



October 18, 2004, Vol. 15, No. 14

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

Biweekly Newsletter of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japan

Results of APEC TEL 30

The 30th APEC Telecommunications and Information Working Group Meeting (APEC TEL 30) was held in Singapore from September 19 through 24, 2004. At APEC TEL 30, discussions were made on the next-generation network, liberalization of telecommunications, promotion of information security, etc. for developing various proposals to the sixth APEC Ministerial Meeting on the Telecommunications and Information Industry (TELMIN6) to be held in 2005. The next APEC TEL will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, in March 2005.

1. Schedule and participants

From September 19 through 24, 2004 (during September 19 through 21, related workshops, etc. were held.)

Some 300 people from administrations, etc. and private entities in APEC member economies participated in APEC TEL 30.

Participating from Japan were some 35 people, a delegation headed by Director NINOMIYA, Multilateral Economic Affairs Office, MIC, and including other government officials as well as executives from private entities.

2. Major points of discussions

i) On the next-generation network

The Japanese side emphasized on the significance of ubiquitous network as the

next-generation network. Discussions were made on clarification of new technologies and issues, themes and problems to be deliberated upon at TEL, etc.

ii) On promotion of liberalization of telecommunications

At the Liberalization Steering Group (LSG: Vice-Chair, Director NINOMIYA), discussions were made on the "Best Practices for Implementing the World Trade Organization (WTO) Telecommunications Reference Paper" as a contribution to the WTO Roundtable negotiations.

Note: The term "best practices" means best cases as targets to be achieved in corporations, etc.

iii) On promotion of information security

The Japanese side introduced a vari-

ety of activities, including security-related activities of the National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT) at the wireless security workshop; and reported activities to date of the Information Security Center established by NICT at the e-Security Task Group (eSTG).

iv) On distribution of digital content

The Japanese side introduced the "Common Metadata System J/Meta" for facilitating complicated and diversified rights management online necessary for distribution of digital content, including

CONTENTS

- Results of APEC TEL 30 ----- 1
- Efforts to Ensure Frequencies for Cellular Telephones ----- 2
- "Study Group on Telework Security" Held ----- 3

**International Policy Division,
International Affairs Department,
Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications**
1-2, Kasumigaseki 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8926, Japan

- We welcome your comments via:
http://www.soumu.go.jp/joho_tsusin/eng/contact.html
Fax: +81-3-5253-5924
Tel.: +81-3-5253-5920
- MIC information is available at:
http://www.soumu.go.jp/joho_tsusin/eng/newsletter.html



broadcast programming, on networks at the Business Facilitation Steering Group (BFSG).

v) On cooperation on technological development

At the Development Cooperation Steering Group (DCSG), deliberations were made upon preparation of information and communications infrastructures, bridging of the digital divide, promotion of broadband, etc. The Japanese side

introduced R&D projects, including the Asia Pacific Information Infrastructure (APII), and activities to implement verification experiments on IPv6.

Efforts to Ensure Frequencies for Cellular Telephones

MIC has been making efforts to ensure frequencies of 330 and 340 MHz bandwidths mainly in the 1.7 GHz and 2.5 GHz bands for mobile systems as a mid-term goal (within the next five years from 2003), in accordance with the "Guidelines for Radio Spectrum Reallocation" announced in October 2003.

Efforts to date and future measures of MIC are as follows:

1. Current status

i) 800 MHz band

- In the 800 MHz band, there is no new frequency assignable to cellular telephones, in addition to frequencies already licensed to mobile telephone carriers.
- By accelerating the shift of assigned frequencies in the 800 MHz band, MIC will ensure frequencies in the 700/900 MHz band for cellular telephones by 2012.
- MIC will study the measures regarding the shifting of assigned frequencies in the 800 MHz band (MIC has taken procedures for inviting the public comments on the measures of the shifting of assigned frequencies in the 800 MHz band).

ii) 1.7 GHz band

- With regard to frequencies in the 1.7 GHz band additionally allocated to frequencies for the use of mobile telephones at the World Radiocommunication Conference 2000 (WRC-2000¹), the shifting of assigned frequencies in the 1.7 GHz band is to be

promoted. If all goes as planned, bandwidths of 15 MHz X 2 will be used for cellular telephones from FY2006 on a nationwide scale.

iii) 2 GHz band

- At the Telecommunications Council, deliberations upon technical requirements have already been started for introducing the time division duplex (TDD²) system in 2010-2025 MHz bands.

iv) 2.5 GHz band

- With regard to frequencies in the 2.5 GHz band additionally allocated for the use of mobile telephones at WRC-2000, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU³) has been considering methods to use those frequencies. However, a pair of frequencies necessary for the frequency division duplex (FDD⁴) system is not ensured under current circumstances surrounding frequency allocation in Japan.

2. Candidate frequencies to be assigned to new entries

Candidate frequencies for new entries are following bands:

- 1.7 GHz band being enabled to ensure some bandwidths for the FDD system
- 2010-2025 MHz band being enabled to ensure some bandwidths for the TDD system

3. Consideration for facilitating new entries

Henceforth, MIC will set up a forum for exchanging open opinions among stakeholders on the following matters:

- To contribute to deliberations upon licensing guidelines for facilitating new entries through the use of 1.7 GHz band (FDD system) and 2 GHz band (TDD) system
- To contribute to deliberations upon guidelines for the use of 700/900 MHz band frequencies after 2012
- In addition, to exchange opinions on the smooth shift in the 800 MHz band and other frequency bands

- Notes:
1. World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC): At WRC, international allocation of frequencies, methods to use geostationary satellite orbits, operations of radio stations, etc. are deliberated upon.
 2. Time Division Duplex (TDD): A communications method to use the same frequency both in transmission and reception
 3. International Telecommunication Union (ITU): A UN organization specializing in the telecommunications field
 4. Frequency Division Duplex (FDD): A communications method to use different frequencies in transmission and reception (a pair of frequencies is needed.)

"Study Group on Telework Security" Held

1. Backgrounds and purposes

The term "telework" means "Moving away from traditional concepts of the workplace and set working times, a new working style which utilizes IT to allow people to choose the most efficient and results-producing workplace and work times." (e-Japan Priority Policy Program 2004). Since telework contributes to realization of flexible working environment and promotion, etc. of measures for coping with the low birthrate and the aging population, it is vital to promote telework.

However, many problems hindering

the introduction of telework remain. One of the most important problems is security measures for telework. The Study Group will, with the purposes of contributing to awareness on and promotion of telework in line with the "e-Japan Priority Policy Programs I and II," deliberate upon security measures for telework, including preparation of a set of guidelines for encouraging corporations to introduce a highly secure environment for telework.

2. Major themes to be deliberated upon

- Basic concepts of security measures for telework
- Technological aspects of security measures (security measures, etc. in communications and at terminals)
- Operational and managerial aspects of security measures (preparation of security policy, management system for preventing information leakage, etc.)
- Indication of model systems

3. Schedule

The Study Group will compile its findings as a final report in December 2004.

Reference

[e-Japan Priority Policy Program 2003]

(Decision of August 8, 2003 at the Strategic Headquarters for the Promotion of an Advanced Information and Telecommunications Network Society (IT Strategic Headquarters))

II. Leading Areas in the Promotion of Effective IT Utilization

6. Employment and Labor

(ii) A society will be realized using IT that allows each individual to maximize their creative abilities as efficiently as possible through their work. This will come about using IT to assist people in finding the appropriate work arrangement according to their life plans.

a) Promotion of telework at a corporate level

(b) Support for the introduction of a high-security telework environment into corporations (MIC)

MIC shall i) conduct research for analyzing hindrance factors from IT aspects, including security measures when corporations introduce telework, ii) based on such research, prepare a set of guidelines for encouraging corporations to introduce telework, and iii) carry out awareness campaigns, including such events as symposia.

[e-Japan Priority Policy Program 2004]

(Decision of June 15, 2004 at IT Strategic Headquarters)

II. Promote the prioritization of policies and implement the establishment of new organizations and systems necessary to achieve our 2005 goals and to serve as strategic steps for 2006 and beyond.

[1] Prioritization of Policies to Achieve the 2005 Goals

[1-2] Seven Leading Areas

6. Employment and Labor

(ii) A society will be realized using IT that allows each individual to maximize their creative abilities as efficiently as possible through their work. This will come about using IT to assist people in finding the appropriate work arrangement according to their life plans.

(a) Support for the introduction of telework into corporations (MIC, MHLW, MLIT, METI)

With respect to telework, etc. in the private sector, MIC will develop a unified guidebook in consideration of both management and labor within FY2006, based on the "guidelines for introducing and implementing telework through use of ICT equipment" developed in FY2003, "guidelines for supporting the introduction of a high-security telework environment into corporations" to be developed and announced in FY2004, and the "survey on the telework population and the progress of telework implementation at corporate offices," etc.