

Technical Committee on Information Infrastructure (TCII)
Minutes from the meeting at ICC 2008
Beijing, China, May 20, 2008.

20 May, 15:00.

Conference Room 3, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Beijing, China

The following meeting agenda was proposed and accepted.

- Opening / Introduction
- Review / Approval of minutes of last meeting (GLOBECOM 2007)
- Conference updates
- ICC 2008, Globecom 2008, ICC 2009, GLOBECOM 2009
- TCII flagship conference: GIIS 2009
- Other conferences and workshops
- GAP projects presentation/discussion
- Green Communications
- Web site & mailing list
- Other Business
- Adjourn

1. Opening and introduction

Raouf welcomed attendees and opened meeting.

2. Introduction

All participants introduced themselves. The list of the attendees is given below:

- Youssef Iraqi, Dhofar University (Oman), y_iraqi@du.edu.om
- Azzedine Boukerche, University of Ottawa (Canada), boukerch@site.uottawa.ca
- Jalel Ben-Othnam, University of Versailles (France), jbo@prism.uvsq.fr
- Jong-Tae Park, Kyungpook University (Korea), jtpark@ee.knu.ac.kr
- Ken Chen, University Paris 13 (France), kchen@galilee.univ-paris13.fr

- Haris Gacanin, Tohoku University (Japan), haris@mobile.eeci.tohoku.ac.jp
- Pascal Lorenz, University of Haute Alsace (France), lorenz@ieee.org
- Farid Nait-Abdesselam, University of Lille 1 (France), naf@ieee.org
- Roberto Saracco, Telecom Italia (Italy), roberto.saracco@telecomitalia.it
- Doug Zuckerman, Telcordia (Ret), (U.S.A.), w2xd@aol.com
- Abdelhamid Mellouk, University Paris 12 (France), mellouk@univ-paris12.fr
- Nizar Bouabdallah, INRIA (France), nbouabda@inria.fr
- Marcus Brunner, NEC Europe (Germany), brunner@netlab.nec.de
- Tarik Taleb, Tohoku University, (Japan), taleb@aiet.eeci.tohokama.ac.jp
- Hamid Nafaa, UCD (Ireland), nafaa@ieee.org
- Raouf Boutaba, University of Waterloo (Canada), (Chair) rboutaba@cs.uwaterloo.ca
- Robert Walp, GCI – Alaska (U.S.A.), (Vice-Chair) r.walp@ieee.org
- Yacine Ghamri Doudane, ENSIIE (France), (Secretary, preparing these minutes) ghamri@ensiie.fr

3. Approval of last meeting minutes

The minutes of the last meeting was presented by Raouf and approved by all the participants.

4. Report on conferences

In Globecom 2008, Azzedine Boukerche (member of TCII) is co-chairing the “Ad Hoc and Sensor Networks Symposium”. The symposium received ~460 submitted papers. It makes the AHSN Symposium the 2nd largest in Globecom 2008 in terms of submissions. The completion of reviews is expected for mid-June.

5. Next conferences

The next major events in which TCII is involved are: ICC 2009, Globecom 2009 and GIIS 2009.

In ICC 2009, TCII is endorsing two symposiums:

- Symposium on Information Security: Raouf Boutaba is co-chairing this symposium with Stefanos Gritzalis, Jiankun Hu, and Peter Müller. Security is a major topic in TCII due to its importance in Information Infrastructure (topic gaining importance).
- Symposium on Selected Areas in Communications: Yacine Ghamri-Doudane (TCII Secretary) is co-chairing this symposium with Gabriel Jakobson, K.P. Subbalakshmi, Madjid Merabti, and Sedat Oelcer. TCII is handling the « vehicular Communications » area in this symposium.

Marcus Brunner, TCII member, is co-chairing with Mohammed Atiquzzaman, Latif Latid, Ivica Rimact he “Next Generation networks” Symposium.

In Globecom 2009, TCII is involved in the organizing committee with the participation of Doug Zuckerman (General Chair), Mehmet Ulema (Technical Program Chair and GITC advisor), Raouf Boutaba (Finance Chair), Bob Walp (Professional Development Chair), Guenter Schaeffer (Student Travel Grant Chair), Roberto Saracco (Publicity Chair). TCII is co-sponsoring two symposiums:

- Communication and Information System Security Symposium: Guenter Schaeffer is co-chairing this symposium with Abderrahim Benslimane, Stamatios Kartalopoulos and Qingming Ma.
- Ad hoc, Sensor and Mesh Networks Symposium: Nizar Bouabdallah and Azzedine Boukerche are co-chairing this symposium with Chunxiao (Tricia) Chigan and Ashfaq Khokhar.

GIIS, the TCII flagship event, will be held in Tunisia in 2009. Due to previous suggestion from the TC members, GIIS 2009 will be held the week after ICC 2009 and not too far from there (ICC'09 being held in Dresden, Germany). This aims at making TC members attending both events. We need just to be careful to not have conflicting dates with other similar conferences such as ISCC for instance.

The idea is to have two tracks this time instead of one: one track containing papers related to financial/policy/legal aspects for infrastructure deployment and one for technical aspects. The TC is working towards this. The goal being to closing the digital divide, one idea to encourage local attendance is to subsidise free access to students.

We had two other possibilities for GIIS 2009: Mauritius/Reunion Islands or Salalah in Oman.

- Mauritius is a small country that has a strong and active research institute for development. Mauritius has nice hotel facilities. It may be an interesting option for hosting GIIS 2010 as it will be close geographically to ICC 2009 location (South Africa).
- Salalah is the 2nd largest city of Oman. It has direct connections to Muscat or Dubai. It contains two large hotels that can host GIIS.

NB. India being a market with 900 million persons in rural areas, we tried to organise GIIS there in 2008. But this seems too complex to realize (timeframe of GIIS, weather conditions in India, availabilities of the potential organizers ...). So, we gave up.

6. Global Access Projects

One of the main objectives of TCII is “closing the digital divide” and under this umbrella helping to define the concepts needed to build a “Global Information Infrastructure” in under served areas (rural areas, under-developed countries ...). This idea came up from the “Global Access Subcommittee” that had been headed by Bob Walp, the current TCII Vice-Chair. The objectives of this former TCII subcommittee are now endorsed by TCII. Bob presented some slides giving the vision of the GAP project. The discussion following the presentation came up with a suggestion to go forward by building up a proposal to the IEEE New Initiatives Committee (Roberto da Marca) in order to get support for such project. The proposal should not be too long. It needs to prepare by a bench of volunteers. Raouf suggested sending a call for volunteers through the TCII mailing list. He pointed out the fact that we need an “implementable” project that Bob can put together.

7. Green Communications

Green Communications is a field gaining interest. Raouf invited Roberto Saracco to explain the current issues that are known as “Green Communications”.

Green communications has two sides:

- On the one hand is the telecom/internet infrastructure. This one is a big user of Power. In many developed countries it is on the top three of electricity consumers. This power consumption is due to the communication equipment (40 to 50%) as well as to air conditioning (50 to 60%). So, the first question is how to reduce the overpower consumption? Answering this question involves a lot of technological aspects.
- On the other hand is the consumer. In the past, consumers don't need any power consumptions to make phone calls. Now, consumers use powerline, wifi, wireless phones The power consumption due to that is 2 to 3 times more than the one already consumed by the network operator. We need new technologies to optimize this power consumption.

Currently we consume more what we use. So we can even balance the energy between houses according to the communications needs.

One suggestion is to organize a satellite workshop co-located with GIIS'09. The first step is to identify the community (some papers are already published here and there).

NEC Europe (Germany) proposed a Workshop for ICC'09 called GreenCom. All the attendees agreed that TCII have to accept endorsing this workshop and work closely with this community. The attendees also agreed that TCII and ComSoc have to go further with this topic.

8. Website and Mailing List

A new website (<http://www.ensiie.fr/~tcii/>) and mailing list (tcii@weblrms2.ensiie.fr) have been created by the new TC secretary (Yacine Ghamri-Doudane). Yacine encouraged TC members to visit often the new website and to feel free to make comment and suggestions to improve it. As for the mailing list, the number of current TC members that are registered on it is 273. It increased significantly since it includes also GIIS authors and participants.

9. Other Business

No particular point added by the attendance.

10. Closing

The meeting was adjourned at 17:15 PM