

**24th AFACT Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes**

**Karachi Seraton Hotel, Pakistan
August 7th , 2006**

- **Date : 7th August 2006**
- **Venue : Sheraton Hotel, Karachi, Pakistan**
- **Chairman : Mr. Javed Naushahi**
- **Participant list (must include the chairperson and secretary)**

No.	Name	Country	Designation/Organization/Address /Tel & Fax	Email
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■ Minutes :

1) Opening remarks

Mr. Javed Naushahi, AFACT Chair, welcomed the participants to 24th AFACT annual event at Karachi and thanked for active participation in 24th AFACT Steering Committee Meeting.

- 2) Agenda of the meeting was adopted with consensus, after few amendments. Changes in the agenda were discussed and unanimously agreed;
 - a) Membership of Afghanistan as a new AFACT member was added to agenda.
 - b) Election of two HODs for 2006-08 term.
 - c) SAARC Single window presentation by Mr. Roshanjit

The process to approve membership for Afghanistan was elaborated by AFACT secretariat. The copy of application signed by Afghanistan Deputy Minister of Commerce, Mr. Zia-ud-din Zia, was circulated amongst StC members. All the Steering Committee members willingly accepted and welcomed Afghanistan as a new member in the AFACT community. The chair appreciated the efforts made by UNCTAD, World Bank & UNOPS in this regard, and hoped that Afghanistan will benefit from the AFACT.

- 3) Mr. T. A. Khan, UNCEFACT Vice Chair, thanked ECRC and the Pakistani government for hosting AFACT 2006 in Karachi, Pakistan.
- 4) The Chair invited Mr. Mohammed Yahya Waliullah, Secretary Information Technology Department, Govt. of Sindh to welcome AFACT delegates on behalf of Govt. of Pakistan.
- 5) Mr. Waliullah welcomed AFACT delegates on behalf of Government of Pakistan and spoke about the importance of AFACT, its role in promotion of trade facilitation, and how its policies can help growth in GDP in the region. He emphasized on how ICT has helped develop Pakistan's economy. He also mentioned the benefits, incentives and friendly environment of Pakistan's policies for foreign investors.
- 6) Mr. Somboon, Director MICT, Govt. of Thailand explained reasons for Mr. Kraison's (AFACT Vice Chair) absence for 3 days and informed that Mr. Kraison would be arriving on 10th August. He made announcements regarding the 25th AFACT meeting (2007) and informed that proposed dates of 25th AFACT Mid-Term StC committee would be 18-19

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April, 2007 at Phuket and Annual 25th AFACT meeting and EDICOM would be held on 31st July to 3rd August 2007 at Bangkok in conjunction with Bangkok International ICT Expo. Dr. Ajin confirmed that e-Asia Award to be held in Thailand in 2007 with AFACT annual event. AFACT secretariat offered help in this regard.

7) AFACT annual meetings were announced as under:

- 2007 – Thailand (Confirmed by Mr. Somboon)
- 2008 – Korea (Confirmed by Mr. Sangwon Lim)
- 2009 – India (**To Be** Confirmed by Mr. T. A. Khan)
- 2010 – Chinese Taipei (**Confirmed by Dr. Jay-San Chen**)
- 2011 – Philippines (**Mr. Michael Dodjie R. Fabian TBD**)

8)Mr. Sangwon Lim, UNCEFACT Rapporteur for Asia and AFACT Secretariat informed about the inactive member's status

- a) Cambodia – Sent regrets but has submitted country report
- b) Mongolia – Sent regrets
- c) Indonesia – Point of contact has been changed, a new focal point is required.
- d) **China** – No communication
- e) Australia – Sent regrets for non-participation due to budget constraints.

9)Mr. Lim also proposed that representation of AFACT should be there in APEC as guest and AFACT secretariat shall make a request to APEC in this regard.

10)Mr. Hai provided an update on ASEAN e-Commerce working group; he informed that there are no more activities at working group level.

11)The chair requested Thailand to follow AFACT website guidelines regarding media material for AFACT – 2007. He mentioned that flags of AFACT members shall not be used in any of print or electronic media as agreed at Steering Committee meeting at Lahore on 10-11 April 2006.

12)Presentation by Barrister Zahid Jamil on the subject of cyber-law.

- a) Mr. Zahid Jamil urged on active participation of lawyers from other AFACT members.
- b) Mr. Khan praised Mr. Zahid's presentation and asked him to come forward at UN/CEFACT LWG participation.
- c) Questions were made regarding, WSIS, ICANN, Electronic payment systems Act. AFACT representation at WSIS and other UN forums was emphasized by Mr. Zahid Jamil.

- 13) Presentation was made by Mr. Roshanjith on SAARC Single window and making the trade governing documents digital.
- a) Mr. T. A. Khan **informed about the proposed UNEDocs workshop at New Delhi on 3rd Oct. 2006** and proposed a new working group on UNEDocs. **He invited all to participate in the workshop, which is organized during the week of UNCEFACT Forum meeting at New Delhi.** Mr. Zahid offered Legal Working Group's help in this regard.
- b) .
- 14) Mr. Sangwon Lim UNCEFACT Reporteur for Asia presented his report in detail. He also presented report of **eBusiness** Asia Committee. He gave his remarks on single window concept and the intellectual property rights, elaborating different data models. Discussion regarding collaboration with other regional bodies was also made and schedule for the UN/CEFACT meetings was presented.
- 15) Since there was no representation by PAA, the chair emphasized on PAA and its members for regular participation in AFACT annual meetings and to present the annual progress report since PAA is an Associate member of AFACT.
- 16) AFACT Secretariat report was presented by Dr. Eva Yueh. She presented status on election of the Joint Working Group Chairs those are vacant, hosting members for the coming AFACT meetings and the AFACT website. **Dr. Eva Yueh also announced and distributed the " 2006 AFACT Year Book" to the members, which is published and sponsored by the AFACT Secretariat.**
- 17) Mr. T. A. Khan presented UNCEFACT report. **He invited AFACT community to attend the proposed UNCEFACT Forum meeting and UNEDocs workshop during 2 – 6 Oct. 2006 and 3rd Oct. 2006 respectively at New Delhi.**
- 18) UNEDocs assessment report was presented by Mr. Kamaruddin bin Tambi. The background to UNEDocs was elaborated, its processes, its document set, its data model and its development approach.

He replied several queries regarding recommendations and software requirements those are required for UNEDocs.



- 19) AFACT Road Map Task Force: Since Mr. Kenneth Lim, **Chair of AFACT roadmap Task Force**, was unable to attend the meeting due to his urgent meeting with IDA, Mr. T.A. Khan proposed to give more time to AFACT Roadmap **Task Force** Committee to **prepare and** present its report in **the 2007** Mid-Term StC meeting. He mentioned that he did not receive any e-mail on the subject although he is a member of committee. The Chair emphasized that mails on AFACT

Road Map shall be circulated to all members of AFACT Roadmap Task Force including Zahid Jamil and T A Khan.

In line with the discussion on the development of AFACT Roadmap, Mr. Sangwon Lim proposed to revise current AFACT Bylaws. The current Bylaws were prepared in 2001 and there is much need for revision to reflect the changes and updates. Mr. Sangwon Lim volunteered to initiate the revision work so that a revised draft AFACT Bylaws can be ready for detailed StC review at the 2007 AFACT Mid-Term StC meeting. The StC agreed to the proposal made on the revision of AFACT Bylaws.

- 20) Mr. Sangwon Lim thanked hosting country for organizing 24th AFACT event with a gap of only three years.

The Chair emphasized on making AFACT more vibrant and active organization with JWG's active participation, and thanked all members for their participation at AFACT2006. He hoped that AFACT2007 would be more successful, since Thailand is centrally located and e-Asia Award would bring more delegates to the event.

- 21) The meeting was concluded with a vote of thanks and announcement for the StC dinner.