

Minute Summary of the 4th Meeting of the Study Group on Information Communication Technology for Realizing a Safe and Secure Society

1. Date and time

Monday, November 20, 2006, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

2. Location

Conference Room 3, Sanbancho Kyoyo Kaigisho

3. Attendees

(Members, Honorifics omitted)

Tadao Saito, Shingo Omori, Yujiro Ogawa, Ryosuke Sibasaki, Fumio Takahata, Kazuo Hisa, Yasushi Horikawa, Harue Maeno, Yoshiteru Murosaki, Hiroyuki Morikawa, Masaki Watanabe

(Observers)

About 26 people from manufacturing, business and related ministries and agencies

(Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications)

Matsumoto (Director-General for Technology Policy Coordination), Takeuchi (Director of Space Communications Policy Division), Tahara (Director of Research and Development Office), Saito (Assistant, Space Communications Policy Division), Nakazato (Assistant, Research and Development Office), et al.

4. Agenda

- (1) Status of the study by the Working Group on Disaster Control and Risk Management
- (2) Status of the study by the Working Group on Food Security and Safety
- (3) Status of the study by the Working Group on Support for the Daily Lives of Children and Elderly People
- (4) Future schedule and other items

5. Proceedings (○: Comments made by members ●: Comments made by others)

(1) The status of the study by the Working Group on Disaster Control and Risk Management was explained by the leader, Ogawa, based on Document 4-2, and by the Secretariat, based on the reference document, which was followed by the following discussion.

- Innumerable materials are sent to the site of a disaster. Logistical management is essential. There were some cases abroad where problems with the location of materials hampered volunteer relief activities.
- Platforms for transmitting image and sensor data are diversified, for example, with the

emergence of the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) instead of helicopters. It would be better to refer to such diversification.

- As for promoting the use of three-dimensional data, this should not be limited only to three-dimensional data because some non-three-dimensional photos, for example, can be processed into three-dimensional data.
- While using data in multiple ways is important, there are various issues to be resolved. So, we will proceed with the study.
- In terms of sharing information among ministries and agencies in the event of a disaster, what are the issues to be resolved regarding system cooperation and so on?
- Sharing disaster prevention information creates a bottleneck in input operations, in reality. We recognize that there are also issues with the disaster backup system that need to be resolved. As for telecommunications, the use of a common protocol will be a technical issue, and actually there are many of these kinds of system issues.

(2) Explanations were given by the leader, Hisa, based on Document 4-3, and by KDDI, based on the reference document, and the following comments were then made by members.

- The operations of large distribution companies are largely computerized; however, computerization is difficult in situations where refrigerated goods are distributed within a small region by small- and medium-sized distributors and regional distributors.
- The new system must be compatible with the conventional system. If the government takes a leadership role in promotion, system development that is impossible by conventional means may be realized.
- It is desirable that both 2.45 GHz tags and 300 MHz tags can be read by the same reader.
- If mobile phones with a built-in tag reader are used for food security and safety, how often should a tag be read to obtain appropriate information?
- It depends on the food, the stage of the process, and other factors. It is a difficult issue. Therefore ICT design backed by education in hazard analysis is necessary. The lack of this hazard analysis capability causes difficulties in introducing ICT.
- Medicine pocketbooks are now used for medicine management. It may be possible to use a mobile phone tag reader to check what kinds of non-prescribed medicines have been purchased to avoid bad combinations and/or problems caused by food. While this is one of the examples, we want ministries and agencies, if possible, to conduct a cross-sectional study of the framework for using mobile phones as a kind of infrastructure.
- It may be convenient if mobile phones could display recommended foodstuffs once the user's needs are input into the mobile phone, if an active advertising function becomes available.

(3) An explanation was given by the leader, Watanabe, based on Document 4-4, and the following comments were then made by members.

- Content can be easily handled on Web 2.0, which will be, therefore, used for multipurpose systems. It would be desirable to have a function to share metadata in addition to network interconnectivity and system compatibility.

Since it is possible to exchange personal information in a secure manner, the use of context information and so on will possibly lead not only to the support of elderly people but also to the support of those who take care of elderly people. This will also be an issue for other working groups.

- Looking at the results of studies conducted by the individual working groups, it seems that similar items, such as technologies, are duplicated by different groups and are also conceptually similar. Organization would make this unnecessary would and eventually bring about better efficiency.

- How can information about the security and safety of food and information about the security and safety of children and elderly people be utilized in a cross-sectional manner? Since the construction of systems on Web 2.0 by all parties concerned will lead to the realization of a useful platform, it is important to conduct a study on methodologies for system construction to ensure future expandability. It would be good if you could study how individual working groups proceed with their research in line with other working groups and what specifically should be done, and then also study how to proceed when the projects are started up next year.

- If it is possible to point out specific examples that can be studied in a cross-sectional manner across each of the working groups, we will organize them from the perspective of how well they can be linked to the existing data and it will be easier to determine what should be done in the trial. One such example is what if Web 2.0 took the form of a short story? For example, an ordinary monitoring system that could be used as part of a disaster prevention system in the case of an emergency.

- Security and privacy are common to all the individual working groups. Are there any guidelines for, for example, cameras installed on streets?

- A consensus is usually obtained in the case of police cameras installed on busy streets where crime frequently occurs and cameras installed in banks, post offices, condominiums and the like. There are issues surrounding cameras installed on streets used by students going to school or in similar locations for the monitoring of children and elderly people, and the issues will not be easily resolved unless some kind of guideline is developed.

- It is difficult to conduct even a trial for the monitoring system and we are considering conducting studies on this as part of research and development.

- In my opinion, the installation of a monitoring system alone will not prevent crime or the like

unless consideration is given to who the data is to be sent. In the trial, it will be also important to study what kinds of security needs must be met to gain the acceptance and consensus of the local community to ensure the smooth introduction.

- There is a difference between monitoring and surveillance. We want to make sure there is a clear definition to be able to determine which best meets the aim.
- While disaster control relates to the relationship between people and nature, issues relating to food, children and elderly people concern relationships among people. There are many other subjective issues besides the issue of security. Since both of the above matters relate to crisis management, the working groups on these matters can be positioned as sub-working groups under the Working Group on Disaster Control and Risk Management, in my opinion.
- Disaster control systems are already available, while new systems must be introduced for food and the support of children and elderly people. Rather than studying their systems together with disaster control systems, it would be better to make use of the experience obtained from disaster control systems for the systems for food and the support of children and elderly people.
- The study of crisis management is based on the assumption of an emergency situation, and it is not appropriate to review the definition of crisis management for use in broader contexts.
- Mobile phones have a function that enables third parties to locate the user, even if that person does not want to be located. In order to ensure security and privacy, research must be conducted to ensure that those being monitored consent to such monitoring or have some control over it.
- In the case of an emergency, people will be protected by the government under the Law concerning the Measures for Protection of the Civilian Population. However, self-protection will also have to be considered in the event of a large disaster beyond a certain scale. A proactive study on how to improve awareness of the need for self-protection must be made.
- In terms of improving social infrastructure, questions remain on what role should be respectively played by the public and private sectors. This will be resolved in the future.

(4) The Secretariat explained Document 4-5.

End