INTUG This Week
25 September 2009

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

Al Consumidor in Mexico is interested in representing INTUG in Americas Region for a such as CITEL (Inter- Amercia Telecommunications Commission) http://www.citel.oas.org/ . We are getting in touch with CITEL to re-establish contact between CITEL and INTUG.

I am planning to travel to Hong Kong during November to catch up with Hong Kong User Group.

A Presentation Pack is attached for your use with Members or Prospective Members about the value of INTUG.

France

The City of Issy les Moulineaux has agreed host the next INTUG meeting on the 9 and 10 December.

TUG India Activities this Month

TUG India is a registered consumer organisation with TRAI and founder member of CAG (Consumer Advocacy Group) set up by the TRAI (Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of India)

On 18 September 2009 there will be Annual CAG Meeting in which TUG India is participating.

The two issues are pertinent at this juncture which will be presented by TUG India:

A Quality of Services
B Tariff Rebalancing

BTG – Member Benefit presentation

The attached presentation on the benefits of INTUG was discussed including whether to widen also the focus from telecom to 'communications'; engaging with lobby channels in Brussels and synergies with other international IT-user associations to bundle the power and knowledge

Germany

The press dominating things this week in Germany are the elections on the weekend. A lot of parties try now to argue to make laws to control the Internet more strongly to avoid crime and mobbing. This often happens before elections. Most of the daily political work stopped because of that election.

UK - Future of Ofcom

There is another consultation from BIS (DTI as was) on the duties of Ofcom - " Proposed New Duties for Ofcom on Resilience: Ofcom to report on the UK communications infrastructure every two years". The background to this is that the Conservative Opposition Party has said it will "reform" Ofcom, and there is a new Digital Economy Bill (to be published in November) that will amend the existing Communications Act 2003, although the details are not yet clear. It's becoming increasingly evident that the industry is confident that the role and function of Ofcom will be changed significantly, following the 2010 General Election

Australia

The Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy is currently pursuing **mobile roaming** issues through a number of international fora, including the OECD, APEC and the International Telecommunication Union, and it has been successful in building consensus to examine the high costs of roaming charges.

National Broadband Network Company has given its first update of how it will build Australia's NBN - http://www.commsalliance.com.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0020/19055/NBN-Co--Initial-steps-14092009.pdf

TUANZ

Ernie Newman is in Cancun, Mexico at APECTEL 40 representing INTUG. A short video presentation on INTUG's concerns with International Roaming prices will be included in the Roaming Workshop - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lFN_8BDaHlo

TUANZ are now trying video blogs as a way of communicating to members http://www.digitalproductionsav.com/Sell_IT/tuanz/tuanz001.html

BELTUG

226 respondents took part in our survey on prioritisation.

Our new priorities for 2009-2010 are:
- Innovations in mobility solutions/Fixed-mobile communications
- WAN performance – security

- Best practices in adopting unified communications/collaboration
- International communications management/ Managing international contracts
- Outsourcing communications services - best practices
- Communications services contracts - best practices (fixed + mobile)
- SIP trunking: what are the possible benefits? Market overview
- VoIP: guidelines for migration towards full IP

A full-fledged and user-driven Activity Plan that ensures that each topic will be covered by a set of concrete deliverables will be available in October.

Commonwealth Telecommunication Organisation

Commonwealth Telecommunication Organisation held its 7th Annual Forum in Nadi Fiji on 14th to 15th September based on a decision made at the previous forum in October 2008 in Abuja.

Held under the theme of "Delivering Broadband Connectivity: Needs and Challenges" the event examined the many facets involved including the policy and regulatory dimensions, financing Broadband and ICT infrastructure, operators perspectives and the unique challenges of Satellite Broadband. It was topical for the region as Broadband has a great potentiality to contribute to the socio-economic improvements in the small island nations strewn across the vast Pacific Ocean. The CTO Forum was followed by the 49th Council meeting of the CTO on 17th and 18th. Interestingly ITU held a parallel workshop on Implementation of WTSA-08 Decisions and on Bridging the Standardization Gap.

The combination of these three events offered a platform for stakeholders to debate, consult, learn from each other and arrive at consensus on various involved issues. It is hoped that the networks built during the week will go a long way in forming partnerships and alliances required to implement broadband in the region.