



ACMAsphere

Australia's regulator for broadcasting, the internet, radiocommunications and telecommunications

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Asia visit reinforces ACMA's international collaboration

Communications regulators around the world face similar challenges as technological and market changes continue to put traditional regulatory approaches under pressure. This and the increasing globalisation of communications products and services have led to increased support for international collaboration on regulatory issues.

ACMA Chairman Chris Chapman recently visited Singapore, Taipei and Hong Kong, meeting with communications regulators in all three cities and attending an international forum in Taipei.

Beginning in Singapore, he met with representatives of the Media

Development Authority (MDA) and Infocomm Development Authority (IDA). The main purpose of the MDA meeting was to sign a memorandum of understanding (or MoU) with Chief Executive Officer Dr Christopher Chia, to foster the exchange of

information between the two organisations. The agreement also provides for staff exchanges, which the MDA expressed a strong interest in pursuing in the future.

Mr Chapman also met with Leong Ken Thai, IDA's Deputy Chief Executive and Director General (Telecoms). IDA plans to increase its anti-spam efforts over the next 12 months and was particularly interested in ACMA's anti-spam activities, which are generally regarded as a best-practice model by overseas regulators.

The visit to Taipei was timely because ACMA and the NCC are entering into bilateral agreements about spam and testing facilities for electromagnetic energy (EME) health

exposure. Mr Chapman also attended the Telecom and Broadcasting Regulatory Forum, hosted by the National Communications Commission (NCC), where he was a guest speaker. The forum covered a broad range of themes that included regulatory benchmarking, facilitating convergence, media reform and future regulatory trends.

Highlights of the forum included a presentation about benchmarking of regulators in Europe and the OECD, and one that focused on the need to promote innovative services while adapting rules to new market conditions. This presentation also raised the issue of whether protected social and cultural values continue to remain valid in a rapidly evolving communications landscape. Forum presentations are available from the NCC website at <http://tbrf.ncc.gov.tw/> under 'Program'.

The final meeting of Mr Chapman's visit was with Marion Lai, Director-General of Telecommunications, Office of the Telecommunications Authority (OFTA), Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Much of the discussion at this meeting focused on the management of radiofrequency spectrum because OFTA is currently re-allocating spectrum for CDMA services.



ACMA CHAIRMAN CHRIS CHAPMAN AND DR CHRISTOPHER CHIA, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF SINGAPORE'S MEDIA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, SIGN THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING IN SINGAPORE

ACMA CHAIRMAN CHRIS CHAPMAN AT THE TELECOM AND BROADCASTING REGULATORY FORUM WITH YU-LI LIU, COMMISSIONER, NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, AND MICHAEL ARPIN, VICE-CHAIRPERSON, BROADCASTING, CANADIAN RADIO-TELEVISION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION