

THE 35th
APEC TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION
WORKING GROUP MEETING
(April 22 ~ 27, 2007, Quezon City, the Philippines)

Chair's Report

INTRODUCTION

The Philippines hosted the 35th APEC Telecommunications and Information Working Group (TEL) meeting. Eighteen member economies in APEC were represented, they were: Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Canada; Chile; China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Republic of Korea; Malaysia; New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; the Philippines; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; United States of America; and Viet Nam. Also attending were the Director (Program) of the APEC Secretariat; representatives of 5 guests: APLAC, APCERT, Colombia, INTUG, GBDe; and two invited guests: OECD and Council of Europe.

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

PRE-TEL MEETINGS

The 35th APEC TEL meeting was preceded by a number of workshops and meetings:

Workshops

Sunday, April 22, 2007	APEC-OECD Malware Workshop
	WTO Domestic Regulation Workshop
Monday, April 23, 2007	APEC-OECD Malware Workshop
	Interconnection Workshop
	Industry Futures Roundtable
Tuesday, April 24, 2007	Regulatory Roundtable
	APEC-ASEAN Workshop on Network Security

Meetings

Sunday, April 22, 2007	MRA Task Force Meeting
Monday, April 23, 2007	MRA Task Force Meeting

THE 35TH APEC TEL MEETING

A. OPENING CEREMONY

The first Plenary of the 35th APEC TEL Meeting (TEL 35) was officially opened on the morning of Wednesday, April 25, 2006 at the Crowne-Plaza Galleria Manila in the Quezon City, Philippines.

Following an opening remark by CICT Commissioner, Mr. Lorenzo G. Formoso III, H.E. Mr. Feliciano Belmonte, Jr., Mayor of the Quezon City, welcomed the delegates to the TEL 35. H.E. Mr. Belmonte briefly explained the importance of ICT to urban development in the late developing economies. He also introduced how the Quezon City became the number one local government in the ICT technologies and industries through aiding the building of IT clusters.

B. OPENING ADDRESS

In response to Mr. Belmonte's welcoming address, Dr. Inuk Chung expressed his sincere appreciation to the hosts of the Philippines for providing a very well organized meeting venue for the 35th TEL meeting and the warm hospitality extended to the TEL colleagues. He also congratulated the Philippines for having achieved greatly in deploying and improving the ICT policy framework as well as the infrastructure and tackling successfully the digital gap during the last decade since TEL8 in 1993 in Manila.

Then, the TEL Chair welcomed all the delegates to the TEL 35 meeting and ended his remark by welcoming representatives from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), and Mr. Daniel E. Medina Velandia, the Vice Minister of Colombia, whose participation would advance new relationship and reinforce longstanding cooperation with TEL.

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. Opening Address
- C. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- D. APEC Secretariat Report on APEC Developments
- E.* Steering Group Meeting Reports
 - 1. ICT Development Steering Group (DSG)
 - 2. Liberalization Steering Group (LSG)

3. Security and Prosperity Steering Group (SPSG)

F.* Discussion/Approval of New Project Proposals/Priority Setting

G. Presentations by Economies of their Recent Regulatory and Policy Developments

H._{1/2} Brief Voluntary Statements by Observers and Guests

J.* Discussion of Future Meetings – TEL36; TELMIN 7; TEL37

K._{1/2} Other Business

L.* Election of Vice Chair

M.* Closing/Handover of Chairmanship

(*) These items were discussed in the second Plenary meeting on Friday April 27, 2007.

(1/2) The discussion of these items took place during both Plenary meetings.

D. APEC SECRETARIAT REPORT ON APEC DEVELOPMENTS

Ms. Monica Ochoa, Director (Program) from the APEC Secretariat, gave a review on the APEC developments in 2007. In her report, she highlighted the APEC TEL SOM issues that have been advanced since in 2006 following scene-setting policy discussions for 2007 by Leaders and Ministers. They were Regional Economic Integration; APEC's structural reform agenda; Energy security; and strengthening the APEC Secretariat. She also mentioned that the issue of APEC membership moratorium/non-member participation has been discussed and still remains a critical issue for Leaders with moratorium expiry expected in 2007. For non-member requests for participation, it was agreed that existing guidelines should be retained, and APEC fora reminded to scrutinize applications for participation from non-member economies to ensure criteria were fully met.

As recommended by the TEL, the BMC approved two new urgent projects by TEL: 1) Deployment of GCIO Training Model and Networking for e-Government Development (US\$86,494); and 2) Voice over IP (VoIP) Security Guidelines (US\$80,000), both seeking the OA fund. She reminded the group that the deadline for project proposals seeking the APEC Fund 2008 is comparatively earlier than before according to the advancement of the 2007 APEC time framework. Guidance on preparing requests for funding for 2008 projects was also provided for information.

She briefed that Leaders and Ministers took note of the TEL works on the threats to the security of information and communications networks. She also stressed that TEL would continue drafting guidelines on the protection of information systems for essential infrastructure and services as part of an ongoing focus on online security, spam and related threats; developing good practice guidelines to support economies in coming up with effective domestic regulation on telecommunications and information technology sectors; implementing projects and activities aimed to reduce the digital divide; developing a clearer vision of the Asia Pacific Information Society (APIS); and proposing new activities to build on the Development of Model Government Chief Information Officer (CIO) Councils, among other activities.

E. STEERING GROUP AND TASK GROUP MEETING REPORTS

1. ICT Development Steering Group (DCSG)

The DSG Convenor, Prof. Ma Yan from China, tabled his DSG meeting report, which a full version is Document DSG/027. He requested approval of one fund seeking project: APEC Seminar on Community Knowledge Commons (Philippines) (US\$55,689).

2. Liberalization Steering Group (LSG)

The LSG Convenor, Mr. Colin Oliver from Australia, presented the summary report on the LSG meeting, which a full version is Document PLEN/024. No project funding requests were made by LSG, however, there were requests for a half-day Industry Roundtable, a half-day workshop on Universal Service Strategies, a half-day workshop on Investment and Competition plus two half-days MRA Task Force meeting and two half-days MRA training session and small-group discussion.

Then, MRA TF Chair, Mr. John Mitchell informed the group on the meeting results. He reported that the TF agreed to review and update *the MRA Information Management Guide*. The full report is in document LSG/021.

3. Security and Prosperity Steering Group (SPSG)

The SPSG Convenor from Malaysia, Mr. Shamsul Jafni Shafie, tabled his SPSG meeting report and briefly summed up the decisions made at the meeting. The full report is: Document PLEN/025.

Mr. Shafie reported to the Plenary that the SPSG agreed to submit two self-funded projects for approval: 1) Workshop on Cyber Security Exercises (USA/ Korea); 2) Guide on Policy and Technical Approach against Botnet (China). There was also a request for a two-day workshop slot to hold the Workshop on cyber Security Exercises in TEL36.

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

The TEL Chair presented a table of new projects as below.

New Projects

DSG	Fund
APEC Seminar for Using ICT for Rural Community Capacity Building By the Philippines	US\$55,689 OA

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There was a concern that the project proposal needs to be completed and clarified enough to receive APEC Fund and it was requested by economies to make a small group to give consultations and supports to the Philippines. It was agreed that the Philippines redraft the proposal until the deadline of the project proposal upon comments and opinions of member economies.

Ranking on the project was not sought due to absence of other projects.

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A table of roundtables and workshops proposed for TEL 36 was also presented and approved as below:

Roundtable and Workshops

SG	Roundtable / Workshop	Economy	Duration
LSG	MRA Task Force	MRA TF	1.5 day
LSG	Industry Roundtable	Chile	Half day
LSG	Universal Service Strategies	Australia	Half day
LSG	Investment and Competition	USA	Half day
SPSG	Cyber-security	Korea/USA	2 days

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The Chair's presentation also suggested a possible program for TEL 36, and it is available in Document PLEN/026.

G. 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.

Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Canada; Chile; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Korea; Malaysia; New Zealand; Philippines; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Viet Nam and USA made short presentations on the developments or submitted electronic copies to the website.

H. BRIEF VOLUNTARY STATEMENTS BY OBSERVERS AND GUESTS

Representatives from INTUG and GBDe submitted brief voluntary statements, which the full report is PLEN/018 and PLEN/006, respectively.

Report on the Industry Futures Roundtable

Ms. Rosemary Sinclair from INTUG, the organizer of the Industry Futures Roundtable, reported the results of the Roundtable held on 23 Apr. 2007. It was discussed that widespread connectivity will be increased by focusing on the demand for services such as e-government; e-learning; and e-commerce and the development of content and applications. Following the result-reporting, the

main issue areas of the Industry Futures Roundtable including market and technology developments, business models and policy concerns were provided for future consideration.

Australia and Canada congratulated INTUG and the Chair expressed his gratitude to the Philippines and INTUG for efforts to hold the Roundtable.

I. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE MEETINGS – TEL 36; TELMIN 7; TEL37

The Chair introduced Chile as the host of TEL36. Ms. Lorena Pineiro, the HOD of Chile, expressed that she had happily planned to host TEL 36 from 22 to 27 October in Santiago, Chile, but according to the tentative schedule for TEL36 decided by TEL35, she would make every effort to extend the date or start earlier. Following, she showed a short video presentation on Santiago and Chile.

Thailand, the TELMIN 7 host, tabled the possible dates for TELMIN 7 in 2008, but there raised concerns that Ministers from several economies with overlapping membership with other international institutions may not be able to participate in all meetings due to busy schedule of the year 2008. The floor took note that in terms of ICT sector, there would be ASEAN TELMIN Meeting, OECD Ministerial Meeting, and APEC TELMIN Meeting in 2008. It was decided that taking into consideration of the dates of other meetings, the next Chair would consult the TELMIN7 schedule with the host and confirm the exact date in the near future.

The HOD of Japan, the TEL37 host, informed that the TEL 37 would be held in the last week of March 2008 in Tokyo. He also asked understanding on that tough hotel situation in Tokyo does not allow the host to schedule TEL37 flexibly according to the decision at TEL36, but hoped the delegates would be able to enjoy the best season of the year with cherry blossoms.

J. OTHER BUSINESS

New APEC TEL Guideline

The Chair informed that the TEL's new guideline, *the Guidelines on the Rotation Procedures and Duties of Convenors and Deputy Convenors of the Steering Groups in TEL*, was approved intersessionally before TEL35 and would be uploaded to the TEL website.

SCE Review of Fora-Progress since SCE I Meeting

The Chair reported progresses on the SCE Review of Fora within APEC in regard of the SCE Recommendation 7: the SCE recommends that further consideration be given to the suggestions for improving the operations of the Telecommunications and Information Working Group (TELWG) and Electronic Commerce Steering Group (ECSG) in 2007. As a first step, it was recommended that the Chairs of the CTI and EC consult with the ECSG and TELWG and make recommendations to SOM in 2007.

As noted, the Chair attended the APEC SOM I and SCE-COW Meeting on January 17, Canberra, Australia and unofficially discussed the SCE Review of Fora activities with ECSG chair. He also expressed his regret that in spite of his absence, chairs of CTI and ECSG held a meeting, during the

SOM I period, to discuss an option of making the ECSG as a sub-fora to CTI as requested by ECSG members. The Chair briefed his responses including exchanges of letters requesting CTI and EC chairs to plan a meeting for all or a future action program. He explained that for the time being, according to the agreement at the SCE II Meeting in April, it seems that the ECSG would be the sub-fora under CTI.

Ms. Monica Ochoa from APEC responded that the Review was originally focused on the efficiency of ECSG and apparently, the implementation of Recommendation 7 would finish with restructuring of ECSG under CTI in terms of APEC Reform.

OECD 2008 Meeting at the Ministerial Level – the Future of the Internet Economy

For information, the Chair briefed that the OECD Ministerial Meeting on *the Future of the Internet Economy* would be held in Seoul, Korea on 18-19 June 2008. Since it would be an event in a decade, it is expected that much attention would be drawn from the non-members as well as member states of OECD. He also asked cooperation and supports from APEC member economies.

Official Opening of the Revised APEC TEL Website and Introduction of TEL CI

The Chair notified the delegates that through full-scale re-organization and revision of the old website and database, the APEC TEL Website had been officially renewed. The new website has adopted new search function for documents through TEL-specified code numbering and developed stability of its database dramatically.

He also introduced the new CI of APEC TEL which is to be shown in the webpage after consultation with the APEC Secretariat.

The Chair extended his sincere gratitude to the Government of Korea for the decade-long supports for the TEL website maintenance project and this generous donation of US\$50,000 for the website renewal. He also requested other economies to join the website support through project budget planning.

K. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

The Chair outlined his discussions and consultations with HODs of TEL member economies in regard of the next TEL Vice Chair up to the present and introduced Mr. Ziping Liu from China as a candidate of new Vice Chair of TEL. He asked if there is any rejection and found none.

The Chair welcomed Mr. Ziping Liu from China as the new Vice Chair of TEL and encouraged him to cooperate and support the new TEL Chair, Dr. Arnon Tubtiang from Thailand.

L. CLOSING/HANDOVER OF CHAIRMANSHIP

At the closing of the TEL35, delegates to TEL35 congratulated Dr. Chung for accomplishing the successful chairmanship of TEL for the last two years.

Closing Remark

In response, Dr. Chung extended his appreciation to all the TEL colleagues and TEL member economies for their hard work and collaboration and especially to the Executive Committee members of the steering groups and task forces for their leadership and dedication.

Dr. Chung recalled that through of TEL colleagues' full understanding, cooperation and consensus-building, his efforts to enhance effectiveness of TEL work and structure, reinforce the outreach activities with other APEC fora and international institutions and develop TEL agendas and deliverables could be realized. He also expressed his deep feelings about his ten years' involvement and association with TEL.

On behalf of the TEL member economies, Dr. Chung expressed his sincere appreciation to the Philippines, especially Philip Varilla and his staffs, for all their work which led to a successful TEL 35 meeting and finished his speech by welcoming Dr. Arnon Tubtiang as the new TEL Chair.

Inaugural Remark

Dr. Arnon Tubtiang from Thailand, the former Vice Chair of TEL, happily took over the chairmanship and expressed his appreciation to Dr. Chung for his hard work and strong leadership. Dr. Tubtiang promised he would do his best to respond new challenges for APEC TEL with Mr. Ziping Liu and other colleagues.

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The TEL Chair closed the meeting by giving a big hand to the organizers of TEL35.

Liberalization Steering Group Report

APEC TEL 35 – Quezon City, Philippines, April 2007

1. Welcome and introduction

The agenda (telwg35/LSG/05) was reviewed and adopted. The Convener (Mr Colin Oliver) welcomed participants and his Deputy Conveners Ms. Susan Johnston and Mr. Yasufumi Tsubaki, and asked if any changes to the agenda were required.

2. Philippines Presentation

Mr Edgardo Cabarios of the Philippines' National Telecommunications Commission provided an overview of current policy and regulatory issues in the Philippines, including:

- Interconnection policies
- Universal access: obligations have been imposed on international and mobile carriers, recognizing that the ability of traditional fixed-line carriers to contribute to universal service support is diminishing;
- Consumer welfare and protection:
- Text message policy regarding push-messaging, restricting to those who have opted-in to receive them, and forbidding them to be sent at night
- Consumer rights, hearings are currently underway
- Records and log retention: hearings are currently underway
- Spectrum management, and in particular user fees and allocations for broadband wireless access.
- Rulemaking and consultation policies

Australia asked about the Philippines' process of compliance and the risks that competitors may lodge complaints about one another. A one-stop complaints centre is focused on the investigation of complaints.

3. Discussion Session

a. Industry Roundtable

Ms Rosemary Sinclair of INTUG elaborated on the presentation that she had made in plenary. Colin Oliver invited comments and asked delegates to consider possible themes for the future Industry Futures Roundtable.

Australia suggested that the TEL may wish to consult with industry regarding topics. INTUG mentioned the five key points presented in the GBDe report may prove to be a useful starting point. Industry perspectives on security issues could be a useful topic to pursue. This discussion was developed further at the conclusion of the meeting (see item 8).

b. Issues arising from the Regulatory Roundtable

Susan Johnston of Canada provided a short debrief on the Regulatory Roundtable, which took place yesterday. INTUG suggested that the TEL could consider a Regulatory Roundtable focused on spectrum policy and related issues.

c. Issues arising from the Interconnection Workshop

Anita Dey of the United States introduced a report from the Interconnection Workshop, and outlined a number of issues emerging from the discussion. Colin Oliver introduced a high-level map to facilitate discussion on interconnection, and suggested the LSG consider the exercise in tandem with the discussion on going forward. Australia asked about considerations related to building investor confidence without sacrificing competition. Indonesia noted that costing remained a problem and suggested further attention to this topic. It was agreed the question of future work be discussed offline in order to allow the LSG to review the question in relation to plans for future work (see item 8).

4. Stocktaking discussion of key issues for TELMIN:

Looking forward to the Ministerial meeting in 2008, participants reflected on the LSG's work and its relevance to different member economies. The Convenor introduced a roadmap for consideration, outlining possible issues to take forward to Ministers, either as new and ongoing areas of work, or as deliverables for endorsement.

1. The Convenor asked economies to outline forthcoming reviews of which they were aware, and more specifically what the TEL could focus on in terms of information sharing, projects, and policy priorities:

- Hong Kong, China: has recently completed its Spectrum Policy Review
- Malaysia: completing a review on 2007 aimed at ensuring effective competition and a vibrant marketplace
- Canada: recently completed a Telecom Policy Review and has recently announced a Competition Policy Review
- Singapore: is mandated to review its competition regime and will start in 2008
- Australia: will undertake a telecom policy review in 2009
- Japan: Competition promotion will be the subject of a review in 2010

The Convenor encouraged economies involved in review to share their plans and experiences to assist other APEC members dealing with similar issues.

2. To assist a wrap up of the discussion, comments were invited on key issues of interest to each economy. Topics mentioned included:

- Australia: universal service strategies, and the shape of the emerging market – e.g., in 2012
- Brunei Darussalam: universal service for the underprivileged and ULL
- Canada: look at where the market will take us, and then at how we need to respond. Once we have this piece in place, look at how to get there.
- Chile: looking at universal service experiences; competition policy; and consumer protection issues
- China: universal service, with consideration of new and emerging technologies
- Hong Kong China: emerging technologies; interconnection frameworks in the context of new technology and service frameworks
- Indonesia: take stock of whether the present cost-based interconnection regime the right one; wholesale issues
- Japan: fair competition and policy making in an NGN/IP network environment
- Korea: convergence of telecommunications and broadcasting
- Malaysia: more effective competition for high-speed broadband deployment

- Philippines: service classifications and rules for access to subsidies; negotiating network interconnection and related charges; encouraging more access providers; establishment of universal access funds
- Singapore: interconnection; encouraging technological development and removing unintended barriers; regulation of dominant providers (IDA has changed the name of their regulatory department to the “Competition Development Group”)
- Chinese Taipei: costing and pricing for the USO
- Thailand: interconnection; rights of way; consumer protection; competition; single or converged regulatory models for telecommunications and broadcasting
- United States:; technology neutral policy for broadband development; competition; innovation and investment
- Vietnam: implementation of interconnection policy
- Colombia: establishing a universal service obligation; reconfiguration and convergence of Colombia’s sector.
- INTUG: Meeting most basic priority is access to services, which changes as technologies evolve. The second tier is affordability, and in a manner that enables the use of ICTs for growth, prosperity and – as a third tier – innovation.

This led to discussion of a sort of ‘regulatory life cycle’, in which regulatory frameworks develop to respond to changing market conditions.

As a preliminary conclusion, the convenor suggested three areas to go forward to reflect three major themes emerging from the discussion:

1. Universal service strategy
2. Interconnection in the context of investment and innovation, but also noting continuing concern with practical costing issues, and
3. the changing market environment and the need for regulatory frameworks to respond.

It was agreed that these issues be considered further off line to allow firm decisions to be made on the final day of the meeting (see item 8).

5. Discussion Session

a. WTO Domestic Regulation (Singapore)

Hanafiah introduced the report from the WTO Domestic Regulation Workshop. This project began at TEL 33 with a one-day workshop which introduced Domestic Regulation disciplines. Economies have been drafting “APEC Best Practices to Implement the WTO Domestic Regulation Disciplines in the ICT Sector.” A half-day workshop at TEL 35 was held on Sunday.

Hanafiah noted that the work in this study builds on disciplines from the original GATS, recognizing that discussions on further disciplines are underway.

Next steps:

- Singapore will work with Canada to integrate material compiled as part as the TEL’s work on benchmarking Progress Towards Adoption and Implementation of the WTO Reference Paper.
- The questionnaire would be improved to reflect issues raised in the workshop, and

- Responses to the questionnaire would assist the drafting of a ‘good practice’ guide similar to the guide that TEL has previously developed on implementation of the WTO Reference Paper

The aim would be to complete the project by TEL 37.

The convenor thanked Singapore for their continuing efforts and encouraged participation in the process.

b. Frameworks for Creating Policy and Regulations

The United States introduced a discussion paper that the TEL has had in progress for some time. Two economies made short presentations on their frameworks and approaches:

- **Malaysia:** Policy-making and Public Consultation in the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Industry. INTUG asked Malaysia about the nature and level of participation in their public consultation processes, and whether they have had to provide any support to garner participation in these processes.
- **Canada:** Adam Scott introduced recent policy and regulatory developments in Canada that are designed to rely on market forces to the maximum extent feasible. **Vietnam** asked about Canada’s expectations in terms of what actions the regulatory body will now undertake. **Chinese Taipei** asked about win-back criteria and how the measures are now addressed. **Australia** asked about the legal status of the Policy Direction of the regulator. Does it open the regulator up to legal challenge, and is it now possible for industry players to challenge the CRTC based upon the Policy Direction. Canada noted that the order came into effect on the day it was issued, - not retroactively. The regulator must comply, and the manner of compliance must be explicit. Secondly, Australia asked Canada about VoIP provisions and what type of reactions Canada has had from integrated providers. Adam indicated that this was may have been a question of timing, whereby our carriers were more focused on broader questions of forbearance, than of forbearance on VoIP services in particular. **INTUG** noted Canada’s regulatory tests, and suggested that a more finely defined approach to geographically-based markets (i.e., “this local market is ready for deregulation and this one not”) might be appropriate for further presentation and discussion at future TEL meetings. **China** asked about access-dependent and access-independent VoIP and the differences in definition, and which actions the policymaker versus regulator undertook during the deregulation process.

The United States noted that the implications of this discussion linked to a broader discussion of several issues across the LSG. INTUG noted the linkages with discussions in the Industry Roundtable on transparency and consultation during the regulatory process.

The Convenor noted the importance of consultation and transparency issues and that they were closely integrated with several aspects of the LSG agenda. He suggested that LSG continue to make opportunities for presentation of regulatory developments and regulatory processes, but not undertake to maintain an overall stocktake, recognizing the need to focus resources on key priorities. The issue could be taken up in a more systematic way again, if that was found useful.

c. Consumer Issues

This work on consumer issues was prompted by a discussion at TEL33 and the USA has taken the lead with input from Australia; Canada; Indonesia; Singapore and INTUG. This involved drafting a paper assessing existing material in order to avoid duplication of effort

The paper developed by this small group contained a listing of existing relevant documents and websites produced by APEC TEL, the APEC Electronic Commerce Steering Group, the International Telecommunication Union, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and APEC member economies.

The LSG heard presentations designed to assist the TEL's deliberations on this issue:

- **Australia** (ACMA) provided an overview of its work on community awareness, including its Cybersmart Detectives, the integration of NetAlert into ACMA, content safeguards and a common ratings system for converging services (*New Content Services Bill*), work to prevent phone scams, and an anti-spam awareness campaign.
- **Malaysia** (CMC): outlined Malaysia's regime of mandatory standards regarding quality of service, and voluntary codes through industry forums.
- **INTUG**: Ernie Newman outlined a case study from New Zealand, arguing in favour of a sector-specific telecom regulation, noting the complexity of the technology, and the uneven power balance between service suppliers and users. The NZ Telecommunications Carriers Forum (www.tcf.org.nz) has developed a self-regulatory approach. Ernie noted that the complexity of the issue demonstrates the strong case for industry-specific complaints processes. Self-regulatory schemes are attractive, but need sustained pressure from governments to happen. Whether or not the NZ scheme will succeed remains to be seen.

The LSG also considered whether there was a need to continue further work in this area. The United States suggested that the Oversight Committee work together to integrate what we have learned so far. INTUG noted that considering one's approach through the lens of users in the marketplace is a useful means of assessing the relative merits of various regulatory frameworks.

6. Discussion Session

a. Update of (a) discussion papers on VoIP and fixed-mobile convergence in the APEC region and (b) economy status updates

Canada introduced the discussion papers on VoIP and fixed-mobile convergence, along with the economy-based updates of how these two issues are regulated in the region. The discussion papers are now final, but LSG will revisit the economy updates documents at TEL 37, to assist consideration of how to reflect the TEL's deliberations on these topics at TELMIN 7.

b. Links to the APEC Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI)

The Convenor reported on his attendance at the APEC CTI Meeting in Adelaide on 20 April 2007 to facilitate consideration of links with the work of APEC CTI.

c. Update on the LSG's work on NGN's for TEL 34

The USA (Anita Dey) provided an update on a rolling document responding to Ministers on this subject area that featured at TELMIN 6. Additions relating to the recent Interconnection Workshop and Regulatory Roundtable have been included in the document. The Chair noted the value of continuing these updates, given that it directly responds to direction from Ministers.

d. RFID Spectrum Survey

Radio Frequency Identification is a means of identifying objects by interrogating a unique characteristic of the objects (such as a number stored on a silicon chip attached to the object) using radio waves. Singapore presented the completed and updated survey on spectrum allocation in the APEC region. The **LSG Convenor** recommended forwarding the survey to the APEC Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI) as an example of our work on trade facilitation. **INTUG** also indicated interest in publishing the report for the use of all their members. **Singapore** offered to write an appropriate cover letter and introduction to the report, which will be forwarded via the LSG Convenor. The Convenor congratulated Singapore on completion of the project which would provide valuable information to industry.

e. Asia Pacific Carriers' Coalition 2006 Report on Access Circuit Prices (Singapore)

Access Circuits are an essential element in the provisioning of international leased circuit services as these domestic circuits are the means by which end users are connected to international networks. Teligen was commissioned by a group of international carriers in Asia during 2003 to benchmark the prices of domestic leased line access circuits (“Access Circuits”) in selected economies within the region. The Asia Pacific Carriers’ Coalition (“APCC”), representing such carriers, commissioned Teligen to update the 2003 study and, at the same time, to expand its scope.

Karen Northey of BT presented the report on behalf of the Asia Pacific Carrier’s Coalition. Individual carriers signed confidentiality agreements with Teligen and provided reports on actual prices paid for access circuits. Composite prices were used where three or more inputs were provided for a given routing. The presentation (available online at www.asiapacificcarriers.org) raised several points of comparison concerning Access Circuit prices for a range of circuit types and capacities across selected economies in the Asia Pacific region.

The Convenor thanked Karen for the presentation and noted that the report itself contained information useful to regulators about their own economies as well as others.

7. Project Activity Reports

a. Update on progress towards adopting and implementing the WTO Reference Paper (Canada)

Members of the TEL compile this study on an annual basis. Canada (Susan Johnston) drew the LSG’s attention to the sections on universal service and interconnection, suggesting that members may find the various approaches to these two issues of interest. Colin Oliver reported that he had presented the updated report on behalf of APEC TEL to

the APEC Committee on Trade and Investment in Adelaide on Friday, 20 April, where it was warmly received.

b. Regulation of Virtual Private Networks (Australia)

This project, proposed at TEL 30, is still in the process of eliciting data from APEC economies. As the regulatory situation in various economies has become clearer and updates have been provided, it has become an increasingly useful document. Economies that have not submitted information on the Regulation of Virtual Private Networks are asked to do so.

c. MRA Task Force Meeting Report (Australia)

The MRA Task Force Chair, Mr. John Mitchell provided a report of the TEL 35 MRA meeting (held Sunday and Monday).

- *Note: the MRA Task Force report in full should be considered as an annex to this report.*

Key points in the report were:

- The MRA Information Management Guide is being updated.
- MRA Information Management Resources: the MRA Task Force now has a specific page on the APEC TEL website (www.apectelwg.org).
- The MRA is considering a third phase of their stocktake, for which they will be developing a project proposal for consideration at the next TEL. It is expected that, in addition to applying for funding from APEC, there is a case for industry support.
- The growing number of new members of the MRA Task Force suggests the need for a training session. Given the location of TEL 36 in Chile, and the parallel trade facilitation work undertaken in CITEL, it was suggested that the training activity be approached as an outreach opportunity, and that representatives from CITEL be invited to participate in a training activity at the next TEL meeting.
- Looking beyond the next meeting, in the coming year or so, the Task Force would also like to undertake an industry forum on regulation.

INTUG congratulated the members of the MRA Task Force, noting the importance of this work that happens behind closed doors. She commented on the information presented by the TF being of a very technical nature, and whether the TF would consider collecting some information or case studies, reflecting the value of the process to those without technical backgrounds. The MRA Task Force Chair described two presentations that were given at TEL 33 in Calgary, one from a manufacturer and one from a certification body. **Canada** noted that other members of the TEL may be interested in understanding the impact that the MRA can have, and the benefits that it brings, in non-technical language, perhaps through presentations and written case studies that are comprehensible to those without related technical backgrounds.

INTUG noted that the importance of this work will only increase with the move to next generation networks, given that there will be a quantum leap in the type of products and services. **Australia** noted the importance of this topic, and that it may well be reflective of a broader interest within the TEL and issues relating to electromagnetic compatibility and a wide range of technologies beyond the communications and information sector as it is normally understood.

The meeting also noted the need for succession planning, and that a new vice-chair should be appointed at the next meeting.

The Convenor thanked the MRA chair and vice-chair together with all the members of the task force for their continuing commitment to this important work.

8. Next Meeting and future work

In the final wrap-up session, the LSG revisited a number of key issues raised in the course of discussion and made decisions on the actions to be taken in the short and medium term.

- ***Universal service strategies:***

Australia offered to coordinate a discussion on universal service strategies and would consider overall objectives, and the range of approaches (be it regulatory, policy, the use of incentives or tenders, or programs) to achieve universal service objectives. INTUG suggested this include linkages between universal service and social objectives. The Chilean hosts have already indicated interest, and the Chilean experience will be of interest to other members. Singapore, Canada, the USA, Malaysia, Japan and INTUG offered to collaborate in developing the program. The Deputy Convenor suggested asking Peru whether they would also be interested.

It is proposed that this will be brought together in a half-day workshop at TEL 36 in Chile.

- ***Interconnection:***

the members of the existing small group met, and they recommended pursuing a workshop focused on one of the cells in Colin Oliver's matrix.

- a) They are suggesting pursuing, more specifically, a ***workshop on encouraging investment while preserving competition***. Canada offered to assist organization of the workshop, with enthusiastic support from the US. Members of the Oversight Committee will collaborate on its development. The LSG will recommend a half-day session.
- b) Australia offers to undertake a ***review of the literature and training resources*** that the TEL and other organizations have developed to-date, mapping these resources, where possible, to the matrix.
- c) Indonesia wishes to develop a template for cost-oriented interconnection rates, and will work with Singapore on the development of an initial matrix to explore this ***"Cost-based interconnection tariff testbed"***. INTUG suggested that this work include mobile networks, including termination rates and the costs of international roaming. INTUG would be willing to work with their partners to source these materials. Indonesia and Singapore will lead, and Thailand, the USA, Malaysia, Canada and Japan will collaborate.

- ***Market developments and regulatory responses:***

Canada commented on the group's deliberations at the Regulatory Roundtable, recognizing the importance of understanding market conditions and the environment in which one is making decisions. Adam Scott noted the natural linkages with the Industry Roundtable, and the importance of understanding both what industry is saying, and how that impacts on policy and regulatory frameworks. He suggested the

possible involvement of financial analysts in addition to speakers from companies. The Convenor commented on the magnitude of this work, indicating that there is likely to be value in considering this topic over the course of a few TEL meetings. A small group will deliberate on this work intersessionally. Australia offered support, together with USA, Singapore, Indonesia, Japan, China, and INTUG.

As a preliminary measure, it is proposed to allocate about an hour and a half to this project at TEL 36, and not to seek workshop time.

- ***LSG Input to themes for the TEL 36 the Industry Futures Roundtable***

The Industry Roundtable was discussed, noting that the other steering groups may also wish to make input on the possible themes for future work. It was suggested this issue be brought to the Plenary. Key comments included:

Themes: striking the balance between ensuring security and fostering innovation could be a particularly useful area for industry consideration.

Process: INTUG noted the value of focusing on one defining question that has policy importance for APEC Minister and that is designed to elicit guidance on how APEC can contribute to key issues in the region.

Activities for TEL 36

In summary, LSG’s requests for TEL 36 are as follow:

Topic	Duration
Industry Roundtable* <i>* while a plenary event, the LSG has referenced it here for purposes of clarity and convenience</i>	Half-day
Universal Service Strategies	Half-day
Investment and Competition	Half-day
MRA TF I	Half-day
MRA TF II	Half-day
MRA small-group discussion (informal working group)	Half-day
MRA training session	Half day

11. Other Business

The Convener closed the meeting, thanking participants for their active participation and good spirit of collaboration. He also thanked his Deputy Conveners, and all participants for their support, along with our Philippine hosts for their warm hospitality and excellent facilities provided for the meeting.

[Annex B]



Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation

Hard Copy Code
Agenda Item:

DSG Draft Report

Version: 1.0

Submitted by: DSG Convenor



**35th APEC Telecommunications and Information
Working Group Meeting – DSG
Quezon City, Philippines**

25-26 April 2007

35th APEC TEL WORKING GROUP MEETING
ICT DEVELOPMENT STEERING GROUP
MEETING REPORT
(Draft)
April 25-26, 2007
Quezon City, Philippines

Attendance and Goals

Over 30 TEL delegates participated over the two half day sessions of the DSG meeting. The DSG focused on Progress towards the Brunei Goal; current projects reports; a number of information exchange presentations; and new proposals for future DSG work. The meeting was convened by Mr. Ma Yan (China), with support by Deputy Convenor Mr. Hsiao-cheng Chi(Chinese Taipei).

1. OPENING

1.1 Participant self-introduction

First of all, the convenor welcome all of the participants and thanked our host, The Philippines, for its gracious hospitality. He introduced Dr. Chi, the new deputy convenor (Chinese Taipei), to DSG meeting. And every participant of DSG meeting then briefly made self-introduction.

1.2 Review and Adoption of Agenda

The draft agenda had been reviewed and adopted by all participants. There were no different opinions to this procedure.

1.3 Notation of TEL34 Convenor Report

The convenor requested comments and opinions from member economies on the TEL34 DSG report. No changes were made and the TEL34 DSG report was adopted as final version.

1.4 TEL Workplan Information Update

The convenor reported 2007 TEL workplan to DSG meeting, which included IPv6 project issue, APIS issue, and the on-going restructuring work under APEC context. The convenor noted we should keep in mind of avoiding overlapping our efforts and of cooperation with other organizations like OECD, INTUG, APCERT etc. Our work should reflect the directives of Leads and Ministers.

There was no comment from member economies.

2. DISCUSSION SESSION

2.1 Progress towards the Brunei Goal

2.1.1 Internet Access Statistics Updates (No.)

Upon the decision made by TEL34, the deputy convenor had been collecting Internet access statistics of APEC economies and analyze them. The deputy convenor reported those stats to the DSG meeting for all economies' reference.

The Vietnam and US indicated that not all available statistics are up to date and should not be considered a final determination of current usage and/or access levels for the region or any individual economy.

The deputy convenor responded that some of the latest stats are not available and related economies are welcomed to provide latest stats of their own.

2.1.2 Next Steps

In response to the Ministers' directives, we could focus more on wireless technology other than fixed one in our project proposals.

3. INFORMATION EXCHANGE

3.1. Update on Telematics, by member economies

Both Australia and Korea gave an update on the Telematics in their respective Economies where Australia offered to table a presentation given at the Seoul Motor Show in April and Korea referred to an upcoming industry consortium meeting.

It was recommended APEC TEL maintain an awareness of global Telematics activities and that APEC TEL request that APEC TPT share information on Telematics developments. This information should be sent to APEC TEL via the Development Steering Group (DSG).

Ministries within each economy are encouraged to share information and perspectives within their own economies, as well as bringing appropriate policy issues forward as they may arise, e.g., telecommunications regulatory items. Where issues are identified, they will then be reported at the next DSG session and returned to the APEC TPT group to foster improved understanding.

Areas for consideration might include:

- ✓ Any regulatory requirements being considered for public safety applications which may impact trade in the consumer electronics and auto sectors
- ✓ Security and privacy policies which manage the acceptable use of telematics-based information, while also supporting appropriate law enforcement requirements
- ✓ Awareness of specific spectrum availability for telematics applications

Telematics will remain on the DSG agenda for information sharing for the next APEC TEL meeting in Chile in later 2007.

The convenor conclude it is a good project to work with other industry and hope to see more outcome of it.

3.2. The WLAN-based Integrated Telephony and Broadband Internet Solution for Bridging Digital Divide in Chinese Taipei, Chinese Taipei(No.)

Chinese Taipei made a presentation on WLAN-based Solution for Bridging Digital Divide. First of all, the speaker gave a picture of telecom market of Chinese Taipei. Then he briefed the efforts done on bridging digital divide in Chinese Taipei. All of the participants were informed WLAN-based Solution and Experiences in Chinese Taipei. The presenter summarized that the successful experience in Chinese Taipei is a good reference to provide broadband access in underserved areas.

Canada questioned the WiMAX solution in Chinese Taipei is fixed or mobile. Chinese Taipei replied the current WiMAX solution is fixed, which is on the band of

3.5 GHz. And the government will issue new licenses for mobile WiMAX. The band for mobile WiMAX will be 2.5 GHz and 2.6 GHz. The IMS bed is used in the solution.

4. DSG CURRENT PROJECTS REPORT

4.1 Oral Reports - DSG Convenor must be notified in advance of TEL35. Reports limited to 5 min.

4.1.1 E-University for HRD in e-Government (Phase 3), Thailand and Japan

The presenter from Thailand showed the context and purpose of the Project. Next he briefed the Principal Activities in 2005 and Principal Activities in 2006 to the DSG meeting. He gave more words on the 3rd year e-University Distance Learning Program including the method, objective, and exercise.

This course is conducted by Waseda University via distance learning by emerging technology (IPv6). The distance-learning program includes video conference and presentations from lecturers as a main activity, exercises, and an achievement test. JICA and MIC both provide participating groups with facilities and deliveries system.

Chinese Taipei questioned whether the distance learning is one to one or one to many. Thailand responded that depending on the equipment currently used, peer to peer connection from Tokyo to Bangkok is implemented.

The project is concluded successfully.

4.1.2 Development of Model GCIO Councils, Thailand

This is the final report of this Development of Model GCIO Councils. Thailand described the project in topics of Initial Participating Economies / Institutions, Project Overseer, Background Information and Justification, Project Aims, Scope of work, Methodology, Completion of Tasks, Project Outputs. He exhibited the 8 parameters of APEC GCIO Council Model and highlighted on a number of conclusions and recommendations.

The US added the outcome of the project is that some economies started to develop the CIO Councils.

Thailand express their willing to further share the information of this project with other economies.

The convenor conclude the project is a success.

4.1.3 Deployment of GCIO Training Model and Networking for e-Government Development, Thailand(Doc No.)

Thailand give a whole picture of the project. The methodology of it was also introduced. And the speaker from Thailand focused on the activities and deliverables as follows:

- ✓ A series of workshops were organized from March to November, 2007
- ✓ A 3-day GCIO Training Program will be organized based on APEC GCIO Training Model, designed for APEC GCIO/GCIO Candidate/potential GCIO trainees at George Mason University, in USA covering advanced topics in CIOs in Oct. 2007.
- ✓ Joint training organizing team will hold 3 day-workshop in Beijing to evaluate and adjust the APEC GCIO Training Model in Nov.2007.

Thailand highlighted the Benefits & Outcomes. The project's benefits are to further e-Government and the Asia Pacific Information Society by:

- ✓ Directly providing CIO and CIO "Train the Trainer" training for GCIOs and Senior IT executives from APEC member economies.
- ✓ Providing training plans for the new trainers so that they can provide CIO training and promote IT HRD to GCIOs and senior IT executives in their economies.
- ✓ Enabling ongoing sharing of best practices for GCIOs and CIO Councils via the collaborative website and wikiweb

After that presentation, Thailand invited the US to give more details on the workshop held in Mason University. The US explained the topics that will be covered.

Chinese Taipei asked how to join in the training program and the funding issues. Thailand cleared that each economy can select 1-2 participants. In total, 15-20 trainees are anticipated. All of the trainees are sponsored by APEC fund.

The convenor inquired the courses of the GCIO training program. Thailand provided the website of the program where courses are available. And the US supplemented the courses namely the role of CIO, CIO leadership, strategy of ICT development etc.

4.1.4 APII IPv6 R&D Test Bed Project, Japan

Japan began with introduction and overview of this project and updated the concerning activities which involves:

- ✓ APII Workshop 2007: APII-CC of Korea and APII-TC of Japan organized an APII Workshop that was held in Seoul on March 23rd and 24th 2007 to promote global collaboration activities for the Asia-Pacific Information Infrastructure.
- ✓ Launching Ceremony of the Japan-Korea 10 Gbps link: the successful upgrade to 10 Gbps of the APII JP-KR link was commemorated during an official Launch Ceremony
- ✓ Network demonstrations: three activities are conducted in late Dec. 2006 via the APII infrastructure.
- ✓ Future plans :Hokkaido Univ. in Japan plans to organize another 4-economy (Japan, Korea, China and Thai) cross-cultural distance class in November 2007 with the HDV IP transmission application (the RuffSystems HDV) through the APII Japan-Korea link, the APII Japan-China link, the JGN2 Japan-Thai link.

Japan also recommended APT + JICA joint training course. The courses featured lectures on the most advanced next-generation Internet technologies and related applications, technical visits, and reports on the current ICT status by each participant in her or his country. A summary of the training program is given on the DSG meeting.

There was no comments from any economy.

4.1.5 Asia Pacific Grid Implementation Project, Korea

Korea presented an overview of APEC APGrid Project.

- ✓ The lecturer depicted what had been done since last TEL meeting:
- ✓ Continue to incorporate with the Grid related projects in Asia pacific region closely

- ✓ Continue to update and operate of APGrid homepage
- ✓ Supporting the 2nd Phase of APGrid project leading by Singapore
- ✓ Preparing a DSG new project proposal

Focusing on the new proposal, Korea described Global PC based Cyberinfrastructure Projects and specified Korea@Home project. The Future Plans of the proposal involves:

- ✓ Invite any interest Economies to participate
- ✓ Form an Advisory Committee
- ✓ Prepare the proposal with committee members
- ✓ Submit it at the 36th APEC-TEL meeting

Chinese Taipei asked what middleware is applied in Korea@Home project. Korea replied the middleware is developed on its own but based on the open source grid software such as Globus Toolkit.

Australia show its interesting in the grid project and expected potential workshops about grid in the future. Australia suggested one grid project take into account other grid projects because there are several grid projects under TEL.

The convenor questioned the project's website. Korea answered that there is a Korean website and a simple English website. The website will be fully constructed when the project starts up. The convenor raised some issues such as interoperability with other grid project. Korea took note of it and welcomed other interesting economies to join in.

4.1.6 APEC TEL Website Maintenance Project, Korea

Up to now, Korea carried out the maintenance of the APECT TEL website. Korea reported to the website has been well-maintained and updated in due time.

There was no comment from member economies.

4.1.7 APEC e-Government Research Center, Korea

The report has been uploaded to the website of APEC TEL35 for further comments.

4.1.8 Future GRID cooperation in APEC TEL, SG(Doc No.)

Singapore gave a presentation on Future GRID cooperation in APEC TEL. in TEL 34, Singapore raised the topic on GRID cooperation. After TEL34, Singapore did survey of what should be the focus in the next phase of development sent to key economies. Priorities of next phase were ranked. Singapore also set up Wiki to exchange information among experts in APEC TEL (December to April). In that Wiki, various projects were listed. However, exchanges were not robust.

Singapore is going to propose new project for collaboration in the proposal section of DSG:

- ✓ Access Grid – supported by Korea, the Philippines, New Zealand, and Chinese Taipei

The next step included:

- ✓ Form a committee on GRID
- ✓ Invite APEC economies to be part of this committee (2-3 reps each).
- ✓ Nominees to reach Singapore 3 weeks after APEC TEL 35 (deadline – 18 May 2006)
- ✓ First face-to-face meeting can be in Singapore during GRID Asia (5-8 June 2007)

There was no comment.

4.1.9 Foundation of Asian Speech Translation Research Basis, JP(Doc No.)

Japan reported on the Foundation of Asian Speech Translation Research Basis, starting from recalling the background, objectives and schedule of this project. Then the presenter from Japan shows the progress from Oct.2006 to Mar.2007. The kick-off meeting of the project members was held in December 2006 in Japan. Members from five APEC economies attended the kick-off meeting. The way of collaboration and a baseline formats for multilingual corpora were discussed. There were also researcher exchanges among project members in March 2007.

Progress since last report included:

- a. Kick-off meeting was held on Nov. 14th 2006 in Japan.
- ✓ The general objectives of this kick-off meeting are:

- ✓ To gather current research status of the project members
- ✓ To discuss international collaboration and researcher exchange plan
- ✓ To discuss data format for multi-lingual corpora
- ✓ To discuss language specific characteristics
- ✓ To discuss future plans for the project

b. Researcher exchange in March 2007.

- ✓ Researchers from Indonesia and Thailand had stayed in Japan.
- ✓ Tutorial on speech recognition and machine translation are provided.
- ✓ Information exchange on data format of multi-lingual corpora.

c. Data format for multilingual corpora

- ✓ Speech data for test and training are defined.
- ✓ Speech data for test is collected in Indonesia and Thailand.
- ✓ Text data for multilingual machine translation are defined.
- ✓ Linguistic tag information are defined.

The convenor asked the next steps of this project. Japan replied the data collection will be extended. In reply to the question about website by the convenor, Japan said the website will be available in next TEL. The convenor asked how many economies can benefit from this project. Japan answered each member economies can join in and what has been done is setting up a translation system among Korean, Chinese and English. The system is scalable and is able to connect models from other languages.

4.1.10 Future Vision of the Asia Pacific Information Society, Japan (Doc No.)

Japan presented the progress report of the Vision of the Asia Pacific Information Society(APIS). The background of APIS was mentioned. Then Japan listed the activities concerning APIS project including APIS proposals, APIS vision development, workshops held, vision modification etc. After that, the principles of the APIS vision were reminded slide by slide. Japan recommended that DSG

Endorse the Vision of Asia Pacific Information Society and forward it to the Plenary for TEL's endorsement. Finally, the instructions from high levels of APEC were cited.

Chinese Taipei agreed the vision put forward by Japan. He raised that some economies had already reach high level. The issues should be focused on how to extend the vision to other developing economies. Japan replied there are also problems in Japan concerning security issues alike. Chinese Taipei said it is important to implement the vision. And Japan answered what we can do first is to develop a whole picture and then we will discuss the way to achieve the goals. China expressed the view that, considering the broad scope and importance of this document, it is difficult to endorse it at the DSG level, and suggested that it be submitted to the plenary for further discussion and action. Australia agreed with China. The convenor concluded that the DSG acknowledged the work of APIS project and to forward it to the plenary for further discussion.

4.2 Review/Update of DSG Projects Matrix

China suggested we postponed this part and proceeded with other items. And other economies agreed.

The Projects Matrix will be uploaded on the website for member economies to update each project which they are in charge of.

5. DSG NEW WORKSHOP/NEW PROJECT PROPOSALS

5.1 APEC TEL Grid project 2 - Access Grid for Distance Learning, Singapore(No.)

In TEL34, Singapore made a presentation on possible ideas for future GRID cooperation in TEL. Singapore and related economies worked together intersessionally to identify the priority and come up with this new proposal on Access Grid for Distance Learning.

This project proposes the setting up of a programming group from participating APEC economies to proactively plan for using the Access Grids to broadcast presentations made by renowned speakers who are hosted at the respective Access

Grid nodes. Then Singapore specified related issues like background, scope of collaboration, linkage, methodology, dissemination of output and budget. The project is a self funded one.

Australia expressed they are not following the discussion because the document is not available in advance with their related technical experts. So Singapore bring forward the Wiki pages of the project had already been set up and feedbacks were posted on by interested economies.

Canada advised there are many grid projects, so restructuring them is necessary. Afterwards, the convenor said in order to maximum the function of one project we might take this as no brand new project but put it under the mother grid project. China suggested the project be a follow-up project. We could updated the former project. Australia raised the question how to define a follow-up project. Accordingly, the convenor replied if the items of a project follow the former one, then we could identify a follow-up project.

Singapore proposed to set up a committee to address related issues and welcome other economies to join in. The US accepted Singapore's suggestion and would like to participate in the expert group. Australia then has chance to review the proposal. Then the convenor concluded this project The proposed by Singapore is suggested to form a committee to firm up the proposal, and push forward the project..

5.2 APEC Seminar on Community Knowledge Commons, Philippines

Philippines proposed a project seeking APEC fund that is APEC Seminar on Rural Community Capacity Building on Digitizing Information. The presented proposal was a revised one based on the project proposal "APEC Seminar on Community Knowledge Commons" which has been distributed before DSG meeting. The Seminar seeks to create a venue for participants to showcase different regional experiences, exchange practices and discuss issues on building capacity on digitizing information for rural communities. The total budget is \$ 95,309. The proposal will seek APEC fund for \$55,689, and \$39,620 will be self-funded.

In regard to the content development, the US has concerns upon copyrights and intellectual property. The Philippines has responded that the original proposal was

revised. The activities of the seminar include discussing available tools that can be utilized by rural communities in digitizing information and facilitating exchange of experiences through exploration of several case studies from APEC economies.

Indonesia supported the proposal and noted that this project will contribute to the capacity building of the region. China supported the project as well. China said the detailed information exchange will be beneficial. And there could be plenty of topics for discussion. The range of the seminar also can be broadened and not just information exchange. Australia suggested a small group could be formed intersessionally to refine the proposal. The convenor suggested Philippines leading the group to finalize the proposal integrated with opinions from the floor before BMC meeting in June.

China put forward there is more time needed to consolidate the proposal. Australia put forward it can apply for urgent fund due to time constraint. The US agreed with Australia that the time is limited. The convenor aroused attention that it is difficult to apply for the urgent fund. The convenor offered two options: one is to finish the proposal ASAP, follow the normal procedure and submit the proposal before June 15; another is to apply for the urgent fund.

The interested economies participating in the working group involves Canada, The US, Indonesia, Australia, China, Philippines and Japan. The convenor concluded the working group will work intersessionally to push the project forward.

5.3 Others

The convenor aroused attention that we have no long-term proposal. We will encourage member economies to propose more appropriate project proposals to respond to the ministers' directives and to reflect the benefit of APEC economies. The convenor also calls on the economies to pay attention to the cooperation with other WGs and collaboration with other fora in APEC context. More active and effective proposals are expected in the forthcoming TEL meetings, while we should avoid duplicated works.

All the project report documents could be found in the TEL35 website and the TEL website in a later time.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 SOM Response

The convenor went over some of the contents of the 2007 TEL work plan in relation with DSG. There was no comment from any economy. The convenor asked for more information exchange reports in information exchange section of DSG meeting on the next TEL meeting so as to share valuable experiences of member economies. The new proposals put forward should be beneficial to all economies and best response to the directives from Ministers and the SOM.

6.2 DSG Initial Report to TEL 35 Plenary: Summary of Priorities and Recommendations

The convenor will report to the plenary as follows:

- ✓ the DSG acknowledged the outcome of APIS project, and considering the broad scope and importance of this document, DSG submitted it to the plenary for further discussion and action.

- ✓ The grid project proposed by Singapore is suggested to form a committee to firm up the proposal, and push forward the project.
- ✓ A working group led by Philippines will work intersessionally to push the seminar proposal forward. The interested economies participating in the working group are composed of Canada, The US, Indonesia, Australia, China, Philippines and Japan.
- ✓ DSG has no workshop proposal for the next TEL so that DSG will not seek TEL to arrange any workshop in TEL36.

Last but not least, the convenor thanked the deputy convenor and all of participants and confirmed we had worked efficiently in the two-half day DSG meeting.

Annex I

Related document list:

- 1) TEL35 DSG agenda
- 2) Progress towards the Brunei Goal of Tripling Internet Access by the End of 2006 Update Statistics, by Chinese Taipei
- 3) TEL35 DSG meeting Participant list

Australia	Louise Biggs
Australia	Reg Coutts
Canada	Eric Tsang
Canada	Isabelle Roy
China	CAI Guolei
China	GUO Feng
China	MA Yan
China	YU Zhicheng
China	LIU Ziping
Chinese Taipei	His-Tien (Dan) CHANG
Chinese Taipei	Hsiao-Cheng(Jack) CHI
Chinese Taipei	Wen-Hao YANG
Indonesia	Andina Rufiany Malik Zair
Indonesia	Avief Hamdani
Indonesia	Koesmari Hali
Japan	Akira Yamada
Japan	Fumitake Takahashi
Japan	Satoshi Nokamura
Japan	Seiji IGI
Japan	Werner Klans
Korea	Byung-kyu Kim
Korea	Jongsuk Ruth Lee
Korea	Stacy Kang
Malaysia	Yee Sye Chung
Papua New Guinea	KILA GULO-VUI
Philippines	DENIS VILLORENTE
Philippines	PATRLUA ABEJO
Singapore	Justin Lee
Singapore	Lee Hin You
Thailand	Pornprom Ateetanan
Thailand	PRUCHHA PIUMSOMBOON
Thailand	Sudaporn Vimolseth
Thailand	Thongchai Sangsiri
USA	Ashley Heineman
USA	Jean Pierre Auffret
USA	Steven Olson

Vietnam	Nguyen Hoai Phong
Vietnam	Nguyen Thanh Hai
Vietnam	Tran Tuan Anh

[Annex C]



Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation

Hard Copy Code
Agenda Item:

SPSG Report

SPSG Convenor

**35th APEC Telecommunications and Information
Working Group Meeting – PLII
Manila, the Philippines
22-27 April 2007**

SECURITY AND PROSPERITY STEERING GROUP MEETING

APEC TEL 35, Manila, the Philippines

Thursday, 26 April 2007

Convenor: Shamsul Jafni Shafie, Malaysia

Deputy Convenor: Anthony Teelucksingh, United States

Jinhyun Cho, Korea

1. Adoption of Agenda

The Convenor welcomed all economies to the 2nd Security & Prosperity Steering Group (SPSG) meeting.

The Convenor also introduced Mr. Anthony Teelucksingh from the United States who will represent the United States as a Deputy Convenor.

As the first order of the day, the Convenor offered economies the opportunity to review and provide input on the agenda. The agenda was adopted as written.

2. Workshop Report

- The APEC TEL and OECD workshop on Malware and Related Threat.

As a background, after the conclusion of the Security of Information Systems and Networks Symposium in TEL 32, four working items were identified as possible collaboration work with the OECD.

Malware was one of the items identified. The workshop on Malware and Related Threat was proposed in Auckland during TEL 34 as part of the ongoing collaboration work between the APEC TEL and the OECD. Approvals were received from both the TEL and the SOM for a one and a half-day in TEL 35.

The objective of the workshop is to explore more in depth select issues raised by Malware and other related malicious activities over the network. It also strive to examine the scope for closer coordination with various communities and other international organizations involved in fighting malware and to provide further information and facilitate a holistic approach of the issues by policy makers.

The workshop comprised of 6 sessions. All of the sessions were fashioned to ensure that discussions were focused on the issues surrounding malware such as trends and the impact of malware on the various stakeholders of the cyber community. The workshop also focused on the capabilities and counter measures for response to cyber attacks. A case study was presented where the various stakeholders were asked to respond with regards to the actions that they might take. Based on the case study, it was quite evident that there is much to do concerning cooperation and coordination, not only internationally but also domestically.

A Panel Discussion was also held where panelist discussed major challenges and gaps that may exist in existing countermeasures. Following the panel discussion, a break out session was organized where each session discussed ways to improve responses by the relevant stakeholders.

What was clear from the discussions was that the impact of Malware felt by the relevant organizers could be devastating to all stakeholders. It was also felt that responses vary. Response and mitigation are mainly reactive and that there is an urgent need for strategic and proactive collaboration of all stakeholders

The workshop also saw that there is no clear organization of roles. Hence, there is a need for structured coordination at national and international levels with involvement of all stakeholders.

The workshop also agreed that there is a need for continued user awareness and education.

- The APEC TEL and ASEAN workshop on Network Security.

The APEC TEL and ASEAN workshop on Network Security took place on April 24, 2007. There were altogether 4 sessions (Presentations and Panel Speakers) focusing on Cyber crime Legislation: Policy and Regulatory and Enforcement Capacity Building.

A common theme arising from the workshop is the need for economies and countries to establish common legal framework is a step forward to combat cyber crime globally. The legal framework should also be technology neutral due to fast changing technologies and that effective legal framework needs political buy-in and enforcement follow-through.

In terms of enforcement capacity building, domestic and international co-operations contribute to capacity building and participations by all stakeholders could complement capacity building where lacking. The workshop also identified open source tools that could be used by economies with limited resources

3. PROJECT UPDATE AND REPORT

a) Strengthening Effective Response Capabilities Among APEC economies

Korea updated the meeting that a consultant have been identified and contracted to develop the document on best practices. The project is expected to finish by August 2007.

b) Building a Culture of Security – Corporate Policy and Management Issues

Due to other pressing commitments, New Zealand reported that there was almost no progress has been made since last TEL meeting.

Australia shared with the meeting several projects that they have been working on in respect of building a culture of security for critical information infrastructure in Australia. Two reports were produced on CIIP for business and governments. Australia also informed the meeting that two guidance papers for CEOs and CIOs were also produced that contained practical tips and case studies.

Canada informed the meeting that were part of the initial virtual working group and has registered its continuing interest.

The Convenor expressed hope that this project will commence soon and encourage New Zealand to initiate the working group soon and to engage economies such as Australia. The Convenor also asked that interested economies contact New Zealand to register themselves in the virtual working group.

c) Judge and Prosecutor Cyber Crime Enforcement Capacity Building Project

The United States informed the meeting that significant progress has been made on this project. The Department of Justice (DOJ) has taken over the project from the contractor and it is targeted that the project will be ready by TEL 37.

d) Information Technology Awareness, Training and Education Materials/Website

There are no particular new updates on this project.

e) Voice over IP (VoIP) Security Guidelines

This project was approved at the recent Budget & Management Committee Meeting, held in Singapore, from 7-8 March 2007.

This project has not commenced, however when completed the expected results include:

- A booklet that identifies and explains the VoIP technology
- A document for use by SMEs, that will outline good practice procedures that SMEs can use to protect themselves from security threats
- A website

f) Information Security Certifications Assessment Guide

Australia informed the meeting that the project aims to raise awareness of public and private sector management in APEC economies about their information security needs and the ways that they can recruit the right human resources, with the appropriate qualifications, to meet those needs.

This project has commenced and is in the process of developing an online portal and an Information Security Certification Awareness Program or "Buyer's Guide".

The objectives of the Buyer's Guide are as follows:

- Provide validation of certification quality by referencing external standards (e.g. ISO 17024) followed by the certification programmes. This will assist information security professionals in selecting an appropriate certification;
- Provide an accepted point of reference with which to compare and contrast certification schemes currently available;
- Provide a comparative database of common information security certifications available within APEC economies including their coverage of key information security subject areas;
- Increase the confidence level of employers in knowing how an information security professional can help, and where to find the right professional to do a given job;
- Inform employers and professionals on the most appropriate program for their needs;
- Include sources of knowledge that may not be referenced by current certifications such as new and accepted references to best practice; and
- Provide impartial advice so as to not promote specific certification schemes.

When completed, the Buyer's Guide will be available online and will disseminate the required information to professionals and employers. The online portal will be updated with new certifications or others not initially captured.

This project will assist three areas in particular:

- Assist SMEs develop an understanding of the issues surrounding the use of security certifications to help them choose security employees or suppliers;
- Assist individuals in determining the most appropriate certifications they should seek in order to achieve the best results for their career; and
- Assist educational institutions to inform their students of security certifications and the industry roles for which the certifications are best suited

Work on the project commenced in January 2007 and is currently in the process of developing an online portal and an Information Security Certification Awareness Program booklet.

On 14 March, the Consultant provided a Project Status Report to the Project Overseer. The Report showed the following progress:

- The QA of certification database was finalised and ready for delivery to web developers;
- The online portal design brief was finalised;
- Booklet design had commenced; and
- Work on website content design had also commenced.

g) International PKI and e-Authentication Training

The International PKI and e-Authentication Training program was approved in TEL 34. The program is meant to drive PKI/e-Authentication implementation and promote PKI/e-Authentication awareness and to strengthen the capabilities of Regulators.

The training program for 2007 will take place in September.

4. OTHER UPDATES ON SPSG ACTIVITY

Anti-Spam Activities

There has been no direct activity of the TEL with regards to Spam since TEL 34, save for the Convenor being invited to speak at the ITU Spam Workshop for Countering Spam Cooperation Agenda that was held in conjunction with ITU World in Hong Kong in December 2006.

However, Australia reports that the TEL continues to support all anti-Spam activities around the globe.

The StopSpamAlliance website

The StopSpamAlliance project is spearheaded by the OECD in partnership with APEC with several other organizations.

The objective of the website is to help coordinate international action against Spam and improve information sharing in order for the group to take a more pro-active role in addressing spam.

Canada who is APEC's representative to the StopSpamAlliance website recently tabled a proposal to the group sharing contacts, expanding number of authorities involved, and education

Wireless Security

Wireless Security is an area that the then eSTG had covered extensively with the hosting of workshops in TEL 30 and subsequently in TEL 33. From the Wireless Security workshop that was held in TEL 33, several action items were agreed upon. However, the Convenor reported that work on 2 main items has yet to commence.

Since the wireless environment is growing and is seen as a mechanism to address the universal issue of access to the Internet, it is also imperative that the work on wireless security be acted upon.

5. SPSG REPORT ON OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

The Convenor reported to the meeting some of the outreach activities where the SPSG-APEC TEL has been involved after TEL 34.

- a) Report on the ITU Spam Workshop for Countering Spam Cooperation Agenda, ITU World, Hong Kong

The Convenor attended the ITU Spam Workshop event, which was held in Hong Kong in conjunction with the ITU World.

During the event, APEC TEL was invited to share with other participants of the strategies adopted by APEC TEL and the activities that the APEC TEL has hosted.

b) Report on 6th Annual APCERT meeting, Langkawi, Malaysia

APEC TEL, unfortunately was unable to attend to the invitation as the invite had come too late for it to be processed. However, the Deputy Convenor of SPSG, Mr. Jinhyun CHO of Korea who was present in the meeting as a member of KrCERT/CC's team, presented to the APCERT community, the activities of the APEC TEL.

During the meeting, there was also interest from the Organization of American States (OAS) to work with the APEC TEL on matters concerning security.

c) Report on the 22nd WPISP-OECD meeting, Paris, France

The APEC TEL was also invited to attend the 22nd WPISP-OECD meeting in Paris, France from March 12 – 14, 2007.

The meeting among others discussed the joint Malware workshop between the APEC TEL and the OECD as well as the proposed joint work pertaining to the indicators of trust and security that both organizations agreed to collaborate.

d) CTI's request for TEL's contributions to TFAP2

CTI Chair requested TEL to contribute to the APEC Trade Facilitation Action Plan 2 (TFAP2), which is being drafted by CTI for endorsement at the Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Trade (MRT) in July 2007.

The relevant paragraph to the CTI Chair's letter of request relevant to TEL and SPSG:

As part of the CTI's ongoing consultation with sub fora on trade facilitation, I would be grateful for your views on how the Telecommunications and Information Working Group can make a contribution to TFAP2. I note in particular the positive work that is currently being undertaken in the areas of malware and combating SPAM, which help to protect business operations and are of importance to all economies in the region.

The Convenor then submitted a report on the work done by the TEL in the matters concerning Spam and the ongoing work regarding malware.

The LSG Convenor delivered the report during the CTI's meeting in Adelaide on 20th April 2007.

e) Other invitations

APEC TEL has also received 2 invitations to attend the ITU Cyber Security meeting in May 14 to 16, 2007 in Geneva and also the Council of Europe's Convention of Cyber Crime conference in June, 2007.

6. DISCUSSION ON COLLABORATION WITH THE WPISP-OECD AND ASEAN

The Convenor reported to the meeting some of the collaborative activities where the SPSG-APEC TEL has been involved.

f) Joint APEC TEL – OECD on Malware

The joint work between APEC TEL and the OECD commenced with the hosting of the one and half day workshop on Malware and Related Threat, which was concluded in TEL 35. The next course of action in the collaborative work with the OECD on Malware is the APEC TEL - OECD Analytical Report on Malicious Software and the recommendations with Action Plans against Malware.

Hence, the TEL and the SOM's approval are sought for the continuation of this joint work with the OECD on the subject of Malware.

g) Joint APEC TEL – OECD on Indicators for Security and Trust

The work on Indicators for Security and Trust is also one of the work items that both the APEC TEL and the OECD agreed to work on.

The objective of the work is to develop an APEC TEL-OECD Model Survey on Indicators for Trust. It will guide the development of national surveys for indicators of security and trust targeted at governments.

Hence, the TEL and the SOM's approval are sought for the continuation of this joint work with the OECD on the subject of indicators for security and trust.

h) Joint APEC TEL – ASEAN on Network Security

In TEL 34, the workshop on Network Security was proposed as a joint workshop between the APEC TEL and ASEAN to facilitate the experiences gained by APEC economies in the drafting of cyber crime type legislations and also the capacity building of enforcement bodies.

The workshop has since successfully organized.

7. NEW PROJECT PROPOSALS

a) Proposal for Workshop on Cyber Security Exercises in TEL 36

This is a self-funded joint proposal by the United States and Korea and is co-sponsored by Malaysia. The proposal is for the SPSG to hold a workshop on cyber security and critical information infrastructure protection (CIIP) exercises for interested

APEC economies at APEC TEL 36. The workshop would take a high level approach to addressing issues such as the value of exercises in establishing, testing and improving communications and cyber incident response as well as sharing best practices for successful exercises.

There is a need for cooperation, collaboration and coordination among all APEC stakeholders including government bodies, CII owners, CERT/CSIRTs and other private sector stakeholders within APEC economies. From this perspective, the workshop will give all APEC economies the opportunity to share their experiences and knowledge within their respective environments.

A 2-day workshop is proposed for the Cyber Security Exercises in TEL 36.

SPSG supports this proposal is submitted to the TEL for approval.

b) Proposal for Guide on Policy and Technical Approach against Botnet

This is a self-funded project by China and co-sponsored by Malaysia and Hong Kong, China to develop a guide on policy and technical approaches against botnets.

The result of the project will raise awareness and provide useful countermeasures for the benefit of APEC economies.

The work to develop the Guide will be done inter-session and will include the following:

- Inviting experts from the APEC economies to take part in the project.
- Studying the category, damage area and extent of botnets.
- Collecting and researching the successful experiences in botnets handling from each economy.
- Proposing botnet countermeasure policies for different stakeholders, including government, enterprises and personal users.
- Proposing technical guide to deal with botnets.
- Producing a final report.

SPSG supports this proposal and is submitted for the TEL's approval.

Information Sharing and Capacity Building within SPSG-APEC TEL

8. MALICIOUS ACTIVITIES AND MISUSE OF THE NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE

Korea presented to the SPSG meeting a paper on the "Global Cooperation for Safer Internet Malicious Website Threat Perspective".

The presentation highlighted the MoU that was signed between KISA and Google to filter out malware links sites from search results and to expand search scope beyond Korea. It detects almost all Korean malware link sites and sites are promptly shut down.

9. EXAMINATION OF THE SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

Nick Ellsmore, SIFT, Australia presented a paper on “Security Risks associated with Virtualization Technologies”

Server virtualization, one of a number of technologies that are yet to reach maturity and it is important to understand the security of new technologies. It is estimated that 60% of businesses are already implementing server virtualization technology.

There are benefits but the security concerns may be magnified such as the use of virtual switches within VMs can reduce network security. There is also the possibility of losing one physical server can impact many logical servers, the potential compromise of VMOs, the mixing of trust levels of systems, the management process maturity and the creation of unauthorized servers

10. INFORMATION SECURITY AWARENESS FOR SMEs

Mr. Kuo-Wei Wu from the Chinese Taipei presented a joint paper from the economies of Japan, Korea and Chinese Taipei on “Developing APEC Information Security Assessment Tool for SMEs”

The paper underlined the importance of an Information Security Assessment Tool for SMEs. As SMEs have been embracing the use of ICT, there are very few ISMs solutions for organizations with limited resources. There are currently assessment tools by Japan, Korea, and Chinese Taipei. The tool complies with APEC TEL Digital Divide Blueprint for Action.

A proposal was also forwarded to form a SME security expert group under SPSG of APEC TEL and interested economies were urged to participate in the expert group.

11. ECONOMY AND GUEST REPORTS

The Convenor then invited economies to briefly inform the meeting of any updates and to also post the updates into the SPSG slot in the TEL 35 website. Oral reports should aim to be brief and flag major issues only.

a) Korea

Korea presented a paper on “Identification of Online Environment with Trust, focusing on i-PIN” where users can apply to any online environment employing i-PIN

b) Philippines

The Philippines presented to the meeting their cyber security efforts. These efforts include the setting up of Gov CERT and law enforcement efforts, simultaneous workshops involving stakeholders, the drafting of cyber security plan accelerating effort to implement plan (Cyber security Coordination Office). CCO is focal point for

cyber security in country public awareness program

c) OECD report

The OECD updated the meeting of the development of policies for the protection CII. The OECD have prepared a report, which covered risk evaluation and mechanisms to respond.

The key message from study is need to enhance international cooperation on CII, and domestically between private and public

12. DISCUSSIONS

The Convenor briefed the meeting of the current stock take of all SPSG and eSTG activities. The stock take will assist the SPSG in planning its activities in meeting the goals of APEC Leaders.

13. MEETING WRAP UP

The Convenor then thanked everyone who was involved in the SPSG meeting and adjourned the meeting at 3.30 pm

Summary of Decisions Taken at the SPSG Meeting in TEL 35

Workshop Proposal

1. The SPSG agreed to submit to the TEL for its considerations, one workshop proposal for TEL 35 namely;
 - a) A 2-day joint workshop on Cyber Security exercises as proposed by the United States and Korea. The proposal is supported by Malaysia.

Project Proposal

2. The SPSG agreed to submit to the TEL for its considerations, a self-funded project on the Guide on Policy and Technical Approach against Botnet

Agenda Item 6 (f) and (g)

3. The SPSG agreed to submit to the TEL and SOM's for the approval for the continuation of the collaborative work with the OECD on Malware and Indicators for Security and Trust.

[Annex D]

APEC TEL 35 MRA Task Force Meeting Manila, Philippines, 22-23 April 2007

Report of Meeting

1. Introduction

As has become customary, the MRATF met over two sessions held on the morning of 22 April and the afternoon of 23 April 2007. The meeting was chaired by Mr John Mitchell from Australia with Mr George Tannahill from the USA as Vice-Chair. As has also become common practice over recent meetings, an ad hoc working group met on the afternoon of 22 April to continue work on new MRA development. A total of thirty four delegates participated over the two days representing fifteen economies and one TEL guest.

This report of the MRATF meeting incorporates some of the discussion from the ad hoc working group held on the afternoon of 22 April. For clarity, the report is ordered as per the meeting agenda although some items were discussed either out of sequence or over both sessions.

The primary purposes of this meeting were:

- to finalise a number of document updates which provide information on the MRA and assist with implementation;
- to pursue development of suitable web based resources which will facilitate better implementation and operation of the MRA;
- to review the status of the implementation stock-take commenced in 2006 and to develop plans for further measurement of the MRA's effectiveness;
- to continue with development of an MRA for equivalence of technical requirements.

The Chair welcomed all delegates to the meeting and thanked the Philippines for hosting the meetings. It was noted that there was a substantial number of delegates for whom this was their first or second meeting.

2. Report on the Auckland MRA Task Force meeting

The TF Chair highlighted areas of work from the last meeting on which the MRATF needs to focus its attention and went on to introduce items from the agenda which were of particular importance for this meeting and the next.

3. Economy Reports and Updates

Economies gave updates on their voluntary participation in the MRA, developments in their technical regulations and progress in participation with other economies. A number of economies indicated either significant efforts being made towards implementation of the MRA or, for those having already implemented, additional activity in CAB designation.

A summary of updates is provided in **Attachment 1**

4. Industry case studies

No presentations were available for this meeting but the TF Chair encouraged all delegates to identify people from CABs and industry who could provide a report of their experiences with using the MRA. If individuals could not attend an MRATF meeting, they could still contribute their experiences through a written report.

5. MRATF Projects¹

Project A – Review and Update of the Guide and Management tools for the APEC TEL MRA.

The two guides on the MRA, one for industry and the other for CABs, were originally published by APEC shortly after implementation began on the arrangement. In the intervening years, the content has become dated in some respects and in need of updating. Work on producing a second edition was undertaken at TEL 35 and intersessionally.

The final drafts of the guides were briefly reviewed again at this meeting. With two errors in website addresses being corrected on the day, these guides will now be submitted to the APEC secretariat for approval and uploading as official second editions.

Action: The TF Chair to submit the two guides to APEC.

The *MRA Information Management Guide* was originally developed for the MRATF by three industry associations, the TAI (US), CIAJ (Japan) and ATIA (Australia). It was a tool to assist implementing economies through the process and ensure that all of the necessary information exchanges could be managed smoothly and transparently. This document required updating to reflect current practices and referenced documents and also to better describe a number of aspects.

The redrafted version was revisited following receipt of a number of editorial suggestions from TF Members. Of particular note was an observation from the US that the guide needed to reference the MRA pages on both the APEC TELWG site and those pages from the websites of participating economies. These editorial changes were incorporated between meeting sessions but a number of the queries raised by the US could not be resolved on the day due to the need to clarify the intent of the authors'. The Chair undertook to contact former members of the MRATF to seek clarification. In addition, written permission to produce the document as an APEC publication had not been received from the authors of the original draft so this will need to be finalised as a matter of urgency (Note: Two of the three organisations have given verbal permission).

A new date of 30 June 2007 was set as the target for submission of the document to APEC.

Action: TF members to advise the TF Chair of any additional errors or omissions in the Information Management guide not later than the 30 June.

Action: The TF Chair to seek written permission from the authors for the guide to be published by APEC and to then submit it to the secretariat for endorsement.

Project E – MRA for equivalence of technical requirements for telecommunications equipment:

The TF Chair summarised the discussion from the last meeting on the new MRA and presented a number of the basic, working definitions and principles of operation that had been developed from the last meeting, albeit without complete consensus. Key points were as follows.

1. Under an MRA for equivalence of technical requirements:
 - participation will be voluntary.
 - no participating economy would be compelled to accept the requirements of another economy that did not give the same level of assurance of product compliance as their own requirements.
 - the final decision on the acceptability of another economy's requirement lies with the regulator of the importing economy.

¹ The MRA TF uses the term "project" in a generic sense to describe its various activities. These are not projects in the sense normally used by the TEL and APEC in general.

2. The term “mutual” in this arrangement does not mean that a Party would only recognise another party’s requirement if, and only if, the recognition was reciprocated. The term “mutual” in this arrangement relates to mutual intent to recognise the technical requirements of another participating Party that can be demonstrated to be equivalent.
3. The MRA should be developed as a multilateral arrangement in that Parties would agree to accept the equivalent requirements of any other participating Party.
4. In the area of motivation to participate, manufacturers and conformity assessment bodies clearly have a motivation to proceed with the new arrangement but for regulators, there is little incentive other than the trade facilitation objectives of APEC. As such, any additional workload imposed by the new arrangement needs to be minimised and shared. On this basis, the proposed principles of operation would be:
 - if there is no industry demand for recognition of an equivalent technical requirement, no work is required;
 - if any party does want equivalence recognised, it is their responsibility to undertake the analysis and to validate any claim of equivalence;
 - recognition of any equivalent technical requirement will be notified via the recognising regulatory authorities MRA page on their website

These definitions and principles provided the introduction for discussion in the ad hoc working group that met in the afternoon following the MRATF meeting.

The redrafted text of the new MRA provided for the meeting contained a proposal that two levels of recognition could be considered. The first would be confined to the more technical elements of technical requirements that might typically be defined by technical standards and specifications. The second level would allow for recognition of a much broader range of requirements such as some administrative procedures. This was added to the draft text following from questions in Auckland.

The ad hoc working group were then tasked to consider the revised draft of the MRA text focussing on clauses 1 to 4 covering its purpose, general provisions, definitions and scope. In particular, the group was asked to examine the two levels as defined in clause 2.2.

Fourteen members of the TF met as the ad hoc group. Clause one was accepted as a reasonable statement of the new arrangement’s purpose. As anticipated, clause 2 provided for much discussion, not only because of the two levels but also as it raised a number of issues relating to the definitions and scope of the arrangement. The main points arising from the discussion were as follows.

- There was general agreement that it was not necessary to define two levels of participation if the wording of the clause was general enough to allow Parties to interpret “technical requirements” in any way that they felt comfortable. This would give the arrangement maximum flexibility. Hence, the group supported deletion of the two level definitions in clause 2.2 and simplifying the remaining wording to again give maximum flexibility.
- Despite the level of agreement on removing the two levels, there remained uncertainty with regard to how a “multilateral arrangement” would work.
- Some participants felt very strongly that the new arrangement should be entirely independent of the existing MRA on conformity assessment and that participation in the first should not be a prerequisite of the second. It was felt that the clauses 2.3 and 2.4 needed to be changed to remove suggestion that the new arrangement was dependent on the first.

Aspects of the operation were also touched upon.

- The proposal that industry should request consideration of claims of equivalence was viewed as a more realistic approach to that of the regulator examining a large number of technical requirements “in case someone asks”.

- The proposal that the originator (typically the manufacturer) of a request performs the analysis and validation of equivalence rather than the regulator was also received favourably as it makes the arrangement far less resource intense.
- Some concern remains about the incentive for an economy to participate in the new arrangement.

The TF considered these inputs when it reconvened with the draft text having been altered to reflect the discussions.

The altered text for clause 2.2 was accepted by the TF. The clauses connecting the two arrangements were modified to make the connection less prescriptive but there was general agreement that in practice, regulators would be relying on the MRA for Conformity Assessment to provide them with the confidence in product compliance with any recognised equivalent technical requirements.

An issue that prompted significant debate was a review of the definition of “technical regulation” as some people tend to use this interchangeably with “technical requirements”. It was recognised that the preferred direction of the new arrangement is to leave the interpretation of “technical requirements” to the Party implementing the arrangement so that they could consider equivalent aspects of an administrative nature. The MRA definition of “technical regulations” has technical requirements as one component and administrative arrangements as another component. Hence, they are not interchangeable and the very title of the new MRA would preclude inclusion of administrative requirements.

Rather than redefine well established terms, the TF considered a composite definition of technical regulations and requirements that would permit participating Parties the freedom to include what they wished in their implementation.

Time constraints prevented further discussion of the draft. The TF agreed to continue the work intersessionally in preparation for TEL36. The drafting group² formed at the Auckland meeting will be the primary participants in this work but the TF Chair undertook to circulate the draft to all TF members as progress is made. Comments are welcome from any interested party.

The work to date on the new MRA text has been undertaken by the MRATF whose current membership is primarily regulatory authorities. The aim, therefore, should be to have a working draft of the document prepared by the end of August to allow for its circulation to other stakeholders well ahead of the next MRATF meeting.

The TF agreed to a proposed work plan for the period leading up to TEL 36 including target dates.

Action:

- Development of the draft text via electronic means with the target date for a working draft of 31 August 2007;
- Circulation of the working draft to TEL Points of Contact and as many stakeholders as possible in early September.

Action: Any other TF members who would be willing to volunteer, but who first need to seek management permission, are welcome and should advise either the TF Chair or Vice-Chair as soon as possible.

While not related to the development of the new MRA text, Mr Owens from ACMA provided a very brief summary of a survey and report that was prepared by ASTAP for background information.

² The volunteers included Mr Owens and Dr Joyner from Australia, Mr Guevara from Canada, Mr Song from Korea, Mr Hanafiah from Singapore, Messrs Dhillon and Tannahill from the USA and Mr McInturff from APLAC. As Messrs Dhillon and McInturff are no longer attending the MRATF, additional volunteers are welcome.

It is apparent that this group is looking at similar issues relating to equivalence of standards and other technical regulations in parallel with the TEL work. While they are aware of the TEL MRA and appear keen to communicate with the MRATF on a number of common issues, there is a worrying aspect that ASTAP appear to be suggesting activities which might produce duplications of effort and the development of expensive infrastructure.

Mr Owens concluded by suggesting that there is a need for the TEL to develop some dialog with ASTAP as a means of ensuring that there is no duplication of effort or conflicting ways forward.

Project F – Stock-take of Existing MRA implementation and benefits:

Following the Ministers' TELMIN 6 endorsement of the MRATF's proposal to undertake a stocktake on the benefits of the MRA, the first stage which covered regulators and looked at the status of implementation was conducted in 2006 and a summary was presented at TEL35. The information indicated that some economies were making good use of the MRA but that there remained a substantial amount of work still to be undertaken to progress a more comprehensive implementation. It did, however, show that progress was being made in a number of economies and that some of those who had faced very substantial legislative hurdles had at least cleared these.

To keep this information fresh and to build a better picture of progress, the TF Chair requested those economies who had submitted their survey responses to update them to reflect their current state of implementation or progress towards the goal. The status table will then be updated and circulated. Those economies who did not yet respond to the survey were asked to do so and forward the completed form to the TF Chair.

Action: All economies to update/provide their survey responses to the TF Chair.

The next phase of the endorsed stocktake process is to survey conformity assessment bodies to gauge the number of tests and certifications that are being conducted under the MRA and, if the likely commercial sensitivities can be overcome, to find the types of equipment going through the conformity assessment processes.

In principle, this activity would be possible through each economy's designating authority as:

the DA has all of the information about the CABs in their jurisdiction and;

the MRA requires CABs to maintain a list of equipment for which they have performed the conformity assessment.

Nonetheless, it is not a trivial exercise and would still require a great deal of effort, particularly for those economies having many designated CABs.

Going beyond the stocktake endorsed by the TELMIN though is the proposal that after nearly eight years of operation, it is time that the TEL attempted to measure industry's uptake of the MRA and gain an accurate estimate of trade volumes and values for products tested and certified under TEL MRA processes. Certainly the MRA was advanced on the basis of expected substantial savings to the industry and consumers. But to the knowledge of the TF, these figures have never been subject to verification through a survey of the entire region.

This is, of course, a substantial undertaking and is well beyond the resources of the MRATF. As such, the TF will work intersessionally to design a project proposal for submission to the TEL in time for the next meeting. Ideally, the project would find external funding through industry support.

Action: The TF Chair to liaise intersessionally with designating authorities with regard to obtaining information from CABs.

Action: The TF to work intersessionally to develop a project proposal for an APEC wide survey of the manufacturing industry by TEL 36.

6. Training

Early in the meeting, it was identified that there were many new participants in the Task Force. Indeed, almost half of those attending were present for either their first or second meeting. The nature of the MRATF work means that a good working knowledge of the MRA for Conformity Assessment is necessary to actively participate. A substantial proportion of time in recent meetings has focussed on the new MRA for Equivalence of Technical Requirements but the relationship between the two MRAs means that the new work cannot be understood without knowledge of the existing arrangement.

It is critical to the work on the new arrangement that all TF members are able to understand and contribute. To assist those who will be ongoing participants in the MRATF, it was agreed that a "refresher training" session covering the background to the MRA, its intent, a run-through of the requirements and some information on implementation and operation, would be very helpful

It was proposed, therefore, that a half day training session be held in conjunction with TEL 36 if this can be accommodated by the host economy. The session would be conducted primarily for the benefit of those participating in the TF who feel that their understanding of the MRA could be improved but it could also be open to any TEL delegates with an interest in this area. As TEL36 is to be held in South America, it was also suggested that an invitation to the training session could be extended to interested stakeholders in the CITELE MRA.

Approximately half of those in the meeting indicated that they would like to attend. Presenters would be sourced from the Task Force.

Mr Tannahill reported that NIST will not be hosting an International MRA Workshop as it did in 2005. Instead, the IEEE EMC Society will be hosting an International EMC Symposium in Honolulu, Hawaii from 8 to 13 July 2008. On 8th July, an all day workshop will be held on the topic of "Managing Regulatory Access to Asia Pacific Markets". Several speakers from APEC economies will provide information on their Economy's regulatory requirements. This workshop is being co-sponsored by NIST, FCC, and IBM. We would encourage everyone to attend. For further information visit the IEEE - EMC Society's web site at www.emc2007.org/.

Mr Tanida from Japan reported on the MRA workshop held in Tokyo in December 2006 and indicated that it was very well received by the 120 participants. The next training will be conducted in Tokyo in conjunction with APEC in March.

7. Project Proposals

The project funding proposal for the MRA industry stocktake work will be prepared for submission to TEL36.

8. CITELE Liaison

Mr Guevara of Canada provided an update on the parallel MRA work being undertaken by CITELE. He reported on the recent meeting and indicated that both Mexico and Brazil had both achieved some further progress towards implementation. In the case of Mexico, it would be hoped that progress towards implementation in the CITELE MRA might also be a positive indicator of progress in the APEC TEL MRA.

9. MRA Information Management Resources

Ms Samantha Ahn, Assistant to the TEL Chair, introduced the new APEC TELWG website and demonstrated the MRA page that was requested by the MRATF. The site address is

www.apectelwg.org and it is hosted by the TEL Chair's organisation, KISDI in Korea. All of the information and functionality requested has been made available.

This is seen as a significant step forward for the working of the TEL MRA as it provides a single point of entry for information on the MRA itself and also on each economy's participation in the MRA.

A few suggestions were made about the visibility of the MRA page. There was also a question of whether the links to the various regulatory pages were easily updated as they change from time to time and also some of the links take the viewer to the regulator's home page rather than directly to their MRA page. Some regulators conceded that their sites were not easily navigated and so a direct link on the TEL WG site would be preferable.

The meeting then considered the draft template/specification for an MRA page to be incorporated into each regulatory authority's website which was first tabled at TEL 34 and further developed intersessionally. The specification includes:

- introductory information on the TEL MRA;
- a brief description of its benefits and scope;
- the status of the economy's participation in phase 1 and/or phase 2;
- the economy's stakeholder organisations as mandated by the MRA;
- contact information for the economy.

Now that the TEL WG site has the MRA page, it is also the ideal time to push ahead and get regulatory MRA pages aligned with the specification if possible. Each economy was asked about implementation of such a webpage. It transpired that eight economies already have an MRA page on their sites although some do not have all of the information described in the specification available at this time. Of those economies who do not have an MRA page, most indicated that there was no obstacle in principle although there would obviously be cost issues to manage.

It is recognised that not all economies have implemented the MRA and that it might not seem appropriate for them to have an MRA page. It might still be worth considering, however, as information on the MRA along with the status of implementation would demonstrate the economy's commitment.

The final agreed specification may be viewed in Attachment 3 of this report.

Action: Economies who have implemented the MRA to review their MRA page(s) with regard to the desired information as per the specification and to provide missing information if practicable.

Action: Economies are working towards implementation of the MRA to consider the possibility of adding an MRA page to their website detailing the status of their preparations.

In conclusion, the resource provided by both the TEL WG site and the individual regulatory pages constitutes a significant step forward in the management of information for the MRA and is expected to improve its use in APEC.

10. Joint Committee

No issues had been brought to the attention of the TF Chair since TEL 33. The TF was reminded again that there is provision for such a committee to resolve MRA implementation problems and disputes.

11. Other Business

Mrs Tan from IDA Singapore provided a brief overview of developments within the ASEAN MRA. Of particular interest are the documentation examination procedures that the ASEAN economies have adopted to deal with the fact that much equipment is imported from outside of the region and there are no local test facilities to verify equipment compliance. Documents examined and approved in one economy are also approved in the other ASEAN economies. Mrs Tan reported that this process is working very well.

The TF Chair noted that this document examinations procedure may be of interest to other economies in some instances.

12. Next Meeting

The next MRA Task Force meeting is proposed to be held immediately before TEL 36 and be chaired by John Mitchell from Australia. With the ongoing drafting work of the new MRA on equivalence and the training needs identified in the course of the meeting, the Task Force requests that the TEL Working Group and TEL 36 host agree to the following arrangements.

	Activity	Venue/facilities
Day 1 Morning	MRATF Session 1	Conventional APEC arrangement
Day 1 Afternoon	Ad hoc working group	Informal room for 15 to 20 with projector
Day 2 Morning	MRA “Refresher training”	Informal room for 20 to 30 with projector
Day 2 Afternoon	MRATF Session 2	Conventional APEC arrangement

TF Chair’s Note

In accordance with the guidelines for rotation of Convenors and TF Chairs, it will be necessary to consider the appointment of the next Vice Chair to the MRATF at TEL 36.

Attachment 1

Update of MRA Activities and Changes to Technical Regulations

Australia	A number of technical regulations have been updated and discussions have begun with Korea regarding Phase I. 6 new CAB designations have been recognised.
Canada	<p>Technical Requirements published since the last meeting (after October 2006):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RSS - 287 Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRB), Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELT), Personal Locator Beacons (PLB), and Maritime Survivor Locator Devices (MSLD), Issue 1, February 2007 2. CS-03 Issue 9, Amendment 3, amendment to Part VIII, published April 21, 2007 <p>Industry Canada is in the process of amending the following procedures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CB-01, Issue 2: <i>Requirements for Certification Bodies</i> 2. CB-02: <i>Recognition Criteria, and Administrative and Operational Requirements Applicable to Certification Bodies for the Certification of Radio Apparatus to Industry Canada's Standards and Specifications</i> 3. CB-03: <i>Requirements for the Certification of Radio Apparatus to Industry Canada's Standards and Specifications</i> <p>A Gazette Notice announcing these changes is expected to be published by May 5 2007.</p> <p>APEC TEL MRA implementation update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Canada and Chinese Taipei have agreed to implement Phase II of the APEC TEL MRA. - Under Phase I, Canada has designated eight Canadian testing laboratories to test to the technical requirements of six participating economies, and has recognized 46 foreign testing laboratories to test to Canadian requirements. For information on Phase I, please visit the following web sites: http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/inceb-bhst.nsf/en/tt00065e.html, and http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/inceb-bhst.nsf/en/tt00064e.html - Under Phase II, Canada has designated one Canadian certification body to certify to the technical requirements of one participating economy, and has recognized 13 foreign certification bodies to certify to Canadian requirements. For information on Phase I, please visit the following web sites: http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/inceb-bhst.nsf/en/tt00068e.html, and http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/inceb-bhst.nsf/en/tt00067e.html

Chile	No changes to report
China	China is making further progress towards Phase I implementation.
Hong Kong, China	For Phase I, 3 CABs have been designated and 9 CABs have been accepted. For Phase II, documentation is being worked on.
Indonesia	Approval scheme established for testing laboratories.
Japan	No update
Korea	Phase I is now implemented. Have designated 24 CABs and have accepted 47 designations from the USA and 7 from Canada.
Malaysia	?
New Zealand	No update
Philippines	Scheme for CABs in being implemented. The Philippines already accept approvals from other economies outside of the MRA.
Singapore	Under Phase II, 6 US CABs have been recognised. Singapore is in talks with Korea and Malaysia.
Chinese Taipei	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For the purpose of the implementation of Phase II of the APEC Tel MRA, the NCC promulgated the Guidelines For the Recognition of Foreign Certification Equipment on October 3, 2006. - Under Phase I, the NCC recognized 16 Cabs from foreign economies and designed 8 testing laboratories that have been recognized by 5 economies. - Chinese Taipei and Canada have signed an Exchange letter to implement Phase-II of the APEC TEL MRA.
Thailand	<p>Thailand has been making progress towards realisation of MRA.</p> <p>On Technical Regulations, the Regulatory Authority (NTC) has prescribed a number of technical standards for telecom equipment, mostly on radio equipment, and on EMF and SAR (specific absorption rate) aspects. It is also expected that the technical requirements in the areas of EMC and electrical safety for telecom terminal equipment will be adopted before the end of this year.</p> <p>On Conformity Assessment, Thailand is reviewing existing regulations on type approval, and is making a major revision to them. Those new drafts will be put through public consultation process next month, and we hope they will be finally adopted before the next Task Force meeting.</p> <p>As we have already discussed preliminary institutional arrangements with our accreditation body (AB) under the name of TLAS (Thai Laboratory Accreditation Scheme) while the regulator retains the role of Designating Authority (DA), and as new draft regulations on conformity assessments say more clearly about mutual recognition of test reports and other things, those instances will pave the way for formal MRA implementation, so that our local testing labs can be the ones who get benefits from this participation.</p> <p>We hope that all the new things coming up will put us in a position to make good progress towards MRA participation within this year.</p> <p>Meanwhile, the certification or type approval unit of our Regulatory Authority accepts foreign test reports under existing regulations without the need for MRA.</p>
USA	- Low power Part 15 modular rulemaking changes pending

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continually working to generate procedures to allow private entities to approve more equipment. Currently private entities certify 95% of equipment. New technology, problem technology and technology with no test procedure are blocked from TCB approval - Recent testing initiatives focus on HAC, DTV, SAR and 88-108MHz transmitters. - FCC website lists most up to date changes and policies. - United States (NIST) designated 163 phase 1 CABs that have been recognized by other APEC Economies. - The FCC recognized 83 Phase 1 Cabs from foreign economies. - NIST designated 17 Phase II Cabs that have been recognized by other economies - The FCC has recognized 2 APEC Cabs. These cabs have approved 224 equipment authorizations in 2006/2007 to date. - The US recently signed a new MRA with Japan that is in the process of becoming operational. <p>In general the MRA process is operating successfully.</p>
Vietnam	Vietnam has new requirements for Certification. They are ready to implement Phase I and are in talks with Korea.

Attachment 2

Agreed Template for APEC TEL Economies' MRA Webpages

What is the APEC-TEL MRA?

In June 1998, the APEC Telecommunications and Information Ministers agreed to update APEC-wide processes for the testing and type-approval of telecommunications equipment.

This landmark arrangement, the Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Conformity Assessment of Telecommunications Equipment (APEC TEL MRA), was the first multilateral agreement of its type in the world.

This Arrangement streamlines the Conformity Assessment Procedures for a wide range of telecommunications and telecommunications-related equipment and facilitates trade among the APEC member economies.

It provides for the mutual recognition, by an importing economy, of Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) and mutual acceptance of the results of testing and equipment certification procedures undertaken by those bodies in assessing conformity of equipment to the importing economy's own Technical Regulations.

What are the benefits of the MRA?

The APEC-TEL MRA provides benefits to Manufacturers, Conformity Assessment Bodies, Regulators and Consumers.

When manufacturers can build, test and ship their products to supply the global telecommunications infrastructure on a more rational, competitive basis, everyone wins. Regulators can be assured that users and networks will not be harmed, producers can more easily manage the approvals process, and consumers worldwide will have access to the same level of technology at the same time and under the same market conditions.

Scope of equipment and parameters that can be covered by the MRA

Its scope includes all equipment subject to telecommunication regulations, including wireline and wireless, terrestrial and satellite equipment. For such equipment, the APEC TEL MRA covers electromagnetic compatibility (EMC), specific absorption rate (SAR) and electrical safety aspects as well as purely telecommunications aspects of the conformity assessment requirements.

Information about the MRA

The following documents and publications can be downloaded from the APEC TEL Working Group website www.apectelwg.org to provide information on the MRA and information for economies to follow to enable them to participate.

1. The MRA Text
2. The Information Management Guide
3. The Guide for Industry
4. The Guide for Conformity Assessment Bodies

Participation

"[ECONOMY] is participating in Phase I [and/or] [Phase II] of the APEC TEL MRA"

OR

"[ECONOMY] is participating in Phase I [and/or] [Phase II] of the APEC TEL MRA as an importing Party."

Note: Some economies do not have a manufacturing base but are still using the APEC TEL MRA to accept conformity assessment activities performed in the Economy of export. It is important that this information is available. For such economies, information such as the local accreditation body and CABs will obviously not be necessary.

OR

"[ECONOMY] is preparing to participate in the APEC TEL MRA with implementation planned for [DATE]."

Whilst not a requirement of the TEL MRA, some Economies have legal requirements to undertake an exchange of letters with other Parties before they can accept designations of CABs.

"[ECONOMY] [requires/does not require] this exchange of letters.

Other Economies with which we have exchanged letters indicating participation in the TEL MRA are as follows:" LIST]

Note: The exchange of letters is not a requirement of the MRA. Hence, reference to such an exchange is not mandatory.

For more information on other economies and their participation in the TEL MRA, please go to the APEC TEL Working Group site at www.apectel.org.kr for a listing of participating economies and links to their individual web pages.

Organisations involved in the MRA and Contact Information

- The contact person for all enquiries relating to the MRA and its implementation is as follows:

[Contact details]

- Annex I to Phase I and II Procedures
List of Technical Regulations

[The technical regulations for which conformity assessment undertaken by a CAB in another economy will be recognised. Information should also be provided on where these may be obtained or, if they are downloadable, links to the appropriate site.]

- Annex II to Phase I and Phase II Procedures
List of Designating Authorities and Accreditation Bodies

The authorities and organisations that have been given the roles of designating and accrediting CABs for the technical requirements of other economies. Contact information should be provided.

- Annex III to Phase I and II Procedures
List of Conformity Assessment Bodies (CAB) Designated

Those CABs in your jurisdiction that have been designated for other economies. Contact information should be provided.

- Annex IV to Phase I and II Procedures
List of Conformity Assessment Bodies (CAB) and Mutual Recognition Arrangements among Accreditation Bodies Recognised

The CABs in other economies that have been designated by those economies and recognised by your economy under this Arrangement. Also, any accreditation body to accreditation body Arrangements that you recognise.