

What Rules for IP-Enabled Next Generation Networks?

23-24 March 2006
Geneva, Switzerland

Agenda

The workshop will be chaired by
Prof. Dr. Eli Noam, Professor and Director of Columbia Institute for Tele-Information, US

First day of the Meeting - 23 March 2005	
9:00 - 9:30	Registration
9:30 - 10:00	Opening Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and Opening Addresses - <i>Roberto Blois</i> - Deputy Secretary-General, ITU, Geneva, Switzerland
10:00 - 10:45	Session 1: Framing the Debate <p><i>Session Description:</i> Policy-makers and communications regulators around the globe are grappling with how to best promote the public interest in a competitive and innovative IP-enabled communications environment. These debates have intensified as traditional carriers have begun investments and deployments of IP-enabled NGNs—which can be seen as a logical progression from separate PSTN- and IP-network infrastructures to unified networks for future electronic communications based on IP. Technical convergence means regulatory asymmetry is no longer tenable but what path forward? Debates such as “network neutrality” are basic to communications policy and will reappear in many different forms in the coming years. This session outlines the background and frames the debate from different perspectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What Rules for IP-Enabled NGNs? - <i>Robert Shaw</i> - Deputy Head, Strategy and Policy Unit, ITU Strategy and Policy Unit, Geneva, Switzerland Regulation between Evolution and Revolution: Approaching NGN - <i>Davide Gallino</i> - Secretary, European Regulators Group, Brussels, Belgium
10:45 - 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 - 12:30	Session 2: Evolution of National, Regional and International Perspectives <p><i>Session Description:</i> Sensitive to the complexity of the issues and polarization of viewpoints, national policy-makers, communication regulators and related institutions are taking a cautious approach. This session discusses national, regional and international institutional approaches to framing the debate and envisioning the next steps forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National, Regional and International Proceedings on Rules for IP-enabled NGNs - <i>Jaroslav Ponder</i> - ITU Strategy and Policy Unit, Geneva, Switzerland Regulatory Framework under Discussion: CITEC and APEC Experiences - <i>Salma Jalife Villalón</i> - Commissioner, Cofetel, Mexico Next Generation Networks: Can the GATS adapt? - <i>Lee Tuthill</i> - Counsellor, World Trade Organization, Switzerland Next Generation IP Network Promotion Forum - <i>Atsushi Hiramatsu</i> - Senior Manager, Network Technology Section, Next Generation Network Office, Nippon Telegraph and Telephone (NTT), Japan
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch

13:30 - 15:00	<p>Session 3: Perspectives on Pro-competitive Regulatory Approaches to NGN</p> <p><i>Session Description:</i> Some stakeholders argue that the IP communications environment has thrived in an unregulated environment that has produced Darwinian competition—resulting in new and innovative applications—some even arguing that “network neutrality” should be codified in technical, legislative and regulatory regimes. Others argue that deployment of IP-enabled NGNs requires significant investments and suggest regulatory moratoria for infrastructure providers. Some competitive telecom providers argue the opposite, saying there are questions as to whether, in the absence of wholesale economic regulation, will market dynamics be sufficient to ensure a competitive NGN environment? This session explores these different perspectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ruling the New and Emerging Markets in the Telecommunication Sector - Christian Wey - Head, Information Society and Competition, Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung, DIW Berlin, Germany (<i>Presentation of Background Paper</i>) • Industry requirements for a regulatory environment for Next Generation Networks (ETP view) - Wolfgang Reichl - Chair of WG on NGN at European Telecommunications Platform, Brussels, Belgium • Net Neutrality or Net Bias? Finding the Proper Balance in Network Governance - Robert Frieden - Pennsylvania State University, USA • Ensuring Competition & Growth in Next Generation Network (NGN) - Melinda Tan - Infocomm Development Authority, Singapore
15:00 - 15:15	Coffee Break
15:15 - 16:30	<p>Session 4: Perspectives on Pro-competitive Regulatory Approaches to NGN cont'd</p> <p><i>Session Description:</i> This session is a continuation of Session 3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Technology Neutrality Concept Used to Perpetuate Regulation into NGN - Hasan Alkas - Senior Economist, Deutsche Telekom AG, Bonn, Germany • Developing New Regulatory Environment Enabling Expansion of the NGNs - SN Gupta - Advisor, Telecommunication Regulatory Agency of India (TRAI), India • New Regulatory Approaches Fostering Innovation Dynamics in the Telecommunication Sector - Robert Stil - Chief Economist, Onafhankelijke Post en Telecommunicatie Autoriteit, (OPTA), The Netherlands
16:30 - 16:45	Coffee Break
16:45 - 18:30	<p>Session 5: What Rules for Interconnection and Interoperability?</p> <p><i>Session Description:</i> The technologies and architecture of IP-enabled NGNs are fundamentally different from the PSTN and result in new network topologies, associated costs and interconnection models. This fundamentally disrupts current interconnection regimes which is forcing a reopening of long-standing debates on the premise of interconnection as a structural remedy for promoting competition. In a multi-service NGN environment, does it continue to make sense to distinguish voice (including VoIP) as needing a distinctive interconnection regime? If so, why not also for other services? Are there applicable lessons to be learned from internet interconnection arrangements?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interconnection in an IP-enabled NGN Environment - Scott Marcus - Senior Consultant, Wissenschaftliches Institut für Kommunikationsforschung, Germany (<i>Presentation of Background Paper</i>) • New Models for the Interconnection - John Horrocks - CEPT's Specialist, ECC TRIS Chairman and consultant to DTI, UK • Fixed Mobile Convergence (FMC): Standards, Market Status and Regulatory Issues - Souheil Marine - Digital Bridge Manager, France, Africa, Middle East, South Asia, Alcatel CIT

Second Day of the Meeting - 24 March 2005

<p>9:00 - 10:45</p>	<p>Session 6: What Rules for Interconnection and Interoperability cont'd?</p> <p><i>Session Description:</i> This session is a continuation of Session 5.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toward Next Generation Network - From PSTN to new IP-based Network - <i>Keiichiro Seki</i>, Director of International Economic Affairs Division, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC), Japan • Interconnection arrangements for IP-enabled NGNs - Discussion in Germany - <i>Cara Schwarz-Schilling</i> - Head, Internet Economics Section, Bundesnetzagentur, Germany • Ofcom's regulatory approach to NGN interconnection and interoperability - <i>Steve Unger</i> - Director of Telecoms Technology, Competition Group, OFCOM, UK • Regulatory Issues in an IP-Open Convergent Market, Interconnecting NGN-core and non NGN-core carriers - <i>François Varloot</i> - Deputy-Director, Economic and Forecasting Division, ARCEP, France
<p>10:45 - 11:00</p>	<p>Coffee Break</p>
<p>11:00 - 12:30</p>	<p>Session 7: Ensuring an Open NGN Platform and Promoting the Expansion of Service and Content Providers</p> <p><i>Session Description:</i> Traditional carriers are looking to “move up the value chain” into data and audio-visual content at the same time as internet application service providers (with strong brands and deep pockets) like Google, MSN, eBay and Yahoo are entering voice markets and making forays into competitive infrastructure provisioning. Will market dynamics be sufficient to ensure a competitive environment? Some argue that without attention by regulators, providers will construct “N-play walled gardens” that vertically integrate networks with services—potentially creating bottlenecks for the delivery of audiovisual content.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGN as Multimedia Implementation of the Legacy Telco Model? - <i>Ernst Langmantel</i> - Director of Technical Division, Rundfunk und Telekom Regulierungs, Austria • New Medium versus Old Models - <i>Michael Nelson</i> - Director, Internet Technology and Strategy, IBM Corporation, USA • Regulation of N-Play Bundling of Services: Proposing a concept of regulation - <i>Tomas Lamanauskas</i> - Deputy Director, Communications Regulatory Authority, Republic of Lithuania
<p>12:30 - 13:45</p>	<p>Lunch</p>
<p>13:45 - 16:00</p>	<p>Session 8: New Concepts of Universal Service, Access and Consumer Protection: Which Way Forward?</p> <p><i>Session Description:</i> Government and user expectations are changing as to what constitutes basic and universal service in ICTs. What does universal service imply in a broadband-based IP-enabled NGN environment? How is access for all ensured? Are there new NGN consumer protection issues to be considered?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universal Service in an IP-enabled NGN Environment - <i>Patrick Xavier</i> - Director, Info-Comm Analysis, Australia (<i>Presentation of Background Paper</i>) • Consumer Protection in the IP-enabled NGNs - <i>Sergio Antocicco</i> - Chairman, INTUG • IP Migration's Implications for the Concept of the Universal Service and Consumer Protection - <i>Dr. Knud Erik Skouby</i> - Director, Center for Information and Communication Technologies, Denmark • Public Interest Considerations on Next Generation Networks - <i>William Drake</i> - Director, Project on the Information Revolution and Global Governance, Graduate Institute for International Studies, Geneva; and President, Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility • The challenges of NGN regulation in developing countries: A South African Perspective ? - <i>Alison Gillwald</i> - Director, Research ICT Africa!, Link Center, Graduate School of Public and Development Management, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

16:00 - 17:00	<p>Session 9: Round Table: An Agenda for Action and Way Forward</p> <p><i>Session Description:</i> The Chairman will invite selected participants to participate in a round table to provide their “takeaways” from the workshops discussion and suggest pragmatic next steps. In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• what are the issues that market forces may not fully address?• what are the issues that need to be addressed at a national level?• what are the issues that need to be addressed at the international level?• how does this interrelate with ITU’s NGN Global Standards Initiative?• what initiatives should be undertaken by ITU to promote an enabling environment a the global level?
17:00 - 17:15	<p>Session 10: Closing ceremony</p>