The 37th APEC TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION WORKING GROUP
(March 23-28, 2008 Tokyo, Japan)

Chair's Report

Japan hosted the thirty seventh meeting of the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation Working Group on Telecommunications and Information (APECTEL WG). Eighteen economies of the APEC region were represented, including Australia; Canada; China; Chile; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Korea; Malaysia;   New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; Peru; Philippines; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; United States of America and Vietnam. Also attending were the Director (Program) of the APEC Secretariat and a representative of guest from INTUG and GBDe.

Dr. Arnon Tubtiang from Thailand chaired the meeting with Mr. Liu Ziping from China as Vice Chair.

The TEL 37 Meeting was preceded by a number of workshops, meetings and discussion sessions as follows:

Day 1	Sunday 23 March 2008
	- Seminar on Using ICT for Rural Community Capacity Building (DSG)
	- Mutual Recognitions Arrangement Task Force(MRATF)
	- Workshop on Policy and Technical Approaches against Botnet (SPSG)
Day 2	Monday 24 March 2008
	- Seminar on Using ICT for Rural Community Capacity Building (DSG)
	- Mutual Recognitions Arrangement Task Force(MRATF)
	- Industry Roundtable (LSG)
	- ICT Products/Services Security Workshop (SPSG)
Day 3	Tuesday 25 March 2008
	- Regulatory Roundtable (LSG)
	- Workshop on Handheld Mobile Device Security (SPSG)

OPENING OF TEL WG 37

A. OPENING CEREMONY

The first plenary meeting of TEL 37 was opened officially on the morning of Wednesday, March 26, 2008 by Mr. Mori Kiyoshi, Vice Minister for Policy Coordination, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan. In his opening address, he said it was an honor for Japan to host TEL 37. A level playing field in the telecom market was critical for the development of APEC economies. With this in mind, TEL should not too much emphasize on the outcomes that TEL has achieved to date and the roles that TEL will play in the future. Especially, this meeting was important as the preparatory forum for the upcoming TELMIN7 held in Thailand. He sincerely hoped that throughout these meetings we will have participative and meaningful discussions to produce fruitful outcomes deliverable to our Ministers. As the hosting economy, he would like to make every endeavor to meet the expectations to this meeting.

B. OPENING ADDRESS

The TEL Chair, Dr. Arnon Tubtiang, thanked Mr. Mori Kiyoshi for his opening address. He also expressed his appreciation to the host for the warm hospitality and providing a very well organizing meeting of TEL 37. He expected a lot of productive and fruitful outcomes to response to Ministers and Leaders mandate and prepare for building the path to the next Ministerial Meeting (TELMIN 7) in Thailand.

Also, the Chair introduced the Director (Program) from the APEC Secretariat, Mr. Luis Tsuboyama who will assist for any APEC procedure and information from now on.

The TEL Chair, convened the meeting

C. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Chair opened the floor for comments on the proposed agenda PLEN/001. There were no comments from members and the agenda was adopted as follows:
A.   Opening Ceremony
B.   Opening Address
C.   Review and Adoption of Agenda
D.   APEC Secretariat Report on APEC Developments
E.   Presentations by Economies of their Recent Regulatory and Policy Developments
F.   Brief Voluntary Statements by Observers and Guests
G.   Steering Group Meeting Reports
          1. Development Steering Group Meeting (DSG)
          2. Liberalization Steering Group Meeting (LSG)
          3. Security and Prosperity Steering Group Meeting (SPSG)
H.   Discussion / Approval of New Project Proposals / Priority Setting
I.   Discussion of Future Meetings – TELMIN7, TEL 38, TEL 39, TEL 40, TEL41
J.   Selection of New Convenors and Deputy Convenors
K.   Other Businesses
L.   Closing

D. APEC SECRETARIAT REPORT ON APEC DEVELOPMENTS

The Chair called upon Mr. Luis Tsuboyama, Director (Program) from the APEC Secretariat, to review recent APEC developments. He mentioned three aspects for Project proposals. He said that current issues affecting project implementation and administration principally relate to Project Overseers (PO) engaging the Secretariat more frequently about planning their activities. The Guidebook on APEC Projects (6th Edition) should provide POs with necessary information on all stages of project life cycle, which POs are encouraged to consult. POs should also contact the Secretariat on a regular basis, at least once every two months throughout the project's duration.

Regular and frequent communication with the Secretariat is critical to ensure more effective project administration. Project Overseers are reminded of the need to give adequate time (at least four weeks before a meeting) to identify participants and

speakers being funded to attend workshops.

About Project Assessment/Evaluation Process, since 2007, the Quality Assessment Framework (QAF) has been applied to all project proposals. Fora are gradually building experience in applying the QAF and should continue to embrace this tool to help improve project quality and effectiveness. Those fora that have not yet established a small group to conduct QAF assessments are encouraged to do so as soon as possible. The names of these representatives should be advised to the relevant Program Director to allow QAF members to maximize use of the systems built into the Project Data Base (PDB).

To assist in improving the quality of APEC projects, improve the coordination of project activities and ensure most cost-effective and targeted projects, the Project Management Unit (PMU) was established in 2007. The PMU aims to develop further a more professionalized approach to projects within the Secretariat and help build capacity in project management within the Secretariat and the wider APEC community.

Program Directors (PD) continue to be the first point of contact to assist fora with general inquiries, proposal development and project administration. The PMU provides support to Program Directors to help them fulfill their role. Fora can contact the PMU through their respective PDs for guidance on project development, implementation or its assessment and evaluation. Suggestions on how to improve the APEC project processes are warmly welcomed and again should be directed through the relevant PD or to pmu@apec.org.
The full report is document PLEN/11

The Chair thanked the Director for his report and said that new project proposals will be discussed carefully within each of the TEL Steering Groups.

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

The Chair informed the meeting that the Chair's Report from the 36th TEL Meeting was already circulated to HOD and POC before the TEL 37 meeting for adoption. Since there were no comments received to this document, the Chair's Report from the 36th Meeting of TEL was adopted.

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

F.BRIEF VOLUNTARY STATEMENTS BY OBSERVERS AND GUESTS

Representative from INTUG, Ms Rosemary Sinclair gave a brief voluntary statement (Document Plen/.011 and 012. GBDe sent the voluntary statement for updating (Document PLEN/ 019 and 020.)

G.STEERING GROUP MEETING REPORTS

1. ICT DEVELOPMENT STEERING GORUP (DSG)

The DSG Convenor, Prof. Ma Yan from China presented the summary report on DSG meeting, which a full version is Document DSG/ 2008-TELWG37-DSG-022.doc

(Annex A). No project funding requests and no workshop at the next TEL were made by DSG. There are two self funded project approved in this meeting and will start in the next TEL, "Showroom on Advanced Technologies for bridging the digital divide" and "PC Grid@APEC ". The full report is in document DSG/2008-TELWG37-DSG-006.doc and 2008-TELWG37-DSG-004-doc respectively.

2. LIBERALIZATION STEERING GROUP (LSG)

The LSG Convenor, Mr. Colin Oliver from Australia, reported the summary report on LSG meeting. The full report is in document PLEN/013 (Annex B). Convenor concluded a project funding requests at the amount of US$ 248,920 named "Workshop on Capacity Building Telecoms Trade Rules and Regulatory Disciplines" led by Singapore; co-sponsored by Australia; Canada; Hong Kong, China; Chinese Taipei for this TEL (2008-TELWG37-LSG-018). However, there were requests for two - half day of MRATF, a half-day of Industry Roundtable, and one-day workshop on Stakeholders Engagement and Consultations.

3. SECURITY & PROSPERITY STEERING GROUP (SPSG)

The SPSG Convenor Mr. Shamsul Jafni Shafie, Malaysia presented the summary report on SPSG meeting, which full version is on document PLEN/024 (Annex C).
The Convenor noted that there is one new self-funded project proposals from "Workshop on Cyber Security Awareness Raising Project" SPSG together with a project proposal from the CTTF requesting support from the TEL "Seminar on the Protection of Cyberspace from Terrorist Use and Attack". There is one workshop "Workshop on Telecommunications for Disaster Management and Best Practices" (Peru, Chile and Mexico: Co-sponsors) at the next TEL.
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H. Discussion/ Approval of New Project Proposal/ Priority Setting

There are one request fund project and three self fund projects
LSG
1. "Workshop on Capacity Building Telecoms Trade Rules and Regulatory Disciplines" led by Singapore; co-sponsored by Australia; Canada; Hong Kong, China; Chinese Taipei.
SPSG
1. "Workshop on Cyber Security Awareness Raising Project" (Australia, USA)
DSG
1. "Showroom on Advanced Technologies for bridging the digital divide" (Peru)
2. "PC Grid@APEC " (Korea)

I. Discussion of TELMIN7, TEL 38, TEL 39, TEL 41

TEL 38
The Chair invited Peru to present as the next host of TEL 38. Peru gave a nice overall presentation. The meeting will take place during 12-17 October 2008. Peru agreed to host all the workshops prior to the meeting as Plenary had approved which detailed by the following agenda.

	Morning	Afternoon

Oct. 12 **(Sun)**	**MRA Task Force (LSG)**	*Training New MRA Drafting (informal session)*
Oct. 13 **(Mon)**	**Telecommunications for Disaster Management: Best Practices Workshop (SPSG)**	**Telecommunications for Disaster Management: Best Practices Workshop (SPSG)**
	Industry Roundtable	**MRA Task Force (LSG)**
Oct. 14 **(Tue)**	**Stakeholder Engagement and Consultations (LSG)**	**Stakeholder Engagement and Consultations (LSG)**
	Cyber Security Awareness Raising Project (SPSG)	**Cyber Security Awareness Raising Project (SPSG)**
Oct. 15 **(Wed)**	**Plenary I**	**DSG**
		LSG
Oct. 16 **(Thu)**	**DSG**	**LSG**
	SPSG	**SPSG**
Oct 17 **(Fri)**	**Plenary II**	

TELMIN 7

The Chair informed the group that Thailand will host TELMIN 7 in April 2008. The Chair thanked HOD and each SG for their work together with Thailand to prepare for the draft declaration that could be proposed and endorsed by ministers for the TELMIN 7. The Chair invited Thailand, as the next host, to give a presentation of the preparation of TELMIN 7.

Thailand informed the meeting that some progress towards drafting and some related topics have made and also some proposed topics for their Minister but a final version has not yet been taken. All ideas and suggestions will send intersessionally via e-mail and there will also have TELSOM I after TEL meeting for discussion.

 Finally, the Chair encouraged all economies to cooperate with Thailand to prepare for TELMIN 7 in every means especially by electronic means.

TEL38

The Chair introduced Peru as the host of TEL38. Mr. Carlos Valdez, the HOD of Peru, expressed that he had happily planned to the host TEL38 from October 12 – 17, 2008 and show the presentation of Peru to attract and welcome member economies.

Singapore and Malaysia offered to host TEL39 and TEL41 respectively. Chair persuaded economies to host TEL40.

J. Selection of New Convenors and Deputy Convenors

The Chair informed that the term of Convenorship and Deputu Convenorship would be last for three Steering Groups (LSG, DSG, and SPSG). Each member economy nominated the new convenors and deputy convenors. Therefore, the Chair announced the new three convenors which were former deputy convenors including the new comer deputy convenors.

New Convenorship and Deputy Convenorship (*TEL38-TEL41)

Steering Group	Convenor	Deputy Convenor	Deputy Convenor
LSG	*Ms.Susan Johnston (Canada)	Mr. Nakano Masayasu (Japan)	*Geraldine Lim (Singapore)
SPSG	*Mr. Jin Hyun Cho (Korea)	Ms. Jordana Siegel (USA)	*Mr. Steven Stroud (Australia)
DSG	*Dr. Dan Chang (Chinese Taipei)	Dr. Carlos Veldez (Peru)	*Mrs. Sudaporn Vimolseth (Thailand)
MRATF	Mr. George Tannahill (USA)	Mr. Lawrence Kwan (HK)	*(TEL37-TEL40)

After the announcement, the Chair took his opportunity to say thank you the outgoing Convenors Mr. Colin Oliver from LSG, Dr. Ma Yan from DSG, and Mr. Shamsul Jafni Shafie from SPSG who dedicated and produced a large number of works throughout their convenorship term. On behalf of all economy members, the Chair congratulated the three convenors for all of their success and great contribution to TELWG and the members in meeting gave them a big hand.

K. Other Businesses
The Chair encouraged member economies to host TEL40 and so on.

L. Closing

At the closing of the TEL37, Dr. Arnon Tubtiang expressed his appreciation to all the TEL colleagues and TEL member economies for their full support in this meeting and especially to the Executive Committee members of the steering groups and task forces for their leadership and well support. In addition he extended his heartfelt thanks to Japan, Mr. Nakano, all executives and staff concerned for the warm hospitality and successful meeting with assistance from local professional team and wish all participants have a safe and pleasant trip back home.

(Annex A)
37th APEC TEL WORKING GROUP MEETING

ICT DEVELOPMENT STEERING GROUP

MEETING REPORT

(Draft)

Mar 23-28, 2008

37ᵗʰ APEC TEL WORKING GROUP MEETING, Tokyo, JAPAN

<u>**Attendance and Goals**</u>

Over 40 TEL delegates participated during the two half day sessions of the DSG meeting. The DSG focused on progress towards the Brunei Goal; a number of information exchange presentations; current project reports; and new project and workshop proposals for future work. The meeting was convened by Mr. MA Yan (China), with support by Deputy Convenors Dr. Dan CHANG (Chinese Taipei) and Dr. Carlos Valdez (Peru).

1. OPENING

1.1 Participants self-introduction

Each participant made a brief self-introduction.

1.2 Review and Adoption of Agenda

The draft agenda had been reviewed and adopted by all participants. There were no amendments to the agenda.

1.3 Notation of TEL36 Convenor Report

The Convenor requested comments and opinions from member economies on the TEL36 DSG report.

There was a minor change regarding the timing for the Internet access report. It should be done annually, rather than semi-annually.

1.4 About TEL Workplan 2008

Taking into account the APEC workplan 2008, DSG will focus on following work:

- Continue the implementation of the APEC TEL Program of Action adopted at TELMIN6 in Lima and advanced its work in preparation for TELMIN7
- Strengthen the collaboration with the other two SGs
- Strengthen the collaboration with other APEC Fora (CTI, ECSG, EC, CTTF) and international organizations (OECD, ITU)

- Implement the on-going projects and identify new direction for the future

2. DISCUSSION SESSION

2.1 Progress towards the Brunei Goal

2.1.1 Internet Access Statistics Volunteer Report

The Deputy Convenor from Chinese Taipei showed the updated Internet user growth statistics of APEC TEL member economies. The Brunei Goal of tripling Internet access using the data of the Year 2000 as a base had finally reached in January 2008.

The Convenor expressed his thanks to the continuous efforts of Chinese Taipei in collecting and processing the information. US and Malaysia delegates suggested to have more analysis on the Internet access statistics. Considering the relevance of this goal, the Convenor will report it to the plenary.

The US delegate also suggested that TEL reports this accomplishment to TELMIN7.

2.1.2 Next Steps

The Malaysia delegate suggested having more data collection and related analysis besides Internet Access, in order to have a clear picture of the developments. Considering the high growth rate of Internet Access in Vietnam, Malaysia suggested that the experience of Vietnam could be studied and shared among member economies.

The US delegate expressed agreement with Malaysia.

The delegate from Japan suggested tracing the successful cases and also to analyze cases where development is not so fast. In the opinion of the Convenor, the growth rate varies with the local condition. It should be noticed that some economies had already high Internet penetration, so the growth rates couldn't be high.

3. INFORMATION EXCHANGE:

3.1. Closing the digital divide, Creating digital dividend[DSG-09,08], ABAC Malaysia

Mr. Radzi Mansor from ABAC Malaysia presented their understanding of digital divide and digital dividend, and suggested some recommendations in order to solve these problems. He also introduced the Malaysia's case study and made some recommendations to APEC TEL for next steps towards TELMIN7 and TEL38.

The delegate from Japan suggested to have more close cooperation with international organizations working in similar matters.

On the other hand, the Convenor expressed his opinion on how to use ICT properly, and at the same time take into account energy saving and environment conservation.

3.2. e-Governance workshop[DSG-019], Chinese Taipei

The delegate from Chinese Taipei summarized the successful workshop done in Lima, Peru last Feb. 27.

The workshop was held in the margins of APEC EC I, including 3 sessions and 1 general discussion. The workshop invited 9 experts from 5 economies as speakers. APEC Secretariat assisted to host a press conference by Mr. Shih from Chinese Taipei.

The presenter suggested to have more detail discussion and to cooperate and share resources with other working groups.

The delegate from Japan suggested to have more cooperation with other organizations, i.e. EC and other fora.

3.3. Seminar on Using ICT for Rural Community Capacity Building[DSG-05,16], Philippines

The Philippines delegate presented a summary of the seminar. This seminar was proposed by Philippines and co-sponsored by Japan, Indonesia, Canada and China. In this seminar, there were three presentations from expert speakers, ten economy presentations and attendances from 13 member economies. Through the seminar, some key findings on Leadership and Governance, Public-Private Partnerships, Sustainability and Scalability were identified. It was also recognized that capacity building brings out development and promotes innovative policies and community-based programs including

public-private partnerships to further build capacities and to meet the socio-economic needs of unserved and or underserved communities, using ICT in a sustainable and scalable manner.

Canada, Australia and Japan all spoke highly of the workshop. The New Zealand delegate suggested to have more seminars and expressed their interest to continue participating in the work.

3.4. Showroom on Advanced Technologies for bridging the digital divide[DSG-06], Peru

Peru introduced a project proposal of setup a "Showroom on Advanced Technologies for bridging the digital divide". Member economies supported the proposal and agreed to take it as an information sharing item in the DSG agenda.

4. DSG CURRENT PROJECTS REPORT

4.1 Project Reports

4.1.1 APEC Seminar on Using ICT for Rural Community Capacity Building[DSG-05,16], Philippines

The Philippines delegate reported the project progress information together with Agenda Item 3.3. DSG meeting attendances have no further comment.

4.1.2 APEC e-Government Research Center[DSG-10], Japan

Japan delegates introduced the project and progress since TEL36. The APEC e-Government Research Center of Waseda University was established to provide assistance in looking for solutions to the various challenges of e-Government. It also offers recommendations for the improvement of e-Government implementation. As part of the Center's commitment to address e-Government issues, the Center not only focus on the challenges concerning the national government agencies but also the local government units.

Thailand and Philippines said they would participate in the project and wish to have more cooperation with APEC e-Government Research Center.

4.1.3 Deployment of GCIO Training Model and Networking for e-Government Development[DSG-15], Thailand

Thailand introduced the project. The project has been implemented successfully as planned. Four major CIO workshops in USA, Philippines, Indonesia and China had been organized under APEC partial funding and another 3 self funding CIO workshops had been held in Japan, Thailand and Vietnam. CIO collaborative website for sharing and exchanging practices and knowledge and building up CIO networking among APEC member economies had already been setup.

The presenter also introduced the deployment of APEC GCIO training model concept.

Japan suggested to have further cooperation on training models.

4.1.4 APII IPv6 R&D Test Bed Project[DSG-13], Japan

Dr. Kitamura from NICT made a presentation about the project and APII testbed activities.

The APII Technology Center, which operates the APII testbed, had carried out research and development and has provided Info-Communication Technology (ICT) training programs to attendees from Asia-Pacific region.

Research and development projects as well as technology transfer projects are in progress at the APII Technology Center and through the APEC APII IPv6 R&D Testbed Project in collaboration with the economies in the Asia-Pacific region.

The presenter also introduced their future plans. On April 1st the JGN2 project will be upgraded to JGN2plus. In this respect, the Japanese mentioned that the point of APII JP-KR circuit will change its location within Fukuoka city in Kyushu on March 28th, and the management of APII JP-KR circuit will be merged with JGN2plus on April 1st. JGN2plus stands for a testbed network to support R&D of NWGN promoted by NICT. The mission of JGN2plus is to provide a platform for new R&D activities in the field of network technology and further advancement of international collaboration.

4.1.5 APEC TEL Website Maintenance Project[DSG-18], Korea

Ms. Samantha from KISDI briefly introduced the situation of the website maintenance. According to TEL37 HOD meeting's decision, and pointed out also by the APEC secretariat, the documents of earlier TEL meetings will be transferred to the main APEC Information Management Portal - AIMP, but it will take long time. The current TEL website will stop transferring documents from each meeting host website by 2009.

The Convenor and Canada thanked for their efforts of maintaining the website.

4.1.6 APII Testbed Project[DSG-010], Korea

Korean delegate briefly introduced the progress since last report in TEL 36.

KR-JP APII Testbed (10Gbps, NIA-NICT) has been well maintained and used for various research activities including telemedicine, e-learning, network measurement, etc. In total 5 research projects and 5 working groups have been supported continuously in 2007. New research projects utilizing APII will be launched in 2008 soon. An APII Workshop was also held in Tokyo, Japan on March 26, 2008.

Since the KR-JP APII Testbed has been upgraded from 2Gbps to 10Gbps on December 2006, it has been well maintained and network traffics have been gradually increased. The KR-JP APII Testbed will also be used for an indirect link to the US (TransPAC2) via JP for KOREN users in Korea as well as the backup link of TEIN2.

To extend and benefit neighboring APEC economies, who are not inter-connected to above networks, the Korean delegate recommended to establish local research network in the economy who is interested to participate. He also recommended that APECTEL support the participation in joint R&D projects to enhance their research capability through future collaboration.

4.1.7 APII Cooperation Center[DSG-012], Korea

APII Cooperation Center aims to enhance cooperation among APEC

member economies in ICT sector by carrying out various projects mainly done within APEC TEL Steering Groups, including two current projects of APII Testbed (DSG) and APEC TEL Website Maintenance (DSG). APIICC performs as a platform of international IT cooperation.

With exception of the two APEC TEL projects above, the Center is specialized in the policies and activities in various international organizations and institutions and also participating in national policy development with regard to international cooperation on IT.

4.1.8 Foundation of Asian Speech Translation Research Basis[DSG-11,12], Japan

The delegate from Japan introduced the project and progress since last report. A face-to-face meeting was held on January 11th, 2008. Format of linguistic tag information of parallel corpora, interface / API formats between speech recognition, speech synthesis, and language translation modules were discussed on that meeting. They also discussed future plans for joint speech translation experiments using distributed component servers in the Internet.

Additionally, they constructed the basic corpora, made out a draft on communication protocols of modules and conducted standard study activities with other standardization bodies.

The Deputy Convenor, Dr.Chang asked if speak translation has a limitation on speaking speed. Japan delegate response that speak and text translation are rather complicated and still in its developing stage.

The Deputy Convenor, Dr. Carlos Valdez, asked about the possibility of using the developed technology for application to native language translation. The presenter added that it is possible because the core technology is available, but need to collect data and necessary funding.

The delegate from USA suggested to report this project to APT and other organizations. They should have more collaboration.

4.1.9 Progress Report on Information Grid for Knowledge System[DSG-14], Chinese Taipei

Chinese Taipei delegate introduced the progress of this project. The Information Grid would make use of data collected by sensors or monitoring systems in the participating APEC economies. The development also provides a conduit between ICT specialists, scientists, and policy makers to share as well as to exchange expertise and experience.

Since Santiago's meeting, the APEC TEL economies that have confirmed their participation in the information grid project are Canada, Chinese Taipei, Philippines and Singapore. In order to gradually evolve into a larger network, they form a special interest group (SIG) which consists of economies that interacted in the past grid efforts led by Chinese Taipei, Korea and Singapore.

Chinese Taipei planned to participate in the Grid Showcase to be held at APEC TEL 38 or other meeting opportunities amongst economies and to demonstrate the preliminary results. Finally, special training courses will be provided for APEC economics at the end of 2008 via the PRAGMA Institute to disseminate the knowledge generated from this collaboration.

4.1.10 Access Grid for Distance Learning[DSG-07], Singapore

The project on Access Grid for Distance Learning was approved at APEC TEL36. The objective is to have a collective effort to demonstrate on how Access Grids (AG) can be adopted to 'broadcast' and 'attend' lectures, talks and seminars in one or two agreed topics that are of interest to the participants. A variation of this theme is to 'broadcast' cultural-related performances, rites and ceremonies, to augment the other project proposal on data grids for preserving digital assets.

The APEC economies that have confirmed their participation in this project are Singapore, Australia, China, Chinese Taipei, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. One on site meeting had been organized for the future activities.

Plans for talks at subsequent months are underway, with focus on social sciences. Malaysia delegate has expressed interest in showcasing some of their cultural activities, and this may be done in conjunction

with some cultural activities by the National Library Board (Singapore).

4.2 Review/Update of DSG Projects Matrix

The Convenor went through the project matrix. Some of the finished projects have been removed, and other ongoing projects information updated.

The Deputy Convenor, Dr. Chang asked to add the access Grid project from Singapore and Information Grid for Knowledge System from Chinese Taipei to be added into the matrix.

Convenor request the attention that the APEC project assessment guideline be followed, future project progress reports shall provide more detailed implementation information.

Following the access guideline, the future documents will be transferred to AIMP. At that time, it will be more effective and can more easily followed on within APEC.

5. DSG NEW WORKSHOP/NEW PROJECT PROPOSALS

5.1 Showroom on Advanced Technologies for bridging the digital divide, [DSG-06], Peru

Peru proposed to host a Showroom on Advanced Technologies for bridging the digital divide during APECTEL 38 (Oct 2008) to build knowledge of economies about the use of ICT, for bridging the digital divide by means of demonstrating advanced technologies and sharing experiences, best practices and lessons learned.

Peru required the support of member economies' to guarantee a successful showroom, especially to get the private sector involved. Canada suggested non profit organizations and user communities' participation and the USA mentioned that USAID has been conducting some related projects that could be of interest.

DSG supports Peru's proposal and encourage member economies to contribute to the showroom project. This project is self-funded.

5.2 PC Grid @ APEC[DSG-04], Korea

Korea presented on the project proposal, which is being

co-sponsored by Canada, Chinese Taipei, Singapore and Thailand. The purpose of this project is to share and exchange the information for building a cyber-infrastructure based on the idle desktop PCs from offices, schools, and homes.

The scopes of this project are as follows:

- Information exchange for building PC Grid in APEC region

- Implementation and operation of PC Grid infrastructure in each participating economies of APEC region

- Promotion and collaboration for sharing networked idle computing resources among each participating economies of APEC region

Korea delegate also made a presentation and demo of Korea@home.

The Deputy Convenor, Dr. Dan CHANG, asked whether PC in the Grid should have the same OS. The answer was not necessary. The Deputy Convenor asked again whether data will be lost if an idle PC suddenly become busy. The answer was no because the same computation will be performed by many PCs.

The Deputy Convenor, Dr. Carlos Valdez, asked about the possibility of extending applications beyond the economies borders. The presenter explained that in principle the idea is to develop some applications inside each economy, through government agencies to link with each other.

Convenor suggested that three Grid proposal from Chinese Taipei, Singapore and Korea form an umbrella Grid project team, and share their experiences and related resources.

This project is self-funded, and approved by DSG.

5.3 Other businesses

The Philippines delegate request the permission of DSG to conduct further work on the project "APEC Seminar on Using ICT for Rural Community Capacity Building" and make a presentation in the APEC HRDWG meeting next week in Manila. Delegates from the floor encourage the project undertaker to continue the work as this is an ongoing project till July 2008 and also encourage the collaboration efforts to working with other APEC Fora.

Project undertaker of "Foundation of Asian Speech Translation

Research Basis" requested the approval from DSG for 1.5 year extension. DSG approved the request.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 DSG Initial Report to TEL 37 Plenary

There is no new workshop and seminar proposals put forward for TEL38.

Peru submitted a project proposal in the name of "Showroom on Advanced Technologies for bridging the digital divide". Korea proposed a project, PC Grid@APEC. Both are self-funded, and got approval by DSG.

Project "Foundation of Asian Speech Translation Research Basis" requested to have a 1.5 year extension, which was approved.

6.2 Discuss the DSG elements of the Ministerial declaration

After discussion among delegates, DSG come up to the following wording for being considered to be the elements of the Ministerial declaration:

- Applaud the APEC region and individual member economies for tremendous progress towards achieving the Brunei goal of universal Internet access by 2010, recognizing that the interim goal of tripling access in the region has been achieved.
- APEC TEL has implemented a range of practical projects to advance the development towards the Asia Pacific Information Society (APIS), which meet the diversity demand and different priorities of member economies.
- Develop and promote innovative policies and community-based programs including public-private partnerships to build capacities and to meet the socio-economic development needs of unserved and or underserved communities using ICT in a sustainable and scalable manner.

6.3 Collaboration with other SGs and APEC Fora

DSG recognised that a convergence of interests with the LSG on issues around the USO provide the opportunity for collaboration and the

exchange of information and expertise. Australia outlined current work underway in the LSG, including a session at the Regulatory Roundtable early in the week and a survey designed to compile an inventory of universal service strategies in the region. Areas where DSG will have an interest include a focus on consultation processes, user interests and monitoring and evaluation of policies and programs. Australia offered to report in the DSG on relevant LSG activity. She advised the group that the LSG was proposing a Workshop for TEL 38 on consultation (will find out exact title) and had agreed to invite DSG members to attend and to consult the Group on possible speakers. The DSG Convenor commented that collaboration between APEC Steering Groups was encouraged by Ministers.

6.4 Introduction of new convenors

Canada thanks convenor for his great efforts in convening the work group for last two years.

Convenor introduced the incoming convenor from Chinese Taipei, Dr. Dan Chang, Deputy Convenor from Peru, Dr.Carlos Valdez, and the new Deputy Convenor from Thailand, Ms. Sudaporn Vimolseth.

Convenor thanks all the economies for their valuable cooperation and support in the last two years. Delegates applauded the contribution made by out-going Convenor, Prof. MA.

Annex B

Liberalization Steering Group (LSG) Report

APEC TEL 37
Tokyo, March 2008

1. Welcome and introduction
    Colin Oliver, LSG Convenor, introduced himself and asked those around the table to do the same.

    a. **Review and adoption of the agenda**

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The agenda (TELWG37/LSG9) was reviewed and adopted.

b.   Discussion of any work required before session two
The group considered the order of work to be done during the LSG.

2.   **Presentation on Recent Regulatory & Policy Developments in Japan**
Mr. Yasuhiko Taniwaki, Director of Telecommunications, Policy Division, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan made a presentation on Broadband Competition in Japan (TELWG37/LSG10).

- Mr. Taniwaki's presentation focused on network neutrality issues in Japan, including the current market, the new competition policy program, and the revitalization of Japan's mobile business.
- FTTH's rapid increase in popularity can be attributed to the minimal price differences between DSL and FTTH, despite the significant difference in speed.
- Japan has a strategy to ensure 100% broadband penetration by 2010, with the tandem objective of 90% of FTTH penetration by that same year. A more detailed Digital Divide elimination strategy will be introduced this year to ensure these objectives are reached.
- Japan's New Competition Promotion Program 2010 is designed to explore multiple aspects of the Japanese competition framework, recognizing the many new technologies and markets. This includes specific actions such as:
  - Promotion of facilities-based competition
  - Review of interconnection policy
  - Review of universal service systems
  - Review of tariff policy (including price cap, and mobile business vitalization plan)
  - Other main policies (e.g., network neutrality, dispute settlement mechanisms)
- A Network Neutrality Study Group established 2006 reported back in September 2007. Japan separated out two policy parameters, focusing on (a) equitable cost distribution of networks, and (b) equal access to networks.
  - There are concerns re: P2P serving as a source of upstream and downstream network congestion (e.g., Japanese file exchange program ['Winnie']); Taniwaki-san argued that P2P is a much greater source of congestion than streaming
  - 10% of users occupy 60-90% of bandwidth, and the top 10% of P2P users occupy more than 60% of the traffic
- Overview of Internet Economy: Dispersion of Intelligence in Networks and dramatic traffic increases: (a) broad use of P2P file exchange and growth in consumer generated content ('CGC') means more content flowing in from network edges, plus (c) new factors such as machine-to-machine and grid commuting
- Actions to cope with Network Congestion: it is currently unclear whether technological innovation can absorb incremental costs due to increasing traffic; ensuring dynamic interaction between networks and terminals
- Japan Established the P2P Experiment Council to do experiments with P2P, and just released "Guidelines for Packet Shaping". Mr Taniwaki noted that

there is "good traffic shaping" and "bad traffic shaping", and there is a need to develop a consensus on this.

➢ He noted that, while many people focus on the idea of network neutrality, it is important to understand what is meant by "network". One can differentiate between the Open Internet and NGNs. Note the basic concept of "Freedom to Choose Networks". For example, NTT will introduce a suite of NGN services next week. How to ensure that other users, and competitors, can coexist? Japan's Telecommunications Council is discussing new interconnection rules relating to NGNs, and the final report is about to be made public. There is a need to ensure interconnection rules apply to NGNs as well.

➢ Japan established a second Study Group on Internet Policy (February –December 2008), directed to address many issues relating to Network Neutrality.

➢ The Convenor noted that this was an excellent example of a converged presentation, in the way it approached issues of compatibility and interoperability across platforms.

➢ Contact information: Y-taniwa@soumu.go.jp

Discussion:
➢ INTUG asked about the objectives underlying Japan's comprehensive review program, given Japan's advanced network. While in the past, Japan has followed the examples of other economies, at this point there are not many templates for them to use, hence they are choosing to share their experiences with others.

➢ Australia noted the role spectrum issues, and the issue of congestion affecting competition and market structures.

The Convenor thanked Mr Taniwaki for his presentation.

3. Discussion Session

a. **Industry Roundtable**
Discussion of issues arising from the Industry Roundtable held on Monday focused on "***How can industry developments in using mobile/wireless networks assist to meet leaders' goals for increased internet access in APEC economies?***" A summary document is uploaded for the LSG (TELWG37/LSG17), with a more detailed presentation to be presented to Plenary on Friday. Japan's Head of Delegation, Massa Nakano, co-chaired the Industry Roundtable, and expressed his thanks to Rosemary Sinclair of INTUG for her excellent organization. Mr Nakano noted the challenges regulators face in balancing between the requests made by industry, seeking both flexibility and consistency with spectrum harmonization being one example.

For LSG those of most relevance were:
➢ Spectrum harmonization and planning, given the implications for affordability;
➢ Mobile roaming: technical and commercial considerations;
➢ Regulatory flexibility for spectrum licences to support innovation;

- ➢ Seamless connectivity requirements for enterprises, including between platforms, across devices, and across networks; handover of packets between access networks, in an effective and billable manner
- ➢ Competition and its importance in driving innovation and cost reduction;
- ➢ Importance of Consumer-Generated Content as a driver for increases in traffic
- ➢ Transparency and seamlessness in network connectivity
- ➢ Tariff structures – eg. Flat-rate – and its importance in driving take-up
- ➢ Pro-consumer and pro-innovation environment, enabling end-user innovation
- ➢ Ensuring functional and unrestricted access to the Internet
- ➢ New technologies, and their impact on market definition, and interconnection policies
- ➢ Consumer engagement in the new, complex, environment, along with flexible strategies to address this environment.

The LSG Convenor suggested that the TEL may wish to consider the implications that work on multiple platform may pose.

b. **Regulatory Roundtable**

The Regulatory Roundtable, focusing on "*Regulatory Responses to a Changing Environment*", took place on Tuesday, March 25, 2008 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at APEC TEL 37 in Tokyo, Japan. The APEC TEL Regulatory Roundtable originated as a forum for regulators to discuss the implications current issues and has continued on an annual basis. It serves to engage policymakers and regulators in a dialogue by bringing senior regulators together. Ministers expressed their support for this dialogue to continue in the TELMIN 6 Program of Action.

Commissioner Sudharma Yoonaidharma of Thailand's National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) chaired the session. Anita Dey of the United States was the rapporteur.

Highlights in the report (TELWG37/LSG13) were as follows:
1. Convergence
- ➢ Multiple economies have new legal/regulatory frameworks to respond to convergence.
- ➢ How do you deal with new services/technologies under old licensing frameworks?
- ➢ Several economies are reorganizing/merging regulators and ministries.
- ➢ Different definitions of convergence are emerging. There is convergence of services, platforms, markets, equipment and sectors using ICT (health, banking, etc.)
- ➢ Are we able to engage with content in a useful way in APEC TEL, without straying beyond our mandate?

2. Universal Service/Access
- ➢ There is no "one size fits all" plan for universal service.
- ➢ The goals of universal service vary – increasing wire-line penetration, growing wireless services, spreading broadband, etc.
- ➢ It is important to evaluate the universal service needs of communities.

3. Competition
- Economies are making vigorous push for competition through liberalization as well as structural separation of the incumbent operator.
- Unequal access can remain even when there is competition.
- Are we moving towards "re-monpolization" with the development of national high-speed networks? If open-access networks are emerging, how can we avoid the competitive challenges in the new generation high-speed networks that were arising in the old network, to achieve efficiencies without overbuild.

4. Influence of New Technologies and Networks
- Are old regulations still useful? If they are, can they be applied as they are, or do they need to be modified?
- What is the influence of NGNs on existing regulatory frameworks?
- Current approaches to interconnection, numbering and addressing, universal service, network security, lawful interception, emergency services, standardization and interoperability may need to be re-evaluated.

Discussion:
- Speed exchanges: NZ expressed appreciation for the format, suggesting that 15 minutes per topic was a little short, as people were just at the point of deep engagement. Moderators would also like a little more time to reflect on the discussions prior to presenting on the results.

4. Update on policy reviews in member economies

- Australia: a Universal Service review continues;
- New Zealand identified three policy reviews currently underway there, each through a different organization:
    - Universal Service Obligations, at the Ministry of Economic Development
    - Convergence Issues, at the Ministry Responsible for Broadcasting (a discussion paper is out, to close next week, focusing largely on content issues). Many of the interventions will focus on the need to cover telecommunications and cross-cutting issues.
    - General Inquiry on Competition Issues vis-à-vis next generation networks, undertaken by the Commerce Commission

5. Presentation on *The Economic Benefits of Providing Business with Competitive Electronic Communications Services*

Rosemary Sinclair of INTUG and Karen Northey of BT Global gave a presentation (TELWG37/LSG16) and discussed a report outlining the economic benefits of providing enterprise customers across various sectors in the economy with access to competitive communications services. The report presents a strong case for a link between economic and productivity growth and the facilitation of reliable, cost-effective, electronic communications services.

The study is significant in that it focuses on the overall economy, not just on the telecoms sector. A sectoral focus would emphasize consumers, and related infrastructure and access issues. With a broader economic focus, emphasizing communications as an enabler, there would be further focus on services. Key findings include:

➢ Business customers require service to be delivered to multiple sites, often across international boundaries by a single communications service provider
➢ Global/Regional ICT services are key enablers to business productivity
➢ Typically access elements cost approximately 40% of cost base for competitive providers
➢ Excessive access prices make solutions uneconomic
➢ Lack of fit-for-purpose access products prevents solutions which meet business customer needs
➢ Poor access products prevent businesses from rationalising their processes at enterprise scale.

These developments have several policy implications:

1. For competition to exist at all, competitive access must be available at all sites (customers look to service providers to integrate their diverse end-to-end communications functions, including fixed, mobile, e-mail, voicemail, LAN access, etc.)
2. Access conditions should be harmonised as much as possible, in order to meet the needs of regional or global customers with sites in several economies;
3. Remedies suitable for mass markets are unlikely to be applicable to businesses
4. Policy and emphasis on roll-out of consumer broadband versus access to business services
5. Capital expenditure and assets rather than services
6. Current regulatory practice is far from consistent – across various geographic boundaries – from a business end-user perspective

A copy of the report is available online at:
www.btplc.com/Thegroup/Publicaffairs/EuropeanAffairs/Studies/index.htm

6.   Presentation of OECD work on protecting and Empowering Telecommunications Consumers

Dr Patrick Xavier, Faculty of Business, Swinburne University of Technology, Australia delivered a presentation (TELWG37/LSG15) on a recent a joint project of the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy (ICCP)'s Working Party on Communications Infrastructure and Services Policy (CISP) and the Committee on Consumer Policy (CCP) – *Enhancing Competition in Telecommunications: Protecting and Empowering Consumers*. The report examines available evidence of actual consumer behaviour in the telecommunications market and analyses the implications of such behaviour for policy and regulation in the consumer interest. It identified specific measures for consumer protection and empowerment in telecommunication markets.
The report had a particular focus on *ex ante* regulation of the telecommunications sector, but also considered other measures for enhancing consumer empowerment and consumer protection that do not necessarily involve regulation. The report also discussed influences on consumers' decisions about switching service

suppliers and examined the evidence that is available about actual consumer decision-making behaviour in telecommunications markets. It concluded with an examination of the implications of the analysis for consumer policy and regulation. Underlying principles included:

➤ when is the market unlikely to adequately address issues within appropriate timeframes?
➤ where do benefits of intervention significantly exceed costs?
➤ intervention should be minimum necessary
➤ Policy and regulation can address issues of imperfect information
➤ is there a place for regulation to remedy behavioural bias?

Discussion:
➤ INTUG asked whether regulators in the room were empowered to (a) gather and (b) publish comparative information. The Convenor suggested that economies discuss this during the time slot on consumer issues tomorrow.
➤ Australia asked that, knowing how the TEL works, is there anything the TEL could usefully do in this area?
➤ Patrick Xavier felt that the OECD may be interested in collaboration. He wondered whether further comparison between developed and developing economies might be suitable.
➤ INTUG suggested that this may align with the access equivalence discussion. Where there is good access regulation, it can be stymied if barriers to switching exist (e.g., broadband switching in Australia).
➤ There was also some discussion on whether it was possible to develop guidelines for empowered consumers.
➤ Australia (Chris Cheah) elaborated on a possible types of interventions (self-regulatory arrangements, market, etc.) that may be suitable for different issues.

7.   Roundtable Discussion - Major Challenges & Priorities in APEC Economies

Mr Po-Chou Liang made a presentation on current issues facing Chinese Taipei's National Communications Commission (NCC). These can be centred in the NCC's mandate, focused on convergence, competition, and consumer protection. Issues include: removal of barriers to trade and streamlining of conformity assessments; mobile base station protests ("NIMBY syndrome"), etc.

8.   Stocktaking discussion of key issues for TELMIN:

The Convenor had circulated a document on possible LSG outcomes for the upcoming TELMIN (TELWG37/LSG5) together with an updated matrix of activity (TELWG37/LSG6) for consideration by members. He informed the group about discussions to date at TEL37 on the TEL Ministerial Declaration, including at the Heads of Delegation meeting.

9.   Discussion Session
    a.   **Frameworks for Creating Policy and Regulations**
        For the USA, Anita Dey provided an overview of the project (TELWG37/LSG3), and suggested that economies presently in the midst of restructuring (e.g., China, Korea), consider presenting updates of the

changes that have taken place at TEL 38 in Peru. In addition [two] economies provided brief updates:

Australia:
Chris Cheah, Australian Communication and Media Authority (ACMA) shared with the group a case study on ACMA's public consultation process (TELWG37/LSG17).

Canada:
Mr Ron Hale, Canadian Radio, Television and Communications Commission (CRTC), Canada, made a presentation on current issues relating to the development, conduct and use of industry/market analysis by policy and regulatory bodies, the challenges of working on best practices and benchmarks and necessary evolutions to address emerging issues. He also described the CRTC fee regime.

Discussion:
Consultations, from an end-user perspective:
➢ Rosemary Sinclair of INTUG shared a series of comments on consultation processes from an end-users' perspective, and what might make them more effectives. First is a clear, shared understanding of the overall policy objective. This is doubly important in a situation involving industry self-regulation. Consultation documents should be made available for easy access to consumers, and written in plain language. Third, publishing related background research, along with other people's submissions, can be very helpful in developing an informed position.

Consultations, from the perspective of other economies:
➢ Mr Nakano of Japan asked Australia (Chris Cheah) about how ACMA manages timeframes for consultations, along with the experiences of others.. Japan has a standard four week response period, which may be criticized as being too short, but the consequence of longer periods is a delayed decision. Chris Cheah noted that, in Australia, some time frames are articulated in legislation. Other cases are more flexible, with similar pros and cons. Four weeks may be a useful starting point for a benchmark.
➢ Mr Liu Ziping of China noted the various ways of communicating about different regimes to the public. In China, the MII conducts public hearings, designed to seek comments from various representatives, in order to increase transparency. Liu asked Australia about what happens, following an open consultation, if the majority of stakeholder feedback is very negative. Chris Cheah noted that it would be taken into account, with consideration given to the underlying reasons for the opposition. At times, unpopular decisions sometimes still have to be taken. Opposition on its own is not reason enough to change things, but it is important to understand what is behind it. If there is significant feedback indicating that something will not work, the regulator may be required to act upon it.

- ➤ Chinese Taipei: Po Chou Liang noted that the consultation process is often viewed as a formality, and he would be interested in hearing others' perspectives on how to make them effective.
- ➤ Philippines: a consultation process is described in law. Rosemary Sinclair congratulated the NTC representatives, having attended a public consultation session in Manila last year.
- ➤ Ron Hale responded to Chinese Taipei's consultation, noting that the CRTC is required to consult on everything. He mentioned that the CRTC has a funding mechanism to support smaller organizations in their efforts to participate (e.g., to develop submissions). Consequently, the CRTC also has a history of listening to consultations.
- ➤ INTUG: Rosemary Sinclair sought to respond to Mr. Liu's question. She noted that, at INTUG, there are several considerations to dealing with people's concerns. First, draft decisions should be circulated, along with information on the reasons, such that opponents may be understand that e.g., they were outweighed. Second, a review period may also be useful.
- ➤ Karen Northey spoke on behalf of industry, and some of the considerations they face in participating on consultations given the limited resources they have in dealing with multiple issues and sometimes short and inconvenient time periods.

- ➤ Colin Oliver, the Convenor, reflected that the range of activities in which regulators are required to involve themselves, and range of people with whom they are interacting has been increasing over time. He asks whether it may be time to consider an exercise to map the various activities and processes in which regulatory bodes are involved. Colin was thinking of a meta-level guide to consider the types of work required of regulators (e.g., consultation and analysis, and engagement with consumers), particularly in a time of change as the market develops and new issues arise.

b. **Interconnection Issues**
Singapore provided an update on progress with a matrix of interconnection costing issues. Yang Chang Goh discussed the challenges that economies had found in terms of data collection for the original template. Yang Chuang suggests polling economies, perhaps to redraft along the lines of (a) origin, transit and termination charges, and (b) regulatory and other interventions designed to prevent discrimination. The group discussed the project and, based on feedback at this point, the group will not continue this particular aspect of interconnection work but will continue to consider interconnection issues within the LSG's work program.

c. **Consumer Issues**
Ms Dey presented an overview paper (TELWG37/LSG2) and invited economies around the table to update the group on current issues relating to consumers.

Canada:
Mr. Ron Hale of the CRTC provided an outline of work underway within Canada to support consumer initiatives, in particular the process

surrounding the establishment of the Commissioner for Complaints for Telecommunications Services (CCTS). While there is an internal complaints process at the CRTC to handle issues under their jurisdiction, this organization supports work on deregulated telecommunications services. Membership is mandatory for larger providers, although smaller organizations are welcome to join. Funding is done through members of the organization.

Japan:
Mr. Daisuke Kawasaki provided an update on Japan's recent policy updates, including the establishment of a telecommunications consumer information centre.

INTUG:
Rosemary Sinclair notes that the discussions on consultation processes, along with more general consumer issues, both relate to engagement with end-users. This includes discussions at advisory stages, a consultation stage with policymakers, the regulator, or with industry. Another level relates to complaints, the handling of them, and redress measures. In addition, there is the level of evaluation of effectiveness. beyond that is an assessment of how well the market is functioning. She noted that an analysis of how well this process is working may be useful, and could take place over the process of the next two TELs.

Singapore:
Hanafiah noted that ASEAN has a set of public consultation guidelines presented to TEL 34, which may be useful as a subset information piece to what Rosemary is discussing.

Next steps:
Anita Dey discussed the outcomes of a small-group discussion on a forward agenda. The group has suggested a workshop, focusing on policymakers' and regulators' engagement with stakeholders, including consultations. She noted that the United States, along with Australia, Canada, Japan, Singapore, and INTUG have indicated an interest in joining the oversight committee.

The Convenor noted that, while the group did not have a formal proposal in place for a workshop at TEL 38 there appeared to be a very strong interest in the issue as reflected in the vigorous discussion that had taken place engaging the interest of a number of delegations. He would seek the TEL approval in the plenary for workshop time. If others wish to participate in facilitating such a workshop, please advise the Convenor.

d. **Links to the APEC Committee on Trade & Investment**
The Convenor updated the Group about his recent correspondence with the new Chair of the CTI, Ms Mary Elizabeth Chelliah, The Treasury, Singapore to alert her to the work of the TEL and particularly the completed work on RFID.

e. **Update on the LSG's work on NGNs**
The US provided a brief update on the rolling document charting the LSG's

work in this area (TELWG37/LSG4). Susan Johnston, Deputy Convenor, noted that this might serve as a useful input to the summary of work in response to the TELMIN 6 Program of Action.

INTUG noted that the OECD report on consumer-related responses to the new communications environment would constitute a useful input to the LSG's deliberations on convergence, and would be worth exploring further. INTUG also suggests that work should be done to develop international, user-friendly, terminology relating to communications technologies such that users can understand.

10.   Project Activity Reports

   a.   WTO Domestic Regulation (Singapore)
   Singapore reported on with the completion of drafting at this meeting on a 'Good Practice' guide on key aspects of domestic regulation. A final draft of this report has been uploaded onto the TEL 37 website (TELWG37/LSG11). The Steering Group approved the guide and recommends endorsement by the Plenary, noting that <u>any final comments should be passed to Singapore not later than Monday, April 7, 2008</u>.

   b.   Regulation of Virtual Private Networks (Australia)
   Australia reported that there were no changes to the report delivered at the last meting. The document would remain open as it provides a gradually enlarging picture of regulatory requirements that apply to virtual private networks in the region. Economies are invited to continue to provide updates to Australia as developments occur that clarify the regulatory status of virtual private networks in each economy.

   The Convenor noted that Australia will revisit the document, given the APEC-wide emphasis on regional economic integration. Hong Kong China, INTUG and the United States will collaborate, with additional participation welcome. It may be useful to review the scope and reframe this study in light of next generation network developments.

   c.   Universal Service Survey
   The Universal Service Strategies Workshop at TEL 36, highlighted the importance of this issue for APEC economies, the range of approaches used and the interest in keeping the discussion and information sharing going. To take the work forward, the Liberalization Steering Group established a Task Group to build on the work done during the workshop and the interest in sharing information which would be gathered in a more structured way. The Group, led by Australia, includes the United States, Indonesia, Canada, China, Chile, Chinese Taipei, Singapore, Malaysia and Japan. Much of the preliminary work focused on developing a survey to compile an inventory of universal service strategies in the region. Issue areas included: Services provided under the universal service regime;
   ➢ Objectives or purpose of the universal service regime;
   ➢ Provider of telecommunications services;
   ➢ Universal service regime performance standards;

> ➢ Monitoring and enforcement of the regime;
> ➢ Costing the regime;
> ➢ Funding the regime; and
> ➢ Rollout of network infrastructure to new developments.

Based on the responses received from six economies, Australia has prepared an interim report (TELWG37/LSG12). Caroline Greenway noted the potential for <u>synergies with work underway in the DSG</u>, particularly relating to consultations and network development in rural and remote areas.

The convenor <u>requested those economies that have not yet responded to do so</u> in order to provide a complete report at the next meeting in Lima.

11. MRA Task Force Meeting Report (US)
George Tannahill (US), new Chair of the Task Force, provided a brief report of the Mutual Recognition Arrangement Task Force meetings held on Sunday and Monday. A report has been uploaded (TELWG37/MRATF20).

The MRA Task Force met over two half day sessions plus an additional half day for training and drafting the new MRA. Approximately 35 delegates participated representing 14 economies and several industry participants.

The primary goals of the Task Force are to advance the MRA for Conformity Assessment (CA) and develop a new MRA for Equivalence of Technical Requirements (ETR). The MRA for Conformity Assessment is intended to standardize the equipment approval process a manufacturer uses to get telecommunication products to market across multiple economies. Having a standard process reduces the time get a product to market, reduces manufacturers' costs, and gets products to consumers faster. With the MRA for conformity assessment a product must still be tested to each economy's technical requirements. The MRA for Equivalence of Technical Requirements is intended to provide a procedure to define how an entity can request that multiple economies' technical requirements can be recognized as equivalent. It can be used in conjunction with the MRA for Conformity Assessment to further reduce manufacturer's costs and decrease the time to get a product to market. The key concepts of the MRA for Equivalence of Technical Requirements are:

1. Voluntary
2. MRA defines basic procedures for recognizing equivalence.
3. Equivalence isn't necessarily identical but means the results of tests produce similar acceptable outcomes.
4. Manufacturers have the expertise in testing for multiple markets and will benefit the most and will therefore be expected to justify and request equivalence.
5. The regulator in the importing economy makes the final determination of equivalence.

The task force made good progress in drafting the MRA for Equivalence of Technical Requirements. Drafting will continue inter-sessionally. It is expected that a completed draft will be ready to be discussed by the task force at APECTEL

38. When completed and discussed the economies will be asked to circulate the draft within their economy for further comment.

The task force also did a stock-take of economies to identify progress, changes and issues. From the comments it was apparent that many economies are changing regulations to allow implementation and operational economies are expanding participation. The stock-take also showed that it would be helpful to perform an analysis of the benefits of the MRA. Along those lines the task force is developing a CAB Survey and discussing an econometric survey proposal. The CAB survey would be sent to conformity assessment bodies in each participating economy. The econometric survey is to determine: how the MRA is perceived by all parties, what is the value of the MRA, how could it be improved, and are there other issues the task force could address to further benefit participants? The econometric survey is beyond the scope of the task force and once defined will require external assistance and funding.

The task force also discussed cooperation with CITEL. The CITEL MRA is progressing slowly.

For the next task force meeting the same format is requested: two half day sessions to cover the agenda and an extra half day for drafting the new MRA. The first day is requested in the morning and the second day in the afternoon. Also, on the first afternoon an informal session is requested to draft and discuss the MRA for equivalence of technical requirements.

12. New Project Proposals
Singapore presented a project proposal (TELWG37/LSG7), co-sponsored by Australia, Canada and Malaysia for two Workshops on Capacity Building on Telecommunications Trade rules and Regulatory Disciplines to assist APEC member economies better understand trade rules and regulatory disciplines - to provide training in order to assist in the formulation of domestic regulatory measures and facilitate the adoption of WTO telecommunication disciplines. Singapore also provided a short presentation (TELWG37/LSG18) on the proposal
➢ Training would be provided directly by the WTO Secretariat.
➢ Two workshops will be held – one in 2009 and the next in 2010.
➢ Chinese Taipei expressed an interest in becoming a co-sponsor.

The LSG approved the proposal and agreed to put it forward to Plenary.

13. Review of key issues for TELMIN and the forward work program
Returning to the question of key issues for the Ministerial Meeting and the forward work program, the LSG agreed that the updated matrix of activities (attached) continues to provide a useful outline of the work program and key issues for the steering group going forward, and that the key issues identified should feature in inputs to the Ministerial meeting – both the draft declaration and the report to that meeting by the TEL chair.

14. Next Meeting and future work - Priority setting

a. Project Proposals
- ➢ The LSG has one proposal to put forward:

  "Workshop for Capacity Building on Telecommunications Trade Rules and Regulatory Disciplines" led by Singapore; co-sponsored by Australia; Canada; Hong Kong, China; Chinese Taipei, seeking $248,920 from the TILF account.

b. Review of suggested workshops, activities and topics for the next TEL meeting
- ➢ The LSG has three proposals to put forward:

- ➢ MRA Task Force requests two half days – preferably Monday morning and Tuesday afternoon, with a small room for a drafting group to be available on the afternoon of the first day.

- ➢ One proposed workshop: "Stakeholder engagement and consultations" (final title TBC): 1 day

- ➢ Industry Roundtable (recognizing it as a cross-cutting workshop): a half day session. The topic will be considered further in consultation with the host of the meeting. Current suggestions include: [internet traffic management], [rural communications], [end-user considerations]

15. Other Business

Anita Dey of the United States thanked the Convenor, Colin Oliver, for his leadership and efforts over the past few years. Mr. Oliver closed the meeting for the last time in his role as Convenor, thanking participants for their active participation and good spirit of collaboration during his tenure. He also thanked his Deputy Convenors and all participants for their support during the last years, and our Japanese hosts for their warm hospitality and excellent facilities provided for the meeting.

Matrix of Liberalization Steering Group Issues

	Completed work	Ongoing work	Areas for Information sharing	Possible project areas	Possible issues for Telmin7 and beyond
Effective policy & regulatory frameworks	▪ Guidelines on Compliance & Enforcement ▪ Stock take of progress toward a liberalised telecommunications sector ▪ Regulatory skills project	▪ MRA Task Group ▪ WTO implementation & domestic regulation ▪ Frameworks for Creating Policy and Regulations	▪ Competition policy – issues of scope and application ▪ Service and market definition in the context of convergence and NGNs ▪ Mobile issues – costs, charging, take-up, misuse, productivity effects ▪ Role of industry in self-regulation ▪ Convergent regulation & reviews	▪ Consultation on policies, licensing, standards etc. ▪ Changing market dynamics and consumer behaviour (e.g. convergent devices, competing business models). ▪ Regulatory development paths: experience in different markets ▪ Converged regulators – benefits, challenges and transition issues	▪ Policy & regulatory response to changed environment ▪ Frameworks for development of policy & regulation ▪ Promotion of investment while sustaining competition ▪ Implementation of policy (e.g., for interconnection, universal access funds)
Investment & infrastructure	▪ Leased line access and pricing		▪ Broadband reach and access ▪ Fixed network transformation Case studies (including user investment)	▪ Mobile and wireless reach and access	▪ Universal service strategies ▪ Investment barriers and incentives
Interconnection policy	▪ Interconnection principles and frameworks ▪ Interconnection training	▪ Interconnection workshops	▪ End-to-end connectivity ▪ Interconnection for mobile commerce ▪ Broadband interconnection	▪ Interconnection training and resources ▪ Pricing – retail and wholesale charging practices ▪ Mobile roaming in the APEC region	▪ Emergence of alternate & converging interconnection models (fixed, mobile, IP) ▪ NGN interconnection and wholesale and retail pricing issues
User & demand-side issues		▪ Virtual private networks ▪ Consumer issues	▪ Convergent devices & applications ▪ Quality of service ▪ VoIP policy	▪ User and consumer empowerment, information, complaints handling and feedback to the	▪ Policy and regulatory frameworks to facilitate business services

			and regulation	policy process	

APEC TEL 37 MRA Task Force Meeting

Tokyo, Japan March 23-24, 2008
Report of Meeting

1. Introduction

The MRA Task Force met over three sessions. The morning of the March 23rd and afternoon of March 24th were dedicated to the formal meeting agenda and the afternoon of March 23rd was divided between refresher training on the MRA for Conformity Assessment and detailed discussion of the draft MRA for Equivalence of Technical Requirements.

This report of the MRA Task Force meeting covers the formal sessions as well as the training and MRA drafting work.

The meeting was Chaired by Mr. George Tannahill from the USA with Mr. Lawrence Kwan as the Vice-Chair. A total of thirty five delegates participated over the two days representing fourteen economies.

The Chair welcomed all delegates to the meeting and thanked Japan for hosting the meetings.

2. Report on the Chile MRA Task Force meeting

The Task Force Chair indicated that the final report on the Chile meeting was posted on the APEC 37 website and as no comments from the draft version were received the report was unchanged from the draft.

3. Economy Reports and Updates

A number of Economies gave updates on their voluntary participation in the MRA, developments in their technical regulations and progress in participation with other economies. Most of these reports included new CAB designations indicating there is significant activity occurring in the MRA work.

A summary of updates provided at the meeting or supplied to the Chair immediately after is provided in **Attachment 1.**

> **Action:**
> Any economy not having provided a summary of their updates to send these to Chair as soon as possible.

4. Industry case studies

No presentations were available for this meeting.

5. MRATF Projects[1]

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

This MRA is intended to reduce the number of tests manufacturers must perform in order to import a product to multiple economies by providing a method to request that similar technical

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[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.

requirements be recognized as equivalent.

Mr. Peter Chau of Canada provided a presentation and process flow diagram on the MRA and Chair summarized the discussion from the last meeting on the MRA and introduced the following documents for discussion:
- the latest draft text of the MRA;
- Appendix A – Procedures for MRA for equivalence of Technical Requirements;
- Flowchart of basic process.

The Task Force reached consensus on a number of editorial changes to the document and some clauses that had been imported from the MRA for Conformity Assessment were deleted as they were not applicable[2].

The main issues discussed were:

1. The general principles of the MRA and if they were understood and acceptable for most economies.

    a. It is expected that when the MRA is completed and endorsed and ready to become operational, any economies interested in participating will sign on to the MRA. By signing on economies agree to accept requests for recognition of equivalence of technical requirements from other participating economies.

    b. It was agreed that the MRA could be used in conjunction with or separately from the MRA for Conformity Assessment.

    c. It was discussed that equivalence under this MRA may not necessarily identical. Equivalence is intended to mean that a test to either parties requirements would result in the same outcome. Therefore the decision is left to the regulator to determine if a test to another economies standard will result in an outcome that is acceptable.

    d. As the manufacturers/suppliers will receive the greatest benefit from the MRA and they have the most expertise on comparing economies standards, it was concluded that the burden of identifying and analysing equivalence would be their responsibility. This would minimize the regulators role to verifying the requests. It is expected that requests for recognition of equivalence will primarily come from manufacturers or industry groups.

        i. Before a request for equivalence is submitted, a detailed technical analysis/comparison should be performed on each standard for which equivalence will be requested. The request for equivalence should then be submitted to the regulator or designated entity in the economy which the requestor is located. The receiving regulator will then review the request to ensure that it is valid for their economy and all other economies for which equivalence is requested. Once the receiving regulator verifies the request is valid the request should then be forwarded to all parties for which equivalence is requested.

    e. It was agreed that Appendix A of the MRA for equivalence of technical requirements will identify the basic steps in the process.

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[2] These changes are not listed here but those interested can determine the changes from the two versions uploaded to the "documents" page of the TEL36 website

f. It was agreed that a small work group of task force members would edit the MRA and the MRA Appendix A text prior to the next TEL. Economies that volunteered to participate include: Australia, Canada, Singapore, Hong Kong- China, the United States and Vietnam. Others interested in participating may contact the Chair.

g. It was concluded that an explanatory guide to the MRA would be generated to help users understand the process. The former Task Force Chair Mr. Mitchell of Australia provided the first draft which will be updated as the MRA Text is generated. The intent of the guide is:

  i. To explain why certain approaches were taken in the design of the MRA;

  ii. To explain how the two TEL MRAs can be used in unison;

  iii. To provide flowcharts of how various scenarios could be dealt with by Parties

h. It was discussed and agreed that in order for the MRA to be of benefit to the more economies, the MRA and associated procedures should only be general guidelines and scope should not be limited to only newer technologies, or be required to be multilateral. This will allow for the broadest scope of equivalence requests and allow the regulator in the each economy to make the recognition decision.

Action:
- A Task Force work group will edit the MRA before the next TEL.
- Economies interested in participating may contact the Chair.
- An updated draft will be circulated prior to the next TEL.

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

An additional phase of the stock-take related to a CAB survey was discussed. The survey requests participating economies to survey Conformity Assessment Bodies that they have designated and accepted under the MRA for Conformity Assessment to request information on the types and numbers of equipment tests and/or certifications that they have performed. To facilitate this Ms. Ramona Saar of NIST presented a draft data collection survey and a proposed timeline for the completion of the survey text and submission of data. Economies are requested to provide comments on the survey and then the Chair will circulate an updated version to Task Force members to send to CAB's in order for data to be collected before TEL 38. Concerns were raised about how the data could possibly be used and it was agreed that the Chair would receive the data and provide the results in a summarized form.

Action:
- The Chair will incorporate any comments received and circulate an updated survey;
- Parties to the MRA to circulate the form to all of their CABs in time for a response before TEL37.

6. Training

A refresher training session was presented by the Chair. The material given was targeted at the new participants who made up about one third of the task force. The first portion was an overview of the APEC MRA including its intent, development, the key functional roles identified and how internationally recognized laboratory and product certification accreditation is a part of the process. The second portion covered a more operational perspective on the process dealing with

implementation and the actual issues of the Parties to the Arrangement. Specific examples of economies issues were presented.

In addition to the presentation by the Chair which focused on U.S. experiences in implementing the MRA for Conformity Assessment, Mr KK Sin of Hong Kong, China and Ms. Melinda Tan of Singapore presented on the experiences of Hong Kong China and Singapore in implementing the MRA. The three presentations provided a wide range of experiences from three economies that each approach and implement the MRA from a different perspective.

Action:

TF members were asked to provide feedback and suggestions on topics they would like covered at future training sessions.

7.   Project Proposals

A proposed project to determine industry benefits of the MRA was discussed. Ms. Ramona Saar of the United States presented a draft document identifying objectives and potential issues. The document was discussed and the Task Force concluded that the project would be of value to determine how the MRA is perceived by various stakeholders and how it could be improved. As this project is beyond the means of the Task Force, it will be necessary to seek external assistance and funding for the work. It was decided that work would continue on defining the objective of the proposal and drafting a project proposal via email inter-sessionally. Several Task Force members volunteered to be part of the drafting group.

Action:

-   The Chair will draft a statement defining the objective and circulate. After the objective is defined the group will develop an APECTEL funding proposal for discussion at the next meeting.
-   Economies prepared to co-sponsor the proposal to advise the new Chair

8.   CITEL Liaison

Mr. Efrain Guevara of Canada provided an update on the parallel MRA work being undertaken by CITEL. He indicated that a recent CITEL meeting had just occurred in Washington DC and advised that Mexico and Brazil had made some progress towards implementation but neither was expected to become operational in the near future. It is anticipated that both economies will eventually participate, but progress is slow.

9.   MRA Information Management Resources

The chair discussed the TELWG MRA web page and requested all economies review their information on the web page and advise the Chair of any updates.

Additionally, the US advised that they updated the information on their APEC TEL MRA webpage and that this was now available at www.fcc.gov/oet/ea/mra/APEC.html.

The Chair encouraged any economy not yet having completed their MRA web page to do so as these were helping both in the operation of the MRA and in raising its profile.

Action:

TF members to provide information on updated links and any other information that they believe needs updating on the TELWG MRA page

10. Joint Committee

Information was requested regarding issues for the joint committee. No issues have been brought to the attention of the Chair since TEL 35.

11. Other Business

The issue of the future role of the Task Force was raised for consideration as to whether the role of the Task Force should be modified to address additional issues that are of concern to many members of the task force. The Task Force has been in existence for more than ten years with the relatively narrow focus of the MRA. Since the MRA work commenced in the mid-1990s, technology, user needs/expectations and regulatory practices have evolved significantly. The question was asked if the Task Force should take on a more forward thinking agenda and include within its work some broader issues of technical regulation as a means of ensuring that the MRA work will be remain relevant and to assist participants dealing with emerging issues that go beyond the trade and certification of hardware. For example, such an agenda could include regulatory practices, product surveillance, emerging technologies, processes for standards setting and adoption of standards (not standards writing!) and similar issues. It was indicated that the broadening of the agenda might provide greater incentives for industry participation.

A presentation by Mr. Dornu Narnor of Motorola regarding handheld device product labelling issues was presented to the Task Force. Motorola indicated that as manufacturers design products for multiple markets, it becomes increasingly difficult to incorporate all required labels on products as the product sizes continue to shrink. Motorola indicated that it would be of significant benefit to manufacturers if more regulators allowed for electronic labelling. The presentation appeared to be a topic of concern to many of the Task Force members. It was well received and multiple questions were raised.

12. Next Meeting

It is proposed that the next MRA Task Force meeting be held immediately before TEL 38. With the drafting work of the new MRA on equivalence of technical requirements to continue and the training interests identified during the meeting, the Task Force requests that the TEL Working Group and TEL 38 host agree to the following arrangements.

	Activity	**Venue/facilities**
Day 1 Morning	MRATF Session 1	Conventional APEC arrangement
Day 1 Afternoon	Training New MRA drafting	Informal room for up to 25 people with projector
Day 2 Afternoon	MRATF Session 2	Conventional APEC arrangement

13. Close

The Chair closed the meeting with thanks to the hosts, Mr Kwan and all the members of the Task Force.

Attachment 1

Update of MRA Activities and Changes to Technical Regulations

Australia	The Australian Communications and Media Authority has released two new instruments that comprise the Australian electromagnetic compatibility regulatory arrangement – the *Radiocommunications Labelling (Electromagnetic Compatibility) Notice 2008* and the *Radiocommunications (Electromagnetic Compatibility) Standard 2008*. The new instruments have been changed to align the format of the electromagnetic compatibility arrangement more closely to other regulatory arrangements for which ACMA has responsibility. The electromagnetic compatibility arrangement mandates labelling and radiofrequency emission requirements for all electrical and electronic equipment supplied to the Australian market. It applies to all importers and manufacturers who can indicate that equipment meets the requirements by labelling that equipment with the C-Tick compliance mark. The changes to the instruments: -add the requirements for battery operated devices and information technology equipment that have been in force since 2003 into the arrangement -clearly define the requirements, including those for compliance record keeping for low risk devices, for manufacturers and importers and -make the list of mandated electromagnetic compatibility standards more readily available to industry. In accordance with the new instruments, the list of electromagnetic compatibility standards, which importers and manufacturers can use to demonstrate compliance to the EMC arrangement, are now listed on the ACMA website at http://www.acma.gov.au/standards/emc More detailed information has been uploaded to the APECTEL 37 website.
Canada	**Technical regulations (Annex I of MRA) update:** Since the last meeting of this Task Force, Industry Canada has amended some of its technical requirements for radio equipment and its procedures for the recognition of certification bodies. The updated versions of these documents can be found at the following websites: Procedures for Conformity Assessment Bodies: http://ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/en/h_sf06138e.html Category I Equipment Standards List: http://ic.gc.ca/epic/site/smt-gst.nsf/en/h_sf01342e.html **APEC TEL MRA implementation update:** - Under Phase I, Canada has designated nine Canadian testing laboratories to test to the technical requirements of six participating economies, and has recognized 56 foreign testing laboratories (46 from APEC and 10 from the EU) to test to Canadian requirements. For information on Phase I, please visit the following websites: http://ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/inceb-bhst.nsf/en/tt00065e.html, and http://ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/inceb-bhst.nsf/en/tt00064e.html. - Under Phase II, since the last meeting, Canada has entered into Phase II with Hong Kong, China. Canada has designated two Canadian certification bodies to the United States, one to Chinese Taipei and one to Hong Kong China. Industry Canada has recognized 13 foreign certification bodies form APEC and 6 from the EU to certify to Canadian requirements. Also, Industry Canada is currently reviewing a designation from Chinese Taipei. For information on Phase II, please visit the following websites: http://ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/inceb-bhst.nsf/en/tt00068e.html and http://ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/inceb-bhst.nsf/en/tt00067e.html.
Hong Kong, China	The APEC Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Conformity Assessment of Telecommunications Equipment (APEC Tel MRA) was endorsed by the APEC Telecommunications and Information Industry Ministers in June 1998 and commenced in July 1999. Hong Kong, China has notified the APEC Tel WG Chair its readiness for participation in Phase I procedures in July 1999. At that time, Hong Kong, China has made arrangements with Australia, Singapore and Chinese Taipei for the implementation of Phase I procedures. Hong Kong, China has also entered into Phase I MRA with Canada in 2002. In April 2005, Hong Kong, China and USA reached MRA for the implementation of Phase I and II procedures. In February 2008, Hong Kong, China and Canada reached MRA for the implementation of Phase II procedures.

	Phase I implementation: 2. OFTA has designated 5 local testing laboratories for recognition by other APEC member economies. Of the 5 designated testing laboratories, 1 is recognised by Canada, 1 by Singapore and 3 by the USA. OFTA has also recognised 12 foreign testing laboratories which have been designated by other APEC member economies. Of the 12 foreign testing laboratories, 3 are designated by Chinese Taipei, 1 by Singapore, 1 by Canada and 7 by the USA. We shall explore for other interested APEC member economies. Phase II implementation: 3. Since Hong Kong, China and the USA exchanged letters with regard to the agreement on Phase I and II implementation in April 2005, Hong Kong, China has discussed and negotiated with the USA on the detailed arrangements and procedures of Phase II MRA. We have also discussed with other administrations on the requirements of Phase II procedures. Taking into account the discussion outcome and shared experience, the details of Phase II procedures have been prepared and have been posted on OFTA website at http://www.ofta.gov.hk/en/tec/apectel_mra.html. The Phase II procedures have now been put in operation. In February 2008, Hong Kong, China and Canada reached MRA for the implementation of Phase II procedures. Enquiries in this matter may be forwarded to email address standards@ofta.gov.hk. APEC member economies interested in becoming MRA Phase II partners of Hong Kong, China may approach us.
Chinese Taipei	Chinese Taipei implements the APEC TEL MRA with 4 economies in Phase I: Australia, Canada, Hong Kong and Singapore and implement Phase II with Canada. Chinese Taipei MRA web pages had some updates for English version: http://www.ncc.gov.tw/english/gradation.aspx?site_content_sn=65. During 2007, Chinese Taipei recognized 4 CABs from other economies and acquired the recognition of designated 2 CABs by 4 economies under TEL MRA Phase I. Chinese Taipei exchanged the letter with Australia on the subject of EME-MRA on October 2007 under MRA Phase I. On January 2008, Chinese Taipei recognized a Certification body of Canada under MRA Phase II, On August 2007, Chinese Taipei revised LP0002 Low-power Radio-frequency Devices Technical Specifications The followings are new addition to LP0002. 4.9 Auto, motorcycle theft-proof remote control 4.10 Assistive devices for vision disabled communication 4.11 Medical Implant Communications Service (MICS): is a medical service system specifically for transmitting data in support of diagnostic or therapeutic functions between an external programmer/control transceiver and an active medical implant transceiver placed in the human body Please refer to: http://www.ncc.gov.tw/english/files/08011/102_381_080218_1.doc
Thailand	Technical Standards Since the last update at previous MRA Task Force meeting in TEL 35, Thailand has issued a number of technical standards for telecommunications equipment, 25 in total. Most of them deal with radio aspect of telecommunication equipment, but certain others will be dealing with EMC and electrical safety of telecommunication terminal equipment, and also SAR aspect of radiocommunication equipment. Technical Regulations on Conformity Assessment Procedures. Thailand has just published new Regulations on conformity assessment procedures, to come fully into force on 16 July 2008. These new Regulations will classify telecommunication equipment into 3 categories: Class A which requires testing and registration, Class B which requires testing and certification, and equipment subject to SDoC scheme. We foresee the new Regulations will allow for more systematic and greater flexibility with regard to compliance of equipment. Another important requirement is marking/labeling, in which it provides for the suppliers or anyone who is responsible for the equipment being placed in the market to show conformity marks and specific wording in the accompanying equipment manual. Also explicitly mentioned in these new Regulations is that our Regulatory Authority may enter into formal participation of an MRA as they see fit. Meanwhile, the new provisions allow recognition of test report from other sources (be it local licensed testing lab or accredited foreign testing lab) as a basis of equipment registration/certification. This scheme makes use of Phase I MRA elements without explicitly requiring formal arrangement to

	commence. Information dissemination One last note is that we will produce a translated version of all the technical standards, and the new Regulations on conformity assessment procedures, and post them on our web site. We are currently making a web page specifically devoted to this issue in our English version. In the mean time, if Task force members wish to discuss with us in more details about all the changes, Thailand welcomes dialogue with other partners for information exchange in this regard.

USA	No significant rule changes to report but there have been lot of minor changes in many areas and it is recommended to see the FCC web site for up to date information. The FCC is working on transitioning from the analog TV to digital TV and how to utilize the related frequencies. FCC 07-72 is 700 MHz Order with HAC. A second rulemaking in progress is the Part 15 Modular Rulemaking FCC 07-56
	The FCC MRA web pages (www.fcc.gov/oet/ea/mra) have had some minor updates.
	Recent Document/Procedure updates:
	    TCB Roles and Responsibilities/TCB Overview (Phase II CAB procedures):
	    http://www.fcc.gov/oet/ea/FCC-Overview-TCB-Program.pdf
	    TCB Excluded equipment list:
	    https://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/prod/oet/forms/blobs/IDBretrieve.cgi?attachment_id=24687
	    TCB Assessment Checklist:
	    www.fcc.gov/oet/ea/TCBEvaluationForm01-24-2008.doc
	The US is participating with seven APEC economies in phase I: Australia, Canada, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, Japan (not thru APEC) Singapore, and South Korea.
	The US is participating in phase II with four APEC economies: Canada, Hong Kong (pending), Japan (pending) and Singapore.
	    For Hong Kong the CABs are being trained and getting accredited.
	    For Japan the stakeholder training is the next step in the process.
	Some CAB issues the FCC has been dealing with are:
	    a. Can a phase II cab accept test data from a non recognized test firm? Yes. If so, what are the requirements? The CAB must have a documented process in place to determine competence of the test firm.
	    b. Are testing/evaluation/decision three separate functions requiring three different personnel or can testing and evaluation be combined and only two personnel are needed. How is ISO guide 65 interpreted?
	    c. Does the FCC recognize accredited CABs in non MRA partner economies? No
	The FCC has increased CAB required annual surveillance from the two percent to five percent and added some additional requirements to ensure a broader scope of equipment was tested.
	https://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/oetcf/kdb/forms/FTSSearchResultPage.cfm?id=20540&switch=P
	FCC Recognized Phase I CABs ~243 total, ~102 in APEC economies.
	FCC Recognized Phase II CABs 33 total, 3 in APEC economies.
	~95 % of ~9200 products Certified in 2007 approved by Phase II CABs
	The **National Institute of Standards and Technology** (NIST) is the <u>Designating Authority</u> under the APEC TEL MRA. NIST receives and processes the applications for designation from U.S. testing laboratories and U.S. certification bodies that wish to be recognized by other economies under the APEC TEL MRA.
	The guidance NIST provides to U.S. conformity assessment bodies on both the general and specific requirements for applying can be found at the following URL: http://ts.nist.gov/Standards/Conformity/mra/mra_rebuild_apec.cfm.
	The U.S. has implemented Phase I and Phase II of the APEC TEL MRA with the economies noted in the tables below.
	I. U.S. TESTING LABS RECOGNIZED BY OTHER ECONOMIES
	
	{{TABLE}}
	Some CABs have multiple locations.
	II. U.S. CERTIFICATION BODIES RECOGNIZED BY OTHER ECONOMIES

Economies – Phase I	# of US Testing Labs Recognized
Australia	14 CABs in 16 locations*
Canada	26 CABs in 32 locations
Chinese Taipei – BSMI	60 CABs in 92 locations
Chinese Taipei – NCC	9 CABs in 10 locations
Hong Kong	6 CABs in 7 locations
Korea	34 CABs in 56 locations
Singapore	19 CABs in 30 locations

Economies – Phase II	# of US Certification Bodies Recognized
Canada	13 CABs
Hong Kong	In process of implementation
Singapore	19 CABs

III. U.S. Accreditation Bodies Recognized by NIST

Accreditation Type	Accreditation Bodies
Accreditation of Laboratories (ISO/IEC 17025)	American Association For Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)
	National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP)
Accreditation of Certification Bodies (ISO/IEC Guide 65)	American Association For Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)
	American National Standards Institute (ANSI)

Annex C

SECURITY AND PROSPERITY STEERING GROUP MEETING
APEC TEL 37, Tokyo, Japan

Convener: Shamsul Jafni Shafie, MALAYSIA
Deputy Convener: Jordana Siegel, UNITED STATES and Jinhyun Cho, KOREA

1. Adoption of Agenda

The Convener welcomed all economies to the Security & Prosperity Steering Group (SPSG) meeting in TEL 37.

As the first order of the day, the Convener offered economies the opportunity to review and provide input on the agenda. The agenda was adopted as written. During the course of the meeting, the flow of the agenda was changed to accommodate several outstanding issues that needed clarification. Nonetheless, the meeting met and discussed all of the agenda items.

2. Report of Workshops

During the TEL 37 meeting in Tokyo, Japan, 3 workshops were hosted by the SPSG namely:

    a.   Workshop on Policy and Technical Approaches against Botnet;
    b.   Workshop on ICT Products and Services; and
    c.   Workshop on Handheld Mobile Device Security

a)   Workshop on Policy and Technical Approaches against Botnet

The objective of the project is to develop a policy and technical approach document against Botnet. This work is being driven by China. The workshop was held on March 23. The full report of the workshop can be found at the link of the Botnet workshop in the TEL 37 website. (2008-TELWG37-PTAB-WS-016)

The workshop was divided into 5 sessions:
1. Background – current status with speakers representing CERT, Microsoft and Anti-virus vendors
2. Technical Issues and countermeasures with speakers representing ISP, Security Service organizations and TEAM Cymru, CERT
3. Management Approaches towards anti-botnet with speakers from Chinese Taipei and OECD
4. Best Practices with speakers from CERT and the ITU Anti-Botnet Project
5. Group discussion – Technical and Management

Some of the issues that would be very useful to flag is that there is a common understanding that the threats forwarded by Botnets is increasing and using more updated technical/social skills, which makes it harder to address. There is also a need for the various stakeholders, namely the government, law enforcement and regulatory bodies, business and end users (consumers) to find a common ground to work together. There is also certainly a need for the continuation and updating of awareness among the stakeholders. The workshop also felt that this is truer for policy makers. Last but most importantly, there is a

need to enhance international collaboration especially on issues concerning policy and technical aspects.

Thailand asked whether there would be additional activities as a follow-up to the work currently being undertaken by China to develop policy and technical approaches against Botnet. China reverted that while there is certainly a need to carry this work beyond the completion of the documents, there is no planned work yet although the report and the preparation of the relevant deliverables of the project will be submitted to the 38th APEC TEL meeting in Lima, Peru.

The Convenor affirmed there are obviously synergies between the work by China and the current work that is being undertaken by the APEC TEL and the OECD on malicious software (malware). Upon the completion of the work by China, there are opportunities for additional work to be done together.

b) Workshop on ICT Products and Services Security

The project on developing a report on the state of security of ICT Products and Services is being driven by Japan. The workshop was held on March 24.

The objective of this workshop is essentially to address the roles of the various stakeholders to enhance the security of products and services. The deliverable for this project is a report where Japan will provide a report on the issues arising from insecure ICT Products and Services and to further elaborate on the relationship between product and service suppliers to ensure the security of their products and services. Lastly, it will also identify relevant program to address these problems.

During the workshop, the main stakeholders namely Products Vendor, Service Providers, Security related organizations and Government agencies were involved in the workshop.

The project deliverable is a report and will be submitted to TEL 38 as originally proposed.

c) Workshop on Handheld Mobile Device Security

The project on developing a report and a document on best or good practice on the security of Handheld Mobile Device is being driven by Malaysia with the support of Australia, Korea and Japan. The workshop was held on March 25.

Various stakeholders were involved in the workshop and 7 papers were presented to represent issues from the perspective of consumers, business, manufacturers, service providers, regulatory bodies and also security related organizations. During the course of the workshop, it was agreed that the threat to the handheld mobile device has not reached the seriousness of what is currently being seen in the personal computer (PC) environment. Most of the threats were the product of complacency and negligence of users and businesses.

F-Secure, a security related organization that has done extensive work on threats to handheld mobile device was of the opinion that there may take 3 to 5 years before it reached the situation where the PC is.

However, as a tool that is widely used by the community in Asia Pacific, the work by the TEL in this area is timely as the threats though may not be as serious as what we see on the PC, it still remains a threat. The work by the TEL would focus on the involvement of all the stakeholders to ensure that the risks are mitigated and controlled.

The deliverable of the project is a report and a best or good practice document. A virtual working group is being set up and will begin work inter-session before it is submitted to the TEL 38.

3. Project updates and report:

a) Building a Culture of Security – Corporate Policy and Management Issues (New Zealand)

There was no update from New Zealand. New Zealand is invited to update the SPSG on this project inter-session.

b) Strengthening Effective Response Capabilities Among APEC economies (Korea)

Korea reported that the project has completed all three objectives or deliverables defined in the project proposal; developing APEC cooperative response guidelines in cross-border environment; developing best practice for cooperative response based on public and private partnership and delivering training course on establishing and managing CSIRTs/CERTs in developing economies. The training course was delivered in 2006 and received positive responses from the participants.

Canada mentioned that it's necessary to keep the documents up to date with periodical revisit and Korea agreed to do so, if necessary. The Convenor agreed and documents such as these should be "living documents", to be reviewed when needed.

The Convenor noted the consensus of SPSG that two deliverables from Korea have been met and will thus seek the approval from the TEL and the SOM with regards to the 2 documents. (2008-TELWG37-SPSG-006.doc [Rev.2] and 2008-TELWG37-SPSG-006.doc) The Convenor congratulated Korea on the successful completion of the project.

c) Judge and Prosecutor Cyber Crime Enforcement Capacity Building Project.

Based from the 36th APEC TEL meeting in Santiago, Chile, the Capacity Building workshop on "Judge and Prosecutor Cyber Crime Enforcement" was supposed to take place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from March 31st to April 2nd 2008.

This project is APEC funded and during the last TEL meeting, the United States brought a formal request for funding to be extended into May 2008, which was approved.

As it stands, the project has been completed in so far as developing the training materials. However, the planned workshop has failed to materialize due to lukewarm response that the United States received from other economies for the workshop.

Discussions were then held on whether there is a need for a training program to be held or will it suffice for the United States to issue the training manual to the other APEC economies. Malaysia was of the opinion that as the training material is completed, the workshop should be organized so as to allow the relevant stakeholders in this project to gain the benefit of actual training. This was agreed by other economies.

As for the lukewarm response to the planned training workshop, the Convenor reminded representatives of economies to play their role to share the information concerning the training workshop and to encourage participation from the relevant stakeholder in their economies.

Advice was sought from the APEC Secretariat on how this project may move forward in getting the training workshop organized. The SPSG was advised by the APEC Secretariat that the economy responsible for the project will have to write formally to ask for a further extension especially as it is an APEC funded project. The economy will need to elaborate the reasons why the workshop training could not take place before May 2008 and subsequently, a decision will be made.

Australia inquired whether APEC economies have an opportunity to review syllabus and course materials prior to the training. And the United States indicated that at least the syllabus will be available for review. The Convener asked that the syllabus be shared before the training so that economies can review and provide feedback.

To conclude, the SPSG agreed to support the application by the United States to submit to the TEL Chair , SOM and BMC, an extension to the project until May 2009 to hold the training workshop.

d) Voice Over IP (VoIP) Security Guidelines

Australia noted the project to establish a resource document and a website regarding VoIP Security is on track. The intent is for the resource document to be available in all APEC languages and Australia asked economies for assistance in this.

As to date, the VoIP Security Guidelines is already finished but has yet to be submitted to the SPSG and TEL for the final review. Hence, the project is applying for an extension to TEL 38 to complete the process. The project also aims for the translation process of the document and for the benefit of other APEC economies. The Convenor requested that economies that are interested to have the guidelines translated into their local language to work closely with Australia.

The SPSG supports the application for an extension and thus forward the same to the TEL and the SOM for approvals.

e) Information Security Certifications Assessment Guide

Australia updated that this project has been completed and has achieved the objectives that were set out. The driver for this was that in the area of information security skills certification, the project established a website and booklet and goes through the standards, which was built based on international standards. Economies can do searches as an employer trying to get a problem solved or as a professional looking for

professional certifications. Australia encourages its use in APEC economies and it can be updated on an ongoing basis. The site is www.siftsecurity.net, before it is later moved to an APEC website (url) when that becomes available. The booklet is also ready and can be downloaded from the website.

For both project in (d) and (e), there exist a website. However with the importance of having a main APEC website to cater for all APEC activities, the SPSG would like to raise the possibility of the sites in connection to the projects in (d) and (e) to also be hosted in a common APEC site. This would mean easier access to all users. The SPSG hopes that this discussion may take shape in the coming months after TEL 37.

f) International PKI and e-Authentic Training Program

The APEC TEL PKI/e-Authentication Training Program was held during September 28 - October 4, 2007 in Taipei. There were 24 participants from 10 APEC member economies : Chile, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, and guests from 8 non-APEC economies : Argentina, Bahrain, Guatemala, India, Jordan, Panama, Poland and Slovakia. Attendees gained a much deeper understanding of the global PKI/e-Authentication market demands, and to enhance more international communications and exchanges.

From the feedbacks that were received by attendees of the 2007 APEC TEL PKI/e-Authentication Training Program, the most concerned subject is how to enhance the PKI/e-Authentication development by international cooperation.

This year the survey topics will be focused on the status of PKI applications and CAs (Certificate Authority) in APEC member economies, and the opinions of international cooperation. The survey will be circulated to the APEC TEL HODs from 1st April, and all the survey responses will be collected by 12th May. 2008 The PKI/e-Authentication Advancement Evaluation Report will be released at APEC TEL 38.

The enlistment for 2008 PKI/e-Authentication Training Program will be launched in August. 20 attendees will be selected. The courses will be focused on PKI/e-Authentication applications and experience sharing, and international cooperation discussion will be also included. Every attendee will receive a certificate given by the chair of APEC TEL. 2008 APEC TEL PKI/e-Authentication Training Program will be held in October in Chinese Taipei.

Canada congratulated Chinese Taipei on their work and also on the important role of authentication in enhancing public confidence. The Convenor also shared with the meeting on the historical work of the eSTG prior to SPSG where the bulk of the work then was on PKI and was happy to note the training program offered by Chinese Taipei in this field.

The Convenor encouraged economies to take this opportunity to propose their relevant officers to attend the training program.

g) Guide on Policy and Technical Approaches Against Botnets

China indicated that the Project has already taken several steps. It has set up an expert group; it has collected and catalogued a lot of materials related to Botnets; and it has

finished the third step to do draft framework. The framework can be found on the website and it has also been shared with APEC economy members.

However, arising from the workshop on March 23, China is requesting that the project be extended to TEL 38 to allow current information to be included into the document on policy and technical approaches against Botnet.

The SPSG agreed to the extension and will forward the request to the TEL and SOM.

h) Cyber Security Exercises

The United States briefed the meeting that the drafting work on cyber security exercises has yet to finish and would like to apply for an extension of the project deliverable to TEL 38. The expert group will work inter-session after TEL 37.

The SPSG agreed with to the extension and will submit the same to the TEL and SOM for its approval.

i) Guide on Disaster Management: Best Practices Workshop, Draft Agenda

The workshop on Disaster Management: Best Practices is a joint project sponsored by Peru, Chile and Mexico and was approved by the TEL at the last meeting in Santiago, Chile.

During the meeting, Peru updated the economies of the current agenda. The Convenor encouraged the organizers of the workshop to request the approval of the TEL and SOM if any speakers were to come outside of the APEC at the earliest convenience. Other APEC economies were also encouraged to liaise with the workshop organizers if they are interested to speak at the workshop.

4. Other Updates on SPSG Activity

a) Stop Spam Alliance

The StopSpamAlliance is a joint international effort initiated by APEC, the EU's CNSA, ITU, the London Action Plan, OECD and the Seoul-Melbourne Anti-Spam group. Five associate partners have joined the StopSpamAlliance in 2007; the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT), the Messaging Anti-Abuse Working Group (MAAWG), the Internet Society (ISOC), the Asia Pacific Coalition Against Unsolicited Commercial Email (APCAUCE), and CAUCE North America.

The objective of the StopSpamAlliance is to help co-ordinate international action against spam and related threats more effectively by gathering information and resources improving information sharing among participating entities.

During the 2nd IGF in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the StopSpamAlliance organized an Open Forum on Spam. The SPSG-APEC TEL Convenor was invited to chair the open forum. Speakers came from members of the StopSpamAlliance where papers ranged from the sharing of initiatives by the different bodies to the sharing of information on enforcement activities against Spammers and Botnets.

b) 2nd Internet Governance Forum (IGF), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

The 2nd Internet Governance Forum (IGF) was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. A series of cyber security related open forums and workshop was organized. The SPSG-APEC TEL Convenor was invited to participate in 3 open forums and workshops, namely the following:

- StopSpamAlliance

- ITU Open Forum on the Global Cybersecurity Agenda; and the

- OECD Open Forum on Malware and related threat

c) ITU's High Level Expert Group

The First Ad-hoc HLEG meeting was held on January 7 to 10, 2008 in Geneva. The meeting was held at the request of the Work Area leaders to further discuss the issues arising from the respective work areas.

The HLEG Members agreed:

- To deliver a draft of the five strategic reports by 1 April 2008.

- That from 1 April to 1 May 2008, HLEG Members are invited to send their comments to gca@itu.int.

- That from 1 to 20 May 2008, a compilation of the five strategic reports into a global report will be made.

- That at the 2nd Meeting of HLEG, due be held on 21 May 2008, the global report will be presented.

At the request of the HLEG members, a Second Ad-hoc HLEG Meeting will be held on 28-29 April 2008, in Room M, ITU.

As agreed during the last TEL meeting in Santiago, Chile, the TEL should take an active role in work areas involving Technical and Procedural Measures; Capacity Building; and International Collaboration.

5. SPSG Report on Outreach Activities

a) The SPSG-APEC TEL was invited to attend the 24th WPISP-OECD meeting in Paris on March 3 and 4.

During the meeting, the SPSG Convener was invited to report on the activities of SPSG-APEC TEL. The joint APEC TEL and OECD report on Malicious Software (Malware) was also presented and approved during the 24th WPISP-OECD meeting.

b) The SPSG-APEC TEL Convenor was also invited to deliver the Keynote Address at the APCERT Conference on March 12 in Hong Kong. The theme of the presentation was "International Cooperation".

6. Collaboration with the OECD

- Malware

The Report on Malicious Software or Malware is completed and can be found in the

SPSG link on the TEL 37 website.

Economies have been given the opportunity to review the report and to submit any comments or feedback. This report is the result of the collaborative work between the APEC TEL and the OECD on enhancing cyber security from TEL 32 in Seoul, Korea. The OECD at its meeting from 3 to 6 March 2008 had approved the report. Also during the 24th WPISP meeting, the work on malicious software with APEC TEL was ranked the highest in terms of importance to the OECD countries.

As there were no further comments on the report, the SPSG agreed to approve the report and to further submit the report to the TEL for its approval before it is submitted to the SOM.

It was also agreed that a working group made up of experts in APEC TEL and the OECD be set up to work inter-session on the next action plan arising from the completion of the report on malicious software.

b. Indicators for Security and Trust

The meeting agreed that after TEL 37, a working group will be set up to start the work on developing the Indicators for Security and Trust. The meeting thus agreed to develop a model list of questions – 10 maximum and possibly less to be directed at governments to obtain information on what they do in the area of security and trust.

The work will start with the convening of the Virtual Working Group in this area prior to TEL 38.

7. New Project Proposals for Tel 37

There is one new self-funded project proposals from the SPSG together with a project proposal from the CTTF requesting support from the TEL.

a) Proposal for a self funded project and workshop on "Cyber Security Awareness Raising Project". (Australia/USA: Co-sponsors)

Based on the feedback received including during the industry round table in Santiago, Chile, there seem to be some interest in cyber security awareness raising activity. The project seeks to share experiences within economies about cyber security and develop a coordinated approach across the APEC region for cyber security awareness

The 1-day workshop in TEL 38 will allow economies to share best practices and experiences on awareness raising in their respective economies. Following that, it was also proposed a formation of a virtual working Group to assist in reporting back to SPSG at Tel 39 and to deliver an APEC-wide TEL activity.

Korea, Canada and Malaysia have both agreed to co-sponsor the project. Canada highlighted that the outputs that could be of great interest and utility is a standardized and uniformed messaging to stakeholder communities

China also would like to share their experience but also pointed out the language barrier and the need for the project owner to also take into consideration of this issue.

The Convenor invited the project owners to consider the comments made by the other economies.

The SPSG thus agree to support the project proposal and for a 1-day workshop in TEL 38 and will thus submit the same to the TEL and SOM for approvals.

b) Proposal for APEC Seminar on the Protection of Cyberspace from Terrorist Use and Attack by APEC CTTF, Seoul, Korea

The seminar on the Protection of Cyberspace from Terrorist Use and Attack is an approved project from the CTTF based on the proposal from Korea during the APEC CTTF meeting and will be held in Seoul, Korea in June 2008 as a self-funded project. The seminar will focus on sharing information and the policies of APEC member economies on cyber terrorism and explore a way to combat diverse cyber threat and improve coordination among APEC member economies.

The CTTF wishes to hold this seminar jointly with the APEC TEL and has thus approached the APEC TEL to formally consider its offer to jointly host the seminar.

The SPSG agrees to the proposal of a joint hosting of the seminar and would like to be participate in the drafting of the seminar agenda where the seminar will be held in Seoul on June 26th and 27th. The SPSG will inform the Plenary of its recommendations so that the appropriate information can be relayed to the CTTF.

Knowledge and Information Sharing within the SPSG

8. Malicious Activities and Misuse of the Network Infrastructure

As part of SPSG ongoing tradition of the sharing of knowledge and information, Australia agreed to share with the SPSG the work that they have done on the subject of Wireless Security.

Kelly Mudford, Australia

Australia presented a paper on Wireless Security. As wireless technologies gain wider acceptance in the marketplace and are increasingly adopted by businesses, there are a number of security risks that need to be considered and addressed.

The paper submitted by Australia provides information relating to the development of strategic level policies regarding the use of wireless technologies, and a set of basic requirements and actions to coordinate the response to risks within businesses.

9. Examination of Security Implications of Emerging Technologies: Virtual World

One of the calls arising from the LIMA Declaration was for the TEL to examine the security implications of emerging technologies. This discussion has been ongoing since TEL 33 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. For TEL 38, the security implications of the "Virtual World" was examined.

Nick Elsmore, Australia

The Virtual World is a simulated environment in which users can experience whole range of things and in which the user can create their own identities. Second Life is one of the best know websites for the virtual world. The presentation noted some of the problem associating physical life and virtual life is beginning to emerge. Although there seems to be no major impact as with regarding the traditional cyber security issues relating to malicious software in the virtual world for example, it's necessary to keep an eye on the technology development and users adoption of virtual life.

The Convenor commented that there may be social issues involved notwithstanding identity management and privacy concerns. It may be wise to revisit this topic soon in the future.

10: Examination of Issues Concerning Submarine Cables

The role of the SPSG is not limited to working on enhancing cyber security. After the re-organization of the Steering Groups (SGs), the SPSG was also tasked to look into matters concerning the use of ICT in disaster management. During TEL 36 in Santiago, Chile, a workshop on Disaster Management was approved. Also during TEL 36, Australia also raised the need for economies to look into the issues surrounding submarine cables and the after effects from natural disasters and human mistakes that has led to serious impact on access towards information and communication.

For TEL 37, Australia presented an information paper on issues concerning submarine cables.

Chris Cheah, Australia

Australia shared with the meeting some of the issues concerning submarine cables and some of the initiatives Australia had embarked on with a view for future work of the TEL focused on submarine cables

China and the US supports the work and advised that the SPSG should look at best practices and perhaps look at what happened with the Mediterranean cable break.

Chinese Taipei also shared brief information on what happened in 2006 where sub cables were broken caused by earthquake and the lessons learned from this can also be taken out and especially when addressing international cooperation.

The Convener supports this discussion since the last incident in Chinese Taipei resulted in physical damage to the submarine cables that had serious effect to the Internet and communications network in general. Hence, discussion on this important matter is due and the next SPSG meeting would be a good opportunity for this discussion to take place.

Malaysia commented that ASEAN are also planning to study this issue.

11. Economy and Guests Reports

Economies and guests are invited to present an update of work in relation to security and prosperity in their economies. Those that do not intend to do a presentation are invited instead to upload their report on to the SPSG link of TEL 37's website.

Korea: VoIP Security Policy Drive

Korea updated the VoIP market growth in Korea, threats related VoIP and relevant policy drives consisting of policy for VoIP security, VoIP security guidelines, and outreach activities to raise user awareness. Korea contributes the APEC VoIP Security Guideline to secure home users and SME within APEC economies.

OECD Work update for 2007

The OECD presented to the meeting the work that the WPISP has planned for 2008. The work included:

- Malware
- Sensor based environments and ubiquitous networks –security and privacy challenges
- Global Privacy Dialogue – The OECD works very closely with ECSG-APEC TEL and the European Commission and other data protection authorities in North America
- Cross-Border Cooperation – support platform for regulatory enforcement in the areas of privacy and may extend to consumer protection and anti-spam.

The OECD also updated the meeting concerning the Ministerial Meeting – Future of the Internet Economy to be held in Seoul, Korea. The theme of the meeting is "Creativity, Convergence and Confidence" and the objective of the meeting is to how internet and related ICT systems and networks can be used to better address global challenges (aging societies, climate change).

12. Matters Arising

a. Ministerial Declaration for TELMIN 7

The recommendations of the SPSG has been submitted to the Drafting Committee and can also be found at the SPSG link in TEL 37's website. The SPSG when recommending amendments, additions and re-drafting of the sentences were guided on the need to be consistent with the usage of terminologies and concepts based from previous TELMIN documents.

13. Meeting Wrap-Up: Other Businesses

As the last order of business, the Convenor raised the need for the SPSG to also address issues on Disaster Management in its work whilst continuing its current work on enhancing cyber security to ensure a safe and sustainable online environment. The Convenor acknowledges that the SPSG is currently "heavy" on cyber security issues and would thus need to seriously tackle the issue concerning disaster management. It is hoped that future work by the SPSG will reflect this growing importance.

TEL 38 in Lima, Peru will see the hosting of a workshop on Disaster Management and

the current discussion on issues concerning submarine cables is also timely and the SPSG is encouraged to further collaborate on these important issues.

Closing of Meeting:

The Convener then thanked everyone who was involved in the SPSG meeting for their time and commitment. The SPSG meeting was later adjourned to TEL 38 in Lima, Peru.

The meeting documents can be found at www.apectel37.jp under the SPSG link.

Summary of Decisions Taken at the SPSG Meeting in TEL 37

Project and Workshop Proposal for TEL 38

The SPSG agreed to submit to the TEL and SOM for its considerations, one self-funded project and workshop proposal for TEL 38 namely;

   a) A 1-day Cyber Security Awareness Raising Project jointly organized by Australia and the USA with support from Canada, Korea and Malaysia.

Project supported

The SPSG agreed to support the Seminar proposed by CTTF on Protection of Cyberspace from Terrorist Attack in Seoul, Korea on June 26 and 27.

Approval Sought: Extension of Time

.**Agenda Item 3(c)**

The SPSG agreed to submit to the TEL for its support and to the BMC's for the approval for the extension of the project on "Judge and Prosecutor Cyber Crime Enforcement Capacity Building Project" to May 2009. This project is APEC funded and as the funds expire at the end of May 2008. The extension will allow for the training workshop to take place. The approval for extension is supported by the SPSG for submission by the USA.

Agenda Item 3(d)

The SPSG agreed to submit to the TEL and SOM's for the approval for the extension of the project to TEL 38

Agenda Item 3 (g)

The SPSG agreed to submit to the TEL and SOM's for the approval for the extension of the project to TEL 38

Agenda Item 3 (h)

The SPSG agreed to submit to the TEL and SOM's for the approval for the extension of the project to TEL 38

<u>Approvals Sought from the TEL and SOM:</u>

Agenda Item 3 (b)

Documents pertaining to the Project under 3 (b):

- APEC cooperative response guidelines in cross-border environment;
- Best Practice for cooperative response based on public and private partnership

Agenda Item 6 (a)

The joint APEC TEL and OECD report on Malicious Software (Malware)