



INTUG This Week

6 November 2009

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

9 December Open Meeting PARIS

INTUG's Open Meeting on 9 December 2009 will be held in Issy-les-Moulineaux, Paris, France on the topics of Unified Communications and Collaboration and Cloud Computing.

10 December Council Meeting PARIS

The INTUG Council Meeting will be held on 10 December. All INTUG Members are encourage to stay for this meeting also as we talk about developments in INTUG over the last 12 months and our plans for supporting our members during 2010.

You can find more info and registration link at <http://intug.org/agenda>

Singapore NGN Broadband Network – Telecom TV Interviews CEOs of Open Net and Nucleus Connect and IDA

Once the rollout of Singapore's Next Generation Nationwide Broadband Network, or Next Gen NBN, is complete in 2012 it will be one of the most connected countries in the world but what lessons can be learned from Singapore's experience and how can it help other country's achieve similar, admirable goals? In this, the first of three live webcast panel discussions from Singapore, TelecomTV's Tony Poulos will be asking these questions and more of an esteemed panel of experts

<http://mainagenda.telecomtv.com/webinar/ondemand/?v=46>

European Regulators Group (ERG) Work Programme

Danielle Jacobs and Nick White attended a consultation in Brussels on November 4 on the ERG Draft Work Programme for 2010. INTUG indicated its broad support for the programme which includes for the first time a recognition of the need to do separate market analyses for business users and to address international services. The survey of business users which INTUG has conducted for ERG (closing date for responses is this Friday November 6) is a key input to this process. The work programme includes a long list of priority topics (which will need further prioritisation). The list in the current draft in no particular order covers:

- International Roaming including Alternatives to price regulation
- NGN-Access/Update on national BB strategies/implementation issues/definitions, standards
- Conformity (utmost account) with ERG Common Positions
- Benchmarking for MTRs with other indicators under examination, eg SMS, bitstream

- Regulatory Accounting
- Business Service market
- Convergence - identification and analysis
- Cross-border enforcement
- ERG-RSPG co-operation
- Future of USO scope and funding
- Accessibility of services to disabled users - ref citizens rights directive
- Net neutrality
- ERG - BEREC transition (BEREC is a strengthened organisation created by the Framework Review)
- Article 7/7a Expert Reports - Phase 2 cases - BEREC duty
- Switching providers - porting timescales

NGN Future Charging mechanisms - Bill and Keep

Nick White made a presentation to an ERG workshop on their draft common position on NGN Charging mechanisms. This largely recommends moving from Calling Party Network Pays to Bill and Keep, and envisages the transition being more possible once termination rates have been reduced to near zero. The organisations representing incumbent fixed and dominant mobile operators (ETNO and GSMA) were understandably less than enthusiastic. INTUG considers that current mechanisms represent telecom tax on cross border trade which should be eliminated/minimised and that Bill and Keep would be an effective way of doing this. There was some debate about whether capacity based sharing in CPNP was a viable alternative. The remaining life of per minute charging for voice (fixed or mobile) in an all-IP converged network was considered to be finite and limited by some (including INTUG). NGN Network Charging Mechanisms provide an opportunity to fix this market failure. The ITU's Global regulators symposium in Beirut next week will include a debate on "revenue sharing in a converged world" recognising that the dominance of the Internet for interconnection forces a rethink on this long standing area, which dates back to the bad old days of tariff principles for accounting and settlement rates for international PSTN.

INDONESIA

Addressing many user complaints about the T-Flash service policy of reducing quotas, TELKOMSEL and ID.TUG (Indonesia Telecommunication Users Group), the organization of Telecommunication Users active in educational and advocacy interests of telecommunications users, have come to an agreement which restores bandwidth quotas to end users.

"Telkomsel will return all user rights related to the reduction in quotas, made under the TELEKOMSEL Fair Use Policy, to those in the original contract" with the following conditions:

1. User Telkomsel Flash unlimited package with a modem (1 year contract) that is active before the date 1 September 2009 receive a return quota of fair use it for 2GB up to the end of the contract, users will have additional one (1) month on month 13 (thirteen) as bandwidth reduction substitute quotas in September. In other words, users will still get a 2GB quota Fair Use Over 12 Months.

2. User Telkomsel Flash unlimited package with no modem (non-contract) is active before September 1, 2009, will receive compensation for potential losses that the quota fair use arise during the change in policy, a return quota of 2 GB in the next month.

3. For users who are no longer subscribed to be informed about this decision so that the user has decided yesterday not to use Flash telkomsel given the opportunity each 1 (one) month, the information will be provided by Telkomsel via SMS broadcast to Telkomsel Flash.

4. All Users Package Telkomsel Flash, which is active before September 1 will get FREE 50 SMS for on-net (between telkomsel users)

5. Telkomsel will also improve service performance to satisfy Telkomsel Flash users.

GERMANY

The new German government (conservative - liberal) decided to delay the blocking of URLs with children abusive (porn with children) content for one year and to enforce the identification of the hosting servers and the deletion if its content instead by stronger international co-operation.

The usage of traffic data store by data retention is delayed until an ongoing federal constitutional court decision is finalized.

Even the low public subsidies for broadband access networks in rural areas will not be consumed this year because many city authorities are overstrained with the procedures to be taken.

SWEDEN NTK

The Swedish government published this week a new broadband strategy. The strategy or vision says that:

1. It's an industry task to develop and invest in telecom infrastructure
2. It's a Government task to give relevant rules to promote an effective competition giving good market conditions

The purpose of the new broadband strategy is to build a new coverage for broadband:

- Year 2020 should 90 percent of all households and businesses have access to broadband with 100 Mbit/s up- and downstream
- Year 2015 should 40 percent of all households and businesses have accessto broadband with 100 Mbit/s up- and downstream and all households andbusinesses should have good possibilities to use public services throughbroadband access.

NTK will visit Visby Agenda: "Creating impact for an eUnion 2015". It's the Swedish EU Presidency arranging a conference to debate a renewedEuropean policy agenda for ICT. More about this in next update. The programis in this

link: http://www.se2009.eu/polopoly_fs/1.15973!menu/standard/file/091106%20Programme_Visby%20Agenda.pdf

□

MEXICO

Both houses in Mexico's federal legislative branch approved a 3% tax on fixed line and mobile telephony plus cable television services, excluding Internet. Also, VAT increased from 15% to 16% while income tax rose from 28% to 30% for those earning more than minimum wages (approx. usd \$750/month). Subsequent criticism has been outpouring from many groups: most have underscored how the new tax will discourage investment in what has been one of few Mexican economic growth sectors; others point to the 78m mobile telephony users (72% penetration rate) wherein 8 out of 10 poor people (66m national estimate) have a mobile phone and in 2010 will be paying 4% more tax (new tax + VAT increase); some point to the difficulty of excluding a tax on Internet within triple play consumer packages; a few affirm that Mexico's government and regulatory agencies have been "captured" by national elites including telecomm consortia.

Also on the spot is the public inquiry on the terms for a national bid of the State owned power company's optic fiber network. Alconsumidor will submit a strong opposition to artificially create scarcity of public resources by bidding only a pair where 32 FO pairs are available to build a most needed backbone to compete with incumbent weak ADSL network. Other policies are demanded as well, more spectrum, foreign investment in fixed services, fairer regulation of icx (interconnection – Rosemary?) rates, wireless last mile access and ISDN not being banned by incumbent, a long term broadband public policy, social inclusion through IT based applications.

This we are hoping will trigger a national campaign of high speed, low cost Broadband for all!

AUSTRALIA

Work is starting to review the model proposed by industry for the National Broadband Network Reference Architecture – the proposal is here http://www.commsalliance.com.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/19517/Draft-National-Broadband-Network-Reference-Architecture-Oct-2009.pdf

Industry has seven Working Groups looking at different aspects of NBN deployment. ATUG will be commenting on each Discussion Paper as it is released. They are (with more information available via the hyperlinks to the [NBN wiki](#)):

- [NBN Reference Model](#),
- [Wholesale Services](#),
- [Early Stage Deployments](#),
- [End User Premises](#),
- [Technical](#),
- [Operational](#),
- [End User Migration](#).

ATUG is meeting with the NBN CEO and the Government's Lead Adviser teams next week to discuss the needs of business users in an NBN environment.