

Telecommunications Council 18th General Meeting Summary of Minutes

1. Date and time

Friday, February 15, 2008, 16:00–17:10

2. Location

First Special Conference Room, 8th floor, MIC

3. Attendees (honorifics omitted)

(1) Members

Etsuhiko Shoyama (Chair), Norihisa Doi (Vice-Chair), Setsuko Aoki, Kaoru Arakawa, Susumu Ito, Kazuko Ohtani, Nagaaki Ohyama, Yasuhiko Osamura, Keiko Kiyohara, Yoshinori Sakai, Masao Sakauchi, Kaori Sasaki, Eiichi Shimizu, Chika Sekine, Nobuko Takahashi, Fumio Takahata, Nami Takenaka, Masatsugu Tsuji, Miwako Doi, Mikio Toukai, Hideyuki Tokuda, Miki Nagata, Akira Negishi, Yoshiaki Nemoto, Akira Mitarai, Teruyasu Murakami, Yusuke Yasuda
(Total of 27 members)

(2) Secretary

Imabayashi, Director of the General Affairs Division, Information and Communications Policy Bureau

(3) MIC

Hiroya Masuda, Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications; Yasuo Suzuki, Vice-Minister for Policy Coordination; Michiaki Ogasawara, Director-General of the Information and Communications Policy Bureau; Akira Terasaki, Director-General of the Telecommunications Bureau; Masao Matsumoto, Director-General for Technology Policy Coordination; Mutsumi Nakata, Director-General for Policy Planning; Shun Sakurai, Director-General for Policy Coordination; Tetsuo Yamakawa, Director-General of the International Affairs Department; Toru Fukuoka, Director of the Secretarial Division; Shigeo Naito, Director of the Communications/Broadcasting Legal System Office; Hiroshi Yoshida, Director of the Terrestrial Broadcasting Division; Masahiko Fujimoto, Director of the Information Application Promotion Office

4. Agenda

(1) Inquiry

Comprehensive Legal System for Communications and Broadcasting (Inquiry No. 14)

Having considered the matter, the General Meeting decided that the issue should be studied at the Telecommunications Policy Sub-Council to facilitate deliberation.

[Summary]

In relation to a comprehensive legal system for communications and broadcasting, the Council has been consulted on specific ideal systems responding to the convergence of communications and broadcasting.

(2) Reports

a. Report on Sub-Council Activities

Sub-council Chairs reported on their activities.

[Summary]

Chairs of the Telecommunications Technology Sub-Council, the Telecommunications Business Sub-Council, and the Cable Broadcasting Sub-Council reported on the agenda discussed at the meetings of the respective sub-councils in and after August 2006.

b. Initiatives to Promote Terrestrial Digital Broadcasting

MIC reported on the matter.

[Summary]

MIC reported on the progress of initiatives that have been taken in line with the August 2007 fourth interim report from the Telecommunications Council, "Optimal Utilization of Digital Terrestrial Broadcasting and Roles of Administration toward Penetration Thereof".

c. Follow up Report on the "Voluntary Action Plan on Environment" of Communications Carriers and Broadcasters

MIC reported on the matter.

[Summary]

In response to the 1998 Telecommunications Council report, "Addressing Global Environmental Issues Using Information and Communications," MIC annually reports on the communications carriers and broadcasters' voluntary action plans for addressing global environmental issues.

d. APT (Asia-Pacific Telecommunity) Secretary General

MIC reported on the matter.

[Summary]

MIC reported that Japan's candidate, Mr. Toshiyuki Yamada, was elected APT Secretary General at the APT Management Committee meeting in November 2007.

e. Organizational Change in Fiscal 2008

MIC reported on the matter.

[Summary]

MIC reported on the organizational changes to be implemented in August 2008 by the Ministry, as well as the consequential changes in the Council organization.