

Minutes of the 4th “Meeting of the Open RAN Promotion Subcommittee”

1. Date and time
Monday, December 12, 2022, 09:00 - 09:40
2. Location
Web Conference (Cisco Webex)
3. Attendees (honorific titles omitted, in random order)
Chairpeople: Akihiro Nakao [The University of Tokyo]
Hiroyuki Morikawa [The University of Tokyo]
Vice chairpeople: Sadayuki Abeta, NTT DOCOMO, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as “DOCOMO”)
Shingo Watanabe, KDDI CORPORATION (hereinafter referred to as “KDDI”)
Keiichi Abe, SoftBank Corp. (hereinafter referred to as “SoftBank”)
Mitsuhiro Kuchitsu, Rakuten Mobile, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as “Rakuten Mobile”)
Presenters: Naoto Sato, Fujitsu Limited
Secretariat: Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications,
Mitsubishi Research Institute (hereinafter referred to as Secretariat (MRI))
Others: Member companies
4. Handouts and Projected Materials
1-0: Agenda items
1-1: Fujitsu Limited “Fujitsu's Open RAN Activities”
5. Meeting Minutes Summary
5-1 Opening Remarks
Chairperson Nakao provided remarks:

His remarks are as follows:
We recognize that the situation surrounding open RAN is important, as we always have active discussions in this subcommittee. We hope that all of you will deepen your knowledge through the subcommittee this time. Communication equipment vendors inside and outside Japan are focusing not only on vRAN but also on RIC. I would like you to proceed in this direction.

5-2 Meeting Minutes
After looking at handouts, we proceeded with the agenda as follows:
(1) In order to provide information on Open RAN, Fujitsu gave a presentation on “Fujitsu’s

Approaches to Open RAN” (Projected Materials 1-1).

[Miyata, Sumitomo Electric]

I recognize that we have been especially focusing on security as O-RAN activities since this year. Based on the zero-trust trend that has been occurring in the United States and other countries over the past several years are we focusing on security also for O-RAN?

[Sato, Fujitsu]

We are working on software security because we believe that it is becoming important from the security perspective, not only for O-RAN. And there is certainly an impact from executive orders in the US.

[Chairperson Nakao, The University of Tokyo]

In the problem due to the spread of O-RAN, operational sophistication and security were shared. Especially about SBOM, Fujitsu won an award. What is the status of participation in the “5G Challenge” from Japan? Is NTIA’s approach to SBOM likely to expand?

[Sato, Fujitsu]

In my understanding, participants are mainly from our United States offices, and there are not many participants from Japan.

Regarding SBOM, vendors bring in definitions and proceed with discussions. Although there are not many participants in NTIA’s approach to SBOM, we believe that the approach will continue to expand.

[Chairperson Nakao, The University of Tokyo]

I expect Japanese vendors will be active.

- (2) The secretariat (MRI) took applications from speakers on the following topics for a future schedule.
 - (a) Schedule of next meeting
 - (i) Around late January
 - (b) Presentation topics
 - (i) Latest Open RAN status
 - (ii) Advantages of Open RAN
 - (iii) Problems of Open RAN
 - (iv) Test bed for interconnection tests
 - (v) New technologies of Open RAN
 - (c) Contact information for presentations: b5g_consortium@soumu.go.jp

5-3 Closing Remarks

The meeting was closed with an acknowledgement to the speakers, comments on future expectations, and closing remarks from chairperson Nakao.

Comments on future expectations are as follows:

O-RAN is also promising in economic security as stakeholders are building a new ecosystem due to a shift to multi-vendor. On the other hand, the division into components poses problems in

power consumption optimization and security. According to today's report, companies are starting to address those problems I would like all of you to continue to update day-to-day activities in the meetings.

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