

Cable Broadcasting Committee, Telecommunications Council
Summary of Minutes (13th meeting)

1. Date

Friday, July 28, 2006, 2 to 2:49 p.m.

2. Location

Special Conference Room 1, 8F, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

3. Attendees (honorifics omitted)

(1) Committee members

Yoshiaki Nemoto (Chair), Yasuhiko Osamura, Shigeki Goto, Akira Negishi (four members)

(2) Secretary

Yamane, Director, General Affairs Division, Information and Communications Policy Bureau

(3) MIC representatives

Suzuki (Director-General of the Information and Communications Policy Bureau), Nakada (Deputy Director-General), Okubo (Director, Broadcasting Technology Division), Onishi (Director, Regional Broadcasting Division), Honma (Senior Technology Planning Officer, Regional Broadcasting Division), Umemura (Deputy Director, Regional Broadcasting Division)

4. Agenda (part (1) of the agenda has been made public; part (2) is confidential)

(1) Reports

A. Current status of cable television

The report was accepted after discussions.

Summary of the report

The report stated that there were 10 licenses granted for cable television broadcasting facilities with less than 10,000 terminals, which do not require

Ministerial approval, during the period from last October to June of this year. The report also described the state of cable television penetration as well as the number and business conditions of cable television operators.

B. Trends in cable television technology

The report was accepted after discussions.

Summary of the report

The report explained the future schedule of examinations looking at technical issues for the advancement of cable television, such as the IF transmission of BS digital broadcasts.

C. Roadmap for terrestrial digital television broadcasts on cable television

The report was accepted after discussions.

Summary of the report

The report explained the results of a survey of 530 cable television operators on when they anticipated starting digital broadcasting support. These results will be used as a rough indication of when cable television subscribers will be able to view terrestrial digital broadcasts on cable television.

(2) Approval of the installation of a cable television broadcasting facility by Higashiomi Cable Network [Inquiry No. 1156]

After discussions, the committee reported that approval of the installation as given in the inquiry is appropriate.

Summary of the inquiry

The inquiry concerned the construction of a cable television facility in Higashiomi, Shiga Prefecture, that would provide multichannel broadcasting services, which would include local information programming. Higashiomi was formed from one city and six towns through two separate municipal mergers in February 2005 and in January of this year.