

Opening address for the Tutorial Workshop on IPv6 Geneva, 6 May 2002

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Good morning,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to welcome you this morning to the opening of the ITU workshop on IPv6. Present in this room are not only the leading experts on this new technology, representatives from Regional Internet Registries, regular delegates from North America and Europe, there are also participants from developing countries. Welcome to you all.

With the rapid growth of the Internet and mobile telecommunication, and the convergence of technology and services, more and more devices are being connected with the IP protocol and there will be a need for more addresses than are currently available. These additional addresses will be provided by the IPv6 protocol, which will be discussed in depth by our speakers today.

But let me start by saying a few words about ITU. 2001 was a busy year for ITU-T. In 2001, the ITU-T took concrete measures to speed up its working processes. The AAP process was officially launched at the end of January 2001. By the end of December 2001, there were about 190 new or revised technical Recommendations approved by AAP, with more than 60% approved in less than two months after the texts were identified as mature. ITU-T had several Study Group meetings held in different regions. A pioneer workshop on IP and Mediacom 2004 was held in April 2001. Several information workshops were organized in different regions. ITU-T strengthened its cooperation with IETF, 3GPPs and other SDOs. An informal "Forum Summit" was held in December 2001, with the participation of two dozen leaders of forums and ITU, to discuss international cooperation on standardization. The President of IPv6 attended that event.

Encouraged by the positive results of the first workshop on IP network and Mediacom 2004, ITU-T decided to organize a number of workshops in 2002, including this workshop on IPv6, a workshop on ENUM held in February, a workshop on Multimedia convergence held in March, a workshop on security to be held in May in Seoul, Korea, a workshop on IMT-2000 and Systems beyond, which is co-organized by ITU-R and ITU-T, to be held in May, in Ottawa, Canada, a workshop on IP/Optical to be held in Chitose, Japan, in July, and a workshop on satellite in IP and multimedia networks and services to be held in December.

This workshop will provide an excellent opportunity for participants to learn more about the key issues related to IPv6 deployment and to exchange their opinions and ideas on various important issues: limitations of IPv4, IPv6 address allocation policies, benefits and costs of implementing IPv6, transition scenarios, and implementation issues. The speakers are all well-known experts in their competent fields, most of them enjoy a leading role or a coordinating role in their fields. I am deeply impressed by their in-depth knowledge that they will share with us. However, it will be a great error if we do not profit from their presence at this meeting. I am eager to hear their opinions on the subjects to which ITU can add its value.

The workshop has a tight and full programme for this day. The presentations and discussions will not only provide good information to the public, they will also provide some useful input to the concerned experts. I sincerely hope that you will enjoy this workshop.

I would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to the speakers, to the workshop organizers and session chairs, particularly to Mr. Bosco Fernandez who organized the programme and to Mr. John Klensin who wrote the tutorial paper. Finally, I would also like to express my appreciation to the participants for your efforts to join us and for your advice that will help us. I would be very pleased to receive your comments on this workshop.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I hope you will find this workshop useful.

I wish you a successful meeting.

Thank you for your attention.