Broadcasting System Committee, Telecommunications Technology Sub-Council,

Telecommunications Council—13th Meeting

Summary of Minutes

1. Date and Time

 Friday, July 25, 2008; 14:00–15:20

2. Location

 Special Conference Room 1

3. Agenda

 (1) Confirmation of the summary of minutes of the previous meeting

 (2) Technical requirements concerning advancement of satellite digital broadcasting

  (i) Results of public comment procedure

  (ii) Draft Broadcasting System Committee Report

 (3) Technical requirements for multimedia broadcasting systems for mobile terminals

  (i) Establishment and operation policy of Multimedia Broadcasting System Working Team

  (ii) Direction of future study

  (iii) Public comment procedure on multimedia broadcasting system

 (4) Other

4. Attendees (honorifics omitted; in no particular order)

 Ito (Chair; Tokyo University of Science), Ikegami (Meiji University), Itami (Tokyo University of Science), Katto (Waseda University), Kobayashi (Yazaki Corporation), Sato (Tokyo University of Technology), Noda (Japan Cable Laboratories)

 Presenters: Fujita, Nishida, Urano (Association of Radio Industries and Businesses)

 Secretariat: Kubota, Oku, Fuseda, Morishita, Furukawa (MIC)

5. Documents Distributed

 Document 13-1: Broadcasting System Committee (12th Meeting) Summary of Minutes (Draft)

 Document 13-2: Draft Results of the Public Comment Procedure

 Document 13-3: Revisions to the Draft Report Presented to Invite Public Comment

 Document 13-4: Draft Report from the Broadcasting System Committee, Telecommunications

Technology Sub-Council, Telecommunications Council

Document 13-5: Draft Report

Document 13-6: Draft Outline of Report from the Broadcasting System Committee

Document 13-7: Draft Operation Policy of Multimedia Broadcasting System Working Team

Document 13-8: Draft Schedule of Study on Technical Standards for Multimedia Broadcasting

Document 13-9: Draft Present Plan for Study on Technical Standards for Multimedia Broadcasting

Document 13-10: Draft Press Release to Invite Public Comment on Multimedia Broadcasting Systems for Mobile Terminals

Reference 1: Outline Report of the Panel on Multimedia Broadcasting Services for Mobile Terminals

Reference 2: Overall Schedule for the Introduction of Multimedia Broadcasting

Reference 3: Operation Policy of the Broadcasting System Committee

Reference 4: Members of the Broadcasting System Committee

6. Meeting Summary

After announcement of new committee member Itami, introduction of the presenters, and confirmation of the distributed documents, the agenda items were discussed as follows:

(1) Confirmation of the summary of minutes of the previous meeting

The Broadcasting System Committee (12th Meeting) Summary of Minutes (Draft) was approved.

(2) Technical requirements concerning advancement of satellite digital broadcasting

(i) Results of public comment procedure

The Secretariat reported on the results of the public comment procedure on the technical requirements concerning advancement of satellite digital broadcasting. Subsequently, the following questions and answers were made:

Q (by Chair Ito): Many comments call for higher sound quality for audio coding. Is it possible for broadcasters to provide broadcasting service at a higher bit rate with the current technical standards?

A (by Urano): Broadcasters can change the audio bit rate. A guide bit rate specified by

consumer specification is a maximum of 384 kbps for 5.1 multi-channel.

The consumer specifications decided the bit rate based on the results of an evaluation test. The test determined "144 kbps stereo or better" for MPEG-2 AAC LC profile as the bit rate to satisfy the level of the broadcast audio quality specified by an ITU-R Recommendation. Moreover, a 5-point scale evaluation, which sets linear PCM audio as 5, rated "192 kbps stereo or better" as 4.5 or higher. These are the basis of high audio quality service.

Following the deliberation above, the Draft Opinion of the Committee was approved.

(ii) Draft Broadcasting System Committee Report

The Secretariat explained the revisions to the draft committee report presented for public comment procedure, the draft committee report and the Draft Report, based on Documents 13-3, 13-4 and 13-5, respectively. Subsequently, the following questions and answers were made:

Q (by Nishida): Please revise Table 2.2-1 and other parts of the Draft Report to use a unified LDPC coding rate of 120 for all denominators for such rate.

A (by Secretariat): We will revise the Draft Report as well as other reference materials.

Q (by Kobayashi): While the draft committee report refers to the technology for future broadcasting services in 2011 and onward in the "Introduction" on page 9, the Draft Report does not have any corresponding description. I am afraid that will give some readers the impression that there is little chance of developing technologies in 2011 and onward. For example, the target scope stated on page 1 of the Draft Report should clarify that the technical requirements are quite feasible in 2011.

A (by Secretariat): The Draft Report is compiled mainly in view of commercialization in and around 2011. We will add that point in the target scope.

Q (by Noda): Also on page 43 of the Draft Report, it is not stated that the limited reception system is actually adopted in the current system. Will you amend that part so that it will conform to the report?

A (by Secretariat): That is correct.

After the discussion above, leaving the revisions to the Chair and Secretariat was approved. It was also announced that any comment on matters other than today's agenda should be submitted to Secretariat by the morning of Monday, July 28.

Last, Director-General Kubota, on behalf of the Secretariat, expressed his gratitude for the past study and deliberations on advancement of satellite digital broadcasting.

(3) Technical requirements for multimedia broadcasting systems for mobile terminals

The Secretariat explained the establishment of the Multimedia Broadcasting System Working Team and the direction of future study, based on Documents 13-7, 13-8, 13-9, and 13-10. Subsequently, the following questions and answers were made:

Q (by Kobayashi): In relation to the background of the study described in Document 13-10, a partial report from the Telecommunications Council uses the expression, "multimedia broadcasting for mobile devices, etc.," while the Panel on Multimedia Broadcasting Services for Mobile Terminals uses the expression, "for mobile terminals." Services we associate with the "for mobile devices" expression are different from those "for mobile terminals." We should clarify which expression we will use.

A (by Secretariat): Although it says, "for mobile terminals," car mounted terminals are covered by the study at the Panel. The expression, "for mobile terminals," in our agenda refer to the same target as "for mobile devices." Let us organize the use of terms.

Q (by Kobayashi): Will this Committee deliberate the agenda within the framework of the conclusions reached at the Panel, or can we discuss beyond that framework? We should clarify that in advance.

A (by Secretariat): The Panel is positioned as a private council of MIC, so we are not necessarily required to follow the conclusions reached by the Panel. We should note, however, that the Panel members who conducted deliberations were all experts, so this Committee should deliberate issues by respecting their opinions.

Q (by Ikegami): Let me confirm one point. Is it right to understand that the study at this Committee covers data transmission for ITS.

A (by Secretariat): That is correct.