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COURAU, FRANCOIS
CHAIR OF 3GPP RAN PLENARY

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Dear Mr. Francois Courau,

As a chair of TTA PG302 (Portable Internet Project Group), I am writing to propose that your current effort in 3GPP RAN on LTE can be aligned with Mobile WiMAX. Recently, 2.3GHz band has been licensed for portable internet (a.k.a. WiBro) service, which is expected to be commercialized in April 2006 in Korea. The significance of WiBro service in Korea is that it will be the world-first mobile broadband internet access service that employs IEEE 802.16d/e specifications. The WiBro system specification, recently standardized by Telecommunications Technology Association (TTA) of Korea, is harmonized with IEEE 802.16e, adopting OFDMA (Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiple Access)/TDD option as a part of specific PHY and MAC profile. I also note that our WiBro is currently discussed as a specific profile of Mobile WiMAX within Mobile Working Group (MWG) of WiMAX Forum.

All of our TTA members recently came to the conclusion that both 3GPP RAN on LTE and WiBro were focusing on the same target market based on the similar performance objectives. More specifically, TDD technology plays an essential role of realizing the high-speed mobile internet access to support broadband services in both 3GPP LTE-TDD and WiBro. It implies that TDD market might be divided into two different sectors, simply due to independent yet redundant activities centered around an identical set of technologies, e.g., OFDMA and MIMO. As a result, our industry will suffer from the non-interoperable technologies that eventually reduce revenue and profit for both service providers and system vendors. Although most members in 3GPP RAN LTE have been currently considering a common baseband implementation for FDD and TDD, there are many technical issues in sharing the same framework between two different technologies. More specifically, the requirements for FDD and TDD to be based on the same technology may be too strict to adopt some technologies essential for our target market. Therefore, I believe that these

independent yet redundant activities must be aligned so as to resolve our growing concern.

To achieve the consensus of 3GPP RAN LTE-TDD and WiBro, I like to propose that a different framework should be discussed for TDD system. To further discuss this issue, TTA PG302 is looking forward to your suggestion. Meanwhile, our members who are also participating in both 3GPP and WiMAX will be discussing with you for possible collaboration between 3GPP and TTA PG302. Furthermore, I am willing to make all my efforts to a successful collaboration.

Sincerely



Daehyoung Hong

Chair, TTA PG 302

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TTA Telecommunications
Technology Association