

= A Serial Introduction Part 2 = Winners of ITU-AJ Encouragement Awards 2022

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.

Yuichi Kumaki

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Fields of activity: Global business development



Technical support for optical access at the PT Telkom Group in Indonesia

It is a great honor to receive this prestigious encouragement award from the ITU Association of Japan at this time. I would like to express deep gratitude to all who lent their guidance and encouragement, leading to this award.

I have worked with PT Telekom Indonesia since 2010. During that time, I was involved in planning and executing various technology exchange efforts, mainly related to optical access.

Beyond simply sharing procedures and specifications from the experience and know-how of NTT East, I also worked carefully to build their understanding of why particular methods or specifications were adopted, history, and background from each generation, to build a trust relationship. Then, since 2016 and at the request of PT Telekom, we have operated a paid technical support consulting project. In this technical support activity, we

first carefully explain why the methods and tools we introduce are needed, so that they will adopt them, and then, through repeated discussion with local members, select methods and components that can be procured locally, tuning them to the local environment as much as possible. This sort of effort has been well accepted, and we are currently providing support to train technicians for deploying the methods we have proposed throughout the country.

To be involved in projects in an environment that is completely different from Japan, and to work with many local team members has been an irreplaceable experience for me. I was able to see energetic, cheerful and enjoyable workplaces in Indonesia with my own eyes and to learn many things. I would like to continue to work, contributing to the expansion of telecommunications in Indonesia in the future.

Kazuhiro Kumamaru

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Fields of activity: ITU-R SG4, SG6



Activities in ITU-R

It is an honor and a great pleasure to receive this ITU-AJ Encouragement Award. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the ITU-AJ and all the others for their guidance and support.

I first participated in ITU-R activities at the ITU-R SG4 (Satellite Services) meeting in 2017. Since 2020, I have been actively involved in SG6 (Broadcasting Service), contributing to technical studies and standardizing satellite broadcasting and broadcasting technology. This award recognizes work I have done in various areas as follows.

I contributed to revision of the recommendation (BT.1871) outlining the requirements and operational characteristics of radio systems necessary for broadcasting services, such as wireless microphones. In particular, I compiled information on frequencies of wireless microphones used by Japanese broadcasters and added the data to the recommendation. I hope that this revision will lead to harmonization of frequencies used by wireless microphones both regionally and globally. In compiling this information, I received helpful support from the Ministry of Internal Affairs and

Communications (MIC), the Japan Commercial Broadcasters Association (JBA), the Association of Radio Industries and Businesses (ARIB) and others.

Another part of my work pertains to a new report (BO.2497) on the criteria for sharing broadcast satellite frequencies. The report, proposed by NHK/B-SAT, summarizes the results of technical studies reviewing possible changes to satellite coordination procedures. This was for an agenda item at the World Radio Communication Conference (WRC-19) in 2019. The contents are also relevant to Japan's BS left-handed circularly-polarized frequencies registered for 4K/8K satellite broadcasting in 2016. There were several problems, and discussions among concerned parties continued until the final plenary meeting. Ultimately, we reached a mutual agreement. I hope that this report will promote the stable use of frequencies for 4K/8K satellite broadcasting in the future.

I hope to continue utilizing my experience with ITU-R and contributing to further development in the broadcasting industry.

Susumu Saito

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Fields of activity: ITU-R SG4, SG6, Broadcasting Service, Satellite Broadcasting



Activities related to broadcasting services

I would like to offer my sincere thanks for this ITU Association of Japan Encouragement Award at this time. I would also like to offer thanks to all those who have provided their guidance.

I have participated in ITU-R activities since 2010, protecting satellite broadcasting operations and requesting new satellite broadcast frequencies from ITU-R as needed for advanced satellite broadcasting.

I currently participate in SG4 for satellite services, SG6 for broadcasting services, and SG5 for terrestrial services. In SG6, I participated in discussions of sharing and compatibility studies between broadcasting and mobile service, and contributed

to creation of a new recommendation (BT.2136). In SG4, I contributed to creation of a new report (BO.2497) clarifying relationships among satellite frequency sharing criteria (PFD and EPM criteria). In SG5, I contributed revisions to recommendations M.1824 -1 and F.1777-2, adding information on Japanese standards for 4K and 8K FPU's.

I hope to continue contributing to maintaining and expanding the broadcasting services built by my predecessors, in areas including study of sharing between broadcasting and other businesses and standardization work to advance broadcasting further in the future.

Hidekazu Shimodaira

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Fields of activity: 3GPP/O-RAN

**Contribution to standardization through development of commercial equipment**

I am very honored to receive this prestigious ITU Association of Japan Encouragement Award. I would like to express sincere gratitude to everyone at the ITU-AJ and others involved.

Since I first joined NTT DOCOMO, I have been involved in study of commercial equipment specifications and technology for interconnection interfaces in cross-vendor configurations. Originally it was just commercial equipment specifications, but I gained recognition for my knowledge of 3GPP standards and the clarity of technical elements in interconnection interfaces for cross-vendor configurations, and have been doing standardization work with 3GPP since October, 2018, and with the O-RAN Alliance since October, 2020.

At 3GPP, I initially worked on standardization of functions such as positioning in RAN1, but now I am working on overall

standardization of Radio Resource Management (RRM) functions in RAN4. In O-RAN standardization, I worked on a proposal for a standard function that will enable more flexible use of Fronthaul Multiplexer in 5G. In both of these standardization activities, I worked to bring a perspective of commercial equipment development to the standardization process. In FY2022, study for 5G Advanced began, and I have been given the role of joint-rapporteur (responsible for summarizing results of discussion) for a Work Item studying extended functions for Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTN). The rapporteur's abilities can affect whether study of a 3GPP specification can complete on schedule with agreement from all parties, so I will continue to work hard to ensure that our study completes as planned.

Hiroki Takeda

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Fields of activity: 3GPP RAN Plenary and RAN2/3 standardization

**3GPP RAN Plenary and RAN2/3 Standardization Activities**

To begin with, I would like to say that I am sincerely thankful on receiving an ITU-AJ Encouragement Award. I would also like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to all concerned for their guidance and support in past activities.

I have been participating in 3GPP RAN standardization activities for about nine years since 2013 and have submitted a variety of proposals at RAN Plenary meetings. These include a work-item proposal on the standardization of LTE carrier aggregation and a proposal for early standardization of a 5G NSA (Non-Stand Alone) system (technology for providing 5G using the existing LTE network) toward the launch of commercial services in 2020. Furthermore, in RAN2/3, I have submitted contributions and have been involved in drafting standards for LTE functional extensions for drones and for diverse technologies such as RAN slicing by holding discussions with engineers from

various companies. I have also served as a joint Rapporteur with representatives of overseas operators and vendors for study items in 5G Technology Integrated Access and Backhaul (IAB) toward a base-station wireless backhaul.

It was not an infrequent occurrence at these standardization discussions for my opinion to clash with those of others, but despite these difficult situations, I came to learn the importance of respecting the ideas of others and to steer discussions toward a common objective. Additionally, given that LTE and 5G are technologies used widely by people around the world, I take great pride in my involvement in drafting these technical standards.

Going forward, I would like to make an even greater effort to contribute to the further development of the communications industry by applying my expertise and experience to date.