

# THE 33<sup>rd</sup> APEC TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION WORKING GROUP MEETING (April 26 ~ 28, 2006, Calgary, Canada)

## Chair's Report – Draft

### INTRODUCTION

Canada hosted the 33<sup>rd</sup> APEC Telecommunications and Information Working Group (TEL) meeting. Eighteen member economies in APEC were represented, they were: Australia; Canada; China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Republic of Korea; Malaysia; Mexico; New Zealand; Peru; Philippines; Russia; 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: AOEMA, APT, APCERT, GBDe, INTUG, Macao, China; and four invited guests: ITU, OECD, WTO and ABAC.

Dr. Inuk Chung from the Republic of Korea, chaired the meeting.

### PRE-TEL MEETINGS

The 33<sup>rd</sup> APEC TEL meeting was preceded by a number of workshops and meetings:

#### Workshops

Sunday, April 23, 2006	WTO Domestic Regulation Workshop
	e-Inclusion for People with Disabilities Workshop
	Spam and Related Threats Symposium
Monday, April 24, 2006	Broadband Access for Remote and Indigenous Communities Workshop
	Spam and Related Issues Symposium
	Telecommunications and Information Industry Futures Roundtable
Tuesday, April 25, 2006	Wireless Security – A dialogue between Wireless Users and Wireless Manufacturers/Producers Workshop
	Broadband Access for Remote and Indigenous Communities Workshop
	Regulatory Roundtable on VoIP and Fixed-Mobile Convergence
	Wireless Metropolitan Area Networks – The Potential Challenges Presented for Security and Public Safety
	Regulatory Roundtable on VoIP and Fixed-Mobile Convergence

## Meetings

Sunday, April 23, 2006	e-Security Task Group Meeting
Monday, April 24, 2006	MRA Task Force Meeting
Tuesday, April 25, 2006	MRA Task Force Meeting

## **THE 33<sup>RD</sup> APEC TEL MEETING**

### **A. OPENING CEREMONY**

The first Plenary of the 33<sup>rd</sup> APEC TEL meeting (TEL 33) was officially opened on the morning of Wednesday, April 26, 2006.

The delegates to the TEL 33 were first welcomed by the Master of Ceremonies, Mr. John Masters, the President & CEO of Calgary Technologies Inc. Mr. Masters, with a brief overview of Calgary's technology sector, urged TEL members to take full advantage of the great presence and participation of the Canadian industry participants and partners at the venue.

Ms Carole Swan, the Associate Deputy Minister of Industry Canada, highlighted Canada's experience on the development in the IT sector and wished to promote greater collaboration in the work of TEL. She also wished all an enjoyable and productive session. And also the Honourable Denis Herard, Minister of Advanced Education of the Government of Alberta, introduced Alberta as the most internet connected province. ICT as the top priority of the province, many success stories were introduced. Then, Mr. Bruce Graham, the President & CEO of Calgary Economic Development, reiterated the experience and importance of the development in ICT in the Calgary economic development and remarked that the TEL represents opportunity to build relationship with the Canadians.

On behalf of TEL, Dr. Inuk Chung, expressed his sincere appreciation to the Canadian hosts for providing a very well organized meeting and the warm hospitality extended to the TEL colleagues. He also remarked that the TEL 33 meeting will mark as a unique venue in advancing the interactions between the TEL and the private sector and further taking a big step toward opening a new phase for TEL through discussions on restructuring, enhancing efficiency of our work and creating synergy through variety of outreach activities.

### **B. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**

Following the opening ceremony, Dr. Inuk Chung, welcomed all the delegates to the TEL 33 meeting.

The Chair informed the group that this meeting has a wide reaching agenda of deliverables, and listed TEL's important tasks to be done in Calgary: respond to APEC SOM's request to TEL on agreeing on how best to implement Leaders' and Ministers' instructions on enhancing the ICT regulatory environment and digital capabilities of APEC economies; reach consensus on how the TEL should restructure; and discuss new TEL Guidelines to enhance the effectiveness of the TEL's work.

His remarks ended by welcoming Ms Karen Pilmanis, a representative from the APEC Business Advisory Technology Working Group (ABAC), and remarked that her participation would begin a longstanding relationship with our group.

## **C. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

As there were no comments on the proposed agenda for the plenary sessions, it was adopted as follows:

- A. Opening Ceremony
- B. Introductory Remarks
- C. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- D. APEC Secretariat Report on APEC Developments
- E.\* Steering Group and Task Group Meeting Reports
  - 1. Business Facilitation Steering Group (BFSG)
  - 2. Development Cooperation Steering Group (DCSG)
  - 3. Human Resources Development Steering Group (HRDSG)
  - 4. Liberalization Steering Group (LSG)
- F.\* Discussion/Approval of New Project Proposals/Priority Setting
- G.\* Discussion on Input from TEL to SOM III – SOM I Instructions
- H. Presentations by Economies of their Recent Regulatory and Policy Developments
- I. Brief Voluntary Statements by Observers and Guests
- J.\* Discussion of Future Meetings – TEL 34; TELMIN 7
- K.\* TEL Restructuring & TEL Guidelines
- L.\* Other Business

(\* ) These items were discussed in the second Plenary meeting on Friday April 28, 2006.

## **D. APEC SECRETARIAT REPORT ON APEC DEVELOPMENTS**

Ms. Monica Ochoa, Director (Program) from the APEC Secretariat, gave a review on the recent APEC developments. In her report, she highlighted the APEC major developments relevant to the work of TEL, and informed the group that the Leaders, at the 13<sup>th</sup> APEC Economic Leaders'

Meeting, acknowledged the efforts made in reaching the Brunei Goals and instructed Ministers to maintain the momentum. She also informed the group that the message the TEL has imparted to the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS), on behalf of APEC, Leaders also endorsed it in full.

She also introduced the APEC Information Management Portal (AIMP), which the APEC Secretariat has worked to set up some initial pilot sites and to support for a starting to use the new system. A power point presentation explaining the AIMP structure and the benefits of the APEC Collaboration System (ACS) has been uploaded into the website in document Plen/021. She requested the group to give some thought to how we may want to use such a system, and help the Secretariat to be better prepared when it is ready to be launched for the fora.

The full report is document PLEN/20.

## **E. STEERING GROUP AND TASK GROUP MEETING REPORTS**

### **1. Business Facilitation Steering Group (BFSG) Meeting**

The eSTG Chair, Mr. Shamsul Jafni Shafie from Malaysia, first briefed on the eSTG meeting, which the summary report is attached to the BFSG meeting report. He requested approval of two fund seeking projects through the BFSG Chair: Information Security Certifications Assessment Guide (Australia) (\$20,000); and VoIP Security Guidelines (Australia and Korea) (\$75,000.)

Then the BFSG Convenor, Mr. Cuong Q. Tran from Viet Nam, presented his report, which a full version is Document PLEN/032, to the Plenary. BFSG Convenor requested one half day workshop on Telematics, proposed by Korea, at TEL34. The two fund seeking projects and a workshop were approved by the Plenary.

After the report by the BFSG Convenor, the Chair conveyed special thanks to Mr. Tran for kindly accepting his request to assume the interim convenorship of BFSG for the past few months; the position for the BFSG convenorship was vacant since TEL 32.

### **2. Development Cooperation Steering Group (DCSG) Meeting**

The DCSG Convenor, Ms. Ashley Heineman from U.S.A, gave a report on the DCSG meeting, which a full report is: Document PLEN/035.

The DCSG Convenor informed the Plenary that there was no consensus reached on the Traffic Measurement for High Precision Applications Awareness Multigigabit-speed Internet International Links project proposed by Korea, seeking \$108,080 operational fund. She mentioned that, following extensive discussion it was agreed by DCSG participants that more time was required for the review of the proposal and it has been agreed that economies would work intersessionally to resolve concerns in an effort to reach consensus possibly by August 2006, in time for BMC consideration. The Chair urged TEL members to actively participate in the intersessional discussion in order to have a compromised project proposal before the deadline for submission to the BMC.

She also requested for a 2 half day workshops (self-funded) on “M-Opportunity for All” and “Future Vision of the Asia Pacific Information Society” be organized at TEL 34; they were

approved at the Plenary. Also the Convenor reported that there were no consensus reached on a self-funded project proposal on Foundation of Asian Speech Translation Research Basis project proposed by Japan and informed to the Plenary that at the meeting the proposing economy was asked to adjust the proposal taking into consideration the concerns raised by DCSG participants with the understanding to work intersessionally to achieve consensus and approval, if possible. Guidance was sought on procedural issues regarding APEC TEL endorsement of a “consortium” the TEL should be involved in standardization. It has been agreed at the Plenary that further discussions will take place on this project, intersessionally.

### **3. Human Resource Development Steering Group (HRDSG) Meeting**

The HRDSG Convenor from Chinese Taipei, Mr. Shan-Hsin Tsao, tabled his HRDSG meeting report and briefly summed up the decisions made at the meeting. The full report is: Document PLEN/036.

There were six on-going projects in HRDSG and no project proposals or workshops requested for approval to the Plenary.

### **4. Liberalisation Steering Group (LSG) Meeting**

The LSG Convenor, Mr. Colin Oliver from Australia, presented the summary report on the LSG meeting, which a full version of which is Document PLEN/033.

Requests for a two half days for the MRA Task Force (Monday morning and Tuesday afternoon), and one day for a WTO Domestic Regulation Workshop were made and they were approved by the Plenary.

Then, on behalf of the MRA TF Chair, Mr. John Mitchell, who was not able to attend the plenary session due to illness, the former MRA Chair, Mr. Andy Kwan from Canada, informed the group on the meeting results. The full report is in document LSG/025. He reported that the TF considered the appointment of a deputy chair and one nomination was received, that of George Tannahill from the FCC in the USA and requested the consideration of the Chair; it was approved by the Plenary.

## **F. DISCUSSION/APPROVAL OF NEW PROJECT PROPOSALS/PRIORITY SETTING**

The TEL Chair presented a table of proposed roundtables and workshops for TEL 34. With some discussions among the member economies on the duration of the roundtable/workshops, it has been decided as below:

### **New Workshops**

<b>SG</b>	<b>Roundtable / Workshop</b>	<b>Economy</b>	<b>Duration</b>
LSG	WTO Domestic Regulation	Singapore	Full day
DCSG	APIS Vision	Japan	Half day
DCSG	M-Opportunity for All	Chinese Taipei	Half day
BFSG	Telematics	Korea	Half day

LSG	MRA Task Force		2 Half days
-----	----------------	--	-------------

◦ \* ◦ \* ◦ \* ◦ \*

Australia suggested that the Telecommunications and Information Industry Futures Roundtable held in conjunction with TEL 33, be continued at the next TEL meeting as a half day workshop. U.S.A, Canada and INTUG supported the idea. The Chair noted the strong support for the Industry Roundtable and requested the TEL 34 host, New Zealand, to consider on whether the government of New Zealand could accommodate this event in conjunction with the TEL meeting. Australia, Canada, INTUG and U.S.A have volunteered to closely collaborate with New Zealand for the preparation of the roundtable.

Also regarding the question on the home for this roundtable to be dealt, the Chair reminded the group that following procedures and formality is important therefore, discussions on all workshops/roundtables, including the Industry Roundtable, should be dealt within relevant steering groups.

◦ \* ◦ \* ◦ \* ◦ \*

A table of new fund seeking projects was also presented.

### New Projects

<b>eSTG</b>	
Information Security Certifications Assessment Guide <i>By Australia</i>	\$20,000 OA
VoIP Security Guidelines <i>By Australia</i>	\$75,000 OA

These projects were approved by the Plenary and will seek a total of USD\$95,000 from the APEC Operational Account.

◦ \* ◦ \* ◦ \* ◦ \*

The Chair's presentation also suggested a possible program for TEL 34, and it is available in Document PLEN/038.

## G. DISCUSSION ON INPUT FROM TEL TO APEC SOM

The Chair introduced the 2006 APEC SOMI directives to TEL: SOM asked TELWG to agree on how best to implement Leaders' and Ministers' instructions on enhancing the ICT regulatory environment and digital capabilities of APEC economies, working with other relevant fora, and to report back to SOM intersessionally between SOM II and SOM III. The Vice-Chair, Dr. Arnon Tubtiang, from Thailand, has been agreed to coordinate this task.

The future timeline for this task has been provided by Dr. Chung and he requested the steering group Convenors to send the outcomes of discussions made within each Steering Group relevant to

this task and to the Vice-Chair for compilation to be submitted to SOM, intersessionally. The Chair noted that this task is expected to be a valuable deliverable to SOM for this year.

## **H. 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.

Indonesia; Chinese Taipei; Korea; Thailand; China; Peru; Japan; Hong Kong, China; Australia; Viet Nam; and Singapore made short presentations on the developments.

Those economies that have not been able to make their presentations were requested to provide electronic copies of their reports on the TEL 33 website.

## **I. BRIEF VOLUNTARY STATEMENTS BY OBSERVERS AND GUESTS**

### **APCERT**

APCERT was welcomed, as the newcomer to TEL. The representative from APCERT, Mr. Zhou Yonglin, was invited to make a voluntary remark and in his statement, he first thanked the TEL for accepting APCERT as the official guest and gave a brief introduction on the background of APCERT: how it was founded, its aim, members and its roles. Together with APEC TEL, he added that the APCERT is ready to fully play its role and collaborate in order to raise the cyber security course to a new height. The full report is: document PLEN/040.

Dr. Chung thanked APCERT and expressed his hope to closely collaborate with APECERT in the years to come.

### **INTUG**

The representative from INTUG, Mr. Richard Thwaites, made a brief voluntary statement, informing the group that INTUG will continue to place great emphasis on information sharing and policy development work, focusing on issues and policies that will enhance the availability, security and use of telecommunications services because of the benefits to commerce and communities globally, regionally and nationally.

He ended his statement by appreciating the status as guest to TEL and added that INTUG looks forward to a long cooperation with the TEL. A full version of the document is in Document PLEN/025.

### **GBDe**

A representative from GBDe made a voluntary statement briefly informing the group of the outcomes of the annual summit held in Brussels, last October. He also mentioned that the GBDe's future directions were influenced by the importance of the APEC Privacy framework and the necessity of developing the next generation network underscored by the APEC Leaders last year.

The TEL was invited to the GBDe Summit to be held between Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> this year in Chinese Taipei. The GBDe's voluntary statement is in document PLEN/042.

## **ABAC**

The representative from the ABAC, specifically from the Technology Working Group (TWG) of ABAC, Ms Karen Pilmanis, participated at TEL 33 meeting to return the favor of the presentation made by Dr. Chung to the TWG last year in Busan, Korea on the TEL's work. Brief introduction on TWG was given and also "The 2006 ABAC Recommendation to Leaders on Broadband" were noted. The full report is document PLEN/041.

The Chair hoped to extend activities between the TEL and ABAC and further encourage member economies to share information and collaborate with ABAC in the future.

## **J. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE MEETINGS – TEL 34; TELMIN 7**

The Chair announced New Zealand as the host for TEL 34. On behalf of TEL, the Chair expressed his deep appreciation to New Zealand for positively considering and volunteering to hold the next TEL meeting within a short period of time. Mr. Phillip Toye, the head of delegation, informed that he has just been confirmed by the capital to host the meeting, therefore, the venue and the date will be confirmed and be announced in due time. A short video presentation on New Zealand was shown to the group.

o \* o \* o \*

Following, the Chair announced host economies of the future TEL Meetings: the Philippines for TEL 35; and Chile for TEL 36.

As for the host for TELMIN 7, Dr. Chung informed the group that there were interests expressed by some economies that would need confirmation from the capital. He added that he has requested one economy (the name of the economy not being mentioned) to first consult with its capital and make decision and come back with confirmation within one month. When the economy, which has been given the priority, expresses to host the next TELMIN, the decision will be announced the TEL members, if not, the next economy will be given the chance to consider on hosting the next TELMIN.

## **K. TEL RESTRUCTURING & TEL GUIDELINES**

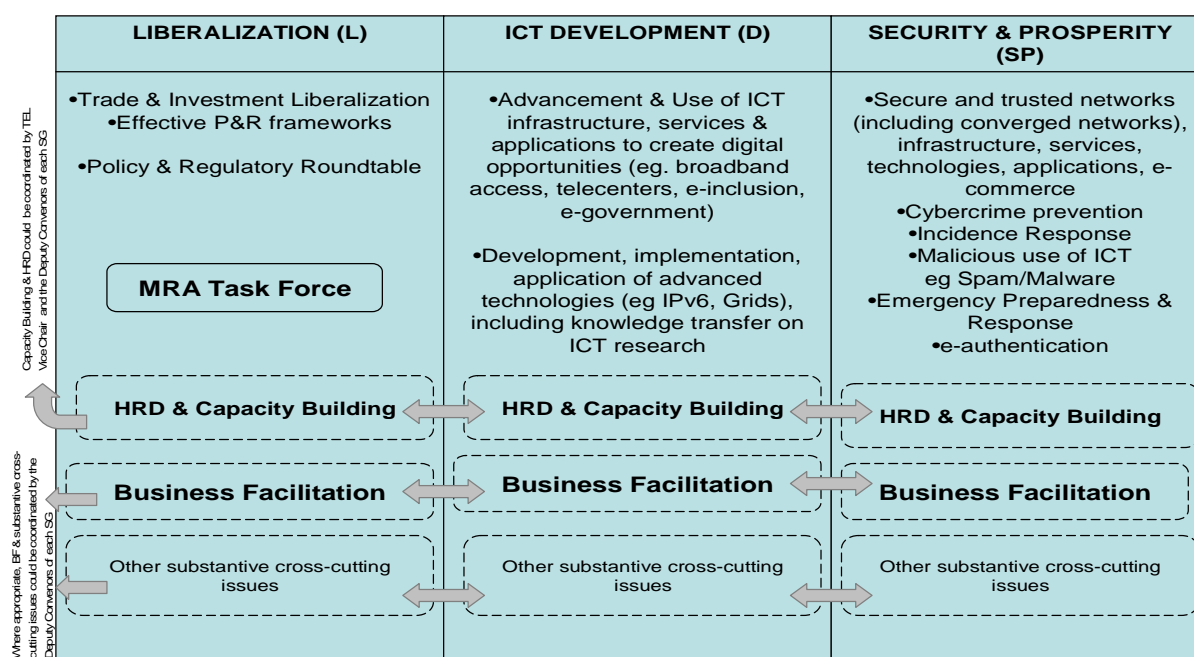
### **New Structure of APEC TEL**

Following the discussions on TEL restructuring since the start of informal meetings at TEL 32, three formal HOD meetings and separate small group meetings, and not to mention the discussions intersessionally, Dr. Chung asked Mr. Hanafiah from Singapore, who had lead the discussion, to formally inform on the decision made on the new structure of TEL.

Mr. Hanafiah, reiterated the instructions made by our Ministers to improve the TEL's structure and expressed that this is a timely review for the TEL and presented the new structure for TEL as below.



## New Structure of APEC TEL



The Chair expressed to the Plenary that he welcomes this change. INTUG, also welcoming the new structure added that the new meeting structure will help member economies with small number of delegations, like INTUG, to actively participate in the steering group meetings.

Viet Nam, however, expressed concerns on putting too much emphasis on the security as having an independent Security & Prosperity Steering Group within TEL. He explained that information security is a means to achieve our goals. He reminded the group that the TEL should go in line with the three pillars of APEC and suggested to include the business facilitation aspect in the new structure instead of security. In response, the Chair took note of the concern from the Vietnamese head of delegation and taking into the concern raised by Viet Nam, the Plenary approved the new TEL structure and agreed to review and examine whether the structure effectively reflects the rapid change of ICT environment, on a regular basis.

The TEL Chair whole heartedly thanked Mr. Hanafiah for successfully leading this important and strenuous task and asked the Plenary to join him in congratulating Mr. Hanafiah and the TEL on this achievement with the applause.

### Composition of Executive Committee Members Under the New TEL Structure

Experiences, overall balance of geographical distributions, overall contribution from economies to the TEL were taken into consideration for composing the executive committee members under the new TEL structure. The TEL Chair announced the members as the following:

#### New Executive Committee Members

	Liberalization (LSG)	ICT Development (DSG)	Security and Prosperity (SPSG)	MRA Task Force
Convenor	Mr. Colin Oliver	Dr. Ma Yan	Mr. Shamsul Jafni	Mr. John Mitchell

	(AU)	(CH)	Shafie (MY)	(AU)
1 <sup>st</sup> Deputy Convenor	HOD of Japan (JP)	Mr. Po-Chou Liang (CT)	Ms. Sallie Mcdonald (USA)	Mr. George Tanahill (USA)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Deputy Convenor	Ms. Susan Johnston (CA)	–	Mr. Arnold Yoon (KR)	

The 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Convenor would be responsible for the works on HRD & Capacity Building issues in the respective steering groups and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy Convenor is to assist the Convenor with other new emerging cross-cutting issues. The term of the executive committee is: May 2006 ~ March 2008.

Dr. Chung asked the member economies who have not been considered in the steering group convenorship and deputy convenorship for their kind understandings. He also added that any economy that wishes to take the vacant position for deputy convenorship of DSG, to contact him intersessionally.

### **TEL Guidelines**

Two new Guidelines for TEL were tabled for approval: Guidelines for New Project Proposals in TEL (PLEN/031); and Guidelines for Workshops in TEL (PLEN/029). These Guidelines have been finalized through discussions undertaken at HOD meetings and Executive Committee meeting held during TEL 33.

INTUG expressed that it is good idea to have guidelines for TEL, however, suggested to consider the exceptional cases for new comers to TEL and its processes and allow opportunities for them to participate.

USA strongly recommended that for new projects and workshops, project proponents should follow these guidelines to allow enough time for the group to consider the proposals.

And with no objections, the Plenary approved the Guidelines and Dr. Chung added that these Guidelines will apply on new project proposals and workshops, beginning of TEL 34. However, he added that between now and TEL 34, project proposals that are in discussions, will have a grandfather clause as exception from these Guidelines.

It has been agreed that further discussions will take place intersessionally on the new guidelines for convenorship and deputy convenorship for TEL.

## **L. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Comments on Traffic Measurement for High Precision Applications Awareness Multigigabit-speed Internet International Links Project (proposed by Korea)**

Following comments and suggestions made by Viet Nam, Mexico and INTUG, including the remark that less than half of the delegation were participating at the DCSG meeting when the project proposal on was Traffic Measurement for High Precision Applications Awareness

Multigigabit-speed Internet International Links project was presented, Korea was given the opportunity to briefly introduce the idea of the project at the plenary.

Considering that the proposal has not reached consensus at DCSG, the Chair remarked that this proposal will seek approval intersessionally. Small group has been suggested to be formed to discuss on the proposal and also a proposed timeline for intersessional discussions was given by the Chair: conclusion by DSG on whether the proposal will be proceeded to BMC or not (until July 10); and deadline for prioritization of all fund seeking proposals by the HODs (until Aug. 1). The new Convenor, together with the outgoing Convenor, has been agreed to collaborate in proceeding the intersessional discussions.

### **New Mappings of on –going Projects**

It has been agreed that, for HRDSG and BFSG projects and works, which now appears as cross-cutting issues across the new steering groups, the outgoing and the incoming convenors to collaborate in finding new homes for the ongoing projects.

And in response to the suggestion made by Malaysia, mapping of ongoing projects to their new homes will be prepared by the Chair and will be informed to the TEL members either intersessionally or at the first session of TEL 34 Plenary.

### **Closing Remark**

In his closing remark, Dr. Chung expressed his appreciation to the TEL member economies for their hard work and achieving so many at this meeting. He also thanked the outgoing Convenors and Deputy Convenors one by one for all their work, efforts and contributions, they were: Ms. Ashley Heineman, Mr. Tran Quang Cuong, Mr. Philip Toye, Mr. Shan-Hsin Tsao, Mr. Leung Wing Kan, Ms Sudaporn Vimolseth and Mr. Bumjin Jang.

In addition, the Chair thanked and bid farewell to Ms Vivien Wang, the Head of Delegation of Chinese Taipei, for her dedication and efforts for the past years in TEL. The group all joined in wishing her the very best in the future.

And last but not least, on behalf of the TEL member economies, Dr. Chung expressed his sincere appreciation to Canada and Industry Canada for successfully hosting TEL 33 and for their warm hospitality extended to the delegations. Especially, Susan Johnston, Linda Lee and Crystal Larm, were appreciated for all the hard work they have put into for making this meeting a memorable one.

Also, Dr. Chung expressed his hope to see the TEL members at the New Zealand meeting and closed the meeting by giving a big hand to the organizers of TEL 34.

---