

Study Group on Establishing Usage Environments for Next-Generation Broadband
Technology
Summary of Minutes (1st Meeting)

1. Date

Monday, November 27, 2006, 2 to 4 p.m.

2. Location

Special Conference Room 4, 5th floor, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

3. Attendees

(1) Committee members (honorifics omitted)

Takashi Ushikubo, Hiroyo Ogawa, Satoshi Kurokawa, Takashi Koike (substitute for Kazuhiko Wakamori), Takeyoshi Sasou, Makoto Tsubokawa (substitute for Hideaki Kimura), Masao Nakagawa, Akira Hashimoto, Mitsutoshi Hatori, Tatsuaki Hamai, Ryuhei Fujiwara, Nobuhiro Horisaki, Tomokuni Matsumura, Mitsuji Matsumoto (substitute for Toshiji Suzuki), Kenji Muraio (substitute for Takayuki Mabuchi), Hiroyuki Yashima, Yasuhiro Yamato (substitute for Kazunori Nakamichi), Tetsuya Yuge

(2) MIC representatives

Mori (Director-General of the Telecommunications Bureau), Sakurai (Director-General, Telecommunications Business Department), Emura (Director, Advanced Network Division), Katagiri (Senior Promotion Officer, Advanced Network Division), Utsuda (Deputy Director, Advanced Network Division)

4. Outline of proceedings

- (1) Call to order
- (2) Greetings by the Director-General of the Telecommunications Bureau
- (3) Introduction of the Study Group members
- (4) Study Group operating policies

The Secretariat explained Reference 1-1, the Study Group guidelines, and Reference 1-2, public disclosure of the Study Group's proceedings.

(5) Election of the chair

Mr. Hatori was elected as the Study Group Chair.

(6) Designation of the vice-chair

Mr. Hatori named Mr. Nakagawa as the Study Group Vice-Chair.

(7) Agenda

1. Study Group procedures

The Secretariat explained Reference 1-3, the Study Group procedures.

2. Initiatives to establish broadband across Japan

The Secretariat explained Reference 1-4, the initiatives to establish broadband across Japan.

3. Trends in next-generation broadband technology

Vice-Chair Nakagawa presented Reference 1-5, Mr. Yashima presented Reference 1-6, and Mr. Ushikubo presented Reference 1-7. The following exchanges between members occurred following these presentations.

Details of exchanges

- In response to a question about the failure rates of optical radio communication systems and plans for improving these rates, a member explained that relating to the failure rates, the systems have been used for 10 to 20 years and there has yet to be a case of a failure. The member also explained that there are data showing that about 5 percent of LED lasers experience a certain amount of decline in their output power after four years of continuous operation, but with recent technology developments the probability of output deterioration has been reduced.

4. Other matters

The following exchanges between members occurred.

Details of exchanges

- In response to a request that the Study Group's discussions also look at broadband usage policies that address regional characteristics in disadvantaged and other special areas and keep an eye on combinations with existing millimeter-band radio communication systems in addition to the next-generation broadband technology presented at this meeting, the

Secretariat indicated that it hoped the upcoming discussions will be based on this suggestion.

- In response to a question about the definition of broadband and the kind of scenarios envisioned for the services that will use the new technology studied by this Study Group, the Secretariat explained that the e-Japan Strategy (2001) qualitatively defined the minimum broadband standard as “the ability to download music data without interruptions” and that discussions at the Study Group will center on what kind of services are conceivable at speeds of several Gbps.
- Finally, it was settled that the next meeting would take place on the afternoon of Monday, January 29, and that the members would be contacted separately about the details of the meeting.

(8) Meeting adjourned