

(Draft confirmed by participants)

The 35th AFACT Mid-Term StC Meeting Minutes

10:00-17:00 Wednesday 19 April 2017 and 10:00-12:30 Friday 21 April 2017

Attended by: Dr. Gary Gong, Dr. Eva Yueh, Dr. Morris Hsiao, Mei-Li Chen, Annik Kang, Mitsuru Ishigaki, Akio Suzuki, Dr. Mikio Tanaka, Hisanao Sugamata, Euna Choi, Dr. Urachada Ketprom, Supachok Jantarapatin, Natthaphat Rojanasupamit, Kongrit Chantrik, Azadeh Bagheri (via Internet), Parisa Hosseini (via Internet)

1. Welcome message made by Dr. Gary Gong (2017 AFACT Chair)

2. Adoption of provisional agenda for StC

The draft was approved by adding a subject of “Introduction to eBoD/TMC in the TMC/BDC Joint Meeting”.

3. Review on the minutes of the 34 th Plenary StC meeting held in November 2016 at Tokyo, Japan, presented by AFACT Secretariat

The presentation was used to summarize the works and achievements in 2016.

4. MoU between UNECE and AFACT, presented by Mr. Mitsuru Ishigaki

The MoU was signed on 3 April 2017 in Geneva. A concrete procedure of participating in UN/CEFACT Forum in the name of AFACT needs to be confirmed with UNECE Secretariat. It was agreed that Dr. Urachada Ketprom, newly approved UN/CEFACT Rapporteur for Asia and Pacific, would discuss with 2017 AFACT Secretariat to propose a procedure and, then, would coordinate with UNECE Secretariat about the exact procedure for AFACT experts participating in UN/CEFACT meetings in the name of AFACT.

5. Summary of the 2017 StC Conference calls, presented by 2017 AFACT Secretariat

5.1. 2017 AFACT Website was briefly browsed and introduced. Any suggestions to improve the Website are welcome.

5.2. 2018 AFACT Hosting member has not been identified. The inquiries have been made to Iran (AFACT Permanent Secretariat) and Thailand (UN/CEFACT Rapporteur for Asia and Pacific), and StC would wait for their replies. Korea HoD was to make final decision whether KISA could be able to host 2018 AFACT meetings.

5.3. 2017 StC composition needed to be finalized and confirmed as StC members are the major evaluators for eASIA Award Evaluation.

5.4. What needed to be clarified were: Vice Chair (2018 Host), BDC Chair, and two elected HoDs

5.5. Conclusion:

5.5.1. It was confirmed that Mr. Jung-gu Lee, HoD of Korea and Dr. Ambreesh Kumar, HoD of India are the elected HoDs for 2 year term. But, including Iran's Mr. Ramezan Ali Sadeghzadeh, if any of them confirmed to host 2018 AFACT meeting, that person would be the Vice Chair of 2017. The other two people were the elected HoDs.

5.5.2. Mr. Supachok Jantarapatin, ETDA, Thailand was named as Acting BDC Chair until a Chair is elected in the BDC at the next Working Group meeting.

5.5.3. For the sake of avoiding any more difficulty of identifying the Host member in the future Dr. Gary Gong, 2017 AFACT Chair, suggested to define AFACT members in two groups: Core members and Interest members. So called "Core" members were the members who were willing to support and get involved in AFACT Affairs actively. The so-called "Interest" members were the members who might not have enough resources to participate in AFACT activities frequently. It was the obligation for "Core" members to take turn hosting AFACT meetings. Therefore, each year's Host could be easily identified and AFACT meetings could be prepared in time. If any "Interest" members were able to host AFACT meetings, it was welcome to do so. 2017 AFACT Secretariat would make inquiry to all AFACT members to identify themselves which group they want to be. Dr. Gong also suggested that only an exact organization of the "Core" member be identified to make commitment for hosting AFACT meetings once it's that member's turned to host. Six specific organizations were recommended by StC to be "Core" members for their strong support and active participation, i.e., KISA of Korea, JASTPRO of Japan, III of Chinese Taipei, ETDA of Thailand, ICeCD of Iran, and NIC of India. The above mentioned ideas proposed by Dr. Gong were initially taken into consideration. But AFACT Bylaws needed to be amended accordingly. It was suggested by Mr. Sugamata that one more elected HoD should be added to the StC to make the "Core" Group at least 6 members who were Host Chair, 2 Vice Chair (former and coming Host Chairs), and 3 elected HoDs (Korea, India, Iran). This subject needed to be further discussed at StC meeting and ratified at Plenary based on the draft amendment on AFACT Bylaws. 2017 AFACT Secretariat would draft the amendment first to seek initial comments and

opinions from the StC members.

6. AFACT Secretariat Report made by Ms. Parisa Hosseini via Internet.

6.1. AFACT Website maintenance records throughout the year were reviewed, which were contributed by Mr. Ishigaki, Coordinator, and the Web master at AFACT Secretariat.

6.2. 2017 Yearbook

StC Approval of the schedule	StC members	13-Mar
Sending official calls to the members	AFACT Secretariat	20-Apr
Sending reminding emails to the members	AFACT Secretariat	Monthly from March to June
Submission of the materials	AFACT HoDs	30-Jun
Preparing/ Sending the draft to members	AFACT Secretariat	15-Aug
Final Review and confirmation by HoDs	AFACT HoDs	31-Aug
Final polish and publishing on the website	AFACT Secretariat	10-Sep

7. 2017 eASIA Awards preparation report was made by 2017 eASIA Award Secretariat in Chinese Taipei.

Dr. Eva Yueh explained the reasons why 2017 AFACT Secretariat and eASIA Award Secretariat decided to amend the category of eASIA Awards, which are to cope with the social and business environmental changes and the trend of digital economy. In addition, eASIA Awards Contest had been undertaken for more than 10 years. For the sake of encouraging more participation from more innovative organizations from both public and private sectors, 2017 AFACT and eASIA Awards Secretariat suggested it was necessary to amend the eASIA Awards Category composition and the evaluation criteria of the four respective categories, except for the Special Honorary Award.

7.1. There are totally five categories of eASIA Award, namely:

- 1. Trade Facilitation and eCommerce*
- 2. Open Digital Government*
- 3. Data Driven Value Creation*
- 4. Creating Inclusive Digital Opportunities*
- 5. Special Honorary*

7.2. 2017 eASIA Awards Evaluation committee

2017 eASIA Awards Committee was confirmed as below:

- 1. Gary Gong, Chinese Taipei*

2. *Mitsuru Ishigaki, Vice Chair, Japan*
3. *Ramezan Ali Sadeghzadeh , Elected HoD, Iran*
4. *Dr. Ambreesh Kumar, Elected HoD, India*
5. *Jung-Gu Lee, Elected HoD, Korea*
6. *Dr. Mahmood Zargar, AFACT Secretary General, Iran*
7. *T. A. Khan, UN/CEFACT Vice Chair, India (or the specialist assigned by Mr. Khan)*
8. *Dr. Urachada Ketprom, UN/CEFACT Rapporteur, Thailand*
9. *Hisanao Sugamata, Chair of TMC, Japan*
10. *Dr. Eva Yi-Yuan Yueh, Chair of CSC, Chinese Taipei*
11. *Supachok Jantarapatin, Acting Chair of BDC, Thailand*
12. *Yann L.Duval, Representative, UNESCAP*
13. *Local Expert from Chinese Taipei*
14. *Local Expert from Chinese Taipei*
15. *Local Expert from Chinese Taipei*

7.3. Mr.Sugamata proposed the date of ‘Recommendation Projects in Whole Package Submitted to Host Secretariat’ to be amended as Friday 30 June and StC agreed to it.

8. Open discussion /AFACT Operation Issues

8.1. How to attract more participation in AFACT

Dr. Urachada suggested to reach out the right group, to let them understand the benefits of AFACT and to provide them with certain valuable information.

8.2. Future AFACT Mid-Term Meeting

Considering the connectivity quality and facility availability, it was suggested that AFACT still need F2F mid-term meeting.

8.3. Amend AFACT membership

8.3.1. AFACT have 20 members but generally only 8 members actively participate in AFACT meetings. Referring to the above minutes with respect to “Core” and “Interest” members of AFACT for easily identifying host members, the differentiated “Core” membership would help to drive AFACT move forward and urge other “Interest” members to participate in AFACT affairs.2017 AFACT Secretariat would keep contacting MAMPU to get them connected with AFACT.

8.3.2. Referring to 2017 AFACT Host Secretariat’s experience by combining other activities with AFACT ones to reduce cost of hosting, Thailand was seriously considering whether they were able to commit to be 2018

AFACT Host.

9. 2017 AFACT Yearbook

According to the experience in collecting and editing 2016 AFACT Yearbook, Mr. Ishigaki reminded that 2017 AFACT Secretariat needed to start organizing and preparing for editing the 2017 Yearbook earlier. Since 2017 AFACT Plenary was scheduled to be held on 13 September, even 2 months earlier than the time holding 2016 Plenary. He proposed 3 options to StC for consideration: To skip 2017 Yearbook, to postpone compiling and editing deadline to December, and still to keep the date on 13 September to publish electronic 2017 AFACT Yearbook. Ms. Euna Choi mentioned the reason for KISA not submitting Korean Country Report was that they did not see the value of AFACT Yearbook when there have been so many similar publications or materials on the shelf and Internet. She suggested to skip 2017 Yearbook or at least to consider biennial AFACT book. But the Table of Contents needs to be reviewed and modified to make AFACT biennial Yearbook more informative. Both Dr. Urachada and Dr. Eva mentioned that AFACT Yearbook was published for consolidating existing materials scattering everywhere and editing as a reference book for AFACT members and countries outside of AFACT to know what other members are doing in terms of adopting ICT related standards for developing innovative applications and services.

After discussion, the StC decided to take the idea of biennial AFACT Yearbook starting in year 2018, and the 2017 AFACT Secretariat would seek opinions from members how to modify Table of Contents.

10. 2017 AFACT Plenary

2017 AFACT Plenary will be held during the period of WCIT 2017 from 11 to 13 September. All AFACT participating experts are invited to attend the Opening Ceremony and keynotes in the morning of 11 September. AFACT StC meeting will be held in the afternoon of 11 September. The 2017 eASIA Awards final oral evaluation will be held in the afternoon of 12 September and eASIA Awardees will be announced and trophies conveyed at the Gala Dinner in the evening.

Mr. Sugamata asked about whether there was eASIA Award presentation made by the representative of maximally 12 shortlisted projects respectively as it had been carried out in previous EDICOM contexts. Since the venue for final oral presentation and evaluation is big enough, 2017 eASIA Secretariat will invite all other AFACT participating project representatives to attend as audience so as to learn from each other. The arrangement can also meet the objectives that eASIA

Awardees sharing their experiences at AFACT meeting occasion just like at EDICOM.

11. Report by committee and WG at StC 21 April

Mr. Hisanao Sugamata, TMC chair, made report of TMC committee meeting held on 20 April.

Mr. Supachok Jantarapatin, acting BDC chair, made report of BDC committee meeting on 20 April AM and TMC/BDC/CSC joint meeting on 20 April PM.

Mr. Akio Suzuki, acting chair TT&L WG made report of TTL WG meetings on both 19/20 April.

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