

**Study Group on Countermeasures against
Illegal/Harmful Information on the Internet—1st Meeting
Summary of Minutes (Draft)**

1. Date and Time

Monday, November 26, 2007; 13:00–15:00

2. Location

Conference Room, 7th floor, MIC

3. Attendees (honorifics omitted)

Study Group Members: Yoshio Igarashi, Ryoji Mori (proxy for Okamura), Takamasa Kishihara, Tamayo Kimura, Akio Kokubu, Yoko Kobayashi, Shinichiro Sakata, Satoshi Seki, Nobuyuki Takahashi, Tsuyoshi Takenouchi, Toshiaki Tateishi, Hiroshi Tano, Miki Nagata, Yasuo Nakayama, Yasuo Hasebe, Makoto Haruta, Hiroki Hirasawa, Naoya Bessho, Masao Horibe, Takashi Matsuyama, Takashi Kimura (proxy for Maruhashi), Seiji Yoshikawa

Absent: Hiroyuki Kuwako, Makoto Saito, Suguru Yamaguchi

Observers:

Counselor (IT Office), Cabinet Secretariat; Director to Director General (for Policy of Youth Affairs); Director, Cybercrime Division, National Police Agency; Director, Information Economy Division, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry; Director, Youth Division, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

MIC:

Masuda (Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications), Terasaki (Director-General, Telecommunications Bureau), Takeuchi (Director-General, Telecommunications Business Department), Ando (Director, General Affairs Division, Telecommunications Bureau), Kurose (Director, Computer Communications Division), Sato (Director, Telecommunications Consumer Policy Division), Yoshida (Senior Planning Officer, Telecommunications Consumer Policy Division), Naito (Assistant Director, Telecommunications Consumer Policy Division), Ishii (Assistant Director, Telecommunications Consumer Policy Division)

4. Agenda

(1) Opening address

(2) Opening address by Internal Affairs and Communications Minister Masuda

- (3) Introduction of study group members
- (4) Draft Meeting Procedures
- (5) Appointment of Chair and designation of Vice Chair
- (6) Disclosure of study group meetings
- (7) Agenda
 - Current situation of illegal/harmful information on the Internet and MIC's initiatives
Secretariat
 - Current situation of illegal/harmful information on the Internet
Seiji Yoshikawa, Internet Association Japan
 - Current status of and issues regarding the promotion of filtering
(Presentations by industry associations)
Shinichiro Sakata, Managing Director, Telecommunications Carriers Association
Toshiaki Tateishi, Executive Director, Japan Internet Providers Association
Akio Kokubu, Vice President, Internet Association Japan
Kazushi Kobayashi, Chair, Personal Computer Business Committee; Director,
Broadcasting/Communications Convergence Business Promotion Center, Consumer
Business Group, Hitachi, Ltd.
- (8) Closing

5. Proceedings

- (1) Opening address
- (2) Opening address by Internal Affairs and Communications Minister Masuda
Minister Masuda gave an opening address.
- (3) Introduction of study group members
- (4) Draft Meeting Procedures
The secretariat explained the procedures of the study group meetings, based on Reference 1.
The draft meeting procedures were approved.
- (5) Appointment of chair
Horibe was elected chair, in accordance with Reference 1, "Meeting Procedures."
- (6) Designation of vice chair
Chair Horibe designated Hasebe vice chair, in accordance with on Reference 1, "Meeting
Procedures."
- (7) Disclosure of study group meetings

The secretariat explained the proposed policy regarding disclosure of study group meetings, based on Reference 2, and the disclosure of meetings was approved.

(8) Agenda

(i) Current situation of illegal/harmful information on the Internet and MIC's initiatives

The secretariat explained the current situation and the initiatives, based on Reference 3.

(ii) Current situation of illegal/harmful information on the Internet

Yoshikawa explained the current situation, based on Reference 4.

Note: The Chair decided not to disclose Reference 4.

(iii) Current status of and issues regarding the promotion of filtering

Sakata, Tateishi, Kokubu and Personal Computer Business Committee Chair Kazushi Kobayashi each gave a presentation based on References 5, 6, 7 and 8, respectively.

With regard to these presentations, the following comments were made:

- Many providers point out that "there is no user demand" as a reason for not introducing filtering services. But, users may not understand the concept. There must be some problems on the user side as well.
- Is any data available on awareness and use of filtering not on mobile phones but on PCs?
- The rate of awareness of filtering on PCs is about 66% (see page 19 in Reference 3). As for the usage rate, a survey shows that about 20% of children who access the Internet have their access restricted by filtering software (results of the Second Questionnaire Survey for FY2006 Telecommunications Service Monitors).
- While a considerable number of people are paying thousands of yen per year for security software, many people are disinclined to bear the cost of filtering.
- It may be effective to incorporate filtering functions into comprehensive security software.
- Providing a filtering function on the network will not be cheap because of the attendant costs of facility improvement and management.

(iv) Future schedule

The secretariat explained the future schedule, based on Reference 9.

In response, the following comments were made:

- MIC would like to implement effective measures, whenever they are needed, even within this year.
- We should add to the agenda the issue of why content that is illegal under the Penal Codes is not currently controlled.
- We should definitely promote the use of filtering, but we should start from the assumption

that the introduction of filtering will not solve every problem.