= A Serial Introduction Part 1 =
Winners of ITU-AJ Encouragement Awards 2019

In May every year, The ITU Association of Japan (ITU-AJ) proudly presents ITU-AJ Encouragement Awards to people who have made outstanding contributions in the field of international standardization and have helped in the ongoing development of ICT.
These Awards are also an embodiment of our sincere desire to encourage further contributions from these individuals in the future.
If you happen to run into these winners at another meeting in the future, please say hello to them.
But first, as part of the introductory series of Award Winners, allow us to introduce some of those remarkable winners.

Minami Ishii

Association of Radio Industries and Businesses
ishiimi@nttdocomo.com   https://www.arib.or.jp/english/
Fields of activity: Mobile communication

Secretariat activities of the Japanese delegation at ITU-R WP 5D

I am grateful to receive this Encouragement Award from the Japan ITU Association. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for the guidance given by the members of the Association of Radio Industries and Businesses (ARIB) and the ITU-R WP 5D Japanese delegation.

In 2016, the ITU was working on the standardization of the Fifth Generation Mobile Communications System (5G), called IMT-2020. In Circular Letter 5/LCCE/59, the ITU invited submission of proposals for candidate radio interface technologies for the terrestrial components of IMT -2020. In response, ARIB also invited submission of draft proposals for candidate radio interface technologies for the terrestrial components of IMT -2020 in Japan.

Since domestic companies were actively participating in 3GPP meetings from the early stages of the development of 5G standard specifications, we initially envisaged that there would be no proposal for candidate radio interface technologies other than 3GPP proposals in Japan. However, even in that case, the following measures had to be considered:
· Are there any concerns if Japan decides not to make a proposal to ITU for the fifth generation mobile communications system, though Japan had submitted proposals to ITU in the third and fourth generation mobile communications systems?
· If a proposal from Japan is submitted, will it be different from other 3GPP radio interface proposals?

· What will we propose, if there are no differences between the Japanese proposal and other 3GPP radio interface proposals?
· Development of Japan's draft policy response to proposals from other countries, etc.

There was also a proposal for a component technology that was not initially expected, so we had to consider how to deal with this proposal.

As I proceeded with the above measures, I learned the importance of fully listening to the opinions of the participants of meetings and the background of those opinions, and advancing the discussion after understanding the other party's position.

There were also cases where, while respecting the other party's position, they could not listen to each other's assertions. However, I also learned that even in such cases, experienced people, including the Japanese delegation, could gradually soften their positions by sharing the past procedures, the process, and the current situation, and by holding discussions among the participants, and that they could propose constructive alternatives to advance the discussions that had previously been held in parallel.

Due to a personnel transfer, I was not able to continue this activity until the IMT -2020 radio interface technology became established. However, I would like to contribute to international standardization and international cooperation, making use of the above experiences gained through activities with the secretariat of the Japanese delegation at ITU-R WP 5D.

Eiichiro Ichikawa

Nippon Telegraph and Telephone East Corporation
eiichiro.ichikawa@east.ntt.co.jp   https://www.ntt-east.co.jp/en/
Fields of activity: ICT human resource development

International Collaboration through ICT Human Resource Development

I am very pleased to receive this Encouragement Award from the Japan ITU Association. I would like to express sincere thanks to the Japan ITU Association and all those involved.

I have been involved in international collaboration since 2000, when I participated in the JICA Japan Overseas Cooperation

Volunteers for two years. I connected laboratory PCs to the Internet and set up an environment for students to perform literature research and other activities at Church Teacher's College in Jamaica.

For three and a half years starting in 2005, I worked for the

Global Business Office of NTT East, at the JICA Okinawa International Center, as the leader of the network courses, part of their computer course, planning, giving lectures, and managing the overall course. We focused particularly on action plans for the trainees after they return to their countries, discussing the local conditions and issues repeatedly with trainees and designing practical plans that will be very feasible. We also maintained contact with trainees after they returned to their countries, supporting their activities there.

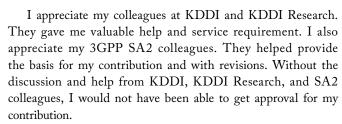In 2014, I returned to the Global Business Office of NTT East, creating proposals for international cooperation. Fortunately, just before moving, I was able to create a disaster prevention project. I believe the most important factors in achieving this were the enthusiasm of the those involved; specialists that have the trust of the local people, JICA, and the people from NTT East.

In retrospect, I believe that having local trust relationships and incorporating the thoughts of project participants mobilized those on the periphery, contributing to success. I also hope to continue to be involved in international cooperation, continuing to emphasize human relationships.

Takeshi Usui

KDDI Research, Inc Mobile Network Group
Fields of activity: Mobile Network & 5G Standardization
＊Member of the above organization, when notified of receiving the award.

5G System Standardization

I appreciate my colleagues at KDDI and KDDI Research. They gave me valuable help and service requirement. I also appreciate my 3GPP SA2 colleagues. They helped provide the basis for my contribution and with revisions. Without the discussion and help from KDDI, KDDI Research, and SA2 colleagues, I would not have been able to get approval for my contribution.

5G technology is mainly focused on wireless technology. However, 5G services cannot be provided with wireless technology alone. Standardization of the 5G System (i.e.: terminals and mobile core network) is also important. I hope this award will encourage my juniors, who also engaged in 5G System standardization.

Actually, my contribution was to UE policy in the standardization of the 5G System. Without UE policy, the users would need to configure terminals by themselves when using 5G services (e.g.: network slicing and MEC). I engaged in the standardization of 5G System to increase the benefits of 5G services for users. These features will promote the benefits of 5G services. In the future, I will work toward introducing these features in the actual commercial network.

Tsukuru Kai

Nippon Television Network Corporation
tsukuru@ntv.co.jp / tsukuru@rd.ntv.co.jp   http://www.ntv.co.jp/english/
Fields of activity: ITU-R SG6

Activities towards launch on HDR-TV broadcasting service

It is a great honor for me to receive the ITU-AJ Encouragement Award. I appreciate all the work done by those who have been eagerly participating in related activities, and would like to thank all members involved in nomination and selection.

Development of a recommendation and reports related to HDR-TV is important for both broadcasters and production equipment developers. The documents introduce a new era in broadcast production, so producers and technicians will need to accustom themselves to a new style of workflow. My activities are mainly to give guidance for introduction of these new technologies in documents being published for Japanese broadcasters, and to contribute documents with Japanese related information and technologies as input to WP6C, with much aid from Japanese broadcasters and production equipment companies.

One of the contributions has been to provide information on facial skin tones in Japanese broadcast content, which can provide a reference level for conversion between HDR content and SDR content. About 700 sample images were contributed by broadcasters and analyzed.

This technical information was published in the report ITU-R BT.2408. This work was performed by HDR Ad-Hoc, which is an umbrella study group under the Association of Radio Industries and Business (ARIB). This Ad-Hoc was established with the endorsement of the Japan Commercial Broadcasters Association (JBA) to publish a technical reports on operational guidelines for HDR video program production. This helps to provide technical guidelines for exchange of programs on new 4K/8K satellite broadcast services, which commenced on Dec. 1st 2018. I hope this information will help broadcasters worldwide.

Producers and technicians currently have less experience in program production for HDR-TV than conventional SDR. It is possible that much more experience they gain in the future will lead more new ideas for contributions on HDR-TV and others.

I would like to continue my work providing contributions in the field of new image formats.