

Summary of Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the Study Group on the R&D Human Resources Development in the ICT Sector

1. Date and time : Wednesday, June 13, 2007, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

2. Location: Conference Room No. 1, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

3. Attendees:

(1) Members (Honorifics omitted)

Hiroshi Harashima (Chair) (University of Tokyo), Shigeyuki Akiba (KDDI R&D Laboratories Inc.), Tohru Asami (University of Tokyo), Kenji Ohta (Sharp Corporation, proxy: Hisayoshi Fujitani), Shingo Ohmori (National Institute of Information and Communications Technology), Kazuo Kyuma (Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, proxy: Kohji Matsuyama), Takemitsu Kunio (NEC Corporation, proxy: Minoru Shikada), Harushige Sugimoto (Oki Electric Industry Co., Ltd.), Shinya Tsuda (Sanyo Electric Co., Ltd.), Miwako Doi (Toshiba Corporation), Takashi Hanazawa (Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation, proxy: Mamoru Kitamura), Yasushi Fukunaga (Hitachi, Ltd., proxy: Toshinori Kajiura), Nobuyoshi Fugono (Advanced Communications Research Institute International), Takashi Matsuyama (Kyoto University), Yoshiyuki Miyabe (Matsushita Electric Industrial), Akio Motai (YRP R&D Promotion Committee), Tohru Yamashita (Nippon Keidanren, proxy: Ichiro Tanaka), Seiichi Yoshikawa (Fujitsu Laboratories Ltd.)

(2) Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

Matsumoto (Director-General for Technology Policy Coordination), Kodama (Director of the Technology Policy Division), Matsukawa (Director of the IT Utilization and Human Resources Development Division), Monma (Chief of the Research and Development Office, Technology Policy Division), Taira (Senior Officer for Technology Policy Planning and Coordination), Takada (Assistant Director of the IT Utilization and Human Resources Development Division)

4. Outline of proceedings

(1) Opening

(2) Agenda

1) Confirmation of the summary of minutes of the last meeting

An explanation based on Document 3-1 was given and the summary of minutes of the last meeting was confirmed.

2) Report on the status of the working group

Based on Documents 3-2 and 3-3, the leader, Asami, reported on the Draft Report compiled by the working group.

3) Exchange of opinions

Opinions on the Draft Report were exchanged. The following are main points discussed.

- There are various issues surrounding the development human resources in the field of R&D. From my own experience, I feel that there are substantive issues related to follow-up. The fact that we are not making the best use of our human resources post-development should be strongly stressed.
- Since Sections 1 and 2 refer to the importance of leaders in innovation, it would be better to clarify in Section 3 that the development of leaders in ICT innovation is one of the objectives. The present Draft does not stress the method required for this. Either the title or the description should be changed to clearly stress leaders in ICT innovation.
- The standardization of technologies is very important. Both international cooperation and competition are necessary for this to be achieved. It will become increasingly necessary for managers of joint international research or a standardization projects to work cooperatively.
- Currently, government R&D projects are evaluated solely on the achievements of the research, with only a little attention paid to the development of human resources. Clearly positioning human resources development as one of the objectives of these projects will expand the scope of activities and enhance the effect of the development. Improvement in terms of the institutional aspect is necessary.
- As for the subjects, in addition to making a broad invitation for ideas and proposals, at the implementation stage it will also be possible to consider subjects that will lead to the creation of new markets or industries, rather than just to further technical development. On the other hand, the primary objective of this study group is human resources development. While the subject of research may change over a period of several years, the importance of human resources development will not change in the future. This report should refer to this.
- In evaluating R&D projects aimed at developing leaders in ICT innovation, we should be careful not to make the evaluation too quantitative.
- Issues related to intellectual property will be dealt with according to the individual

circumstances of each case. A structure to deal with the interests of the various parties must be put in place to facilitate the participation of many people in the project.

- As for making good use of skilled workers post-development, since the companies dispatch their staff for development on their own responsibility, they should take on the responsibility of providing continued professional leadership development later on. A clear development plan and post-development placement plan should be drawn up prior to the workers being dispatched to the project.

4) Others

The release of the compiled Report on June 15 was approved, and it was confirmed that all revisions made in accordance with today's discussions are at the sole discretion of the Chair.

(3) Closing