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Dr. Yu Watanabe is a telecommunications executive with diverse experience of leading technical, regulatory, and business development teams to create strategic international projects. From 2005, he is a senior advisor of KDDI Corporation. In this position he is developing and managing the research on networking security related issues for mobile and fixed communications systems to realize secure implementation and deployment of KDDI networks.

Prior to move to the current position, Dr. Watanabe was a principal research engineer of KDDI R&D Laboratories, where he developed and managed research activities on networking related problems for mobile data communications. From 2001 to 2005, he was a general manager of R&D strategy department in KDDI Corporation, where he lead the design, development and implementation of the R&D strategy of KDDI and its partner companies to meet future telecommunication needs for realizing ubiquitous communications world. He was also responsible on the management and administration of standardization activities within the whole KDDI groups on the technological issues.

From 1999 to 2001, Dr. Watanabe was president & CEO of KDDI Labs USA, Inc., Palo Alto California; US branch of KDDI R&D Laboratories, where he developed and managed the research on the implementation of the Internet and mobile related services to support existing and future communications needs of KDDI's clients. He was active in security related joint projects with UCB and SRI, where he defined technical specifications and architecture for KDDI's security research activities.

Dr. Watanabe is now a vice-chairman of Study Group 17, "Security, languages and telecommunication software," and the chairman of WP 17/2 "Telecommunication Security". His ITU experience started 1979 when he defined the mathematical representation of the MTP queuing delay time of the newly developed ITU-T standard telephone signaling system, System No. 7, which appears in the ITU-T recommendation Q.706. From 1986, he became active in the work of Study Group 2, he developed new recommendations to define methods for designing global networks to support current and future telecommunications services, which appear in the series E.500 ITU-T traffic engineering recommendations.

He proposed a new technical standard for advanced dynamic routing concept to develop and implement a global network that will exploit dynamic network control principles and will facilitate more economic service provisioning. In accordance with this proposal, sixteen telecommunications carriers from sixteen countries formed a study group and examined the feasibility and economic benefits of his concepts; AT&T-USA, BT-UK, CHT-I Taiwan, DBP Telecom-Germany, France Telecom, KDD-Japan, Netherlands PTT Telecom, Norwegian Telecom, PLDT-Philippine, Swiss PTT, Telecom Italia, Telefonica-Spain, Teleglobe Canada, Televerket-Sweden, Telstra-Australia and Thailand CAT. He acted as a chairperson of the study group and implemented an international partnership for global dynamic routing schemes. The results of the study group are recommended as an international standard, which appears in the ITU-T recommendation E.350. He received Commendation by the Ministry of States for Science and Technology of Japan on this contribution.

Dr. Watanabe was born in Tokyo, Japan in 1950. He studied at Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan and received B.E. and M.E. degrees, in applied physics, in 1973 and 1975, respectively. He also received Dr. Eng. degree from the same university in 1979 on his studies on stochastic process.