

APEC TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION WORKING GROUP 30TH MEETING (September 19-24, Singapore)

Chair's Report

INTRODUCTION

Singapore hosted the thirtieth meeting of the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation ([APEC](#)) Working Group on Telecommunications and Information ([TEL](#)). Eighteen economies of the APEC region were represented, including Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Canada; China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Korea; Malaysia; Mexico; New Zealand; Peru; Philippines; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; United States of America and Viet Nam. Also attending were the Director (Program) of the APEC Secretariat; representatives of six guests: [APLAC](#), [AOEMA](#), [GBDe](#), [INTUG](#), Macao, China and Colombia; and one official observer: [PECC](#).

Ms. Salma Jalife from Mexico chaired the meeting.

OPENING OF TEL 30

The TEL 30 Meeting was preceded by a number of workshops, meetings and a brainstorming session:

Sunday, September 19, 2004	Wireless Security Workshop
	CSIRT Workshop
	Telecenter Workshop
Monday, September 20, 2004	MRA Task Force Meeting
	Smart Community Project
	Grid Workshop
Tuesday, September 21, 2004	e-Security Task Group Meeting
	Brainstorming Session – Next Generation Networks
	MRA Task Force Meeting

The first plenary meeting of TEL 30 was opened officially on the morning of Wednesday, September 22, 2004 by Mr. Leong Keng Thai, Director General (Telecoms), Infocomm Development Authority ([IDA](#)), Singapore.

In his opening address, he said it was an honor for Singapore to host TEL 30. He stressed the important roles that different international fora play in strengthening economic links around the globe. He said APEC TEL is a particularly powerful platform for governments, business communities and interest groups to collectively explore ways to improve the telecommunications and information infrastructure in the Asia-Pacific region.

Mr. Leong Keng Thai noticed the growing interest of TEL in discussing issues such as next generation networks (NGNs). He indicated that it may not be appropriate to apply

the current regulatory rules to NGNs. Therefore, he thought it was timely that all Steering Groups in TEL were brainstorming to develop a long-term program on NGN issues.

He then talked about the regulatory challenges entailed by some emerging technologies, such as free-space optics, ultra-wideband and IP telephony. He said it is important to consult industry and the public to ensure that these technologies develop in a conducive, pro-business environment. In this respect, he noted the public consultation launched the previous day by IDA regarding ENUM and the introduction of IP telephony in Singapore.

In closing, Mr. Leong Keng Thai encouraged all to do what has always been a hallmark of APEC TEL: renewing old friendships and making new ones.

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The TEL Chair, Ms. Salma Jalife, thanked Mr. Leong Keng Thai for his opening address. She enthusiastically praised the hosts for the warm reception and excellent organization of TEL 30. She anticipated positive results and valuable outcomes from this meeting, and said they were essential for building the path to the next Ministerial Meeting (TELMIN 6).

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After the departure of Mr. Leong Keng Thai, the Chair introduced the members of the presidium: Director (Program) from the APEC Secretariat, Ms. Monica Ochoa; Vice-Chair Dr. Inuk Chung from Korea; Vice-Chair Dr. Arnon Tubtiang from Thailand and the Chair's Assistant, Mr. Pablo Hinojosa.

A. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Chair opened the floor for comments on the proposed agenda PLEN/01/R. There were no comments from members and the agenda was adopted as follows:

A.	Review and Adoption of Agenda
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B.		Introductory Remarks
C.		APEC Secretariat Report on APEC Developments
D.		Adoption of TEL 29 Chair's Report
E.	½	Roadmap for TELMIN 6 (Also see: Annex 1)
F.		Steering Group's Work Procedures
G.	*	Steering Group and Task Group Meetings and Reports
		1.- Development and Cooperation Steering Group
		2.- Human Resources Development Steering Group
		3.- Liberalization Steering Group
		3.1.- MRA Task Force
		3.2.- Brainstorming Session – Next Generation Networks
		4.- Business Facilitation Steering Group
		4.1.- Electronic Security Task Group
H.	*	Discussion/Approval of New Project Proposals/Priority Setting
I.	½	Input from TEL to SOM III
J.	½	Recent Regulatory and Policy Developments (Presentations by Economies)
K.	½	Brief Voluntary Statements by Observers and Guests
L.	*	Discussion of Future Meetings – TEL 31; TEL 32; TELMIN 6
M.	*	Other Business

(*) These items were discussed in the second Plenary meeting on Friday September 24, 2004.

(½) The discussion of these items took place during both Plenary meetings.

B. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

The Chair, Ms. Salma Jalife, talked about her views on the present and future activities of the TEL. Highlights of her observations are provided below:

→ *Welcome*

The Chair congratulated the hosts for their excellent organization and hospitality. She welcomed all participating economies and noted the presence of Colombia as observer. She also expressed gratitude to Peru for hosting the next telecommunications ministerial next year.

→ *Progress Assessment*

The Chair asked all economies to assess the progress made so far in domestic telecommunications and information markets with the aim of providing Ministers with high-quality deliverables and recommendations for future action. Any move towards the consolidation of an advanced Asia Pacific Information Infrastructure (APII) represents a move for bridging the digital divide and advance in building the regional Information Society (APIS).

→ *Information on Past and On-going Projects*

The Chair asked the Steering Group Convenors to improve the information available on TEL projects (past and on-going). This information is needed to reflect progress made

in accomplishing the Bogor objectives and goals. It should also help the TEL evaluate how well it is responding to minister's instructions. Finally, this information should help identify future actions that need to be taken and endorsed by ministers. The use of matrixes and databases to better organize this information is highly encouraged.

→ *TEL Goals*

The Chair recalled the APEC TEL goals in order to focus the work taking place in the Steering Groups and Task Forces:

- a. Improving network access, especially in underserved urban, rural and remote areas;
- b. Assisting developing economies to reform their policy and regulatory structure to meet new environments;
- c. Reinforcing and enhancing human resource development activities through various measures such as utilizing distance learning technologies;
- d. Promulgating knowledge and recognition of the digital divide by holding appropriate fora;
- e. Monitoring the fair and sustainable development of the Internet in the APEC region as an integral part of the Asia-Pacific Information Infrastructure (APII); and
- f. Pursuing explanatory work to define concepts, to measure the extent of domestic, regional and international digital divides, and to assess economic and cultural reasons for divides with a view to develop technology neutral, pragmatic approaches to encourage greater access.

These goals need to be considered in every initiative led by the TEL and should guide the execution of all projects.

→ *Hot Topics*

The Chair noted the significance of NGN's and telecenters as discussion topics in TEL 30. Although she recognized that both topics have been addressed in previous TEL meetings, she considered it important to recognize those issues that are critical to the work and objectives of TEL in order to establish a work program on both topics. Since both are cross-cutting topics, coordination mechanisms between the four Steering Groups should be implemented.

C. APEC SECRETARIAT REPORT ON APEC DEVELOPMENTS

The Chair called upon Ms. Monica Ochoa, Director (Program) from the APEC Secretariat, to review recent APEC developments. The full report is document PLEN/14 and the presentation is PLEN/14A.

The Director commenced her presentation by recalling the theme, priorities and possible deliverables of APEC 2004 being hosted by Chile. Then she moved to report on the outcomes of the Second Senior Official's Meeting (SOM II, Pucon, Chile, 1-2 June

2004) and the Ministers Responsible for Trade Meeting (MRT, Pucon, Chile, 4-5 June 2004).

On the issue of implementing APEC's Security Commitments, the Director said that the TEL has been requested by the Chair of the Counter-Terrorism Task Force (CTTF) to contribute to a cross-analysis of the Counter-terrorism Action Plans (CAPs) with a view to outlining gaps in capacity building.

Regarding APEC's ECOTECH agenda, the Director called to mind its four priorities: a) integration into the global economy; b) counter-terrorism capacity building; c) promoting the development of knowledge-based economies; and d) addressing the social dimension of globalization. She said that the TEL should work out specific policies and measures to implement these priorities.

The Director said that the SOM Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation (ESC) / Small Group on Evaluation agreed to further improve the new evaluation framework on 2005 APEC project proposals requesting Operational Account funding. Final recommendations will be put forward to the ESC and SOM for a replacement of the existing APEC Project Format and the ECOTECH Weightings Matrix.

The Director informed the group that the APEC Secretariat signed a letter of intent in July with the World Bank's Global Distance Learning Network (GDLN) to implement pilot projects to disseminate workshop and training activities of APEC to a wider audience.

On management issues, the Director reported on the outcomes of the last meeting of the Budget and Management Committee (BMC II) held in Singapore August 24-26, 2004. At this meeting, the BMC approved four APEC TEL projects:

Project Code	Project Name	Proposed by	Fund Requested	Provision Recommended
TEL 01/2005	APEC TEL Asia Pacific Grid Workshops	Korea	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
TEL 02/2005	Wi-Fi Connectivity in Rural and Remote Communities	Canada	\$ 35,550	\$ 35,550
TEL 03/2005	Regulatory Training Project **	Australia	\$ 142,250	\$ 100,000
TEL 04/2005	Killer Applications on IPv6 infrastructure	Chinese Taipei	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
TOTAL			US\$ 217,800	US\$ 175,550

** This project was approved after deducting \$42,420.
Project Overseer need to submit revised itemized budget.

The Director made the following clarifications:

- a) Projects for 2003 projects will expire on 31 December 2004. All receipts for reimbursement must be sent to APEC Secretariat by **Tuesday 7 December 2004**. Requests for the extension of projects must be sent to APEC Secretariat (by the

Project Overseer and endorsed by the Chair of TEL) by **Tuesday 16 November 2004**.

- b) The Affordable Limit of Expenditure for 2005 TILF projects is US\$ 5 million, of which at least 15% (US\$ 750,000) will be set aside for urgent 2005 projects. The total Operational Account expenditure for 2005 will be US\$ 2 million, of which 25% (US\$ 300,000) will be set aside for urgent 2005 projects.
- c) After BMC II recommended projects for approval to SOMIII, there is still approximately US\$ 1,841,700 for 2005 TILF Special Account projects and US\$ 736,166 for 2005 Operational Account projects. Such projects must respond to Leaders' and Ministers' priorities as set out in November 2004 and priorities set by SOM I in 2005. The deadline to send project proposals (of projects to be implemented before April 2005) to the APEC Secretariat for inter-sessional approval, is **Saturday 15 January 2005**. For projects for later implementation the deadline is either **Friday 18 March 2005** or **Friday 1 April 2005** (depending on the dates for BMC I).
- d) Project Overseers are reminded to give adequate time (at least four weeks before TEL meeting) to identify participants and speakers being funded to attend workshops. This responds to the need of processing travel expenses and obtaining visas.

Finally, the Director said that APEC-related websites (such as TEL's www.apectelwg.org) can now use **appec.org** sub-domain names through a new service offered by the APEC Secretariat; for example: www.tel.appec.org.

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The Chair thanked the Director for her report and said that new project proposals will be discussed carefully within each of the TEL Steering Groups. She invited Convenors to ensure that the amount of money being sought does not exceed the money available for funding. She also showed interest in the possibility of using residual funds for urgent projects. Finally, the Chair invited all participants to become more active in disseminating the information generated by TEL through both the new APEC website and the current TEL website.

The representative from Australia, Ms. Caroline Greenway, asked for clarification on the self-funding requirements for those projects seeking Operational Account (OA) funds. While TILF projects require about 50% of self-funding, it was not clear if OA projects also had this requirement. The Director (Program), Ms. Monica Ochoa, replied that the 50% requirement is only for TILF projects. However, economies are encouraged to also provide self-funding elements for OA projects.

D. ADOPTION OF TEL 29 CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair's Report from the 29th TEL Meeting was submitted as Document PLEN/12. Since there were no comments to this document, the Chair's Report from the 29th Meeting of TEL was adopted.

E. ROADMAP FOR TELMIN 6 (See Annex 1)

The Chair explained that a ministerial declaration and a plan of action are the two main products of a ministerial meeting. She said it is tradition to ask the host of this meeting to pen the first drafts of both documents. She informed the group that Peru, as the next host, has made some progress towards choosing the topic that will be the focus of the next ministerial declaration; a final decision has not yet been taken. The Chair reiterated her intention to work together with Peru in both content and organizational matters for the next ministerial meeting (TELMIN 6).

The Chair expected that the first draft of the declaration could be circulated to all points of contact (POCs) by the end of 2004. She invited all economies not only to provide comments to this draft but also to consider other contributions from TEL that could be endorsed by ministers. She also said that there is enough time to prepare a very good declaration and a plan of action.

One of the elements that the Chair considered critical is the compilation of up to-date information on past and on-going TEL projects to: a) assist ministers to express the stage of progress made so far by the TEL; and b) for them to make specific recommendations about TEL future directions'. She asked Convenors for their support to collect and present this information.

An important requisite for the preparation of TELMIN 6 will be the organization of two Senior Officials' Meetings (TEL-SOM), the first one taking place at TEL 31 and the second one just prior to the ministerial. The Chair will ask inter-sessionally for the name of each economy's TEL-SOM participating in these meetings.

Finally, the Chair encouraged those economies with small or absent delegations at TEL meetings to commit themselves to prepare for TELMIN 6, even if they are only able to do so by electronic means.

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The representative from Peru, Mr. Carlos Valdez, took the floor to inform the group of the arrangements for TELMIN 6. He said that Minister Javier Ortiz is honored to be the host of this important meeting and looks forward to receive ministers from all APEC economies next year. He said that internal coordination meetings have already started and the venue of the meeting – either Lima or Cuzco – will be announced soon.

F. STEERING GROUP'S WORK PROCEDURES

During the inter-sessional period prior to TEL 30, the Chair proposed some guidelines for the submission of new project proposals. A full copy of these guidelines is available at Document PLEN/10. Heads of Delegation and the TEL Executive Committee agreed to these guidelines, with the objective of improving the project selection process. Additional comments from POC's will be received inter-sessionally, in an effort to adopt these guidelines at TEL 31.

The Chair will consult with POCs regarding some additional work on procedural and organizational matters, in order that it can be completed inter-sessionally.

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The Vice-Chair, Dr. Arnon Tubtiang, stressed the importance of having workshops and Steering Group agendas available earlier in order to: a) make visa and travel arrangements; and b) better prepare for the meetings. Therefore, guidelines for the proposal of all agendas are desirable and should include specific time limits.

The Vice-Chair, Dr. Inuk Chung, suggested the inter-sessional development of new guidelines for the proposal / approval / organization of workshops. These guidelines should reflect the fact that workshops may or may not be part of a project. He also commented that as these new procedures help to improve the effectiveness of TEL work, therefore it should not be necessary to extend the time allocated for Steering Group meetings.

G. STEERING GROUP AND TASK GROUP MEETINGS AND REPORTS

1. Development Cooperation Steering Group Meeting (DCSG)

The Chair of the TEL asked the DCSG Convenor, Ms. Diane Steinour, to present her report. Her full report is Document PLEN/26/R.

The Convenor said that DCSG discussions focused on three main topics: a progress report on Digital Divide activities, broadband activities, and ways forward to improve efforts on next-generation networks (NGNs).

On the first topic, Digital Divide, the Convenor said that together with Deputy Convenor Mr. Po-Chou Liang, they will lead a drafting group to prepare a *status report* on Digital Divide activities for TEL-SOM and TELMIN 6, and will bring this report to TEL 31 for the DCSG's and Plenary's consideration. The Convenor asked for the support of different parties in order to prepare this report:

- She asked Convenors from all Steering Groups to help DCSG coordinate the Matrix for Digital Divide Activities.
- Requested that all economies help to update the external stocktake, and in particular, the ICT access statistics documents.

- Urged each economy to kindly provide a Digital Divide Point of Contact (POC) to assist in the Digital Divide related efforts, particularly the development of the report.

On the second topic, broadband, the Convenor said that the drafting group, which is developing the *key principles to remove barriers to rapid deployment of broadband means*, will continue its work inter-sessionally to prepare a draft text in time for the TEL 31 DCSG meeting. The Convenor also invited all economies to participate in the development of a *status report* on broadband activities since TELMIN 5. She expected to bring a draft version of this *status report* to TEL 31 for consideration.

On the third topic, the Convenor said DCSG agreed to explore NGN's from many aspects, including its relation to the needs of developing economies, emerging technical and financial considerations, a variety of technology platforms, and potential implications for trade and investment.

On the second and third topics, broadband and NGN's, the Convenor provided some edits to the recommendations from TEL to SOM III suggested in a draft report which was previously circulated by the Chair to the Executive Committee members for comments.

No new project proposals were put forward by the DCSG. However, DCSG endorsed two workshop proposals for TEL 31:

1. "Flow-Based Internet Traffic Measurement and Analysis Workshop" by Korea, requesting one half day, preferably on the Monday
2. "Killer Applications on APEC IPv6 Infrastructure Project" by Chinese Taipei, requesting one full day.

For TEL 32, DCSG proposed:

1. "Asia Pacific Grid Workshop for Building New Regional CyberInfrastructure" by Korea, requesting a full day.

To conclude her report, the Convenor requested a half-day prior to TEL 31, preferably on the Monday, to allow the broadband principles drafting group to engage in their activities prior to the DCSG meeting.

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The Chair thanked the DCSG Convenor for her report and encouraged all economies to provide ICT statistics for the status report on Digital Divide. She said that if only few economies provide this information, then the assessment on overall APEC performance may prove incorrect and possibly lead to inappropriate decisions.

The representative from China, Mr. Liu Ziping, commented on paragraph 2.2.2 of the DCSG report, regarding the draft of the broadband principles, and noticed that there was no clear consensus on some of its objectives. He moved to change some wording of this paragraph, which was subsequently modified by the DCSG Convenor.

The representative from Australia, Ms. Fay Holthuyzen, endorsed the DCSG report and proposed that the suggested recommendations consider the needs and expectations of end users. This should be included in the draft report of TEL to SOM III.

The Chair said that the Report of TEL to SOM III could be a good source for developing the input that TEL will bring to the Ministers. She invited all economies to provide comments on the future work of TEL which would be proposed in the next Ministerial meeting.

2. Human Resource Development Steering Group Meeting (HRDSG)

The Chair of the TEL asked the HRDSG Convenor, Dr. Lang-Chee Chang, to present his report, a full copy of which is Document PLEN/32.

The Convenor reported on the progress and status of the Regulatory Training Project by Australia. On the design phase of this project, the Convenor informed the group that [the evaluation and final report](#) was presented at the HRDSG meeting and announced the completion of this project. The implementation phase (Document HRDSG/15), received by the BMC in August received funding of US\$100,000. Australia will look for opportunities to fund the difference of US\$42,250, which was reduced from the original amount requested, through self-funding.

The Convenor also reported on the two workshops held at TEL 30 relating to HRDSG activities. The first was a full day workshop on Telecenters (by Chinese Taipei) and the other was a half day workshop on Smart Communities (by Canada).

The Convenor asked the TEL to endorse two new project proposals agreed by HRDSG:

1. Project HRDSG/11A, “Establishment of Government CIO Training Model & Network for e-Government Development”, by Thailand and Indonesia, which is seeking [urgent] US\$80,300 from APEC Central Fund; and
2. Project HRDSG/17_R, “APEC e-Inclusion: Bridging the Digital Divide for People with Disabilities”, by Canada, requesting US\$27,650 from APEC Central Fund.

The following workshops were proposed by HRDSG for TEL 31 and/or TEL 32:

1. HRDSG/19, “Wi-Fi Connectivity in Rural and Remote Communities: Bridging the Digital Divide”, by Canada, requesting a full-day at TEL 31.
2. HRDSG/11A, “Establishment of Government CIO Training Model & Network For e-Government Development”, by Thailand and Indonesia, requesting a full-day workshop at TEL31.
3. HRDSG/17R, “APEC e-Inclusion: Bridging the Digital Divide for People with Disabilities”, by Canada, requesting a half-day workshop at TEL31 or TEL32.

The Convenor suggested the four Steering Groups work on an unified version of the “Matrix of TEL Activities”, which is based on the Program of Action from TELMIN5, and which can be submitted as part of TELMIN6 documentation. The HRDSG Matrix is Document HRDSG/12.

To conclude, the Convenor suggested that the TEL develop a strategic plan towards TELMIN6 which would further outline the transition from APII to APIS.

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The Chair of the TEL, Ms. Salma Jalife, thanked Mr. Chang for his report. She said that the Matrix of TEL Activities is a very practical document which will surely help to present TEL activities to the ministers.

3. Liberalisation Steering Group Meeting (LSG)

The Chair of the TEL asked the acting LSG Convenor, Dr. Chong Hoon Park, who agreed to substitute for Australia for TEL 30, to present his report, a full version of which is Document PLEN/31/R.

The acting Convenor reported on the *NGN Brainstorming Session*. He acknowledged the report LSG/16 made by the U.S. session organizer. The report contains a proposal to hold a second NGN Brainstorming Session at TEL 31. In view of the fact that NGNs have implications for each of the Steering Groups within the TEL, the acting Convenor suggested the Plenary endorse this proposal and that, similar to the first brainstorming session, representatives from each TEL Steering Group participate in this second NGN Brainstorming Session at TEL 31. Canada agreed to organize this session with active participation from the United States.

Canada presented a final copy of the TEL study on “*Progress towards adopting and implementing the WTO Reference Paper*”. The first report on this topic was developed by Canada (LSG/15), and was submitted to the APEC Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI) in May 2004. The CTI also recognized the need to update this report annually. The acting Convenor noted that LSG agreed to provide an annual report, and encouraged all TEL economies to provide updates where appropriate. The report will be updated intersessionally for approval at TEL 31, so that LSG will be able to present it to CTI in April/May 2005 and TELMIN 6 in June 2005. Canada will send out a request for updates early in 2005.

With regards to the *Liberalization Stocktake*, the acting Convenor reported that this project has been successfully completed and is available on the APEC TEL website. The LSG is considering its recommendations and evaluating the possibility of presenting them to Ministers for consideration.

On the *Effective Compliance and Enforcement Guidelines and Principles*, the LSG recommended the Plenary approve this document and submit it to the upcoming TELMIN for endorsement.

Related to the survey on *Virtual Private Networks* developed by INTUG (Document LSG/6), the LSG agreed to encourage TEL economies to respond to the questionnaire, and for those that already did, to update their answers.

The LSG discussed potential themes for the Regulatory Roundtable, which will be proposed as a full-day event at TEL 31. Regulators will address several issues relating to interconnection and interoperability, including interconnection, leased lines, and VoIP.

There were no new project proposals arising from the LSG. For TEL 31 the acting Convenor proposed the following workshops:

1. One full-day session on NGNs.
2. Two half-day sessions for the MRA Task Force at TEL 31 (preferably on Monday and Tuesday).
3. A full day session for the Regulatory Roundtable at TEL 31 (preferably on Monday).

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The Chair thanked Dr. Park, acting LSG Convenor, for his report.

Australia, Ms. Gabrielle Crick, complemented the LSG report by informing about the Standards Equivalence Workshop, held previous to the TEL meeting. This was a joint APEC-TEL and APT workshop. The report of this workshop, Document LSG/11 was presented at MRA-TF and LSG.

The representative for INTUG, Mr. Richard Thwaites, noted that the written report of the LSG was not made available before the start of the second Plenary. He said that it is important to ensure that all positions are accurately reported and therefore the opportune circulation of the text is required to provide comments and improve the report.

3.1 MRA Task Force (MRATF)

The Chair of the TEL asked the MRATF Chair, Mr. Andy Kwan, to present his report, a full version of which is Document LSG/18.

The MRATF Chair reported on three key issues. First, the MRATF finally elected a new Vice-Chair, Mr. John Mitchell, from Australia. Second, the MRATF developed a document MRA/04/R on *Guidelines for the Use of Conformity Assessment Procedures* which will further expedite the trade of telecommunications equipment in the APEC region. Third, a new MRA has been proposed to complement the existing one on Conformity Assessment Procedures and will deal with the mutual recognition of technical requirements. Subject to approval by TEL at its next meeting, this new MRA will request endorsement by ministers at TELMIN 6.

To conclude, the MRATF Chair reported on the status of voluntary commitments to the MRA on Conformity Assessment for Telecommunications Equipment, in which 15 out of 21 economies have already committed with Phase 1 (Mutual Recognition of Test Reports) and 5 have committed to Phase 2 (Mutual Recognition of Equipment Certification).

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The Chair thanked Mr. Andy Kwan, Chair of the MRATF, for his report.

The representative from the U.S.A, Ms. Elizabeth Shelton, acknowledged the substantial deliverable coming from the MRA-TF for the acceptance of the Ministers and predicted that the new MRA proposal will be a very visible mark of success in TELMIN 6. She stressed the fact that the MRATF represents a very important part of the work of the TEL and therefore invited to redouble efforts and further support to the work of the MRATF.

3.2. Brainstorming Session - Next Generation Networks

The Chair of the TEL asked Mr. Bill Graham, facilitator of the NGN Brainstorming Session, to speak about the status of the work on NGN's. A full copy of the report prepared by the organizer of the Brainstorming Session (U.S.A, Mrs. Anita Dey) is Document LSG/16. A draft discussion paper on the future of TEL work on NGN's was prepared by Mr. Bill Graham and is Document PLEN/30.

Mr. Graham spoke about the importance of avoiding duplication of the work on NGN's, both between different TEL Steering Groups, and other regional and international fora. For the purpose of further discussions on NGN, he identified five topics which are within the TEL mandate, and suggested that ad hoc groups, of five or six economies each, come together to develop background information and work-plans on each issue area. The outcomes could then be presented for consideration by a final full-day NGN workshop at TEL 31. Depending on the outcomes of these ad hoc groups, it is possible they may also provide valuable input to the preparations for TELMIN6.

The five suggested topics are:

1. Interconnection/Interoperability of NGN and Legacy Networks
2. Trade Facilitation Aspects of NGN Standards
3. Trade Facilitation Aspects of Radiofrequency Spectrum Planning
4. Creating Confidence in the Security and Reliability of NGNs
5. Capacity Building

The facilitator concluded with an invitation to all economies to distribute the work and exchange information on these five topics inter-sessionally by email.

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The Chair thanked Bill Graham from Canada for his support as the facilitator of the NGN Brainstorming Session and also acknowledged the hard work of the organizers of this successful session.

The representative from Australia, Ms. Fay Holthuyzen, commended Canada for its work on the Brainstorming Session. She said it is important to share information and to start developing positions on the NGN topic. She hesitated on the convenience of the five bodies of work proposed in the report of NGN's since this will slow forward movement. She encouraged active inter-sessional work to arrive at TEL 31 well prepared.

The Chair said that NGN is a very dynamic topic which cuts across the work of the four TEL Steering Groups. Therefore, she considered it important to avoid the duplication of initiatives in different Steering Groups. Thus, a full day workshop at TEL 31 may prove to be helpful.

The representative from the U.S.A, Ms. Anita Dey, also thanked Bill Graham and offered support in the preparation of the next workshop at TEL 31, as well as the work of the ad hoc groups.

The representative from INTUG, Mr. Ernie Newman, acknowledged the importance of the TEL's work on NGN and talked about INTUG's initiatives related to this topic, such as the survey on Virtual Private Networks endorsed by LSG. He also highlighted projects from different Steering Groups related to wireless and broadband technologies, whose policy and regulatory implications could be considered within the NGN pocket of issues.

The representative from China, Mr. Liu Ziping, suggested improving the focus of the NGN discussions by relating them with each of the four TEL Steering Groups. In his view, this is the best way to take into account (and benefit from) the experiences of each economy on NGN. He also noted the increasing importance of two initiatives within TEL: the one on broadband and the other on NGN. He then suggested establishing constructive linkages between these two initiatives.

The Chair thanked China for its comments, and suggested concentrating inter-sessionally on building the structure of the NGN workshop at TEL 31, specially regarding what we expect as an outcome.

The representative from Canada, Mr. Bill Graham, proposed a possible inter-sessional work methodology: First, select 5 economies to serve as facilitators of each of the sub-topics chosen as the key questions of NGN. Then, establish e-mail discussion groups on each of the sub-topics. A central coordinator will then identify key issue linkages, as well as how these issues may best be addressed within the TEL. The Chair's office offered to take on this meta-coordination role, and to assess linkages with the TEL's mandate and future direction.

The DCSG Convenor, Ms. Diane Steinour, intervened to note the specific detailed guidance developed by the DCSG in the wake of the NGN brainstorming session. The DCSG agreed "to explore NGNs from many aspects, including: 1) its relation to the needs of developing economies, and rural remote areas; 2) emerging considerations

such as interoperability of platforms, speed performance, costs, security, and frequency allocation; 3) the wide range of technological platforms (wired and wireless) with special attention to any overlaps with broadband; and 4) potential implications for trade and investment in the APEC region." The DCSG Convenor requested that Canada and drafters of additional work activities under NGN note this guidance.

The Chair encouraged Convenors actively participate in the discussions and also asked the Vice-Chair's to provide input on how TEL can move forward on the issue of NGN.

4. Business Facilitation Steering Group (BFSG) Meeting

The Chair asked the BFSG Convenor, Mr. Y.S. Lee, to present his report, a full version of which is Document PLEN/29.

The Convenor first reported on the activities related to spam. INTUG presented a paper on this topic which referred to the users perspective BFSG/15/R and suggested creating a small group in BFSG to draft a proposal to be tabled at TEL31. Australia volunteered to lead the small group with Canada, Korea, New Zealand, Singapore and United States as initial members. (Other economies are welcomed to join the group later.) The Convenor also mentioned the paper from Malaysia BFSG/17 on the current situation regarding spam. He noted that there are many angles from which to look at spam, and therefore outreach with other fora and coordination with other TEL Steering Groups (for example with LSG) is essential.

The BFSG Convenor highlighted those activities where cooperation with other fora took place. For example, he noted the paper he delivered at the NGN brainstorming session NGN/11. Also, the Deputy Convenor of DCSG, Mr. Po-Chou Liang, briefed BFSG on updating the Digital Divide Matrix. Mr. Michael Lee, from Chinese Taipei, briefed BFSG on the results of the Telecenter workshop supported by HRDSG. AOEMA observed that few outside the TEL knew about its activities and emphasized communications and outreach, for example, with APEC SMEWG.

Regarding the 2nd APEC High Level Symposium on e-Government, which will be held in Mexico in October 6-8, 2004, the BFSG Convenor recommended to the Plenary that the Chair represent the TEL at the Symposium.

The BFSG endorsed two event proposals for TEL 31:

1. One day meeting of the eSTG.
2. A half day workshop on "APEC-Business e-Commerce Dialogue", organized and self funded by GBDe (Document BFSG/18).

The BFSG Convenor also requested the TEL to endorse one new project proposal:

1. Project BFSG/ "Safety Wireless", which is a self funded project proposed by Japan/AOEMA.

With regards to TEL website matters, the Convenor said that BFSG agreed that TEL should use the “tel.apecc.org” domain name while Korea should also maintain the current “apecc.org” domain name.

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The Chair, Ms. Salma Jalife thanked Mr. Y.S. Lee for his report and asked the Plenary to approve the Convenor’s suggestion of maintaining both domain names for the TEL website. The proposal was accepted.

In reviewing the Convenor’s report, Mr. Bill Graham from Canada observed that point 7.4 (Future Work of the BFSG) did not appear to fully reflect Canada’s suggestion. Specifically, he clarified that, in addition to creating specific targets for its work areas, Canada was suggesting that the Group assess the various items in relation to each other with a view to developing a strategic framework for its work program.

[Australia made an additional comment on spam.]

4.1 e-Security Task Group

The Chair of the TEL asked Mr. David Hickman, eSTG Chair to present his report. A full copy of his report is document BFSG/19/R.

The eSTG Chair talked about substantial progress on different e-security matters. First, he informed the group that the eSTG endorsed the PKI Guidelines, which will be finalized within the next month. Then, delegates will have a last opportunity to clear the final version, which will be presented at TEL 31. The eSTG Chair acknowledged the complexity of this project and brought to light its convenience for those economies which have not yet implemented PKI schemes, because these guidelines will ensure interoperability.

Second, he reported on Project “Cybercrime Legislation and Enforcement Capacity Building”, particularly on the associated second conference of experts held in Hanoi in August 25-27, 2004, which was funded by the US. The eSTG Chair also mentioned that direct assistance is planned for Chinese Taipei (October 2004), Peru (November 2004) and Thailand (Nov 2004) and further requests have been made by some other economies. Therefore, a one year extension of the project, until December 2005, was requested to the TEL, noting that the budget will not be extended.

Third, the eSTG Chair reported on the two e-security related workshops that were held at TEL 30: Wireless Security and CSIRT. The Wireless Security Workshop was co-chaired by Sallie McDonald (U.S. Department of Homeland Security) and Joel Schwarz (US Department of Justice). The eSTG endorsed the creation of a temporary Wireless Working Group (WWG) to hold further discussions on the next steps and to propose future work that the TEL might consider undertaking in this area. All interested economies and delegates are to be given an opportunity to participate. The CSIRT workshop was chaired by Liesyl Franz from the US. The eSTG agreed to bring the

CSIRT component into its agenda on a permanent basis, and to consent on a future work program.

To conclude, the eSTG Chair referred to AOEMA project proposal, “Cyber-security tool”, aimed to provide an on-line security assessment tool for SMEs, including also training modules. In view of the fact that no specific funding was committed, the eSTG agreed to work this proposal as a formal project seeking APEC funds.

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The Chair, Ms. Salma Jalife, thanked the Chair of the eSTG, Mr. David Hickman, for his report.

H. DISCUSSION/APPROVAL OF NEW PROJECT PROPOSALS/PRIORITY SETTING

A short presentation was made by the Assistant to the Chair, Mr. Pablo Hinojosa, comprising new project and new workshop proposals:

New Projects

BFSG + HRDSG	
CIO Training Model and Network for e-Government By Indonesia and Thailand	\$80,300 OA (Urgent)
BFSG	
Safety Wireless By Japan / AOEMA	Self-funded
HRDSG	
e-Inclusion, Bridging the Digital Divide By Canada	\$27,650 OA

All these projects were approved by the Plenary and will seek a total sum of \$107,950 USD from the APEC Operational Account.

New Workshops

TEL 31		
Plenary	NGN Workshop	Full day
LSG	Regulatory Roundtable By Thailand	Full day
HRDSG	Wi-Fi Connectivity By Canada	Full day
DCSG	IPv6 Killer Applications By Chinese Taipei	Full day
HRDSG / BFSG	CIO Training Model and Network for e-Government By Indonesia and Thailand	Full day

DCSG	Internet Measurement Analysis By Korea	Half day
BFSG	APEC-Business e-Commerce Dialogue By GBDe	Half day

TEL 32		
DCSG	Asia-Pacific Grid Workshop By Korea	Full day
HRDSG	e-Inclusion, Bridging the Digital Divide By Canada	Half day

All these workshops were approved by the Plenary.

The presentation also suggested a possible program for TEL 31, and it is available in Document PLEN/ .

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The Chair opened the floor for comments.

The HRDSG Convenor, Dr. Lang-Chee Chang, announced that a new project proposal, “MRA HRD Project: Training Delivery for Phase II implementation”, by Australia, will try to be presented to the TEL for inter-sessional approval and will seek USD\$63,000 in urgent funding from the Operational Account.

The representative from the U.S., Ms. Elizabeth Shelton, asked why this “MRA HRD Project: Training Delivery for Phase II implementation” should be considered as urgent.

The representative from INTUG, Mr. Richard Thwaites, explained the implications for approving two projects that seek urgent funding. While the TEL could benefit from APEC resources already dedicated for urgent projects, it is also important to demonstrate the urgency of these projects. He also reflected on the priority that a project which looks for inter-sessional approval and which was not presented during the TEL meeting (such as the “MRA HRD Project: Training Delivery for Phase II implementation”) should have with respect to the other projects approved and discussed by the Plenary.

The Chair, Ms. Salma Jalife, said that first, the Plenary (with the agreement of MRATF and HRDSG) must decide and consent whether the “MRA HRD Project: Training Delivery for Phase II implementation” project proposal could be discussed inter-sessionally. If so, then the TEL must decide whether the project is approved or not and if it is urgent or not.

The Chair of the MRA-TF, Mr. Andy Kwan, said the MRA-TF agreed on the urgency of the “MRA HRD Project: Training Delivery for Phase II implementation” project and supported the need to hold the workshops contemplated in this project no later than the third quarter of 2005. However, he said the proposal is not yet developed to be approved.

The Director (Program) from the APEC Secretariat, Ms. Monica Ochoa, highlighted two issues from her report: that urgent projects should respond clearly to Leader's and Minister's instructions and that they must comply with the priorities set for the year (in this case 2005). She said these priorities will come out from Minister's meeting in Santiago, Chile in November 2004.

The TEL Chair asked the Plenary to decide if the "MRA HRD Project: Training Delivery for Phase II implementation" project proposal could be discussed inter-sessionally and, if approved, to be included in the ranking process together with the other project proposals. The motion was accepted.

The representative from Vietnam asked whether the hosts of the next TEL meetings, Thailand and Korea, will sponsor the holding of the seminar and the symposium of the "e-Inclusion, Bridging the Digital Divide" project, proposed by Canada. The representative from Canada, Mr. Bill Graham, said that this project is not urgent and that it could take place at TEL 32. The co-sponsors will also consider the viability of running it as a self-funded session.

The TEL Chair said the schedule of the workshops may vary depending on the ability of the hosts to find enough number of rooms. This is why the finalized version of the program of TEL 31 has to be agreed upon inter-sessionally.

The representative from the U.S., Ms. Elizabeth Shelton, asked if it was possible to find a space for the Drafting Group of the Broadband Principles, which is expecting to meet half day on Monday and half day on Tuesday, at TEL 31. This is in order to produce a proposal before TEL-SOM I on Friday.

The TEL Chair said she will do her best to find a space for the Drafting Group.

The representative from Australia, Ms. Fay Holthuyzen, asked whether it could be possible to work on the broadband principles inter-sessionally by e-mail.

The representative from the U.S., Ms. Elizabeth Shelton, said that inter-sessional work is required as well as a physical meeting at TEL 31.

The representative from Australia, Ms. Fay Holthuyzen, supported the commencement of TEL 31 on a Sunday because this way, the number of simultaneous meetings would be reduced, allowing small delegations will be able to participate in more events.

The DCSG Convenor, Ms. Diane Steinour, proposed switching the dates of the GBDe workshop with the Internet Traffic Analysis workshop, so as to not divide the audience.

The TEL Chair said an economy must support the GBDe workshop for it to happen.

The representative from Vietnam, supported the Australian proposal for a six day meeting of TEL 31, starting on Sunday.

The representative from Thailand, Ms. Duangtip Surintatip, said they will be able to manage a six day meeting.

The Chair thanked Thailand very much.

I. INPUT FROM TEL TO SOM III

The TEL Chair circulated a draft Report from TEL to SOM III to Convenors and Heads of Delegation, and asked for their comments. After receiving feedback from them, the Chair announced that she will send this report to SOM III through the Secretariat.

She appreciated the valuable help of the Director (Program), Ms. Monica Ochoa, from the APEC Secretariat for helping to develop this document.

J. PRESENTATIONS BY ECONOMIES OF THEIR RECENT REGULATORY AND POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

The Chair invited member economies to present brief updates of their recent regulatory and policy developments.

Brunei Darussalam, Thailand, Japan, Korea, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong China and Peru made short presentations on the first plenary meeting on Wednesday, September 22. New Zealand, Vietnam, Indonesia, Canada, Australia, U.S. and Mexico presented their reports at the second plenary meeting on Friday, September 24.

K. BRIEF VOLUNTARY STATEMENTS BY OBSERVERS AND GUESTS

1. PECC

On the first plenary the Chair of the TEL invited Mr. David Parsons, representative from PECC, to present his voluntary statement.

Mr. David Parsons made a presentation of the “PECC Assessment of the Implementation of the e-APEC Strategy”, a full copy of which is document PLEN/20. In this document PECC reviews the state of developments in e-infrastructure and looks at how APEC compares with the wider international community.

After presenting the conceptual framework and some of its key results, Mr. David Parsons asked for the support of the TEL to provide comments to this document.

Afterwards, Prof. Toshio Obi, from Waseda University, who is developing the section on e-government, presented some of the results and commented on the Second High Level Symposium on e-Government in Mexico.

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The Chair asked PECC how it would envisage the support from the TEL and asked the BFSG Convenor to report on the work program on e-government. She encouraged reflection on the best structure that could help APEC to accommodate the different

facets of e-government. She expressed the opinion that TEL could focus its work on e-government mainly from the viewpoint of connectivity issues.

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The Chair of the TEL thanked PECC for its contribution and encouraged Steering Groups to contribute to the e-APEC Strategy.

The rest of the voluntary statements by guests and observers were made at the second plenary.

2. INTUG

The Chair of the TEL invited Mr. Ernie Newman, representative from INTUG, to present a brief voluntary statement. A full copy of his statement is Document PLEN/07.

He reported on the first Asia-Pacific Communication Managers Forum (APCMF) which was held in June in Singapore. He also talked about the need for continuing international cooperation on spam; on which TEL has an important role in examining technical and legal measures to reduce this problem.

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The Chair of the TEL, Ms. Salma Jalife, deeply appreciated the input and support from INTUG.

3. GBDe

The Chair of the TEL invited Mr. Yoshio Kubota, representative from GBDe, to present a brief voluntary statement.

Mr. Kubota thanked the TEL, particularly the eSTG and BFSG, for discussing the proposal of the APEC-Business e-Commerce Dialogue.

He announced the upcoming 6th annual CEO Summit of the GBDe, which will be held in November in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The four areas to be discussed during the Summit are: new business models, securing electronic transactions, ubiquitous society framework and consumer confidence. The CEO Summit will provide recommendations on these four areas.

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The Chair of the TEL welcomed GBDe's participation.

4. AOEMA

The Chair of the TEL invited Mr. Michael Baker, of AOEMA, to present a brief voluntary statement.

In his presentation, Mr. Baker stressed that the TEL is in the best position to provide assistance to SME's. Micro enterprises in the region. Informal booklet to security

He concluded by saying that it has been a pleasure to work with the TEL for the past 14 years, and he would like to continue.

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Ms. Jalife joined AOEMA in stressing the significance of SME's and thanked its support to the TEL.

L. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE MEETINGS – TEL 31, TELMIN 6 AND TEL 32

The Chair of the TEL, Ms. Salma Jalife, introduced Thailand as the host of TEL 31, Peru as the host of TELMIN 6, and Korea as the host of TEL 32.

The representative from Thailand, Ms. Duangtip Surintatip, provided the fourth week of March 2005 as the preferred date for TEL 31, which will probably be hosted in Bangkok. A video about Bangkok was presented by the Thai delegation.

The representative from Peru, Mr. Carlos Valdez, said they will be very happy to welcome all APEC TEL Ministers to Peru. He also said that they are consolidating a team within the Ministry of Transport and Communications to organize the meeting. They will confirm the dates of the meeting very soon.

The representative from Korea, Dr. Inuk Chung, said that they will be happy to host TEL 32 in September 2005.

M. OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair said that there has been good progress on developing procedures for the proposal and approval of new projects. She announced that new procedures and guidelines will be proposed inter-sessionally.

The Vice-Chair, Dr. Inuk Chung, made clear that the intention of the guidelines is not to restrict, but to facilitate and clarify the way TEL prepares for and works during its meetings. He said that in the next few weeks he will circulate a proposal for new guidelines related to workshop organization.

The Vice-Chair, Dr. Arnon Tubtiang, said he is working in the proposal of a roadmap for TELMIN 6. This roadmap has been included in this Progress Report as ANNEX 1.

The Chair said she was very pleased with the outcomes of TEL 30 and deeply appreciated the hosts for the hard work they have done and for their kind hospitality.

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The meeting adjourned at 13:00 on Friday, September 24.

ANNEX 1 ROADMAP FOR TELMIN 6

Dr. Arnon Tubtiang, Vice-Chair of TEL, has proposed the following timetable to accommodate activities to prepare for TELMIN 6:

		Issues / Tasks to be accomplished (Owner / Responsible Group)								
	Month	APEC TEL Activities (Place)	TELMIN 6 Theme (Peru/Chair)	Declaration and Action Plan (Peru)	Digital Divide (DCSG)	Broadband (DCSG/USA)	NGN (Chair)	eGovernment (BFSG)	MRA (LSG)	Progress Report (Chair)
2004	September	TEL 30 (Singapore)								
	October	SOM III (Chile)	Peru and TEL Chair discuss theme							
	November									
	December		Theme announced	Owners circulate 1 st Draft Text						
2005	January			Economies send initial comments						
	February			Owners compile and send out 2 nd draft text – Ready for TEL 31 discussion					Progress in activities derived from TELMIN 5	
	March	TEL 31 & TEL-SOM I (Thailand)		1 st Draft Declaration, 1 st Draft Ministerial Statement, 1 st Draft Action Plan						
	April									
	May	TEL-SOM II & TELMIN6 (Peru)		Final Version Declaration, Ministerial Statement, Action Plan and other documents						
	June									