Report of the ITU-T SG 19 Workshop on "Mobile Telecommunications and Fixed/Mobile Convergence – the realities going forward"

Kiev, Ukraine, 12-14 September 2005

The workshop, mainly addressed to the CIS and the Eastern European countries, was highly informative and very well attended by representatives of the region. There were 113 participants from 14 countries representing industry, academia, national regulatory authorities, operators, regional and international organizations and ministries. Countries present were Ukraine, Russia, Moldova, Azerbaijan, Lithuania, Poland, France, Austria, Germany, Jordan, Canada, USA, India, and Saudi Arabia.

The workshop was chaired by Mr. John Visser, ITU-T SG 19 Chairman, and the speakers included key representatives of ETSI, 3G Association (Russia), IPv6 Forum, plus well known vendors, operators and regulators. Mr. V. Gandabura, Deputy to the Minister for Transport and Communications of Ukraine, opened the Workshop.

ITU-T SG 19, in addition to its Chairman, Mr. John Visser (Canada), was represented by Vice-Chairman, Mr. Konstantin Trofimov (Russia).

TSB was presented by Reinhard Scholl, Paolo Rosa, Antonella Maffi and Tatiana Kurakova.

The most important topics discussed were

- Network Evolution to NGN
- NGN architecture
- ITU and other bodies standardization activities
- Converged Networks
- radio network design
- convergence of mobile and wireless broadband networks
- technical and economic drivers for convergence
- Fixed Mobile Convergence
- fixed network evolution to NGN
- strategy of such an evolution
- case studies of mobile networks in fixed/mobile convergence world
- Operator, regulator and market perspectives of convergence

Most of the workshop time was devoted to technical aspects of mobile telecommunications and its evolution towards next generation of mobile and converged networks. Regulatory aspects that were of interest for some participants, were reflected in presentations as well.

The workshop ended with a panel discussion on the future of FMC and NGN with active participation of the delegates.

In summarizing the presentations and discussions, Mr. Visser noted the following key messages:

- "Next Generation Users" (today's young people) are the target market for tomorrow: they have high expectations and want these to be met!
- There is essential convergence between systems beyond IMT-2000 (SBI2K) and NGN:
 - o Standards efforts are focussed on enabling this vision to become a reality
 - o The future will be an access independent, IP-based core network

- o the IP Multimedia Subsystem (IMS)/Multimedia Domain (MMD) described by the 3GPPs will be a core part of the NGN architecture
- O There is essential alignment from a network perspective between the long term objectives of NGN and SBI2K; fixed/mobile convergence (FMC) is an important aspect of both
- o There is increasing recognition of IPv6 as an essential element moving forward
- The strong industry alignment of visions and perspectives forms a solid basis for real success in implementing and deploying Next Generation Networks

In concluding remarks Mr. Visser, as workshop Chairman, thanked the local organization for the excellent support.

During the closing session certificates of participation were awarded to all participants.

The Workshop programme and links to the presentations may be found at:

http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/worksem/imt2000/200509/avprogram.html

http://www.ucrf.gov.ua/en/press/67/1126520546/