MOBILE PHONE PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE (MPPI)
Mobile Phone Working Group’s Teleconference
October 24, 2006

Participants:
Marco Buletti, Switzerland (Chair)  Joachim Wuttke, Germany
Greg Rippon Australia                Robert Tonetti, USEPA
Frank McAlister, USEPA                Margareta Appelberg, Sweden
Paul Crossman, Fonebak                Helena Castren, Nokia
Jack Rowley, GSMA                    Peter Hine, Sharp
Paul Didcott, Motorola                Luc Perrouin, France Telecom/Orange
Zubaria Lone, France Telecom/Orange   Ramana James, Vodafone
John Bullock, IPMI                    Henri-Marc Vuillard, Bell Canada
Paul Hagen, CTIA                      Carolyn Brandon, CTIA
Ross Bartley, BIR                    Stephane Burbane, Noranda
Jim Puckett, BAN

Claudia Fenerol, SBC
John Myslicki, Consultant-SBC

Regrets received: Jenifer Chambers, ReCellular, Wen-Ling Chiu-IER.

SUMMARY REPORT

Welcome and Introductions:
- The Chair of the MPWG, Marco Buletti from Switzerland, welcomed everyone to this teleconference, mentioning that it is the first one since the April 5th physical meeting in Geneva.
- He added that the main purpose of this teleconference is to provide information and update on a number of issues that will be presented during the COP 8 meeting and during the side event on MPPI in Nairobi, November 27-Dec.1, 2006.
- He noted that since the last meeting on April 5th a number of important issues related to the transboundary movement were discussed within the project group 2.1 and MPWG. A compromised proposal on transboundary movement recommendations was finalized by the end of August and these recommendations were incorporated in the overall Guidance Document that was submitted to SBC for editing and translation in September, 2006.
- The draft agenda was adopted with no additions or deletions.

Update on MPPI:
- Project Group 2.1 Activities: The Chair asked Joachim Wuttke, chair of the project group 2.1, to introduce 3 issues discussed within that project group: recommendations on transboundary movement, guideline on transboundary movement and chairman’s paper.

TM Recommendations:
Joachim Wuttke indicated that after extensive consultations during summer months the group reached a compromised proposal on transboundary movement, which included an executive summary of issues discussed and a set of recommendations.

The recommendations provide Parties with 2 options to consider when faced with transboundary movement of collected mobile phones destined for repair in the importing country: voluntary notification procedure or decision tree procedure.

The compromised proposal was integrated into the overall Guidance Document on environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life mobile phones, and was submitted to the Secretariat for editing and translation.

**Guideline on Transboundary Movement:**

As agreed to during the Dessau meeting Joachim Wuttke indicated that the original guideline was to be split into 2 separate guidelines: one on collection and the second one on transboundary movement.

The guideline on collection was finalized and approved by the MPWG.

Since the Group decided to concentrate on the executive summary and recommendations for transboundary movement, finalization of the guideline on transboundary movement was delayed until the Guidance Document was completed.

The compromised proposal on transboundary movement was incorporated into previously drafted guideline on transboundary movement and was circulated on October 18 to project group 2.1 participants, asking for comments by October 31.

BAN noted that they had some suggestions for improvement which they would provide in writing. Of particular concern was the introduction of the Decision Tree approach which did not really introduce the issue but began discussing labelling immediately. Further noted was that the decision tree for batteries need to be modified as “Yes” and “No” are missing in that decision tree.

**Chairman’s Paper:**

First of all Joachim Wuttke thanked those who provided comments on the September 19 draft.

In his view most of the major comments have been taken into account.

Since the paper has become longer than what he originally anticipated, a short executive summary was added, so that Parties could read it very quickly, familiarize themselves with issues and go to options and their implications.

He stressed that it is not a “consensus document” but a paper presented by him for consideration by the Parties.

One participant suggested modifying language in option 2.1 to coincide with some of the recommendations, but the chair indicated that these issues were already discussed and there is no need to start these discussions again. There is a sentence in this paper that says that it should be read in conjunction with guidelines and recommendations developed by project group 2.1. Since there were no major concerns with issues in the paper the chair of the project group 2.1 indicated that he will be going to COP8 with the September 19 draft for consideration by Parties.
• **Overall Guidance Document:**
  – Claudia Fenerol informed the group that the overall Guidance Document has been edited and was submitted for translation, so as to make the document available to Parties in the 6 UN languages. She added that the omission on page 26, making reference to Basel Convention Annex IX, footnote 13 and 14 will be corrected and the document currently on the website will be cancelled and replaced with the revised one as soon as the officials in Nairobi, who handle documents, make the changes official.

**Pilot Projects:**

• **Studies to Test Refurbishment Guideline:**
  – Paul Crossman informed the group that Fonebak completed their testing of the refurbishment guideline on 400 used mobile phone sets. The report will be submitted by Nov. 1st, 2006.
  – John Myslicki reported on behalf of ReCellular by mentioning that they also completed their study and produced a preliminary report. Now they will adjust their report as per sections in the refurbishment guideline. In addition they will include a set of conclusions and recommendations. Their report should be ready by Nov. 1st. Once they receive comments from MPWG, ReCellular agrees to revise their report taking into account comments, if any.

• **Update on the Senegal project:**
  – Luc Perrouin mentioned that it took long time to sort out the financial aspects of the Senegal project. The committee overseeing the project had some concerns in particular with the small quantity that would be collected and the fact that some of the training should not only be made available on mobile phones but on other environmental sectors in Senegal. At the same time it was realized that the issue of end-of-life mobile phones is not a priority at the moment. Therefore, the original project proposal needs to be redesigned and to involve other actors that are involved in distribution and collection of mobile phones in Senegal.

• **Projects in Romania and Egypt - A way forward:**
  – The Chair indicated that after consultations with some working group members, and based on what he heard before, a new strategy is being considered so that we could launch these 2 pilot projects in 2007. The strategy would be to divide the pilot project into 4 sub-projects:
    - Sub-Project 1: Testing of the refurbishment guideline (already started),
    - Sub-Project 2: Testing of the guideline on material recovery and recycling,
    - Sub-Project 3: Testing of the transboundary movement guideline, and
    - Sub-Project 4: Testing of the collection guideline
  – He mentioned that sub-project 1 is almost complete, which was carried in-house as in-kind contribution from ReCellular and Fonebak.
  – The sub-project 2 should start shortly, also as in-kind contribution by recycling industry. Currently we are in contact with some companies who
would be interested in carrying out such a study. UMICORE already responded positively and we are looking for a company that does shredding and separation of recyclable fractions. BIR was approached to assist in the effort of selecting such a company. The Chair also asked other participants who have knowledge of such a company to send names of such companies to him and copy John Myslicki.

- Sub-project 3: The testing of the transboundary movement guideline would be conducted over the next 2 years by collecting information from regulatory agencies, exporters and importers that are implementing voluntary notification procedure or decision tree procedure.
- Therefore we have only one sub-project, dealing with collection, to be carried out in Romania and Egypt. The original project descriptions would then have to be modified to reflect this new strategy.
- As it was done for the study to test the refurbishment guidelines, terms of reference would have to be developed, to be reviewed by MPWG before any sub-project commences.
- At the request of the Chair, John Myslicki added that an original cost estimate for 2 year pilot project in each of the selected countries was USD 500,000 of which there was USD 170,000 pledge of in-kind contribution by telecom operators. After the deduction of the USD 170,000, USD 330,000 was the amount left that is to be covered by other partners to start a pilot project in Egypt and similarly USD 330,000 for a project in Romania. With a new strategy of dividing the pilot project into sub-projects, the actual collection study may cost less than USD 500,000 in each country. Also, the in-kind contributions by telecom operators need to be confirmed.
- The Chair asked the participants if this approach might be more acceptable way forward before such a strategy is elaborated and distributed for consideration at the next teleconference focussing on pilot projects.
- Vodafone and Nokia voiced their support for this new approach. Helena Castren (Nokia) added that before initiating any projects in Romania and Egypt, it would be prudent to have a review of on-going activities by governments and the private sector in these two countries.
- Claudia Fenerol mentioned that in addition to these 2 pilot projects (Romania and Egypt) projects in other UN regions should also be considered as number of countries has approached the Secretariat with an offer to host such projects.

Side Event on MPPI during COP 8- update:

- The Char introduced the agenda for the side event, which was circulated for this teleconference by indicating that the date has not been confirmed and that it could be on November 28 or 29 and not in December as the agenda indicates.
- He thanked Helena Castren for agreeing to make a presentation on behalf of manufacturers. She was asked to contact the Secretariat with the name of the other Nokia official who will be participating in the side event.
- Telecom operators indicated that they also would like to make a presentation and Jack Rowley agreed to provide a name to Marco and the Secretariat.
- It was agreed that all presentation should be short, no more than 3 minutes to allow for more time for questions from the audience.
• BAN reminded stakeholders that if there was intention to fund activities that COP8 was the place to make such announcements.

Report on MPPI to COP 8 Plenary Session, and COP8 Decision on MPPI:
• The Chair indicated that his report to the plenary is being prepared, which will provide:
  − a background on MPPI,
  − accomplishments (5 guidelines with the last one on transboundary movement is being finalized, and the overall guidance document),
  − next steps as far as pilot projects,
  − project group 2.1 chairman’s paper, which will be attached.
• He indicated that once he makes his report in the plenary session he will give the floor to Joachim Wuttke to introduce the chairman’s paper.
• Finally, he mentioned that the draft decision on MPPI is on the Basel website.

Other Business:
• The chair thanked Bell Canada, Nokia, Sharp Telecommunications of Europe, NEC, and Motorola for providing financial contributions for translation of the guidance document. He encouraged others to follow the lead of these companies and to provide funds as agreed to previously. He stated that until these funds are received by the Secretariat, Switzerland has lent money to SBC so that the translation process could take place prior to COP 8.
• Claudia Fenerol asked those that have not provided funds for translation to provide the Secretariat with the name of the person within the company to whom the invoice could be sent.
• The Chair mentioned that during COP 8 there will be some expectations from Parties to hear announcements as far as pilot projects, and that he would like to announce that the 2 pilot projects will start in 2007.
• Claudia Fenerol mentioned that a number of BCRCs and Parties have approached the Secretariat to have workshops to disseminate the information and to train officials to implement ESM practices, as identified in various guidelines. In addition, other pilot projects have been suggested and there is one that will be undertaken in Asia on the collection of mobile phones with the financial support from a Japanese Consortium.
• After some discussion it was agreed to have another teleconference on November 8 mostly to discuss the new strategy to launch pilot projects in Egypt and Romania. It was agreed that officials from Romania, Egypt and BCRC in Cairo and Bratislava to be invited to participate.
• The Secretariat agreed to provide a list of all the side events that will take place during COP 8 in Nairobi, as soon as it is available.
• Finally, the Chair thanked USEPA for making their teleconference services available for this teleconference.

Draft: November 6, 2006