

Main Points of Proceedings of the 891st Radio Regulatory Council Meeting

1. Date

Wednesday, January 12, 2005 16:00 to 16:35PM

2. Venue

Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications conference room (conference room No. 1002, 10th floor)

3. Participants (honorific titles omitted)

(1) Committee member of Radio Regulatory Council

Yasuhiko YASUDA (Chairman), Takeo IGUCHI (Deputy Chairman), Kashiko ODATE, Hatsuko UKIGAWA

(2) Hearing examiner of the Radio Regulatory Council

Taku KIYASU

(3) Secretary

Masao OKAMOTO (Assistant Director of General Affairs Division, Telecommunications Bureau)

(4) Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications “hereinafter referred to as “the MIC” in this section)

HORIE (Director General of Information and Communications Policy Bureau), ARITOMI (Director General of Telecommunications Bureau) and others

4. Contents of proceedings

(1) Concerning a ministerial ordinance plan to amend part of the Radio Equipment Regulations (Inquiry No. 1)

A participant from the MIC dealt with inquiry No. 2 because inquiry No. 1 is related to inquiry No. 2.

(2) Concerning a partial amendment of the frequency allocation plan (Inquiry No. 2)

A participant from the MIC dealt with this matter together with inquiry No.1 since inquiry No. 2 is related to inquiry No. 1, as follows:

Concerning inquiry No. 1: a hearing of opinions is obligatory pursuant to the Radio Law and since inquiry No. 2 is related to inquiry No. 1, it was deemed appropriate to hold a joint hearing of opinions on these matters. Taku KIYASU was designated as the hearing examiner to preside over the hearing procedure.

a. Explanation by the MIC

Inquiry No. 1 is a proposal to institutionalize an electronic tag in a UHF band so that it can be used in Japan.

Frequency bands of 135 kHz, 13.56 MHz and 2.45 GHz, which are common to Europe and the USA, can be used for an electronic tag system at present. Use of these frequency bands is currently progressing in the management of goods and logistics, advancement of traceability and other fields, but along with the progress of the construction of a ubiquitous society, these frequency bands are expected to be used more frequently in various fields in the future. With regard to the frequency to be used for an electronic tag system, use of a UHF band which makes comparatively long-distance possible and can possibly be connected with new uses, in addition to the frequency bands that have been usable, is a good possibility.

Under such circumstances a partial response with the title: “*Technical conditions for a high-output type 950 MHz-band passive tag system*” was given at a meeting of the Telecommunications Council in December last year. Thus, in order to institutionalize the said technical conditions, we have decided to request a change to the ministerial ordinance plan to amend part of the Radio Equipment Regulations.

Concerning the date of enforcement, we plan to set the day of promulgation of the ministerial ordinance plan related to this inquiry, as the enforcement.

Inquiry No. 2 is to amend part of the frequency allocation plan corresponding to inquiry No. 1 and more specifically, to change part of the 810 MHz to 828 MHz and 940 MHz frequencies to 958 MHz, which is allocated to mobile phones at present, allocate the 950 MHz to 956 MHz frequencies to the newly-introduced electronic tag system and to stop allocating frequencies of 820 MHz to 826 MHz which are used for mobile phones together with frequencies of 950 MHz and 956 MHz as a pair and use frequencies of 820 MHz to 826 MHz solely for IMT-2000 and to establish regulations therefore accordingly.

b. Main questions and answers

- Does the wording: “*making communications over a comparatively long distance possible*” mean that this is technically possible? It seems that in the case of 135 kHz and 13.56 MHz, lower frequencies would reach a farther distance. A participant from the MIC replied to this question as follows: “*This is technically possible. Since an antenna, etc. for an electronic tag*

system must be made as small as possible, even lower frequencies could not reach such a faraway place.”

- Are the 820 MHz to 826 MHz frequencies vacant at present? Are they used for IMT-2000? Will frequencies of this 130 MHz interval not be used in the future? If they are used, are they used as an upward and downward pair? A participant from the MIC replied to these questions as follows: *“820 MHz and 826 MHz have been allocated to both mobile phones and IMT-2000, but since the allocation of 820 MHz and 826 MHz to mobile phones will be stopped, these frequencies will be allocated solely to IMT-2000. Regarding frequencies of 130 MHz intervals, the Telecommunications Council has said that the 700 MHz frequency used for broadcasting will be used for mobile phones together with 900 MHz as a pair in the future in the wake of the reorganization of a 800 MHz band which was queried before.”*

(Responsibility for the wording: Secretariat of the Radio Regulatory Council)