INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

**TELECOMMUNICATION
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR**

STUDY PERIOD 2005-2008

Ad hoc T-MPLS meeting

LS 001 – E

English only

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Question(s):	3, 9, 11, 13, 14/15

LIAISON STATEMENT

Source:	SG15
Title:	IETF and ITU-T cooperation on extensions to MPLS for transport network functionality

LIAISON STATEMENT

To:	**IETF and IAB**
Approval:	**By correspondence**
For:	**Information**
Deadline:	

Contact:	Malcolm Betts Nortel Networks (Canada) Canada	Tel: +1 613 763 7860 Email: betts01@nortel.com
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Thank you for your liaison "T-MPLS use of the MPLS Ethertypes". To address the issues that you identified we have with your assistance, established an organizational structure composed of, an Ad Hoc group on T-MPLS in the ITU-T, the MPLS Interoperability Design Team in the IETF and a Joint Working Team populated by experts from both groups. The ITU-T thanks the IETF for their assistance in establishing the organizational structure and providing the expertise to undertake this work.

These teams of experts have evaluated the options to address the requirements of the transport network and have given a particular focus to the development of extensions to the IETF MPLS architecture to meet them. On the basis of this technical analysis the JWT has recommended that the IETF and ITU-T should work in close collaboration towards developing a solution by extending the IETF MPLS architecture to address the requirements of the transport network, recognizing that the sole design authority for MPLS resides in the IETF, and the domain of expertise for Transport Network Infrastructure resides in ITU-T SG15. In addition the JWT recommended that these extensions be referred to as the transport profile for MPLS (MPLS-TP).

The ITU-T accepts these recommendations and states that any extensions to MPLS technology will be progressed via the IETF standards process using the procedures defined in RFC 4929 (Change Process for Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) and Generalized MPLS (GMPLS) Protocols and Procedures). Experts from the ITU-T will assist the IETF in the development of RFCs that describe the transport extensions by providing input to and review of the drafts as they are

progressed via the IETF standards process.. The ITU-T will develop new or revised Recommendations that will allow IETF MPLS-TP to be integrated into the transport network including integration with the existing equipment, and operations infrastructure. These Recommendations will make normative references to the base IETF MPLS-TP technology and will be developed with input from and review by experts from the IETF to ensure consistency with MPLS-TP. It is anticipated that the initial set of framework RFCs and the corresponding Recommendations will be ready for submission to appropriate approval process in Q2 2009. Full details of the evaluation and recommendation can be found in the attached power point presentation (MPLS-TP_overview-22.pdf)

The ITU-T has accepted the proposals from the JWT and we look forward to continuing the cooperative development of IETF MPLS to address the needs of the transport network. We also believe that this resolution will fulfil the mutual goal of improve the functionality of the internet and transport networks and guaranteeing complete interoperability and architectural soundness.

Attachment available from:

http://ties.itu.int/ftp/public/itu-t/ahtmpls/readandwrite/doc_exchange/overview/