

## Opening Remarks

by Jin-Fu Chang

Good morning, Director Sugita Masakiho of IAJ, Prof. Hiroshi Yasuda, co-chair of today's conference, and Ladies and Gentlemen, especially friends from Japan. It is such a pleasure to have this 「Taiwan-Japan Joint Conference on Communication Technologies」 co-sponsored by NSC (National Science Council) · IAJ (Interchange Association, Japan) & NTP (National Science & Technology Program for Telecommunications). Today we gather here in Hsinchu. There are reasons why Hsinchu is picked for this conference. First, it is where the NTP office is located. But a more important reason is that, it has the globally well-known Industrial Park, National Tsing-Hua University, National Chiao-Tung University, ITRI (Industrial Technology Research Institute), and other excellent academic and R&D establishments nearby. I sincerely hope our Japanese friends will know better about Taiwan, beside Taipei, Hsinchu is also a city with powerful influence to the whole world in IT and Semiconductors.

Let me tell our Japanese friends a bit about NTP. NTP is a national program established by NSC; a joint effort by the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MoEA), Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MoTC), Ministry of Education (MoE) and NSC. The purpose to organize this national program is to integrate resources from the government, industry, academia, and research organizations for the development of telecom technologies. In addition, NTP also focuses on the communications industry promotion & development, manpower cultivation, and advanced academic research. NTP was founded in 1998 and the first phase of 5 years has ended in 2002. We are presently in year 4 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase, which will end next year. Recently we have started to plan for the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase, and the theme will be Networked Communications. Technologies to be developed include Access Technology, Communication Software & Platform Technology, Service & Applications, and Regulations and Social Impacts. In Taiwan, manufacturing and service in telecom are in the hands of different government arms. Manufacturing is in MoEA and service is in MoTC and NCC. That is why NTP becomes a useful machine for coordination and integration.

Last summer, NTP took a trip to Japan. We visited e-Access, NTT Docomo, and KDDI R&D Labs. They are three major WiMAX Operators in Japan. Although we did not have extra time to see more activities in universities and academic institutes, we at least and indeed learned a great deal about the WiMAX and 4G developments in

Japan, and we are of course very impressed . As we visited TECRO (Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office) in Japan we were warmly received by Representative Se-Kai Koh .At our meeting with Dr. Ching-Fa Yeh, Director of Science and Technology Division, TECRO, we initiated the idea to hold a joint telecommunication technology conference between Taiwan and Japan. The first conference would take place in Taiwan and then go to Japan.

Science and Technology Division, TECRO in Japan was setup in 1982. The staffs are sent from Taiwan to Japan by NSC to enable the interactivity in technology between these two countries. They are actively seeking opportunities for bilateral R&D collaboration. All these years, the relationship between Taiwan and Japan has been good and close in economics, culture, and homeland security. It would be very much beneficial if this conference can create more opportunities for exchange scholars and graduate students and to facilitate real cooperation in communications technology.

In order to follow up the idea we generated with Dr. Ching-Fa Yeh in Japan, Prof. Hiroshi Yasuda from Tokyo Denki University came to Taiwan to discuss and coordinate the conference details with NTP people. We have to thank Prof. Hiroshi Yasuda & Mr. Takuyo Kogure for spending so much time and effort in this conference, and we also have to send out our appreciation to the support of Tokyo Denki University and Technical Committee on Communication Systems of IEICE. Last but not least, we are grateful to IAJ (Interchange Association, Japan) & NSC (National Science Council) for the funding they have provided.

In the coming two days, we will have four sessions for Sensor & Home Networks, Advanced Transmission Technologies, Network Application Environment, and Optical & Cognitive Radio Technologies as well as 7 plenary talks. All are currently most important issues on the development of communications technology. We have 31 outstanding speakers from universities, research institutes, and industry from both Japan and Taiwan to share their vision and research results. I sincerely hope after these two days, we can create real cooperation plans or projects soon, which will really be the dream coming true for this conference. We are looking forward to having the second conference in Japan

Thank you so much for your support and participation in this conference, and I sincerely wish friends from Japan a very nice time here. Thank you