IEEE 802.16 Working Group on Broadband Wireless Access

http://WirelessMAN.org

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15 January 2004

To: Richard R. Green
         Chair, ITU-T Study Group 9

As you know, the IEEE 802.16 Working Group on Broadband Wireless Access[*] has developed IEEE Standard 802.16 ("Air Interface for Fixed Broadband Wireless Access Systems") along with several amendments and related supporting standards. The air interface standard describes a broadband access system for carrier-class last-mile access to public networks, both ATM and IP, with full QoS support. Significant aspects of the standard are similar to some ITU-T J-series recommendations. The Working Group is actively continuing to refine, expand, and enhance the standards. Commercial implementations are being developed. Please note that IEEE is included among ITU-T's "Organizations Qualified for Including References in ITU-T Recommendations under Rec. A.5 Procedures" and "National and Regional Standards Development Organizations Under Evaluation and/or approved for Cooperation and Exchange of Information under Rec. A.6." IEEE is also a Sector Member of ITU-R as an international organization. Activities have begun within ITU-R on a collaboration intending to bring IEEE Standard 802.16 into a Recommendation.

The IEEE 802.16 WG has been advised of recent discussions between you and the WG Chair (IEEE L802.16-03/21) and of your invitation to participate in the ITU-T Study Group 9 (SG 9) meeting of January 2004 (IEEE L802.16-03/22). The WG, during its Session #28 of 12–15 January 2004, reviewed those notes and is pleased to learn of these discussions. The WG agrees that applications may exist for interfacing IEEE 802.16-based radio systems into the technology supported within SG 9, including IPCablecom. A number of the participants in our WG are familiar with SG 9 standards. Also, IEEE 802.16 has been influenced by the same cable standards supported by SG 9 and supports Quality of Service based on similar concepts and techniques. This alone would indicate a significant opportunity to exploit the similarity.

While the interface between IEEE 802.16 and SG 9 technologies seems practical, we also perceive that certain interworking protocols may need to be specified. Should SG 9 initiate the development of such functionality, the 802.16 WG would like to cooperate. We are willing to appoint a contact group to help define the direction of any developing work. For the near term, we are appointing a committee of Working Group Chair Roger Marks and Working Group Vice Chair Ken Stanwood to participate in SG 9's January 2004 meetings.

Sincerely,

Dr. Roger B. Marks
Chair, IEEE 802.16 Working Group on Broadband Wireless Access

cc: Paul Nikolich, Chair, IEEE 802 LAN/MAN Standards Committee
         José Costa, IEEE 802.16 Liaison Officer to ITU-R
         IEEE 802.18 Chair, ITU-T SG 15 Chair

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[*] The views expressed in this communication are those of the IEEE 802.16 Working Group and do not necessarily represent the views of the IEEE 802 LAN/MAN Standards Committee, the IEEE Standards Association, or the IEEE.