

Information & Communication Technology

1. Benefits from ICT for society

3-EJ-1: Governments should promote ICT utilization to support the development of a dynamic society as a way to address social issues, such as the aging society, nursing/medical care, unemployment, crime/disaster prevention, and energy/environmental issues. ICT can provide remote medical care, telework, e-learning, and entertainment, and currently the following 3 areas should be emphasized.

3-EJ-2: Both governments should promote realization of educational environment in which every child can achieve self-realization with support of ICT. EU-Japan-cooperation should be promoted so as to improve information literacy of children and to develop an environment in which children can utilize the Internet with security and safety. Both governments should promote development of digital archives including pictures, that encompass cultural heritages, arts, and entertainments of the EU and Japan, for children to better understand cultures of the EU and Japan, and appreciate the worlds' finest arts and knowledge. Any digitisation, however, should be done with the explicit permission of the rightsholders thereby fully respecting their exclusive rights.

3-EJ-3: For better resolution of inconveniences with international travel between the EU and Japan, and for promotion of further interaction between the EU and Japan, both governments should promote the development of multilingual information environment by utilizing ICT, such as development of multilingual websites and deployment of user-friendly intelligent and interactive displays that respond to individual needs.

3-EJ-4: Governments should act for practical application and spread of ITS to contribute to global climate by reduction of CO2 emissions as a result of resolution of urban traffic congestion, and the prevention of traffic accidents. Both governments should actively promote field tests and share the results of these trials.

2. Security (including e-government) issues

3-EJ-5: Both governments should implement e-Government services that citizens and businesses can experience the convenience and improvements of service quality by making the most of ICT. Specifically, both governments should strengthen their cooperation concerning the compatibility of e-Passports for prevention of falsification and for safe and speedy airport procedure, cost reduction and improvement of service quality of port and harbour, information sharing about development of port information system to improve assuredness of shipping and so on.

3-EJ-6: Security and reliability of systems such as communication networks and financial information systems are global issues, especially when major accidents or catastrophes with a wide-ranging impact occur. Therefore, international cooperation is essential and both governments should exchange their current policies to foster effective revision or implementation of common policies. Both the EU and Japan

should raise awareness of citizens about information security by promoting industry-government-academia cooperation to develop specific curricula on information security.

3-EJ-7: Protection of private information can be assisted by security technologies such as biometrics technologies. Both governments should promote the deployment of such technologies to enhance the consumer confidence by further utilization of ICT.

3-EJ-8: Nowadays, businesses must address information security issues and if adequate measures are not taken, they must face significant risk to pay high compensation for damages caused by leaks of private information. However, only a part of businesses are disclosing the assessment of the risks and measures taken for information security. Therefore, both governments should promote disclosure of information security correspondence by businesses, and discussion about necessity of standardization of items to be disclosed.

3. R&D Cooperation with particular focus on international standardization initiatives

3-EJ-9: Both governments should deepen their cooperation concerning R&D and the resulting standardization in international organisations in order to facilitate the uptake of next generation networks that provide security, safety, and simplicity of use.

3-EJ-10: Integrated infrastructures and seamless services in the future “digital home” are combining entertainment and new appliances for household control and management as a new value for consumers. The successful development of these services depends highly on interoperable solutions. Both governments should ensure that standardisation bodies do address the need for standards in this area.

3-EJ-11: Both governments and relevant EU and Japanese institutions which handle standardization should combine efforts so as to create international standards that satisfy global requirements by ensuring their relevance in a worldwide context. The EU and Japan should take a leadership role in formulating such International Standards by means of a proactive partnership that aims to limit regional and national options in standards to an absolute minimum.

4. Regulatory environment allowing a dynamic development of the ICT-World

3-EJ-12: Both the EU and Japan should work towards a regulatory environment that facilitates digital convergence at all levels. Digital convergence developments provide an excellent opportunity for adjusting existing regulations and foster liberalization initiatives therefore governments should adopt a regulatory approach leaving as much as possible and appropriate to market forces.

3-EJ-13: Digital convergence will depend on different elements. First of all governments should support the ability of service provider to offer integrated services. For consumers, regulation should encourage open access to all services any time and any place. The EU and Japan should also foster a competitive level playing field that does not inhibit open access to their respective markets for ICT equipment vendors.

3-EJ-14: Consumers will in the future be able to choose between an even larger number of different platforms using different technologies. New services as e.g. video conferencing for residential costumers, three dimensional internet shopping or interactive classrooms are applications requiring networks with large bandwidth to be available in the mass market. Therefore governments should ensure a competitive development of the ICT sector not prohibiting through regulation the development of new and alternative networks.

3-EJ-15: The precondition for the development of new technologies, new products and new markets is that companies bearing commercial risks also have the possibility to gain profits. It is undisputed that both regulation and regulatory uncertainty can have a negative impact on innovation and investment activities. Consequently Governments should set clear incentives for innovation and investment when shaping the regulatory framework for the ICT industry.

3-EJ-16: Governments should develop public procurement policies that promote interoperability, in particular by purchasing solutions compliant with open standards developed and supported by industry and thereby ensuring that government installations contribute to interoperability. Public administrations should aim to employ highly flexible, vendor independent, and interoperable ICT architectures, which are responsive, open to new technological developments and value-driven. Any procurement decisions should be made on solid business rationale such as degree of interoperability, cost, functionality, security, innovation, support for open standards and adaptability to future technologies.

5. IPR-Policy

3-EJ-17: Both governments are collaborating to address counterfeit goods and pirated production issues in the Asian region in recent years. Although countries in Asia are making efforts to protect intellectual property rights, violations of the rights are still taking place. Both governments should increase their collaborative efforts to ensure an effective enforcement of intellectual property rights. Regarding countries where the violation is too much to ignore, both governments should collaborate and propose a framework facilitating the sharing of information between the private and public sectors on actual infringements to effectively enforce their IPRs.

3-EJ-18: It is noted that both governments are focusing on the issues of content protection, private copying and fair compensation. Both governments should share the underlined issues and idea for solutions in order to promptly issue direction or recommendation in the area of content protection, private copying and fair compensation which shall strike a good balance between content protection and usage. It should facilitate distribution and consumption of content in protected and user-friendly digital platforms, e.g. by DRM's.