QUESTIONS: 4/15
SOURCE: ITU-T Question 4/15
TITLE: Communication to IEEE P802.3ah

COMMUNICATION STATEMENT

TO: IEEE 802.3ah Ethernet in the First Mile Task Force
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APPROVAL: Agreed to at ITU-T Q4/15 Rapporteur Group meeting, Osaka, Japan, 21-25 October 2002

FOR: Information and Action

DEADLINE: 07-April-2003

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Mr. Frazier, Mr. Barrass,

Thank you for the communications statement from your New Orleans EFM Task Force meeting, which contained very detailed requirements for a TPS-TC.

We recognize that you have come to the conclusion that the PTM-TC does not satisfy your requirements. We are glad to hear, however, that you do not need a new or revised TPS-TC to be developed in time for Consent at our January Study Group meeting. The next opportunity for revising or augmenting our Recommendations is our October 2003 Study Group meeting. This should allow sufficient time to fully study the relevant issues.

We have architected our DSL transceiver Recommendations such that protocol-dependent characteristics are contained in the TPS-TC, and protocol-independent characteristics are contained below the α/β-interface. If you wish, your group could define a specific candidate TPS-TC for your use, and communicate the results to us for consideration for incorporation into our Recommendations. Preferably, this should be done in time for our July 2003 meeting. We should be able to accommodate a TPS-TC that builds on top of the existing α/β-interface in a straightforward manner.

We prefer that your work to develop a proposal for a TPS-TC that meets your requirements use the existing α/β-interface. Note, however, that if you find it critical to propose revisions to the α/β-interface in order to meet your requirements, this should be communicated to us as soon as possible. Such a change may be more complicated to incorporate into revisions of our DSL transceiver Recommendations.

We believe that your group possesses the expertise to define an additional TPS-TC along the lines described above. Thus, it would be most efficient for the work to be initiated in your group, if you agree. We continue to encourage our members to attend and participate in your meetings. This is by no way intended to preclude a joint meeting, if the need so arises.

Regarding your suggestion that we take up the work of developing an ITU-T Recommendation for VDSL modulation, we plan on developing a Part 2 VDSL Recommendation specifying this, but do not have a timeframe for this work. Our G.vdsl issues list (attached[1]) includes the following agreements in this regard:

1.1   Agree to build on the work of ETSI TM-6, ANSI T1E1.4, the DSL Forum and other regional standard groups, as may be provided, in the development of this Recommendation(s).
1.5   Agree that only one method should be specified for each G.vdsl specification component provided that the requirements are met.

Progress in this area is dependent on receiving contributions on this subject from our members.

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[1] Document SC-U11R2 attached.