

## Minute Summary of the 5th Meeting of the Study Group on Information Communication Technology for Realizing a Safe and Secure Society

### 1. Date and time

Monday, December 11, 2006, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### 2. Location

Special Conference Room 4, Mita Kyoyo Kaigisho (Japanese Government Conference Building)

### 3. Attendees

(Members, Honorifics omitted)

Tadao Saito, Shigenobu Ikedo, Sumiko Ikeda, Shingo Omori, Yujiro Ogawa, Shuji Ozawa,  
Fumio Takahata, Harue Maeno, Hiroyuki Morikawa, Masaki Watanabe

(Observers)

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) Draft Report
- (2) Future schedule and related matters
- (3) Other items

### 5. Proceedings

(1) The Draft Report (Overview) was explained by the leaders, Ogawa, Ikeda (acting leader) and Watanabe, followed by questions and answers as follows.

- In order to spread the system proposed in the Draft Report, it is helpful if mobile phones and other devices already in widespread use can be utilized. If an attempt is made to develop a new dedicated system, there is a concern that the system may already be out-of-date by the time it is completed. While there is an institutional issue, it would be good to develop a business model that takes advantage of what is already available.
- In terms of the Industry-Academia-Government Forum in the area of disaster control and risk management, the most important thing is the participation of the relevant ministries and

agencies. Their participation will encourage discussions about security and other issues.

- The participation of the relevant ministries and agencies in the Industry-Academia-Government Forum is very important, as pointed out.
- Issues of security and privacy relate to all three areas. While we may not reach any conclusions, it would be good to see some mention of how discussions will be conducted and what the framework of understanding will be in the future.
- It is still difficult to clarify to what extent privacy issues should be taken into account in any of the three areas because of the differences between them. Therefore, I suggest that it be stated that privacy is an issue common to all and that discussions about privacy issues are required in the future.
- Even with the traffic safety system for children and elderly people, there may still be some accidents, as even though children will have a tag, some vehicles are not equipped with a device that can read the tag. Where does the responsibility lie?
- No one system can prevent all accidents. However, the system can significantly reduce accidents. In my opinion, considering the issue in this context will be acceptable.
- Where the responsibility lies is an issue to be dealt with in the future if an accident, injury or the like occurs where a monitoring system is installed. As for the points indicated, we will organize them before the public hearing and add them to, for example, the closing section of the report.
- Security cameras are already installed here and there. Does this not cause a privacy issue?
- Supermarkets have the right to install them on their premises. Even in public spaces, cameras are permitted in areas such as busy streets where the probability of crime is high. We think it is important to hear a broad range of opinions via public hearings and the like on what kinds of rules should be established and what kinds of protective measures should be taken to allow the installation of cameras where cameras are usually not installed now. This would be a step forward.
- What if we included the issues of privacy, where the responsibility lies, business models and so on in the closing section as issues common to the three areas?
- There is nothing about the scope and importance of the role of information communication technology in terms of disaster control and the security and safety of food and support for children and elderly people. I am concerned that people may get the impression that information communication technologies can solve every problem.
- That point should be stated in the introduction. The limits of what can be done using information communication technologies should be stated.
- The introduction to current draft states that using information communication technologies can contribute to a 50% reduction, for example, in damage inside the disaster control area.

However, since this is not adequate, we will complete it by describing the role of ICT in the realization of a secure and safe society.

- Information communication technology complements and promotes crime prevention measures in daily life. At the moment local residents and other volunteers keep watch to prevent crime, and we regard information communication technology to be a tool to support this.

Based on the above opinion exchange, it was decided to revise the introduction and closing section of the Draft Report, and the draft revision was left entirely to the Chair.

(2) As for the future schedule, the Secretariat explained that the press statement would be released around December 26 and opinions would be invited for the period of about one month until the end of January, and this schedule was approved. The next (6th) meeting, which is expected to be the final meeting, is planned for February or March.

The Secretariat also introduced a plan to hold a symposium (hosted by the NICT on February 1, 2007) for the purpose of broadly enhancing the general public's interest in ICT in disaster control and crisis management. It was requested that the Secretariat be contacted in the event of exhibitions being planned for the Earthquake Technology Expo or similar events held at the same time, so that participants in the symposium can view them.

(3) Finally, Mr. Matsumoto, Director-General for Technology Policy Coordination, gave a closing speech, in which he expressed appreciation for the vigorous discussion.

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