

VIEWS OF TELECOMMUNICATION COMPANY OF IRAN ON IP TELEPHONY FOR THIRD TELECOMMUNICATION POLICY FORUM

Introduction

Individual research and consultant agencies have predicted that in future IP will be the main protocol for carrying voice in public telephone networks and there is no doubt that existing current expansion of telecommunication networks especially in developing countries will be affected by the growth of IP traffic and IP telephony.

With respect to the points mentioned above and confirming related ITI-T activities, it is believed that proposed avenues for international co-ordination on IP telephony covers the most important issues. However, there are a number of other topics which could be considered in the forum and are categorized as follows:

1. Technical Aspects

Some other items in addition to the proposed avenues in the report can also be studied and finalized by ITU-T with IETF cooperation on IP telephony related studies and activities.

1.1 Standardization

It is proposed that ITU should prepare required recommendations for the following items:

1.1.1 Media gateway and media gateway controller from the following points of view:

- Functionality
- Interfaces
- Traffic engineering
- Processing
- Network management
- Signaling
- Charging format

1.1.2 Media gateway and media gateway controller interconnection and interoperability.

1.1.3 Review and confirmation of IETF existing standards by ITU-T could be considered.

1.2 Interworking

1.2.1 Integrated operation and maintenance management center for IP-based networks and PSTN should be taken into account.

1.2.2 Common cooperation between IETF and ITU-T in preparing required standards for IP-based networks and PSTN on interworking and interoperability issues is also proposed.

1.3 Numbering

Preparation of required and finalized standards for integrated addressing IP-based networks and PSTN (e.g., finalized and approved ENUM) should be considered.

1.4 Network considerations

1.4.1 Infrastructural requirements for backbone of a circuit switched network with respect to implementation of an IP-based network should be considered.

1.4.2 The implementation methods of IP telephony in ATM networks (IP over ATM) should be considered and required comments or recommendations should be established.

- 1.4.3 It is proposed that ITU-T provide a guide line for implementation of IP-based networks in developing countries.

2. Policy and Regulatory issues

In this case it is proposed that the use of IP telephony and performance of the related services to be provided in a specific country should be studied according to telecommunication regulations established by the regulatory body or related ministry and under supervision of the authorities.

In the case of international connections, ITU can play the main role by preparing the required recommendations for bilateral connection between two IP telephony service providers in originating and destination countries in accordance with the member states points of view.

For the countries in which the telecommunication industry has not been privatized yet, it is proposed that the incumbent operator to be the sole IP service provider.

3. Economic Aspects

According to the activities of study group 3 (ITU-T) on tariffs based on cost-oriented method concerning international telecommunication services, it is proposed that studies on IP telephony tariffs also should be carried out in this study group and the required recommendations on the cost of international connections to be prepared in compliance with the ITU-T member states' interests.

TCI is interested in participating in different study groups which will be defined for the proposed avenues to be studied.
