

Communications News

Newsletter of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications(MIC), Japan

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TOPICS

The outcomes of APECTEL 54 (54th APEC Telecommunication and Information Working Group Meeting)

APECTEL 54 (54th APEC Telecommunication and Information Working Group Meeting) was held at Keihanna Plaza, Kyoto, Japan from October 31 to November 4, 2016.

In this meeting, from the point of view of promoting the efforts based on "the TEL Strategic Action Plan for 2016-2020" adopted at "10th APEC Ministerial Meeting on Telecommunications and Information Industry (TELMIN10)" held on March 30th and 31st last year and developing the outcomes of "G7 ICT Ministers' Meeting in Takamatsu, Kagawa" which was hosted by Japan as the chair this April, we had roundtables on the free flow of information and silver ICT for the future aging society, and a workshop on cybersecurity.

In particular, in the roundtable for the free flow of information, we confirmed that the free flow of information will contribute to the comprehensive growth of the APEC member economies and creation of innovation, and we organized the proposal on how we should promote measures for forming the global policy framework. In addition, we offered our proposal to the chairman of Liberalisation Steering Group (LSG) and APECTEL, and it was endorsed by the chair.

And, the next meeting (APECTEL 55) is going to be held in Mexico next spring.

※APEC: the framework for regional cooperation consisted of 21 countries/regions in Asia-Pacific region (Australia, Canada,, China, Korea, Thailand, United States etc.)

※TEL: the meeting is held once every half year as the officials meeting of the field of telecommunication

1. Date & Place

Date: from October 31 to November 4, 2016

Place: Keihanna Plaza, Kyoto, Japan

2. Attendance

Officials from the relevant ministries and agencies of telecommunication from 18 economies out of 21 APEC member economies.

Around 150 participants including concerned persons from private sector in the field of telecommunication.

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3. Main Agendas

(1) The roundtable on the free flow of information

As the roundtable on Liberalisation Steering Group (LSG), with the stakeholders from the government, industry and academia of APEC member economies, while we confirmed that the free flow of information will contribute to the comprehensive growth of the APEC member economies and creation of innovation, we organized the proposal on how we should promote the measures (for privacy protection and cybersecurity) for forming the global policy framework.

In addition, we offered our proposal to the chairman of Liberalisation Steering Group (LSG) and APECTEL, and it was endorsed by the LSG chair.

(2) The roundtable on silver ICT for the future aging society

As the roundtable of ICT Development Steering Group (DSG), we discussed the role which ICT will achieve for the aging society for the future.

From Japan, Waseda University introduced the utilization of ICT for the promotion of activities by aging people and women, and, Advanced Telecommunications Research Institute International (ATR) also introduced the development of communication robot for aging people.

(3) The workshop on 4K/8K broadcasting (hosted by Japan)

As the workshop on Liberalisation Steering Group (LSG), for Government officials of APEC member economies, as Japan's advanced efforts on 4K / 8K broadcasting, the broadcasters and others introduced efforts of BS test broadcasting, CS, cable TV and IPTV practical broadcasting, and the examples of applications utilizing 4K / 8K technologies, etc.

And MIC held the tour for experiencing 4K/8K broadcasting at NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation) and SKY Perfect JSAT Corporation in Tokyo.

(4) The workshop about cybersecurity (hosted by the United States)

As the workshop on Security and Prosperity Steering Group (SPSG), with stakeholders from the government, industry and academia of APEC member economies, we shared the examples of our efforts by collaboration of government, industry and academia and protection for critical infrastructure.

From Japan, the National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT), a national research and development agency under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, introduced efforts about observation, analysis, and measures against cyber-attacks.

4. Future Plans

Mexico was chosen to be the host country for the next meeting(TEL55) next spring, and the Independent State of Papua New Guinea stood as the candidate host country for TEL57, Taiwan stood as the candidate host country for TEL58.

Moreover, the Independent State of Papua New Guinea stood as a candidate host country for the 11th APEC Ministerial Meeting on Telecommunications and Information Industry)(TELMIN11) is scheduled to be held in 2018.

5. Others

Taking the opportunity of this meeting, from the point of view of Japan promoting its various attractions to participants from each country and region, Kyoto Prefecture and Nara Prefecture hosted excursion events to visit the world's most advanced research facilities in the ICT field and several sightseeing places including world heritage spots, and these events gained popularity with the participants.