

## Main Points of Proceedings of the 895th Radio Regulatory Council Meeting

### 1. Date

Wednesday, May 11, 2005 16:00 to 17:54PM

### 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 the Radio Regulatory Council

Yasuhiko YASUDA (Chairman), Junichi HAMADA, Kashiko KODATE

#### (2) Hearing examiner of the Radio Regulatory Council

Tasuku KIYASU

#### (3) Secretary

Masao OKAMOTO (Assistant Director of the 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 the Information and Communications Policy Bureau), TAKEDA (Director General of the Radio Department), OGASAWARA (Councilor) and others

### 4. Contents of proceedings

#### (1) Concerning a ministerial ordinance plan to amend part of the Radio Law Enforcement Regulations and Radio Equipment Regulations (Inquiry No. 10, dated March 23, 2005)

The members of the Radio Regulatory Council deliberated on the captioned ministerial plan related to the introduction of an HF data link in aeronautical radio communications, based on a protocol submitted by the Hearing Examiner who presided over hearing proceedings and written opinions (see written opinions obtained at the 398th Radio Regulatory Council Meeting) and replied to the effect that the amendment plan is appropriate.

#### (2) Concerning a ministerial ordinance plan to amend part of the Radio Operator Regulations (Inquiry No. 11 dated March 23, 2005)

The members of the Radio Regulatory Council deliberated on the captioned plan related to the

amendment of a method of testing telecommunications skills (Morse telegraphy) in the amateur state radio operator examination, based on a protocol submitted by the Hearing Examiner who presided over hearing proceedings and written opinions (see written opinions obtained at the 399th Radio Regulatory Council Meeting) and replied that the amendment plan is appropriate.

(3) Concerning a ministerial ordinance plan to amend part of the Radio Law Enforcement Regulations (Inquiry No. 23)

Concerning a ministerial ordinance plan to amend part of the Radio Law Enforcement Regulations related to the addition of a 10 MW, or lower, PHS base station and radio station premises using radio equipment with a frequency hopping method to target radio stations of the registration system, a participant from the MIC offered the following explanation and a question and answer session was held, as set out below.

A hearing of inquiry No. 23 is obligatory pursuant to Article 99.12, paragraph 1 of the Radio Law, and Tasuku KIYASU was designated as the hearing examiner to preside over the hearing procedure.

a. Explanation by the MIC

The purpose of this ministerial plan is to amend part of the Radio Law Enforcement Regulations to add a 10 mW, or lower, PHS base station and radio station premises using radio equipment with a frequency hopping method to target radio stations of the registration system.

It was decided, based on the Radio Law amended in 2004, that a system which has no risk of interference and can be jointly used by a plurality of persons, be treated as a target of the *ex post facto* check-type registration system in which the prior procedures to establish a radio station are simplified and a 5 GHz-band radio LAN will be operated as a first system as from May 16, 2005. We will add the above-mentioned two systems as radio stations that comply with the conditions for registration radio stations and are expected to be established in a large number of locations in the future, in addition to radio stations with this 5 GHz-band radio LAN.

A 10 mW PHS base station is used to secure high-quality PHS services in a building that does not easily receive radio waves transmitted by an external base station. About 10,000 base stations are expected to be established over a two-year period (this year and next year). Because this base station has a carrier-sensing function and can be operated so as not to cause interference with other radio stations, we have decided to classify it as a radio station that

corresponds to a registration target radio station.

A 2.4 GHz-band premises radio station using the frequency hopping method is an electronic tag system, which offers high potential for logistics and the management of goods. This premises radio station switches the frequency and emits radio waves in a very short time in a predetermined order. Since there is little risk of causing interference with other radio stations, we have decided to classify it as a radio station that corresponds to a registration target radio station.

b. Main questions and answers

- Do you have any system that can be included in the registration system in an applicable ministerial ordinance each time such a system is produced? A participant from the MIC replied to this question as follows: *“Yes, a 950 MHz-band electronic tag system is supposed to be included in a ministerial ordinance in the future, but because this tag system does not yet have a function to preclude interference with other radio stations, such as carrier sensing, it is too early to include it in the registration system.”*

(4) Concerning a plan to amend part of the Basic Plan for Broadcast Dissemination (Inquiry No. 24)

Concerning a plan to amend part of the Basic Plan for Broadcast Dissemination related to the dissemination target of BS broadcasting which will be carried out from 2007, a participant from the MIC offered the following explanation and a question and answer the session was held, as set out below.

It was decided to hold a hearing of inquiry No. 24 pursuant to Article 53.11, paragraph 2 of the Broadcast Law and Tasuku KIYASU was designated as the hearing examiner to preside over the hearing procedure.

a. Explanation by the MIC

The background to this plan is that NHK’s analog high-vision broadcasting with the use of a 9th channel will be terminated in 2007 when broadcasting satellite BSAT-1a will reach its design lifespan. Broadcasting via a new satellite to be launched in the same year, will be carried out under the facility-supplying broadcasting/program-supplying broadcasting system and broadcasting using the 9th channel will be carried out with a digital system. In fact, a pre-permit has already been granted to the Broadcasting Satellite System Corporation (B-SAT Corp.) as a

facility-supply broadcaster, in June last year. Therefore, this inquiry is to discover how a program-supply broadcaster that draws up broadcasting programs should be determined.

Regarding the 9th channel for BS broadcasting which will become usable by terminating NHK7s analog high-vision broadcasting, we will approve, firstly, a business conducting high-definition television broadcasting and we will approve standard television broadcasting too, if there are remaining frequencies available. Furthermore, if no application is made by any private broadcaster, we will pursue the improvement of image and sound to an even higher level for NHK's BS-1 and BS-2 if frequencies are available and the necessity of these is admitted.

Regarding the number of new programs which will be approved, we have around two high-definition television programs in mind. If there is such a plurality of applications that there are too few frequencies available, we will give preference to a general broadcaster, a new broadcaster and a carrier that applies for high-definition television broadcasting or broadcasting which helps contribute to the dissemination and sound development of BS digital broadcasting. However, we will make a decision from a comprehensive point of view, taking into consideration various factors, such as frequency capacity, so that a variety of programs can be offered without favoring a specific field.

Regarding standard television broadcasting, VHF broadcasting and data broadcasting, we will establish high-definition television broadcasting as main television broadcasting and we will rewrite the number of programs as *"one or more programs."*

Furthermore, regarding standard BS-1 and BS-2 television broadcasting and general broadcasting, as well as standard television broadcasting aimed at solving poor reception, analog broadcasting is primary and digital broadcasting is a simulcast thereof, but we will position digital broadcasting as primary broadcasting and analog broadcasting as simulcast. Regarding broadcasting aiming at solving poor reception, we will study this form of broadcasting by means of high definition television broadcasting, if frequencies are available and the validity thereof is admitted.

#### b. Main questions and answers

- What developments do you expect in the dissemination of data broadcasting? A participant from the MIC replied to this question as follows: *"TV broadcasters who carry on a broadcasting business independently are experiencing a slump, being unable to make new business development projections and we believe that they will strengthen their broadcasting*

*service primarily by cooperating with high definition television broadcasters.”*

- Regarding data broadcasting, the numbers of people who obtain news through a network or mail are increasing to such an extent that the features of data broadcasting may be lost. Is this correct? A participant from the MIC replied to this question as follows: *“It might be easier to use a personal computer as a single solution for obtaining data, but we believe that it will be more convenient to use TV broadcasting to obtain data, with a simple click of a button rather than taking the trouble of using a personal computer. We would like to study the means of increasing viewer convenience, as well as that of broadcasters.”*

-Isn't NHK included in figures “6” to “8” as a dissemination target for high definition television broadcasting? A participant from the MIC replied to this question as follows: *“Because NHK has separate arrangements, it is not included in these figures.”*

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