

MPHPT

July 29, 2003, Vol. 14, No. 8

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COMMUNICATIONS NEWS

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

Ms. KUBO Selected as Japanese Goodwill Ambassador to WSIS

Ms. KUBO Junko, an NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation) announcer, was chosen as Japanese goodwill ambassador to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), a United Nations event to be held in Geneva, Switzerland from December 10 through 12, 2003.

Ms. KUBO graduated from Keio University (English and American Literature, Department of Literature, Faculty of Letters). She joined NHK in 1995, and co-presided popular TV programs, such as "Project X" and "Kohaku Utagassen (NHK sponsored New Year's Eve song show)."

Toward the Summit, Ms. KUBO will take part in the related activities, such as domestic public awareness campaigns, meetings in the course of preparation and events to be held at WSIS.

[Reference]

Overview of WSIS

WSIS will be the first-ever summit in the ICT field to be organized by the

United Nations. The outline of WSIS is as follows:

1. Aim

- i) To develop a common vision and understanding concerning the information society
- ii) To develop a Declaration of Principles and a Plan of Action for concerted development toward realizing this vision

2. Venues and times

The first phase of WSIS will take place in Geneva, hosted by the Government of Switzerland, from December 10 through 12, 2003. The second phase (follow-up) will take place in Tunis, hosted by the Government of Tunisia, from November 16 through 18, 2005.

3. Organizers

- i) UN (UN General Assemblies in December 2001 and December 2002 adopted Resolutions.)
- ii) The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) takes the lead role in preparations. (ITU Secretary-General is Mr. UTSUMI Yoshio.)

4. Participants

Top-level government officials, international organizations, private entities, civil society (NGOs), etc.

5. Major events

- i) Regional Conferences (Asia-Pacific, Pan European, Latin America and Caribbean, African and Western Asia Regional Conferences adopted Declarations, respectively)



Ms. KUBO Junko (center) and Minister KATAYAMA (left)

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The Asia-Pacific Regional Conference was convened in Tokyo, Japan in January 2003, with Prime Minister KOIZUMI Junichiro and MPHPT Minister KATAYAMA Toranosuke in attendance.

- ii) Third Meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the WSIS (PrepCom-3), Geneva, Switzerland (September 2003)
To finalize a draft Declaration of Principles and a draft Plan of Action

6. Summit events

In parallel with the Summit meetings, many events will be held, such as workshops and exhibitions.

ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) Concluded

The World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) was convened in Geneva, Switzerland, from June 9 through July 4, 2003. About 2,300 delegates from 145 Member States attended the Conference, including a Japanese delegation consisting of about 100 members from MPHPT, telecommunications carriers, broadcasters and others.

At the Conference, main topics of deliberations were common proposals from each Region (e.g., common proposals submitted by the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity <APT>, for which upon development of those proposals, Japan played a main role).

Outcomes of major agenda items are as follows:

1. Frequency allocations to radio LANs (RLAN)/wireless access systems (WAS) in the 5 GHz band

i) Frequency allocations to RLAN/WAS

Frequency allocations for the mobile service on a global basis were decided in the bands 5150-5250 MHz (for indoor use, currently available in Japan), 5250-5350 MHz (for indoor use, outdoor use available on a limited basis) and 5470-5725 MHz (for indoor/outdoor use), with newly established sharing conditions with currently existing radars, etc. Through these allocations, globally available frequencies increase about 2.8 times.

ii) Frequency allocations to fixed wireless access (FWA) system

Based upon APT common proposal (Japan's proposal), the band 5250-5350 MHz was allocated to FWA for use in 12 countries in Region 3 (Asia and Pacific).

2. Considerations upon future development of IMT-2000 (3G) and systems beyond IMT-2000 (4G)

At WRC-03, it was decided that frequency allocations for the future development of 3G and 4G was the agenda item of the next WRC (WRC-07, to be convened in 2007).

In conjunction with the basic concepts adopted at the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA-03, a conference for radiocommunications standardization held from June 2 to 6, 2003), real considerations on a global scale upon realization of 4G mobile communications systems, which will have access to the ultrahigh-speed Internet (100 Mbps) will be started.

Utilizing world's top-level technologies and accumulated industrial power in the ICT field, Japan started the technological development with the aims of establishing necessary technological elements for 4G by 2005 and putting outcomes of the technological development into practical use by 2010, and thereby contributing to international standardization of 4G.

3. Frequency allocations for sound broadcasting satellite via Quasi-Zenith satellites

In order to realize communications/broadcasting (sound broadcasting) and radionavigation services through the Quasi-Zenith satellite system that is developed by Japan's industry-academia-government joint R&D efforts, the 2.6 GHz band (2605-2630 MHz) was allocated to the broadcasting-satellite service (BSS (sound)). In addition, it was decided that a multilateral coordination method for radionavigation-satellite systems was introduced and power flux density limit values for the fixed satellite service were relaxed.

The Quasi-Zenith satellite system enables communications/broadcasting and radionavigation services at near-zenith of Japan. This will accelerate realiza-

tion of services to be received from a satellite that is always near-zenith (high-elevation angle) without being blocked by buildings, etc and suitable for mobile usage.

4. Identification of frequencies for public protection and disaster relief (PPDR)

A new Resolution was adopted that identified the frequency bands/ranges listed below to achieve regionally harmonized spectrum for public protection and disaster relief solutions. (Japan proposed the band 440-470 MHz.)

Region 1 (Europe and Africa): 380-470 MHz

Region 2 (Americas): 746-806 MHz, 806-869 MHz and 4940-4990 MHz

Region 3 (Asia and Pacific): 406.1-430 MHz, 440-470 MHz, 806-824/851-869 MHz, 4940-4990 MHz and 5850-5925 MHz

Through these identifications, interoperability and interworking between communications systems for PPDR will be facilitated on an international basis. Thus, it is anticipated that harmonization in PPDR activities in each region will be promoted.

5. Global allocation for Internet on board aircraft (14-14.5 GHz)

The band 14-14.5 GHz was allocated to the aeronautical mobile satellite service (aircraft to satellite) for enabling aircraft passengers and crew to have access to the Internet. Through use of the band, seamless use of the Internet will be enabled in an aircraft on a global basis.

6. Revision of the Rule for promoting Global Precipitation Measurement (GPM)

For realizing the global precipitation measurement, Japan, the U.S. and etc.

have been carrying out R&D on the GPM. It consists of one main (primary) satellite that can implement more detailed measurement and eight sub (constellation) satellites that carry out global precipitation measurement about every three hours.

At this conference, radar transmission power values were clearly specified for enabling stable operations of the precipitation measurement radar in the band 35.5-35.6 GHz that is to be mounted on

the GPM primary satellite. This radar is under joint study by Japan and the U.S.

7. Realignment of allocations for the amateur, amateur-satellite and broadcasting services around 7 MHz band

In Regions 1 and 3, additional allocations for the amateur services from 2009 of the band 7100-7200 kHz in addition to the currently allocated band 7000-

7100 kHz was approved based upon a joint proposal of Japan and the Republic of Korea (in line with the additional allocation, the broadcasting service in the same band will shift the 100 kHz upper side with the same bandwidth). Through the realignment, the frequency band in the 7 MHz band for the amateur service will be widened two times the current frequency band (in Region 2, the band 7000-7300 kHz was allocated for the amateur service).

"Study Group on Methods for Evaluating Competition in the Telecommunications Field as IP Evolves" Compiles Report

Since September 2002, MPHPT has been holding a "Study Group on Methods for Evaluating Competition in the Telecommunications Fields as IP Evolves" (Chair: Dr. SAITO Tadao, Professor Emeritus, the University of Tokyo) in order to deliberate upon methods for evaluating competition in the telecommunications field. The Study Group recently finalized its report and MPHPT announced the report on July 14, 2003.

1. Progress of deliberations to date

The Study Group has been holding meetings 14 times including its first meeting on September 5, 2002, for deliberating upon i) definition of user service markets in the telecommunications business field, and ii) methods, etc. for evaluating competition in the defined markets, considering changes in business models accompanying evolution of IP/broadband introduction.

Upon compilation of the report of this Study

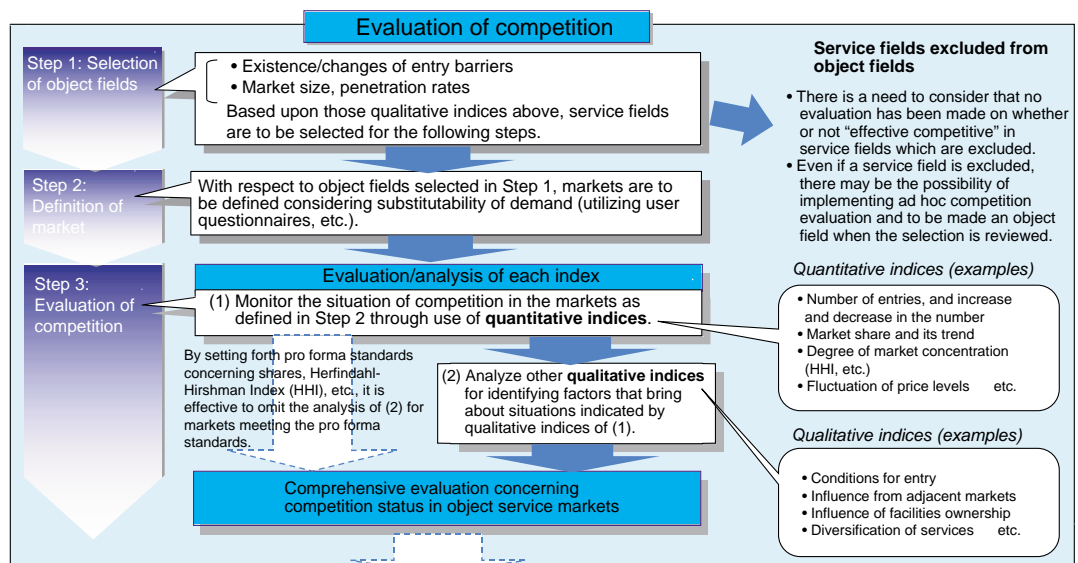
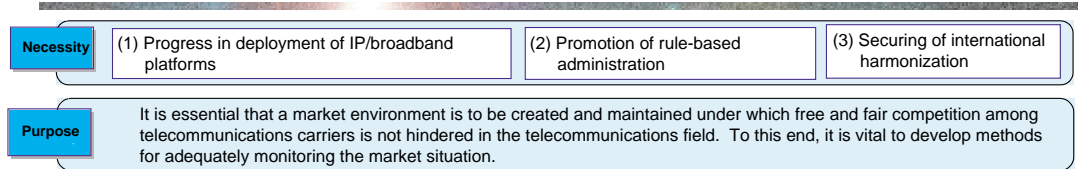
Group, MPHPT published a draft report in May 2003, and invited opinions on the draft from stakeholders.

This report was finalized taking into consideration such opinions, etc. from stakeholders.

2. Schedule

MPHPT will, paying due respect to proposals described in this report, take necessary preparatory measures for steadily implementing evaluation of competition.

Reference
Outline of Report of "Study Group on Methods for Evaluating Competition in the Telecommunications Field as IP Evolves"



Results of competition evaluation may become one of triggers for reviewing pro-competitive policies. Revision of policies, however, will be realized by making necessary legal frameworks through deliberations on amendments of laws in the Diet, and/or through inquiry to the Telecommunications Council on amendments of ministerial ordinance. Thus, the competition evaluation does not directly mean changes of policies.