MOBILE PHONE PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE (MPPI)
Mobile Phone Working Group’s Meeting
July 5th, 2005

Participants:
Marco Buletti, Switzerland (chair)
Andreas Jaron, Germany
Joachim Wuttke, Germany
Greg Rippon, Australia
Josee Lanctot, Canada
Margareta Appelberg, Sweden
B. Sengupta, India
Reiko Sodeno, Japan
Dae-Young Ju, Republic of Korea
Frank McAlister, USEPA
Gareth Rice, Panasonic
Georg Niedermeier, Siemens AG
Helena Castren, Nokia
Luc Perrouin, France Telecom/Orange
Benoit Sicotte, Bell Canada,
Lucy Connell, Vodafone
John Bullock, International Precious Metals Institute (IPMI)
Ross Bartley, Bureau of International Recycling (BIR)
Kanitha Kernem, Enda Europe
Wen-Ling Chu, Institute of Environment and Resources (IER)
Anh Tuan Vu, Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, UNEP
Li Jinhui, BCRC Beijing
Dana Lapesova, BCRC Bratislava
Sachiko Kuwabara-Yamamoto, SBC
Pierre Portas, SBC
Claudia Fenerol, SBC
Vincent Jugault, SBC
Nicole Dawe, SBC
John Myslicki, Consultant to SBC

SUMMARY REPORT

Agenda 1: Introductions

• Ms. Sachiko Kuwabara-Yamamoto welcomed everyone to the fourth meeting of
the Mobile Phone Working Group (MPWG). She particularly welcomed the 3
telecom operators (Vodafone, France Telecom/Orange and Bell Canada), who
signed a declaration and joined the Mobile Phone Partnership Initiative (MPPI) of
the Basel Convention. With this declaration the Telecom Operators join the 12
worldwide largest manufacturers of mobile phones which are members of the MPPI since its beginning. Ms. Kuwabara welcomed progress being made by various project groups but she also indicated that the timing is right to launch pilot projects and funds are needed for these pilot projects. She indicated that voluntary funds have been provided by Parties so that a new post could be created within the Secretariat to look after the partnership initiatives and resource mobilization. A new person, Claudia Feneral, was hired who will start in August.

- Following the opening remarks by Ms. Kuwabara, the chair of the MPWG, Marco Buletti from Switzerland also welcomed everyone, and indicated that the main agenda points for discussion should be agenda #4 (pilot projects on setting up collection and treatment schemes in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and projects to test the refurbishment guidelines in facilities located in developed countries, a way forward), and agenda #6 (financial matters).

- He also mentioned that the second draft overall Guidance Document, which reflects changes to project 1.1, 4.1 and 3.1 reports, has been posted on the Basel website for comments. No new information on project 2.1 was added in the overall Guidance document, as its work is on going.

**Agenda 4: Pilot projects on setting up collection and treatment schemes in developing countries, and projects to test the refurbishment guidelines in facilities based in developed countries**

- The chair asked John Myslicki, who chaired a small sub-group of the MPWG, to introduce the pilot project outline proposal (copy attached). After the proposal was introduced, the chair mentioned that comments, made during the June 22 teleconference, are already reflected in the revised pilot project outline proposal. These are as follows:
  - under key deliverables we should indicate that there will be reports coming out of these pilot projects and their recommendations will be integrated in various guidelines,
  - measuring tools for the projects and assessment for future actions should also be included in the key deliverables,
  - in the Annex 2, selection criteria should also include criteria that would require countries to show ability to maintain the operation of these projects beyond the 2 year period,
  - consideration should also be given to select countries for pilot projects which have limited resources, or have no ability to find additional funding, but need assistance in this area.

- After these points the chair opened the floor for questions and comments on the proposed way forward. The following additional points have been suggested:
consideration to be given to provide financial incentives for consumers to encourage them to bring their mobile phones to collection centers,
need to group criteria elements into similar clusters
need to consider what other related activities are taking place in the country where pilot projects are being planned,
the proposal on a way forward has been agreed to.

- It was also agreed that project on testing refurbishment guidelines, as described in part B should be initiated. Discussions with refurbishment facilities should be initiated to develop terms of reference for these test projects. Once developed these terms of reference are to be circulated to the MPWG for review and comments. These test projects could start as soon as terms of reference have been agreed to.
- Participants agreed that the amount of funds required for the pilot projects on collection schemes in developing countries and countries with economies in transition seems to be reasonable.
- In conclusion, the MPWG agreed to adopt this pilot project outline.

**Agenda 6: Financial Issues**

- The chair opened the discussion on financial issues and stressed the importance of allocating sufficient funds for launching pilot projects. He mentioned that in order to ask the Secretariat to solicit project proposals from BCRC, we need to have assurance that funds will be made available for these pilot projects, as identified in the pilot project outline proposal from the small subgroup.
- It became evident that industry members are not yet ready to pledge funds for pilot projects. Some, in particular telecom operators have indicated that due to the fact that they already are planning some projects, like the one in Senegal by France Telecom and in Egypt by Vodafone, it will be difficult to convince their superiors to provide additional funds for pilot projects under the MPPI. Some stated that they may not have any special interest in the pilot projects in countries where they are not operating. Some felt that one way forward may be to introduce a membership fees which then could be directed to pilot projects. However this proposal was not supported by telecom operators and preferred a concept of contributing project fees.
- It was mentioned that before their could made concrete pledges they would like to see some cost breakdown to identify the cost of different activities shown in the proposal project outline.
- After some difficult discussions the following way forward was agreed to:
  1. Start with one pilot project.
  2. Have some discussions with telecom operators to identify potential target countries, countries where they have some local operations. A teleconference with telecom operators to be held in August to identify target countries.
3. Ask the BCRC in that region to discuss the pilot project with countries that would be identified by telecom operators, and ask them to prepare proposals as per Annex 1 outline.

4. Bring back these proposals to the MPWG for consideration and, as a start, selection of one pilot project, as per to the revised and clustered criteria, shown in Annex 2 in the pilot project outline.

5. It is estimated that the overall cost of each pilot project would be US$400,000. This amount to be equally shared by all 15 industry members of the MPWG, which could be US$20,000-US$30,000, depending on the amount the host country and local partners are ready to pledge towards the pilot project in its country.

6. The next teleconference of the MPWG, on the pilot projects, is tentatively scheduled for middle of September.

**Agenda 6: Printing of Reports**

- The Secretariat tabled a paper providing figures of report printing costs (copy attached). In summary it was mentioned that to print 1000 copies of a 50 page report, in black and white, including graphic design would cost approximately US$5,500. In addition it would cost approximately US$5,000 to translate a 50 page report.
- A number of participants mentioned that these reports should be put on website and also made available on CDs. It was also mentioned that hard copies of these documents will be needed for many developing countries, and that these to be translated to at least French and Spanish. Some thought should also be given on how to distribute these guidelines to stakeholders in developing countries.
- Finally, the chair mentioned that next week participants will be informed of the date of the teleconference in September.

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