**GSC-19\_025**

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**Global standards collaboration for a smarter, safer world**

Critical communications, the Internet of Things (IoT) and IMT-2020 – commonly referred to as 5G – were in focus at the 19th meeting of the Global Standards Collaboration (GSC), a high-level gathering of the world’s leading information and communication technologies (ICT) standards bodies, hosted by ITU in Geneva, 15-16 July 2015. These three strategic topics are crucial to building a smarter, safer society through the development of the ICT ecosystem.

Critical communications, a recurring GSC agenda topic, continues to receive sustained attention from ICT standards bodies in response to the evolving needs of public safety entities and society’s growing dependence on ICT infrastructure. GSC-19 participants noted their commitment to maintaining harmonized standards in areas such as communications systems for public safety services, large-scale public warning systems, emergency calling systems and communications systems for disaster relief.

IoT technologies are connecting people and objects around the world. Gathering some of the key standards bodies in this area, GSC-19 agreed to collaborate further for the benefit of the development and deployment of IoT technologies in the marketplace. The standards community is leveraging existing initiatives such as oneM2M to increase the relevancy of IoT to other industry sectors and these sectors’ access to IoT solutions.

5G will be a crucial part of our future. The research and development of potential 5G technologies is being tackled by a broad spectrum of industry and public sector bodies. GSC-19 participants recognized the importance of an ecosystem view of 5G technologies, standardization, implementation and operation, stressing the need for efficient and effective collaboration between all interests involved. GSC-19 participants agreed that strong collaboration will be essential to meeting the targets of the 5G standardization timeline.

The next GSC meeting will be held in April 2016, hosted by TSDSI in India, where ISO and IEC will be welcomed as new GSC members.

For more information, please consult the ITU repository of information on past GSC meetings at [www.itu.int/ITU-T/gsc](http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/gsc).

***About GSC:***

*Formed in 1990, the aim of GSC is to maintain effective collaboration between standards bodies in the interests of delivering coordinated standards for today’s converged ICT ecosystem. GSC meetings provide a platform to strengthen collaboration on high-priority standards efforts of mutual interest to GSC participants, with the intention of identifying and capitalizing on synergies.*

**The GSC includes the following standards bodies, all of which were represented at GSC-19:**

ARIB - Association of Radio Industries and Businesses - Japan

ATIS - Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions - U.S.

CCSA - China Communications Standards Association

ETSI - European Telecommunications Standards Institute

IEEE-SA – IEEE Standards Association

ITU - International Telecommunication Union

TIA - Telecommunications Industry Association - U.S.

TSDSI - Telecommunications Standards Development Society, India

TTA - Telecommunications Technology Association - Korea

TTC - Telecommunication Technology Committee – Japan