

GSC-15 Communiqué**Standards Collaboration Beyond Crisis**

Beijing, China
2 September 2010

The 15th meeting of Global Standards Collaboration (GSC-15), a high level gathering of the world's leading telecommunications and radio standards organizations, took place from 30 August to 2 September 2010 to promote innovation and collaboration on standards for Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

GSC-15 was hosted by the China Communications Standards Association (CCSA) in Beijing, China, and provided an opportunity for standards organizations to consider common challenges in standardization issues related to emerging technology areas such as Smart Grid, cloud computing, and ICT environmental impact. Participants exchanged information and collaborated to identify areas of common interest with a goal to reduce duplication in the development of standards when such work would be redundant.

Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of China (MIIT) Vice Minister, Mr. Guohua Xi in the opening plenary noted, "ICT is widely known as one of the key industries that develops at a fast rate, is pervasive and has a broad range of applications. Standards serve as the foundation and forerunner for the development of the industry, and play a very important role in encouraging competition, spurring innovation, promoting high quality products and supporting public policy objectives. GSC, being composed of senior industry ICT decision-makers and leading standards developers, serves as an influential platform for exchange and cooperation in ICT standardization."

Mr. Zhengkun Ji, Administrator of the Standards Administration of China (SAC), also addressed the group and commented: "International cooperation in standardization activities not only promotes technological innovation but also helps to eliminate trade barriers to facilitate a harmonious and free development of the economy. The financial crisis has presented new challenges to standardization work, but has also provided the rare opportunity for its development. The slogan of GSC-15, 'Standards Collaboration Beyond Crisis', fits well with the current situation."

Chairman of the Council of CCSA, Mr. Gaofeng Zhu, highlighted the growing role of CCSA in GSC. "CCSA joined GSC only five years ago, and through the GSC meetings and joint efforts, we have made good progress. Despite the global financial crisis, the cooperation among GSC members has increased even more."

The GSC-15 meeting addressed over 20 timely standards topics. The output of GSC comprises a set of Resolutions, new or reaffirmed, reflecting consensus positions of the GSC members on the future direction of ICT standardization. GSC-15 produced five new Resolutions on emerging technologies: Smart Grid, machine-to-machine (M2M), cloud computing, service oriented networks and radio aspects of electronic article surveillance (EAS) system.

Other Resolutions, reaffirmed or revised, covered topics such as accessibility, broadband wireless access, cybersecurity, emergency communications, home networking, identity management, ICT and the environment, ICT management and operation, intellectual property rights policy and open standards, intelligent transport systems, IMT (International Mobile Telecommunications), interoperability, IPTV, next generation networks, and reconfigurable radio systems.

More than one hundred participants attended GSC-15. GSC brings together senior representatives of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the Association of Radio Industries and Businesses (ARIB) and the Telecommunication Technology Committee (TTC) of Japan, the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS) and Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) of the USA, the China Communications Standards Association (CCSA), the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI), the ICT Standards Advisory Council of Canada (ISACC), and the Telecommunications Technology Association (TTA) of Korea.

Observer organizations included Alliance of Sensing China, American National Standards Institute (ANSI), APT Wireless Forum, Broadband Forum, CDMA Development Group (CDG), China Electronics Standardization Association (CESA), China Interactive Media Industry Alliance, China National Technical Committee of ITS Standardization, European Patent Office (EPO), FuTURE MOBILE COMMUNICATION FORUM, Global ICT Standardization Forum for India (GISFI), Home Gateway Initiative (HGI), International Electrotechnical Commission Sector Board 4 (IEC SB4), ISO/IEC Joint Technical Committee 1 (JTC1), Open Mobile Alliance (OMA), SCDMA Wireless Broadband Industry Alliance, TD Forum, and TD-SCDMA Industry Alliance (TDIA).

Background Information:

The 15th Global Standards Collaboration is the latest in a series of such events that commenced in Fredericksburg, Virginia, in 1990. GSC provides a strategic opportunity for dialogue among senior officials from national, regional and international standards bodies and provides a venue for the leaders of the Participating Standards Organizations and the ITU to freely exchange information on the progress of standards development in the different regions and the state of the global standards development environment; and collaborate in planning future standards development to gain synergy and to reduce duplication. The next GSC meeting will be hosted by ISACC in Canada in 2011.

More information on GSC-15 is available at <http://gsc15.ccsa.org.cn/>. Information on previous GSC meetings is available at the ITU repository www.itu.int/ITU-T/gsc.