



ABA attends inaugural meeting of the regulatory roundtable

TOKYO: The ABA attended the inaugural meeting of the Regulatory Round Table for Asia and the Pacific in Tokyo on 6 June 1997.

Hosted by the Japanese Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, the meeting was attended by broadcast regulators from Australia, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Mr Peter Webb, ABA Chairman, said that he was encouraged by the strong show of support for a regulatory round table for Asia and the Pacific when the concept was discussed at the exploratory meeting, convened by the ABA in Singapore in June 1996.

'The round table is a valuable forum for the sharing of information and knowledge among participants,' he said. 'With the globalisation of

broadcasting and communications, there is real scope for participants to benefit from the exchange of ideas and discussion of issues which transcend geographical boundaries.'

The inaugural meeting discussed issues relating to broadcasting in the twenty-first century: transborder satellite broadcasts, cable television, Internet content regulation, anti-siphoning, standards for pay TV and free-to-air services, and the role of regulatory authorities.

Two working parties were established: one to develop frameworks and models for transborder satellite broadcasting, and the other to experiment and set up an on-line regulatory round table network. The ABA is represented on both working parties and will convene the latter.

The participants also visited NHK Science and Technical Research Laboratories, NTT Multimedia Centre and Fuji Television Network Inc., on 5 June. The visits provided the participants with an insight into communications in the future.

Some of the projects viewed were high definition television, mobile reception of digital terrestrial television broadcasting, mobile phone technology, electronic shopping/banking, and fibre optic transmission.

'These projects obviously give us all a taste of things to come,' Mr Webb said. 'They emphasise to us the need to continue to share our experiences and to exchange information at a global level.'

Other roundtable participants shared his view.

The 1998 meeting of the Regulatory Roundtable will be held in Korea.



Top: Participants in the 1997 Regulatory Round Table for Asia and the Pacific



Bottom: Mr Peter Webb (left), ABA Chairman and Mr Jai Naidoo, South African Minister for Post, Telecommunications and Broadcasting

Visit by the Minister for Post, Telecommunications and Broadcasting of the Republic of South Africa

SYDNEY: The ABA was pleased to host a meeting with Mr Jai Naidoo, South African Minister for Post, Telecommunications and Broadcasting, on 2 June. Mr Naidoo was accompanied by Mr Connie Molusi, Ministerial Press Secretary, and Mr Eugene Grobler, Counsellor for the South African High Commission. Also present were Mr Tony Branigan, Federation of Australian Commercial Television Stations (FACTS) and Ms Victoria Rubensohn, Omni Media.

Mr Naidoo was keen to learn about broadcasting regulation in Australia as the South



News Update

African Government is currently considering regulatory options as part of its review of the South African broadcasting industry.

The discussions focused on the regulation of on-line services, measures of accountability for regulatory authorities, convergence issues, and methods of preserving national identity in broadcasting through regulation.

This meeting follows discussions the ABA had with the South African Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Communications in May and reaffirms the strong ties the ABA has with broadcasting in South Africa.

International Research Forum Newsletter – issue no 4

SYDNEY: The ABA has released the fourth issue of the International Research Forum newsletter. The forum which has 168 members from 28 countries aims to put researchers who work in the area of children and the media in touch with one another, and to share information on research findings and


methodologies.

The June 1997 issue is the first under the new title of *International Research Forum on Children and Media* (IRFCAM). The change from 'television' to 'media' reflects the broader range of research interests of members.

The International Research Forum on Children and Media arose out of the first World Summit on Television and Children, held in Melbourne in March 1995. The ABA coordinates IRFCAM and produces the bi-annual newsletter and maintains the extensive membership list.

The fourth issue of the newsletter focuses on the 'Youth and the Media, Tomorrow' conference held in Paris in April. Other articles provide information on children's programs on pay TV in Australia, upcoming conferences and film festivals. Another feature is the regular update on current and completed projects undertaken by IRFCAM members.

Membership of IRFCAM is free. If you would like more information, please contact Lori Lemon in the Research Section at the ABA.

The fifth issue of the newsletter is due for release in December 1997. 

Temporary transmission of programs by aspirant community broadcasters

For radio and television broadcasts in the period 2 April to 8 August 1997, in order of area served.

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Date signed</i>
New South Wales				
Blacktown City Community Radio Assoc.	Blacktown	100.3	17.5.97 - 17.8.97	16.5.97
Bay FM Community	Byron Bay	91.3	1.5.97 - 31.12.98	1.5.97
Macarthur Community Radio	Campbelltown	100.5	7.6.97 - 15.6.97	21.5.97
Macarthur Community Radio	Campbelltown	100.5	3.5.97 - 11.5.97	30.4.97
Casino's Own Wireless Association Inc.	Casino	107.9	5.7.97 - 28.9.97	14.5.97
Central Coast Broadcasters Inc.	Central Coast	94.1	26.5.97 - 31.5.97	16.5.97
Cessnock Community Broadcasters Inc.	Cessnock	104.5	2.6.97 - 15.6.97	21.5.97
Deepwater and Districts Community FM	Deepwater	105.9	1.6.97 - 30.6.97	19.5.97
Bega Access Radio Inc.	Howardville	93.7	4.7.97 - 27.9.97	9.5.97
Hawkesbury River Radio Group Inc.	Kariong	100.5	5.7.97 - 28.9.97	27.5.97
Living Sound Broadcasters Ltd	Kiama	94.1	3.5.97 - 27.7.97	30.4.97
New Wave Broadcasters Ltd	Killara	99.3	3.7.97 - 26.9.97	14.5.97
Maitland Community Broadcasters Assoc.	Maitland	104.5	17.5.97 - 25.5.97	5.5.97
Maitland Community Broadcasters Assoc	Maitland	104.5	21.6.97 - 29.6.97	21.5.97
Port Stephens FM Radio Inc.	Nelson Bay	99.7	2.6.97 - 8.6.97	14.5.97
Nepean Riverlands Community Radio Assoc.	Nepean	100.7	5.7.97 - 27.7.97	9.5.97
Nimmitabel Community Radio Group	Nimmitabel	96.9	13.6.97 - 27.9.97	21.5.97
Smithfield Community Radio Assoc.	Smithfield	101.9	20.5.97 - 23.5.97	14.5.97
Sydney Youth Radio Inc.	Surry Hills	96.9	5.5.97 - 3.6.97	1.5.97
Sydney Gay and Lesbian Broadcasters	Sydney	96.9	9.6.97 - 8.7.97	21.5.97
Victoria				
Bacchus Marsh Community Radio	Bacchus Marsh	98.5	2.6.97 - 8.6.97	19.5.97
Ballarat Gospel Radio	Ballarat	103.9	7.6.97 - 4.7.97	9.5.97
Bendigo FM Education Broadcasters	Bendigo	99.7	5.7.97 - 28.9.97	14.5.97