shortest period currently of seven months to three months.

ii) Reduction in finance

Amidst severe financial situation of

ITU, reduction of costs by each organization became an urgent task. Since ITU-R is not an exception from these efforts, deliberations were made upon reduction of documents for meetings, shortening of meeting periods, etc.

6. Schedule of the next RA

The next RA will be convened in 2007, four years after this RA-03.

CONTENTS

- The Radiocommunication Assembly (RA-03) Successfully Concluded ---- 1
- Communications Industry Forecasts of Business Conditions Increase ----- 2
- APT Workshop on ICT Policies for Development Held in Vietnam, Laos and Myanmar ----- 3

International Policy Division,
International Affairs Department,
Ministry of Public Management, Home
Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications
1-2, Kasumigaseki 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8926, Japan

- We welcome your comments by:
feedback-newsletter@soumu.go.jp
Fax: +81-3-5253-5924
Tel.: +81-3-5253-5920
- MPHPT information is available at:
<http://www.joho.soumu.go.jp/eng/>

Communications Industry Forecasts of Business Conditions Increase

The Business Survey Indices (BSIs) in the first quarter (Q-I) and the second quarter (Q-II) of FY2003 show as follows:

- The telecommunications businesses are trending upwards at "7.5" and

"10.3" for Q-I and Q-II of FY2003, respectively, in reversal of trends for FY2002.

- Private broadcasters are still trending downwards at "-41.0" and "-28.2" for Q-I and Q-II of FY2003, respectively.

However, the negative growth has slowed. (Reported in the next month, respectively), etc.

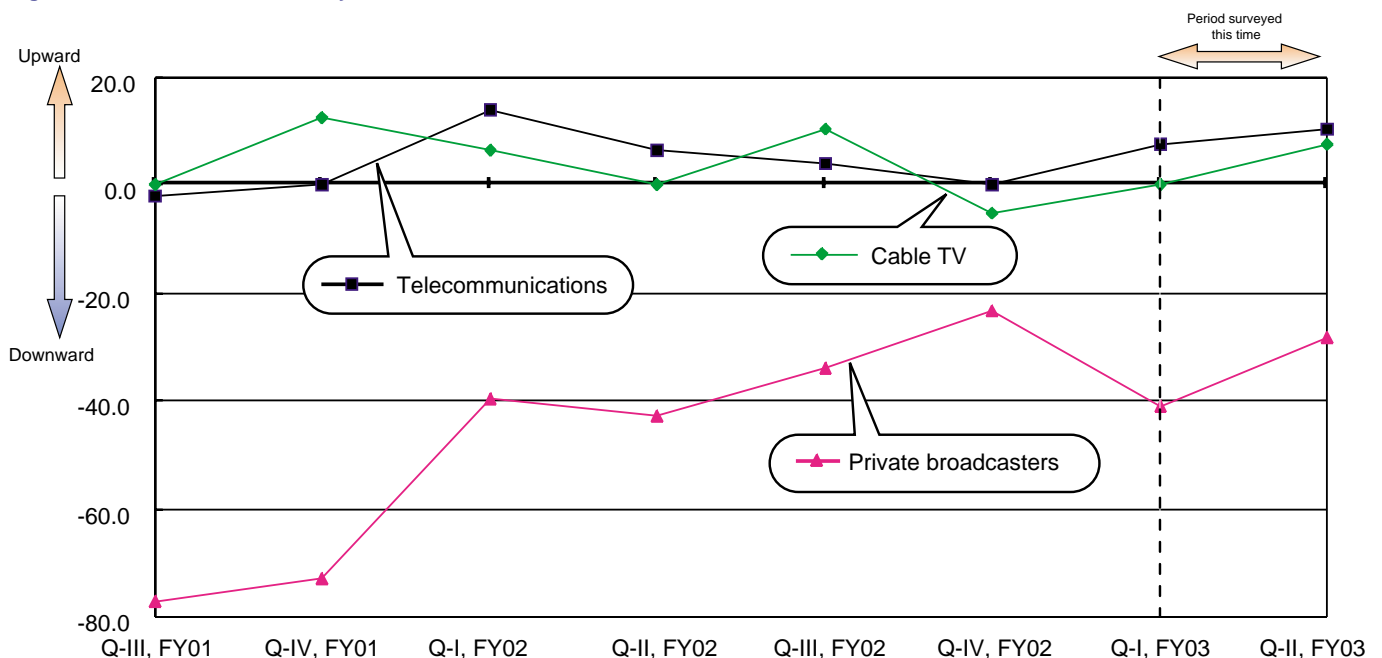
Table 1. Business Survey Indices

(Unit: point)

Type of business	FY2001 Q-III	FY2001 Q-IV	FY2002 Q-I	FY2002 Q-II	FY2002 Q-III	FY2002 Q-IV	FY2003 Q-I	FY2003 Q-II
Telecommunications	-1.9	0.0	14.0	6.4	4.0	0.0	7.5	10.3
Type I telecommunications	0.0	0.0	7.1	6.3	6.1	3.0	7.7	7.7
Type II telecommunications	-5.6	0.0	26.7	6.7	0.0	-5.9	7.1	15.4
Private broadcasting	-56.1	-51.6	-28.6	-30.3	-21.2	-18.2	-30.8	-19.2
Except cablecasting	-77.1	-72.9	-39.6	-42.6	-34.0	-23.4	-41.0	-28.2
Cablecasting	0.0	12.5	6.7	0.0	10.5	-5.3	0.0	7.7
All industries	-52	-35	-20	-22	-24	-24	-26	-10

- Notes: 1. Business Survey Index (BSI): the percentage points of companies saying that the sales conditions are improving compared to the previous quarter, minus the percentage points of companies saying that the sales conditions are worsening compared to the previous quarter.
 2. Basically, BSI is estimated at the end of every previous quarter. However, exceptionally, indices for Q-I and Q-II in FY2003 are estimated at the end of Q-IV in FY2002.
 3. Figures for "all industries" are based on the "Business and Investment Survey of Incorporated Enterprises" (Cabinet Office).

Fig. 1 Trends in Business Survey Indices



Survey outline

[Survey on the "overall result of Japan's communications industry"]

To grasp the business trend of com-

munications industry (telecommunications and broadcasting), the monthly survey indicated below has been carried out on sales, etc. since 1995. Fixed figures will be posted in the end of June 2003

at URL:

<http://www.johotsusintokei.soumu.go.jp>

[Businesses surveyed]

The number of surveyed businesses for

each type of business is calculated proportionally with the type's share in revenues for FY2001. To be statistically significant, the sampling number, as calculated from the number of parent populations of communications industry, is set at 133. The businesses surveyed are sampled in descending order from the

one with the largest sales down to the 133rd one.

[Survey method]

Conducted by questionnaire (mailing survey cards, entered by businesses via fax or the Internet)

[Survey items]

Sales (every month) and business forecast (conducted only in June, September, December and March and reported in the following month, respectively), etc.

[Companies Surveyed]

Type of business	The number of companies	The number of respondents	Response rate (%)
Communications	133	103	77.4
Telecommunications	63	49	77.8
Type I telecommunications	43	31	72.1
Type II telecommunications	20	18	90.0
Private-sector broadcasting	70	54	77.1
Except cablecasting	50	41	82.0
Cablecasting	20	13	65.0

APT Workshop on ICT Policies for Development Held in Vietnam, Laos and Myanmar

APT (Asia-Pacific Telecommunity) organized a series of "ICT Workshop on ICT Policies for Development" in Hanoi (Vietnam) on June 9, 2003, in Vientiane (Laos) on June 11 and in Yangon

(Myanmar) on June 13 as a part of its human resource development programs. The workshops were funded by the extra budgetary contribution to APT from the Government of Japan (EBC-J) aimed

at human resource development in the Asia-Pacific region. MPHPT and its counterpart Ministry in the respective countries co-hosted the events and concluded them successfully.

The objectives of the workshops are to recognize the benefits of the broadband technology and to introduce the "Asia Broadband Technology," which was adopted on March 28, 2003, as well as Japan's ODA projects in the telecommunications field, etc.

Mr. ASAMI Hiroshi, Director of International Cooperation Division, Telecommunications Bureau, MPHPT gave a presentation to introduce and seek understanding of the "Asia Broadband Program." There were also presentations from the counterpart Ministries and concerned organizations, etc. in each country, which were quite informative for us to understand each country's current situation and future vision in the telecommunications field.

The workshops were quite successful with the devoted audiences of 50 to 70



Mr. ASAMI Hiroshi, Director of International Cooperation Division, Telecommunications Bureau, MPHPT gave a presentation

people from concerned Ministries, telecommunications carriers/equipment manufacturers, etc. of each country.

In addition to the workshops, Mr. ASAMI, taking this opportunity, had a bilateral talk in each of the visiting countries: with Mr. Dang Dinh Lam, Vice Minister, Ministry of Posts and Telematics of Vietnam, Mr. Khamlouat Sidlakone, Vice Minister, Ministry of Communications, Transport, Post and Construction of Laos and U Hlaing Win, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief & Resettlement of Myanmar (Deputy Chairman of e-National Taskforce). In the bilateral talks they exchanged views and opinions on ICT policies in both of the countries with a special focus on the promotion of broadband technology.

MPHPT will further suggest that APT organize similar workshops in different areas of the Asia-Pacific region.

List of presentations

[JAPAN]

- “Asia Broadband Program” by Mr. ASAMI Hiroshi, Director, International Cooperation Division, MPHPT of Japan
- “ICT Policies in Japan for Broadband Development” by Ms. KUBO Ayumi, Assistant Director, International Cooperation Division, MPHPT

- “Introduction of Japan’s ODA in ICT field” by Mr. WATANABE Eiichi, Assistant Director, International Cooperation Division, MPHPT
- “Telecommunications Policy Matters For Higher Teledensity and Enhancement of the Industry Efficiency” by Mr. MATSUYAMA Yasuhiko, Executive Director, Info-Communication Research Department, Research Institute of Telecommunications and Economics (RITE)
- “Introduction of ODA projects” by Mr. SUGII Ken-ichi, Director, Telecommunications System Engineering, Japan Telecommunications Engineering and Consulting Service (JTEC)
- “Impact of Broadband Internet on the Global Business and Nations” by Mr. SHIMURA Koichi, General Director, NTT Communications (Singapore)
- “Broadband Wireless Solution for Rural Communication” by Mr. KOIKE Osamu, General Manager, International Cooperation Department, KDDI CORPORATION
- “Wireline and Wireless access system with Next Generation IP Network” by Mr. OZU Yasushi, Manager, Asia and Pacific Team, Global Marketing & Sales Development,

Communication Systems Group, Mitsubishi Electric Corporation

[VIETNAM]

- “ICT Development Policy in Viet Nam” by Mr. Tran Quang CUONG, Senior Telecoms Officer, Department of Telecoms, Ministry of Posts and Telematics, Viet Nam

[LAOS]

- “Information and Communication Technology Policy and Regulatory Processes of Lao P.D.R.” by Mr. Snith XAPHAKDY, Director, Telecommunications Division, Department of Posts and Telecommunications, Ministry of Communication, Transport, Post and Construction, Laos
- “ICT Services of ETL” by Mr. Khammouane Xomsihaphanya, Deputy Director General, Enterprise of Telecommunications Laos (ETL)

[MYANMAR]

- “ICT Policies in Myanmar” by U Pyone Maung Maung, Joint Secretariat, e-National Task force, Myanmar
- “Cooperation Opportunities in ICT with Japan” by U Thein Oo, President, Myanmar Computer Federation, Myanmar

